

State of Colorado



Bill Owens
Governor

Jeffrey M. Wells
Executive Director

Paul Farley
Deputy Executive Director

March 9, 2006

Dr. Alexander Soifer
Chancellor's Office, UCCS
P.O. Box 7150
Colorado Springs, CO 80933

DPA

Department of Personnel
& Administration

Executive Office
633 17th Street, Suite 1600
Denver, Colorado 80202
Phone (303) 866-6566
Fax (303) 866-6569
www.state.co.us/dpa

Dear Alexander:

As you prepare for the 2006 Colorado Mathematical Olympiad, I am reminded of President Ronald Reagan's comments on the importance of mathematics to our country. "The application of mathematics is indispensable in such diverse fields as medicine, computer sciences, space exploration, the skilled trades, business, defense and government ... it is appropriate that *all* Americans be reminded of the importance of this basic branch of science to our daily lives."

That has been the Olympiad's goal for over twenty years. Through the entertainment and competitive challenge of your annual event, students celebrate achievement in mathematics. More importantly, you are helping all of us recognize that our future success – and our nation's technological advantage – depends on a constant supply of highly trained, highly capable talent in math and science.

As a nation, we cannot afford to be complacent because the rest of the world is certainly not standing still. The bedrock of America's competitiveness is a well-educated workforce and we must do all we can to provide our students with the skills and training needed to compete with the best and brightest around the world. The annual Colorado Mathematical Olympiad is doing exactly that. Each year, the Olympiad brings a sense of fun and excitement to learning mathematics, helping high school students understand the importance of math in all walks of life.

Alex, I congratulate you on all that the Mathematical Olympiad has achieved over the years. You have, in the very best tradition of education, served generations of students in Colorado and served them admirably. Keep up the great work.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Wells
Executive Director