Powerhouse Energy Campus opens

CSU’s Powerhouse Energy Campus is now open. The landmark research center represents a new model of collaborative space that fosters interaction and cooperation among researchers, departments, partners, and sponsors. It combines efforts to grow the impact, reach, and reputation of energy education and research at Colorado State University. The $18.5 million expansion included remodeling the CSU Engines and Energy Conversion Lab and adding 65,000 square feet of new office and research space.

CSU video looks into state budget future

The Colorado Futures Center at Colorado State University launched a new video explaining the long-term challenges the state will face in paying for state government services that go into preserving Colorado’s quality of life, including K-12 education, health care, corrections, courts, higher education, and a host of others. The video is available at http://vimeo.com/9080541.

Colorado State University archaeologist’s team discovers cemetery in Mexican city, finds clues to ancient civilization

An ancient cemetery has been discovered in western Mexico by CSU’s Chris Fisher, associate professor of anthropology. The team discovered the complete skeletal remains of 37 individuals and many partial burials of both genders ranging from infants to adults. The area was a pre-Hispanic city in the Mexican state of Michoacán and associated with the ancient Purépecha culture of western Mexico. Ceramic vessels, copper-bronze rattles, and other artifacts found with the burials indicate the cemetery dates primarily to the middle to late Postclassic period (A.D. 1000-1520).

Cheers! Anheuser-Busch Foundation announces $250,000 gift for fermentation sciences

The Anheuser-Busch Foundation pledged $250,000 to CSU’s newly developed Fermentation Science and Technology program. The gift will fund the renovation of academic space and the hands-on lab at CSU. Launched in the fall of 2013, the Fermentation Science and Technology program is the first of its kind in the region and third of its kind in the country, teaching students about all aspects of fermented foods, such as cheese, bread, meats, and beer.

Chevron’s $1 million gift to support natural resource studies

Chevron has made a $1 million investment in CSU’s Warner College of Natural Resources to fund the Chevron Graduate Fellowship program. The program will fund five graduate students to explore pathways toward the sustainable development of energy and mineral resources on private lands. The program builds on Warner College’s 40 years of research on Piceance Basin energy issues.
Rams in space!
Astronaut Steve Swanson of Colorado, currently on the International Space Station more than 200 miles above Earth, participated in a live video stream with CSU students April 29. Students were able to ask Swanson questions and see his demonstration of equipment used on his recent spacewalk. This fall, Swanson will become a Ram parent, and an official member of the CSU family.

CSU sets record for world’s largest physics lesson
CSU’s Little Shop of Physics set a Guinness World Record on April 23 for the largest physics lesson at the fifth annual Weather and Science Day at Coors Field prior to the Colorado Rockies vs. San Francisco Giants game. More than 10,000 people witnessed the lesson about air, energy, and waves and how these scientific principles explain the curve of a baseball and the patterns of our weather. (The record awaits confirmation.) Little Shop of Physics expands upon CSU’s STEM expertise, with its goal to make science accessible to all through class visits, teacher resources, and workshops.