

successes

Record enrollment

Colorado State University enrolled 4,404 freshmen this fall, the largest freshman class ever and a record-size freshman class for the third consecutive year. Overall enrollment also is up this year at 25,011, which includes 20,829 undergraduate students, 3,655 graduate students, and 527 professional veterinary medicine students. Last year's total enrollment was 24,983. Overall, 80 percent of students are from Colorado.

Distance-degree quality

Graduate engineering distance degrees offered through CSU's Division of Continuing Education have been ranked a "Best Buy" by GetEducated.com. "Best Buy" programs offer high-quality distance degrees at tuition rates well below the national average, according to the online-degree clearinghouse, which reviewed 216 distance-learning engineering and allied graduate degree programs at 46 regionally accredited U.S. universities. CSU's master of science degrees in Civil Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Engineering Management, Industrial Engineering and Operations Research, Mechanical Engineering, Materials Engineering, and Statistics ranked 18th. The national average cost for an online master's in engineering is \$23,203; Colorado State's cost is \$15,600.

Breaking ground

CSU and the Department of Athletics held a groundbreaking ceremony Sept. 19 for the University's \$20 million athletics-facilities project. CSU broke ground this summer near Moby Arena to erect a \$13 million indoor practice facility and a \$7 million academic and training center. Critical to attracting national-caliber student-athletes to CSU, the project is the University's largest commitment toward athletic facilities in four decades. The athletics department has launched a campaign to raise the \$20 million, which began with a \$1.5 million pacesetter gift from CSU graduates Brett and Danette Anderson. The facilities are slated to open in fall 2009.

awards, grants, gifts

Bohemian business

The Fort Collins-based Bohemian Foundation has committed up to \$3 million to CSU's College of Business for an expansion of Rockwell Hall. On Oct. 2, the college broke ground on the \$16 million, 34,600-square-foot addition, which will

house three 75-seat tiered classrooms, six 45-seat classrooms, faculty offices, meeting rooms, and gathering space. The Bohemian Foundation has pledged \$1.5 million as a challenge grant for the new addition, with another \$1.5 million for upgrades to the building. The Bohemian Foundation is a private family foundation that focuses on promoting community awareness and involvement.

Textiles preservation

A \$1.25 million gift to CSU's Design and Merchandising Museum, now named the Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising, will support the continued preservation of 12,000 artifacts, including historic clothing, lace, shoes, textiles, accessories, and chairs. The collection is one of only a few of its kind in the region that allows hands-on access under controlled conditions. The museum, dedicated to the study and history of textiles, clothing, and culture, houses one of the most significant teaching collections in the United States. The Avenir Foundation gift will support exhibitions, salaries, conservation, and the completion of the collection's new home in the University Center for the Arts.

Cellulose biofuel

CSU has been awarded \$1.5 million to develop new crops for biofuels made from cellulose, a substance found in the cell walls of plant stems and leaves. Cellulose is superior to corn starch – the basis for ethanol – because it generates more energy per plant, says Jan Leach, CSU professor of bioagricultural sciences and pest management who is heading up the research effort. The project will use rice instead of switchgrass to identify the genes that could increase productivity and access to the plant's cell walls. Eight institutions received U.S. Department of Energy/U.S. Department of Agriculture grants totaling more than \$10 million. Colorado State received the largest single grant.

TB-drug innovations

Colorado State scientists will continue to uncover new tuberculosis breakthroughs with a \$1.25 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The grant, part of the Gates Foundation initiative to develop faster and more effective tuberculosis treatments, was awarded to Ian Orme, CSU professor of microbiology, immunology, and pathology. Orme and his research team will study how the disease reoccurs, why traditional tuberculosis treatments work so slowly, and why

many patients relapse. CSU manages the National Institutes of Health's drug compound testing program for tuberculosis, which has evaluated more than 85,000 potential drugs since 1997.

Tech savvy

Colorado State received a top international honor in Copenhagen, Denmark, for commercializing technological innovations. The 2008 Royal Award for Sustainable Technology Transfer acknowledged Colorado State for three clean-tech innovations: an international clean cookstove project, a two-stroke engine conversion kit, and biofuels production from algae. The honor on behalf of the Crown Princes of Denmark and Spain is awarded to universities successful in transferring technology that improves operational performance, productivity, or efficiency, while reducing costs, natural resources use, and waste production.

programs

Future workforce

CSU was awarded a \$3 million National Science Foundation Grant to create doctoral training programs in science and engineering – a move that will help prepare the nation's future workforce in the biofuels industry. The grant, one of only 20 nationwide, will establish CSU's Integrated Graduate Education in Biorefining and Biofuels Program and educate 45 doctoral students over the next five years in environmental assessment, fuel engineering, and plant biotechnology. "The biofuels industry needs people who understand the whole picture – where biomass comes from, the ways in which it's transformed into fuels and chemicals, and whether the entire process is sustainable," says CSU Professor Ken Reardon, who will manage the grant.

Ethnic studies

Beginning in fall 2009, CSU will offer a master's degree in ethnic studies, making it the only master's program of its kind in Colorado. The program, administered by CSU's Department of Ethnic Studies, will address the growing diversity of U.S. society and its workforce, ethnic conflict worldwide, and globalization. Students will study the experiences of racially marginalized groups, the history of racial exclusion and marginalization, and the creative ways in which various racial groups sustain their humanity.



The Green University



cooking oil to biodiesel **Cooking oil to biodiesel**

Colorado State University is stepping up sustainability measures in its dining centers, collecting used cooking oil and converting it to biodiesel. CSU has partnered with Rocky Mountain Sustainable Enterprises to refine the oil to create the biodiesel. Each year, 7,200 gallons of used cooking oil is collected from the dining halls and converted to 5,040 gallons of biodiesel. Compared to petrodiesel, which is often transported thousands of miles, the biodiesel can be collected, refined, and distributed within a 50-mile radius between Fort Collins and Boulder.

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Office of the President
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-0100



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