



Colorado • Montana • North Dakota • South Dakota • Utah • Wyoming

ASPIRE BOARD MEETING
September 29, 2018
Missoula, Montana
Submitted by Jami Bayles
APPROVED

IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS

Darlene Samson, President
Cynthia Ayala, President-Elect
Kyle Ethelbah, Past-President
Marilyn Thayer, Treasurer
Jami Bayles, Secretary

STATE PRESIDENTS

Brandi Scott, Colorado State President
Theresa Rader, Montana State President
Dennis Stangl, North Dakota State President
Thomas Madut, South Dakota State President
Rachel Lund, Utah State President
Alison Grendahl, Wyoming State President

GUESTS

Ben Shapiro

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Darlene Samson at 7:19pm. Roll call was made and Dennis Stangl was appointed Parliamentarian.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Darlene distributed a proposed agenda to the Board. Rachel moved to accept the agenda as written. Thomas seconded, and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the April 2018 ASPIRE Board meeting were reviewed. Thomas moved to approve the minutes as written. Marilyn seconded, and the minutes from the April 2018 ASPIRE Board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Marilyn reported that currently ASPIRE has \$105,242.08 in checking, \$1,525.47 in savings, and \$103,866.29 in certificates of deposit. In the Stripe system there are transactions that total \$120,728.76, which includes expenses and income for the regional conference and state conferences. Marilyn discussed the features and complexities of the Stripe system. Discussion ensued. Marilyn is currently working with Jenn Wade to create a Memorandum Of Agreement for the position of an ASPIRE bookkeeper. Jami asked if there was an update with the account that was compromised in late 2017. Marilyn reported that the situation had been resolved, but unfortunately there was approximately \$1700 that was not recovered.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2018 Conference Updates

Awards: Jami reported that at the 2018 ASPIRE Conference, individuals will be recognized for years of service. She stated that there were 104 new members, 17 five-year members, 6 ten-year members, one each for 20-year, 25-year, and 30-year member, two 35-year members, one 40-year member, and four retirees. This is in addition to recognizing three TRIO Achievers, a Rising Star, Friend of ASPIRE,

51 Champion of TRIO, and the Art Quinn Memorial Award recipient. Jami also reported that she would be
52 stepping down as the Awards chair for the upcoming year.

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54 *Corporate Development:* Darlene reported that 4Imprint had donated \$500 to the conference and
55 Paradigm Shift had donated \$150.

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57 *Elections:* Ben Hamman will be conducting elections. Currently there has been one official nomination
58 for the position of Secretary, Dennis Stangl, and one official nomination for the position of President-
59 Elect, Theresa Rader. There have been no nominations for the position of Treasurer.

60 *ASPIRE Leadership Development:* Marilyn reported that nine individuals participated in the ALI. With
61 the exception of Wyoming, all states were represented. Marilyn discussed in detail her vision for ALI.

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63 *ASPIRE Conference Waiver:* Darlene gave an update on the conference waiver. She reported that nine
64 applications were received and two waivers were given out. Michelle Pehrson from North Dakota State
65 University, and Stephen Stephon from Montana State University Billings were the two individuals.

66 67 Membership

68 Darlene shared the Membership report on behalf of Cara Davis. For the 2017-18 year Colorado had 130
69 members, Montana had 53, North Dakota had 42, South Dakota had 29, Utah had 86, and Wyoming had
70 26.

71 72 Development

73 Jami reported that for Project Memberships for the 2017-18 year, Colorado achieved 55%, Montana
74 achieved 92%, North Dakota achieved 41%, South Dakota achieved 50%, Utah achieved 100%, and
75 Wyoming achieved 77%. For COE Fair Share, Colorado achieved 131%, Montana achieved 76%, North
76 Dakota achieved 115%, South Dakota achieved 83%, Utah achieved 143%, and Wyoming achieved
77 118%. Overall, the ASPIRE region achieved 112% of COE Fair Share.

78 79 Native American Initiatives

80 Kyle reported that since the 2017 ASPIRE Conference, the committee worked in partnership with COE to
81 deliver an introductory webinar on the upcoming SSS grant competition on July 24, 2018. This was
82 followed up with an in person training in connection with the American Indian Higher Education
83 Consortium (AIHEC) Conference held in Polson, Montana on July 29, 2018. Kyle reported those
84 individuals were then invited to a SSS grant writing workshop that was held in conjunction with the
85 ASPIRE region conference.

86 87 Social Justice

88 Rachel reported that the Social Justice committee has organized a fundraiser for the food bank at the
89 University of Montana to be held in conjunction with the 2018 ASPIRE region conference in which the
90 committee will solicit donations from conference participants.

91 92 Public Relations

93 Dennis talked about the need for ASPIRE members to use the Workplace platform to post ASPIRE news,
94 and encouraged the overall use of social media including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

95 96 Governmental Relations

97 Ben Shapiro joined the Board and read a statement on behalf of Ally Garcia, current GR chair. He
98 explained concerns the committee had in regards to the changes in leadership, accountability, and travel
99 funds to attend the annual Policy seminar. Discussion ensued.

100 101 **ACTION ITEM**

102 Dennis moved to offer \$1,000 to the Governmental Relations chair to use as needed for attending policy,
103 unless they are a state President. Thomas seconded and the motion carried.

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STATE REPORTS

Each state president gave brief summaries & highlights of their state reports. Full state reports will be available on the ASPIRE website.

COE Update

Kyle reported that over the last few years, there had been concerns about the fiscal health of COE, but that the organization was overcoming those obstacles and was now moving in a more positive direction. He reported that during the Davis family dinner at the annual director’s conference in New York City, a commitment of one million dollars had been made to COE. He also discussed the increase in funding and the situation regarding programs who agreed to serve more students in order to receive the increase.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer Position

The Board discussed different options for the Treasurer position in the event that there are no nominations that come forward during the election process. If there are no nominations, Cindy can appoint a former ASPIRE Treasurer during her first official Board meeting. Marilyn stated that initially she had planned to retire, but would be coming back to work in TRIO part-time. Discussion ensued.

ACTION ITEM

Marilyn moved to change the language in the Operating Guidelines to be consistent with Board membership. Brandi seconds and motion carried.

2019 Conference

The Board discussed the 2019 conference including location, co-chairs, and theme.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Dennis moved to accept The Antlers Hotel as the 2019 conference locations. Rachel seconds and motion carried.
2. Dennis moved to approve the theme “Elevating the Mind, Body, and Soul of TRIO” for the 2019 conference. Rachel seconds and motion carried.
3. Dennis moved to approve Brandi Roesener and Angelica Valdez as the co-chairs for the 2019 conference. Rachel seconds and motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Darlene called for a motion to adjourn. Kyle so moved, Theresa seconded and motion carried. The ASPIRE Board meeting adjourned on September 29th, 2018 at 8:15pm.