

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE *of* DENVER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting

MINUTES
November 3, 2010

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Executive Session
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 Open Meeting
Tivoli Center - Room 320

ATTENDANCE

Chair Cohen and Vice Chair Lucero, Trustees Bookhardt, Robinson, Hanzlik, Esquibel, Nees and Cammack were in attendance. Trustees Garcia Berry, Phelan and Harris were excused. Alumni Representative Peterson was also excused.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session began at 8:08 a.m. and the open meeting reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Special Meeting (August 17, 2010) Minutes

Approval of September 1, 2010 Minutes

Both sets of minutes were moved for approval by Trustee Bookhardt and seconded by Trustee Hanzlik. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously **approved**.

REPORTS

Chair's Report - Chair Rob Cohen

Chair Cohen stated that he has heard good things from legislators about Metro State's work in the community. He summarized topics discussed at the Board's Retreat in October. A list of action items with responsible persons and due dates is in progress.

AHEC Board – Trustee Maria Garcia Berry

President Jordan gave the report for Trustee Garcia Berry. There will be a special meeting of the AHEC Board next week to revisit the Auraria Master Plan. More information will be available for the December Board Meeting.

President's Report – Dr. Stephen Jordan

President Jordan stated that the bond sale for the Hotel and HLC was completed. The net interest rate is 4.34% and all bonds were sold. He expressed his appreciation to the

Board for their work and to all that participated in the four-year planning period leading up to the bond sale.

Metro State's strategy to increase space is coming together with the backfill renovation of the old Science Building, which begins around Thanksgiving, the renovation of the Administration Building, which will be completed by the end of the Spring Semester, groundbreaking for the Student Success Building, which will be December 3, 2010, and the groundbreaking for the Hotel and HLC, which will be in February. President Jordan thanked the students for stepping up to help cover the cost of the Student Success Building.

President Jordan announced that the Lieutenant Governor-elect, Joe Garcia, will be Metro State's Commencement speaker on December 19th at the Convention Center. About one thousand graduates and ten thousand people are expected.

He summarized the Governor's proposed budget related to higher education. General Fund appropriation for higher education is at \$555 million, keeping institutions at their 05-06 funding levels. Metro State's Financial Accountability Plan (FAP) was under discussion at the CCHE yesterday. The Commissioners were very complimentary about Metro State's plan, which may be approved for a five year period. With the Board's approval today, it will go before the Commission tomorrow at their meeting.

President Jordan encouraged Board Members to attend the Holiday Card to the City event and reception on December 11, 2010. He also called attention to some highlights from his written report to the Board. The General Studies Program had a positive review from North Central. Metro State hosted Project Homeless Connect, where a total of about 1600 volunteers worked to assist about 400 individuals. Four hundred of the volunteers were Metro State students. A fundraiser dinner was held last Sunday, which achieved its goal to raise enough funds to build a school in Ethiopia with five classrooms and a library. Metro State is also a partner in the Talent Dividend initiative aimed at increasing bachelor degrees by 1%, and has received a grant from the CDHE for assisting adults with re-entry to college.

President Jordan asked Dr. Thobhani of International Studies to provide the Board with an overview of their trip to Albania. Six Metro State faculty and staff travelled to Albania October 9-13, 2010. The University of Shkodra is interested in three areas; Special Education, Tourism, and Educational Technology. They would also like to develop standards for teacher licensure. Fullbrights for faculty exchanges were also discussed. President Jordan spoke at a United Nations sponsored conference on strategic planning for tourism in Albania, and his remarks were broadcast on the Albanian television news that evening.

President Jordan also announced he has scheduled another Town Hall meeting on campus November 18th regarding higher education funding and the college's budget. Rowdy, sporting his new SGA purchased costume, made an appearance which was met with approval from attendees.

Legislative Report – Capstone Group, LLC

Christine Staberg stated that the Governor submitted his 2011-12 budget to the JBC yesterday. General Fund appropriation for higher education remains at \$555 million, at least until the JBC begins meeting next week. Elections results were also described; Joe Garcia, Lieutenant Governor-elect, will take the reins of higher education leadership, the

state senate remains with a democratic majority, and the House is still too close to call, with potential recounts of a couple seats possible. If the House goes to Republican control by 32-31, the JBC would consist of three Democrats and three Republicans, which will make for interesting dynamics, and a situation the JBC has not been in for some time. Leadership elections are tomorrow, and the JBC begins meeting on Friday. Amendments 60, 61 & Proposition 101 failed. Hearings and briefings on higher education will take place this month on November 17 and 30. The first week of December the Capital Development Committee will hear an update on our capital projects.

Student Government – Student Government Assembly President

Sammantha O'Brien

Ms. O'Brien passed out the SGA Newsletter and pointed out that bios of SGA Directors were included. The winning bike rack designs are in fabrication and will be placed between the PE Building and the Plaza. The calculator rental program has 77 calculators available at the Library. The SGA Metro State Fight Song Contest packet is out and submissions are due by January 20, 2011. SGA's CPR and first aid classes were filled, so they will offer more in spring semester. SGA is working with AHEC to improve wifi coverage on campus by consolidating to use of a single provider. The text book exchange will be ready by December. SGA intends to strengthen relationships with student organizations, and is looking at some campus improvement projects. They are also talking with AHEC about policies relating to vendors on campus. SGA is creating a booklet/guide for international students to assist them in having a better campus experience. They are making plans for Homecoming the third week of February. Ms. O'Brien also reported that there are student groups around Colorado organizing around a ballot measure for a statewide tax for higher education.

Student Trustee Cammack relayed results from a student survey. One of their questions was about a possible name change for Metro State, and 89% of respondents were in favor of using "University" in any new name. Many comments were in favor of "Denver State University". The survey also yielded 53% in favor of the statewide tax for higher education, and 31% were neutral. Athletics has been a great supporter of the Runners program. They have two athletes from every sport as Runners. They are also working with IT to pilot an iPad/Kindle program for the Runners, where they would have their textbooks purchased and loaded to see if it saves money for the Runners. There are now Runners from 26 departments on campus and they are working hard to get representation from every department on campus.

Finance Committee – Trustee Ellen Robinson

The Finance Committee met hours after the bond sale was completed. Trustee Robinson asked Trustee Bookhardt to speak about the Hotel and HLC bond sale. Trustee Bookhardt thanked Natalie and Loretta for their work on a complicated issue. The market was flooded that day due to the possibility of Amendments 60, 61 and Proposition 101 passing. Metro State got a great rate at 4.34%. Trustee Robinson stated there was much community support for Metro State and higher education in Colorado, and that 1st Bank Colorado bought bonds in support of Metro State. The Finance Committee had a

presentation by Mick Jackowski on the franchise ownership program, which is the first of its kind in the world. They also had an update on the Rightsizing with Technology effort, which will finish up on time with the expiration of the stimulus funds. Just one of 57 examples is that an improved database in Institutional Advancement has allowed them to increase development calls by 800%. Last year's internal audit was done by students, but there is not a course scheduled this semester, so a plan is needed for accomplishing the audit. Risk Management issues and the course have been taken care of for Fall.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee – Trustee Antonio Esquibel

Trustee Esquibel said that the committee heard a number of reports on program reviews, which occur every seven years. Those included: African and African American Studies, Art, Environmental Science, History, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Social Work, and Industrial Design. Trustee Nees added that program reviews currently treat various programs the same although some have different purposes; some create graduates and others service the students' general education. There was also a good report on Campus Recreation and Auraria. They heard a proposal/concept paper for a Corky Gonzales Institute as well. The President of Nicaragua will be on campus for a breakfast on Monday.

Foundation Report – Vice President Carrie Besnette Hauser

Vice President Besnette Hauser announced the new Finance Director for the Foundation, Steve DeVisser. They are in the last stages of their search for an investment manager. The next Foundation Board meeting is November 16, 2010.

Faculty Senate – Professor Kamran Sahami, President

Dr. Sahami stated that the Board will be briefed in December on General Studies. All courses will be reviewed by the Task Force and specific student learning outcomes and assessment will be in place. A survey of Faculty Senate members yielded a list of issues that have been referred to Senate Subcommittees. Their most agreed upon issue is the evaluation process. They will revisit tenure rights, and modernization of some internal structural issues within Faculty Senate.

Council of Chairs – Professor Greg Watts, President

No report.

Alumni – Alumni Representative Eric Peterson

Cherrelyn Napue gave the report for Eric Peterson. Alumni sent 20,000 emails out urging opposition to Amendments 60, 61, and Proposition 101. The Plain and Fancy Ball raised \$115,000 for college programs and scholarships. There were 800 guests, 300 more than at the last Ball. There will be an Alumni Recognition evening during Homecoming week, February 13-19, 2011. They are seeking nominations for qualified and successful

Alumni to recognize. The new Director of Alumni Relations and the Association is Mark Jastorff, who came to Metro State from the University of Northern Iowa.

ACTION ITEMS

Nomination and Election of Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Chair Cohen reminded the Board of their discussion at the Board's Retreat, regarding the potential separation of the roles and responsibilities of President Jordan. He stated that the action is not an indication of the job President Jordan was doing as Secretary. The Nomination is for General Counsel Martinez to perform the duties of Secretary to the Board. Trustee Robinson moved for approval. A voice vote was taken and the item was **approved** unanimously.

Nicaragua: Land of Lakes and Volcanoes Study Abroad Course

Trustee Esquibel stated that the study abroad course was recommended for approval by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board. He moved for approval. There was no discussion, and the course was unanimously **approved**.

Approval of the College's Financial Accountability Plan (FAP)

Chair Cohen asked Vice President Lutes to present. Vice President Lutes stated that this Plan includes some clarifications that the CCHE asked of us, such as how we cut \$9.9 million in fiscal year 2009. Details were added about the development of the plan, which was based on the initiatives and strategic plan set forth by the Board and the President. They had a really good meeting with the Commissioners discussing how Metro State will remain accessible to low and middle income students. They were impressed with Metro State's commitment to the spirit of Senate Bill 10-003. Chair Cohen expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Board to Vice President Lutes for the quality and depth of the Plan, which reflects well on the institution overall. Vice President Lutes recognized Cindy Hejl and the Financial Aid staff for their assistance. Trustee Esquibel moved for approval of the Financial Accountability Plan. Trustee Lucero Seconded. A voice vote was taken and the Plan was **approved** unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

Office of Human Resources Report of Personnel Actions which have occurred since the last Board meeting of September 1, 2010

Trustee Lucero moved for approval. Trustee Harris seconded. A voice vote was taken and the Consent Item was **approved** unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS (*Requires no approval by the Board of Trustees*)

Office of Human Resources report of personnel actions for the Board's information, which have occurred since the last Board meeting on September 1, 2010

No discussion.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

There were no additional items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.