

# Parents Association

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University of Colorado at Boulder

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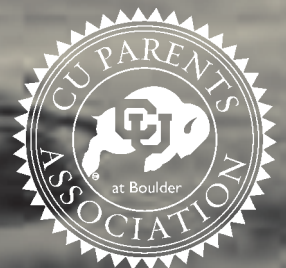
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# Fall greetings!

[www.colorado.edu/parentrelations](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations)





### CU-Boulder's Hidden Treasures

**H**IDDEN AMONG historic buildings of CU-Boulder's campus, which spans nearly 800 acres, are plenty of fascinating nooks and crannies always waiting to be rediscovered. Finding these concealed virtues just requires a little digging.

#### Museum Exhibits

With over four million artifacts and specimens, the CU Museum of Natural History ([cumuseum.colorado.edu](http://cumuseum.colorado.edu)) houses one of the top university natural science museums in the country. Along with the museum's permanent exhibits, you can explore the temporary exhibits on display through early 2008, titled "Temple of the Warriors: Rebuilding a Maya Monument" and "What's in a Name? Understanding the World of Plants." Exhibition

galleries are open to the public seven days a week, free of charge.

#### Art Galleries

Although the CU Art Museum is closed during the construction of the new Visual Arts Complex, there are other art galleries worthy of attention. The UMC Art Gallery, located in UMC 225, presents a variety of artwork from national, international, and local artists. Macky Auditorium houses the Andrew J. Macky Gallery. Norlin Library also displays an array of special collections and art exhibits throughout the building.

#### Heritage Center

The unique history of CU-Boulder is secured today in the Heritage Center ([www.cualum.org/heritage](http://www.cualum.org/heritage)), on the third floor of Old Main. Photographs and

displays are featured in seven different galleries, including CU in Space, Athletics, and Distinguished Alumni and Faculty. The center is open to visitors Monday through Friday from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

#### Outside Adventures

If you prefer outdoor activities, try walking the scale model planet walk that starts with the sun sculpture just across from Fiske Planetarium, or try to find the 21 flagstone sidewalk slabs that state the guiding principles of the Colorado Creed.

So next time you're on campus, we hope you have time to explore some of CU's hidden treasures!

*By Corey H. Jones, junior, Journalism*

### Join us for Family Weekend, October 19–21

**A**S WE LEAVE the "dog days of summer" behind, it's time to start thinking about a refreshing and exciting fall trip to Boulder to visit your student during Family Weekend 2007. Take a swing in our golf tournament; attend tours, stimulating lectures, and presentations about campus life; observe CU's Second Annual Fall Convocation; cheer the football team to victory against the Kansas Jayhawks; listen to CU's jazz stars; and stretch your legs in the Buffalo Family Stampede 5K Fun Run/Walk.

CU's Family Weekend is one of the largest in the country, attracting nearly 5,000 family members in recent years. To register and get all the information you'll need, visit the Family Weekend website at: [www.colorado.edu/familyweekend](http://www.colorado.edu/familyweekend).

Don't wait too long—hotels and some events fill up! Registration is open now and runs through Monday, October 8. For recorded information, call the Family Weekend



Information Line at 303-735-4020. Finally, don't hesitate to call or e-mail Parent Relations with your questions at 303-492-1380 or [parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu).



## Financial aid checklist

### It's not too late to apply for financial aid.

Your student must submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to the federal processor—the quickest way is to do this online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Once we receive your student's FAFSA from the federal processor, we may ask you to provide our office with signed copies of the first two pages of your 2006 federal tax returns. Please respond promptly to any requests from our office for additional information as we will need the requested information before we can package your student with financial aid. Call us if you have questions about applying.

**For parents of Colorado resident undergraduate students**, if your student has not already applied for the College Opportunity Fund stipend (to help cover the cost of their tuition), please see [www.cu.edu/ums/cof/faq.html](http://www.cu.edu/ums/cof/faq.html) for an explanation of the program and instructions on how to apply.

**After November 1**, your student can apply for 2008–09 CU-Boulder scholarships online at [www.colorado.edu/finaid/scholarships.html](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid/scholarships.html). Using their student identification number and CU-Boulder personal identification number (PIN), your student can submit their application, resume, and essays online. Let your student know about this convenient resource.

**January 1, 2008**, will be the first day you can submit the '08/'09 FAFSA to the FAFSA processor. The FAFSA is required to apply for financial aid, including scholarships, from CU-Boulder.

For more information about the above or any financial aid questions you may have, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 303-492-5091, [finaid@colorado.edu](mailto:finaid@colorado.edu), or [www.colorado.edu/finaid](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid).

*By Gayle Lalich, Office of Financial Aid*

# Answers and Alternatives: Preventing Alcohol Abuse on Campus

**A**LCOHOL ABUSE is one of the key challenges facing university communities nationwide. CU-Boulder is one of the first universities to systematically address student alcohol abuse. The Division of Student Affairs is working collaboratively with students, government entities, community members, and research organizations to create a safer, healthier environment both on and off campus. Recently, the university named Jane Curtis the new director of Alcohol and Other Drugs Programs; she is working continuously to address all alcohol-related issues through:

- Policies and practices
- Education and prevention programs
- Student organizations
- Alternative social and recreational activities
- Civic engagement and community involvement
- Professional research and assessment

The Parent Fund, coordinated through the CU Foundation, provides vital financial support to a variety of campus programs and student services administered by the Division of Student Affairs and its commitment to campus safety, including alcohol abuse prevention initiatives and late night programming. Parent Fund dollars support a variety of programs and initiatives that help to reduce alcohol abuse through educational programming and intervention activities. For instance, student groups like GORD present messages about the responsible consumption of



alcohol for those students who drink, and about recognizing and responding to the signs of alcohol poisoning.

An equally important program that helps to reduce alcohol abuse is the Late Night Programming Initiative. These Friday and Saturday night activities provide an alcohol-free social alternative for students. Activities are held in the Recreation Center and the University Memorial Center. Examples include the annual Poetry Slam, Battle of the Bands, and CU Idol. To learn more about the programs and initiatives that are in place at CU and are supported by the Parent Fund, visit [www.colorado.edu/alcohol/awareness/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/alcohol/awareness/index.html). A special thank you to all of our Parent Fund donors who help to make these programs and initiatives possible.

*By Abby Redwine, development associate for the Parent Fund*

## Important Dates for 2007–08

### Fall Semester 2007

Family Weekend.....	Oct. 19–21
Fall Break .....	Nov. 19–21
Thanksgiving Break .....	Nov. 22–23
Last day of classes.....	Dec. 14
Final exams .....	Dec. 15–20
Commencement .....	Dec. 21
Residence halls close (10:00 a.m.).....	Dec. 21

### Spring Semester 2008

Residence halls open (10:00 a.m.).....	Jan. 9
Classes begin (8:00 a.m.).....	Jan. 14
Martin Luther King Jr. Day .....	Jan. 21
Tuition due .....	Jan. 23
Spring Break .....	March 24–28
Last day of classes.....	May 2
Final exams .....	May 3–8
Residence halls close (1:00 p.m.).....	May 9
Commencement .....	May 9

## Six Degrees of Separation

**C**OLLEGE IS a period of transition for your student and your family. Parents can help by being supportive, trusting, AND by encouraging independence. Here are six ways to help your students help themselves.

- 1) **First Weeks:** The early part of each academic year is absolutely packed with activities, and your student needs to take advantage of those opportunities in order to become connected—a member of their new community. “The phone call” may come when work is piling up, grades aren’t as expected, or they are struggling with some other issue and feeling overwhelmed and unable to cope. Don’t panic; this is normal. As much as you’d like to alleviate the stress, you cannot (and should not) “fix this” for them. Be calm and reassuring about their ability to work through the challenges or to seek help from campus resources.
- 2) **Change:** Accept that you won’t know every detail of your student’s life. Your student may never have lived away from you before and going to college is an exciting, important step in their growth. The values you have instilled, along with their new campus values, will help your student make good choices.
- 3) **Problems:** Managing issues within a complex organization is a vital part of becoming a competent adult. Empower your student to solve problems by offering guidance, encouraging independence, and trusting their decisions. **Handling difficult situations for them only impedes their development.** They are learning important skills and becoming empowered to undertake other challenges with confidence. Since students can and do resolve most of their own concerns, parental involvement is usually not necessary and in some cases complicates resolution.
- 4) **Personalities:** Learning to live with other people teaches essential skills like communication and boundary setting. Your student is living in an

environment where the staff understands the developmental process and transitional issues experienced by college students. Challenge your student to actively work through issues, instead of avoiding them or looking for easy answers. Changing roommates (or dropping a class) is often not the only or the best solution. Helping your student seek alternative solutions will enhance their learning.

- 5) **Responsibilities:** Many come to CU with preconceived ideas of campus conduct, regulations, and the law based on media accounts, or someone’s memories or assumptions. Every university has rules. Students will be informed and helped to understand that they are responsible for their conduct. Rules are designed to protect their rights as well as providing for the health, safety, and security needs of all residents and the opportunity to sleep, study, and pursue their academic endeavors.
- 6) **Academic Life:** Your students are now masters of their own time. Ask how they plan to balance this new freedom. You want them to have fun and you want them to succeed socially and academically. A temporary drop in grades is typical. Don’t let your student get discouraged; instead encourage them to get help or refocus. Tutoring, study workshops, and other academic support are readily available for students. Open communication with professors about expectations and struggles can also be a valuable step in success. Students who seek assistance from the various campus resources typically get back on track and do fine.

Parents, now is the time to let go. Your student will know that you are there and will come to you when they really need you. In the meantime, give them the space they need to succeed on their own.

*CUPA Board members Dennis and Joyce Kinde have four children ages 20–25 who are attending or have recently graduated from college. Their youngest is a junior at CU.*

## CU is coming to a city near you!

**A**S MEMBERS of the CU-Boulder family, we value regular communication and interaction with parents, both in Colorado and around the country. This fall we travel to 15 major metropolitan areas around the country with a team of top-level administrators and faculty to host events for current CU parents. These events are a wonderful opportunity for you to hear firsthand about what is happening on campus and in student affairs, ask questions, meet representatives from the university and other parents from your area, and become involved in the university.

The fall events, sponsored by the Parent Fund and the Office of Parent Relations, are listed here. If there is an event in your area, you will receive an invitation one month before the event. For additional information, contact Debbie Squires at **303-541-1265** or [Debbie.squires@cufund.org](mailto:Debbie.squires@cufund.org). We look forward to seeing you!

September 8	Scottsdale, AZ	10:00 a.m.
October 3	New York, NY	12:00 p.m.
October 4	Boston, MA	12:00 p.m.
October 5	San Francisco, CA	12:00 pm.
October 5	Walnut Creek, CA	7:00 p.m.
October 11	San Diego, CA	12:00 p.m.
October 12	Orange County, CA	12:00 p.m.
October 12	Los Angeles, CA	7:00 p.m.
October 23	Washington, D.C.	12:00 p.m.
October 24	Atlanta, GA	12:00 p.m.
October 24	Minneapolis, MN	12:00 p.m.
October 25	Chicago, IL	12:00 p.m.
November 7	Seattle, WA	12:00 p.m.
November 7	Houston, TX	12:00 p.m.
November 8	Dallas, TX	12:00 p.m.

### Campus Alerts via Text Message—Encourage Your Student to Sign Up

To better communicate with students about campus closures and other potential emergencies, CU-Boulder has added a new text message service to our campus alert system. By signing up at [www.colorado.edu/alerts](http://www.colorado.edu/alerts), students will receive real-time information on their mobile phones about campus closures, extreme weather, and other emergencies. The new text message service augments our existing campus alerts, which will continue to provide detailed emergency information and instructions online at [www.colorado.edu](http://www.colorado.edu), by phone at **303-492-INFO**, and via student e-mail accounts. In case of emergency, please help us make sure our students get the message; encourage them to sign up for campus alerts via text message today.

# THE GOLD STANDARD

## CU Athletics Honors Its Best

Over three dozen CU student-athletes, including 15 with perfect 4.00 grade-point averages last year, were recently honored by the university. Impressively, 191 out of CU's 335 student-athletes attained a 3.0 grade point average or better, either cumulatively or for the spring and/or fall semesters last year. That's quite impressive considering CU's curriculum is one of the toughest in Division I athletics.

## Five CU Students Awarded Fulbrights to Study Abroad in 2007-08

Mongolia, Iceland, and Korea are among the countries where CU-Boulder students will be conducting research and teaching this year, according to Larry Bell, director of CU-Boulder's Office of International Education. Students who receive these prestigious scholarships are chosen for their academic excellence and expertise, but also as ambassadors of the United States to the countries where they will travel. The Fulbright Program is the country's largest program for international education exchange. This highly selective program awards approximately 1,200 grants annually in all fields of study and operates in more than 140 countries. Students interested in learning more about Fulbright Scholarships should contact the Office of International Education at 303-492-6016 or visit [www.colorado.edu/OIE/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/OIE/index.html). The deadline to apply for 2008-09 Fulbright scholarships is October 19, 2007.

## Chemistry Professor, Biotech Pioneer, Honored with National Medal of Science

Chemistry and biochemistry Professor Marvin Caruthers received the nation's highest accolade for scientific achievement, the National Medal of Science, during a White House ceremony in July. One of CU-Boulder's Distinguished Professors, Caruthers is a biotechnology pioneer and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. He is one of eight 2006 National Medal of Science award winners and five 2006 National Medal of Technology winners. "This is indeed a great honor. Receiving the National Medal of Science demonstrates how the University of Colorado continues to provide an excellent environment and academic climate for basic research at the cutting edge of science," said Caruthers, who has taught in the university's chemistry and biochemistry department for 34 years. Caruthers is the fourth CU-Boulder faculty member to receive the award.

## The Arts & Science degree at work

In career counseling appointments, we are often asked about the value of an Arts & Science degree. Many parents encourage, even push, their students to pursue degrees in business or engineering, thinking that careers in these disciplines offer more career options and more money, and that degrees in Arts and Science (A&S) don't prepare students for specific jobs in the work world.

Certainly it is true that business and engineering students are typically offered higher salaries, and it is also true that the "hard" skills they learn are extremely beneficial. But not all students are interested in these careers. Many of our Arts & Science students go on to pursue meaningful careers in consulting, politics, law, medicine, research, human services, education, and many other fields. Our job is to encourage students to explore a variety of courses and interests in the hopes that they will discover their passion, whatever and wherever it may be.

It is important to think in terms of skills when assessing what students gain in A&S courses. Employers tell us that A&S students are well-rounded because of the variety of courses they take as part of their core requirements, and because of the variety of experiences they've had.

In their coursework, A&S students learn to communicate effectively in both written and oral forms, utilize in-depth writing skills, research and organize projects, incorporate the ideas of several disciplines, evaluate multiple sides of an issue, and critically analyze situations and assess solutions, among other skills. Additionally, they gain valuable interpersonal communication skills in class discussions, internships, campus involvement, leadership activities, study abroad programs, and jobs.

Brad Jones (BA '04, communication, minor in philosophy), a CU alum who is currently serving as a political consultant for the Colorado Civil Justice League, shared some advice for current A&S students: "A liberal arts education gave me a chance to dabble in a variety of disciplines. I may not work as a philosopher (who does?), but philosophy let me work in a different, complementary mode from my major.

"Students should choose their classes wisely because even in a department heavy in theory, you can learn practical applications that trans-

## Notable liberal arts majors

Michael Dell, founder of Dell Computers (*biology*)

Michael Eisner, former CEO of Disney (*English and theater*)

Sally Ride, astronaut (*English*)

John Loose, former CEO of Corning (*East Asian history*)

Robin Williams, actor & comedian (*political science*)

Jesse Jackson, politician/activist (*sociology & economics*)

Carly Fiorina, former CEO of Hewlett-Packard (*medieval history & philosophy*)

Jill Barad, former CEO of Mattel, Inc. (*English & psychology*)

late directly to the working world. Also, I spent a lot of time focused on extracurricular activities. What mattered most were the opportunities for networking and leadership development."

From an employer perspective, Kate Carson, lead recruiter for the consulting firm Stockamp & Associates, says students who succeed in the firm's selection process do so because they are able to fully demonstrate the following: problem-solving/analytical skills, leadership skills (especially those gained while being involved in campus organizations), strong communication skills, and poise and presence. It's these strengths that Stockamp and other firms use as key indicators as to whether a particular candidate will connect well with their clients.

Do A&S students need to have math and computer skills? Absolutely! They will need these skills to compete in a global and technological world. But it's also important not to downplay the creativity and empathy that the world of work demands—skills that computers and overseas workers can't offer. Two best-selling writers, Thomas Friedman, author of *The World is Flat*, and Daniel Pink, author of *Free Agent Nation* and *A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future*, write persuasively about this issue, and I encourage all interested parents to read their work.

Feel free to contact Ann Herrmann at 303-492-8020 or e-mail her at [Ann.Herrmann@colorado.edu](mailto:Ann.Herrmann@colorado.edu)

By Ann Herrmann, Career Services

## The Parent Fund: A Tradition of Giving

The Parent Fund, coordinated through the CU Foundation, provides vital financial support to a variety of campus programs and student services administered by the Division of Student Affairs, focusing on the areas of student development, experiential learning, campus safety, and parent programs. Many of these programs are not supported by tuition or state funding. Therefore private support is especially important. If you have questions about the Parent Fund, e-mail [parents@cufund.org](mailto:parents@cufund.org) or call 303-541-1263.

By Abby Redwine, development associate for the Parent Fund

## Fall Sports on the rise

**T**HE BEST KNOWN fall sport is football, but many of CU-Boulder's other fall sports are also among the best in the nation.

Here's a look at some of last year's impressive results: the men's cross country team won the national championship (its third this decade), with the women finishing as the NCAA runner-up. Both teams were Big 12 Conference champions, the men for the 11th consecutive year and the women for the 10th time in 11 tries.

The women's soccer team advanced to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament for the first time, after reaching the conference title game in which they succumbed to Texas only after penalty kicks. They finished the year ranked 12th in the nation.

And the women's volleyball team ended the year at number 24 in the polls after its pinnacle win over national champion Nebraska—it was the Huskers only loss in a 32-1 season.

The golf and tennis teams also compete in the fall, but the meat of their seasons are in the spring with the league and NCAA championships.

Football is coming off a disappointing 2-10 season, but the Buffs were in every game and as coach Dan Hawkins said, "We just didn't finish." Five of the losses were by a combined 22 points, games that could have gone either way but didn't end in CU's favor. The Buffs were fairly inexperienced on offense and look to be much improved in Hawkins second year as head coach.

While football is rebuilding, the other aforementioned sports are reloading and are expected to field conference and/or national title contenders again in



Members of Colorado's 2006 national champion cross country team with their trophy outside of the Balch Fieldhouse on the Boulder campus.

2007. And as the fall progresses, excitement will build for basketball season, as the Jeff Bzdelik Era begins for the men while the women have All-American center Jackie McFarland returning.

*By Dave Plati, athletics media relations director*



Billy Nelson and Brent Vaughn, two of CU's top performers, helped lead CU to conference, regional and national titles in 2006.

## Sign up for the CU Parent E-Connection!

Do you want to receive regular e-mail updates on CU policies, programs, and news of interest to parents? If you do, you can subscribe by simply sending your e-mail information to [parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu). There are already more than 4,000 subscribers.

Your contact information will remain in the Office of Parent Relations and will not be shared or used for any other purpose than providing you e-mail updates.

If you have any questions about the program, don't hesitate to contact George "Barney" Ballinger or Joyce Kinde at [parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu) or via telephone at 303-492-1380.

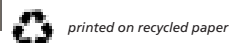


## Changing your address

If you are currently listed on your student's record, your student can change your address using the PLUS system. To add a parent name or an additional address not currently on their record, students must e-mail Judy Myers in the Office of the Registrar at [judy.myers@colorado.edu](mailto:judy.myers@colorado.edu). Students need to provide the following:

- The name and address of the parent(s) they wish to add
- The last 4 digits of their student ID number

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## Reward an Exceptional CU Faculty or Staff Member

Has your student ever mentioned a CU faculty or staff member who is making his or her university experience special? Nominate that person for the **Marius G. Smith Recognition Award**, given to faculty and staff members who have played an important role in the success of CU students. The award is sponsored by the CU Parents Association and is named for the famous pioneer whose land and financial contributions helped make it possible to place the university in Boulder. The nomination form is available from the Office of Parent Relations ([parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu) or 303-492-1380) and will be in Family Weekend registration packets.

Nominations are due in Parent Relations by December 31. A ceremony will be held in the spring to honor winners of the award.