

**successes****Green campaign**

Colorado State University recently traded “green” for “gold” when it accepted two National Media Relations Grand Gold Pick awards for its Green University media campaign. The recognition is the highest honor given by Colorado’s Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. In addition to the two Grand Gold awards, CSU also received a Gold Pick award for the campaign. Colorado State’s national campaign featured real-world research by CSU faculty members that highlighted the University’s breadth of research in clean and renewable energy and environmental sustainability.

**Diversity distinction**

Colorado State was among 38 U.S. institutions of higher education acknowledged this fall for its commitment to diversity. CSU received a certificate of recognition from Minority Access, Inc., which encourages diversity within colleges and universities, federal agencies, and corporations. The Colorado Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program, or CO-AMP, based at CSU, works to increase the number of historically underrepresented students receiving bachelor’s degrees in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in Colorado and the Four Corners area, says Omnia El-Hakim, CO-AMP director, who accepted the award on behalf of the University. CSU graduated 404 students with bachelor’s degrees in the STEM disciplines this past year, the most since CO-AMP’s inception.

**Pataki tour**

The national marketing campaign that highlighted CSU’s environmental work continued this fall when former New York Gov. George Pataki toured the University’s clean and renewable energy facilities and start-up companies. Pataki focuses on climate change in his role as a delegate to the United Nations. Pataki toured the CSU Engines and Energy Conversion Laboratory and AVA Solar and visited with the CEOs of CSU start-ups Spirae Inc. and Solix Biofuels. This spring, Pataki attended the inaugural “CSU Accelerates” event in New York City, which introduced the work of top CSU scientists to the national business and investment community.

**partnerships****Conservation easement**

Colorado State University has partnered with several environmental organizations to conserve 8,690 acres of forested land in Archuleta County, Colo. CSU – along with the Colorado State Forest Service, the U.S. Forest Service, Great Outdoors Colorado, The Conservation Fund, and the owners of Catspaw Ranch – is working to permanently restrict development on the Catspaw property through a conservation easement. The federally funded Forest Legacy Program acquires portions of privately owned forest through the easements without removing the property from private ownership.

**‘Infectious’ collaboration**

A partnership between Colorado State University and Maine Biotechnology Services, or MBS, will help advance treatments for infectious diseases. The business development arm of CSU’s Infectious Disease Supercluster, MicroRx, recently established the collaborative agreement with MBS, an antibody discovery company that provides services and products to the diagnostic market. Through the agreement, CSU researchers will propose projects to develop disease-fighting antibodies. In turn, MBS will provide market access to potential diagnostic solutions and license the antibodies for commercial use. CSU’s MicroRx is a first-of-its-kind enterprise to speed the transition of life-saving, infectious-disease research from the academic world to the global marketplace.

**awards and grants****Lab-on-a chip**

Advanced MicroLabs LLC, a bioscience start-up built on research developed at Colorado State University, has been awarded \$750,000 from the National Institutes of Health to discover a better way to detect cardiovascular disease. The new commercial venture will use the innovative “lab-on-a-chip” technology to advance research of homocysteine – an amino-acid marker for cardiovascular disease, vitamin deficiencies related to birth defects, pregnancy complications, psychiatric disorders, and cognitive impairment in the elderly. The new technology provides complicated diagnostic analyses more quickly and at lower cost than current tests. Advanced MicroLabs licensed the technology in 2006 from the Colorado State University Research Foundation.

**Environmental stewards**

Colorado State will receive a \$950,000 research grant from Shell Oil Company to study revegetation practices – replanting and rebuilding the soil – on land disturbed by energy development in Colorado’s Piceance Basin. The Shell Oil grant will help scientists make recommendations to the energy industry regarding the long-term effects of revegetation approaches. Scientists will study how to optimize ecosystem restoration following such land use as temporary road construction associated with oil and gas drilling or oil shale development. “CSU is a major player in restoration ecology research, and its decades-long studies in the Piceance Basin have been instrumental in guiding successful land reclamation,” says Tom Fowler, manager of Research and Engineering at Shell.

**History, literature notables**

Two CSU faculty members received distinguished awards for their contributions to American literature and history. Pattie Cowell, associate dean for the College of Liberal Arts, received the prestigious Modern Language Association Honored Scholar of Early American Literature Award for 2007, which recognizes extraordinary contributions to early American studies. Mark Fiege, associate professor in the Department of History, was named the William E. Morgan Chair, which honors the commitment of the late CSU President Morgan and his wife, Lilla B., to the arts and culture at CSU and in the community.

**research****Species survival**

Military training areas are not typically considered suitable habitats for most living things, but Steve Warren, CSU researcher and director of CSU’s Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, has found that many species flourish there. Warren’s studies in the emerging field of disturbance ecology – which explains how species adapt to complex and changing environments – suggest that biodiversity is maximized on land when multiple types, frequencies, and severities of disturbance occur simultaneously. Among his findings: The density of threatened and endangered species on U.S. Department of Defense military training lands is between 3 and 18 times greater than on lands managed by any other federal land-management agency.



## The Green University



## *greenhouse gases* **Greenhouse gases**

The Rocky Mountain Institute has selected Colorado State University for its national study on reducing greenhouse gas emissions on college and university campuses. Colorado State is one of only 12 institutions selected nationally for the study. The research will result in a Web-based, best-practices guide to successful climate-change mitigation. Other colleges and universities tapped for the project include Yale University, University of Minnesota, and University of Missouri.

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