



Foundation

Cuesta College Foundation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Regular Committee Meeting

Monday, Aug. 4, 2025 | 3 p.m.

Cuesta College San Luis Obispo Campus

Dr. Frank R. Martinez Building, Room 2609

Zoom option available

A. Call To Order

Foundation President Craig Darnell called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call: Establishment of Quorum

Board Members

Present:

Executive Committee

Craig Darnell, Chair

Stuart Campbell

Jeff Darnton (Zoom)

Janice Fong Wolf

(Zoom)

Grigger Jones

Debbie Perrault

Jill Stearns, Ph.D.

Rob Garcia

Eric Holmen

Mary E. Howell

Robyn Letters (Zoom)

Barbara Martinez

Steve McGrath

George Pudlo

Lisa Rubio Castillo

Marcy Woolpert Rourke

Cheryl Vines (Late)

Patricia Gordon, Ph.D.

Scott Lathrop

Pragna Patel-Mueller

Isaac Pummil

John Rolph

Mary Strobridge

Foundation Staff

Present:

Rick Camarillo

Andrea Horvath

Katie Osman

Jessica Strano

Board Members

Jim Anderson

Ryan Ashlock

Andrea Devitt

Erica Flores Baltodano

Board Members

Absent:

Michael Boyer

Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D.

Susan Dressler, Ph.D.

Cyndee Edwards

Guests Present:

None

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve as presented: **Jones/Martinez** – Passed by a majority vote of the Foundation Board of Directors and unanimously by those members present to approve the Foundation Board of Directors agenda for the Monday, Aug. 4, 2025, meeting as presented.



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- **Yes** – (21) Stuart Campbell, Craig Darnell, Jeff Darnton, Janice Fong Wolf, Grigger Jones, Debbie Perrault, Jill Stearns, Ph.D., Jim Anderson, Ryan Ashlock, Andrea Devitt, Erica Flores Baltodano, Rob Garcia, Eric Holmen, Mary E. Howell, Robyn Letters, Barbara Martinez, Steve McGrath, George Pudlo, Lisa Rubio Castillo, Marcy Woolpert Rourke, Cheryl Vines
- **No** – (0) None to report.
- **Absent** – (10) Michael Boyer, Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D., Susan Dressler, Ph.D., Cyndee Edwards, Patricia Gordon, Ph.D., Scott Lathrop, Pragna Patel-Mueller, Isaac Pummill, John Rolph, Mary Strobridge
- **Abstention** – (0) None to report.

D. Public Comment

No public comment.

E. Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves and shared their personal connection to Cuesta College.

F. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from June 2, 2025, with the correction noted by Rob Garcia (his attendance was previously marked as absent): **Anderson/McGrath** – Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

- **Yes** – (21) Stuart Campbell, Craig Darnell, Jeff Darnton, Janice Fong Wolf, Grigger Jones, Debbie Perrault, Jill Stearns, Ph.D., Jim Anderson, Ryan Ashlock, Andrea Devitt, Erica Flores Baltodano, Rob Garcia, Eric Holmen, Mary E. Howell, Robyn Letters, Barbara Martinez, Steve McGrath, George Pudlo, Lisa Rubio Castillo, Marcy Woolpert Rourke, Cheryl Vines
- **No** – (0) There is none to report.
- **Absent** – (10) Michael Boyer, Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D., Susan Dressler, Ph.D., Cyndee Edwards, Patricia Gordon, Ph.D., Scott Lathrop, Pragna Patel-Mueller, Isaac Pummill, John Rolph, Mary Strobridge
- **Abstention** – (0) none to report.

G. Business Agenda

1. Budget Update

Rick Camarillo presented an update on the budget. Katie Osman shared a



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new summary section.

H. Action Items

1. Approval of Committee Assignments for 2025-2026

Katie Osman presented the proposed committee assignments at the meeting for review. The assignments were based on member feedback from a recent survey, along with considerations of interest, expertise, and availability. Mary Howell requested to be added to the Grants Committee.

Motion to approve with amendment: **Fong Wolf/Perrault** – Passed by a majority vote of the Foundation Board of Directors and unanimously by those members present to approve the Committee Assignments for 2025-2026, with the addition of Mary Howell to the Grants Committee.

- **Yes** – (21) Stuart Campbell, Craig Darnell, Jeff Darnton, Janice Fong Wolf, Grigger Jones, Debbie Perrault, Jill Stearns, Ph.D., Jim Anderson, Ryan Ashlock, Andrea Devitt, Erica Flores Baltodano, Rob Garcia, Eric Holmen, Mary E. Howell, Robyn Letters, Barbara Martinez, Steve McGrath, George Pudlo, Lisa Rubio Castillo, Marcy Woolpert Rourke, Cheryl Vines
- **No** – (0) There is none to report.
- **Absent** – (10) Michael Boyer, Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D., Susan Dressler, Ph.D., Cyndee Edwards, Patricia Gordon, Ph.D., Scott Lathrop, Pragna Patel-Mueller, Isaac Pummill, John Rolph, Mary Strobridge
- **Abstention** – (0) none to report.

2. Request for Special Distribution from the Ann Waters Coppenbarger for Concord Chorus Endowment

Katie Osman explained that in October 2022, the Cuesta College Foundation received a \$250,000 gift from the Estate of Ann W. Coppenbarger for the Cuesta College Concord Chorus. At the department's request, \$225,000 was placed into a quasi-endowment. The Chorus is holding a concert this fall and is requesting a \$55,000 special distribution to cover costs. Since distributions over \$50,000 from a quasi-endowment require board approval, this request must go to the board for approval.

Motion to approve as presented: Martinez/Garcia– **Passed** by a majority vote of the Foundation Board of Directors and unanimously by those members present to approve the Request for Special Distribution from the Ann Waters Coppenbarger for Concord Chorus Endowment for the Monday, August 4, 2025, as presented.

- **Yes** – (21) Stuart Campbell, Craig Darnell, Jeff Darnton, Janice Fong Wolf, Grigger



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Jones, Debbie Perrault, Jill Stearns, Ph.D., Jim Anderson, Ryan Ashlock, Andrea Devitt, Erica Flores Baltodano, Rob Garcia, Eric Holmen, Mary E. Howell, Robyn Letters, Barbara Martinez, Steve McGrath, George Pudlo, Lisa Rubio Castillo, Marcy Woolpert Rourke, Cheryl Vines

- **No** – (0) There is none to report.
- **Absent** – (10) Michael Boyer, Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D., Susan Dressler, Ph.D., Cyndee Edwards, Patricia Gordon, Ph.D., Scott Lathrop, Pragna Patel-Mueller, Isaac Pummill, John Rolph, Mary Strobridge
- **Abstention** – (0) none to report.

3. Request for Special Distribution from the Ada Irving Nursing Endowment

Katie Osman presented this special request explaining that The Ada Irving Chair of Caring Nursing Fund helps pay for a full-time nursing faculty position at Cuesta College. Due to salaries increasing, the cost of this position is higher than what the fund's regular income can cover. The Foundation is asking for a one-time special distribution of \$108,958.12 from the Ada Irving Nursing Endowment to make up the shortfall. Moving forward, the Foundation has capped the cost of this position at \$150,000 per year.

Motion to approve as presented: McGrath/Pudlo – **Passed** by a majority vote of the Foundation Board of Directors and unanimously by those members present to approve Request for Special Distribution from the Ada Irving Nursing Endowment as presented.

- **Yes** – (21) Stuart Campbell, Craig Darnell, Jeff Darnton, Janice Fong Wolf, Grigger Jones, Debbie Perrault, Jill Stearns, Ph.D., Jim Anderson, Ryan Ashlock, Andrea Devitt, Erica Flores Baltodano, Rob Garcia, Eric Holmen, Mary E. Howell, Robyn Letters, Barbara Martinez, Steve McGrath, George Pudlo, Lisa Rubio Castillo, Marcy Woolpert Rourke, Cheryl Vines
- **No** – (0) There is none to report.
- **Absent** – (10) Michael Boyer, Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D., Susan Dressler, Ph.D., Cyndee Edwards, Patricia Gordon, Ph.D., Scott Lathrop, Pragna Patel-Mueller, Isaac Pummill, John Rolph, Mary Strobridge
- **Abstention** – (0) none to report.

4. Annual Signature Authorization 2025–2026

To avoid delays with time-sensitive requests, staff are requesting board approval of signature authorization for the Cuesta College Foundation. Katie Osman, Executive Director, and Richard Camarillo, Director of Foundation



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Fiscal Services, may sign for day-to-day business, while invoices and new investments require approval from either Katie Osman or Jill Stearns, Superintendent/President. Investments are limited to the Foundation's Investment Policy, with staff authorized to establish quasi-endowments under \$250,000 and special distributions up to \$50,000. Signature authority is held as follows: Vanguard and Charles Schwab accounts – Katie Osman, Richard Camarillo, Todd Hampton, Assistant Superintendent and Vice President of Administrative Services; Bank and certificate of deposit accounts – Jill Stearns, Katie Osman, Richard Camarillo, and Jessica Strano, Director of Philanthropy.

Motion to approve as presented: Jones/Campbell – **Passed** by a majority vote of the Foundation Board of Directors and unanimously by those members present to approve the Annual Signature Authorization 2024-2026, as presented.

- **Yes** – (21) Stuart Campbell, Craig Darnell, Jeff Darnton, Janice Fong Wolf, Grigger Jones, Debbie Perrault, Jill Stearns, Ph.D., Jim Anderson, Ryan Ashlock, Andrea Devitt, Erica Flores Baltodano, Rob Garcia, Eric Holmen, Mary E. Howell, Robyn Letters, Barbara Martinez, Steve McGrath, George Pudlo, Lisa Rubio Castillo, Marcy Woolpert Rourke, Cheryl Vines
- **No** – (0) There is none to report.
- **Absent** – (10) Michael Boyer, Elizabeth Coria, Ph.D., Susan Dressler, Ph.D., Cyndee Edwards, Patricia Gordon, Ph.D., Scott Lathrop, Pragna Patel-Mueller, Isaac Pummill, John Rolph, Mary Strobbridge
- **Abstention** – (0) none to report.

I. Reports

1. Foundation President

Foundation President Craig Darnell shared more about his personal history and strong family ties with Cuesta College, noting how these connections fuel his enthusiasm to serve as Board President. He also highlighted the recent new hire orientation.

2. Superintendent/President

Dr. Jill Stearns shared that Cuesta College is experiencing a record-breaking summer. For the first time in the College's history, more than 1,000 full-time students are enrolled, marking the largest summer enrollment to date. She attributed this achievement to several key initiatives, including the year-round return of the LVN program, the launch of the Commercial Driving Program, strong enrollment in career education courses, and the expansion of non-



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credit programs that support high school students in meeting graduation requirements. Dr. Stearns concluded with a discussion on the challenges the College is navigating related to conflicting federal and state directives.

3. Foundation Executive Director

Katie Osman reiterated her enthusiasm for her new role as Executive Director, emphasizing the strength of the team, including the recent hire of Andrea Horvath. She reflected on her first few weeks, noting the privilege of attending the LVN pinning ceremony as a powerful example of the important work we do.

4. Representative Reports

a. Faculty Report (Devitt)

Andrea was on campus all summer. She gave some details on the recent student orientation and shared that we have a new Dean in Student Services who is making a significant impact already. There is great collaboration between Student Services and Faculty.

5. Committee Chair Reports

a. Alumni Relations Committee (Fong Wolf)

This Fall, Cuesta College will recognize our three Honored Alumni. Nominations for the next award cycle will open in late fall.

b. Development Committee (Darnton)

We hit our goal for last year. We are off to a strong start for this new year with a great first month.

c. Finance Committee (Campbell)

Stuart followed with a report on the Portfolio monthly snapshot that was included in the Board Packet.

d. Nominating Committee (Lathrop)

Scott was not in attendance.

J. Comments by Staff

No comments shared.

K. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 4:18 p.m., followed by a social gathering for board members to connect.