



**Board of Trustees  
BUSINESS MEETING**

Friday, November 7, 2025  
10:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. MDT  
Yalich Boardroom, Spencer Center

**MINUTES**

**Trustees Present:** Kyle Samuel (Chair), Amy Louis (Vice Chair), Lauren Watel (Secretary), Manya Whitaker (President), Kari Alldredge, Buck Blessing, Ed Bowdtich, Heather Carroll, Ed Casias, Carolyn Cullen, Jerome DeHerrera, Eric Duran, Frieda Ekotto, Joe Ellis, Jane Franke, Landon Hartman (Student Trustee), Jena Hausmann, Ryan Haygood, Jen Hoglin, Jeff Keller, Liza Malott Pohle, Andrew Masterman, So Yong Park, Laila Scott, Jonh Troubh, R. Thayer Tutt Jr., Mike Ukropina, and Chester White.

**Trustee Emeriti Present:** Bob Selig

**Trustees Excused:** Lilly Chen, Mary Naphtal, Dan Porterfield and Alan Woo.

**Faculty & Staff Present:** Pedro de Araujo, Johanna Blickenstaff, Molly Bodnar, Tony Cabasco, Emily Chan, Khaleel Gathers, Samilja Heim, Monica Indrebo, Lesley Irvine, Lacy Karpilo, Beth Malmskog, Rosalie Rodriguez, Lori Seager, and Ryan Simmons.

- I. **Welcome**..... Kyle Samuel Information  
a. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes** For Approval

Board Chair Samuel called the meeting to order at 10:21 a.m. MDT and welcomed the Trustees back to campus.

Board Chair Samuel recommended approval of the minutes from June 13, 2025. Board member Ellis motioned for approval and Board member White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- II. **Faculty Executive Committee, Co-Chair Report**..... Beth Malmskog Information

FEC Co-Chair, Beth Malmskog, shared the FEC started its year working on significant changes to policies related to third-year reviews, tenure + promotion, promotion to full professor, and faculty committee election changes. In discussion with the Board, FEC Co-Chair Malmskog asked how the Board would like to connect with faculty. The Board shared their interest and intent to meet with faculty when the Board is on campus during Board meetings, whether through Board attendance in classes, lunches, or other opportunities such as the recent off-campus collaboration with faculty on the Science Building project. The Board discussed other chances to connect and expressed their appreciation for the faculty.

- III. **President's Update**..... Manya Whitaker Information

President Whitaker reviewed upcoming reports that will be shared with the Board and college community this academic year and touched on successful Fall events on campus so far. President Whitaker reviewed her strategic priorities for institutional work which include the brand launch, an institutional review, the Four Corners Pledge, the Career Catalyst Program, the Science Building project, and alumni engagement activities. In relation to her presidential work, President Whitaker is focused on coalition-building and advocacy, fundraising, fostering affinity, community-building and shared governance. Finally, President Whitaker closed with next steps in the Strategic Planning process and noted a final draft will be presented for Board approval in June 2026.

**IV. Board Chair Update.....** Kyle Samuel Information

Board Chair Samuel shared the Board Retreat will be on campus in June 2026 to promote financial stewardship, support logistical and operational planning, and enhance Trustee experience and engagement. The Board shared their appreciation for the change. Board Chair Samuel discussed Board culture and communication channels for informal and formal conversations among Trustees. The Board goals this year will focus on supporting Presidential priorities, institutional strength, shared governance, and alumni engagement. Board Chair Samuel recommended the Board create an Alumni Engagement & Advancement Committee to support the Board’s work in alumni engagement. In closing, Board Chair Samuel shared an update on the Board’s philanthropic commitments to the college to-date in the fiscal year.

**V. Break**

The Board called for recess from 11:40 a.m. – 11:53 a.m. MDT

**VI. Committee Updates & Action Items.....** Committee Chairs

- a. Investment Committee.....** Eric Duran on behalf of For Approval  
John Troub
- i. ACTION ITEM: Policy Refinement Recommendation**

Committee Member Duran reviewed the policy change in relation to benchmarking, asset allocation, and emerging markets allocation refinements.

Committee Member Duran, on behalf of the Investment Committee, motioned for approval of the policy change. All in favor, no abstentions, the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Buildings, Grounds & Infrastructure Committee.....** Chester White For Approval
- i. ACTION ITEM: Charter Approval**

Committee Chair White thanked staff liaisons for their work and shared committee updates in relation to space utilization and housing renovations.

Committee Chair White motioned for approval of the Buildings, Grounds & Infrastructure Committee Charter. All in favor, no abstentions, the motion passed unanimously.

- ii. ACTION ITEM: Science Building Project Framework Recommendation**

Committee Chair White reviewed the committee’s approach to the Science Building project and motioned to approve a needs-based approach as the framework recommendation. All in favor, no abstentions, the motion passed unanimously.

- c. Audit Subcommittee.....** Jena Hausmann For Approval
- i. ACTION ITEM: Scholarship Language Recommendation**

Subcommittee Chair Hausmann reported the action item will not advance to vote at this time. Subcommittee Chair Hausmann shared the committee will review the college’s internal audit and confer with legal counsel ahead of the February meeting of the Board.

**d. Governance Committee..... Carolyn Cullen Information**

Committee Chair Cullen shared the committee is reviewing the Board’s composition, skills, and needs - including a Young Alumni Trustee per the Board’s bylaws. The committee will connect with Trustees whose terms are up for renewal in June 2026; these are Lilly Chen, Eric Duran, Frieda Ekotto, Jane Franke, So Yong Park, and Alan Woo.

**e. Budget & Finance Committee..... Eric Duran Information**

Committee Chair Duran reviewed recent committee work including designating funds to quasi-endowment, approving designation of reserves, and reviewing the college’s budget variances, debt portfolio, and the College-sponsored retirement program.

**VII. Executive Session (Trustees Only) ..... Kyle Samuel Discussion**

The Board entered Executive Session at 12:21 p.m. MDT.

**VIII. Adjourn**

Board Chair Samuel adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m. MDT.

**WRITTEN REPORTS ONLY (IX. THROUGH XIV.)\***

- IX. Division Reports
  - a. Academics..... Emily Chan
  - b. Admissions..... Tony Cabasco
  - c. Advancement..... Molly Bodnar
  - d. Athletics..... Lesley Irvine
  - e. Communication..... Johanna Blickenstaff
  - f. Dean of the College ..... Pedro de Araujo
  - g. Finance & Administration..... Lori Seager
  - h. Human Resources..... Ryan Simmons
  - i. Information Technology Services..... Khaleel Gathers
  - j. Institutional Equity & Belonging..... Rosalie Rodriguez
  - k. Student Life..... Lacy Karpilo
  
- X. Alumni & Family Relations..... Cindy Hyman
  
- XI. Faculty Executive Committee..... Beth Malmskog
  
- XII. Staff Council..... Co-Chairs
  
- XIII. Student Government Association..... Royce Hinojosa '26
  
- XIV. Dashboards..... Ben Moffit

\*Any corresponding reports are posted in BoardEffect