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DEEP SPRINGS, CA, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011: Deep Springs College has decided to admit women.

The trustees of this unique institution, which has operated for 94 years with an all-male student body, voted on September 17 to plan for a transition to co-education. "The Trustees have carefully considered the purpose of Deep Springs, how best to achieve the purpose, and changes in society since the college was created," reads the resolution, which was approved 10-2 at their regular semi-annual meeting. "Therefore, the trustees determine that it is appropriate to plan and implement a transition to a coeducational student body, subject to ongoing board review."

The resolution follows an intensive six-month discussion between trustees, alumni, friends, and the student body. "Many details remain to be decided, but the board has decided that Deep Springs should begin its second century as a co-educational institution," says David Neidorf, President of the college. "The Trustees have established a committee to plan for the transition, and we will spend the next few months determining a timeline and working on the details."

Since its founding in 1917, Deep Springs College has quietly pursued a unique educational mission in a beautiful, isolated valley in Eastern California. The college has a student body of about 26, along with 20 faculty, staff, other community members. With exceptions for emergencies and religious observance, students remain on the campus (40 miles from town) during academic terms. Students work every afternoon on the college's ranch, farm, kitchen and office operations. They also help administer the college as a self-governing student body.

Deep Springs does not grant baccalaureate degrees, and its graduates routinely transfer to complete their undergraduate degrees at selective institutions of higher education such as The University of Chicago, Brown, Harvard, Yale, and Stanford. Despite its small size, its alumni include many public servants, including a former Member of Congress, U. S. Ambassadors, members of the National Academy of Sciences, two winners of MacArthur "Genius" Grants, and nationally known writers and artists.

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