

What Happened Since Our June Visit?

We're pleased to bring you updates about partnerships and projects that are being developed by people and organizations in Southeastern Colorado and faculty and staff members of CU Boulder. Thank you again for meeting with us during our June tours of Pueblo, La Junta, Walsenburg, and Trinidad. If you would like to discuss ideas for partnering with CU Boulder, please let us know.

We wish you and yours the very best this holiday season

Partnership Updates



Master's of the Environment Capstone Project

Research Fellow and Acequia Assistance Project Director Gregor MacGregor received funding from the Office for Outreach and Engagement to establish a program that will match student teams and advisors with community partners in Southeastern Colorado. Several partnerships are already under discussion.

The Masters of the Environment is a professional interdisciplinary degree program at CU Boulder with five specializations. In place of a thesis, teams of 3-4 students will be matched with communities, non-profit organizations or companies to complete a capstone project. The teams will be embedded within and work for the partner organization over a nine-month period. Capstone teams will be formed to have the requisite skills and experience to take on the project and operate under the supervision of a capstone advisor working in that field. Teams will typically provide a minimum of 400 hours of work per student from February 2023 through early December 2023.

For more information about becoming a Capstone partner, please contact Gregor MacGregor.



Two Projects with CSU Pueblo

Faculty Exchange Program

University of Colorado Professor Tin Tin Su is working with CSU Pueblo Professor Jim Carsella and CSU Pueblo HSI STEM Grants Director Abby Davidson to organize an exchange program between CSU Pueblo and CU Boulder faculty and students. The goal is for the two university communities to strengthen their relationship by exerting mutual influence in research and scholarship. Professor Andreas Hoenger and Post-Doctoral Fellow Arturo Barbachano-Guerrero, from CU Boulder's Department of Molecular Cellular and Developmental Biology, will visit CSU Pueblo and give seminars (dates TBD). Professors Davidson and Carsella will suggest faculty members from CSU Pueblo for visits to CU Boulder or CU Anschutz.

Research project between CU Boulder and CSU Pueblo

Soil samples will be tested from a superfund site in Pueblo that houses toxic waste from a mine. Jim Carsella, professor of chemistry and director of MAPS Foundry at CSU Pueblo, has been studying samples for heavy metal contamination and dissemination through the food chain. In this additional study, the soil samples will be tested for their ability to induce genome instability in fruit flies, the primary research model in CU Boulder Professor Tin Tin Su's lab. Genome instability renders cells more prone to becoming cancerous and is of biomedical importance.

A CSU Pueblo Masters student will begin collecting and characterizing soil samples from four sites within the superfund site in spring 2023. In summer 2023, the student will be hosted in Professor Su's lab at CU Boulder.



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Town of Cheraw Community Development Project

Cheraw's Mayor, David Howard, attended the Office for Outreach and Engagement's "Listen & Learn" session in La Junta last June. Afterward, he contacted the office to inquire if someone at CU Boulder might be available to help Cheraw develop an overall community development plan.

The Office for Outreach and Engagement shared Mayor Howard's direct request with Assistant CU Boulder Professor Jota Samper, who co-directs the CEDaR Center. The center partners with communities in Colorado and abroad to help build resilient and equitable cities and neighborhoods. Student interns met with Cheraw's Community Development Committee and created visioning materials (one iteration is above) to support Cheraw's GoCo grant application for phase one of the plan. If funding is secured, Cheraw and CEDaR hope to continue working together.

Other Projects of Interest



'Soundscapes of the People' Explores Pueblo's History through Music

Backed by a CU Boulder Outreach Award from the Office for Outreach and Engagement and a CU Boulder Research & Innovation Seed Grant, Soundscapes of the People explores ways that musical traditions have served to bridge social, ethnic, urban/rural and religious identities.



Trinidad Youth Group Helps Build Citizen-Science Display

This project in Trinidad, funded by the CU Boulder Office for Outreach and Engagement, involves a web-based application to collect observations and media from contributors about water and ecology, workshops to curate the media and make collages, and an interactive projection showcase where visitors use gestures to explore the digitized collages. Corazón de Trinidad Creative District and CitiSci.org are involved alongside CU Boulder PhD Candidate Kimberly Bianca.

Events

'Right Here, Right Now' Global Climate Summit

United Nations Human Rights and CU Boulder are cohosting the Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Summit from Dec. 1-4, a three-day summit addressing the interconnectedness of human rights and climate change.

The Engage Locally Series encompasses six national and community-focused panels exploring how each of us can create positive local change to benefit our communities.

All events are free and open to the public, and in-person

58th Annual Colorado Economic Outlook Forum

The annual Colorado Business Economic Outlook will take place Dec. 5. The event provides professionals across nearly every industry in the state with a forecast of Colorado's economy by sector.