

communique

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO - COLORADO SPRINGS

Engineering earns accreditation

The electrical engineering program at CU-Colorado Springs is one of only a handful nationally to pass a rigorous review by the national Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

“This is the conclusion of a long process. We began the process of preparing for accreditation three years ago.”

— Ramaswami Dandapani, chair, Department of Engineering and Computer Engineering

ABET is the primary organization responsible for monitoring, evaluating, and certifying the quality of engineering education in the United States and is a federation of 28 technical and professional societies representing more than 1.8 million professional engineers. In August, ABET notified Ron Sega, dean, Engineering and Applied Science, that the bachelor’s degree program in electrical engineering had passed the organization’s review.

ABET’s evaluators are engineering faculty at other universities and private sector engineers. They cited the university’s close ties to local

industries and extensive building program as strengths. Ramaswami Dandapani, chair, Department of Engineering and Computer Engineering, said the school’s ties to industry provide opportunities for hands-on work and student internships.

“This is the conclusion of a long process,” Dandapani said. “We began the process of preparing for accreditation three years ago.”

The university’s electrical engineering program was evaluated under a new set of criteria called ECE 2000 that emphasized preparation of students for professional practice and assessment of those students’ skills. Dandapani likened the criteria to the management theories of Total Quality Management or the manufacturing standard ISO 9000. The decision to be evaluated under new criteria was made three years ago, with preparations beginning in earnest in January 1999. Input was obtained from students, faculty, staff, industry representatives, and alumni in preparing the self-study portion of the accreditation. ABET evaluators spent three days on campus in October 1999.

“The ABET criteria required us to set objectives and asked us to put into place mechanisms where we continually evaluate our progress toward those objectives,” Dandapani said. “This is a change from previous accreditation standards but they very much fit with our goals for the program.”

Dandapani said restrictions from ABET prevent him from talking about the length of the accreditation that was granted, but that he was relieved that another visit will not take place for “quite a while.”

More information about engineering program accreditation is available at <http://www.abet.org>.



Fall Fest 2000
at CU-Colorado Springs

Join us for an afternoon and evening of fun, excitement, and celebration! ... Activities include:

- Live music & entertainment
- Food & beverage
- Games & contests
- Special events & activities
- Entertainment & activities

For more information, contact the Office of Student Activities at 719.438.4100 or visit our website at www.fallfest.com

web.uccs.edu/fallfest

See page 5 for details

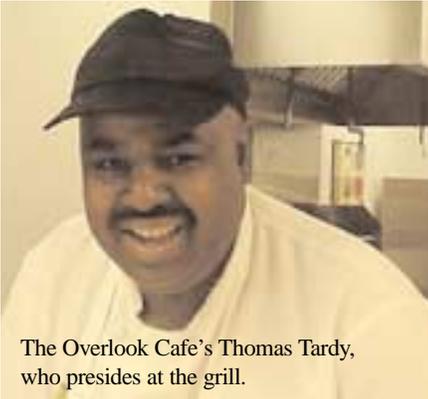
Overheard . . .

“The dog treed him. So John (O’Hara) stuffed the phone in the dog’s mouth. The dog and Public Safety Lt. Curt Straub had a short conversation.”

— Physical plant manager Bob Havens at O’Hara’s retirement party.

Doers profile

Grillin' and chillin' with the Overlook Café's grillmeister extraordinaire



The Overlook Cafe's Thomas Tardy, who presides at the grill.

You can tell a lot about people, just by the kind of salsa they put on their burritos.

So says the tall man in the white apron grilling up charbroiled burgers every day at The Overlook Café. Food, according to him, is downright psychological.

Communique recently caught up with Thomas ("as in late to school") Tardy to talk about the secrets of the perfect hamburger, how to deal with hungry, cranky customers, and other epicurean observations.

Name: Thomas Tardy

Age: 45

Birthplace: Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Job Title: Grill Cook

Career path: Worked as a mail clerk for Hewlett-Packard until was laid off, then took a job at Peterson Air Force Base and worked his way up to grill cook. About 10 years ago, began working for Sodexo-Marriott. He's been cooking on campus for four years.

What is it about men and their grills? Some men have three or four grills. Is it a primal thing, like cave men gathering around a fire? Personally, I just like to grill. Maybe it's the

smell. When I start cooking outside at my house, everybody in the neighborhood goes, "Oh, there goes Thomas. He's cooking again."

Is there such a thing as a free lunch? Yes, but you only get one a day.

Can you tell a lot about people by what they order for lunch at the Overlook? Definitely. People who come in and order what they want right away typically go out for dinner on weekends. They don't waste time studying all the menus.

What about the person who orders a jalapeno-cheese burrito every single day? What does that mean? They want a big full meal, not just something to snack on. We make 'em big.

There are three varieties of salsa available at the burrito bar, ranging from mild to spicy. What's your favorite salsa? I'm more of a medium. People who like medium salsa tend to be pretty plain.



Are you a burrito kind of a guy? No, I'm a Popeye's Chicken kind of a guy.

Thomas Tardy, what's the secret of the perfect hamburger? They've got to be done all the way through.

You've got to get them up to a good 160 degrees. And don't squeeze all the juice out. Don't press the meat.

How do you handle crabby, hungry customers? I quickly give them what they want - food.

Do you have a personal favorite at The Overlook Café? A quarter-pounder with bacon and cheese, with an order of fries on the side.

Do you like your job? I love it. You're not rushed, you're not pushed. We stress quality, not quantity here. I really love to cook. I think you have to love it.

What are you going to do when you get off work today? Will you be whipping up something in the kitchen at home? No, I've got to take my wife something for lunch.

So you'll be bringing her something from The Overlook? No, I'm stopping at Wendy's.



Campus researcher of the year

Dorothea Olkowski, associate professor of philosophy, was honored at a luncheon this week as the 2000 Faculty Research Award winner. Olkowski provided an impassioned defense of the importance of a strong liberal arts curriculum.

Committee eyes web site

A committee of faculty and staff wants to make the campus home page more friendly and effective.

Led by Jeremy Haefner, senior faculty associate for information technology, the eight-member committee is reviewing best practices in web design and will recommend changes to improve the appearance and usability of the university's web pages.

"There are many issues to be considered," Haefner said. "By bringing people from different areas of the university together, I hope that we can make substantial recommendations about how to improve the university's web presence."

Haefner cited substantive examples, such as making the university web site accessible to individuals with disabilities and realizing that prospective students are heavy users of university web sites.

The committee hopes to complete its recommendations by the end of the fall semester with a new prototype web site available for testing by the beginning of the spring semester.

The committee's members are: Jeremy Haefner, faculty associate for information technology, chair; Kirk Moore, programmer, Computing Services; Tamara Townsend, marketing director, Student Success; Kathy Andrus-Walck, director, Fine Arts History Technology and Curriculum; Scott Switzer, instructor of educational technologies, School of Education; Craig Decker, university webmaster; Sue Byerly, reference librarian, Kraemer Family Library; and Tom Hutton, director, University Relations.



Christine Arguello likes to be first



She graduated first in her class from CU-Boulder. She was the first Hispanic woman to be admitted to Harvard Law School and the first Hispanic to become a partner in a large Colorado Law firm. She is on track to be the first Colorado woman to serve as judge on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

from 1991 to 1999 and is now Colorado's deputy attorney general for state services. In July, President Bill Clinton nominated her to serve as judge of the Denver-based Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Her nomination must be confirmed by Congress.

"It is an honor to have someone of Christine Arguello's caliber beginning our month of celebration," Mario Carillo, academic advisor, said. "I think she demonstrates the ability to succeed through hard work, determination, and perseverance. I am pleased that she is willing to share her experiences with the campus."

Arguello's remarks will be followed by the Grupo Tlaloc-Aztec Dancers.

The dances of the Aztecs are known for original, expressive music and unique ways of prayer and reverence to the Gods of the Earth. The group will wear attractive costumes of feathered headdresses and historic apparel. The ritual dances date to the time before the Spanish Conquest. The events are free and open to the campus and community.

Arguello will also be the first speaker for Hispanic Heritage Month at CU-Colorado Springs.

At 7 p.m., October 12 in the Lodge, Arguello will talk about breaking racial and gender barriers and the rewards of a life dedicated to public service.

Arguello is a former Colorado Springs resident, having worked for the Holland and Hart law firm and served on numerous community boards including Pikes Peak United Way and the District 11 School Board in the mid-1980s. She was a professor of law at the University of Kansas, Lawrence,

Mobile offices part of campus's ever-changing landscape

Despite outward appearances, CU-Colorado Springs is not the new headquarters for North Nevada-based mobile home dealers.

Instead, the recent influx of mobile units is part of a building remodeling strategy on campus.

Mobile offices were placed this week near Columbine Hall on the site of the former Bennett property. Additionally, mobile offices were placed in parking lots close to Cragmor Hall.

The offices are not demo models and are not for sale. They are part of the scheduled renovation of Main and Cragmor Halls, explained Tom Ostenberg, director of facilities construction and planning. The new mobiles join those currently used by Beth-El School of Nursing faculty on the west side of campus near the Four Diamonds Sports Complex.

It's a good thing tornadoes are rare along the Front Range.

In December, renovation and

success; and Martin Wood, CU Foundation vice president, go? To the mobile offices located near Columbine Hall.



Several mobile offices like this one next to Cragmor Hall, will serve as administrative offices while Main and Cragmor Halls are renovated.

While the mobile offices are hardly deluxe accommodations, they will serve an important function, Bunnell Shade recently pointed out.

"I am looking forward to having my office located closer to the heart of campus, as are others, so that we can have more frequent informal contact with students, faculty, and staff."

The restoration and renovation of Main is expected to last about a year, Ostenberg said, which means the university's top administrators will return to it in early 2002.

restoration of Main Hall will begin. Many Main Hall occupants will move to Cragmor as the university attempts to keep offices that serve students in one location. Admissions and Records, for example, will move from Main to Cragmor, joining other offices connected with the Division of Student Success.

So, where will the current occupants of Cragmor Hall, including Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade; John Pierce, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Cleve McDaniel, vice chancellor for administration and finance; Pam Shockley, vice chancellor for student

But Ostenberg is quick to point out that Main's return to glory won't mean the removal of the mobiles. As soon as crews are finished with Main, work will begin in earnest on renovating Cragmor Hall, Dwire Hall and the renovation and expansion of the Engineering and Applied Science building. As renovations continue, new occupants will find their ways to the mobile offices.

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Coming Next Week:

- Employee of the Month
- A conversation with Beth-El's Mary Hagedorn

NORED report draws campus's response

An Olympia, Wash.-based firm's recommendations for changing Colorado higher education generated more questions than answers from campus leadership.

Cleve McDaniel, vice chancellor for administration and finance, forwarded to the CU system last week a set of concerns about recommendations from NORED, the Washington-based consulting group hired by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

The campus response will be combined with those from other CU campuses.



"We appreciated the recognition by NORED of this campus in several key areas," McDaniel said. "But, frankly, we were disappointed that they did not substantively address several issues that we think are important."

Among those reviewing the campus's response were McDaniel; John Pierce, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade; Mark Malone, associate professor of education and Faculty Assembly president, Beverly Goodwin, administrative assistant, Beth El School of Nursing and Health Sciences and All-Staff president; Carmen Abeyta, interim director, Campus Activities Board and Professional Exempt Staff Association president; and Richard Blade, professor of physics and past president of the Faculty Assembly. They submitted the campus response to the CU System.

Of specific concern was NORED's recommendation that CU-Colorado Springs be among several schools considered for charter or "Colorado Compact" school status. In theory, a charter school would operate independently from CU and the Board of Regents.

While there may be advantages to becoming a charter school, concerns were expressed about having to create new administrative processes for human resources, procurement, and legal services if CU-Colorado Springs were split from the University of Colorado. Additional questions concerned how charter school status would affect such issues as classified employees who are part of a statewide system and faculty tenure rules determined by the University of Colorado. Other questions concerned whether charter school status is affected by TABOR and other constitutional constraints.

A meeting of Colorado Springs community and university leaders, including Pikes Peak Community College, is scheduled for October 6 at the Pikes Peak Community College downtown campus. Any additional concerns expressed by those groups will be forwarded to the CU System, McDaniel said.

A response from the CU system will be incorporated by NORED into a final version. The final version will be delivered to the CCHE by Nov. 1.

The draft NORED report is available www.state.co.us/cche.

Great levitating magnets

Fall Fest 2000 kicks off Oct. 14

Take one NASA astronaut, some warm sticky wax, a coyote's skull, and stir gently. What do these ingredients add up to? Fall Fest 2000, an autumnal festival at CU-Colorado Springs featuring some of the most innovative and educational programs on campus. The festival is open to the public.

Ron Sega, Dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences, will give a brief

overview of the activities and initiatives of the college, including new degrees, new technology, research, and the latest aerospace bells and whistles.

Other highlights include having coffee with Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade in the new El Pomar Center; whiz-bang demonstrations of flaming music and optical illusions, courtesy of the Physics department; and a look at the new Beckman Coulter Flow Cytometer. Karen Newell, assistant professor of biology, will demonstrate the power of high-speed cell analysis via this powerful instrument.

Fall Fest will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., all over campus. Most events are free, unless otherwise noted. Food will be available for purchase through the Overlook Café and the Lodge.

For a complete list of activities, lectures, and workshops, please go to web.uccs.edu/fallfest. To make reservations, call Marla Giarratano at 719-262-3180. Sponsored by the Alumni and Friends Association.

College of Business alums to share expertise

When Michael Fryt flies in to Colorado Springs with his three-year-old son, David, Oct. 18, he'll be coming home in a big way.

Fryt, one of the CU-Colorado Springs most distinguished alumni, was born in Colorado Springs. As for that company plane? It will say FedEx on the side.

"Fortunately, we were able to get a seat," said the 45-year-old Fryt.

Fryt is vice president for tax for FedEx Corporation, a \$19 billion global enterprise.

He's coming to town to join fellow College of Business alumnus Scott Oki, founder of the International Division of Microsoft. Both will speak at an Oct. 19 University Club luncheon hosted in partnership with the Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation.

Oki and Fryt will offer their perspectives on how the Internet is changing business and how businesses are adapting to the new marketplace rules.

Oki graduated from CU-Colorado Springs magna cum laude in 1974. He earned his master's in business administration a year later, graduating first in his class. He went to work as an accountant at Hewlett-Packard. A few years later, he was working with Bill Gates at Microsoft. The rest is history.

In 1992, Oki left Microsoft—and 16-hour days—to spend more time with his family. According to *Forbes magazine*, he's co-founder of Social Venture Partners, a venture philanthropy group that finds partners to "contribute money, infiltrate management, set up multi-year funding and exit strategies."



CU- Colorado Springs alumni Michael Fryt, Vice President for tax for Fed Ex Corp., is a Colorado Springs native.

He's also a board member of nearly two dozen not-for-profit organizations such as the United Way and Boy Scouts of America. Oki, whose parents were interned in a WWII

Japanese detention camp in Minidoka, Idaho, also leads a project with the Japanese American Chamber of Commerce to record the life histories of people who were interned. Although Oki went to college here, his roots are in the Pacific Northwest.

That's not the case with Fryt, who graduated from Manitou Springs High School in 1973. At the bottom of his resume, nestled between various awards and mem-

berships, one line stands out: One of four brothers to have climbed all 54 Colorado "Fourteeners."

In a recent phone interview from his Memphis, Tenn., office, Fryt sounded palpably homesick, asking about the weather and if the leaves had started changing. He has a great affection for CU-Colorado Springs. Like Oki, he graduated



Scott Oki, Founder of the International Divisions of Microsoft, graduated from CU-Colorado Springs in 1974 with honors.

magna cum laude from the College of Business. Although he went to law school at CU-Boulder, he identifies most with this campus.

"I have a great affinity to UCCS, much more so than any other educational institute. I just liked the staff here a lot better," he said.

Some of Fryt's mentors include Robert Knapp, professor of business administration; Kirkland

Wilcox, chair, Department of Accounting and Finance; and Charles Hinkle, professor emeritus.

His fellow students also enhanced the experience, Fryt said. "A lot of them were already in the business world," he said. "I thought that added an immeasurable amount of expertise."

The CU-Colorado Springs University Club luncheon featuring Scott Oki and Michael Fryt will be at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, at the Broadmoor Hotel's Lake Terrace Dining Room. The cost of the luncheon is \$18. To make reservations, call 475-6462, by Oct. 16.

Canines kick off disability week Oct. 9-13

Recent CU-Colorado Springs graduate Chris Heffernon plans to do a little light reading tonight.

The book? *Foundations in Microbiology*

Not only will he plow through all of Chapter 13 — clinical infections — but he's also going to read it aloud into a tape recorder. Heffernon is one 15 volunteers who read textbooks for disabled students at the university.

Heffernon is reading for a woman who has a learning disability. Hearing the text read aloud - as well as reading it herself helps her process complicated information. "This is what I use to put me to sleep at night," joked Heffernon as the university's disability services coordinator, Kaye Simonton, handed over the textbook.



English Professor C. Ken Pellow, shown here with student Deanne Fernandez and her guide dog. For her, Pellow reads aloud and tapes the short stories and essays he teaches in his class.

A May graduate, Heffernon got involved in the volunteer reading program after he began driving his friend, Sarah Irwin, Colorado Springs senior, to campus. Irwin was hurt in an Aug. 19 car accident and cannot walk.

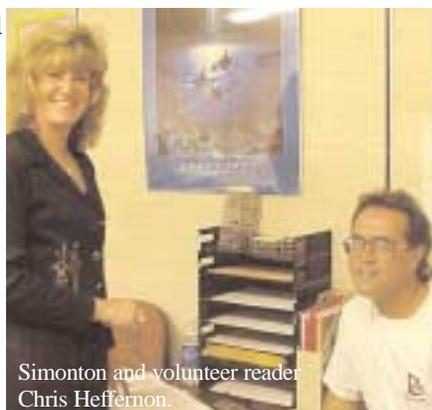


Kaye Simonton, Disabilities Services Coordinator, hopes to raise awareness about hidden disabilities.

The Disability Services office helps more than 200 students on campus with a wide variety of disabilities. Some disabilities, such as blindness, are readily apparent. Others, including depression and attention deficit disorder, are not. During Disability Week, Oct. 9 -13, a panel of students and faculty will provide their perspectives on disability issues on campus.

Simonton hopes the panel discussion will teach students and faculty how they can support disabled students, as well as ease the embarrassment some students feel.

"I think that the people who have hidden disabilities really don't want to be identified or acknowledged," Simonton says. "They think it's a stigma."



Simonton and volunteer reader Chris Heffernon.

Disability Week Schedule of Events

Monday, Oct. 9: Canine Companions

These highly trained dogs are matched with individuals as skilled companions. Learn more about how dogs enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through the development of a human/canine partnership. 10:30 a.m., Overlook Café; 12:15 p.m., Brooks Room, University Center.

Tuesday, Oct. 10: Being Disabled at UCCS

Things We All should Know. Kaye Simonton, Disability Services coordinator, leads a panel discussion of students and faculty about disability issues on campus. 12:15 p.m., Brooks Room, University Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 11: Wheelchair basketball game

The Denver Rolling Nuggets. Viewers get a chance to outscore the players. Admission: \$1 for students, all others \$2. All proceeds go to The Denver Rolling Nuggets. 6 p.m, University Center Gymnasium.

