



CU Boulder and Community

Across several Academic Futures conversations, participants highlighted the desire for CU Boulder to expand its role in our community (defined locally, regionally, nationally and globally) and the hope that we could build in some component of that effort into our student experience. In addition, discussions suggest such a move would help develop a more positive perception of CU Boulder in our community.

What do our students gain? Students gain framing for their future jobs and life. They learn how to listen to others, becoming engaged citizens. It also gives students something unique to add to their portfolio.

The Role of Alumni. There is a general sense that alumni could be better utilized throughout the campus, but particularly in areas that connect students to the greater world, either through service learning, internships or other networking opportunities.

What are we doing well? We have a number of programs and models that are working well. From public events (CWA, Shakespeare, Bioneers) to school programs (Science Discovery, CU Teach) to community engagement (CU Engage, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Athletics), CU has some areas of strong connection to our community.

Challenges: Because there are literally dozens of definitions of community engagement at CU, there is no common language to use to develop a clear vision of what engagement could mean for the campus. Additionally, the incentive structure for students, staff and faculty is uneven, reflecting the uneven valuation of this work.

White Papers submitted to Academic Futures in this area

- *Public work at the University of Colorado (Kirschner)*
- *Global Ambassadors (Kamminga-Peck et al.)*
- *Integrating public engagement into the culture of CU Boulder (Sommer et al)*





Academic Futures

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

- *Rethinking the Outdated Binary of Teaching and Service to Unleash Innovation and Support Student Success (Norgaard, et al)*
- *Colorado community partnerships and faculty residencies (CMCI)*
- *Enhancing students' experience in on-campus jobs - improved career-readiness for post-graduation employment (Hermann)*
- *"Cradle-to-Grave" advising and the ACE approach: A model for a School of the School of the Environment, Design and Sustainability (Advising Center for Excellence)*
- *The case for increased emphasis on internships at CU Boulder (Mark)*
- *Future-casting CU Boulder as the first public university that hacks the academy model (Berk et al.)*
- *Leadership in Sustainability (Kang et al.)*
- *An Invitation to Close a Historic Divide (Strategic Resources and Support)*
- *Sustainable Solutions Collaboratory (Simmons)*
- *Academics and Executives in the Mountains: The Colorado Gold Rush of 2017 (Hekman)*
- *Foreign language skills improve students' personal, academic, and professional lives (Hintz and Weber)*

