Accolade

Fall 2023

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Board President's Message

AS A NON-PROFIT BOARD, WE ARE WIRED TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE, to receive, save and invest so that future generations of students and the college will have a source of financial support. Increasing current gifts and endowment assets are priorities, as you can tell by the inclusion in this issue of information about how you can support our vision of making Cochise College accessible to all.

With the bequest left by our friend George Bugen last year, the foundation's assets increased substantially. Today, we're proud to say that they are now decreasing. That's because the foundation has made an initial payment to the college so that the plan that George put in place for the use of his gift can come to fruition. All or the majority of his gift will be doing its work supporting capital improvements by the end of April.

It's extremely gratifying to watch the dollars that you trust us to manage do their work. For example, the foundation was recently contacted by a student - a really good cybersecurity student - whose unforeseeable financial difficulties impacted his ability to get to class. In working with the Financial Aid Office, it was discovered that although he qualified, he had never applied for the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship that so many of you have supported. In a matter of days, we were able to match him up with funds, an act for which he is extremely grateful and that may have changed the course of his life.

Last year, you helped another 767 students like him. That's amazing!

We should all be proud that the financial and moral support we provide to students makes for a stronger college and stronger communities. Pat yourself on the back; you deserve it!

As always, we sincerely thank you for your continued generosity!

Joanna Michelich, ('68) Ph.D. President Cochise College Foundation



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"Accolade" inspires charitable support of Cochise College by raising awareness about competitive advantages of the college and the activities of its students, faculty, staff, and the Cochise College Foundation, which promotes student success through scholarships, facilities development, and program support.

Cover photo by Dani Foti



From the Cochise College President

IT IS A GREAT HONOR to participate in an organization that has been a leader in redefining access to education since its inception in 1964. Our dedication to forming partnerships that enhance the community is showcased in recent developments at the college.

Over the past 10 years, we've worked diligently on initiatives to bring cutting-edge training opportunities to Cochise County. An example is the First Responders Academy, which provides access to state-of-the-art training and saves local agencies resources previously needed for travel to training sites.

The academy is an example of collaboration in action. We wanted to do more with the partnerships we have with local agencies that resulted in the return several years ago of law enforcement training at Cochise College. So this year, we unveiled new facilities and simulation training tools that allow us to enhance and expand into new areas in law enforcement, healthcare and fire science. This hyper-local approach ensures that first responders are academically proficient and well-equipped to excel in the workforce.

As I take a moment to reflect, I'm genuinely amazed by the remarkable growth and impact that Cochise College has achieved through its partnerships and relationships, which allow the institution to align with the community's immediate needs. None of it would be possible without the dedication of the Governing Board, outstanding faculty and staff, and the elected officials who have supported their citizens with allocations that expand the college mission and its vision of being "a leading and responsive college that transforms and empowers our community by fostering collaborative relationships and providing innovative educational pathways."

J.D. Rottweiler, Ph.D. President
Cochise College
jdr@cochise.edu

College initiates education transformation discussions

By Dr. Jenn Wantz

IN A BID TO FOSTER EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION AND PAVE THE WAY FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR STUDENTS, Cochise College hosted a groundbreaking discussion in September, igniting a transformative wave in the educational landscape of Cochise County.

The event brought together eight high schools, signaling a pivotal collaboration for the advancement of education in the county. The ASU Helios Decision Center for Educational Excellence set the stage for strategic discussions with a dynamic data engagement program.

The event aimed to achieve several critical objectives, including encouraging productive conversations among education stakeholders, exploring cutting-edge data technologies to revolutionize initiatives, and devising innovative solutions to optimize educational potential while contributing to the development of vibrant communities. Participants were presented with comprehensive data insights tailored to the specific needs of their respective schools, fostering a deeper understanding of the educational landscape within not only the county, but also their specific institution.

The discussions gave rise to a series of proactive strategies, such as establishing direct lines of communication between high schools and college deans to align expectations, facilitating collaborative efforts between high school teachers and college instructors to streamline curriculum content, and organizing specialized counselor meetings through the Cochise County Superintendent's Office.

The meeting also emphasized the significance of Career and Technical Education (CTE) for all students, shedding light on diverse opportunities beyond conventional college pathways. Plans were unveiled to intensify efforts in tracking county-wide CTE data and expanding dual enrollment initiatives, ensuring students'



Cochise College's Barbara Richardson, left, dean of extended learning, participated with representatives of local schools in discussions about enhancing educational systems for county residents.

preparedness, and facilitating comprehensive support structures for their academic endeavors.

Furthermore, the program emphasized the importance of fostering a supportive environment for opportunity and at-risk youth, with proposals to provide Adult Education, GED, and IEP opportunities. Tours showcasing various CTE and short-credentialing programs were outlined.

Looking ahead, Cochise College is geared up to organize immersive campus tours, collaborate with local partners to introduce a range of enriching after-school and summer programs, and implement specialized trade programs and certification courses tailored for rapid workforce integration. The morning culminated with a renewed commitment to provide comprehensive support and guidance to students, further solidifying Cochise College's dedication to spearheading transformative educational experiences for the betterment of Cochise County and its future leaders.

Honors and appointments

Art Instructor **ASHLEY DALKE** was appointed by Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs as the Bisbee representative to the Arizona Commission on the Arts. A mixed-media artist, Dalke has been a

faculty member at the Douglas Campus since 2020. She holds a masters of fine arts in painting from the University of Arizona (2019) and a bachelor of fine arts in painting and drawing from the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater (2015). Her work has been exhibited at the University of Arizona Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tucson, and Tubac Center of the Arts. She is a volunteer programmer at KBRP 96.1, a community radio station in Bisbee, and she previously served on the board of Border Arts Corridor, a local arts non-profit that serves the communities of Douglas, Arizona, and Agua Prieta, Sonora.

ABE VILLARREAL, dean of the Douglas Campus, was selected to receive the Capitol One Scholarship to cover the \$10,000 cost of the program fee for participation in the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) La Academia de Liderazgo program. The one-year program prepares culturally diverse leaders for executive and senior level positions in higher education. Villarreal is a former Cochise College student who joined the college staff in 2021 in a new position focused on outreach to the community. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Western New Mexico University, where he also previously served as the director of marketing. Villarreal serves on the boards of and volunteers with numerous organizations across the county; the City of Douglas also recently recognized him for his tireless service.

COCHISE KUDOS

Each quarter, faculty, staff, students, and the public are encouraged



NEW FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS

The Cochise College Foundation welcomed three new board members in July. **Trudy Berry, Carolyn Dirksen, Ph.D.,** and **Crystal Hadfield** ('10) will serve up to two five-year terms. Berry, of Sierra Vista, is a former Cochise County school superintendent and Cochise College employee with connections across the region. Dirksen attended Cochise in 1965-1966 before transferring to Northern Arizona University; she held numerous positions, including vice president for academics, at Lee University, where she served for 50 years. Hadfield is the director of finance for the City of Willcox and has a daughter who is enrolled at Cochise. She is also a member of Willcox Against Substance Abuse.

Partnerships expand capacity for fire, healthcare, law enforcement training

WITH THE RECENT GROUNDBREAKING AND RIBBON CUTTING OF NEW FACILITIES, THE INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP A FIRST RESPONDERS ACADEMY THAT HAS BEEN YEARS IN THE MAKING IS COMING TO FRUITION, AND IT WOULDN'T BE HAPPENING WITHOUT PARTNERSHIPS.

"A commitment to collaboration, innovation and community engagement has marked our legacy," said Dr. JD Rottweiler, college president. "Finding solutions to the challenges of today requires a collective effort, and partnerships are the driving force behind these initiatives."

Long-standing relationships with Cochise County law enforcement agencies, particularly the Sheriff's Office and the Sierra Vista Police Department, led to the return of a law enforcement training academy at Cochise College in Spring 2019. The program is training its 10th cohort and has graduated 104 recruits, 70 percent of whom serve Cochise County agencies.

In August, the college and the City of Sierra Vista cut the ribbon on a 4.5-acre driving track at Fire Station No. 3, near the college campus. Designed to provide a safe and controlled environment to master the challenges on the road, the track allows students to practice and improve their driving skills. By replicating real-life driving scenarios commonly encountered by first responders and commercial drivers, the training on a driving track gives students confidence and proficiency in high-stress situations. At the time this was written, the track had been used for 40 hours by the Southeast Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy at Cochise College, eight hours by the Sierra Vista Police Department, and 12 hours by the Cochise County Sheriff's Office.









Pictured top to bottom are the ambulance simulator, the ribbon being cut on the driving track, and renderings of the indoor firearms training center and Bugen Hall. The day the ribbon was cut, the college also unveiled an ambulance simulator developed by SimLeader that utilizes virtual reality technology for EMT and paramedic training. The simulator offers students an immersive experience in realistic emergency response scenarios. Its risk-free environment provides invaluable hands-on experience before trainees face real-life emergencies.

This fall, the college broke ground on a 9,338-square-foot, \$12.2 million, indoor firearms training center, an addition to the academy that will provide 20 lanes and 11 armory and weapons cleaning areas and will rival facilities at many law enforcement, military and federal training centers. The project is funded by various legislative initiatives and is expected to open in January 2025.

"These milestones are a testament to our commitment to addressing the specific needs in our communities."

In addition, the college is constructing a two-story, 17,699-square-foot residence hall that will house students at the Sierra Vista Campus for the first time. When complete, Bugen Hall will include space for 45 students and serve as a template for any additional housing that is needed across the district in the future. The \$14.8 million cost of the project is funded by rural aid, Arizona Prop 207, and a bequest from county resident George Bugen (see sidebar). It is also scheduled to open early in 2025.

The college recently signed an agreement with the City of Sierra Vista to provide an expedited fire science certification program. Recruits receive intensive training that will enable them to complete state fire service exams, attain firefighter I and II certifications, and become proficient in HazMat in just two months. The college and the county will also share the cost of purchasing three police car simulators and airmedicsim; these tools will provide additional simulation training tailored to the specific needs of first responders in Cochise County.

"These milestones are a testament to our commitment to addressing the specific needs in our communities," Rottweiler said. "In this way, we can address the need for skilled first responders in our communities."



GEORGE BUGEN was the last living member of his immediate family when he approached the college in 2011 about making a substantial gift. The Bugens were early residents of Bisbee, with their time there spanning from 1907 (birth of George's mother Mamie Milutinovich) until George's passing in 2022. The family, which also included George's father Chris, who immigrated from Yugoslavia, his brother Sam, and his sister Bette, were active in many civic and social organizations.

As a result of two gifts totaling nearly \$7 million, and that increased in value to in excess of \$9.6 million, the Bugen name currently graces the front of the college's Career Technical Education facility, and it will soon appear on a new residence hall at the Sierra Vista Campus.

George's interest in the trades was sparked by his time as a service member in the U.S.

Navy, and as a miner, machinist and more. He spent many years working in South America for Southern Peru Copper, from which he retired in 1986. George was a member of the first Bisbee Pumas football team to defeat Douglas for possession of the Copper Pick. He believed in the value of education, and his wish was to support improvements at the Sierra Vista Campus. He was inducted into the Cochise College Hall of Fame at the groundbreaking event for the building that will bear his family name.

Cochise College misses you, George, and its current and future students thank you!

College making plans for historical celebrations

ARCHIVES NOW HELD IN LIBRARY

As it prepares to celebrate six decades of serving Cochise County, Cochise College has embarked on new efforts to manage and raise awareness of its history.

An initial step was the hiring of Ashlee Gray as an archivist in the Charles DiPeso Library at the Douglas Campus. Gray's role is to manage the historical collections of the college. She has been reviewing and organizing documents and items already held in the library, as well as collecting items of historical interest that were stored in other departments. For example, documents previously belonging to Dr. Bill Harwood, the college's second president; early faculty member Harvey Huncovsky; and founding Governing Board member Dr. George Spikes shed light on the priorities at the time of the college's founding and were all turned over to and stored in the Cochise College Foundation. Like many areas of the college, the foundation recognized the historical value of items in its possession but previously had no single location for them to be stored and managed.

"Having an archivist in the library provides the college with a single location for storage of materials that are valuable to the soul of the institution, as well as an individual who is passionate about knowing the college's history and where to find answers to historical questions," said Dr. Jenn Wantz, executive dean of community engagement. "These items tell us how we came to be who we are as an institution."

Gray and Karly Scarbrough, director of college libraries, also are seeking grants and donations for the purchase of equipment that can help them best preserve items for future generations. In the short term, needed supplies include archival clamshell boxes for scrapbooks, archival nesting storage boxes for paper documents and photos, acid-free document folders, mylar sleeves for photograph/negative preservation, archival barrier boards, corrugated board, bond paper, and tissue for storage separation and support, and a slide storage box kit.

Lucia Spikes, right, widow of Dr. George Spikes, a founding member of the Cochise College Governing Board who played a prominent role in establishing the institution, turns over an image of the groundbreaking that she saved with her husband's things. The image will be stored with the college archives managed by Librarian Ashlee Gray.







ALUMN!! Do you have your commencement program? Cochise College seeks to compile a complete collection of programs that includes two copies of each program - one for display and one for preservation. Specifically missing are the years **1991**, **1992 and 1993.** Donations of programs from between 1966 and 2000 are greatly appreciated and can be made by contacting Ashlee Gray at **graya@cochise.edu** or (**520**) **417-4142.**

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST DAY OF CLASS

Moving forward, the archives will play an important role as a resource for anyone researching or celebrating college history. For example, the college hosted its first Founder's Day on September 21. The event commemorated the 59th anniversary of the first day of class and included a display of historical items at the Sierra Vista Campus and another at the Douglas Campus. The Douglas event included a short ceremony and an open house for a new welcome center. With early students John and Rosaline Pintek; Lucia Spikes, widow of Dr. Spikes; early facilities supervisor Albert Velasco; and former employees Michael Ferranto and Martha Skinner in attendance, Gray described the college's efforts at preservation and put out a call for commencement programs to complete its collection. In addition, Spikes turned over to the college a framed image of the college groundbreaking, which was a source of great pride for her husband.



Items maintained in the archives include photographs, yearbooks and other publications.

SOCIALS OFFER CHANCE FOR ALUMNI TO PARTICIPATE

Staff also shared this message at an alumni social held in Douglas in September. It was the second alumni social held in the area and an opportunity for the college to collect stories from and share recent college news with former students who are still in the community. The socials have been held one time per semester, and initial efforts are underway to begin hosting similar events in the Sierra Vista area in Spring 2024. Dates and locations will be announced via email and flyers and can also be found in the events section of the college website at cochise.edu.



Community outreach staff and local alumni gathered at the Blueberry Cafe in Douglas in September to learn about the college archive project and each other.

Competition review: Fall results point to positive outlook

By Angel Ortega



WOMEN'S SOCCER

The 2023 Cochise College Women's Soccer season began in August with high expectations. Coming off of a loss to Arizona Western College in the Region 1 final last year and entering his second season at Cochise, Coach Ricky Escalera recruited a slew of new freshmen poised to make an immediate impact.

The season began with three wins going into conference play, where a re-match at AWC came out in the Matadors' favor. In September, the Apaches suffered key injuries, leading to many freshmen stepping into critical roles. Freshman Sabrina Amezcua (First Team All-ACCAC and All-Region I) became one of Division I's leading scorers. Sophomore Paula Gonzalez entered the spotlight when she cracked the top 10 nationwide in assists. Sophomore defender Julia Giuriatti was named Second Team All-ACCAC and First Team All-Region 1.

The rollercoaster season continued with two ties and two losses heading into October. The Apaches ended 2023 with back-to-back wins over Gateway and Chandler-Gilbert Community College, to finish with an overall record of 7-5-2 and a conference record of 5-4-2. Although Cochise did not make the postseason, the team has plenty to look forward to, with the expected return of 14 freshmen and a handful of talented recruits.

RODEO

Rodeo Coach Lynn Smith and Assistant Coach Diego Suarez delivered on a challenge to recruit more competitors. Of 13 new team members, eight are women and five are men. The team still includes key returners Gavin Hershberger, Taylar Smith, and Macie Fowlie.

The teams finished second (women) and fourth (men) at the rodeo at the Cochise County Fair. Freshman standout Sealy Bottom of Cheyenne, OK, won the goattying event, and Fowlie finished third. Freshman Quincy Downey took first in breakaway roping. Freshman Taten Erickson of Hobson, MT placed second in steer-wrestling and third in the "All-Around Cowboy" standings.

The team had a strong performance at Mesalands College (Tucumcari, NM), its second event of the fall season. The women's team placed first overall at both rodeo events. Erickson took first in the tiedown events on both days, while Bottom took first in goat-tying during the second day. The final rodeo event of the fall took place October 27 at New Mexico State University (results unavailable at deadline), and competition picks back up in March. At this time, Coach Smith anticipates several athletes will qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo in June 2024.



Top left: Sabrina Amezcua earned First Team All-ACCAC and All-Region I honors as a freshman.

Above: Freshman Sealy Bottom, running barrels at the Cochise County Fair, is a new addition to the rodeo team who also had a strong fall showing in goat tying.



Log the miles you run, walk or cycle during March 2024.

For every 10 miles run or walked, or every 30 miles cycled, earn one entry in a prize drawing.

Search "Pathway to \$150k" at runsignup.com. or scan the QR code.

\$40 + tax & processing fee.

Proceeds provide scholarships for Cochise County students.

Early-bird registration deadline: Dec. 4, 2023

Early-bird prize: Fibit Versa 4 (Sierra Toyota)

Late registration ends March 31, 2024





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Doris Caldwell







GIVING TO COCHISE COLLEGE



For 55 years, donors to the Cochise College Foundation have promoted student success through scholarships, program enhancements and capital development. Charitable support allowed the foundation to provide 1,068 scholarships totaling \$715,000 to 811 students, and an additional \$128,000 in support of programs, in 2021-2022.

To continue the culture of excellence at Cochise College and ensure access for students, the Cochise College Foundation encourages current and future donors to consider making provisions in their wills for the benefit of academic programs, scholarships and other needs. Estates of any size can leave a mark on the future by supporting local higher education while creating brighter futures for generations of students.

Planning Your Legacy

Here are three vehicles for leaving a legacy gift.

A provision in your will or trust

Examples:

- "I give/devise \$_____ to the non-profit Cochise College Foundation, EIN 86-0211414, to be used for the following purpose..."
- "I give/devise _____% of the residual of my estate for the benefit of Cochise College's first responder training programs."

This vehicle costs nothing during your lifetime and can be modified or revoked.

Insurance policy

The Cochise College Foundation can be named as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy.

Beneficiary designation

Assets such as bank and investment accounts, certificates of deposit, savings bonds, annuities, and IRAs, can be conveyed directly to the Cochise College Foundation by contacting the financial institution that holds your account(s) and naming the Cochise College Foundation as beneficiary.

See the Benefits

If you wish to see benefits during your lifetime, the following options allow you to be personally involved in the creation of your legacy gift and witness its benefits. Each option may provide tax benefits to the donor.

Endowment

Consider establishing a named charitable endowment. The Cochise College Foundation can work closely with you to document your wishes for using the endowment to benefit students.

The power of an endowment is that a portion of it is used toward the documented purpose each year, while the fund balance has the potential to grow in perpetuity, potentially generating larger distributions over time. You can also make provisions in your will or trust to bequeath a portion of your estate to the endowment upon your death.

The Cochise College Foundation requires a minimum donation of \$10,000 to establish a named endowment fund. There is an administrative fee charged to the endowment annually to provide Foundation oversight.

5% Scholarship Fund

Donors may direct a minimum of \$10,000 to the foundation with the commitment that a 5 percent distribution from the accumulated gift/s will be made in your name annually until the funds are expended. Perpetuity is not guaranteed, but the fund will be invested with the intent that it grows over time. There is an administrative fee charged to the fund annually to provide Foundation oversight.

Options are continued on the next page



Annual Fund

Donors may direct any amount of assets to be distributed within a specific time frame according to their wishes. No minimum gift is required. Funds will not be invested and will be expended until they are depleted.

Gift an Appreciated Asset

The Cochise College Foundation may, upon review, accept gifts of stock or marketable real estate.

Required Minimum Distribution

Currently, Congress permits IRA owners over the age of 70 ½ to make tax-free gifts, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per year, directly from their account to the Cochise College Foundation. Check IRS regulations for changes that may impact your plans.

Memorial Gifts

Remember loved ones with memorial gifts to the Cochise College Foundation.

Consider This

Legacy gifts made to the Cochise College Foundation allow you to support students during your lifetime and afterward. Through the income-generating power of the Foundation's investments, your legacy gift can continue to grow while supporting student achievement for an extended period. The Cochise College Foundation is overseen by a board of directors who consult with experienced investment professionals to manage assets. Scholarship-making decisions are made by professionals employed by the college.

Contact

Denise Hoyos, Executive Director foundation@cochise.edu (520) 417-4149



4190 W Highway 80, Douglas, AZ 85607 cochise.edu/give

DISCLAIMER

The Cochise College Foundation (EIN 86-0211414) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Deductible donations are allowable as provided by law. The information provided in this document is general in nature, may not apply to all individuals, and is not intended as legal or tax advice. Prospective donors are urged to consult their professional advisors.

Cochise College Legacy Society Planned Giving Commitment Form

I/we recognize the power a planned gift has on the lives of Cochise College students and commit to leave a legacy that ensures the community has access to the very best the college has to offer.

Names(s):	Date:
Email(s):	Phone(s):
Mailing Address:	
Membership in the Cochise College Legacy Society includes recognition and invitations to special events.	
Please include me/us in the Cochise College Legacy Society and recog	nize me/us as:
I/we wish to remain anonymous.	
I/we intend to provide a planned gift of the following type(s) to the Cochi and its students:	se College Foundation for the benefit of Cochise College
Will	
Revocable trust	
Beneficiary designation – life insurance, bank or investment account, retirement plan	
Other (please indicate)	
Please add any other details you wish to share:	
The estimated current value of this gift is \$	
The purpose of this planned gift is:	
Unrestricted to provide maximum flexibility for Cochise College.	
An existing fund (specify):	
I have a specific purpose in mind that I would like to discuss. Please co	ontact me.
I/we have enclosed a copy of document(s) detailing the gift(s) described a	bove.
Yes	
No	
Completion of this form is not intended to be legally binding, but notification of intent. Information will be kept in the strictest confidence and will be used for internal planning purposes; names may be used for recognition per your instructions. Please discuss your planned giving intentions with your professional advisors.	
Donor Signature	Date:
Donor Signature	Date:

Hall of Fame nominations now accepted

Do you know an individual or group who has:

- positively advanced Cochise College's legacy after being part of the college community, or
- left a legacy that made a significant impact on the institution or its students?

The Cochise College Hall of Fame honors individuals and groups in the following categories who have left a legacy as described above:

- Former student
- Past or present volunteer
- Community leader
- Former faculty/staff member



WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE A NOMINATION

- The type of certificate or degree earned by the nominee and approximate date/s of attendance, employment, volunteerism or other contribution
- Summary of nominee's professional background
- Summary of college or community service, honors, awards, public recognitions, etc.
- Letters of support or articles published about the nominee are welcome but not required.

The nominee's professional background is needed in order to effectively evaluate nominations and publicize inductee information. It is helpful if this document includes a resume or a detailed biographical statement.

Search Hall of Fame at cochise.edu to fill out the nomination form. Supporting documents can be emailed to alumni@cochise. edu or mailed to Cochise College Foundation, 4190 W Highway 80, Douglas, AZ 85607.



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THE LEGACY ISSUE

Learn how you can create brighter futures for generations of students.

PAGES 12-18



The Original Founders Day

Pictured at the groundbreaking of Cochise College on Sept. 22, 1963 are Dr. John Prince, John Caldwell (Governing Board), W. F. Conelly (construction contractor), Tom Fleetham (Governing Board), Brainard Page (Governing Board), Sen. A. R. Spikes, Dr. George Spikes (Governing Board), Edward L. Varney (architect), Dr. T. C. Johnston (college president), Mrs. Barney Boysen, Charles Bloomquist (state board for junior colleges), Sen. Dan Kitchel, James A. Elliott