CSU celebrates successes at Fall Address

Thanks to five years of building state-of-the-art facilities, a 13 percent increase in total faculty, and a 158 percent boost in University-funded need-based financial aid, Colorado State University has reached new heights— but it won’t settle for being anything less than “the finest land-grant research university in the country,” CSU President Tony Frank delivered that message and peered ahead at the coming challenges and opportunities facing the University during the 2014 President’s Fall Address on Sept. 10. The annual event on CSU’s historic Oval was followed by a campuswide picnic.

CSU, Rio Grande restaurants team up for ‘Rams at the Rio’

Two Colorado institutions— Colorado State University and Rio Grande restaurants— are partnering on football game days. Rio Grande locations in downtown Denver, Park Meadows, Greeley, and Steamboat Springs will feature the Rams in action during televised football games. The Fort Collins location will host an after-game party.

The earth sciences need women!

Men outnumber women in many science and engineering fields by nearly 3-to-1 in the U.S., and the gender gap can be even wider in fields such as physics or the geosciences. Emily Fischer, professor of atmospheric science at CSU, is the lead investigator on a $1.7 million National Science Foundation grant to close that gap in the geosciences. Starting in 2015, the team will recruit 50 first-year female students to attend a workshop where they will learn about educational and career opportunities and meet peers with similar interests.

Walnut tree disease spreads to northeastern Colorado

Thousand cankers disease, a relatively new disease to Colorado that is lethal to infested black walnut trees, has now arrived on the northeast Plains. The disease was confirmed in Fort Morgan through cooperative efforts of the Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Extension, the city of Fort Morgan, and the CSU Plant Diagnostic Clinic, and likely arrived in the community through the movement of infested wood. Thousand cankers disease has caused significant tree mortality in many of the state’s urban forests after being introduced in recent years to Colorado, primarily along the Front Range from Fort Collins to Pueblo.

Colorado State nanoparticle research could enhance oil recovery, tracing of fracking fluid

Two CSU researchers are examining how nanoparticles move underground, knowledge that could eventually help improve recovery in oil fields and discover where hydraulic fracking chemicals travel. Vivian Li, assistant professor in the Department of Design and Merchandising, and William Sanford, associate professor in the Department of Geosciences, are trying to find patterns in how certain nanoparticles move underground. If successful, they could train the nanoparticles to indicate when specific chemicals are present in the subsurface, including those found in underground water deposits. These modified “smart” nanoparticles, known as tracers, could sense high pH levels or the presence of hydraulic fracking chemicals.

CSU study yields grim statistic: More than 100,000 African elephants killed in three years

More than 100,000 elephants in Africa were killed for their ivory between 2010 and 2012, new CSU research has revealed. The study shows these losses are driving population declines of the world’s wild African elephants on the order of 2 percent to 3 percent a year. This study provides the first verifiable estimation of the impacts of the ongoing ivory crisis on Africa’s elephant populations to date, solidifying speculation about the scale of the ivory crisis. The intensive population study was conducted in a project founded by George Wittemyer, professor in the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology at Colorado State. Support Wittemyer’s research on elephants by visiting advancing.colostate.edu/SAVE-ELEPHANTS

Colorado State joins exclusive list of green colleges

CSU has been named to an elite list of green colleges, adding another accolade to the University’s recognition for its commitment to sustainability. The Princeton Review 2015 Green Honor Roll includes only 24 universities across the nation, all of which scored 99 out of 99 on an annual sustainability assessment.
Exploring the value of veterans

Join student-veterans, faculty, community members, and nationally recognized experts, as CSU hosts the first Veterans Symposium: “Exploring the Value of Veterans: Campus, Career, Community,” Oct. 30 and 31 at the newly renovated Lory Student Center. The symposium will provide opportunity for important dialogue about key issues veterans face as they transition from serving to the workforce. Colorado State University is consistently recognized as one of the nation’s top military-friendly schools, committed to helping our country’s veterans meet their educational and personal goals, and partnering with them at every step as they journey from combat to college to career. To register or sponsor, visit: supporting.colostate.edu/veterans-symposium.

CSU celebrates a century of Pingree Park

For 100 years, CSU natural resources students have spent summers at Pingree Park, CSU’s mountain campus, taking intensive field courses in forestry and natural resources. Support Pingree Park through the next 100 years by donating to scholarships or facility improvements. Visit www.pingree.colostate.edu for more information.

John Fielder holds a photography workshop at the Warner College of Natural Resources 2014 All Alumni Reunion celebrating 100 Years of Pingree Park.