



University of Colorado Colorado Springs

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July 26, 2011

Dear Freshman Seminar Student,

We are excited to have you join us at UCCS this year! One of our traditions (and one at many campuses) is an "All Campus Reads" selection which is read and discussed by all freshman seminar students. This year the selection is ***No Impact Man*** by Colin Beavan. We ask that you purchase the book (paperback, either at the UCCS Bookstore or through some other source such as Amazon), read it, and come prepared to discuss it during Preview Daze. Most freshman seminar instructors will be incorporating the reading into their classes in some fashion, and as you will see from the enclosed flyer, Dr. Tom Huber will be referring to the book in his convocation address on Wednesday, August 17th, at 4:30 p.m.

As you are reading, use the following questions to guide you:

- (1) At the beginning of the book, Colin Beavan discusses his intent to make a dramatic change in his family's life. What motivates this change? What general actions were taken by the family to become more sustainable? Which action(s) appeared to have the greatest impact on their lives?
- (2) With every change made by Beavan and his family, there was a need to sacrifice certain conveniences or luxuries. For one of these changes, explain the sacrifices made by Beavan's family. Have you and your family made any efforts or sacrifices to live more sustainably? Reflect on how or why this has been challenging.
- (3) With many changes made, Beavan noticed an unexpected, yet positive, outcome which seemed to make his life more fulfilling. Which positive outcome did you as a reader come to appreciate the most? Would you be willing and able to implement life changes if they led to greater happiness and healthier living? Why or why not?
- (4) Although Beavan and his family make attempts to be more sustainable, Beavan discusses the need for change not only within the community but in the world as a whole. Is sustainability important? Is it a shared responsibility? How and in what ways. Explain.

I think you will find much to talk about with your peers after you read *No Impact Man*. Remember, this is your first college assignment so you will want to get started on the right foot. I look forward to seeing you in August to welcome you to UCCS.

With warm regards,

Margaret A. Bacon
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs