Record gift to propel College of Engineering to new heights

“As we get older, I think it’s natural to think about the generations that will follow. And in a technological age, it’s important that our top students have the opportunity to study at strong research universities.” — Walter Scott, Jr.

A $53.3 million gift — the largest in Colorado State University history — from business icon Walter Scott, Jr., of Omaha, Neb., will provide wide-reaching support for student scholarships, faculty excellence, and research in CSU’s renowned College of Engineering. In recognition of this monumental gift, the college will be renamed the Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering, becoming the only named college of engineering in Colorado. It is the second of CSU’s eight colleges to be named for a prominent alumnus. Scott graduated in 1953 from Colorado A&M with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering.

“We are humbled and incredibly grateful for this remarkable gift from Walter Scott, Jr. Walter has been a passionate and generous supporter of CSU since he graduated more than 60 years ago, and this gift is truly transformational. It will allow the Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering to attract and support the finest faculty and students for years to come. This truly is a great, great day in our University's history.” — CSU President Tony Frank

Scott gift to support students, teaching, and research excellence

Walter Scott, Jr.’s, passion for investing in young people shines through with this exceptionally generous gift. By significantly expanding a previous gift that established the Walter Scott, Jr. Scholarship Program, it will provide renewable merit scholarships for up to 80 undergraduates, and fellowships for up to 30 graduate students, with outstanding academic qualifications.

An additional part of the gift is designed to attract world-class faculty through the creation of four Presidential Chairs in water, health, energy, and environment — the college’s four “areas of excellence” — and will provide the infrastructure and labs to drive teaching and research excellence. Scott’s gift also affords discretionary funds to be invested in strategic initiatives and creation of leadership programs supporting innovation and excellence across the college.

CSU among top 4 public “Best for Vets” institutions

Colorado State’s continued commitment to better serve military veterans has been recognized by Military Times, as the University placed No. 4 in the nation among public universities in its annual “Best for Vets: Colleges 2017” rankings. CSU ranks at No. 6 overall this year, a jump from No. 13 in 2016. CSU is the only Colorado school ranked in the Military Times top 50 schools.

Farewell, Hughes

The final game in the 48-year history of Hughes Stadium was celebrated Nov. 19 with hundreds of former players and coaches and thousands of loyal fans. Known as Sonny Lubick Field at Hughes Stadium since 2003, the stadium has played host to 262 Colorado State football games in its 48 years. Next season, Colorado State University will open its new multipurpose on-campus stadium and bring football back to campus for the first time since Sept. 1968. The Rams closed the stadium with a 49-31 win over the New Mexico Lobos.

CSU honored as Place of Innovation

Colorado State won a top national Innovation and Economic Prosperity University award for its impact on economic development from the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities. CSU received the honor in the “Place” category, recognizing the University for excelling in community, social, and cultural development work. The award recognizes CSU’s efforts to nurture opportunities for collaboration and innovation with public and private partners.
Hughes Way honors legendary coach

Even with the closure of Hughes Stadium, the name of Harry Hughes will live on with the renaming of South Drive, a street on the southwest side of campus, to Hughes Way. Hughes, whose combined coaching career in football, basketball, baseball, and track at Colorado Agricultural College spanned four decades, won more games (126) and more conference championships (eight) than any other CSU football coach.

CAM joined Phyllis Vondra and Jack Hughes, the nephew of CSU coaching legend Harry Hughes, to celebrate renaming South Drive as Harry Hughes Way.

Marching Band a tradition at Denver Parade of Lights

As a favorite annual tradition, the Colorado State University Marching Band is once again the only college marching band participating in the 9NEWS Parade of Lights. The parade, scheduled for Dec. 2, is a special celebration for CSU Rams in Denver: More than one-quarter of all CSU alumni — nearly 60,000 — live in the Denver Metro area, and about half of incoming CSU freshmen are from the Denver area. Visit www.denverparadeoflights.com for more information.