Donor Walk Honors CSU’s Greatest Supporters

CSU honored its most generous supporters last September by dedicating the Donor Walk, located in the center of the historic Oval.

The Donor Walk was dedicated on Friday, Sept. 21, at a reception and dinner in honor of the donors being recognized. The Donor Walk features bricks engraved with the names of donors who have given $1 million or more to the University. The recognition project was initiated to celebrate the conclusion of the Campaign for Colorado State, which raised more than $537 million in private funding to support scholarships, faculty, and infrastructure. It also includes the names of donors prior to the campaign and will include future donors too. The monument also recognizes volunteer members of the Campaign Leadership Council who led the campaign effort.

“We are so grateful for the amazing gifts from these donors,” said Brett Anderson, vice president for University Advancement. “They have shown their pride in CSU in outstanding and tangible ways, and their gifts are making a huge difference every day. I look forward to this monument growing as we add more names every year.”
Greetings from President Frank

Thanks for your ongoing support of Colorado State University! We’re happy to introduce this Giving newsletter as a way to keep you updated and showcase the impact private giving has at CSU.

We closed the 2013 legislative session with gratitude for all our state leaders have done this spring to restore a portion of the state funding we’ve lost in budget cuts over the last three years. Still, even with this good news (and it is very good news!), we are keeping our focus on the greatest challenge facing CSU today: the real and rapid privatization of American higher education. Even with this year’s increase in state support, Colorado is still on track to become the first state in the country to fully defund its system of public higher education. And while we may get there first, it’s also clear we’re only on the bleeding edge of a concerning nationwide trend.

This is an unprecedented challenge – one never seen in the 150 years of land-grant universities. We cannot ignore it, and we cannot fail to plan for it. And when the history of CSU is written, it will record how our private donors helped us rise to this challenge and lay the groundwork to preserve access, opportunity, and exceptional educational quality for future generations.

Thanks for your vision and leadership, and for helping us lay a foundation today to ensure that we continue to keep Colorado State strong, competitive, and affordable.

Dr. Tony Frank
President

1870 Dinner

In February, Colorado State hosted distinguished members of the University’s 1870 Club for the 25th annual dinner at Lory Student Center. The event is a thank-you and recognition for donors who give annual support at the level of $1,870 and above.
Monfort Lecture

University donors, students, and other guests enjoyed the Monfort Lecture on “The Political Argument Today” by Washington Post columnist, George Will. The lecture was sponsored by the Monfort Excellence Fund. As part of the Monfort Excellence Fund, the Monfort Lecture Series was established in 2002 by the Monfort Family Foundation to provide public lectures delivered by pre-eminent speakers.

Frontier Society Luncheon

Frontier Society members attended the 13th annual Frontier Society Luncheon on May 23 at Drake Centre. The luncheon highlighted the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Following the luncheon, guests were invited to attend an Osher open house or tour Morgan Library.
Creating a Circle of Giving

As a recipient of the Kirvin Knox Agricultural Sciences Scholarship, the Alphonse E. DeRicqles Scholarship, and the Rodney H. Tucker Memorial Scholarship, Hannah Larson saw her hard work and dedication pay off. Having been home-schooled from kindergarten through high school, Larson is the first generation in her family to attend college.

Donors can make dreams come true, and Larson’s dream is to become a large-animal veterinarian. Growing up on a farm in Windsor, Colo., Larson tended dairy goats, cats, dogs, horses, and piglets from an early age. While sitting in a livestock practicum during her sophomore year at Colorado State, Larson realized that she could make a difference one day in feeding the world by combining her passions for agriculture and production livestock industries.

As a livestock breeder herself, Larson understands the important role that veterinarians play in a successful operation. She also knows that there is a growing need for more large-animal veterinarians to fill a nationwide shortage. So after earning her B.S. in Spring 2013, Larson is pursuing her dream as a doctoral student in CSU’s top-ranked Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences program. This is an opportunity she said is available to her only because of the scholarships that she has received.

Larson said that because of these scholarships, she is able to focus on her curriculum, which includes challenging classes, hands-on experience in the field, and industry tours. “Knowing that someone believes in me is an inspiration for me to succeed. I want to return the favor.” Larson is a donor herself and, upon graduation from vet school, she said she wants to return “more of my time, talents, and treasure for all the faith people have placed in me.”

While an undergraduate, Larson served as a Presidential Ambassador in the President’s Office, where she had numerous opportunities to network. “Oftentimes, I got locked into my classes, my goals, my academic plan, and would forget what all goes into making a university great. As a Presidential Ambassador, I had the chance to meet so many other people and learn what role each of them plays in CSU’s daily workings.”

Now Larson is preparing herself for her new role as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, thanks to the generosity of CSU donors.

From the Vice President

Something at Colorado State University has touched your heart and inspired you to become a donor.

Maybe you were moved by the story of a young child whose bone cancer was cured using treatment techniques developed at the Flint Animal Cancer Center.

Maybe you received a scholarship as a student at Colorado State and vowed that when you were financially able, you would pay it forward through support of a student scholarship.

Perhaps you believe that outstanding students at a world-class research University deserve top-of-the-line laboratories if they are going to make the great discoveries of tomorrow.

Regardless of what it was that moved you to open your hearts and give to CSU, please know that your gifts make a tremendous difference to students, faculty, programs, and facilities on our campus every day. Your gifts – your partnership with CSU – allow us not only to educate the future, but to fulfill our core mission to engage every student and faculty member in the transformative work of improving the lives of citizens throughout Colorado and the world.

Through this new publication, GIVING, we will enhance our communication with you about the power of your gifts and present engagement opportunities that will allow you to learn more about how your gifts are positively affecting lives and making a difference at Colorado State University.

Thank you again for your gifts, and please don’t hesitate to let me know what you’re thinking. I value your opinions and feedback, and look forward to seeing you soon.

My best,

Brett Anderson, ’87, Vice President for University Advancement
Mortenson Construction continues to be an important industry partner for the Department of Construction Management at Colorado State. Last October, CEO Tom Gunkel and Denver Vice President Bob Hansen announced Mortenson’s $200,000 commitment to the construction of a building information modeling lab in Guggenheim Hall to be called the Mortenson Center for Virtual Design and Construction. “We are going to put the world’s best technology into play at CSU so that students get to experience and interact with cutting-edge tools that are going to define where our industry is going,” said Gunkel.

Virtual design and construction is the process of generating and managing digital data over a building’s life cycle utilizing building information modeling software. The new laboratory at CSU will provide an interactive and virtual learning environment where students can learn techniques and capabilities of specific modeling programs, as well as gain firsthand knowledge and experience of the power of such tools and methods in construction and beyond.

VDC processes will be integrated directly into existing courses, including surveying, estimating, safety, scheduling, and construction methods, and will also be used to facilitate myriad expanding research and learning opportunities, such as CSU’s VDC student competition team training.

When Gunkel announced the $200,000 company gift commitment to the program, he also encouraged employees to be part of the effort with personal gifts. For the three weeks following the announcement, Mortenson matched every $1 that an employee donated with an additional $2. Twenty-seven employees contributed a total of $18,000. When matched, the effort generated an additional $54,000 toward the project. “It is essential for all of us to find a way to give back to the institutions we graduated from and that were a big part of our own personal careers and success,” Gunkel said.

The remodel of the lab space is expected to be completed by the fall of 2013. The Department of Construction Management is in the College of Health and Human Sciences.
Can studying snoozing bears lead scientists to a cure for humanity’s most prevalent bone disease, osteoporosis? Dr. Seth Donahue, associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, is hopeful his research will do just that.

Humans begin to lose bone density after just two weeks of bed rest. Medical doctors advise their patients to get rigorous exercise and maintain a healthy diet to help prevent this degeneration. Yet hibernating bears, that often go without food and exercise for six to seven months, still retain their bone strength, mass, and structure. How can the bones of bears endure while the bones of humans waste away?

In his laboratory at Colorado State University, Donahue is actively searching for answers. He began his research by collecting and analyzing blood from the American black bear. Humans and bears both carry parathyroid hormones, also known as PTH. When bear PTH and human PTH were compared, the researchers found nine differing amino acids out of the 84 total amino acids. These nine amino acids are thought to hold the key to the longevity of bears’ bone density after periods of prolonged rest.

Donahue recombinantly recreated the bear PTH and began injecting the protein hormone into mice and rats. His original research was focused solely on osteoporosis, but when he realized the potential, the study was expanded to include bone cancers. A common treatment for bone cancer is to remove the infected part of the bone. Once this is done, the bone is left weak and prone to fractures. Donahue hopes that this research will demonstrate how to rebuild the bones of mice and rats, whether the bone loss resulted from osteoporosis or bone cancer, as a steppingstone to treating human and canine patients clinically.

Donahue’s research is partially funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health, CSU’s Cancer Super Cluster, and the Veterinary College Research Council. Each of the grants focuses on different aspects of research, ranging from integrating bones in allograft procedures, to studying bone cancers and identifying the difference between human and bear PTH effects on mouse and human bone cells. He plans to complete his preliminary studies and hopes to carry his investigations further with the help of private donations.

While his research has already shown promising results, there is still much more that needs to be learned through testing. Donahue remains focused on developing a cure for osteoporosis and, hopefully someday, rebuilding bone density in cancer patients.
Streamlining Donor Societies to Build Stronger Communities

Since its inception as a land-grant university, Colorado State has been defined as much by the loyalty and dedication of its alumni and friends as it has by the excellence of its faculty. That loyalty has been demonstrated continuously through the years by donors' generous support of our students and academic and research programs.

The University recognizes this support through a variety of societies designated by giving levels. Over time and with changes in administration, the number of societies has grown. As we streamline our campus operations to meet the needs of a more complex society, we also see the need to streamline the giving structure to provide more clarity and focus. We hope that with this revised structure, the strong sense of community will continue as the number of donors grows.

Our new structure defines the levels of giving in a more concise and relevant way. This updated structure will create more opportunities for our donors to connect with the University through communications and events.

Going forward, this will be the new recognition society structure:

**Lifetime Societies**
Recognition in the Lory and Morgan Lifetime Societies is based on total, cumulative lifetime giving. Recognition in the Frontier Society is based on making a planned gift commitment.

- **Charles A. Lory Society**
  - $1 million and above

- **William E. Morgan Society**
  - $100,000 to $999,999

- **Frontier Society**
  - A planned gift commitment

**Annual Giving Club**
Recognition in the 1870 Club is based on annual, cumulative gifts of $1,870 or above

- **1870 Club**
  - Annual gifts totaling $1,870

For questions about the new giving society structure please contact the Office of Donor Relations at (970) 491-6539 or ua_donor_relations@colostate.edu.

**GIVING Newsletter – The Donor Relations Team**
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Upcoming Events

President’s Fall Address
Sept. 4, 2013

Homecoming & Family Weekend
Oct. 10-13, 2013
www.homecoming.colostate.edu

President’s Gala
Oct. 18, 2013

1870 Dinner
Feb. 8, 2014

A sincere THANK YOU to Colorado State University donors for your investments in us and our future success!

Graduating Class of 2013