

COLORADO CLASSICS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE SPRING MEETING

4/29/2023, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Colorado College

Respectfully submitted by Pierre D. Habel, CCA Secretary (pdhabel@gmail.com)

9:30-10:00 Conversation and reconnection over refreshments took place prior to the formal convening of the meeting

10:00-11:20 CCA business meeting:

- Welcome, introductions of officers and meeting attendees
Richard Buxton (Communications Director, Colorado College) most graciously welcomed all attendees to Colorado College: Owen Cramer (Colorado College), Kendra Henry (retired), Karen Karpinnen (Colorado Early Colleges- Fort Collins), Amy Rosevear (Cherry Creek High School), Zach Herz (CU Boulder), Reina Callier (CU Boulder), Elizabeth Bowman (CCA Co-president, D'Evelyn Jr./Sr. High School), Amanda Sherpe (Mullen High School), Nia Jamshidi (The Vanguard School) Bryant Raisch (The Vanguard School), Pierre Habel (CCA Secretary, retired)
- Approval of the Fall 2022 Meeting Minutes
Pierre sought any last corrections for the draft minutes of the last CCA meeting (9/24/2022). Amy moved to accept the minutes as circulated. Zach seconded. All members present voted in favor of the motion.
- Announcements and sharing of information
 - Elizabeth announced that Helen Vickery, CCA Vice President, recently indicated her need to resign from that position due to life circumstances. Elizabeth relayed that the other officers found no guidance in the CCA Constitution regarding appointment or election of a replacement and subsequently that the most appropriate path forward was to a) leave the position vacant for the remainder of the current term; and b) draft language for a potential amendment to the Constitution to address such occurrences and bring it before members for approval at the Fall 2023 meeting.
 - Elizabeth introduced Amy Rosevear, Chair of the 2023 Teacher of the Year Award Committee to present this year's award to a most deserving recipient, Karen Karpinnen. Amy's presentation conveyed the nominators' high regard for Karen, a regard which all at the meeting came to share as they learned of the many hats which Karen wears in her school communities. The following are some of the evidence for Karen's excellence cited:

‘In 2003, Karen founded Lone Pine Classical School, an online school offering Latin courses from level 1 through AP to homeschool students across the

country. One of her nominators states, “No matter the venue, she creates a warm and welcoming classroom. She helps students understand Latin. She is well-versed in Classics and can make the subject accessible to all.” Karen’s National Latin Exam results are a testament to her students' high level of achievement. Over 15 years, Karen’s students have taken nearly 500 National Latin Exams, with 92% of them earning awards, and most of those were gold and silver medals. Karen currently serves as the GT coordinator at Colorado Early Colleges in Fort Collins, where she also teaches math and is working hard to get a Latin program established.’

‘Karen has been a dedicated and innovative leader of the Colorado Junior Classical League (CoJCL) for many years, serving as a co-chair from 2011 to 2018, and again starting in 2021. K-12 Latin teachers in Colorado are grateful to her for modernizing the convention registration process and for maintaining a commitment to the students who benefit from JCL, even under difficult circumstances. One nominator said, “It is not an overstatement to say that Karen preserved CoJCL through Covid.” Another said, “She managed to create an online forum for students to participate in CoJCL activities even though we couldn’t meet in person. It isn’t easy to keep track of all the teachers and schools in Colorado and make everyone feel included and welcome. Karen has done this. The amount of work and the passion she has poured into the Colorado Junior Classical League is astonishing and inspiring.”’

All attendees joined Amy in celebrating Karen’s excellence as an educator and thanking Karen for her leadership and years of tireless work for CoJCL, applauding her as CCA Latin Teacher of the Year for 2023.

- Kendra announced the interest of members of the NJCL Executive Board in bringing the National Convention to Colorado. Kendra suggested Colorado College as the venue and is eager to support CC and a potential host committee in replicating the excellent experience enjoyed by attendees the last time the NJCL convention was held in Colorado at CU Boulder in 1988.
- Karen requested input/ desiderata on what CoJCL state convention might look like for 2024. Various attendees suggested a one-day weekday event hosted by a school or at a convention center, as is becoming more normal across the country. It may be advisable to do academic tests online, while keeping olympika, performing arts, certamen as a focus for in-person sessions. Karen will send an email to gather additional perspective and to poll on possible dates.
- The challenges of transportation to convention or for other student outings were also discussed: Richard mentioned the potential for Colorado Springs schools to make use of CC’s fleet of shuttles as a low-cost option which he would be pleased to facilitate.

- Zach solicited input/desiderata for the potential rebooting of Colorado Classics Day. Discussion followed on how to resume fulfilling the dual purposes of expanding access to and awareness of a) Classics as a discipline and b) college opportunities in Colorado. One suggestion which may be pursued is structuring visits to schools by post-secondary faculty for brief seminars. These visits might be organized regionally, with the host school welcoming students from other schools in their area. Elizabeth suggested that this be an agenda item for the Fall meeting, and offered to solicit additional input and involvement in planning through email.
- Richard initiated discussion of ways to strengthen the connections of COS Latin programs to state-wide classics activities. Of the 121 classicists and 34 K–12 Latin programs in Colorado, approximately 20% are in the Springs area. In addition to the above offer of aiding with transportation issues, Richard also hoped to encourage nominations of Spring-area teachers for future CCA Teacher of the Year Awards.
- Amy proposed a future agenda item: what are ways to support public Latin programs through a collaborative discussion with teachers at charter schools. Brief discussion ensued about Latin being used as a metonym for some of the cultural and political fault lines in education, the emphasis on STEM and the veneer of utility that overlays the choice of Spanish as a second language, and the options to improve the productivity of messaging and outreach to key personnel (counselors, educators at feeder schools, parents) in a school’s ecosystem. Pierre mentioned past efforts by CCA leadership to support Latin programs in jeopardy and volunteered to look into how to renew advocacy when schools or districts threaten cuts to Latin programs.
- Election of post-secondary Co-president of the CCA
Pierre invited members present to cast ballots. The members present and those who cast ballots online voted unanimously to elect Carole Newlands of CU Boulder to serve as Co-president for the term beginning June 1, 2023. The officers present expressed excitement at the prospect of collaboration with Carole.
- Final Announcements
Elizabeth noted the plans for CCA’s Fall 2023 meeting on Saturday, September 23rd which will feature a CCA-led visit to the CU Art Museum. [Hope Saska](#), chief curator at the Museum will give a tour of the gallery (including its display of Greek and Roman coins, discuss accessing resources digitally and how to teach from objects in a museum setting, and give an introduction to what a class visit might entail). A minimum of 15 participants are required for this significant investment of time and resources by Dr. Saska and the staff of the museum. Members are strongly encouraged to the forthcoming RSVP email which will be circulated soon.

11:20 Conclusion of the CCA business meeting and visit to the Money Museum

Richard thanked attendees for coming and invited those with the available time to take part in the curated visit to the American Numismatic Association's Money Museum, at which all present examined, handled, and discussed 15 coins from the early Empire, with an eye to developing instructional opportunities for building Latin students' engagement and understanding of Latin and Roman culture. Thereafter attendees gave thanks to Richard for hosting a valuable meeting!