



# CLA CONNECTIONS

FALL 2013





# LIBERAL ARTS OUT IN THE WORLD

## **In the College of Liberal Arts,**

we believe that an education involves more than sitting in a classroom. Our students and faculty are engaging with local and global communities through hands-on projects and research. They are developing new ideas. They are helping communities. Sometimes, they get their hands dirty. But ultimately, they are working hard to apply their knowledge and skills to making a difference in the world.

Faculty members and students work side by side on significant research, from studying archeological sites across the globe to measuring economic innovation in Colorado. Students engage in service learning and outreach projects to benefit local and global communities, collaborating with nonprofit and community organizations. New programs have been launched to provide students with hands-on experience that will give them valuable skills for their future careers.

Read on for just a few examples of the extraordinary number of ways that College of Liberal Arts faculty and students are making a difference through hands-on research and outreach. We are proud of their accomplishments and commitment to making a difference.

## **Colorado Innovation Network**



**WEILER**

their work with the Colorado Innovation Network. Launched in November 2011 by Gov. John Hickenlooper, COIN was created to measure and encourage innovation and economic growth in Colorado. COIN is a collaborative effort, bringing together leaders in business, nonprofit, government, foundation, and academic sectors.

In Summer 2012, Weiler was asked if he would like to be involved in the creation of an index to measure Colorado's economic innovation. Weiler was drawn to the project because he liked the idea of building something that will have a lasting positive impact on Colorado's economy. "As a researcher, I like asking questions; I like digging, because you can dig and find something

Economic innovation is important for a thriving economy, but how can communities measure innovation? Stephan Weiler, professor of economics, and a team of graduate students are finding an answer to this question through

that can be useful to people," said Weiler. He agreed to lead research to develop the Colorado Innovation Index. The index was presented at the 2012 Innovation Network Summit and will be used as a model from which to define and track economic innovation in Colorado.

In addition to benefiting COIN, this research has given research assistants the opportunity to apply their academic interests to real-world solutions. Tessa Conroy, a doctoral student in economics, has been able to apply her work with COIN to her interests in entrepreneurship and local economic development. "I'm looking at county-level data and getting a sense of the geography of entrepreneurship and what drives it – how education and access to capital changes entrepreneurship," she said. Weiler and the research assistants are currently continuing their work with COIN to further develop and utilize the index.

## **Anthropology research in Kazakhstan and Louisiana**

Students in the Department of Anthropology have many opportunities to apply their skills to hands-on work in the field. In 2012-2013, 36 students participated in anthropology field schools in Colorado, Wyoming, and South Dakota. This year, several graduate students



were given the special opportunity to apply their skills beyond the field school experience, accompanying CSU professors to Kazakhstan and Louisiana to take part in significant research.

In May 2013, graduate students Tyler Beeton and Katie Horton traveled with professors Mica Glantz and Jason LaBelle for one month in Kazakhstan. The team spent their first two weeks at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in Almaty, teaching local graduate students about evolution and archaeology. For the second half of their trip, the team was joined by an international team of scholars for a two-week field expedition.

The team visited two important Stone Age sites and collected samples to reconstruct the 50,000-year-old environment surrounding one of the sites. They also collected samples that will be used to build a chronological framework for both sites, which will help scientists better understand Neandertal interactions with other ancient human groups. The team even attracted local media attention, appearing on a Discovery Channel-like program featuring their work at one of the archaeological sites. Glantz has been conducting Paleolithic research in Kazakhstan for the past five years, and the team's work successfully established a foundation for future promising research in the region.

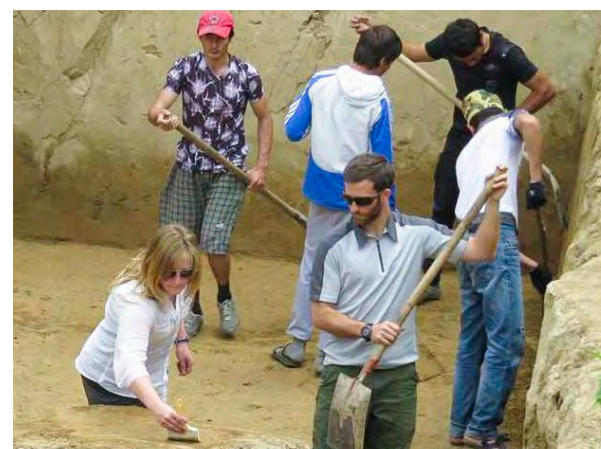
Graduate student John McGreevy and professor Kate Browne conducted research a little closer to home, traveling to Louisiana in June 2013 for a mapping project that measures the social impacts of Hurricane Katrina. For one month, McGreevy and Browne conducted interviews with Louisiana families and used GPS technology to track changes in residents' interactions with the bayou environment and each other. The result of the project is a visual representation of family households, services, and resources before and after Katrina. Browne has been doing research in this area since Hurricane Katrina, studying the environmental and cultural impacts on family life of the catastrophic storm and subsequent BP oil spill.

### TESL/TEFL Students and World Book Night

World Book Night was created in 2010 to promote literacy in populations that don't often read. In 2013, 25,000 volunteers distributed half a million books across America. The event is also observed internationally, with more than 2.5 million books distributed worldwide in 2012. This year, students in the Department of English took part in this event, promoting literacy in Fort Collins and abroad.

In January, the Teaching English as a Second/Foreign Language Graduate Student Association applied for grants to distribute free books to underserved populations. Their applications were accepted, allowing them to distribute books to four diverse populations: students enrolled in the Poudre School District's Immigrant/Migrant/Refugee Program, adults working toward obtaining their GEDs at Fort Collins Education and Life Training Center, students in the M.A. TESL/TEFL program at CSU, and English-language learners in Guatemala.

"We hope that by giving novels to these populations, we can help promote literacy and a love of reading in our community and abroad," said Kristen Foster, the graduate student who oversaw the project. Students



### ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH IN KAZAKHSTAN, ABOVE:

Front row, left to right: Jason LaBelle, Tyler Beeton, Katie Horton. Back row: Mica Glantz

### LEFT:

Horton, front left, and Beeton, front right, in Kazakhstan

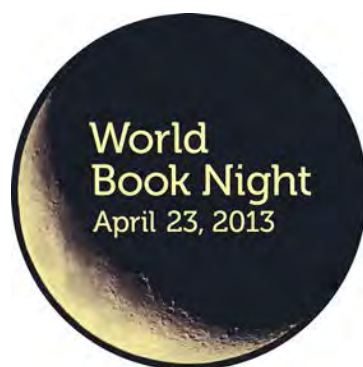
distributed 80 books on World Book Night, which took place April 23. "The distributions went great; all program directors were very appreciative that we had thought to apply for books to hand out to students in their programs," Foster said.

### French Club and Muanjadi Organization

It seems only natural that a French Club would host a bake sale, but students in the CSU French Club are doing much more than dispensing baked goods in the lobby of C-wing Clark. For the past two years, the club has been hosting bake sales to fundraise for the Muanjadi Organization, a nonprofit group in Denver that raises money for girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo whose families cannot afford to send them to high school.

The club's efforts have helped young girls in the Congo continue their educations instead of having to marry at a young age. "We help support the completion of their high school education and give them a chance to help their country grow," said Ben Wible, co-president of the club. "This younger generation is one that has a chance to be the voice of change and growth, and their education helps encourage that," Wible said. In the last two school years, the bake sales have raised enough money to send six girls to Muanjadi High School for one year.

In addition to promoting education in Africa, Wible feels that the bake sales are valuable because they educate CSU students about other cultures through information about the causes that the club supports. He is continually impressed by people's generosity at the bake sales once they learn about the Muanjadi girls: "It's solely donation-based, meaning you give





what you can, and to see the generosity in students is very reaffirming.” In the past, the French Club has raised money for other causes in Francophone countries, such as relief funds for the Haiti earthquake.



**Irene Vernon and National Institutes of Health HIV/AIDS Research**



VERNON

The prevention and treatment of AIDS in Native American populations faces special challenges due to socioeconomic and cultural issues unique to that group. Native Americans have poorer survival rates than other ethnicities. It is difficult to create prevention programs that are culturally appropriate because of cultural diversity among tribes. Poverty, lack of access to quality health care, and cultural stigmas make prevention and treatment challenging. In the face of these challenges, one College of Liberal Arts professor has devoted much of her career to finding solutions to these issues.

“I have been involved in AIDS research for 20 years, and my motivation was not only to help save lives but to also give voice to marginalized and stigmatized populations,” said Irene Vernon, chair of the ethnic studies department. In addition to teaching classes, serving as chair for the department, and serving as assistant to the dean for diversity and assessment, Vernon has been working with several HIV/AIDS research groups for the past two decades, specializing in Native American health issues.

Vernon was recently invited to work with the Racial and Ethnic Populations Planning Group for the National Institutes of Health Office of AIDS Research. As a member of this planning group, she is helping identify new areas of focus for AIDS research in racial and ethnic populations.

Working with the National Institutes of Health, which is the largest public investment AIDS research group in the world, has given Vernon the opportunity to play a significant role in Native American health issues. “The value placed on my work with the NIH is incalculable because it has allowed me to make an impact on individuals and communities ... to help improve minority health, eliminate health disparities, and foster collaborations,” said

Vernon. She also has worked with several health institutes including the Indigenous HIV/AIDS Research Training Council and the Colorado HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention Coalition.

**Michael Carolan and the Sociological Impacts of Food**

The last 10 years have seen a significant rise in public interest in food and food systems, with cooking shows and books about food becoming increasingly popular. Michael Carolan, chair of the Department of Sociology, has dedicated much of his research and outreach to this new interest in food, working to engage the public in intellectual conversations about the sociological impacts of food systems.

“Regardless of political affiliation, people want safe food, affordable food, healthy food,” said Carolan, explaining that food issues impact everyone because we are all intimately tied to food systems. However, we often fail to see how food is connected to other systems. Through international public speaking engagements and recently published books, Carolan encourages the public to use their “sociological imagination” to understand that our food choices and food systems have far-reaching environmental, social, and political impacts. In his recent book *The Real Cost of Cheap Food*, Carolan discusses the reasons why some types of foods have become cheaper and others more expensive, exploring the sociological impacts of those cheap foods on our health, the environment, the economy, national and global security, and future generations.

Within the last year, Carolan has been invited to about 40 universities and communities around the world to talk about food issues, traveling to Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and all across the United States. Carolan recently published three other books about food and agriculture: *Embodied Food Politics* (2011), *The Sociology of Food and Culture* (2012), and *Reclaiming Food Security* (2013).

**LEAP Program in Music, Theater, and Dance**

The Department of Music, Theater, and Dance launched a new program in arts leadership and administration called LEAP: Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Arts Advocacy, and the Public. The program was created



CAROLAN







**ABOVE:** Graffiti Garden; **RIGHT:** RAM Productions

to develop skills in the arts beyond the studio and the stage, providing students with resources to make themselves more professionally marketable in the creative sector. “The LEAP program is crucial for bridging the perceived divide between the visual and performing arts and the public,” said Eleanor Moseman, associate professor of art history who teaches LEAP courses.

Students were given the opportunity to create their own arts advocacy projects in Moseman’s course, LEAP 200: Advocacy in the Visual and Performing Arts. “The LEAP 200 course on arts advocacy offered students a view of historical and contemporary ways that visual and performing artists have used their art to raise awareness of issues that directly impact society in America and internationally,” said Moseman. Students explored issues such as censorship, funding, art education, and arts in the community.

In LEAP 200, Moseman asked students to create arts advocacy projects to support areas in the arts that they think need attention. One student group created a Graffiti Garden as a way to promote street art as a legitimate form of public art. Students were given permission to

transform a courtyard in the Visual Arts building into a place of color and creativity.

The Graffiti Garden started in late October 2012 and was constantly changing with art from CSU students and the community. “Designing and completing projects, like the Graffiti Garden, gave students a chance to advocate for an issue affecting the arts about which they felt personally involved,” said Moseman. The courtyard was torn down for the construction of a new media wing in the Visual Arts building, but students and faculty hope to find space for another Graffiti Garden after construction of the new media wing is completed.

### RAM Productions

Steve Weiss admits that he can get a little long-winded when talking about RAM Productions. “This is one of my favorite topics,” said Weiss, journalism instructor and faculty adviser of the new program. Weiss’s enthusiasm for video production led him to create RAMP, a program that gives students hands-on experience in video production of CSU events.

“From sports, to music and entertainment ... there has been an explosion of opportunity

in live-event production, and our students are getting practical, hands-on experience that will allow them to compete for those jobs,” said Weiss. Students involved in the program produce videos of CSU events, which are posted on the CSUliveProductions YouTube channel and appear on CSU’s Channel 11 on the local cable network. Some productions are streamed live so events and performances can be watched online as they happen. Students are involved in every step of video production, including filming, directing, and editing.

Todd Queen, chair of the Department of Music, Theater, and Dance, was the first to request RAMP’s services, with a debut production featuring the Virtuoso Concert Series in August 2012. Since then, RAMP’s calendar has been filled with a wide variety of CSU events and athletics.

Weiss has seen positive impacts of the program on students. “The feedback from students has been terrific. We already have found a number of students who really weren’t sure what it was they wanted to do when they graduate, and now they see this as a real possibility for a career,” said Weiss.



# Development News

When Landis Martin toured the University Center for the Arts with CSU President Tony Frank, he noticed weather damage to our iconic Soup Can sculpture and offered to have it shipped to Los Angeles and restored at his expense. Martin, founder and managing partner of Platte River Ventures, and his wife, Sharon, are Denver art collectors and patrons. The Soup Can has been a feature of the Colorado State landscape since 1981. It was created in collaboration with the late Pop artist Andy Warhol and signed by him. The sculpture sat on the lawn north of the Visual Arts building for many years, then was installed in front of the UCA in 2008. According to the director of the University Art Museum, Linny Frickman, “the importance of the Soup Can has transcended conventional measures; it has become a landmark and beloved image for the University and the UCA. We are thrilled and deeply grateful that the Martins have made an investment in its preservation.” The Soup Can’s historical and sentimental value was celebrated at the unveiling of the restored sculpture in June.

The Art Museum has received a number of wonderful gifts this past year. Anchored by a generous gift from the Griffin Foundation, the campaign to expand the museum is more than one-third of the way toward its goal. The expansion will allow the museum to accept the Hartford/Tandstad art collection bequest as well as to host shows of large modern art, which low ceilings in the current space are unable to accommodate. The new space will include a classroom for art history courses as well as the BRAINY (Bringing Arts Integration to Youth) program for grade schools that serve low-income populations.

The Marching Band’s trip to Dublin to participate in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade was made possible by hundreds of donors, anchored by a very generous lead gift from Jackie Erickson. Senior drum major Luke Contreras called the trip “an opportunity of a lifetime. Being able to represent the green and gold in Ireland had the entire ensemble excited and was a testament to more than 110 amazing years of music and



**ABOVE:** The Marching Band performs at Kilkenny Castle in Kilkenny, Ireland.

**RIGHT:** Landis Martin, Dorothy Horrell, Sharon Martin, and Ted Horrell at the Warhol Soup Can unveiling.

Marching by the CSU Marching Band.” Not only did the band march in the parade before nearly 500,000 people lining the streets of Dublin, they also performed at Kilkenny Castle and sang the CSU Alma Mater at the Cliffs of Moher. You can see video of these performances on YouTube.

This was a record-setting year for fundraising at Colorado State. In the College of Liberal Arts, we raised \$2.37 million, including funds for new scholarships and support for many college programs. In addition to cash, gifts to the college can include appreciated securities, real property, or other valuables. A number of gifts this past year came via planned-giving vehicles such as charitable trusts, life insurance, or annuities, which CSU can manage and that can pay an income to the donor. Thank you to our donors for your generosity and support.





# Alumni News

## RJ Sangosti, '01, Art

RJ Sangosti, a 2001 CSU graduate in art with a concentration in photography, received the honor of having his photograph named one of *Time Magazine's* Top 10 Photos of 2012. He was also named 2013 Photojournalist of the Year by the National Press Photographers Association.

The photo that won the *Time* distinction is of Chantel Blunk, the wife of a Navy veteran who was killed in the Aurora movie theater shootings in July 2012. The image depicts Blunk waiting in front of the hearse that will transport the body of her husband, Jonathan Blunk, to a military funeral.

Sangosti was a photo editor for the *Collegian* while he attended CSU. He is currently a photographer for *The Denver Post*.

## Jesse Luken, '06, International Studies, Minor in Theater

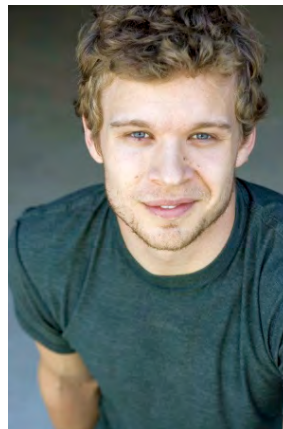
After graduating from CSU in 2006, Jesse Luken moved to Los Angeles to pursue his acting career. Though Luken majored in international studies, the experiences that he had while minoring in theater led him to pursue a newfound passion in acting.

Luken recently played the role of second baseman Eddie Stanky in the 2013 major motion picture *42: The True Story of an American Legend*, which tells the story of baseball player Jackie Robinson. He has also appeared on several popular TV shows including *Justified*, *The Mentalist*, *Law and Order*, *NCIS*, and *Glee*.

In Spring 2013, Luken returned to CSU to talk with students about pursuing an acting career. While a student at CSU, he appeared in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Side Man*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Waiting for Godot*.

## Chigozi Okacha, '11, Political Science

Chigozie Okacha recently received the prestigious Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Originally from Nigeria, Okacha was involved in the Africans



TOP: Award-winning photo by RJ Sangosti.

ABOVE LEFT: Jesse Luken ABOVE RIGHT: Chigozie Okacha

FAR RIGHT: Colton Iverson

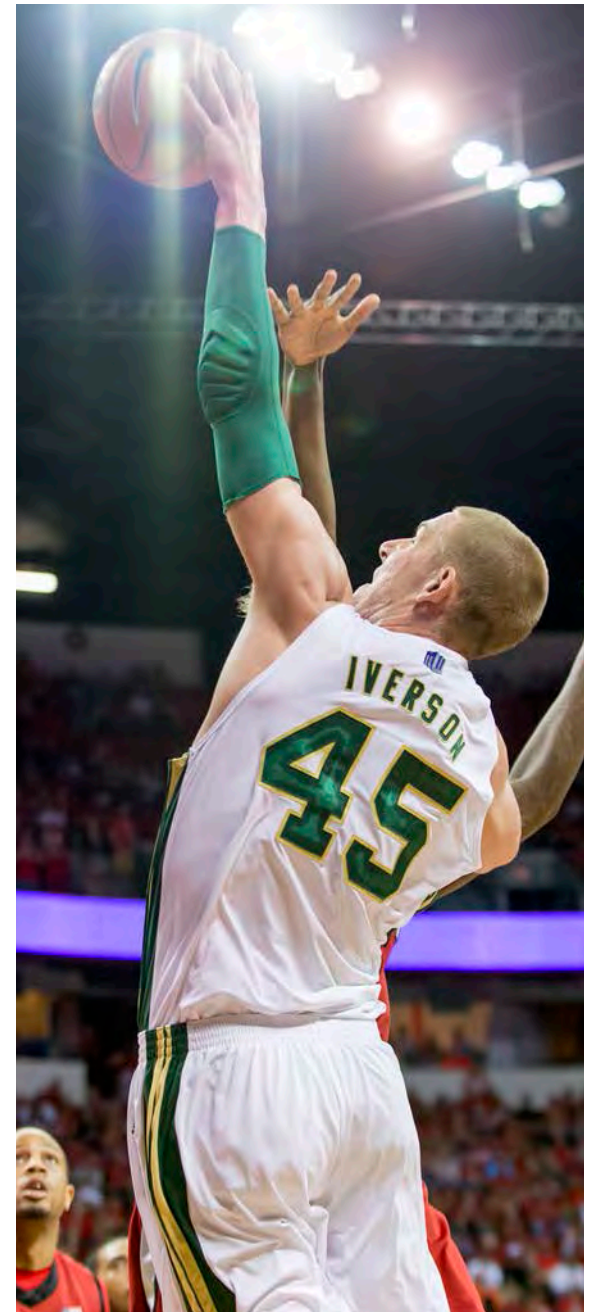
United Club and served as an intercultural connections community staff member for University Village while studying political science at CSU.

As a Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellow, Okacha will receive financial support for his master's degree for two years of full-time education at the University of Denver. Okacha will participate in a domestic and international internship, and, upon completing his master's degree, he will commit to three years of service as a foreign service officer for the U.S. Department of State.

The Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowships are awarded annually to 40 men and women whose academic and professional backgrounds illustrate that they are dedicated to advancing America's interests abroad.

## Colton Iverson, '13, Liberal Arts

Colton Iverson, a 2013 graduate in liberal arts, recently became the 21st player in CSU history to be drafted by the NBA. In June 2013, Iverson was selected with the 53rd overall pick by the Indiana Pacers, and then traded to the Boston Celtics. In



July 2013, Iverson signed a two-year contract with Besiktas, a team in the Turkish League, to get more playing time. Iverson's contract with the Celtics allows him to play overseas.

Iverson went to the University of Minnesota for his first three years of college and then transferred to Colorado State University, where he played for the CSU men's basketball team during his senior year. He helped lead the team to the Mountain West Tournament in 2013, and he was named CSU's male athlete of the year for 2012-2013.

At 7-feet tall, Iverson is known for his rebounding and second-chance points, averaging 14.2 points and 9.8 rebounds per game while playing for CSU. Iverson is the first CSU player to be drafted by the NBA since Jason Smith in 2007.

# 2012–2013 Distinguished Alumni Awards

The Colorado State University Alumni Association recognizes College of Liberal Arts Alumni

## Albert C. Yates Student Leadership Award

### Kelly Mason

B.A., '12, Languages, Literature, and Cultures

B.S., '12, Biological Science



Kelly Mason has a diverse background in community service through her college co-ed fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega. Because of her hard work and excellence in service in the fraternity, she received the Distinguished Service Key from her chapter. While attending CSU, Mason completed more than 350 hours of community service with organizations such as Shared Journeys, Animal House, and Alternative Spring Break. These projects helped to enrich her college experience, and she hopes to continue her involvement in the community now that she has graduated.

Mason is a CSU employee for Housing and Dining Services as an assistant conference coordinator for the Office of Conference Services and as an office assistant for the Academic Village front desk. She has coordinated groups such as the Colorado Honor Band and the Master Brewer's Association of the Americas. She has also assisted with mega groups including Colorado Bike MS and the National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference. Her dedication in these departments has given Mason a well-rounded view of the University, and she enjoys remaining involved with the campus. Mason hopes to attend a graduate program to further her education in neuroscience.

## GOLD – Graduate of the Last Decade Award

### Matt Shoup

B.A., '03, Languages, Literature, and Cultures & Human Development and Family Studies



Matt Shoup founded M&E Painting with his last \$100, and he has turned his business into an award-winning brand, which is now a household name in Northern Colorado with close to \$10 million in company revenue, 4,000 customers, and 18 prestigious local, state, and national company and entrepreneurial awards.

One of Shoup's proudest achievements is the creation of the M&E Painting Free Paint Makeover. The Free Paint Makeover board selects recipients based on the home with greatest need for fresh paint and the financial and surrounding circumstances of the family that dwells there. The whole

company gets involved in this act of love, donating time, paint supplies, and tools to create a beautiful new exterior for these homes.

In 2009, Shoup founded his second company, Shoup Consulting, to inspire entrepreneurs around the world with his coaching, speaking, and writing. He released his first book, *Become an Award-Winning Company: Seven Simple Steps to Unlock the Million Dollar Secret Every Entrepreneur Needs to Know*, in December 2011. Shoup and Shoup Consulting are also affiliate business partners with SendOutCards, a rapidly growing, soon-to-be billion-dollar company that is changing the way people send greeting cards and gifts. In 2010, Shoup was named one of Colorado's 30 Rising Stars by the *Northern Colorado Business Report* and one of the Top Five Most Influential Young Professionals in Colorado by *ColoradoBiz Magazine*.

Shoup is a third-degree blue belt in Gracie Jiu Jitsu and created the Matthew P. Shoup Spain Study Abroad Endowed Scholarship for students at CSU with limited financial resources who wish to study abroad in Spain. He is married to Emily ('04), and they have two children.

## Distinguished International Alumni Award

### Hamad Al-Bazai

M.S., '87, Economics

Ph.D., '91, Economics



Hamad bin Sulaiman Al-Bazai is the vice minister of finance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He has a distinguished background in the Saudi government and in Saudi higher education. He was named vice minister (also referred to as deputy minister) of finance by royal decree on Sept. 12, 2009. Prior to that, he was the deputy minister of economic affairs for 10 years, chairman of the board of directors for the Saudi Economic Association from 1998 to 2000, and an educator at King Saud University in Riyadh from 1981 through 1999. Some of his positions at King Saud University included acting dean

of the College of Economics and Business, the head of the Research and Human Resources Development Center, and head of the Department of Business in the College of Economics and Administration.

In his position as vice minister of finance, Al-Bazai represents Saudi Arabia in major forums, and he is actively involved with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. He is a member on the board of the Gulf International Bank, the Education Holding Company, and the Southern Regional Cement Company. He was the "Representative of The Cooperation Council for The Arab State of the Gulf" in the Gulf Coordinating Council negotiations for a free trade agreement with MERCOSUR. Al-Bazai is one of the most active members in the CSU alumni group in Riyadh.



## College of Liberal Arts Honor Alumna

### Pamela Rowe Smith

B.A., '72, Modern Languages-French



Pamela Smith has devoted the past 47 years to advocacy for women around the world. She has lived in 14 cities in six countries on three continents. In Vienna, Austria, Smith served on the board of the American Women's Association,

representing the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas. She worked with U.S. Ambassador Swanee Hunt's office to organize a women's leadership conference for regional women's club leaders, plus emerging women leaders from neighboring eastern European countries. In Geneva, Switzerland, she served on the board of the American International Women's Association and on the parent-faculty board at the International School of Geneva.

In Hong Kong, she co-founded The Women's Foundation, a registered charity working toward economic self-reliance for women and girls in Hong Kong. She was a contributor to the benchmark study, *The Status of Women and Girls in Hong Kong 2006*, and is a co-author of the 2008 publication, *Closing the Gender Gap in Hong Kong: Conversations with the Community*. She has served on the Women's Leadership Board at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Women's Foundation of Colorado and is a member of Beyond Our Borders, a donor-advised fund for international women's empowerment projects. She also serves on the Board of Advisors of the Vail Symposium.

During the Vietnam War, Smith was one of five members of an all-female vocal group at Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority at CSU. Sponsored by USO Shows, the group entertained troops on three separate tours in Asia. She is a partner in No Harm Done Design, a small company that manufactures environmentally conscious and animal-friendly interior design products. Smith resides in the Vail Valley of Colorado and on the Big Island of Hawaii. She and her husband, Richard, have two daughters, Brittany and Linsey.

## Alumni Spotlight: Cary Griffin

### '77, Technical Journalism

Like many students, Cary Griffin didn't know exactly what kind of career she wanted while studying at CSU. She changed majors, took a wide variety of classes, and talked to professors about different professions. As a 1977 graduate with a degree in technical journalism, Griffin would not have guessed that her career path would lead her to become the founder and president of a well-regarded and successful marketing communications firm in Washington, D.C.

One thing that Griffin was certain about was getting the most out of her education at CSU. "I didn't just talk to advisers; I talked to all my professors. You have to take advantage of what the department has ... leverage the program you are in to launch you in the right direction," she said. When talking with Griffin about her career, it's clear that she has applied that philosophy every step of the way.

Griffin was born in Boulder, Colo., and CSU was the logical choice when it was time for her to think about college. At that time, most students didn't travel all over the country to check out prospective schools. "I had never even been to Fort Collins, until the day I started school," she said.

Initially majoring in broadcast journalism, Griffin eventually switched to technical journalism, which she credits with opening her eyes to new types of communication. "The technical journalism program did well by me because some of the science-type courses opened my eyes to other types of communications besides newspaper reporting," she said. The technical journalism department was a "real gem" in Griffin's opinion. It was a small program that allowed her to really get to know her professors.

Griffin's entrepreneurial spirit helped her pay her own way through college. She typed term papers for fellow students while living in the dorms to make money and was a dorm counselor in Ingersoll Hall for two years. She sought out paid internships, which were not as common at that time as they are today. Through these internships, Griffin learned that in order to succeed early in your career you need to be open to learning about new things: "While working at the County Extension Service, I'd have to write articles on things like yogurt. I didn't know anything about yogurt. So I learned."

One of Griffin's professors suggested that she apply for an assistant editor position for a food publishing company in Chicago after graduation. Griffin was offered the job, moved to Chicago, and began a career path that would lead her through several



LEFT: Cary Griffin

BELOW: Cary Griffin while at CSU



states and into various types of public relations and writing jobs. She did public relations for the beef industry in Chicago, did marketing communications in the real estate and building industries in San Diego, and moved to join a publishing company in Washington, D.C., in the 1980s.

In 1989, Griffin started her own business, Griffin & Company. She noticed an untapped niche for business and decided to fill it. For the past 23 years, Griffin & Company has been providing marketing communications for the building industry, serving major national building brands and companies. The firm has had a track record of success, introducing more than 200 products to the U.S. marketplace.

When reflecting on her career, Griffin stresses the importance of getting the most out of every experience. "You want to be flexible. The paths that you take are unpredictable, but you need to make it all count," she said. She believes that a career needs to be thought of as more than a 9-to-5 job: "It's not just a job. It's much more important than that. I like to think of my career as something that I own. It's up to me to build it, embrace it, grow it, and nurture it."



## 2013 Best Teacher Award: Greg Luft

Each year, students and alumni have the opportunity to recognize their favorite teachers at Colorado State University through the CSU Alumni Association's Best Teacher Awards.

Six teachers are selected by a committee, based on student and alumni nominations. Greg Luft, professor and chair of the Department of Journalism and Technical Communication, was the recipient of one of the 2013 Best Teacher Awards.

Luft graduated from CSU in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in technical journalism and went on to receive his master's degree in broadcast journalism and public affairs from American University in Washington, D.C. He has worked as a reporter, photojournalist, and producer and anchor for television. He is also an independent producer of documentaries and educational and corporate videos.

In 1988, Luft began teaching in the Department of Journalism and Technical Communication. He served as acting department chair in 2000-2001 and has been serving as chair since

## Monfort Professor: Dan Beachy-Quick

English Associate Professor Dan Beachy-Quick was named a Colorado State University Monfort Professor in May 2013. The Monfort Professor Program was established in 2002, through a gift from the Monfort Family Foundation, to recognize faculty who have made an impact at the University and in their academic fields. Two outstanding faculty members are named Monfort Professors every year and receive \$75,000 in annual funding for two years to support their research and teaching. Beachy-Quick is the first Monfort Professor from the humanities.

Noted as one of the most respected poets of his generation, Beachy-Quick has been teaching poetry workshops and literature courses at CSU for six years. He has published several books of poetry and essay collections, recently publish-



**ABOVE:** Greg Luft works with a student.

2007. Documentary production is his favorite class to teach. "I like teaching because of the opportunity it affords to learn about students' interests and capabilities but, even more than that, it gives me a chance to meet great people at a stage in their lives when they are looking for direction. Sometimes I can have an impact, but in any case, it's always beneficial to me, and I live vicariously through their work and success. I would say that hundreds of students have had a personal, positive impact on me," said Luft.



**ABOVE:** Dan Beachy-Quick (right) is recognized for his Monfort Professor Award by CSU President Tony Frank (left).

ing a novel and a book on John Keats. Beachy-Quick is passionate about teaching and writing and will use his Monfort Professor award to deepen his knowledge of Greek literature, complete a book of poetry, and start a new novel.

## College of Liberal Arts Faculty and Staff Awards

Faculty and staff were recognized for their outstanding achievements at the College of Liberal Arts Awards ceremony in March 2013. Faculty Development Awards were presented to seven faculty members to facilitate outstanding research and creative activities: **Sue Doe/Lisa Langstraat**, English; **Wesley Ferreira**, music, theater, and dance; **Antero Garcia**, English; **Lynn Kwiatkowski**, anthropology; **Michael Lundblad**, English; and **Ernesto Sagas**, ethnic studies.

The Outstanding Service Award was presented to **Leslie Stewart**, music, theater, and dance, for her work with the Health and Wellness Orchestra and the summer conducting master's degree program. **Tobi Jacobi**, English, received the Distinction in Outreach Award for her work with the Community Literacy Center. The John M. Stern Award, which honors faculty who have demonstrated exemplary professional accomplishments, was presented to **William Davis**, music, theater, and dance.

**Linny Frickman**, director of the University Art Museum and Jane Slusarski-Harris, music, theater, and dance, were presented with Distinction in Advancement Awards, which recognizes outstanding contributions in supporting the college's fundraising efforts. Excellence in Teaching Awards were presented to **Matthew Bradley**, English, for graduate teaching assistants; **Frankie Wilcox**, foreign languages and literatures, for special/temporary faculty; **Susan Opp**, political science, and **Leif Sorensen**, English, for tenure-track faculty; and **Roe Bubar**, ethnic studies, for tenured faculty.

## Celebrate! CSU Awards

Celebrate! CSU Awards honor the teaching, research, and service of CSU students, alumni, administrative professionals, and classified staff. **Roe Bubar**, ethnic studies, received the Margaret B. Hazaleus Award, which honors individuals for long-term efforts to enhance opportunities for women on campus. The Jack E. Cermak Outstanding Advisor Award was presented to **Pam Coke**, English, for excellence in student advising.



# Faculty Highlights

**Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala** was named the new academic director of INTO CSU. Ehlers-Zavala is an associate professor of English with a focus on teaching English as a second language. She has been teaching at CSU since 2006. A native of Chile, Ehlers-Zavala has done extensive research on bilingual education. INTO CSU provides academic support for international students through several undergraduate and graduate Pathway programs, helps students integrate into University life, and offers classes to improve non-native speakers' written and verbal skills. Established in 2012, the INTO CSU program has provided support for more than 450 students from 33 different countries as of Spring 2013.

**Jeni Cross**, associate professor of sociology, was named director of the Institute for the Built Environment at Colorado State University. The IBE fosters stewardship and sustainability of built and natural environments through interdisciplinary research and outreach, and Cross's expertise will be an asset for the IBE's green building projects. Her research interests include community attachment/sense of place, land use and conservation, sustainability, interagency collaboration, social networks, social norms, and behavior change. Her recent projects include research on land conservation decision-making, energy conservation and sustainability in public schools, and inter-agency collaboration related to organizational transformation.

**Kathy Sherman**, former chair of the Department of Anthropology, accepted the position of vice provost for undergraduate affairs at CSU. Sherman will be responsible for overseeing all University graduation requirements, course and curriculum matters, and undergraduate education resources. Sherman has been a CSU faculty member since 1997 and served as anthropology chair for four years.

**Lori Peek**, associate professor of sociology and co-director of the Center for Disaster and Risk Analysis at CSU, was selected as chair-



**LEFT:** (From left to right) Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala, Jeni Cross, Kathy Sherman

**BELOW, CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT:** Lori Peek, Chris Fisher, Wes Kenney, Steven Leisz



elect of the American Sociological Association Section on Environment and Technology. The American Sociological Association is a national organization of sociologists. The Section on Environment and Technology promotes sociological research and professional activity in relation to environmental and technological issues. Earlier this year, Peek also received the President's Award from the Natural Hazards Mitigation Association for her work in the field of hazard mitigation.

Music Professor **Wes Kenney** was named music director of Denver Young Artists Orchestra. He will oversee all music programming and serve as rehearsal and performance conductor beginning in the 2013-2014 season. At CSU, Kenney is

the director of orchestras and teaches graduate courses in conducting.

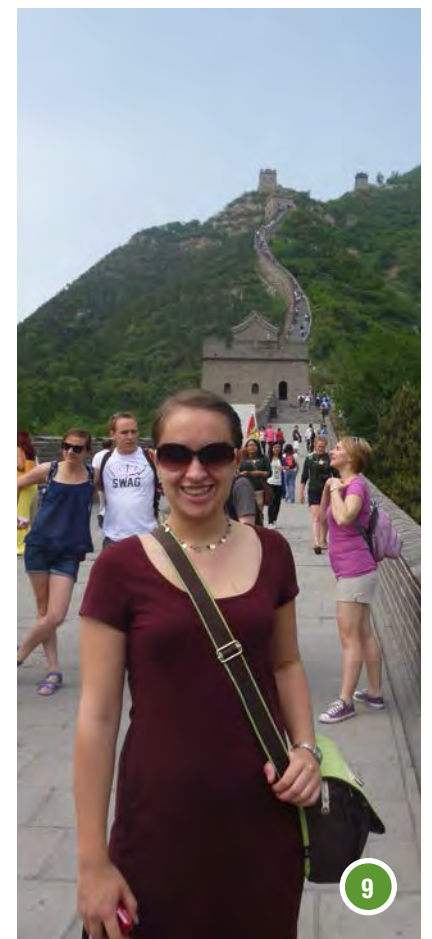
**Chris Fisher**, associate professor of archaeology, and **Steven Leisz**, assistant professor of geography, are working with an international team of researchers in utilizing LiDAR technology to look for the legendary city of Ciudad Blanca in Central America. Partnering with the Global Heritage Foundation, UTL Productions, the National Center for Airborne Laser Mapping, and the Honduran government, Leisz and Fisher have been using LiDAR imaging to reveal an ancient settlement in the Mosquito Coast region of Central America. The continued research of the team is the subject of a documentary that will be released in 2015.



LIBERAL ARTS STUDENTS AND  
FACULTY OUT IN THE WORLD







1. Students and Professor Prahba Unnithan outside the Prague Courthouse for the criminology and criminal justice study abroad program through the Center for the Study of Crime and Justice. 2. Chinese Club students paddling a dragon boat in China. 3. Political science internship students and Professor John Straayer at the state capitol in Denver. 4. Students in the Department of Sociology conduct focus groups for the city of Fort Collins. 5. An art student teaches at the Lab School for Creative Learning. 6. Scott Esser, CSU alumnus and National Park Service employee, addresses faculty and staff in Moraine Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, as part of the Public Lands History Center Parks as Portals program. 7. Students in Hanoi, Vietnam, for the Foreign Trade University study abroad program. 8. Animal rights Professor Bernie Rollin, Department of Philosophy. 9. Sociology student Elise Yenne visiting China as part of the President's Leadership Program.



# Passages

## *Jim Vanleuven (1940-2013)*

Jim Vanleuven, journalism and technical communication professor for 15 years, passed away on March 26, 2013. Vanleuven was a faculty member at Colorado State University from 1985 to 2000, serving as chair for the Department of Journalism and Technical Communication for nine years. Under his leadership, Colorado State University was designated as one of the top 23 undergraduate programs for public relations in the nation. Vanleuven also helped establish CSU's master's program in communication management for working professionals in Denver. In 1999, he was recognized with a lifetime achievement award by the Public Relations Society of America.

## *Steve Lamoreux (1920-2013)*

Journalism and technical communication Professor Steve Lamoreux passed away on March 11, 2013. Lamoreux was born in Kamiah, Idaho, and studied at Idaho University, Idaho

State University, and Oregon University. As a young man, he worked as a hotshot firefighter and served in the Navy during World War II. After the war, he finished school and worked for newspapers in Washington and Idaho before accepting a position at Colorado State University. He worked in the Department of Journalism and Technical Communication for 20 years.

## *Stephen Busch (1930-2013)*

Stephen Busch, professor of music education at Colorado State University for 35 years, passed away on March 19, 2013. Busch is remembered for his dedication to family, church, Rotary, and music education. Born in 1930 in Neenah, Wis., Busch moved to Fort Collins in 1962 to teach music education at CSU until his retirement in 1997. After his retirement, Busch stayed connected to CSU by attending numerous concerts on campus. Busch was known as the "heartbeat" of Rotary Fort Collins and was a stalwart of music education at CSU.

*CLA Connections* is published annually by the College of Liberal Arts at Colorado State University for alumni, faculty, and friends. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Written and edited by Lindsey Middendorf and Ann Gill.

College Administration  
College of Liberal Arts  
C138 Clark Building  
1701 Campus Delivery  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1701  
(970) 491-5421  
www.libarts.colostate.edu

**Ann M. Gill**, Dean; Ann.Gill@colostate.edu

**Bruce Ronda**, Associate Dean;  
Bruce.Ronda@colostate.edu

**Greg Dickinson**, Interim Associate Dean;  
Greg.Dickinson@colostate.edu

**Stephan Weiler**, Associate Dean;  
Stephan.Weiler@colostate.edu

**Irene Vernon**, Assistant to the Dean and Chair,  
Department of Ethnic Studies;  
Irene.Vernon@colostate.edu

**Jonathan Clifton**, Director of Development;  
Jonathan.Clifton@colostate.edu

**Catherine Coleman Kane**, Director of Research  
Support; Catherine.Kane@colostate.edu

**Betty Burk**, Assistant to the Dean for Budgets and  
Planning; Betty.Burk@colostate.edu

**Elizabeth Terry**, Director of Academic Support  
Center; Elizabeth.Terry@colostate.edu

**Bryan Gillispie**, Information Technology Manager;  
Bryan.Gillispie@colostate.edu

**Colleen Timothy**, Assistant to the Dean for Internal  
Relations; Colleen.Timothy@colostate.edu

**Lindsey Middendorf**, Assistant to the  
Dean for External Relations;  
Lindsey.Middendorf@colostate.edu

**Mica Glantz**, Interim Chair, Department of  
Anthropology; Mica.Glantz@colostate.edu

**Gary Voss**, Chair, Department of Art; Gary.Voss@  
colostate.edu

**Sue Pendell**, Chair, Department of Communication  
Studies; Sue.Pendell@colostate.edu

**Steven Shulman**, Chair, Department of Economics;  
Steven.Shulman@colostate.edu

**Louann Reid**, Chair, Department of English;  
Louann.Reid@colostate.edu

**Paola Malpezzi-Price**, Chair, Department of  
Foreign Languages and Literatures; Paola.  
Malpezzi\_Price@colostate.edu

**Diane Margolf**, Chair, Department of History; Diane.  
Margolf@colostate.edu

**Greg Luft**, Chair, Department of Journalism  
and Technical Communication;  
Greg.Luft@colostate.edu

**Todd Queen**, Chair, Department of Music, Theater,  
and Dance; Todd.Queen@colostate.edu

**Jane Kneller**, Chair, Department of Philosophy;  
Jane.Kneller@colostate.edu

**Bob Duffy**, Chair, Department of Political Science;  
Robert.Duffy@colostate.edu

**Michael Carolan**, Chair, Department of Sociology;  
Michael.Carolan@colostate.edu

## 2012-2013 Retiring Faculty and Staff



### *Lynne Barnes*

foreign languages and literatures, 26 years

### *Pattie Cowell (left)*

English, 36 years

### *Richard Kitchener*

philosophy, 43 years

### *Stephen Reid*

English, 41 years

### *David Vest*

communication studies, 23 years



# Message from Dean Ann Gill

After 34 years at Colorado State University, I can report that the view from my office window has been transformed, both literally and figuratively. If you have not been back to campus recently, you would be amazed at the changes in the physical space. New and remodeled residence halls replace the boxlike 1960s dorm architecture. Beautiful stone-and-glass classroom and laboratory buildings have sprung up around campus. The green, grassy areas and sightlines to the foothills have been preserved but now are dotted with sculpture, water features, and inviting spots for conversation. The rickrack shaped canopies that covered sidewalks between B-wing Clark and Morgan Library were torn down this summer, creating an open and inviting area and improving the appearance of the north-south pedestrian spine of campus. The Lory Student

Center is undergoing major renovation, including expansion of the ballrooms and a beautifully remodeled theater. Although these and other projects have led students to dub this “Construction State University,” the change to the campus physical space truly is extraordinary.

Not all physical transformations were planned. Do you recall the century-old, 70-foot honey locust tree on the northeast corner of College Avenue and Lake Street, located in what now is the Trial Garden? In early July, lightning struck that grand old tree and it exploded. Fortunately, this occurred during a torrential rainstorm, so the most visited place during summer in Fort Collins had no people wandering among the flowers when chunks of the exploding tree flew throughout the block. Many people came to stare once the rain stopped, and, much like

bricks from Old Main, pieces of the tree have become treasured CSU memorabilia.

Transformation is not limited to the physical structures. The 25 percent of each recent years’ entering class who are first-generation students share living, study, and recreational space and activities with students from all 50 states and many other countries. As the cover story for this edition of the newsletter illustrates, the College of Liberal Arts is not an ivory tower but instead has impact on the world beyond our campus. Faculty and students travel the globe to learn and to use their educations to improve the lives of others. They are engaged in their various communities and in K-12 schools through internships, service-learning projects, volunteer opportunities, and other activities. They partner with government, private, and volunteer organizations to solve problems. They bring artistic, humanistic, and social scientific perspectives to bear on the many issues and challenges we face. President Tony Frank has a wonderful way of characterizing the attitude and accomplishments of the Colorado State community: “We are ordinary people who do extraordinary things.”

Perhaps the far-scattered pieces of that honey locust tree can serve not only as CSU memorabilia but also as metaphor for the wide-ranging impact of the liberal arts at Colorado State, which transform not only individuals who work and study here but also their communities and the people they encounter.



**TOP:** Lory Student Center construction. **ABOVE LEFT:** Canopy removal. **ABOVE, RIGHT:** View between B-wing Clark and Morgan Library after canopies removed.

**ABOVE:** Exploded tree in the Trial Garden.





College of Liberal Arts  
1701 Campus Delivery  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1701

