

COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS FOUNDATION
Dianne G. Van Hook University Center, Room 301
Rockwell Canyon Road, Santa Clarita CA 91355

The Santa Clarita Community College District Board of Trustees
and College of the Canyons Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting - Minutes
Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 5:00 PM

Foundation Members Present: Fred Arnold (Board Chair), Lisa Burke, Sharlene Coleal, Steve Corn, Jerry De Felice (Foundation Chief Development Officer), Diane Fiero, Shawn Fonder, Bruce Fortine, William Harwood, Gary Horton, Arnoldo "AJ" Jaquez, Mark Jenkins, Sharlene Johnson, Taylor Kellstrom, Ed Masterson, T Meyer, Leticia Meza-Guerrero, Randy Moberg, James Schrage, Doreen Shine, Joyce Shulman, Ryan Theule, Omar Torres, Dr. Dianne Van Hook

Foundation Members Absent: Dawn Abasta, Joyce Carson, Thomas Dierckman, Tamara Gurney, Jenny Ketchepaw, Brian Koegle, Mike Lebecki, Shawna Mann, Jill Mellady, George Reyes, Matthew Sreden, Jeffrey Thomas

Board of Trustees Present: Dr. Edel Alonso, Sebastian C.M. Cazares, Jerry K. Danielson, Charles L. Lyon, Joan W. MacGregor, Hestia Sartika (Student Trustee)

Foundation Staff Present: Desiree Dodd (Director of Development and Engagement), Melayn Poladian (Foundation Coordinator), Bonnie Buckner, Dylan Mahoney

1. PRELIMINARY FUNCTIONS

1.1 Call to Order/Establishment of a Quorum **Edel Alonso/Fred Arnold**

Dr. Edel Alonso requested a roll call of the Board of Trustees to establish a quorum. Fred Arnold requested a roll call of the Foundation Board of Directors to establish a quorum. Establishing that a quorum was present for both bodies, the meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm.

1.2 Welcome & Introductions **Edel Alonso/Fred Arnold**

Dr. Edel Alonso introduced herself and asked the remaining members of the Board of Trustees and Foundation Board to briefly introduce themselves as well.

1.3 Flag Salute **Steve Corn**

1.4 Approval of Agenda (ACTION by Santa Clarita CCD Board of Trustees) **Edel Alonso**

Edel Alonso requested a motion to approve the May 22, 2024 agenda.

Motion to Approve: Joan MacGregor Second: Jerry Danielsen Voting Yes: Edel Alonso, Charles Lyon, Jerry Danielsen, Joan MacGregor, Sebastian C.M> Cazares

1.5 Approval of Agenda (ACTION by COC Foundation Board of Directors) **Fred Arnold**

Fred Arnold requested a motion to approve the May 22, 2024 agenda.

Motion to Approve: Taylor Kellstrom Second: Joyce Shulman

Voting Yes:

Fred Arnold, Lisa Burke, Sharlene Coleal, Steve Corn, Jerry De Felice, Diane Fiero, Shawn Fonder, Bruce Fortine, William Harwood, Gary Horton, Arnaldo "AJ" Jaquez, Mark Jenkins, Sharlene Johnson, Taylor Kellstrom, Ed Masterson, T Meyer, Leticia Meza-Guerrero, Randy Moberg, James Schrage, Doreen Shine, Joyce Shulman, Ryan Theule, Omar Torres, Dr. Dianne Van Hook

1.6 Recognition ~ 2023/2024 Outgoing Student Trustee, Hestia Sartika Edel Alonso

Edel Alonso and the Board of Trustees recognized the outgoing student trustee, Hestia Sartika. The Trustees presented Hestia with a prepared resolution for her contribution to the Board, student body, and the college as a whole.

1.7 Comments by Members of the Audience on Any Item NOT ON THE AGENDA Edel Alonso

Edel Alonso acknowledged the submitted "Request to Speak," from the following community member, Mr. Steve Petzold.

1.8 Staff Comments Edel Alonso

No staff comments were presented.

2. JOINT BOARD MEETING ITEMS (INFORMATION ONLY)

2.1 Student Spotlight ~ Scholarship Recipient, Daniel Chable Fred Arnold

Fred Arnold asked Jerry De Felice to introduce Daniel Chable. Jerry shared that Daniel is a double major, in music and history and a member of the Garden Boys band which played at the recent Foundation Scholarship Reception. Daniel expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to grow at COC. He highlighted the invaluable support from donors, founders, and trustees, which has fostered a nurturing environment. The Department of Music, led by kind and welcoming faculty such as Dean Jennifer Steele and Bill Macpherson, has felt like a second home to him. The music department holds a special place in his heart, fostering a sense of community and helping him build irreplaceable bonds. Scholarships have played a crucial role in his development as a musician, providing essential resources. He praised the new recording studio for enhancing learning experiences. Daniel's journey at COC has been transformative, especially with the supportive faculty who have understood his challenges with a disability. He hopes the college continues to inspire and support future students, connecting many more lives as it has his.

2.2 Update on the COC Foundation's Strategic Plan Fred Arnold

Fred Arnold provided an update on the COC Foundation's strategic plan, outlining ambitious goals for the coming years. He announced plans to expand the board and highlighted key fundraising objectives. The first goal is to raise \$3 million for the Advanced Technology Center, which will offer hands-on training and cutting-edge technology to prepare students for Southern California's fastest-growing industries. The second goal aims to secure funds for student success scholarships and innovative grants, addressing

barriers that prevent students from accessing education. Lastly, the Foundation intends to introduce legacy gifts and planned giving initiatives, encouraging community members to support the college in honor of their families and their lasting contributions.

2.3 Update on the COC Foundation's ATC Campaign Efforts

Gary Horton

Gary Horton shared his personal story, highlighting the impact of California's public education system on his life. He grew up in a single-parent family in Mission Hills and credited much of his success to the affordable education he received. This education launched his career and equipped him with essential life skills. He emphasized the importance of creating similar opportunities today, particularly through the Advanced Technology Center at COC.

He shared that the center aims to provide hands-on training in advanced technologies, preparing students for high-paying jobs in Southern California's growing industries. Horton stressed the need to bridge the gap between the demand for skilled workers in industries like manufacturing and the supply of such workers locally, citing federal initiatives and economic trends that forecast significant growth in manufacturing. Gary shared the COC Foundation's goal is to raise \$3 million for the center to equip it with the necessary machinery and establish an endowment for ongoing operational costs. Horton underscored the center's potential to offer immediate job readiness and long-term career growth for local students, allowing them to contribute meaningfully to the community and secure stable, well-paying jobs.

2.4 Update on the COC Foundation's Cougars Care Emergency Grant Fund

Steve Corn

Steve Corn shared a story about a local nonprofit, Fostering Youth Independence (FYI), which supports youth aging out of LA County foster care. Many of their clients are students at College of the Canyons. The FYI Executive Director reached out to Steve about an emergency car repair for a student, but the college's funds wouldn't be available for 3 to 4 weeks. To help, Steve, personally guaranteed the repair, which inspired the creation of the Cougar Cares Emergency Fund. This fund, now with \$31,000 pledged is designed to quickly assist students in unexpected crises that hinder their ability to attend classes. The fund aims to eliminate bureaucratic delays and ensure immediate support. Steve expressed gratitude to the trustees and board members who contributed and emphasized the ongoing effort to streamline the process to make the fund accessible when most needed.

2.5 Update on Developing Partnerships and Securing Engagement

Dianne Van Hook

Dr. Dianne Van Hook highlighted the extensive efforts of the College of the Canyons to foster partnerships with businesses for training and education. The College offers a variety of programs, including credit and non-credit degrees, workforce development, and apprenticeships. She shared that many business partners have become donors and contributors, supporting initiatives like the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) with customized training programs. Dr. Van Hook elaborated on the significantly expanded non-credit offerings and the recently received approval for a bachelor's degree in sustainable architecture. These initiatives aim to provide affordable, relevant education and training, ensuring students are prepared for the workforce.

See the full presentation here at 1 hour and 5 minutes:

https://canyonsonline.zoom.us/rec/play/_P7RVgoNP7FYXWJcSxwZWnmGCMnKxNAhoAAjtGnZJ2ZnxMASx4vgOy1hJAF-U64bzwGz97ZtBf10h74.cH31RKmBoSx-LhTf

2.6 Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 and Fiscal Year 2023-24 (Mid-Year) California Community College Sound Fiscal Management Self-Assessment Checklist for the Santa Clarita Community College District **Sharlene Coleal**

Sharlene Coleal presented the annual fiscal report highlights for the fiscal year ending in 2022-2023 and mid-year 2023-2024, detailing the district's financial health. She shared the rigorous reporting standards managed by the district's information systems, ensuring financial transparency and compliance with state guidelines. Sharlene expanded on the timely submission of financial reports, reinforcing the commitment to accountability. The comprehensive fiscal report provides stakeholders with confidence in the district's financial stability and responsible management, essential for upholding the mission and community commitments.

See the full presentation here at 1 hour and 34 minutes:

<https://canyonsonline.zoom.us/rec/play/P7RVgoNP7FYXWJcSxwZWnmGCMnKxNAhoAAjtGnZJ2ZnxMASx4vgOy1hJAF-U64bzwGz97ZtBf10h74.cH31RKmBoSx-LhTf>

3. ADJOURNMENT OF JOINT MEETING & RE-CONVENE COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – UCEN 258

3.1 Reconvene College of the Canyon's Foundation Board of Directors meeting **Edel Alonso**

Dr. Edel Alonso adjourned the joint Board of Trustees and Foundation Board meeting at 7:03 pm. After a brief break, Fred Arnold reconvened the meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors at 7:08 pm on May 22, 2024.