

# communique

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-COLORADO SPRINGS

## Report lauds campus for high-quality education

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs is one of the state's highest performing universities, according to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

In an annual evaluation of universities called the Quality Indicators report, CU-Colorado Springs earned 1,790 points of a possible 1,800 or 99 percent, the highest of the three University of Colorado campuses measured. CU-Colorado Springs earned an additional 42 bonus points for performance that exceeded CCHE benchmarks.

The Quality Indicators report measures university performance in ten key areas including graduation rates, freshmen retention rates, recruitment and graduation of minority students, and student performance on various post-graduation exams, including required state or national tests for public accountants, teachers and nurses.

"I'm pleased that the high quality of the campus is being recognized," Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade said. "But the true measure of our success cannot be told in numbers. Everyday, graduates of our university make a difference in the lives of people in Colorado. That's the true measure of a university. However, while our score was high, the report shows areas where we need to continue to work. Of particular importance are our efforts to recruit and retain minority students."

CU-Colorado Springs graduates who took the Certified Public Accountant exam and National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses passed at the highest rates in Colorado. More than 91 percent of CU-Colorado Springs students passed the teacher-licensing exam, PLACE.

CU-Colorado Springs also earned high marks for its efficiency, for providing courses students needed

and for helping students graduate in a timely manner. According to the latest figures, almost 40 percent of CU-Colorado Springs students graduate after six years.

The areas evaluated by CCHE and the CU-Colorado Springs scores follow.

Baccalaureate graduation rates after four, five and six years	180
Faculty instructional workload	180
Student retention rates after one year	170
Achievement scores on licensure, professional, graduate school	180
Admissions and other examinations taken by baccalaureate seniors	180
Institutional support per full-time student	180
Availability of general education program courses	180
Minority student retention rates after one year	90
Minority student baccalaureate graduation rates after six years	90
Number of hours required for degree	180
CU System Total Learning Environment goals	180
Bonus points	42
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>1,832</b>



Hannah Barton, sophomore, views "Timelesstimelesstime" by Louis Cicotello.



"Aria," by Sean O'Meallie

### Faculty Art Show



"Outboard Finger Puppets Perform the Number One Through Five in No Particular Order;" by Sean O'Meallie

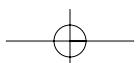


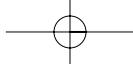
"Seasonal Patterns;" by Gloria Menzer

#### Overheard . . .

*"I had to learn how to teach but also how to relate to a group of people hungry to learn about their culture and expecting me to be an expert"*

Dean Liz Grobsmith recounting an early assignment to teach Native American cultures to inmates.





## International flavor comes to staff member's home

Janeen and David Demi-Smith have learned a lot about the Finnish people since Jere Knuuttila came to live with them.

Fins are resolute, even stoic. They're well educated. And they're hardy. Boy, are they hardy. On a recent blustery day, Knuuttila, 25, hopped on David Demi-Smith's bike and rode some 10 miles in the wind – some of it uphill – to CU-Colorado Springs.

Knuuttila, a graduate student from Helsinki University of Technology, is working at the university's Flight Dynamics and Control Laboratory, which uses mathematical and computer modeling to guide aerospace devices. Knuuttila is helping write the computer code that will eventually automate robots via the Internet.

Knuuttila has lived with the Demi-Smiths since August, after they responded to an all-campus E-mail. Janeen Demi-Smith is a senior professional research assistant for the Office of Institutional Research.

The student's presence in the Demi-Smith home (he rents a



A Finnish friendship: Janeen and David Demi-Smith opened their home to Jere Knuuttila, a grad student from Helsinki.

room) has led to some interesting conversations around the family dinner table. When Knuuttila first arrived, he only planned on staying with the family for a month until he could find his own apartment, but things clicked.

"I like the Demi-Smiths so much," he said.

It cuts both ways. The Demi-Smith kids, Adele, 15, Lydia, 14, and Daniel, 6, have – courtesy of Knuuttila – sampled *glogi*, the kids' version of a special Finnish mulled wine and heard stories about what it's like living near the Baltic Sea.

Knuuttila, who speaks fluent English, comes from Espoo, a city near Helsinki, in southern Finland.

In exchange, Knuuttila has had the chance to sample some of David's famous homemade salsa, learned about Colorado Springs founder, Gen. Palmer, and gone skiing at Copper Mountain.

"Jere has energized us and our kids on topics like geography," David Demi-Smith said. "I'm just so glad the girls aren't older, because they think Jere's really cute."

While at the university, Knuuttila is working on his thesis. The topic: teleportation of a mobile robot on the Internet. He admits it's been slow going at times. Fortunately, Janeen, who is also working on her PhD, nudged him along.

"I kept asking him about it," she said. "I'd say, 'Did you *do* anything today?'" Knuuttila got her drift.

"I tried to avoid the question," he said, adding, "I didn't get much done over the fall break."

Knuuttila was busy. He got a driver's license, dated a few American girls he'd met over the Internet, and visited Florida.

Chock it up to cultural exchange.

Knuuttila plans to return to Finland this summer, after traveling around the U.S. The Demi-Smiths will be sad to see him go, but they're glad they've had the opportunity to share their lives with him. They hope to house other international students in the future.

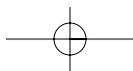
"We'd be a failure in this if we didn't give them a flavor of us as a family," David Demi-Smith said.

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## Organization panel issues draft report

A draft report written by a panel of faculty, staff, students and community members after reviewing the CU-Colorado Springs administrative organizational structure is now available.



Douglas Nelson,  
Financial Aid Office

Doug Nelson, student services specialist, Office of Student Financial Aid, and co-chair of the administrative organization panel said the report was available in two locations. Computer users may access the report at [www.uccs.edu/~aoprpt](http://www.uccs.edu/~aoprpt). A printed copy is also available at the library circulation desk.

“It’s important for people to realize that this is a draft,” Nelson said. “We’re looking for input and comments that highlight areas we might have missed or mistakes that we might have made.”

The report will be available for comment until March 15. Persons interested in making suggestions may contact any panel member. The group hopes to complete its report by the end of the semester.

Appointed in February 2000 by Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade, the 11-member panel was formed to evaluate the university’s administrative structure and to make recommendations for change. The panel met throughout the spring semester and again this fall.

The panel’s members are: Nelson, Al Ramirez, associate professor of education, co-chair, Robert Keeley, professor of business, Marian Yacko, director of purchasing, Andrea Williams, program assistant, Department of Psychology, Stephany Sandrk, 1999-2000 student co-executive, Thomas Huber, professor of geography and environmental studies, and Daphne Greenwood, associate professor of economics. Nancy Lewis, Colorado Springs, and Al Steiner, Colorado Springs, are community members.

## Career Fair urges preparation

Job seekers who think about wearing pink to their job interview and those who have a habit of fiddling with their body piercing can learn how these actions and others affect their job interview during a workshop at CU-Colorado Springs annual community Career Fair.

Representatives from about 80 local and national businesses will participate in the city’s largest career fair from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 5 at the Wyndham Hotel, 5580 Tech Center Drive. The event is free and open to the public.

Job seekers will have an opportunity to meet with company representatives from financial services, government, education, law enforcement, health care, marketing, non-profit, and high technology professions.

Three practical workshops will be offered. At 11 a.m. Charles Beck, associate professor, College of Business, will present “Resume Writer.” At 12:30 p.m., Cindy Fowler, director of community relations, Chuck Fowler & Associates, will present “The Face of Professionalism: What’s Yours?” At 2 p.m. Cari Shaffer, president, ADDSTAFF, Inc., will present “Interviewing Strategies.” All workshops will be in the Rockrimmon Room at The Wyndham.

“I am amazed at the way this annual career fair works for people. Both job seekers and employers continue to give us favorable feedback about the success we’ve enjoyed helping

employers and job seekers to connect. Job seekers need to come prepared to hand out their resumes and dressed for the informal, initial meeting,” Cris Neubacher, career services coordinator, said.



A free shuttle service will operate from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. between the campus and The Wyndham. The shuttle will depart from the Science Building on campus at 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30 and 4:30. Free parking is available at The Wyndham. For more information, contact Neubacher at 262-3657, or visit [www.uccs.edu/~success/career/careerfair2001.html](http://www.uccs.edu/~success/career/careerfair2001.html).

## CU-Colorado Springs begins International Awareness program

Ireland is more than the idyllic, backslapping collection of happy-go-lucky good timers depicted in Bing Crosby and Maureen O'Hara movies.

Instead, Ireland is a complex country torn by centuries of conflict and intense national pride, according to a CU-Colorado Springs professor.

Tom Huber, professor of geography and environmental studies, recently visited Ireland as part of a Fulbright Fellowship. As an instructor at University College, Dublin, Huber learned that American stereotypes of Ireland are often far from reality.

Huber will share his views as part of a new program at CU-Colorado Springs called International Awareness. By sharing experiences abroad, campus

leaders hope to increase awareness of international events and help dispel stereotypes.

"It's a fascinating country," Huber said, "but one that Americans really don't understand. Though many Americans can claim Irish heritage, those in Ireland refer to immigrations to the U.S., Australia and other countries as the 'exile.'"

At 1 p.m. March 15 in University Center 116, Huber will present a slide show that depicts the multiple faces of Ireland. He will talk about fighting in Northern Ireland that frequently draws media headlines and paints an image of near chaos. In reality, he says, the crime rate is similar to that of many large American cities.

While the stereotype exists of a land of charm and enchantment,

Dublin is an economic engine for the British Isles with a booming high-technology industry in a bustling, urban environment.

Of course, there are miles of lush, rolling hills. And Huber is quick to admit that there is plenty of camaraderie in the traditional pubs that dot the landscape. But the views of Ireland should not end there.

"It's important for people to learn about all kinds of places," Huber said. "Because of our country's location, it's easy for us to feel isolated and out of touch. But because of technology and the changes in the world, it is important that we set aside our stereotypes and truly learn about what is happening in a global environment."

## Migration begins for campus web pages

Help is on the way for University departments interested in improving web pages.

Although improvements continue on the campus homepage a month after its introduction, certain features will remain, according to Craig Decker, university webmaster. Making those features available to visitors to other campus pages will improve the university's overall web presence.

"It's important to let the visitor know he or she hasn't been moved off the university site by making each page look somewhat familiar to the preceding page," Decker said. "And from the visitor's perspective, making certain things like the search engine available in the same location is a big help to them."

The "family" appearance of campus web sites was recommended by the Web Advisory Committee chaired by Jeremy Haefner, professor of mathematics and senior faculty associate for information technology. Several faculty and staff members served on the advisory committee that recommended revising the campus web presence.

The most commonly visited sites, usually those maintained by academic departments or those geared to prospective students, will be the first sites changed. Departments can choose from recommended page templates and update sites themselves, receive hands-on training in web site development or have the department's site updated by a member of the Teaching and Learning Center staff.

A meeting of web site administrators is scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday in 203 Columbine Hall. The templates are available at <http://web.uccs.edu/ur/standardset.htm>.



## Hats off

The Rhythm & Gold Dance Team, a student club coached by Jaime McMullen Garcia, recruitment coordinator, recently received a \$1,500 donation and a pledge for \$500 annual donation from DALSA Colorado Springs. Several DALSA employees are CU-Colorado Springs graduates.

Robert von Dassanowsky, director, Film Studies, recently was named to the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Flickapalooza Film Festival, the official festival of the Association of Independent Feature Film Producers. von Dassanowsky, an independent film producer, will be recruiting the work of southwestern, western and European filmmakers for the Film Festival.

## Women to March next month

Women's History Month at CU-Colorado Springs will begin next month with a series of lectures from some of the university's most notable female faculty members.

At 4:30 p.m. March 7 in Dwire Hall room 305, Debra Dew, director of the Writing Program, will share insights from her historiographical research project that aims to recover Mary Wollstonecraft's theoretical contribution to the history of rhetoric.

Wollstonecraft, a British writer and reformer, wrote *Frankenstein*. Dew's current book project is entitled: "On the Use of Significant Words: Mary Wollstonecraft's Contribution to Modern Rhetorical Tradition."

The project combines traditional research with feminist historiography, a method that enables people to recover important work by redefining texts, and gathering evidence from multiple sites to then conceptualize rhetorical theories.

Other scheduled activities on campus during Women's History Month include a guest lecture by the University of Iowa's Linda K. Kerber on "Paternity, Maternity, and the Inheritance of Citizenship," from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. March 5 in Breckenridge 5101.

Radha Pyatti, assistant professor of chemistry, will talk about recognizing women in the sciences at 12:15 p.m. March 7 in Columbine Hall, Room 128.

The First Annual Women's Leadership Symposium will be from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. March 14 in University Center, Rooms 116A and B.

Lt. Col. Denise Goudreau, ROTC director, will talk about her experiences in the U.S. military. Her talk will be prefaced by introductory remarks from Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade. Please RSVP for the luncheon to Shari Patterson, 262-4153 or spatters@mail.uccs.edu by March 5.



Deb Dew,  
Director of Writing Programs

## Capital projects await legislative action

A committee of the Colorado Legislature will not change its priority list of University of Colorado construction projects but cannot yet commit funds.

The Capital Development Committee of the Legislature kept intact a list of state-funded capital projects presented to the Legislature's Joint Budget Committee. But their actions are far from assuring CU building projects will be funded.

"There remains a concern about the effect of funding K-12 education initiatives as well as meeting the needs for highway construction and the Department of Corrections within the limits of the budget," Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade said. "The governor has stated publicly that he will veto higher education projects to free up money for transportation projects. As a result, we're working with community members to be sure UCCS projects survive."

CU is requesting \$104 million in capital improvements, including \$24.7 million on the Colorado Springs campus. A total of 83 projects are under consideration by the Legislature.

The project, the amount requested and the priority placed on it by the Capital Development Committee, follow.

Controlled Maintenance — \$1.8 million, 3  
Main/Cragmor continuation — \$9.03 million, 21  
Engineering and Applied Science, renovation and expansion — \$10.3 million, 43  
Dwire Hall, renovation — \$6 million, 38  
Science/Beth El Complex — 3.3 million, 71

On March 9, quarterly state tax revenue estimates are expected. No decisions about capital projects from the Joint Budget Committee are expected until after those estimates are reviewed by the Legislature.



Renovation continues at Main Hall.