



MINUTES

Trustees Present: Dick Monfort (chair), Steve Jordan (vice chair), Greg Anton, Maia Babbs, Brenda Campos-Spitze, Prateek Dutta, Fritz Fischer, Annette Martinez, Audra Yocum

University Staff Present: Andy Feinstein, Darren Dunn, Tamra English, Kirsty Fleming, Keith Humphrey, Jennifer McDuffie, Harmony Newman, Dale Pratt, Lori Riley, Allie Steg Haskett

Invited Guests: Meagan Johnson (Director of Dining Services), Beth Longenecker (Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine), Kayla Tibbals (Nexus Policy Group), Audry Stutler (Chair, PASC), Davion Henderson (Chair, CSC), Mary Ann Littler (Chair, UNC Foundation Board of Directors)

I. **Call to Order / Roll / Approval of Agenda**

Board Chair Dick Monfort called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. General Counsel Tamra English noted the roll and verified quorum.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Greg Anton, which was seconded by Vice Chair Steve Jordan and approved by all Board members in attendance.

II. **Consent Agenda**

Chair Monfort reviewed the consent agenda.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Vice Chair Jordan, seconded by Trustee Campos-Spitze, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

III. **Election and Appointment of Officers**

Chair Monfort noted that the election of officers occurs annually per Board bylaws and asked General Counsel English to give an overview of the process and officer descriptions. Chair Monfort asked for nominations for chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer. Vice Chair Jordan nominated Trustee Monfort for chair; Trustee Maia Babbs nominated Trustee Jordan for vice chair; Trustee Jordan nominated General Counsel Tamra English for secretary and Vice President Pratt for treasurer. A motion to approve the slate was made by Trustee Martinez and seconded by Trustee Dutta. The board officer slate was approved by all Board members in attendance.

IV. **Opening Comments and Reports**

A. President's Report

President Feinstein delivered the report. He thanked everyone who attended the annual Greeley Chamber dinner, emphasizing the event's role in strengthening connections between the university and Greeley community.

Feinstein shared key highlights and updates and previewed the meeting agenda, including a legislative update from UNC lobbyist Kayla Tibbals, higher education advocacy efforts, meetings with state representatives and gubernatorial candidates, and Joint Budget Committee testimony related to higher education funding. He noted that a report would be presented outlining national enrollment trends, UNC's enrollment strategy, and current projections for fall enrollment.

He also announced that Greeley Day at the Capitol will take place on March 18, and encouraged faculty, staff, and students to participate and engage with legislators on the impact of state funding on higher education. In addition, he summarized the recent Finance & Audit Committee discussions, including budget forecasting, strategic planning, and enrollment trends.

Feinstein noted that Dean Beth Longenecker will provide an update on the preparations for the inaugural class of the College of Osteopathic Medicine in July with the grand opening and white coat ceremony scheduled for July 24, 2026.

He outlined the progress on Phase III of the strategic plan, highlighting priorities to recruit and retain excellent faculty and staff, including efforts to offer competitive compensation. He noted that additional details on Phase III will be provided in his report later in the meeting.

Feinstein thanked Provost Kirsty Fleming for her leadership and service, noting that this will be her final regular Board meeting as she will be unable to attend the June 2026 meeting. He also noted that a national search for the next provost is underway.

Feinstein congratulated Trustee Martinez on her reappointment to the Board. He recognized the Student Affairs team for receiving the Promising Places to Work designation from the ACPA College Student Educators International. Feinstein also recognized student athletes for their continued excellence on and off the field, noting the achievement of a record-setting cumulative GPA of 3.4 this past fall.

Feinstein concluded by announcing that he will step down as President effective August 1, 2026. He thanked the campus and community of Greeley for their partnership, noting it has been a privilege to serve as President of the University of Northern Colorado. He reflected on university accomplishments and milestones he

is proud of, including progress in student success, access and affordability, the UNC Tuition Promise, improved retention, designation as a Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI), attainment of R2 status, the opening of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the ongoing fundraising campaign. Feinstein expressed appreciation to the Board of Trustees, cabinet, faculty, staff, students, and his wife, Kerry. He added that the Feinstein family will never forget how the campus and community came together in support following the passing of Nick Feinstein.

Chair Monfort thanked President Feinstein for his dedicated leadership and service to the university over the past eight years, highlighting his tireless advocacy for students and for public higher education in Colorado, his commitment to academic excellence, student success, and continued growth and advancement of the institution.

B. Faculty Senate Report

Faculty Senate Chair Harmony Newman delivered the report. She provided an overview of recent Faculty Senate discussions and initiatives including academic policies, shared governance, graduate catalog language, committee work, faculty evaluation and promotion, administrator and faculty roles, generative AI statements, revisions to the Board Policy Manual and University Regulations related to budget priorities, and the appointment of a faculty member to the provost search committee.

C. Student Government Association Report

Student Trustee Audra Yocum delivered the report. She summarized ongoing discussions related to organizational structural, the Student Government Association (SGA) constitution, and review of the SGA bylaws. She also thanked the Board, administration, faculty, and staff for their continued partnership.

D. Classified Staff Council Report

Classified Staff Council Chair Davion Henderson delivered the report. He summarized current initiatives including a community bake sale in collaboration with the SGA to raise funds for the Marcus Garvey Center. He also noted that the Council continues to offer professional development opportunities, scholarships, while supporting ongoing campus-wide efforts to enhance morale and strengthen workplace culture.

E. Professional Administrative Staff Council Report

Professional Administrative Council Chair Audry Stutler delivered the report. She summarized recent council activities, including community-building initiatives, the Bigger Bear Campaign, and scholarship opportunities. She expressed appreciation to the UNC Foundation for its support and contributions. She also highlighted

Council engagement efforts, including the monthly newsletter, website resources, and the Council speaker series. Additionally, she encouraged attendance at the upcoming employee recognition event scheduled for March 5.

F. University of Northern Colorado Foundation Board Report

UNC Foundation Board of Directors Chair Mary Ann Littler delivered the report. She thanked President Feinstein for his service to both the university and the UNC Foundation. She announced membership updates, including the addition of three new members to include Julie Pink, Elena Sandoval-Lucero, and Warren Yoder. She also noted that Mike Kirby will step down as a Board member and Trustee Annette Martinez will continue as the Board of Trustees liaison. Littler announced appointments of herself as chair, Brian Davidson as vice chair, Kathleen Sears as secretary, and Lisa Horn as treasurer.

Littler stated that the Foundation's bylaws and articles of incorporation will be updated to align with the revised operating agreement. She also noted that updates regarding the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) have been codified into the Foundation's financial plan.

Littler highlighted key topics discussed at the recent Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) Foundation Leadership Forum, including federal funding reductions, developments in artificial intelligence (AI), and the impact of shifting economic conditions on donor giving. She noted that these conversations will help inform the Foundation's development of new approaches to Board orientation, AI strategies, and expanded partnership opportunities in support of the next phase of the university's strategic plan.

Littler also acknowledged the value of the Student and Foundation Fund (SAFF) class presentations and the engagement of the Foundation Board members. She noted that the Foundation Board meetings are being held at various campus locations to further immerse the Board members in the campus experience and increase awareness of university facilities and programs.

She concluded by thanking the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, staff, and students for their continued partnership and support.

G. Executive Order 2025-006 - Reimagining the Future of the Postsecondary Talent Development System in Colorado

Trustee Maia Babbs delivered the report and provided an overview of a recent Colorado Trustee Network (CTN) webinar. She noted that CTN has shifted its professional development approach to become more specialized, focusing on specific topics and enhanced coordination with the (AGB). She also shared that the

UNC Trustees will attend the AGB National Conference on Trusteeship in Denver in March.

In addition, she summarized Governor Polis's recent executive order "Reimagining the Future of Colorado's Postsecondary Talent Development System" which aims to strengthen connections between education and workforce development. The order directs state agencies to report on postsecondary talent development efforts, collaborate to expand access to credentials and work-based learning opportunities, align educational programs with high-demand career pathways, and improve connections between businesses and talent pipelines.

H. Legislative Update

University of Northern Colorado lobbyist, Kayla Tibbals delivered the report. She provided an overview of the first month of the legislative session, noting that figure setting by the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) is currently underway. She stated that the state budget shortfall conversation has dominated the first four weeks of session.

She outlined several state budget projections that could directly affect the university to include changes in the rural teacher recruitment and retention program, which would conflict with the state's K-12 priorities and limit local school district resources. She shared that the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) will be renamed to the Colorado Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development to reflect the addition of workforce development responsibilities and restructuring of Colorado's approach to postsecondary education and career preparation. In addition, she reviewed several state bills that could affect higher education, including proposed changes related to the military tuition waivers, concurrent enrollment, teacher licensing, open educational resource programs, and information-sharing data practices.

Tibbals thanked the Trustees, administration, faculty, and staff for their efforts to inform state leaders about higher education priorities. She also thanked President Feinstein for his continued engagement with the Joint Budget Committee regarding the importance of long-term institutional funding and for his partnership meeting with gubernatorial candidates to discuss the future of higher education.

She further expressed appreciation to President Feinstein for his leadership, partnership, and trust, and highlighted the success of the College of Osteopathic Medicine as a significant achievement. She also thanked the Trustees for the opportunity to work with the President and the university to advance the institutional priorities and goals.

Discussion included the timeline for implementation of the CDHE structure, changes in state funding for higher education, legislative outreach, gubernatorial candidate outreach to assess their stance on current and future initiatives, alignment of workforce development structures, state funding priorities, and the role of the Colorado Trustee Network (CTN) as an advocate for higher education funding priorities.

During the discussion Vice Chair Steve Jordan requested an amendment to the agenda to add an action item for discussion and consideration of a resolution encouraging the CTN to take an advocacy position in support of the Council of Presidents budget recommendations for institutions of higher education to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC). The proposed resolution would also direct that a copy be forwarded to both the CTN and the JBC.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to amend the current agenda to add "Discussion on Board Resolution Encouraging CTN Advocacy for the Council of Presidents Budget Recommendations for Institutions of Higher Education" under Action Items, as new Item F. Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Babbs, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

I. Board Chair's Comments

Board Chair Monfort did not have any additional comments.

V. Reports of Committees of the Board

A. Finance and Audit Committee

Finance and Audit Committee Chair, Greg Anton, delivered the report. He thanked President Feinstein for his leadership and service to the university.

Anton provided a brief overview of the February 19, 2026, Finance & Audit Committee meeting. He reported that the committee received updates on the FY2025 audit and annual report, and athletics financial report, the FY2026 second-quarter financial report and forecast, and the FY2027 outlook. He noted that Vice President Pratt presented several budget scenarios and analyses related to the budget development process. The committee also heard a report from Dan Curran of Crowe, LLP, who reported a clean audit with no adjustments or recommendations. On behalf of the trustees, Anton thanked the UNC financial team for their work and dedication.

VI. Public Comment*

Greeley resident Peggy Sue Squire commended the Trustees and President Feinstein for their advocacy and dedication to the university. She also stated that she is hopeful that the Greeley community campus involvement will increase.

VII. Action Items

A. Curriculum Actions

Provost Kirsty Fleming presented the action item and reviewed the proposed curriculum action items to include six new master's degree and three new certificate program proposals for the AY2026-27 academic year graduate catalog and seven new bachelor's degree and six new certificate program proposals for the AY2026-27 undergraduate catalog. She stated that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has been notified of the university's intent to offer the programs and confirmed that no further HLC review is required. She noted that the programs have completed the university's curriculum approval process and that Board approval is required prior to notification to the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) and program implementation. She thanked the Academic Affairs team and the curriculum committees for their work on the curriculum items.

Discussion included the projected audiences for the proposed programs, the value of the medical school preparation certificate in supporting applications and providing potential cost-savings for students, anticipated enrollment in the new programs, and the process for discontinuing programs with consistent low enrollment. Additional discussion focused on the importance of intentionality combining programs when appropriate to ensure long-term viability, keeping Trustees informed about curriculum changes and the rationale behind the changes, preparing students for workforce demands through program adaptation, the value of stackable credits, and maintenance of a student-center approach in development and implementation of programs.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to approve the curriculum proposals as outlined in the documentation provided. Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Anton and approved by all Board members in attendance.

B. Capital Project – Lights at Nottingham Stadium

Vice President Pratt presented the action item and recommended that the Board give advance approval of the \$1.5M capital project, contingent upon resolution and confirmation of the conditions as outlined in the proposal. He confirmed that the project will be funded through donor support and explained the funding pro forma details the reimbursements process to the capital reserve fund. He also summarized the project timeline and process and emphasized the project's importance to campus development and its anticipated benefits for student-athletes, students, and the broader community.

Athletic Director Darren Dunn further outlined the project timeline and highlighted the significance in strengthening community traditions and enhancing the overall event experience. He noted the project is expected to support increased attendance at games, improve recruitment opportunities, expand concessions and sponsorship potential, and enhance the overall fan experience while also ensuring compliance with conference facility standards.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to approve the Nottingham Stadium light capital project pending resolution of all conditions. Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Dutta, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

C. Sodexo Contract – Holmes Renovations and Sodexo Contract Extension

Vice President for Student Affairs Keith Humphrey presented the action item recommending approval of a four-year extension to the current Sodexo dining services contract, pending completion of the required financial, legal, and procurement reviews of the amendment. If approved, the contract term will extend through 2046. He outlined the importance of the university's partnership with Sodexo as an on-campus service provider, and highlighted planned dining facility improvements intended to strengthen community building, support student enrollment and retention efforts, and enhance the overall dining experience. He also discussed Sodexo's continued investment in campus facilities and several strategic initiatives associated with the agreement. Humphrey thanked Vice President Pratt and the Finance and Administration team for their assistance throughout the contract negotiation process.

Director of Dining Services Meagan Johnson presented an overview of the planned renovations in Holmes Dining Hall, including updates to food stations, menu offerings, as well as changes to the color schemes and overall layout of the facility. She noted that multiple opportunities for campus input and collaboration were incorporated into the planning process. Johnson also shared that one of the new menu concepts will be highlighted at today's Board lunch. In addition, she presented a 3D walkthrough of the proposed renovations, highlighting redesigned seating areas, updated cooking stations, individualized study spaces, and the incorporation of live plants and greenery throughout the space.

Discussion included clarification regarding the project amortization structure, an overview of opportunities for campus feedback and engagement, and implementation considerations related to food allergies and dietary restrictions.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to approve the four-year extension of the Sodexo dining contract term, as outlined in the draft amendment, pending completion of financial, legal, and procurement review. Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Babbs and approved by all Board members in attendance.

D. Naming of Rooms in Michener Library and College of Osteopathic Medicine

Vice President for University Advancement Allie Steg Haskett presented the action items for the room namings as presented. She outlined donor backgrounds and the investments for the room namings. The trustees asked that appreciation be expressed to all donors for the contributions attributed to the room namings and their ongoing support of the university.

Chair Monfort sought a separate motion for each room naming.

i. Recommended Naming of Michener Multi-Purpose Space (L172) as “James F. and Helen K. Graff Multi-Purpose Room ”

Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Anton, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

ii. Recommended Naming of Michener 115 as the “Suey Hey and Stella Chin Innovation Den”

Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Anton, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

iii. Recommended Naming of a 1st floor conference room in the College of Osteopathic Medicine Building as the “Schramm Foundation Conference Room”

Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Martinez, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

iv. Recommended Naming of a 3rd floor conference room in the College of Osteopathic Medicine Building as the “Clarence V. LaGuardia Conference Room”

Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Martinez, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

E. Negotiation and Potential Sale of the Educational Broadband Services

Vice President Pratt presented the action item and requested Board approval to negotiate the potential sale of the Educational Broadband Services (EBS) spectrum currently owned by the university. He further requested that the Board delegate authority to the UNC Vice President for Finance & Administration and Chief

Financial Officer to execute the sale should favorable terms be successfully negotiated. Pratt noted that additional information regarding the proposal would be presented during executive session.

Discussion included clarification regarding whether the action would authorize the university to pursue, but not be obligated to the sale of rights, consideration of the current and potential value of the spectrum rights, encouragement to gather additional information prior to making a final decision, and discussion regarding the timing and strategic considerations associated with the potential sale.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to approve the negotiation and potential sale of the Education Broadband Services spectrum and delegate authority to the Vice President for Finance & Administration and Chief Financial Officer to negotiate the potential sale if favorable terms can be negotiated.

Trustee Anton made a motion, which was seconded by Vice Chair Jordan, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

F. Resolution Encouraging Colorado Trustee Network (CTN) Advocacy for the Council of Presidents Budget Recommendations for Institutions of Higher Education.

Vice Chair Jordan read the proposed resolution and recommended Board approval of the language, as well as authorization to forward the resolution to the Colorado Trustee Network and the Joint Budget Committee.

WHEREAS, the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees resolves that the Board encourages the Colorado Trustee Network (CTN) to take an advocacy position in support of the funding proposal by the Council of Presidents for the higher education institutions to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC);

WHEREAS, the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees resolves that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Colorado Trustee Network and the Joint Budget Committee.

RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Board of Trustees for the University of Northern Colorado approve the recommendation of advocacy with the Colorado Trustee Network.

Chair Monfort sought a motion to approve the resolution language and to approve authorization to forward the resolution to the Colorado Trustee Network and the Joint Budget Committee. Trustee Anton made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Babbs, and approved by all Board members in attendance.

VIII. Discussion Items

A. Faculty Sabbaticals

Provost Kirsty Fleming outlined sabbatical leave approval information for the 2026-2027 academic year noting that the current requests were reviewed by the faculty, chair/director, and dean levels before submission to the provost for final approval. Fleming also noted there were additional sabbatical leave requests delayed from last year, to make a total of 27 leaves approved.

B. Curriculum Updates

Provost Fleming presented an overview of recent curriculum updates to include the process and steps to amend, update, and deactivate programs. She also outlined the curriculum cycles and timelines.

Discussion included appreciation for the report and outline of the curriculum process, the importance of continued transparency, detailed reporting, and continued updates.

C. Strategic Enrollment Management

Vice Provost for Enrollment Services & Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Stephani Etheridge-Woodson reported on Strategic Enrollment Management Phase 3: (Re) Design for Belonging and provided an overview of current university enrollment strategies. She also discussed ongoing changes in the enrollment landscape, including the continued national decline in U.S. birth rates.

She presented national high school graduation trends, Colorado college enrollment rates, and the current demographic profile of high school students, along with data on bachelor's degree pathways, applications, admissions, deposits, and point-in-time enrollment. She also reviewed existing operational systems and noted increasing diversity in student backgrounds and levels of academic preparation.

The presentation included discussion of proposals for a comprehensive redesign of enrollment strategies, including enhancements to financial aid processes and alignment with strategic timelines. Additional focus areas to include strengthening dual enrollment strategies, analyzing demographic trends, and identifying key opportunities for innovation. She also outlined priorities such as removing structural barriers to access, stabilizing operational systems, and refining curriculum and delivery modalities. She highlighted initiatives related to transfer pathway diversification, expansion of online programming, workforce alignment, development of career-aligned credentials, and strengthening pre-collegiate pipelines. Additional areas of focus included expanding community-based models, advancing innovation initiatives, and exploring Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) expansion strategies.

Discussion included current yield rates, recruitment timelines and support strategies, financial aid incentives, point-in-time enrollment data, admit versus yield comparisons, demographic factors contributing to summer “melt”, strategies to address declining numbers of high school graduates, earlier access to class schedules, continued emphasis on retention initiatives, expansion of dual enrollment opportunities, review of residence hall data and comparison of room and board cost on campus versus the surrounding communities, broader community engagement through collaborative planning efforts including partnerships with local businesses, think tanks to enhance enrollment strategies, marketing strategies to incentivize on-campus housing, the importance of faculty involvement in student recruitment, enhanced personalization of follow up with prospective students, and strengthening enrollment team capacity and resources to support the recruitment efforts. Additional discussion included determining the appropriate enrollment size for UNC, leveraging the university’s data team to build more robust enrollment models, continuing strategic investments in enrollment management and recruitment infrastructure.

D. Rowing, Not Drifting 2030

i. Phase III Update

ii. University Strategic Metrics Report

iii. Development of Phase IV

Feinstein noted that Phase III will be finalized in the next few months and Phase IV will begin in July 2026. He then noted he would like to delay the remainder of his report and will share additional updates with the board at a future meeting.

E. College of Osteopathic Medicine – Updates

Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) Beth Longenecker thanked Feinstein for his vision and leadership in establishing the College of Osteopathic Medicine. She provided an update on the upcoming Commission on Osteopathic Colleges Accreditation (COCA) visit scheduled for February 26, 2026. She explained that COCA representatives will review staffing, hiring processes, and facilities, including adequacy of existing campus spaces for curricular delivery.

She noted that the College currently has eight full-time faculty members, a total of 17 personnel, and that the college will increase to a total of 48 full-time faculty and staff by the end of the summer. She expressed her appreciation to Academic Affairs and the Human Resources department for their partnership in the COM hiring processes. She reported that the COM building project remains on schedule, while the team continues to identify interim space solutions. She further noted that following approval of pre-accreditation, the admissions cycle opened in December of 2025. She thanked the University Advancement team for collaboration on a comprehensive recruitment campaign and noted the college continues active

recruitment efforts and outreach to prospective students, noting the admissions interview process included participation from area physicians. Longenecker confirmed the grand opening of the facility and white coat ceremony will be on July 24, 2026. The COM team, in collaboration with University Advancement, continues to conduct building tours for prospective students, campus partners, and donors.

Discussion included confirmation of recruitment and marketing processes as well as transparency with prospective students regarding construction progress and anticipated building completion timelines.

IX. Executive Session

With no further discussion or business, Chair Monfort asked General Counsel English to make the following announcement to move the Board to executive session.

“Pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402, the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees will go into Executive Session to receive legal advice regarding pending legal issues and personnel issues pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(3)(b)(I).”

Chair Monfort sought a motion to take the Board into executive session. Vice Chair Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Anton and approved by all Board members in attendance. The Board invited relevant staff members to join the executive session. The Board entered executive session at 12:45 p.m.

Following executive session, General Counsel English provided a public record of affirmation regarding the executive session and reconvened the regular meeting at 2:12 p.m.

X. Adjourn

With no further discussion or business, Chair Monfort asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and approved by all Board members in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.