

# communique

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-COLORADO SPRINGS

## CU receives largest-ever gift

A California couple active in the computer industry is responsible for the largest gift in University of Colorado and U.S. higher education history.

On Tuesday, CU President Elizabeth Hoffman announced a \$250 million system-wide endowment from Bill and Claudia Coleman, of Los Altos, Calif, to establish the University of Colorado Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities.

"This unprecedented gift is a tribute to the Colemans' generosity and vision, as well as to the university's growing reputation for work in developmental disabilities and assistive technology," said Hoffman. "The Colemans' vision, as well as ours, is that the Institute will make CU the international center of excellence in developing adaptive assistive technologies, based on advanced biomedical and computer science research, for people with cognitive disabilities."

Hoffman said the gift would be used primarily to build on existing interdisciplinary research and develop new and creative multi-campus partnerships. A small portion may be used to enhance facilities for these activities.

The Colemans have extensive ties to the computer industry. Claudia Coleman was a Hewlett-Packard

manager and Bill Coleman is founder of BEA Systems, one of the world's leading e-business software infrastructure companies.

And while the couple are not CU graduates, they are not strangers to Colorado. They own a home in Aspen and Bill Coleman earned a bachelor's degree from the Air Force Academy. He later earned a master's degree from Stanford University.

The endowment will fund advanced research and development of innovative technologies to enhance the lives of people with cognitive disabilities. Cognitive disabilities are associated with a number of conditions, such as mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

In addition to developmental disabilities, such as Down's syndrome and autism, the term cognitive disability covers a wide range of conditions in which cognitive functioning is impaired, including certain traumatic brain injuries, stroke, and various forms of dementia such as Alzheimer's disease.

Coleman said he hopes the Institute will create a "space program effect" through which adaptive assistive tech-



Claudia and Bill Coleman

nologies developed for people with cognitive disabilities will find application in the broader population.

The Coleman Institute will be the first system-wide institute in CU's history. Helping design the Institute are Michael Lightner, associate dean for special projects in CU Boulder's College of Engineering and Applied Science, and David Braddock, head of the Department of Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago and former president of the American Association on Mental Retardation.

## Chancellor to inaugurate semester

Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade will kick off the Spring 2001 semester with a speech scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 19, in Columbine Hall 317.

Bunnell Shade will review the university's progress on Total Learning Environment goals as well as the university's priorities for the spring semester and beyond.

All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

### Overheard

"Thank you, thank you, thank you for making the decision to close campus early enough for those of us who commute."

Donna Wilson, administrative assistant, whose shift begins at 7 a.m.

# Web site gets new look

After months of study and various trial balloons, Craig Decker, university webmaster, unveiled a new campus website today.

“We’ve been working on this for so long, it’s hard to believe it’s finally here,” Decker said of the project he began in July, soon after being named webmaster.

To see Decker’s work, visit [www.uccs.edu](http://www.uccs.edu) and click on any of the front-page buttons to find out more information about the university.



But Decker did not work alone. An eight-member committee assisted in the research of top university web sites, feeding Decker ideas, helping fine-tune the site and perfecting several behind-the-scenes tasks. Student workers in the TLE web department helped Decker research and design the new web site.

“Everyone brought to the table knowledge in some very important area,” Decker said. “Together, we created a site that works.”

The committee was led by Jeremy Haefner, professor, Department of

Math and faculty fellow for Information Technology. Other members included: Tom Hutton, director, Office of University Relations; Kathy Andrus, director, Visual and Performing Arts; Scott Switzer, a former School of Education instructor; Tamara Townsend, coordinator, Marketing; Sue Byerly, reference librarian, Kraemer Family Library; and Kirk Moore, information technology professional, Information Technology Services.

Unique features of the site include a different campus photo depending on the time of day the site is accessed and asking users to define who they are and what information they seek. Ease of use, and a focus on prospective students, were key factors in the design.

Decker did much of the preliminary work during the summer with fine-tuning throughout the fall. Moore contributed a new search engine to make information easier to obtain for those unfamiliar with the university. Many changes were made after the new pages were shared with prospective students, faculty, and staff.

The site will be Americans with Disabilities Act compliant and will feature new and interesting projects under the “innovations” button.

Haefner encouraged students, faculty, and staff to test the new site and to notify Decker if links do not work or if information is missing.

Later this semester, phase two of the new web site will begin. In this phase, much of the look of the main page will be transferred to individual college, school, and department pages.

Details of the second phase will be announced next month.

Decker, a 1998 CU-Colorado Springs graduate, directs web development as part of his work in the Excel Center. He also is a part-time Office of University Relations staff member.

## Nominations sought for top-dog employees

Now is the time to recognize that hard-working staff member whose dedication and commitment consistently exceeds expectations.

The award goes to the staff member who best exemplifies excellence in service to campus and community. The recipient receives a \$500 cash award and a special plaque from the chancellor at the campus awards ceremony on May 1.

Nomination guidelines include:

- must be a permanent, classified or unclassified CU-Colorado Springs employee
- must have worked at CU-Colorado Springs for at least three years as of June 30, 2001
- must have demonstrated continual service to the campus community
- maintained positive relationships, with subordinates, superiors, students, and other constituents of the campus.

Nomination forms must be returned to Connie Pendleton by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2. Call Connie at 262-3215 or visit her at Cragmor Hall, Room 105.

## On the go with Joe

Sue Carrillo's idea of relaxation is tole painting or reading. She doesn't watch much TV except CNN or the Weather Channel. Maybe her interest in weather patterns helps her in her job as administrative assistant to Joe Rallo, the College of Business's tornadic, high-energy dean. Luckily, she's able to keep pace with him. Maybe that's why he nominated her as December's CU-Colorado Springs' Employee of the Month, using words like "flawless," "exemplary," and "stellar work ethic" to describe his administrative assistant.

**Name:** Sue Carrillo

**Age:** 42

**Birthplace:** Culver City, Calif.

**Job title:** Administrative assistant to Joe Rallo, dean, College of Business

**Career path:** Carrillo has held a number of jobs over the years, including a stint as a certified court reporter in Georgia.

**How did being able to type 250 words a minute prepare you for working with Dean Rallo?**

He is so fast, it helps to have some speed of my own. I'll chase him down anywhere.

**You're kidding, right?**

Not really. He's in such hot demand, and the College of Business has so much going on. If I have to ask a question or reach him with something important, I'm not adverse to tracking him down in the halls, or waiting for him to pass by.

**How do you keep your boss under control?**

You know, I don't. He's just a genuinely neat person to work for.

**What was your reaction to being nominated Employee of the Month?**

I felt it was an honor, especially knowing how many great people are on the campus staff.

**Your boss seems like a big picture kind of guy with a lot of balls in the air. How do you help him keep them in motion?**

I'm able to absorb a lot of details in a short time. But I also live by lists and work at tracking things. I'm not comfortable with just keeping things in my head, I have to write them down somewhere on something.

**Do you have a motto to get you through the day?**

Nothing is bigger than God.

**Doers**  
*profile*



Sue Carrillo,  
December's Employee of the Month

*Hats off*

## Staff earns kudos, cash for ASP efforts

In recognition for their efforts to make the Administrative Streamlining Project work, more than 100 CU-Colorado Springs staff members recently earned cash bonuses, certificates, and a kind word.

At a Dec. 20 reception at The Lodge, seven staff members were given \$1,000 bonuses and a plaque. Another 96 staff members received \$150 bonuses and a certificate.

"This has not been an easy process. There have been many challenges," Cleve McDaniel, vice chancellor, administration and finance, said. "However, if it were not for the efforts of all of you, we would not be nearly as far along in the implementation as we are."

Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade thanked those in attendance for being "agents of change" and for their commitment to the ASP project and CU.

McDaniel cited Ed Paris, associate vice chancellor, Administration and Finance; Tony Tedore, controller/budget officer; and Vickie Hilty, director, Office of Personnel, for their leadership.

Those individuals who earned \$1,000 awards and a plaque were:

Gayanne Scott, budget analyst; Ella Stanton, budget analyst; Milagros Togade, accountant; Andrea Williams, program assistant, Department of Psychology; Sue Allison, program assistant, Office of Personnel; Mark Hoffman, student services specialist, Office of Financial Aid; and Robynne Kiplinger, administrative assistant, Office of Personnel.

## Main Hall renovation draws questions

Main Hall faced one of its largest challenges recently when state officials questioned costs to renovate the 100-year-old landmark.

In presentations to both the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the Capital Development Committee of the Colorado Legislature, CU officials explained the reason for their request for \$6.7 million more in state appropriations to renovate the structure.

“We really didn't know the seriousness of several issues until the contractor began demolition,” Tom Ostenberg, director, Facilities Planning, said.

The contractor, Phipps Construction, has determined that the building contains more asbestos than originally thought. And floors once thought to be structurally sound will have to be removed. Those factors, when combined with inflationary costs that have increased more than three times faster than projected, mean a request to the Legislature for more funds.

“Because the building was occupied when a firm was hired to do the program plan, they did not bore into the walls or floor to measure the amount of asbestos or the condition of various beams,” Ostenberg said. “To have done so would have endangered the health of the occupants.”

While the costs raised the eyebrows of some legislators and state non-elected officials, completing the project remains a high-priority given the historic nature of the building. Main and Cragmor halls were originally constructed as part of the Cragmor Tuberculous Sanatorium and became the university's first buildings when CU-Colorado Springs was founded in 1965.



Historic Main Hall, now being renovated, used to be part of the Cragmor Tuberculous Sanatorium.

## No butts policy goes into effect

Effective with the start of the Spring 2001 semester, cigarette smoking is prohibited within 20 feet of all CU-Colorado Springs buildings.

The revised policy, which was reviewed by faculty, staff, and student governance organizations, is designed to keep second-hand smoke from



entering buildings, according to Cleve McDaniel, vice chancellor for administration and finance. Signs will be posted at building entrances and other designated non-smoking public areas. The signs will declare that smoking is prohibited.

“Over the years we've had a number of complaints about smoke coming back into the building through doorways or ventilation systems,” McDaniel said. “By asking that smokers be at least 20 feet from any building, we think we can solve this problem.”

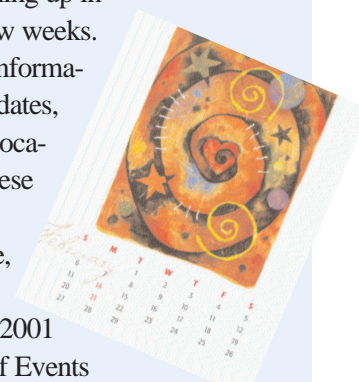
Beginning in 1996, the State of Colorado prohibited the sale or smoking of tobacco products in all buildings owned and leased by the state. The policy was extended to include motor pool vehicles.

## Events go on-line

A Super Bowl XXXV party. A comedy night. A lecture about black history.

These are just a few of the special events coming up in the next few weeks.

For more information about dates, times and locations for these events and many more, check out the Spring 2001 Calendar of Events <http://web.uccs.edu/ur>.



To post an event, go to the same web site and follow the calendar posting instructions. For more information, contact Margo Baker, 262-3832.

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