Jackson Family Center for Ethics & Values

Board of Directors Meeting

April 14, 2015
5:00 p.m.

Attendance:
John Beard
Debbie Connor
Amber Eckersley
Dan Ennis
Scott Gallimore
Laura Hoy
Kirk Lawton
Kaitlyn Powalie
Nils Rauhut
Garland Shrader
Bobby Wilkes

1. Welcome – Laura Hoy

Nils Rauhut welcomed everyone to the board meeting and then turned it over to Laura Hoy for the official welcome. Laura Hoy welcomes everyone to the meeting and thanks them for attending.

2. Director’s Report

2.1 Ethics Fellow Search
   a. Nils Rauhut reminds the Board that the Philosopher’s Corner event on April 21, 2015 is David Killoren’s last presentation as the Jackson Center’s Ethics Fellow. It is a farewell event for him as well as an end of the semester celebration for the Jackson Scholars. Nils Rauhut invites the Board to attend.
   b. Nils Rauhut tells the Board that the search for the new Ethics Fellow is underway. He told the Board that the Jackson Center received a total of 35 applications for the position, 8 of
those applicants were interviewed via Skype on March 23, and 3 of them were chosen for on campus interviews. 2 of the candidates – Kirsten Egerstrom and Noel Alphonse – had already made their on campus visits. The third candidate, David Holiday, will visit on Friday, April 17, 2015. The Board was also provided with a sheet of information about the candidates and the search.

c. Nils Rauhut asks if the Board has any additional questions regarding the Ethics Fellow search.

d. Laura Hoy asks Nils’ to give his general impression of the candidates. Nils Rauhut explains that he sees the Ethics Fellow position as a professional stepping –stone. However, it is also a position that requires the occupant to provide mentorship to the Jackson Scholars. As such, the candidates spend some of their time on campus interacting with the Jackson Scholars in addition to giving their research presentation and teaching demonstration. Nils Rauhut asks the two Jackson Scholars at the board meeting – Garland Shrader and Kaitlyn Powalie – to speak about their experience interacting with the candidates.

e. Garland Shrader tells the Board that it has been a great experience getting to interact with the candidates because whoever is chosen will be working extensively with the Jackson Scholars as well as teaching them in various courses. He is grateful to have input on the decision.

f. Kaitlyn Powalie seconds the views expressed by Garland Shrader.

g. Nils Rauhut tells the Board that the search committee is looking for someone who is both a great scholar and mentor. He stresses the importance of the candidate’s ability to work with and mentor the Jackson Scholars. He is very excited about this opportunity.

2.2 Search for the New Assistant Director

a. Nils Rauhut told the Board that the Jackson Center does not have a graduating Jackson Scholar this year who is interested in applying for the position. As such, the Jackson Center has had to perform a search for the new Assistant Director.

b. Nils Rauhut asked the current Assistant Director, Amber Eckersley, to speak more about the search.

c. Amber Eckersley told the Board that the Jackson Center would like to hire a graduating student from the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. The applications are available in her office and the deadline is April 15, 2015.

d. Laura Hoy asked if the Jackson Center had received many applicants. Amber Eckersley informs the Board that the Jackson Center has not received any applications as of yet, but if none are received by the deadline, she and Nils Rauhut would extend the search.

2.3 Jackson Scholar Program

a. Review of Washington D.C. Trip

i. Nils Rauhut informed the Board that one of the goals of the Jackson Scholar program is to provide Scholars with a variety of leadership experiences. Recently, the a group of Jackson Scholars traveled with students from the Edgar Dyer Institute for Leadership and
Public Policy to Washington D.C. as a Leadership Delegation. Nils Rauhut asked Garland Shrader, Kaitlyn Powalie and Amber Eckersley to reflect on their experiences as participants in the trip.

ii. Amber Eckersley began by showing the Board photographs of the D.C. trip. She explains that, aside from the actual experience of D.C., one of the most valuable aspects of the trip was the networking opportunities for the students provided by the Edgar Dyer Alumni Dinner as well as the overall trip schedule that included meetings with several Coastal alums in D.C. She also noted the bonding she saw between the Jackson Scholars during the trip.

iii. Kaitlyn Powalie began by seconding what Amber Eckersley said in regards to the networking opportunities. As a Psychology and Philosophy major, she did not think that D.C. would ever be a place that would have opportunities for her. However, after networking and experiencing D.C., she is rethinking her future after graduating from CCU. She also really enjoyed the opportunity to bond with her fellow Jackson Scholars on this trip.

iv. Garland Shrader told the Board that he was also very appreciative of the networking opportunities. However, for him, the experience of bonding with his fellow Jackson Scholars, as well as the other students on the trip, was simply invaluable. He said that because of the trip he has made lifelong friendships. He also said that the actual experience of D.C. opened up his mind to new ideas.

v. Dan Ennis told the Board that bonding off-campus is great for students. He also provided more details about the set-up of the Edgar Dyer Alumni Dinner and how that helped students to network. He said such networking dinners had been successful in other departments in other cities and that COHFA has a goal to make that happen in D.C. with future leaders like the Jackson Scholars.

vi. Nils Rauhut added that continuing to add travel experiences is very crucial and beneficial to the program.

vii. Nils Rauhut informed Garland Shrader and Kaitlyn Powalie that they are free to leave the meeting. Both leave the meeting.

b. End of Semester Decisions

i. Nils Rauhut reminded the Board that the Jackson Scholar program has recently expanded to incorporate a larger class of Jackson Scholars. 12 new Jackson Scholars were inducted for the 2015 – 2017 class. However, some students in this larger class are not performing well. Nils Rauhut asks the Board how stringent the Jackson Center should be in letting people go from the Program? Is a strict or lenient policy better? What will make for a more successful Program?
ii. Debbie Connor asked what percentage of events do Jackson Scholars have to attend? She suggested that if students fail to meet the set percentage, then they should be cut. She also told the Board that “word travels.” If students begin to think that the Jackson Scholars Program is not rigorous, then it will not be thought of as an honor. Because the perception of the Program could be in jeopardy, she urges for a strict set of guidelines.

iii. Kirk Lawton asked Nils Rauhut if he had spoken with any of the students that were not doing well? Nils Rauhut responded that he had spoken with them.

iv. Nils Rauhut, in response to Debbie Connor’s question, responded that there was no set policy of attendance. The Jackson Scholars were strongly encouraged to attend events. The pledge at the induction ceremony was also meant to encourage them to attend events.

v. Debbie Connor advocated again for an absence policy.

vi. Dan Ennis told the Board that within any type of student program, the goal is to build a culture of accountability between the students involved - a culture in which the students involved know if another student is absent. However, building that culture requires, at first, a stricter policy.

vii. Debbie Connor suggested an end of semester review with each of the Jackson Scholars.

viii. Scott Gallimore suggested that a stipend increase may encourage students to attend more events. Many students are commuters who also have work obligations and a larger stipend may help to ease those commitment issues.

ix. Bobby Wilkes suggested that the Jackson Center have a meeting in which all of the Jackson Scholars decide on the policy. He noted that oftentimes, students are stricter when they set the rules for themselves.

x. John Beard and Laura Hoy argue that the Jackson Scholar Program is not just about the money. It is also about bonding with students from various colleges across campus and sharing in experiences like the Washington D.C. trip. Those sorts of benefits should also encourage students to attend events and participate in Jackson Center activities.

2.4 Review of Spring Events

a. Nils Rauhut told the Board that the Jackson Center has two events left for the Spring semester. He asked them to review the Spring 2015 event schedule provided in their folders and to provide any feedback they had on the schedule. He also mentioned that in the Fall 2015 semester the Jackson Center would like to have another medical ethics event at the MBEC.
b. John Beard told Nils Rauhut that it gets harder for students to attend events at the end of the semester because it’s such a busy time of year.

c. Nils Rauhut agreed and suggested to Amber Eckersley that the last few weeks of the Fall 2015 semester should be event free to accommodate that concern.

2.5 Planning Events for Fall 2015

a. Nils Rauhut highlighted several events planned for the Fall 2015 semester. He asked the Board if they have any event ideas or suggestions.

b. John Beard responded that he enjoys presentations where two sides of a major argument or moral dilemma are presented. He suggested an event focusing on police brutality and what it means to be responsible for upholding the law.

c. Debbie Connor told the Board that her office recently did a climate survey on campus that asked students what their perception of discrimination was on CCU’s campus. The results of the survey indicated that students perceive there to be a high amount of discrimination based on socio-economic status. She suggested that the Jackson Center could have an event that addresses that topic.

d. Nils Rauhut liked the idea and wants to incorporate it in the Fall 2015 event schedule as a Java Jabber.

3. Budget Report

Nils Rauhut asked the Board to review the budget report provided in their meeting folders. He told the Board that the majority of Jackson Center funds had been spent on Jackson Scholar stipends. He asked the Board if they had any questions about the Budget or any particular expenditure. The Board did not.

4. For the Good of the Order

Nils Rauhut extends his thanks to Amber Eckersley, the Jackson Center’s Assistant Director, for all of her contributions to the Jackson Center over the past year. He presented her with a gift of flowers from the Board and the Board members also extend their gratitude. Amber Eckersley thanks the Board for the wonderful opportunity and reflects on her experiences as a Jackson Scholar and a the Assistant Director.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:07 p.m.

Recorded by: AEckersley