UCCS Fast Facts
October 2015

Accessible

- 2015 Enrollment:
  - 11,299 fall 2015 on-campus students, +1.4% (record-high enrollment)
  - 2,000+ students enrolled in online courses
  - 32% Pell Grant recipients
  - 31% of all students are minority; 35% of freshman class
- Among fastest growing universities in the state
- Fall 2015 Graduate Student Enrollment:
  - 1,553 graduate students
  - Fourth largest public university graduate enrollment in Colorado (CU Denver, CU Boulder, CSU-Fort Collins, UCCS)
- Graduation rates for ethnic minority students equals those of the majority population
- More than 2,000 military veterans, active military, and family members
- 25 U.S. Olympic athletes

Success

- Nearly one-third of UCCS undergraduates come from families considered low-income
- UCCS freshmen scored 12% higher than the Colorado average on the ACT exam, a requirement for admission
- Nearly half of all UCCS freshmen earn degrees in six years
- To finance their educations, UCCS students borrow, on average, $16,780, one-third less than the national average, or the approximate cost of a used car
- UCCS students repay their federal student loans. The UCCS student loan default rate, the best in Colorado, is 2.9% compared to a national rate of 13.7%

High-Quality

- UCCS offers 39 bachelor’s degrees, 20 masters, and five doctoral degrees
- *US News & World Report: America’s Best Colleges*
  - Tenth among Western regional public universities
  - Eighth nationally for public undergraduate engineering
  - Top-ranked graduate programs in nursing, business and public affairs
- *GI Jobs*
  - Military Friendly (top 20% of colleges and universities)
Unique and High-Need Programs

- Inclusive Elementary Education
- Exercise Science
- Athletic Training
- Engineering Education
- Applied Geography
- Geropsychology
- Professional Golf Management
- Sports Management
- Bachelor of Innovation
- Special Education
- Nursing
- Health Care Science
- Homeland Security
- Criminal Justice

Economic Impact

- UCCS is one of the largest employers in southern Colorado employing 1,547 people
- More than 65% of UCCS graduates live in Colorado
- UCCS generates $450+ million in annual economic impact to El Paso County

Engagement

- A CU School of Medicine branch is located at UCCS within the Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences
- The Southern Colorado Higher Education Consortium is a framework to increase higher education access, persistence and completion. The consortium is focused on opportunities for nontraditional, underrepresented and first-generation students to promote long-term economic development
  - Consortium members include UCCS, Colorado State University-Pueblo, Adams State College, Western State College, Fort Lewis College, Pikes Peak Community College, Pueblo Community College, Trinidad State Junior College, Lamar Community College and Otero Junior College
- Partnerships
  - The Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences is the first UCCS building on North Nevada Avenue. It houses a Peak Vista Community Health Center senior clinic, several clinics associated with the Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Science and a branch of the CU School of Medicine.
  - Cisco Systems, Inc., to provide education programs and counseling to be delivered to institutions in southern Colorado using Cisco Systems technologies
- Southern Colorado Economic Forum to guide the region by bringing together public, private and academic economic experts
- The under-construction Ent Center for the Arts on North Nevada brings together university and community organizations to enjoy a state-of-the-art visual and performing arts complex

Sources: UCCS Institutional Research Fall 2015 Data Book, Office of Student Financial Aid, Colorado Department of Higher Education, The Academic Development as a Regional Economic Multiplier Project, ACT.org