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**SENATE
STATE OF COLORADO
DENVER**

COMMITTEES
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State, Veterans and Military
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Health and Human Services

February 6, 2009

Board of Governors
Colorado State University System
410 17th Street, Suite 2440
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Board Members:

Subject: Desirable Attributes in a Chancellor

Thank you for opening up a public forum to establish what Coloradans consider to be the most coveted qualities and traits a future Chancellor should possess. The position of Chancellor for the CSU system is a critical one, and whoever is selected will determine the level of educational integrity in Colorado's higher institutions of learning for years to come. The future of individuals, the State of Colorado, and America as a whole depends upon the character and competence of its leaders of tomorrow. Will they be persons who have been taught how to think shrewdly, or will they be persons who lack the judgment necessary to avoid being excessively influenced by the most persuasive and captivating voices of any given moment?


One of the most important qualities in a Chancellor should surely be the willingness to demonstrate unfettered and unbiased objectivity in not only determining the merit--or lack thereof--of academic instruction, but also in ensuring that professors have the necessary disposition to deliver evenhanded instruction apart from their own personal prejudices and partialities. This characteristic is a crucial one.

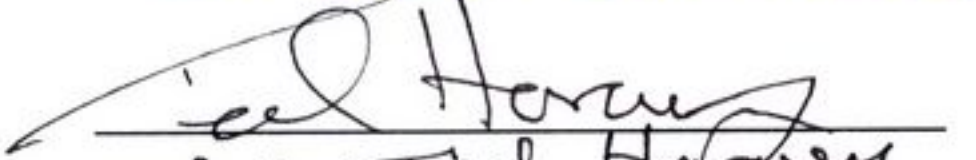
Our new Chancellor must be a person who honors intellectual diversity and who guarantees an environment in which truth may be pursued, questions posed and considered, and disagreement voiced without fear of retribution from or personal degradation by instructors or other students. The whole object of education, after all, should be to develop the mind—a mind that is able to pass judgment on events as they arise and to make decisions. Years ago this notable quote appeared in The Princeton Review: “*Education is not learning; it is the exercise and development of the powers of the mind; and the two great methods by which this end may be accomplished are in the halls of learning or in the conflicts of life.*”


The future Chancellor will hold no sway over the vicissitudes of life; however, he must have a firm grasp on the reins of responsible leadership, and he/she should be unwilling to accept anything other than an unwavering commitment by all players to deliver unprejudiced and excellent academic instruction in the 'halls of learning' on each CSU campus. The future of America will be determined by the character of her citizens, the extent to which they can independently consider the important issues of their lives and the life of the nation, and on the ways in which they can creatively and conscientiously respond to the challenges ahead.


The selection of a new Chancellor is neither a small nor a light thing, and we applaud you for the serious consideration you are giving to this important task. Again, we urge you to consider choosing someone, who possesses the attributes we have set forth, as well as the necessary academic credentials and experience that you, the Board of Governors, are best suited to assess. Thank you for taking into consideration our opinion on this matter.


Sincerely,



Sen. David Satchell

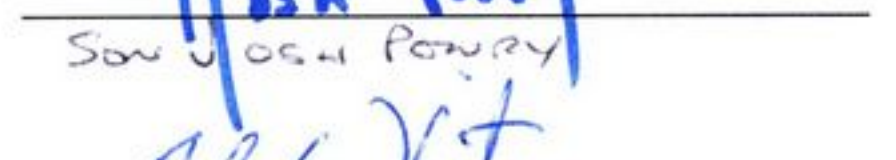

Sen. Ted Hoberg


Sen. Mark Staller



Sen. Cannon



Sen. Kevin Lundberg

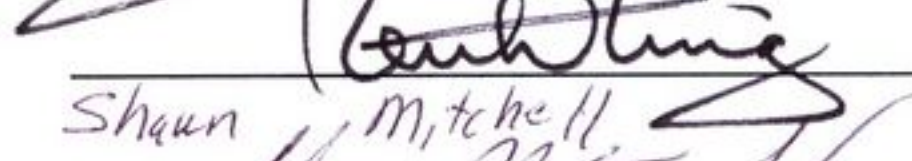

Mike Koff

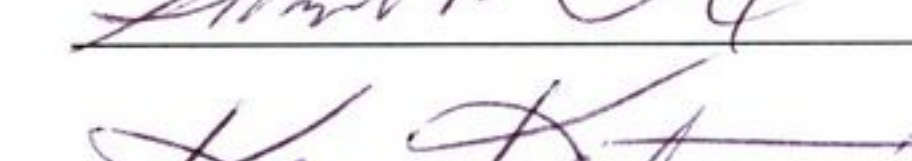

Sen. Josh Perry

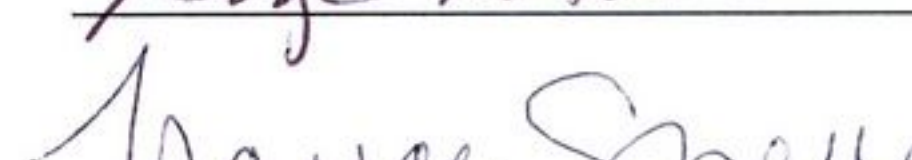

Al White



Sen. Scott W. Renfro



Sen. Greg Brophy


Shaun Mitchell


Sen. Mitchell


Tom Tester


Nancy Spence


Rep. Cory Gardner

