

launched Abound Solar

Abound Solar, a manufacturer of low-cost, thin-film photovoltaic solar panels and one of CSU's most successful spin-offs, opened its first full-scale production facility in Longmont, Colo., on April 14. The company, which changed its name from AVA Solar, is transforming the way the world is powered through renewable energy from the sun. The facility will create more than 300 new jobs and produce 200 megawatts of energy annually. Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, environmental activist Robert F. Kennedy Jr., president of EUROSOLAR Hermann Scheer, and CSU Interim President Tony Frank participated in the facility's opening.

Passport Project

Students with disabilities who graduate from the Poudre School District can learn new skills and stay socially connected through the Passport Project, a collaboration of the CSU Center for Community Partnerships, the City of Fort Collins Adaptive Recreation Opportunities Program, and the Poudre School District. After high school, young adults with disabilities are significantly less likely to find employment or participate in their community than adults without disabilities, research shows. CSU occupational therapy students will mentor participants. The program is funded by a \$315,000, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Supercluster grants

CSU's Clean Energy Supercluster has distributed \$192,300 in a second round of seed grants for 10 projects that will foster cross-disciplinary collaboration and jumpstart larger research initiatives. More than 100 CSU researchers support the academic advancement of the Supercluster, contributing in such diverse disciplines as economics, policymaking, and new energy sources. "These researchers are at the cutting edge in their fields. We're looking forward to their results and hope to share them with our business partners," says Professor Bryan Willson, chief scientific officer for the Clean Energy Supercluster. Review the projects at <http://energy.colostate.edu/>.

awards & appointments Innovation honors

CSU Professor Bryan Willson, co-founder of Envirofit International and Solix Biofuels, joins President Barack Obama, Microsoft mogul Bill Gates, and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg on the "Scientific American 10" – an honor roll of 10 Americans who

are leading innovations that benefit humanity. As founder and director of the CSU Engines and Energy Conversion Lab, Willson helped create Envirofit International – a non-profit organization that designs, builds, and disseminates efficient, clean-burning two-stroke engine retrofit kits and cookstoves in the developing world. Willson also co-founded Solix Biofuels to commercialize algae-to-biodiesel technology. Willson now serves as director of CSU's Clean Energy Supercluster.

B-schools top 10

BusinessWeek has ranked Colorado State's marketing and business law programs in the nation's top 10. The marketing department ranked second; the business law program ranked ninth. The report, "Undergraduate Business Specialties: The Best of the Best," followed the magazine's overall ranking of CSU's College of Business as one of the top undergraduate business programs in the country. *BusinessWeek* surveyed more than 85,000 graduating seniors and 600 corporate recruiters on such topics as quality of teaching, best graduates, curricula, career services, marketing, financial management, and corporate strategy. CSU moved up to 67th in the overall rankings – 30th among all public schools.

New Ag dean

CSU has named Craig Beyrouy as the dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. Beyrouy, a professor and chair of the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University, begins his duties in July. Beyrouy will oversee the departments of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Animal Sciences, Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, and Soil and Crop Sciences. More than 1,250 undergraduate students and 260 graduate students pursue degrees through the College.

Outstanding alumni

Outstanding CSU graduates and friends were honored at the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards banquet on April 18. The honorees: Jean Bethke Elshstain, William E. Morgan Alumni Achievement Award; David and Paula Edwards, Charles A. Lory Public Service Award; Bill and Jan Woods, Jim and Nadine Henry Award; Sidney Simonson, Albert C. Yates Student Leadership Award; Barbara Boardman, Distinguished Alumni Extension Award; Sami Bedell, GOLD Award; John Sofos, Distinguished Faculty Award; Mike Pierce, Distinguished Athletic Award; Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer, College of Agricultural Sciences; Kim Jordan, College of

Applied Human Sciences; Brenda Davis, College of Business; David Stewart, College of Engineering; Lee Kamlet, College of Liberal Arts; Gary Story, College of Natural Sciences; Dr. Charles H. Hobbs, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; Jim LaBau, Warner College of Natural Resources. Read about award recipients at <http://newsinfo.colostate.edu>.

Education bridge

The Bernard Osher Foundation has awarded Colorado State \$50,000 to provide scholarships for former undergraduate students re-enrolling at the University to pursue a bachelor's degree. The grant will fund up to 12 scholarships of about \$4,000 to re-entry students between the ages of 25 and 50 who have a cumulative education gap of five or more years. The Bernard Osher Foundation provides scholarship funding to colleges and universities across the nation.

research 'Best of' annuals

CSU has released its *2008 Annual Flower Trial Garden Performance Report*, a review of more than 1,200 varieties of annuals. The plants were evaluated in ground beds and nearly 700 containers at 1401 Remington St. in Fort Collins, the largest flower test garden in Colorado and one of the five largest in the United States. Twenty-two seed and plant companies worldwide participated in the trials. Thirty-four "Best of" winners were chosen. Most of the selections are available at local nurseries or garden centers for this growing season. Access the listing at www.flowertrials.colostate.edu.

Plant discovery

A new plant species has been discovered in southwest Colorado's Lone Mesa State Park. Colorado State University botanist Peggy Lyon and volunteer Al Schneider were compiling a list of plant species for the park when they noticed a small shrub they didn't recognize. They shipped a specimen to the science editors of *Flora of North America*, who confirmed that the plant was indeed a new species. *Gutierrezia elegans*, the name Lyon and Schneider gave the plant, is delicate with masses of brilliant yellow flowers atop arching stems. The common name is Lone Mesa snakeweed. Lyon will conduct additional research this summer.



The Green University



CSU ranks in top 10 nationally for recycling **CSU ranks in top 10 nationally for recycling**

Colorado State University finished in the top 10 nationally in the Grand Champion competition for RecycleMania, a 10-week recycling competition among more than 500 colleges and universities across the nation. CSU also finished 20th in the country in the Waste Minimization category. RecycleMania campuses compete to determine which institutions have the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, and the highest recycling rate.

RecycleMania

- 10** – CSU’s national ranking
- 1** – CSU’s finish among the five Colorado universities participating
- 22** – Colorado College’s national ranking
- 77** – University of Colorado-Boulder’s national ranking

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