

*Approved at the 5/1/2020 meeting*  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING**  
Friday, April 3, 2020  
**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
**Via virtual Zoom Webinar**

**I. Trustee Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. via virtual Zoom meeting**

**Executive Session**

To discuss legal advice pursuant to §24-6-402 (3)(a)(II), C.R.S.; employee matters pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(b)(I), C.R.S.; administrative actions and investigative reports involving students pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(b)(I), C.R.S.; property purchase pursuant to § 24-6-402(3)(a)(I); and matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or statute statutes, pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(a)(III), C.R.S.

8:00 a.m. Motion to move into executive session by Trustee Haddon; seconded by Trustee McNeil. Motion approved 7-0.

Trustees present via virtual meeting room Chairman Jorden, Trustee’s Burgess, Haddon, McNeil, Salazar, Sanders and Starzer.

Mines executives and directors present via virtual meeting room: President Johnson, Provost Holz, EVP Volpi, VPSL Fox, VP Tompkins, VP Han, VPGC Walker, AVP for HR and Title IX Ms. Torres and Mr. Winkelbauer.

10:25 a.m. Executive Session concluded

**II. Regular Meeting – Via virtual Zoom Webinar**

10:30 a.m. Regular session called to order by Chairman Jorden.

Trustees present via virtual meeting room Chairman Jorden, Trustee’s Burgess, Haddon, McNeil, Salazar, Sanders, Starzer, Battalora and Kleeman.

Mines executives and directors present via virtual meeting room: President Johnson, Provost Holz, EVP Volpi, VPSL Fox, VPRTT Tompkins, VP Han, VPGC Walker and Mr. Winkelbauer.

**a. Consent Agenda**

The minutes from the February 7, 2020 meeting were submitted for approval.

Trustee Haddon motioned to approve the minutes with one noted correction on the Board Committee report changing the year 2019 to 2020 on the second line; seconded by Trustee McNeil. Motion approved 7-0.

**b. Reports and Updates**

Board Committee Reports \_\_\_\_\_ Trustee Haddon reported the last Finance and Audit committee meeting took place on March 18, 2020. Fiscal Year 20/21 statement was reviewed as well as possible upcoming scenarios and contingency plans. The Committee reviewed suggested capital project amendments and reductions. Trustee Haddon reported the Committee approved recommendations to the debt policy revisions. Also reviewed was Speakup@Mines non-Title IX issues and reported there were no significant reports. The Internal Audit for April 20/21 was reviewed and clean. Trustee Haddon reported that the Investment Advisory Committee also met and reviewed the 2019 calendar year fund performance. No changes recommended.

President's Report President Johnson provided an overview of the Mines response to the COVID-19 pandemic noting the university is now operating entirely virtually. He recognized the efforts of the campus community to bring everything online and especially noticed ITS, The Trefny Center and Student Life. He thanked the faculty advisors, the business operations teams and the leadership at the university at all levels who responded noting it was a campus-wide effort. Dr. Johnson reported that Mines is committed to making sure students would complete their Spring semester. He noted that enrollment will be uncertain going forward and the administration is considering action with leadership is prepared to engage with the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Johnson reported on Spring signature events that will be postponed and/or virtually re-imagined. Most notably is May Commencement and E-Days. There will be a virtual Commencement on May 8. Mines is offering graduates the opportunity to walk at either of the next two regularly scheduled ceremonies. MAC is working on a virtual E-Days. More details will be provided on these events. At the Board's request President Johnson and Dr. Fox provided an update on the float accident from Homecoming.

President Johnson invited Dr. Simoes to provide an update to the Board on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Simoes provided an overview of how Mines faculty is united to bringing courses online and working through the current circumstances. Dr. Simoes reported the Faculty Senate is on board for what is necessary to support the President, Provost and Board of Trustees and he assured the Board of Trustees and the Administration of the Faculty Senate's shared commitment for the success of Mines.

Dr. Johnson thanked the Faculty Senate for being engaged and supportive. Dr. Holz also expressed appreciation for the Faculty Senate and their ability to fast-track some courses for a Fall launch. Chairman Jorden expressed the Board's appreciation for the Faculty Senate and entire faculty for enduring the current circumstance.

Financial Review Ms. Volpi provided an update of the Fiscal Year 2020 forecast. She updated the revenue noting that due to COVID-19 it is down \$8.8 million which is attributed to decline in summer enrollment, delay in research deliverables and, refunds for housing and dining. Ms. Volpi reported that expenses are reduced by \$5.7million and is commensurate with reduction in revenue streams as well as specific actions made to date. She noted the reduction in expenses is due to strategic and delayed hiring, lower summer enrollment, cuts to operating budgets and other cost saving measures. Ms. Volpi reported that in the updated forecast it is anticipated, prior to any reserve being allocated, approximately \$6.6 million to the good. She reported that a little over \$3 million will go in reserves and the rest to bottom line. Ms. Volpi reported that the Administration is currently working on contingency plans with multiple scenarios for the future. There was brief discussion regarding contractual commitments. Ms. Walker noted the Office of General Counsel office will review force masseur clauses.

### **c. Action Items**

Promotion and Tenure Recommendations Dr. Holz asked the Board of Trustees to consider and approve the recommendations for Promotion and Tenure. He provided a brief overview of the recommendations.

Trustee Salazar motioned to approve the promotion and tenure recommendations as presented; seconded by Trustee McNeil. Approved 7-0.

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the following recommendations of promotion and/or tenure:

*Tenure-Line Faculty: Promotion and Tenure (as appropriate)*

***Christopher Bellona*** (Civil and Environmental Engineering): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with tenure

***Robert Braun*** (Mechanical Engineering): recommend promotion to Professor

**Moises Carreon** (Chemical and Biological Engineering): recommend promotion to Professor

**Veronica Eliasson** (Department of Mechanical Engineering): recommend tenure at the Associate level

**Brian Gorman** (Metallurgical and Materials Engineering): recommend promotion to Professor

**Elizabeth Holley** (Mining Engineering): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with tenure

**Ian Lange** (Economics and Business): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with tenure

**Jennifer Miskimins** (Petroleum Engineering): recommend promotion to Professor

**Thomas Monecke** (Geology and Geological Engineering): recommend promotion to Professor

**Piret Plink-Björklund** (Geology and Geological Engineering): recommend promotion to Professor

**Gongguo Tang** (Electrical Engineering): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with tenure

**Shubham Vyas** (Chemistry): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with tenure

**Lesli Wood** (Geology and Geological Engineering): recommend tenure at the level of Professor

**Zhenzhen Yu** (Metallurgical and Materials Engineering): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with tenure

**Hao Zhang** (Computer Science): recommend promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure

Teaching Faculty with Promotion:

**Michael Barankin** (Chemical and Biological Engineering): recommend promotion to Teaching Associate Professor

**Terry Bridgman** (Applied Mathematics and Statistics): recommend promotion to Teaching Professor

**Chris Coulston** (Electrical Engineering): recommend promotion to Teaching Professor

**Holly Eklund** (Applied Mathematics and Statistics): recommend promotion to Teaching Professor

**Angela Sower** (Chemistry): recommended promotion to Teaching Professor

**Jennifer Strong** (Applied Mathematics and Statistics): recommend promotion to Teaching Professor

Board of Trustees Outstanding Faculty Award Dr. Holz requested the Board of Trustees consider and approve the recommendation for the Board of Trustees Outstanding Faculty Award recipient.

Trustee Haddon motioned to approve the Board of Trustees Outstanding Faculty Award as presented; seconded by Starzer . Approved 7-0.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines awards Dr. C. Josh Ramey the Board of Trustees' Outstanding Faculty Award.

Sabbatical Requests Dr. Holz provided a summary of the sabbatical requests noting they have been reviewed and approved by the Department Head, Associate Provost and Provost. He requested the Board of Trustees consider and approve the faculty sabbatical requests. There was brief discussion regarding possible limitations to travel in the Fall and what flexibility exists for sabbaticals if travel abroad is not allowed. Dr. Holz reported that the Faculty are able to edit their chosen site for the project or, if not possible would be rescheduled.

Trustee Salazar motioned to approve the Sabbatical Requests as presented; seconded by Trustee Burgess. Approved 7-0.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the following for sabbaticals for the term(s) indicated.

Carbone, Jared	EB	Fall 2020
Dagdelen, Kadri	MN	Spring 2021
DeCaluwe, Steven	ME	Spring 2021
De Moor, Emmanuel	MME	Spring 2021
Johnson, Kathryn	EE	AY 2020-2021
Krebs, Melissa	CBE	Fall 2020
Mehta, Dinesh	CS	Spring 2021
Mohagheghi, Salman	EE	Fall 2020
Nelson, Priscilla	MN	AY 2020-2021
Newman, Alexandra	ME	AY 2020-2021
Petrella, Anthony	ME	AY 2020-2021
Speer, John	MME	Fall 2020
Wu, Bo	CS	AY 2020-2021
Zhang, Xiaoli	ME	AY 2020-2021

Emeritus Approval Dr. Holz provided a brief summary of the Emeritus recommendation and requested the Board of Trustees consider and approve.

Trustee Salazar motioned to approve the Emeritus recommendations as presented; seconded by Trustee Haddon. Approved 7-0.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the following for Emeritus status effective on their retirement dates.

**Emeritus**

*Dr. Reuben Collins – Emeritus Professor-Physics*

Debt Policy Ms. Volpi provided a summary of the recommended revision to the Debt Policy. She noted this revision was recommended to the full Board by the Finance and Audit Committee. Ms. Volpi summarized the recommendation noting the key financial metrics and the methodology remain as outlined in the policy however, the values of the peer metrics will be removed with the intent to simplify the policy so an annual change isn't required. There was brief discussion regarding Mines' current and future ratings and Ms. Volpi recommended maintaining the A1 rating at this point so Mines can continue to meet the current standards and policies of that rating.

Trustee Haddon motioned to approve the Debt Policy as presented; seconded by Trustee Starzer. Approved 7-0.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the attached revisions to the Debt Management Policy.

\*\*WILL ATTACH the Policy following final review

#### **d. Regular Written Reports**

Admission and Enrollment report Ms. Kester joined virtually and provided an update to the Admissions and Enrollment report. She noted that as of today Mines is down 108 deposits from last year attributed to the lack of on-campus events. Admissions is currently making telephone calls to students who have not yet deposited. Ms. Kester commented that students are holding back making decisions due to the current circumstances.

Ms. Kester reported the registration activities look good and Mines' current registration is up, and Summer registration is strong. There was brief discussion regarding capacity to pay tuition and the solutions offered. Ms. Kester noted that there have been general questions however, however no direct conversations regarding constraints in paying. Ms. Kester reported that Admissions is looking into offering online courses to international students who are aren't able to return from their country. Ms. Kester reported that there will be an extension on the commit date by space available to June 1, but that date is holding at May 1 for now.

There was discussion regarding alternatives to Oredigger Camp and Orientation this summer. Dr. Fox reported there is discussion to have virtual camps and orientation but nothing solidified at this time. Ms. Kester reported that all Admissions operations have transitioned to online and there is a lot of engagement with admitted students. Ms. Kester provided a brief overview on Financial Aid and what students receive based on need.

Existing Indemnification Contracts Ms. Volpi reviewed the list of indemnification clauses approved by the Board noting that all contracts are tracked. She reported the Trustees have adopted blanket approvals for three contractors: Comcast, NASA and Schlumberger. She reviewed the one-time contract approvals and instructional use software contracts approvals.

CSM Foundation and Alumni Relations report Mr. Winkelbauer reported on how the Alumni are reaching out to help during these unprecedented times. He reported that the Foundation is working with Charlie and Judy McNeil on a transformative gift and took a moment to acknowledge them. Mr. Winkelbauer noted that the Evening of Excellence and the Campaign Launch has been postponed and now looking for a date in the Fall to publicly launch the campaign. He reported there is Interest in giving to student emergency fund and noted there is an anonymous donor pledging to match \$25k. Mr. Winkelbauer expressed the importance of this fund for the university and noted that the Dean of Students is the fund manager. He shared a brief overview for the Rise Up For Mines Campaign that will start in April.

Faculty Senate report Dr. Simoes provided an update during the President's report.

#### **e. Presentations and Discussion**

Graduate Marketing Presentation Mr. Hughes provided an update on the marketing foundation work being done to build awareness and perception of Mines. He reviewed how Marketing has been working in partnership with Admissions and other campus constituents to build a sophisticated web tool kit and develop new infrastructure and processes. He provided a review of the retooled Mines search engine and the current top searches. Mr. Hughes reviewed the elements that draw visitors to the website and what it takes to get them there to look at Mines programs. He provided information on where traffic is coming from and what more needs to be done to keep visitors on the website.

Mr. Hughes provided an overview of the consultant firm, EverSpring, who was hired to provide a gap analysis and market and brand study. He reported on EverSpring's recommendations and noted the opportunity for growth.

Mr. Hughes reported the analysis provided an overview of competitor programs and national brand interest, as well as, comparable institutions noting Mines is in favorable position. EverSpring would like to come back in the fall to provide an update.

Mr. Hughes reported reviewed digital marketing and noted that Mines will be bringing this in house and focusing on a target list of programs. He has been working with the President and Provost to identify where to start.

There was discussion regarding word searches versus solution oriented and theme based online searches and the benefit. Mr. Hughes noted that Mines has been using themed approach more often at the Graduate level with more focused programmatic tags and will be look at doing more at the Undergraduate level.

Research activities and Tech Transfer report \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Tompkins provided an overview of the continuity of current research at Mines under COVID-19 circumstances. She reviewed the primary issues and challenges Mines research is facing. She highlighted limited campus access, family leave and child care issues and, uncertainty of project deadlines and stay at home orders. She reported that the Federal government is relaxing deadlines and being flexible with no cost extensions, however not offering additional funding. Dr. Tompkins reviewed how Mines is determining critical research at this time, noting that indirect research impacts will have to be tracked. Mines is utilizing tactical activities and strategic thinking to address critical research issues and working with Deans and Environment Health and Safety (EHS) regarding critical research functions. Dr. Tompkins provided an overview of who can get access to on-campus research facilities and he process for obtaining access. She reported there is card and key access to labs and who accessed is reviewed every 48 hours. Ms. Walker added that Mines is following best practices and guidance's noting the emergency protocols are in place.

Current and New Degree report \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Holz provided an overview of Mines current programs and the key metrics used from 2015, 2017 and 2019 and projections out to 2024. He reported they have been flat through Fall 2019, noting the addition of new programs and closing of others during that time as the cause. Dr. Holz highlighted that moving forward Mines has new certificate and non-thesis programs entirely focused on online delivery in line with the Mines@150 strategic plan. He reviewed Graduate programs, non-thesis Masters and PhD programs. Dr. Holz reported that smaller programs may need to close in the future, noting smaller Masters programs are primarily for students who are unable to complete PhD and there is no cost associated. Dr. Holz provided an overview of current larger thesis Masters programs in Petroleum Engineering and Geology, and he review the non-thesis certificate programs.

Dr. Holz reported that there is currently an effort being put into getting programs up online, highlighting the success Space Resources which currently has 30 non-thesis Master students in the program. Dr. Holz reported that many of the Graduate programs that the Board has approved over the last five years are still pending waiting for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) for accreditations to be able to launch the programs. He noted Mines should have recommendations in the next week or two then should have permission in early June to move forward. Dr. Holz offered to report further in the next Board meeting. The Board asked to have an annual report on both Graduate and Undergraduate programs.

Chairman Jorden acknowledged how well everyone is handling this uncertain time and noted he is pleased to be associated with such dedicated institution. He thanked everyone for the courage to make difficult decisions for the sake of the institution, community and nation.

12:20pm Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Haddon; seconded by Trustee McNeil. Approved 7-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

*Anne Stark Walker*

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Anne Stark Walker, Secretary