



**Board Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 10, 2021  
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
Zoom Video Conference

## MEETING MINUTES

**Board of Directors Chair:** Larry Gates

**Board of Directors in Attendance:** Ahmed Al-Khatib, Sylvia Alva, Bret Berglund, Soraya Coley, Kristin Crellin, Winny Dong, Earl Gales, Larry Gates, Michele Gendreau, Christina Gonzales, Ron Gregoire, Susan Kellogg-Bell, Diane Miller, Dan Montplaisir, Majed Muhtaseb, Doug Nelson, John Resich, Joan Robinson-Berry, Joe Simoneschi, David Singelyn, Sharon Tomkins, Kent Valley, Sean Yu, Lucille Yu

**Board of Directors Absent:** Earl Gales, Pat Patel, Juliana Terian

**Guest(s):** Natalie Graff, Melissa Watkins, Gina Johnson

**Staff Recorders:** Diana Saldana and Diane Rivera

**Meeting Called to Order at 9:35 AM.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:55 AM.**

### I. Call to Order

Larry Gates

Larry called the meeting to order and welcomed the members and attendees. He thanked the Audit Committee members for accepting the invitation to be part of a secondary committee when the audit committee does not have meetings.

Larry turned the meeting over to Diane Miller to welcome Brett Berglund, Region President of Sysco Los Angeles, to the Board. Brett thanked everyone and is excited to be a part of the Board.

### II. Election of New Board Member – Item A

Larry Gates

Motion 1: Diane Miller

Motion 2: Ron Gregoire

All in favor; none opposed

The Board accepted the election of new board member Rudy Duran, Vice President, Customer Support for Boeing Commercial Airplanes. Rudy Duran will join the next full board meeting in May.

Action Items

### III. Consent Agenda - Item B

Larry Gates

a. Approval of November 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion 1: Michele Gendreau

Motion 2: Kent Valley

All in favor; none opposed

Larry asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November's meeting.

Action Items

### IV. University Strategic Plan Breakout Groups – Discussion – Item C

Larry Gates

a. Presidential Introduction

*President Coley described the background and the importance of our Strategic Plan's mission, vision, values, and initiatives for the future of the University.*

b. Breakout Sessions – summary of discussion

i. Initiative #1 – Sylvia Alva, Diane Miller

**Strategic Initiative I - Deliver quality programs that promote integrative learning, discovery, and creativity.**

*PolyX — intense mentorship, creativity, discovery and innovation, collaborative learning, critical thinking, and problem-solving, showcase student project work.*

Strategies for PolyX

- Professional development efforts to spur curricular reform in the first-year, general education
- Robust internships and inter-disciplinary projects
- Strengthen industry and community partnerships that support project-based learning
- Promote project-based learning in online education
- Promote more equitable and inclusive student teams
- Support to diversify the faculty and hire in cluster or thematic areas
- Awards for innovation in *PolyX* Education
- Establish a Center for an Inclusive *PolyX* Education

ii. Initiative #2 – Christina Gonzales, Sharon Tomkins

**Strategic Initiative II - Enhance Student Learning, Development, and Success.**

Discussed the student experience and what could be done to offer support, services, and programs to benefit them. The goal is to show students that they are valued from admission to graduation and beyond. Began developing a framework on how to partner with others and make sure faculty understands what is available for students. The University has put together the best strategies to achieve the desired outcomes.

iii. Initiative #3 – Dan Montplaisir, Michelle Gendreau

**Strategic Initiative III - Prepare Our Students for the Future of Work, Human & Civic Engagement**

Discussed ways to get students involved outside of the classroom, gain essential skills through engagement, especially soft skills, how those relate to the Future of Work & Civic Engagement, and how to put those skills into practice. Discussed the importance of developing an elevator speech, how to interview, and most importantly, how to have a conversation. Discussed the importance of community engagement and what it means to hit the ground running. These strategies involve a combination of will and skill.

c. Report Out Session

**Larry Gates**

Larry had each group report out on their discussion highlights, how it connects to our role supporting fundraising, and consider future topics to explore that will help the board be more effective in their role.

**V. Committee Reports**

a. Finance and Investment – Item D

**John Resich**

The total return for the Endowment Pool during calendar year 2020 was 17.3%. For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020, the return was 20.8%. For the last three calendar years, the average was 8.6%. The target return for the portfolio is 4%. The transition to Beacon Pointe went very smoothly. The two portfolios were moved from Graystone to Beacon Pointe in early December 2020. The Board agreed to move to a full outsource chief investment officer model (OCIO). This allows the manager to have more flexibility in making trades and investing in the new assets.

- i. Review General Investment Policy
- ii. Review Endowment Investment Policy

Action Item

The finance and investment committee approved the foundation's investment policies, both on the endowment side and the general investment pool.

John asked for a motion for the Board to approve the revised General Investment and Endowment Investment Policies.

*Motion 1: David Singelyn*

*Motion 2: Larry Gates*

*All in favor; none opposed*

b. Development

**Susan Kellogg-Bell**

Making Introductions: A Step-by-Step Approach

- Assessment of Potential Connections  
“Who you know” review of fellow Alumni, External Board Connections, Friends & Associates, Identify Potential Alignment with Campus Programs, Determine Connection Strategy
- Personal Introduction to CPP  
Reach out to contact to share relevant information about Cal Poly Pomona and gauge interest
- Engagement with Campus  
Take the lead in initiating a relationship with campus & request participation: (1) Speaking Opportunity (2) Meeting with Faculty (3) Campus Tour
- Personal Follow-Up  
Gather feedback on experience and discuss concrete next steps, including Advancement or other campus team members in the discussion.

c. Nominating – Item E

**Diane Miller**

Discussed the election of new board member Rudy Duran, one other individual the committee hopes to bring to the Board soon. The committee continues to engage with eight prospects that were not ready or unavailable to join, two of them the committee has voted to move forward in the next steps. Reviewed and discussed the Board demographics spreadsheet pointed out where we have gaps in board representation. The Development staff continues to work with Deans’ Advisory boards and the possibility of adding members from those boards.

**VI. President’s Report**

**President Coley**

a. COVID-19 Response

A community mass vaccination site was opened on our campus in partnership with a consortium of healthcare organizations. The hub is a critical piece in accelerating vaccine distribution to individuals following the state's phases and tiers. It will be operating seven days a week and at full capacity and can vaccinate up to 10,000 people per day, dependent on vaccine availability.

b. Budget Update

At the beginning of 2020, the state economy was strong, and there was a proposed increase in funding to the CSU's budget of \$199 million as outlined in the governor's proposed budget; however, shortly after the release of the state's proposed budget, there were impacts caused by COVID-19. In May and June, early projections showed that the state would be facing a \$54.3 billion dollar deficit in Fiscal Year 2020/2021. This not only erased the initial proposed increase of \$199 million dollars but now showed a \$299 million dollar decrease to the CSU. Overall, Cal Poly Pomona's portion of the base general fund reduction was \$16.2 million. Once these funds are applied to the overall reduction, an amount of \$11.7 million remains. The President's Cabinet, the University Budget Office, and the Divisions developed various mitigation plans to address the reduction.

c. Post-Pandemic University

From the beginning of the economic crisis, the University has carefully crafted measures to address budget shortfalls while protecting the core mission of student success and academic and research excellence. For example, the Early Exit Program's deployment for state-side employees voluntarily separated from Cal Pomona through a severance package and separation agreements. This program will provide more than \$8 million in recurring savings.

d. Leadership Changes

Joseph Castro officially began his tenure as CSU Chancellor at the beginning of the year. Provost Alva announced Jeff Passe would be stepping down as Dean of College of Education and Integrative Studies and returning to his teaching and scholarly efforts. Dean Iris Levine of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences will assume the additional role as interim dean of CEIS.

e. Achievement Amid Adversity

Even with the unprecedented challenges brought by a global pandemic, Cal Poly Pomona continues to garner a range of achievements and accolades.

Cal Poly Pomona has earned recognition as the highest-ranking polytechnic University in the nation on the "2020 Social Mobility Index." We also ranked No. 6 among all colleges and universities nationwide.

Six horses bred at the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center took top honors at the U.S. National Arabian Horse Show, the most prestigious championship of its kind in North America.

The Tournament of Roses featured our Rose Float Program in a television special aired on January 1, 2021, in place of the annual parade.

Our Reading, Advising, and Mentoring Program (RAMP) received a \$2.2 million-dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Education to support underrepresented students.

For the second straight year, a team of Cal Poly Pomona students finished third in an international cybersecurity competition that draws teams from more than 100 universities across North America.

## VII. Advancement Update

Dan Montplaisir

a. Ahimsa Endowed Chair Celebration

A virtual celebration will take place on February 19 to recognize Dr. Tara Sethia's appointment as the Ahimsa Center's Inaugural Endowed Chair and recognition of the donors.

b. New Technology – Mentoring & ThankView Videos

ThankView Videos - University Advancement's newest stewardship tool, [ThankView](#) allows us to send video messages to constituents, personalized by name for each person. ThankView provides meaningful experiences for the donor that goes beyond the usual thank-you.

c. Construction Related Philanthropic Projects

A variety of renovations and construction related projects were highlighted and their reliance on philanthropic support to objective the project objectives. The projects include: Culinary Kitchens, Rose Float Lab & Design Complex, Plant Diagnostics Lab, Nutrition & Food Science Kitchen Lab, Equine Training Center, I-Lab Renovation/Relocation, Aerospace Engineering Liquid Rocket Lab, Scolions Baseball Field

d. Giving Day

Upcoming Giving Day dates April 21-22, 2021

Social Media Driven Crowdfunding Campaign to build awareness and support for campus programs, matching gifts, help leverage additional giving, and encourage new donors.

**VIII. Student Perspective**

**ASI President Lucille Yu**

Presentation: Educational Experience in a Pandemic

Discussed academics in a pandemic, specifically how some students are feeling overwhelmed with the workload. Some professors have gone above and beyond to help students; others are more concerned with cheating. Virtual Classes are going well, but there seems to be a lack of motivation from some students to stay engaged in a virtual world.

Some pros shared by students were refunds on parking passes, specific course fees, and a part of the student success fees. Communication and transparency of Cares Act and COVID updates Credit/No Credit options have been appreciated. Also appreciated has been keeping virtual resources available through workshops and career fairs. Students are grateful to have a space to voice their concerns.

Some cons shared were professors not trained enough on Zoom technology; this slows down progressions of classes and disappointment that the BRIC has not reopened. Some students feel ignored by specific departments when they have questions, and some feel there are not enough authoritative figures to speak up for them. They expressed a need for more information distributed to students on helpful CPP resources that are available.

**IX. Open Forum/Public Comment**

**Larry Gates**

Next Board Meeting – May 13, 2021, via Zoom

Before Larry adjourned the meeting, he asked the Board to share any comments or suggestions on other topics to address in future board meetings.

**X. Adjournment**

**Larry Gates**

No further business, Larry Gates adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.

- Motion 1: Diane Miller
- Motion 2: Sean Yu

All approved, none opposed.

*Approval of Philanthropic Foundation Board Meeting Minutes: as Board Chair of the Cal Poly Pomona Philanthropic Board, the meeting minutes for February 13, 2021 meeting as presented have been approved.*

**Approved by:**

*Lawrence Gates*

Lawrence Gates (Mar 10, 2021 09:24 PST)

Larry Gates  
Cal Poly Pomona Philanthropic Board Chair

03/10/2021

Date

*Approval of Philanthropic Foundation Board Meeting Minutes: as Board Secretary of the Cal Poly Pomona Philanthropic Board, the meeting minutes for February 13, 2021 meeting as presented have been approved.*

**Approved by:**

*Winnie Dong*

Winnie Dong  
Cal Poly Pomona Philanthropic Board Secretary

03/10/2021

Date