
Foundation for the Compton CCD Regular Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: August 28, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Board Room, Administration Building
Compton College, 1111 E. Artesia Blvd., Compton, CA, 90221

Notetaker: Heather Parnock, Foundation Secretary

- I. Call to Order at 5:41 p.m. (Secretary)
- II. *Final* Roll Call (Secretary)
 - a. Board Members present (in-person): Robert Garcia, Joshua Jackson, Dayshawn Louden, Elizabeth Martinez, Tandiwe Mushonga, Isabelle Saber, and Heather Parnock
 - b. Board Members present (remotely): Edward Magee, Keith Curry, Don Mason, Sonia Lopez
 - c. Absent Board Members: Daniel Chenault, Sheri Berger
 - d. Guest: Dennis Masias
- III. Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items: *None*
- IV. Review and Approve Minutes from June 26, 2025 Foundation Board Meeting
 - a. Motion to approve with two edits and one addition by I. Saber, seconded by J. Jackson.
 - i. D. Louden clarified his comments about the use/application of scholarship funds similar financial aid guidelines.
 - b. *Motion Carries.* Nine yeas, no abstentions.
- V. Introductions (Board Members and Guest)
 - a. Dennis Masias: Compton College alum (class of 2014), MESA/STEM program specialist, Classified staff member, proud of this college/community institution, kudos to faculty and staff for their support and encouragement, started as a tutor and student worker, CSUF graduate, former ASG member.
 - b. Introduction of Board members via Zoom and in the Boardroom.
- VI. Recess to Closed Session at 6:15 p.m.
 - a. Potential Board Member – Recommended by the Executive Committee: Dennis Masias
 - i. Motion by J. Jackson and seconded by E. Martinez to accept Masias' nomination, with a two-year term beginning October 23, 2025, *as a District-appointed member.*
 - 1. *Motion Carries.* Nine yeas, no abstentions.
 - ii. *Upon acceptance, the Secretary sends the Conflict-of-Interest Form and information regarding annual dues.*
 - iii. Dr. Curry verified that he appointed Dr. Flor as a District representative in 2022.
- VII. Return to Open Session at 6:21 p.m.
 - a. Took action to approve nomination of Dennis Masias, as a staff member of the District.
 - i. Masias – *accepted.*

VIII. Presentations: *none*

IX. Oral Reports:

- a. Compton College and Compton Community College District Update (Dr. Keith Curry):
 - i. Enrollment was down 2-3% compared to the previous year, but when accounting for fraudulent students and dual enrollment, numbers were similar to last year.
 - 1. E. Magee asked about fraudulent enrollments, and Dr. Curry explained that while it affected current numbers, it did not impact funding, though there was concern about potential federal investigations.
 - 2. D. Mason noted that faculty must be proactive, especially in online courses, drop no shows or lack of participation. Authenticate student enrollment. \$10M in Federal financial aid in California alone, disbursed due to cyber-fraud. We can't catch them all, but doing what we can to mitigate the issue.
 - ii. Dr. Curry discussed progress on student housing, with 5 units expected to arrive on campus by Friday, and construction of 3 buildings planned for September through October.
 - iii. Dr. Curry also mentioned efforts to support undocumented students and various grant opportunities to fund campus projects.
- b. Foundation Officers/Executive Committee Update (Board Secretary)
 - i. August 20, 2025 meeting recap: review and recommendation of a potential board member – on this agenda as an action item; retirement of Dr. Flor and Dr. Nasser – official resignations not submitted; discussion regarding District-appointed Board vacancy (Flor's seat); initial review of Bylaws and including the roles and responsibilities of the officers. Google folder set up for Board-access.
 - ii. Dr. Curry announced the establishment of a \$75,000 fund to support DACA students with application fees and immigration legal services, having already collected \$60,000. UndocuAlly Workgroup will provide a recommendation re disbursement.
 - iii. Next meeting scheduled for October 15 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- c. Foundation Director Report
 - i. Foundation Manager hiring committee reconvened; 10 applications under review.
 - ii. Annual dues collection continues, including the \$200 in cash from R. Garcia (to be deposited this week).
- d. Financial Update (Dr. Curry)
 - i. Following the retirement of Dr. Nasser, the interim vice president of Administrative Services (Dr. Curry), in collaboration with the director of Accounting, has been granted access to the Foundation's financial documents to ensure continuity in oversight and fiscal management.
 - ii. We can provide updated financials via email to the Board of Directors.

X. Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Allocation of Institutional and Donor-Funded Scholarships – Proposal on how scholarships are distributed (reference [Policy 100](#) – Scholarship Management and Disbursement, page 9)
 - i. It is recommended that the Foundation Board of Directors approve this proposal and implement the new scholarship allocation approach for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic year.

- ii. Motion by I. Saber and seconded by J. Jackson to approve the proposed updates to Policy 100 – Scholarship Management and Disbursement, including clarification that institutional-funded scholarships will be applied to a student’s outstanding debt first, and enhancements to communication protocols during the scholarship application period, the awarding process, and at the time of disbursement.
 - 1. *Motion Carries.* Nine yeas, no abstentions.
- iii. Discussion:
 - 1. Implement with 2026-2027 scholarships.
 - a. Include on scholarship webpage under the disbursement details of each scholarship; note on application; include in award letter.
 - b. Secretary to work with the director of Financial Aid to implement the changes.
 - 2. Privately-funded scholarships would go directly to the student (via BankMobile) unless otherwise specified. The scholarship agreement form should be modified to reflect this process.
 - a. The Foundation recommends that donors consider allowing scholarship funds to be applied first toward the student’s outstanding balance, including tuition, fees, and other institutional charges.
 - b. To align with federal financial aid terminology and best practices, the agreement should reference “cost of attendance” rather than “tuition,” as this encompasses a broader range of educational expenses such as books, supplies, transportation, and living costs.
 - 3. Can the list of scholarships shared with the Board include the funding source (institutional or private donor)? Secretary to work with the Business Office.
 - 4. How much do students owe the District? Could the Foundation help with those costs?
- b. Donor-Defined Scholarship Criteria – Proposal of guidelines and language for donor-defined eligibility requirements (reference [Policy 100](#) – Scholarship Management and Disbursement, page 9)
 - i. It is recommended that the Foundation Board of Directors approve the implementation of updated guidelines for donor-defined scholarship eligibility criteria, effective for the 2025–2026 scholarship cycle, to ensure compliance with Proposition 209 and federal anti-discrimination laws.
 - ii. Motion by T. Mushanga and seconded by D. Louden to approve the proposed modifications to Policy 100 – Scholarship Management and Disbursement and the standard scholarship application form. These changes clarify that donor-specified criteria must be listed as “*desired*” rather than “*required*” to ensure compliance with Title IX and other applicable anti-discrimination laws. The revised policy also includes a disclaimer to inform donors and applicants of these legal requirements.
 - 1. *Motion Carries.* Eight yeas, no abstentions.
- iii. Discussion:
 - 1. The Board was reminded of the guidance from the U.S. Department of Education’s *Dear Colleague Letter* issued to institutions of higher education. This guidance emphasizes the importance of ensuring that all programs, including scholarships and student opportunities, are administered in compliance with Title IX and other anti-discrimination laws. As part of this compliance, the District has adopted inclusive language in all student communications and program descriptions. For example, when inviting students to apply for scholarships or participate in events, communications will

use phrasing such as “*included, but not limited to*” to avoid inadvertently excluding eligible students based on protected classifications.

2. Request to table the item and refer to Scholarship subcommittee (D. Louden).
3. Although scholarships may be funded by private parties, they are distributed by the District, which receives Title IX funding. Therefore, we are prohibited from excluding scholarship applicants based on protected classifications.
 - a. Modify the Scholarship agreement form to list “desired’ criteria vs “required” criteria.
 - b. Add brief disclaimer or explanation, such as: While your generous contribution may include preferences for the type of student you wish to support (e.g., major, career interest, community involvement), Compton College must comply with federal Title IX regulations and other anti-discrimination laws. Therefore, all criteria must be listed as *desired* rather than *required*, and scholarships cannot exclude applicants based on protected classifications such as race, gender, religion, or national origin.
 - c. Proposed addition to Policy 100: VI. Compliance with Anti-Discrimination Laws - To ensure compliance with federal and state anti-discrimination laws, including Title IX, the Foundation for the Compton Community College District shall not administer scholarships that include *required criteria* based on protected classifications such as race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. Donors may express *desired criteria* to guide the intent of their scholarship awards (e.g., preference for students pursuing a specific major, career path, or community service interest). However, such preferences must be clearly identified as non-binding and cannot be used to exclude otherwise eligible applicants.

XI. Planning/Discussion Items:

- a. Establishment of Committees (per Article VI of the [Bylaws](#)) – Board discussion and possible action to establish the following standing committees, appoint members, define scope, and set meeting schedules:
 - i. Audit/Finance/Investment Committee – Oversees the Foundation’s financial integrity, strategic planning, and compliance.
 - ii. Board Development Committee (currently the same as Executive Committee) – Nominate qualified candidates to serve on the Board.
 - iii. Scholarship Workgroup (~~or Task Force~~) – Define purpose, set deadline, appoint members, and require regular reports to the Board of Directors.
 - iv. Motion by J. Jackson and seconded by M. Martinez to take action and establish the above listed committees and workgroup.
 1. *Motion Carries.* Eight yeas, no abstentions.
- v. Discussion:
 1. Foundation involvement in the promotion and completion of scholarship applications to maximize the distribution of scholarships. As well as address the challenges with the application. Can the application be simplified?
 2. Document the methods or communication with students regarding the application. How are current students notified? Web, social media, email. What about a scholarship fair? Tabling? Are faculty promoting this opportunity in their classrooms? Could deans and directors include on division agendas? What about Academic Senate’s role?

3. Is there a way for all students to ‘apply’ automatically – whereas they would have to ‘opt out’?
4. Could the personal statement request be automated – where an email is sent to the faculty member – and provide an online form?
5. Rather than a letter of recommendation, could it be a list of references that the review committee contacts?
6. Potential workgroup members include: Mushanga, Garcia, Jackson, Louden, Masias, along with the director of financial aid and director of the Foundation, as well as a representative from Administrative Services.
7. The workgroup would also review the current scholarships offered to determine if they are too restrictive (ex. nursing students vs healthcare majors), not funded, or no longer apply to Compton College students.
8. Documentation would need to be gathered for each scholarship and donors would need to be contacted before any changes can be made. Changes would go into effect in 2027-2028.
9. The focus for the 2025–2026 academic year will be on promoting the scholarship program; identifying and addressing potential barriers to student access and application; and encouraging faculty and staff across campus to actively support and motivate students to apply for scholarships, for example – all EOPS students should apply for the EOPS scholarship.
10. One of the responsibilities of the Foundation Manager will be to work with Financial Aid and scholarship committees to assist in the management and distribution of the scholarship funds to Compton College students.
11. Future topic for the workgroup could include expanding eligibility to incoming/new Compton College students. And, can a Foundation member (or donor) be involved in the scholarship award process? And/or can the Scholarship review Committee provide a recommendation to the Foundation Board prior to announcing awards?

b. Annual Budget – Status Update and Next Steps (develop timeline and assign responsibilities)

- i. Sample Operating Budget Outline
 1. Question asked about unused scholarships funds, could they be transferred to the General Fund. Based on Policy 100:
 - a. Unused funds from students (e.g., if a student completes or terminates their education) are returned to the Foundation unless otherwise stipulated by the donor.
 - b. Funds not used for awards remain designated for scholarships and are available for future awards.
 - c. No specific timeline (e.g., “five years of inactivity”) is mentioned for scholarships that go unawarded year after year.
 - d. No mention of automatic transfer to the general fund for inactive scholarships.
 2. If the Board wants to address scholarships that go unawarded for multiple consecutive years, it could propose adding language like:
 - a. Inactive Scholarship Clause: Scholarship funds that remain unawarded for five consecutive academic years may, upon review and approval by the Foundation Board, be reallocated to the Foundation’s general fund or another student support initiative, unless otherwise restricted by donor agreement.

3. Research would need to be done to ensure scholarship applications are being followed correctly, example annual donations vs one-time.

- ii. FY26 Budget Worksheet
 1. Potential Audit/Finance Committee members include: Berger, Magee, and Saber

- c. Annual Report - Provided to the Board of Directors 120 days after the corporation's fiscal year (per Article IX, section 2 of the [Bylaws](#)) – develop timeline for completion, determine distribution methods.
- d. Review of Bylaws – Collaborative Process and Timeline (pursuant to Article XII, Section 1, of the [Bylaws](#))
 - i. Article IV - Board of Directors
 - ii. Article VII – Officers
 - iii. *Discuss both at October meeting.*
- e. Presentation Topics for 2025-2026 – Recommendation of topics or programs the Board would like to learn more about (Foundation-supported initiatives, college programs, community partnerships)
 - i. Previously suggested but not yet scheduled: Oliver W. Conner College Promise Program and Scholarship Program (*secretary to schedule this one first before end of calendar year*)

XII. Information Items:

- a. 2025-2026 Board of Directors Goals (to be posted online)
 - i. Governing Board's 2025-2026 goals include 4.1 Assist in expanding and strengthening the Foundation for Compton Community College District by: • Making individual contributions annually. • Supporting the Foundation for Compton Community College District Programs and Services. • Developing a relationship with the foundation manager and the foundation board members. • Regularly reviewing the monthly updates provided by the President/ CEO and making recommendations to the President/ CEO regarding the Foundation for Compton Community College District.
- b. Oliver W. Conner Estate Update
 - i. Dr. Curry reported on the progress on establishing a holding company for estate properties and mentioned an agreement will need to be made between Holding Company and the Foundation regarding the disbursement of scholarship funds.

XIII. Other Business

XIV. Future Agenda Items from Board Members: *None.*

XV. Next Meeting: October 23, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room

XVI. Adjournment at 7:31 p.m.