

Approved at the 02/05/2021 meeting
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
Friday, December 11, 2020
Zoom Meeting

I. Executive Session – 8:00 a.m. Virtual

To discuss legal advice pursuant to §24-6-402 (3)(a)(II), 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 virtually: Chairman Jorden, Trustee’s Burgess, Haddon, McNeil, Salazar, Sanders and Starzer.

Mines executives present virtually: President Johnson, Provost Holz, EVP Volpi, VP Fox, VP Tompkins, VP Han, VPGC Walker and Mines Foundation President Winkelbauer.

8:23 a.m. Executive Session concluded

II. Regular Meeting – 9:00 a.m. Virtual

9:00 a.m. Regular session called to order by Chairman Jorden.

Trustees present virtually: Chairman Jorden, Trustee’s Burgess, Haddon, McNeil, Salazar, Sanders, Starzer, Battalora and Kleeman.

Mines executives and directors present virtually: President Johnson, Provost Holz, EVP Volpi, VP Fox, VP Tompkins, VP Han, VPGC Walker and Mines Foundation President Winkelbauer.

a. Consent Agenda

The minutes from the October 16, 2020 meeting were submitted for approval.

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

b. Reports and Updates

President’s Report President Johnson expressed his appreciation for the efforts on campus to get Mines to this point in the semester, noting finals begin next week on December 14 and mid-year graduation is next Friday, December 18, and will be broadcast at 9:00 a.m. and noon. He thanked Chairman Jorden and Trustee Salazar for coming to campus and filming for the ceremony in-person. Dr. Johnson provided a brief overview of the virtual ceremonies and the segments being filmed at Steinhauer Fieldhouse, including a graduate in-person walk on stage that will be part of the virtual ceremony. He noted that approximately two-thirds of graduates are participating in the stage walk that will take place, one graduate at a time, over three days. President Johnson noted an announcement went out to faculty, staff, parents and students regarding the plans for Spring 2021 semester; Mines will follow the academic calendar and maintain the scheduled spring break. Dr. Johnson wrapped up by thanking the Trustees for their engagement and support all year. He especially acknowledged Trustee’s Haddon, McNeil and Battalora for their service to the Board as their terms expire on December 31, 2020.

Board Committee Reports Trustee Haddon reported that the Finance and Audit Committee met on December 7, 2020. The Committee was unable to review the internal audit as it had yet to be released by

the State. The Committee did review Mines' first quarter financial results and the updated Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) study and the institutions response. Also reviewed were the program fees for the Study Abroad program and the PERA accounting report. Trustee Haddon noted that Mines' PERA obligation decreased to \$243,370 million. He reported that the Investment Advisory Committee also met and reviewed the investment performance pool as of September 30, 2020, and noted that market value was \$321.4 million, representing a gain of 7.45% for the quarter ending September 30, 2020. Trustee Haddon reported the three and five-year returns were 4.33% and 7.41% respectively.

Finance and Audit Committee update _____ Ms. Volpi reported she will bring the audited financials to the Board in February. She provided a brief update for the first 5 ½ months of the year noting that strong enrollment resulted in additional university revenue and a positive surplus is anticipated for year end. Ms. Volpi reported on cost management and noted an increase in COVID costs were anticipated. She noted that Spring 2021 semester registration looks strong, positively impacting the financials. She reported that there has been re-engagement of due diligence and consultants for renovating and expanding Mines Park and she will keep the Board apprised as the project moves forward.

Governance on Bond Issuance _____ Ms. Volpi provided an overview of the documents that Chairman Jordan and Ms. Volpi signed regarding refinancing of the Series 2010B and a portion of the 2012B bonds. She reported that the Board approved the 18th supplemental Bond Resolution in May 2019, but the paperwork was not signed due to the delay in refinancing. Now that Mines is ready to refinance, these documents were signed and Ms. Volpi and Chairman Jordan are bringing before the full Board as a formality and for transparency purposes. The signed documents are simply codifying a resolution approved by the Board in May 2019. Chairman Jordan reported the documents are the final documents that would have been signed had Mines gone to market for the Subsurface Frontiers building. He noted this is to provide institutional memory and acknowledged the need to further engage with the Board should the project plans require.

c. Presentations and Discussion

Research and Technology Transfer report _____ Dr. Tompkins provided an update on the research enterprise noting it is healthy and doing well. Some faculty members are struggling with pandemic-related issues, but the collective effort is going well and our numbers are on track to match our research volume last year. She noted the leading indicator are the proposals submitted which are at 15-20% above last year.

Dr. Tompkins focused on pedagogy, outreach and diversity (POD) and provided an overview of what POD is. She provided a brief description noting it is about better training our engineers and scientists, learning how to share research, engaging the public in science and, making STEM more accessible to the historically underrepresented. She provided an overview of the sponsors of POD, noting the National Science Foundation (NSF) is one of the main sponsors. There was a brief discussion regarding artisanal mining, which is informal and small scale but maintains a significant part of global mining and causes more environmental damage. Dr. Tompkins provided examples in POD and reviewed Cyber-REACH for community college and high school students. Also reviewed was REU Site, a research experience for undergraduates in underground infrastructure as well as research integrating computation and experimentation to create revolutionary materials. Dr. Tompkins noted that these are NSF-sponsored programs that bring in researchers from other universities. She reported that POD is very heavy on social sciences. There was brief discussion about marketing outreach and the social scientists at Mines and Dr. Tompkins identified those departments including Mining Engineering, Engineering, Design and Society (EDS) and Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS). She reported that the Trefny Center has trained social scientists to partner with researchers.

Dr. Tompkins updated the Board on the UNSA Peru partnership and noted that there was recently a public signing ceremony. The contract will be finalized by Thursday and there will be a formal signing to follow. She reported the partnership will bring in \$8.9 million and brings together 30-40 faculty members with UNSA.

Career Services Update and Annual Outcomes report _____ Dr. Fox provided an overview of Career Services' efforts and outcomes for the 2019/2020 academic year, noting that he will provide a final report to the Board in January.

He reviewed data collection rates, outcomes and, graduate salaries, noting the numbers are up from last year. Chairman Jordan requested the report include a median in addition to average salary. Dr. Fox reported that the data pre-dated COVID so this report is not impacted, though that impact will be reflected in the 2020 data. He provided an overview of the new program Tableau in Institutional Research that will provide the ability to dive deeper and data mine more specifically. Dr. Fox reviewed Career Day engagement and recruitment activities, noting there were a record number of interviews and jobs posted. He reported a shift began to take place in March 2020 due to COVID. He provided an overview of the Fall 2020 Career Day and Brazen virtual employment company that Mines chose to use. Mines is currently evaluating Brazen and will use this vendor again for Spring 2021 Career Day.

There was discussion regarding relationships between Mines and companies and what shift COVID issues may have caused. Dr. Fox reported the landscape is rapidly changing, but Mines is working to maintain relationships with the employers during COVID-caused economic challenges. He provided an overview of additional student engagement and noted that 4,802 unique students are using Career Center services, approximately 73% of total student enrollment. He reviewed six high-touch career panels and remarked that alumni participation is growing. He looks forward to working with Mr. Andy Flynn, the new Director of Alumni Engagement. Dr. Fox reviewed the CSM250 Career path course that teaches professional ethics and development, and briefly reviewed the Interstride program that helps international students. Dr. Fox reported on the COVID virtual adaptation responses, including a “conversation with Career Center” workshop series. He noted that some employers are rescinding their internships and Mines leadership has contacted employers to support alternative options. Dr. Fox invited Trustee Kleeman to provide information regarding her experience working with the Career Services and she reported that they were very helpful.

Dr. Fox reviewed the annual report that will be distributed in January noting the report that will include feature stories on global citizens and Trustee Kleeman is one of those that is sprinkled throughout the annual report. Trustee Kleeman reported on the crossover in social sciences and her potential NSF grant. She noted if she received the grant it would provide her a great opportunity for research in Graduate school.

Dr. Fox provided an overview of the future of the Career Center as relative to Mines@150 strategic plan and pushing to evolve and innovate within the confines of Mines@150. There was discussion regarding programs for students who want entrepreneurship opportunities. Mines’ current Entrepreneurship and Innovation (E&I) programs were reviewed. President Johnson provided an overview of the new McNeil E&I program to introduce concept of being entrepreneur in design courses on campus, sequence of course, and opportunities for students at Mines. He noted Mines is also working on programming for the Beck Venture Center that has been approved for construction next year.

d. Action Items

December Graduation List approval _____ Dr. Holz reviewed the list of December graduates and reported that they have been approved by the faculty and are recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Sanders motioned to approve the December graduation list 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 attached December Graduation list.

Faculty Handbook Amendment _____ Dr. Holz provided an overview of the out-of-cycle proposed modifications to Section 6.2.4 for the Faculty Handbook prohibiting unlawful discrimination, providing information specific to Title IX, and providing the contact information for the Mines Title IX Coordinator. Ms. Walker noted this is the final step of the effort to ensure Mines is in compliance with the new Federal Title IX rules that went into effect on August 14, 2020. There was discussion regarding the language used and it was noted that the language is informed by relevant Federal and State laws.

Trustee Salazar motioned to approve the Faculty Handbook Amendment as presented; seconded by Trustee McNeil. Approved 7-0.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines hereby approves the recommended modification to Section 6.2.4 of the Faculty Handbook.

BEMS Degree approval _____ Dr. Holz reported that the Economics and Business department has been working over a year on this new Business Engineering and Management Science BS degree program and noted it is part of the Mines@150 strategic plan. He noted the Faculty Senate approved the program on Tuesday and invited Dr. Scott Houser to provide additional information about the program.

Dr. Houser provided an overview of the program outcomes and its proposed curriculum noting faculty worked closely to design tracks all students could complete following the core curriculum. He noted Mines is unique because business analytics and business engineering has not really caught on in the U.S. but, is in the United Kingdom and Canada. Dr. Holz reported the program would be rolled out for a soft launch in the Spring 2021 semester with the official launch in Fall 2021.

Trustee Haddon motioned to approve the BEMS BS degree as presented; seconded by Trustee Salazar. Approved 7-0.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees approves the of the Colorado School of Mines approves creation of the following new graduate degree program:

- *BS in Business Engineering and Management Science*

Program Fees for Study Abroad programs _____ Ms. Volpi provided an overview of the Study Abroad programs currently available and the fees for these. Ms. Volpi is requesting that management have flexibility to set program fees for study abroad programs given the differing costs, location, lodging, timing and activities for each program. She reported that the Finance and Audit Committee reviewed this request and recommended this flexibility for approval by the full Board. Ms. Volpi provided an overview of the First year Semester Abroad and HASS Spring 2021 Study Abroad Programs.

Trustee McNeil motioned to approve the program fees for Study Abroad Programs as presented; seconded by Trustee Sanders. Approved 7-0.

Pursuant to authority conferred by §23-41-104(1), C.R.S. (2012) and as required by §23-5-119.5(1), C.R.S. (2012), the Board of Trustees has the responsibility and authority for the financial management of the School including the setting of tuition and fees and the approval of the budget.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Finance and Audit Committee has reviewed and recommends to the Board of Trustees the approval of:

*Program Fees for Study Abroad Programs that vary annually based on the costs of the program**

**Note: First Year Semester Abroad Experience initial rate is \$4,600. HASS Spring Break Experience is \$2,600 (includes airfare).*

Xcel Energy Utility Right of Way _____ Ms. Volpi provided an overview of the Xcel Energy utility right-of-way and the power feed currently coming into campus, noting the need for an additional feed. She reviewed the map of the approximate location on 19th Street for the right-of-way for a new meter box and connection points.

Trustee Starzer motioned to approve the Xcel Energy Utility Right of Way as presented; seconded by Trustee McNeil. Approved 7-0.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves of the granting of a utility Right of Way described above to Xcel Energy, and authorizes the President or his appropriate delegate to execute the Right of Way with Xcel Energy.

Software Indemnification Ms. Volpi provided an overview of the indemnification requests on two software agreements: Ricardo Software and SIEMENS Fiberism Software. She noted the software is provided at no cost to Mines Formula Society of Engineers (FSAE) for the design and engineering of the formula series mini-car for vehicle racing.

Trustee Salazar motioned to approve the software indemnification 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 indemnification language in the Ricardo Software Agreement, and the SIEMENS Fibersims Software Agreement, and authorizes the President or his appropriate delegate to execute this Agreement.

e. Regular Written Reports

Admissions and Enrollment report Ms. Kester provided an update on Spring enrollment noting Mines enrollment is up, though course credit hours are slightly behind last year so they are reaching out to get students to get them to register for a normal course load. She noted that students who deferred in the Fall were registering for Spring, and Admissions will continue to do outreach to those who have yet to register. Ms. Kester reviewed the test-optional application process, noting that approximately 40% of students applied test-optional. She reported the State is moving to allow universities to make their own decisions regarding testing. She updated on the applications year over year, noting applications are down by approximately 700. That kind of drop in applications is being seen across the board in higher education due to COVID. Ms. Kester also reviewed the out-of-state applications, noting they are down. However, the in-state applications are up and closing that gap. She reviewed the timing for Financial Aid decisions, which went out to students in December, the earliest ever for Mines.

Ms. Kester reported that Admissions offered a full ride scholarship to the Time 2020 Student of the Year, Gitanjali Rao, a 15-year-old STEM High School Highlands Ranch student. Ms. Kester, President Johnson, and Provost Holz have a meeting with Ms. Rao on December 23. Ms. Kester reviewed her background noting she designed a flashlight that charges itself through the warmth of the human body for countries without electricity. Both Trustee Salazar and Trustee McNeil are acquainted with Ms. Rao.

Faculty Senate report Dr. Herring reported that the Faculty Senate is meeting every Tuesday this year to bring Graduate and Undergraduate programs more in line with the Mines@150 strategic plan, referencing the new BEMS program approved today and noting the Senate is working on another new program. Dr. Herring noted the formation of a new subcommittee focused on core curriculum revision that will be led by Dr. Alexi Sitchler. He provided an overview of the Student Signature grant request for proposals that have come in with \$500,000 on the table.

Dr. Holz reported that the Faculty Senate and Provost have been working collaboratively and in partnership due to Dr. Herring's leadership and thanked him for all the effort. Chairman Jorden also acknowledged the dedication of the faculty. He asked Trustee Battalora and Dr. Herring to share their observations on how faculty are holding up during the pandemic. They both indicated the faculty have done a great job, but are concerned that fatigue is setting in and noted some anxiety about what the new semester will look like. Trustee Battalora reported that faculty are overall very appreciative of communication between administration, Faculty Senate and Department Heads.

Dr. Holz reported there is a faculty and staff Town Hall a week from today. He also reviewed the in-person/hybrid plan for the Spring 2021.

CSM Foundation and Alumni Relations report Mr. Winkelbauer reported giving is approaching \$20 million towards the \$50 million goal, noting alumni giving is up especially in the student emergency fund. He reported that faculty and staff giving has also seen an increase and thanked Trustee Battalora for her leadership on the Faculty and Staff Giving Committee. Mr. Winkelbauer reported that alumnus Mr. Andy Flynn joined the Foundation as Director of Alumni Engagement. He provided a brief update on the investment returns noting the Foundation is encouraged and looking forward to possible double digit returns on the investment portfolio in December 2020. Mr. Winkelbauer followed up on questions of Entrepreneurship and Innovation on campus and asked for continued engagement from alumni, Trustees and other volunteers to engage with Mines students and looks forward to potential involvement in other ways from Trustee's Burgess and Salazar.

Chairman Jorden opened the floor for discussion regarding the three Trustees whose terms on the Board expire December 31, 2020: Trustee Haddon; Trustee McNeil; and Faculty Trustee Battalora. He invited President Johnson to say a few words. Dr. Johnson shared anecdotes about the three Trustees noting they will all be missed. He also noted in a normal year, departing Trustees would be presented with a silver certificate of appreciation. In light of COVID limitations, these certificates will be mailed to the Trustees. On behalf of the institution, President Johnson thanked the Trustees for their service and friendship.

Chairman Jorden invited the Trustees to reflect on their time on the Board and invited Trustee Haddon to speak. Trustee Haddon briefly reviewed the 8 years he served on the Board and the changes he had seen. He noted his most important contribution, and his best achievement, was serving on the search committee that hired President Johnson. He noted President Johnson has done a great job setting, directing and moving the institution forward. Trustee McNeil reminisced that it has been 50 years since he was Mines student body president and serving with Trustee Haddon. He noted that Mr. Winkelbauer will continue to keep him busy as Co-Chair on the Mines@150 campaign and that he may return to the Foundation Board of Governors. He shared his enthusiasm for getting the McNeil Center kicked off. President Johnson announced that Trustee McNeil is the invited distinguished speaker at next December's graduation, which will be 50 years to the day since he graduated from Mines, followed by getting married to his wife Judy.

Trustee Battalora expressed that it had been a great honor to represent her faculty colleagues and to be selected by her peers to serve on the Board of Trustees. She has enjoyed working with the Trustees and she reflected on the words that come to mind that represent her time on the Board: leadership and learning through example. Trustee Battalora shared that it has been a wonderful opportunity to grow professionally and as an Oredigger. She will be continuing in the trenches as a professor and as the Fryrear Chair.

Chairman Jorden shared that the service that these three Trustees have contributed to Mines on the Board and over their lifetimes is amazing. Chairman Jorden emphasized that it has been a privilege to serve with them all, and stated the Board looks forward to continued engagement with each of these departing Trustees in new ways.

11:26 a.m. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Anne Stark Walker, Secretary