Changes Ahead for Continuing Education

The Office of Continuing Education at CU-Colorado Springs may begin the next budget year with a dramatically different organization, according to a preliminary plan.

“Over the past several months, a task force has carefully and cooperatively studied the program offerings, the market and the budget allocations for Continuing Education,” Joe Rallo, dean, School of Business, said.

A decentralized model, where individual colleges offer continuing education courses specific to their fields seems to make the most sense, Rallo said. In the next few weeks, college deans will review the programs and decide which they wish to incorporate. The purpose is to make continuing education offerings closer to where individual colleges deal with constituencies and clientele.

An advantage of decentralization is that it could provide increased revenues to support existing faculty and staff. Continuing Education’s three full-time employees will assist in the transition.

Continuing Education staff members have worked closely with the administration since August to better define the department’s mission and focus. In December, plans were made to evaluate the possibilities of a move to a decentralized model. A task force was formed more than 18 months ago to evaluate the mission and scope of the Office of Continuing Education. That task force was headed by Kathleen Beatty, dean of the Graduate School of Public Affairs, and included interviews throughout campus.

Plans for the transition will be complete by mid-April and will be announced to the campus, John Pierce, vice chancellor for academic affairs, said.

Construction Update

Current campus construction projects will continue at a hectic pace, according to Tom Ostenberg, director of facilities planning and construction.

The El Pomar Center will be finished in August 2000 although work will continue on the Kraemer Family Library and University Center until spring 2001.

Ostenberg provided the following specific construction site updates.

El Pomar Center

The apse, a semicircular projection on the south side of El Pomar Center, is now visible as are the building’s three floors. Exterior walls will be covered with brick that matches the Kraemer Family Library.

On the building’s west side is El Pomar Center’s dramatic clock tower. When completed, the tower will stand over 100 feet high.

Tradesmen are busy on the center’s first floor where a television studio and computer services area will be located. The computer services area will be ready in April. On the third level, roof support columns and elevator shaft walls are now visible.

University Center

At 5 a.m., Jan. 14, a 56-foot steel-and-glass-tower entrance to the University...
CONSTRUCTION

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Center was erected. This tower will be a landmark entrance to the University Center. Pyramid-shaped skylights were also installed on top of the steel-and-glass pavilion connecting the University Center to the library. These skylights give the hint of looking like mountain peaks.

Once the pavilion is completed a series of moves will begin to allow for continued renovation. The bookstore will be the last space renovated. It is scheduled for completion in May 2001.

Kraemer Family Library

Following completion of El Pomar Center, the library will move and allow renovations to begin in the Kraemer Family Library. These renovations will be finished in Feb. 2001.

To view updated photo images of the construction site, visit the webcams at http://web.uccs.edu/elpomar/cucam.htm

DIVERSITY SUMMIT BRINGS CAMPUS TOGETHER

The second bi-annual Diversity Summit for CU–Colorado Springs will be April 10–14. Diversity events that educate and inform people about diversity will occur on campus each day during the week.

“We hope to bring together students, faculty, staff and community members to interact during the week. We are interested in assessing the racial climate on this campus,” Lynda Dickson, interim assistant vice chancellor for academic and multicultural affairs, said.

The purpose of the Diversity Summit is to improve the racial climate on campus through interaction.

Dickson said that before the campus can determine how to improve its racial climate it must have a benchmark from which to measure. The diversity committee decided to host a series of faculty, staff, student and community focus groups to understand perceptions about the racial climate. These two-hour focus groups met during February and March.

“Some very interesting information came from discussions within the focus groups, which we will share at the Diversity Summit,” Dickson said.

Renee Redwood, senior consultant for the American Council on Education in Washington D.C. will be the keynote speaker at a luncheon on April 10.

Other activities taking place during the week include diversity awareness workshops, panel discussion groups, and presentations on the findings of the focus groups.

At Friday’s conclusion of the Diversity Summit there will be a discussion of the future of race relations moderated by Rosemary Harris of The Gazette.

President John Buechner required that each campus have diversity summits with the president’s office hosting a system-wide diversity summit bi-annually.

Last year’s system Diversity Summit produced a day of thought-provoking discussion centered on diversity at CU campuses. The keynote address by William G. Bowen, who co-authored with Derek Curtis Bok, “The Shape of the River: Long-term Consequences of Considering Race in College and University Admissions” (Princeton University Press, 1998), was an upbeat presentation offering empirical evidence on race sensitive admissions.
**Greene Speaks to Legislators**

Edith Greene, professor of psychology, thinks like a lawyer. She sweats the details and clings to the syllables of every conversation in search of nuance and intonation.

But Greene isn’t a lawyer. As a result, she sees the law differently than lawyers and judges, though she supplemented her master’s and doctoral degrees in psychology with coursework at Harvard University’s School of Law.

"The law makes a lot of assumptions about how people behave," Greene said. "Many of those assumptions are unproved. As I test those assumptions, I often find that they are wrong and I fear that undermines the whole judicial process."

As an example, Greene sites the highly restrictive way judges can instruct juries before they begin deliberations. The instructions are confusing but the system assumes that jurors can decipher the complex legal jargon and arrive at a just decision.

If juries can’t understand the task before them, how can they be expected to make a fair decision? Greene believes that her research will show dramatically different results if instructions are given in common, lay terms rather than in the jargon that dominates the judicial field.

Jury instructions are just one area where Greene believes assumptions harm the process. There are hundreds, if not thousands more, that she hopes to shed light upon and eventually bring to the attention of judicial policy makers at both the state and federal levels. Her goal -- making law more accessible and more comprehensible.

On Feb. 28, Greene became the first CU-Colorado Springs professor to appear at a CU Legislative Smart Lunch at the Colorado History Museum in Denver. More than 25 Colorado Legislators attended to hear a presentation about her research.

**Quick Feed**

**Campus Forum** Recent decisions by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, as well as the campus’ relationship with the agency, will be the subject of a Campus Forum beginning at 8:30 a.m. March 22 at the Lodge. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend.

**Completed Master Plan to be Shared** Tom Ostenberg, director, Facilities Planning and Construction, and Jonathan Bregman, planner, Facilities Planning and Construction, will present the final version of the Campus Master Plan from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. March 20 in the Housing Village, Breckenridge 5101. The master plan provides an overview for future campus growth.

Additionally, Ostenberg will provide an overview of planned renovations for Main and Cragmor Halls.

A second campus master plan meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. March 20 in the Housing Village, Breckenridge 5101. This meeting is intended primarily for community members whose residences are near the campus.

Contact Ostenberg at 262-3315 or

**Bus to Provide Lunchtime Zip**

The Zip, an express bus during lunch hours, will provide transportation from CU-Colorado Springs to restaurants along the Garden of the Gods corridor beginning in April.

The buses will travel between CU-Colorado Springs and Agilent Technologies, 1900 West Garden of the Gods Road. Tentative plans call for four buses, two on each side of Austin Bluffs Parkway, to run between 11 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

For 25 cents, Zip riders will be transported to area restaurants. The buses will also bring community members to the campus’ lunchtime Summit Series lectures.

Restaurants along the route are being solicited to provide discounts to Zip riders and traffic lights will be reprogrammed to allow pedestrians to have the right-of-way when getting off the bus and crossing in walkways, Denise Sulski, director, Transportation Management Association, said.

The Zip will alleviate traffic congestion on the busy Parkway according to Sulski. Buses will be handicapped accessible and have bike racks.

The committee members planning The Zip include Springs Transit, Garden of the Gods Transportation Management Association, the city of Colorado Springs, CU-Colorado Springs, the Clean Air Campaign and several local businesses along the corridor.

Funding is provided by a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality grant with a 20 percent match from Transportation Management Association members.
**PROFESSOR PRESENTS TO REGENTS**

Members of the University of Colorado Board of Regents during its February meeting on campus lauded a more than 20-year member of the CU-Colorado Springs faculty.

Barbara Swaby, professor of education, told the regents about her literacy research and of her joy of working both with children and in helping teachers learn how to improve a child's ability to read and comprehend language. CU-Colorado Springs served as host to the regents at their Feb. 17 meeting.

"I believe in finding the method of learning that works best for the child, not asking the child to conform to the method," Swaby told the regents. "That seems to work best."

Swaby was introduced to the regents by Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade who credited her with helping thousands of children with reading difficulties directly through her one-on-one volunteer interventions.

Millions more were helped through her efforts through cable television and by her work preparing teachers to be more effective reading instructors.

A Jamaican native, Swaby credited her education-driven parents both for her success and for her interest in helping others. Both of her parents were elementary school educators and administrators.

Swaby joined the CU-Colorado Springs faculty in 1977 and has earned numerous awards recognizing her teaching and community service efforts.

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**DATE SET FOR FALL FEST 2000**

Fall Fest 2000, a celebration showcasing the campus, will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 14.

A committee of students, college representatives and campus departments is planning a day of festivities. In addition to general campus events, each college or department will schedule exhibits, receptions, workshops or other activities.

Community members, alumni and prospective students will be able to tour the campus and learn about campus' history and future plans.

"It's the first time we've ever held an event like this," Marla Giarratano, director, alumni relations, said. "Fall Fest 2000 will be a combination of homecoming, reunion, family and parents day activities."

For details, visit web.uccs.edu/Fall Fest or contact Giarratano at 262-3046.

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Bregman at 262-3352 for more information.

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**JANUARY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

Monroe “Mac” McDade was recently named January Employee of the Month.

McDade, a university employee since 1994, is a custodian with the Physical Plant Department.

"This really feels good to be recognized for the work I do. This is nice. I like it," McDade said when he received the award.

McDade's nominators said that he is dedicated to his job and to pleasing his clients, is cheerful and polite, never complains, always goes the extra mile and is willing to assist with any task.

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**CLASSES TAKE BREAK**

Spring Break will be from March 27 through April 2. Classes resume on Monday, April 3.

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**RESEARCHERS VISIT FLIGHT DYNAMICS AND CONTROL LAB**

The Flight Dynamics and Control Laboratory in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering hosted a group of researchers Feb. 2.

Visitors in the group were from University of Applied Sciences in Weingarten, Germany, Ohio University and Utah State University.

These institutions, along with Helsinki University of Technology, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, and CU-Colorado Springs have formed an international consortium for research and education in automation, robotics, and teleoperation, supported by the U.S. Department of Education and the European Commission.

CU-Colorado Springs' participation in the program is administered by the Flight Dynamics and Control Laboratory, directed by David Schmidt, professor of engineering.

Klaus Schilling, professor of engineering at the University of Applied Sciences in Weingarten, Germany, Dennis Irwin, professor of electrical engineering at Ohio University and Rees Fulmer, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at Utah State University, were given a tour of the lab and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. During their visit, they developed procedures for student and faculty exchanges, defined research methodology and addressed various coordination issues among consortium members.

The technical focus of the consortium involves the development of an international distributed laboratory in robotics and automation. Each institution will contribute one laboratory experimental apparatus that can be accessed via the Internet by students and colleagues. The experiments include several autonomous robotic devices, a spacecraft-control test bed and a structural-control apparatus. For more information, contact Schmidt at 262-3580.

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**SUMMER 2000 COURSE SCHEDULES**

are now available. Pick up a copy from the admissions and records office, Main Hall 229, or call 262-3383 to find out where the closest copy is available.

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**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

nominations will be accepted until March 20. For more information, call Ron Wisner, dean for student life, at 262-3258.