



Prescott
College

**PRESCOTT COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 2026
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Open Session (10:20 AM to 12:04 PM) – Friday, 6/5/2026 – 17 out of 20 Trustees Present

WELCOME – Dan Garvey

- Welcomed the board and community; re-affirmed the need to strengthen the undergraduate program and introduced the concept and members of the Collegium (Emily Affolter, Erin Lotz, Michele Relyea, and Nisha Warbington)

STUDENT PRESENTATION

- Julia Bricker—presented her senior project, Adventures for the People, which focused on making field experiences more accessible to undergraduate students
- Adam Grimm—presented his project, the Maasai History Timeline, a collaborative effort with the Maasai people to create a museum dedicated to the history of their culture

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- Galeet Farrow—praised current leadership and discussed ideas for new approaches to education at Prescott College
- Lorayne Meltzer—thanked board for support of Kino Bay
- David Lovejoy—spoke in support of Adventures for the People
- Bee Sena—spoke about challenges faced by students due to changing laws about financial aid, but praised the resilience of the Prescott College community
- Doug Hulmes—spoke about the importance of place-based education and finding common ground with the community in which one works
- Kasia Michlenick—expressed concerns that departments are stretched too thin, that there is not enough awareness of Prescott College in the local community, and that some undergraduate programs are not invested in enough

CONSENT AGENDA

- Voted unanimously to approve minutes from February 2026

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Michael Zimmer

- Discussed investments, potential additional sources of revenue, enrollment projections, and budget for FY 25-26 and FY 26-27
- Voted to approve the FY 26-27 budget

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – Bev Santo

- Introduced four new current board members (Marti Fessenden, Molly Hampton, Kenneth Hartlage, and Charlie Ware), and two new board members that will be joining in October (Kyle Hallogren and Zongo Kiswendsida Romuald)
- Voted to elect or re-elect members to the board of trustees (Chair Kathleen Murphy, Vice-Chair Newt Lynn, Secretary Mark Thorkelson, and Treasurer Michael Zimmer)

- Special recognition given to Ellen Heffernen for her service to the board and her significant contributions, in time and funds, as this was her last board meeting

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT – Bev Santo

- Reported higher retention rate among students that have wilderness experiences
- Suggested taking wilderness experiences and lessons into the classroom and leaning into Prescott College's unique style of education

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Jared Silverman

- Discussed need for new development director, new students, new partnerships, and new donations
- Voted to approve advancement policy
- Provided update on Prescott College 60th anniversary planning and invited community to attend

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE – Ellen Heffernen

- Re-emphasized concerns about declining enrollment, as well as importance and cost of retention and need for more admissions staff
- The board committed a sum of money to help support the Fall 2027 admissions initiative

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT– Kathleen Murphy

- Encouraged anyone who knows a potential donor to let the development director know, so that a list of potential donors can be created for board members to reach out to personally.

Kathleen Murphy, board chair, adjourned the meeting at 12:04.