

CU Parent

Parents Supporting Students

Volume 11, Number 3 🍁 Fall 2005

Welcome, CU parents!

AS WE START OFF A NEW YEAR here at CU, I'd like to be one of the first to welcome you. Some of you are returning as parents of upperclassmen, while others are parents of incoming freshmen. Either way, we're all beginning a new year here. As a parent of a senior, and as president of the CU Parents Association, I am excited about this year. It's hard to believe just three years ago we were moving our daughter into the dorms, and now, in the blink of an eye, we're getting ready to watch her graduate and head off into the world. I can honestly say that after the education she will have earned here at CU, along with all the positive experiences she's had, she'll be ready to tackle the world.

The experiences I've had while serving on the board these last three years have been most rewarding. I've met amazingly talented people, and have made lifelong friends. I'm proud to say I've been a part of a well organized university entity, and have been able to see from behind the scenes what a great university this is. I'm looking forward to another great year on the board.

Once again, welcome. It is my hope that you have a rewarding year watching your student go through this phase of life, and that your student gains knowledge and enjoys all aspects of university life.

Sincerely,
DEBRA WOOD
2005-06 CUPA President



CU NightRide provides students with a free ride, on campus or off

ONE OF THE UNIVERSITY'S most successful safety programs is CU NightRide, which provides free rides to students both around campus and within the Boulder city limits. New to the program this school year is a three-passenger electric vehicle called a GEM or "Global Electric Motorcar." This vehicle provides rides to students who would like an escort within the campus boundaries (from Norlin Library to a dorm or parking lot, for example). Also available with a simple telephone request is a ride anywhere within the Boulder city limits (from an off-campus residence to the movie theatre, for example). Both of these services are free for students, faculty, and staff of CU-Boulder.

Previously the program was called NightRide/NightWalk because the on-campus service was on foot only. During the 2004-05 academic year, NightRide/NightWalk provided 19,727 clients with a ride. Because of the high level of demand, NightRide will be adding an additional phone line and an additional vehicle. To schedule a ride, your student may call **303-492-7233** (B-SAFE from a campus phone). For further information, see the CU NightRide web site at umc.colorado.edu/nrnw.

by James Uhes, CU NightRide director



CU's global electric motorcar

Alcohol-free events popular among students

THERE ARE A VARIETY of alcohol-related initiatives at CU-Boulder, including a tougher “two-strike” alcohol violation policy and a new online alcohol education tool for incoming freshmen. One method for reducing high-risk drinking that has been long established on campus is alternative programming. From free movie screenings to volunteering for the community, there are many campus activities that span a wide variety of interests.

- The Residence Hall Association plans casino nights, karaoke nights, and ultimate Frisbee night tournaments.
- Program Council hosts free movie screenings and concerts at Club 156. www.colorado.edu/programcouncil/
- The International Film Series presents over 100 films each year, with discounts for students. www.internationalfilmseries.com

- The Recreation Center is open until 1:00 A.M. Friday and Saturday nights, midnight Monday through Thursday, and 10:00 P.M. on Sundays.
- CU Late Night activities include the Poetry Slam, comedy shows, and casino nights. www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/latenight
- The CU-Boulder Events Calendar features events sponsored by the College of Music, the Department of Theatre and Dance, and campus art galleries. www.colorado.edu/eventscalendar
- The Center for Multicultural Affairs offers a film series about the diversity in students’ lives as university members. www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/cma/films.htm
- Other activities include Mr. CU Pageant and CU Idol, sponsored by The Herd, and Midnight Breakfast.

by Vanessa Lozano, University Communications student assistant

Reward an exceptional CU faculty or staff member

HAS YOUR STUDENT EVER mentioned a CU faculty or staff member who made his or her university experience special? Nominate that person for the Marius G. Smith Recognition Award, which is given to faculty and staff members who play an important role in the success of CU students. The award is sponsored by the Parents Association and is named after the famous pioneer whose land and financial contributions made it possible for the university to be in Boulder. The nomination form is available from the Office of Parent Relations (parents@colorado.edu or 303-492-1380) and will be in Family Weekend registration packets.

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

Important Dates for 2005–06

Fall Semester 2005

Labor Day	Sept. 5
Fall Break	Oct. 13–14
Family Weekend	Oct. 21–23
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 24–25
Last day of classes	Dec. 8
Final exams	Dec. 9–15
Commencement	Dec. 16
Residence halls close (1:00 p.m.)	Dec. 16

Spring Semester 2006

Residence halls open (9:00 a.m.)	Jan. 11
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Jan. 16
Classes begin (8:00 a.m.)	Jan. 17
Tuition deadline (6:00 p.m.)	Jan. 25
Spring Break	March 27–31
Last day of classes	May 5
Final exams	May 6–11
Residence halls close (1:00 p.m.)	May 12
Commencement	May 12

The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities.

THE NUMBERS: The freshman class counts at CU!

102	Students who were number 1 in their class
123	International students from 34 countries
771	Students with 4.0 GPA
2,164	Students in the 75-100 percentile of their high school
3.6	Average GPA
1175	Average SAT Total
25	Average ACTE Comp
23	Students with 1500 or better SAT Total
76	Students with 33 or better ACTE Comp
1,511	Largest graduating class
5	Smallest graduating class
779	Number of minority students
2,563	Number of women
2,894	Number of men

Other Highlights

- Colorado high school sending the most students: Cherry Creek High School
- High school sending the most out-of-state students: Santa Margarita Catholic High School in California
- Top 5 states sending out-of-state students: CA (517), IL (161), TX (137), MA (102), NY (96)
- Foreign country sending the most students: Republic of Korea

by Jennifer Hudson, Office of Parent Relations; statistics provided by Kevin MacLennan of Admissions



CU's budget crisis—or—The mixed blessings of in-state parents

We hope this column will support the ongoing education of you, the parents of CU students. We are continually learning through our son's CU experiences and our membership in the CU Parents Association (CUPA) Board of Directors.

IT SEEMS THAT CU-BOULDER has been locked in a budget battle with the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, the Congressional Joint Budget Committee, and Colorado's governor since our super-senior son first registered for freshman classes. CU-Boulder has seen \$30 million permanent cuts in state funding since 2002, with resulting eliminations of faculty and staff positions, program consolidations, and other painful cutbacks. And the funding crisis at CU-Boulder is not isolated; the other three CU campuses and all other state-supported schools are also hard hit. Boulder just happens to be the one that gets the biggest headlines in the Colorado press.

The battle hinges on whether CU, a state-supported university, is permitted to increase in-state tuition and by what amount. Cynically, the battle has not been joined over what CU is able to charge out-of-state students; the state is perfectly willing to look the other way and let that amount rise to its level of resistance. But since both in-state and out-of-state parents receive this letter, we will try to be sensitive to both groups, while directing this column more to those who may not have seen our statewide newspaper and television news.

When our son started engineering school four years ago, we attended the dean's parent orientation meeting. The point that still resonates for us was when we were asked to look to the parents on either side to see if they were non-residents. And if they were, we were to offer them our sincere thanks, since our son's in-state tuition barely covered CU's expenses. (We are now told that CU loses money on our son and his in-state peers.) With out-of-state students paying tuition more than four times that of our son, it is painfully

obvious how that funding imbalance is being resolved.

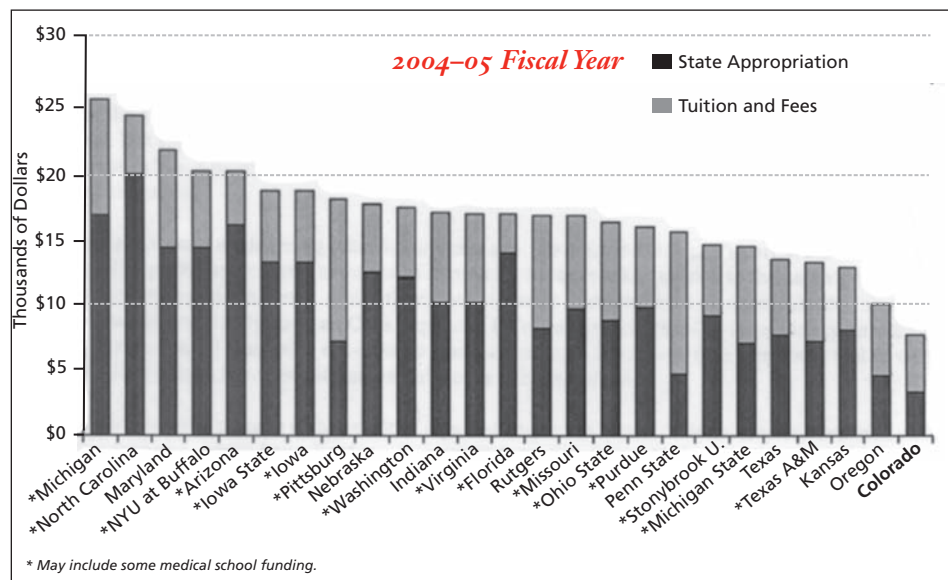
The budget crisis in Colorado is the result of a pair of "no-spend" constitutional amendments and a slow economic recovery, which have dramatically curtailed state spending. Unfortunately, in Colorado, that shortfall shows up altogether too easily as reductions in higher education funding. After years of state cuts, CU is raising in-state undergraduate tuition by up to 28 percent, starting this 2005–06 academic year.

While we have heard and read both sides of this debate over the years, our position is best explained by one graph. The bar graph below shows state-appropriated funding compared to in-state tuition at CU and 25 of her peers, America's flagship public universities. From left to right, you can see 25 two-shaded vertical bars attached to the university names below. The darker lower part of each bar represents the state's contribution to total student expenses and the lighter upper part represents the student's tuition and fees. The University of Michigan is at the far left (no political symbolism intended) side

of the graph with \$25,329 in total tax support and tuition revenue for in-state students, while CU is at the opposite end with \$7,475. And while only two universities have lower tuition and fees than CU's \$4,341, **no other university** has less state support than Colorado's \$3,134. For those who wish to see full-scale graph and the numbers behind it, go to www.colorado.edu/pba/budget/peer/apptable0405.htm.

While we are certain that both CU and the state of Colorado want to keep costs down to the maximum extent practical, we are also certain (for our money), that we in-staters get one terrific deal. As nice as that is, to ensure quality and value in our children's degree, it is long overdue that state tax support or in-state tuition rates increase to bridge the funding gap between CU and comparable universities. And to all of you out-of-staters, thanks again.

by Lowell and Margie Lewis, Parents Association board members



A cause they believe in—their CU experience

WHEN THE PHONE RINGS this fall, you may find yourself in a friendly conversation with Shirene Provenga, a junior voice performance major from Naples, Florida. Provenga is a student in our call center who works to raise money for the Parent Fund. “I love my job because I get to talk with parents about CU-Boulder and what’s happening on campus,” she said.

Provenga is one of 75 students who call parents each fall to tell them about the Parent Fund and ask for their support. “I really believe in this program. I know first-hand what a difference these donations make. My goal is to tell parents how important their support is, and to encourage them to tell their son or daughter about resources and activities on campus.” Last year Parent Fund gifts supported CU NightRide, Career Services, Disability Services, the Honor Code, renovation of the University Memorial Center, and the new Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement. Parent gifts also funded several non-alcoholic late night activities on campus and in Boulder including Battle of the Bands, Poetry Slam, and CU Idol.

“My friends and I are grateful to parents who donate because it means we have more options and more resources. I tell parents about the CU NightRide

program, which offers free rides from anywhere in Boulder to your residence hall or apartment. I feel safe knowing that resource exists and I want parents to know about it, so they can tell their son or daughter to use it.”

Parents have a strong tradition of supporting the university’s Parent Fund. Last year parents raised over \$785,000 for campus programs and activities. This year’s goal is \$850,000. “My parents support the Parent Fund, because they know how important these services and activities are to me and other students on campus. I like making these calls because it helps parents learn more about the university, and it’s for a good cause!”

For more information on the Parent Fund, contact Julie Ditter, Director of Development for Campus Programs, at 303-541-1250 or via e-mail at Julie.ditter@cufund.org. If you’d like to make a gift online, visit www.cufund.org and click on Boulder Campus, Parent Fund. If your student is interested in



Shirene Provenga

becoming a student caller, contact John Gracey at 303-541-1435.

by Julie Ditter, Director of Development for Campus Programs

Join us for Family Weekend, October 21–23

AS THE COLORS OF FALL transform the campus, it’s time to head to Boulder to visit your student for Family Weekend. Take a swing at our golf tournament; attend tours, stimulating lectures, and presentations about campus life; cheer the football team to victory against the University of Kansas; listen to CU’s opera stars; and stretch your legs at the Wardenburg Health Center Family 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 our web site at www.colorado.edu/parentrelations.

Don’t wait too long! The deadline to register is October 3. For recorded information, call the Family Weekend Information Line at 303-735-4020.

NOTE: If you did not receive a brochure for Family Weekend, you can download a copy and also register at www.colorado.edu/parentrelations, or contact our office at 303-492-1380 and we will send you one in the mail.



Parents enjoy one of Colorado’s sunny days during the 2004 Family Weekend.

New athletics director brings experience home to Boulder

MIKE BOHN WAS INTRODUCED as the sixth athletic director in University of Colorado history this past April 13, returning to the place where he starred as a prep athlete before embarking on a journey that would take him all over the western half of the United States and then back home.

Bohn, 44, came to Colorado from San Diego State University, where he left an indelible imprint in just 18 months as the Aztecs' director of athletics. In just over 100 days on the job at Colorado, he's already leaving his mark, having canvassed most of the state to bring CU athletics back to a grassroots level with the people it needs the most.

A 1979 graduate and two-sport star at Boulder High School, he earned his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Kansas in 1983, where he was recruited as a quarterback and also played baseball. He then graduated with a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University in 1984. While earning his master's, he worked as a graduate assistant football coach for the Bobcats.

Bohn logged time in the athletics departments at both Air Force and Colorado State and worked in between for the Boulder-based College Football Association before landing his first athletics director position at Idaho in 1999.

One of his specialties has been to increase awareness and enthusiasm among



the student body wherever he goes. He hopes to accomplish the same at CU.

"We've got the student base, and I believe we have their interest," he said. "Their parents as well. They are vital to our success on so many levels, starting with their support at our home games in football, basketball, volleyball, and soccer."

"We hope to see as many parents as we can at Family Weekend this October, because it is truly a special time in the lives of their children and we want them to enjoy their visit to Boulder."

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. We may ask you to provide our office with signed copies of the first two pages of your 2004 federal tax returns. Please respond promptly to any requests from our office for additional information, and call us if you have questions about applying.

FOR PARENTS OF COLORADO RESIDENT UNDERGRADS: If your student has not already applied for and authorized the College Opportunity Fund stipend (to help cover the cost of their tuition), please see 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 2006–07 CU-Boulder scholarships online at www.colorado.edu/finaid. 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, 2006, will be the first day you can submit the 2006–07 FAFSA to the FAFSA processor. The FAFSA is required to apply for financial aid, including scholarships, from CU-Boulder.

CONTACTING THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID: For more information about the above or any financial aid questions you may have, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at **303-492-5091**, finaid@colorado.edu, or visit our home page at www.colorado.edu/finaid.

by Gayle Lalich, Office of Financial Aid

CU's Top Ten:

The top ten cumulative grade point averages for student-athletes with a minimum of two semesters at CU.

1	Amber Smith	Cross Country/Track	English	4.000
2	Samuel Napp	Track and Field	Integrative Physiology	3.982
3	Jacqueline McFarland	Basketball	Accounting	3.972
4	Daniel Kenney	Cross Country/Track	Business	3.964
5	Kathryn Hamera	Track and Field	Aerospace Engineering	3.950
6	Eric Heinonen	Cross Country/Track	News-Editorial	3.950
7	Ben Carpenter	Football	Management	3.933
8	Maria Persson Gulda	Golf	Engineering Physics	3.906
9	Ellen Falender	Soccer	Finance	3.873
10	Charlotte Persson Gulda	Golf	Aerospace Engineering	3.868

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, your student must e-mail Judy Myers in the Office of the Registrar at judy.myers@colorado.edu. They 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

Parents Association

Office of Parent Relations
University of Colorado at Boulder
A-4 University Club
972 Broadway
120 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0120

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Office of Parents Relations:
303-492-1380

Director: George "Barney" Ballinger
Program Assistant: Jennifer Hudson

CU Publications & Creative Services staff:
Editor: Linda Besen
Design and production: Polly Christensen
Photography: Casey Cass and Larry Harwood



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Your Parent Connection