Welcome to the Collaborative

In Suite 100 on the first floor of Armstrong, Dr. David Harker, Jordan Radke, Sarah Marshall, Shanna Farmer, and Richard Bishop gather in the name of service. The office often smells of coffee and jokes bring laughter, interrupting the usual clicking of computer keyboards. Together, they make up the Collaborative for Community Engagement (CCE), an office engaging students with the community through an emphasis on active citizenship by encouraging students to apply what they learn in the classroom. As the mission statement states, “by fostering skills for planning, implementing and examining civic action, the Collaborative facilitates leadership development and promotes a social responsibility that is reflective, imaginative, and self-aware.”
Through two co-curricular initiatives, Community-Based Learning (CBL) and Community-Based Research (CBR), the CCE provides students and communities opportunities to pursue their academic interests while promoting service for and with one another to help the aims of students and the community. Community-Based Learning “is education that simultaneously – and in roughly equal balance – promotes student learning and meets community needs, and is thoroughly integrated into students’ course work. Community-Based Learning includes class projects that draw upon student and faculty intellectual expertise to clarify and begin to seek solutions to problems facing the community. These classes can require student internships in community organizations, course fieldwork within a community context that encourages students to reflect on and refine theoretical ideas and provides feedback to members of the community, and opportunities for students to teach – and learn – about their major discipline in off-campus settings.” Courses span from Biochemistry to Youth and Empowerment, engaging students from all disciplines with students in the community ranges from kindergarten to 12th grade.

As part of their efforts to expand community-based learning beyond the classroom, the CCE offers opportunities to participate in a wide variety of trainings, including areas such as working with youth, grant-writing, and leadership. Additionally, CCE staff provide guidance and support to ongoing student-led initiatives that focus on a diverse range of issues, including human rights, public health and accessibility, mentoring and tutoring. Through such co-curricular programming and advising, the CCE strives to ensure that students’ experiences in the community can become learning experiences that contribute to their intellectual and moral development, and foster leadership skills. Lastly, in an effort to better connect CC students, staff and faculty interested in opportunities to serve the local community to organizations that address community needs, the CCE also maintains a database of organizations who are looking for volunteers.

The Community-Based Research leg of the CCE “is an equitable, collaborative approach to research, involving students, staff, faculty, and community partners in all aspects of the research process.” Through prioritizing collaboration, addressing social inequalities, and sustainable partnerships, CBR investigates and tackles problems with the community in mind as a partner, rather than a recipient of help. With this CBR aids in the CCE’s goal of creating sustainable and positively impactful community relationships.

The CCE staff is happy to meet with anyone interested in engaging in community work, regardless of their experience, to discuss possible opportunities. Visit the office or the CCE website for information on how to get involved, volunteer opportunities, and updates on the work the CCE and our partners are doing.

“Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”
- Martin Luther King Jr.”
Meet the Team!
The Collaborative for Community Engagement Staff

Dr. David Harker
Director

Education
PhD in Sociology, Boston College
Dissertation: Service, Politics and Identity: On Realizing the Potential of Service Learning

Work Experience
I arrived at Colorado College late last year, after defending my Ph.D. dissertation in sociology at Boston College. My research looked at long-term service-learning volunteers, and the meaning these students attached to their work. I was particularly interested in whether these volunteers saw their work as connected to a sense of politics or larger social change efforts. I taught a number of courses at BC, including Diversity, Community, and Service, Inequality in America, Poverty in America, and Introductory Sociology. For my last two years in Boston, I also taught Education for Active Citizenship at the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

Favorite Things About Working at CC:
I have been struck by how supportive and welcoming everyone is at CC. I love working alongside such wonderful, knowledgeable, and understanding colleagues. CC is a very close community, filled with incredibly intelligent and passionate people – students, staff, faculty, and administration. I enjoy the fact that I can end up in so many fascinating and/or enlightening conversations at any point in my day, just by walking around campus and bumping into colleagues. I also appreciate that we, as a community, are willing to challenge one another in constructive ways, to always improve.

Other Interests/Things you do in your free time:
My wife and I, along with our dog Ginny (a 1.5-year-old black lab mix), enjoy exploring the trails around our neighborhood in Manitou Springs. We’re slowly exploring the rest of Colorado, and all of the adventure and opportunities the area has to offer. I like to stay active outdoors, and also enjoy reading, although I never seem to have enough time as I’d like to read for fun. I also love movies, particularly comedies or interesting documentaries, and can easily get sucked into a Netflix marathon.

Jordan Radke
Assistant Director

PhD in Sociology (in progress), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Expected Date of Completion: December 2016
Dissertation on the Modern Homesteading Movement, a case study into motivations to participation in lifestyle activism

Work Experience
A few years after college, I decided to attend graduate school at the University of North Carolina to pursue my PhD in sociology, which has been my home base for
past six and a half years. After my first two years in my program, I was able to begin teaching my own courses, and fell in love with college teaching. I taught a range of courses – from introductory courses to “Sociological Theory,” “Economy and Society” to “Sociology through Film.” My favorite part about teaching was the way that a sociological education helped students develop their sense of self (situating their individual thoughts and action within wider social trends and problems), and sense of empathy (giving them the tools to better understand others). I enjoy teaching sociology in particular because I believe it is unique in its ability to teach us that social institutions are constructed and thus can be re-constructed toward better ends.

Favorite Things About Working at CC:

I just recently started, so I’ll start by saying that I am humbled by how much I have left to learn about the CC institution and community! But, I’ll tell you my initial impressions and the reasons that I wanted to come work at CC in the first place. This campus strikes me as a true community, in which relationships are built between and among students, faculty, and staff. I love that I am on a campus where, when I walk to grab lunch or run to the library, I am likely to run into another person that knows me by name. After several years at a very large public university, that feels like a distinct privilege. Everyone I have met so far seems to be friendly, helpful, thoughtful and knowledgeable. I am also amazed at the extent to which CC is committed to students as entire people – providing programs and support to develop not only student’s intellectual interests and foundations, but every other aspect of their humanity – their wellness, physical and mental; career aspirations and know-how; innovations and abilities to turn ideas into reality; ability to move within and understand a diverse world; interaction with the physical world and environment around us; and of course, a deep understanding of the world that allows them to develop their commitments and beliefs and work toward them in intentional ways.

Other Interests/Things you do in your free time:

In most of my free time, you'll find me running after my firecracker of a 2-year-old, Avery, and trying to make my four-month-old Brynn giggle. When I do get to enjoy some time to myself (I am told this will happen in 18 years), I enjoy reading science fiction and fantasy and watching tv shows with my husband (Extant or Game of Thrones, anyone?). I also love photography, particularly nature photography, and enjoy being outdoors, playing in the water, listening to music, and writing.

Sarah Marshall
Leadership Development Coordinator for Education/K-12 Partnerships Coordinator
Education
Miami University Oxford, OH
BS in Education: Middle Childhood Education with a concentration in Language Arts, Mathematics, and Reading

Work Experience
I taught sixth grade English and reading for four years (also taught math my first year teaching) at Timberstone Junior High School in Sylvania, Ohio. While teaching I also served as a 7th and 8th grade Power of the Pen (competitive creative writing program) coach; our team won first place in the 2012 state tournament. Since October 2012 I’ve been working as the Leadership Development Coordinator for Education/K-12 Partnerships Coordinator here in the CCE which involves providing development and support for student groups and faculty interested in building partnerships with local K-12 schools to foster personal and academic success for the K-12 youth in the community.
Favorite Things About Working at CC:
My favorite thing about working at CC is working with the students – it’s great to support students who are genuinely interested in impacting youth in the community during their time at CC.
My favorite thing about working in the CCE is my coworkers – it’s a pretty amazing group of people.

Other Interests/Things you do in your free time:
I enjoy spending my free time with my family (my husband, one-year-old son, and dog), reading, cooking, hiking, and crocheting. I also enjoy finding grammatical errors in published writings.

Shanna Farmer
Community Partnerships Program Coordinator
Arts for Social Change LLC Program Coordinator

MA in Organizational Leadership with certificate in Servant Leadership,
Gonzaga University

Work Experience
Since August 2015, I have been the Community Partnerships Program Coordinator in the CCE, which involves providing support to student organizations working with community partners to address a variety of social justice issues. For four years before coming to Colorado College, I was the Community-Based Research Coordinator at Colorado State University-Pueblo and focused on developing meaningful partnerships with community organizations and facilitated faculty development about community engaged learning pedagogies. I also recently taught as an adjunct faculty member in Leadership Studies and Mass Communications at CSU-Pueblo. Previously, I served as a Regional Representative for a member of the United States Congress from 2006-2011, acted as the Creative Design Director for a local magazine from 2011-2012, and worked on a number of political campaigns in Southern Colorado over the past decade.

Favorite Things About Working at CC:
I really enjoy working with the students here; they are so passionate about the causes they are involved with, and they truly want to make a genuine difference in the world. It’s such a privilege to support them in their work. My favorite thing about working in the CCE is the incredible and dynamic group of coworkers I get to be around every day.

Other Interests/Things you do in your free time:
I love spending time with my family, friends, and my adorable menagerie of rescued dogs and cats. I also enjoy photography, watching movies/TV dramas, bike riding, and volunteering. I currently serve on the board of a small private K-8 school and am involved with the local animal shelters.

Richard Bishop
Administrative Assistant

Education
MA in Religious Studies, University of Denver

Work Experience
Since March 2014, I have been the Administrative Assistant in the CCE. I support our other office staff, their student groups, and the mission of the CCE in general by providing timely logistical support.
Prior to working at CC, I spent a number of years at the University of Denver. I worked
my way through my MA program by tending the campus grounds, and then worked in the Graduate School of Social Work. While there, I spent time in different positions that oversaw the reception desk, provided assistance to the Registrar’s Office and the Field Education Office, and coordinated professional development offerings.

Favorite Things About Working at CC:
I find a lot of satisfaction supporting an office whose mission is to connect what students are learning in the classroom, their extra-curricular interests, and the needs of our community. My coworkers are great and we keep the atmosphere in the CCE fun.

Other Interests/Things you do in your free time:
When not at work, I enjoy creative endeavors. I do a lot of home repair/remodeling, and amateur landscaping. I also enjoy watching movies, playing games on the computer, and spending a lot of time with my family and two dogs.

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STUDENT GROUP SPOTLIGHT
Get to know our student groups!

Volunteer Action

Volunteer Action (VA) partners with West Elementary School in Colorado Springs to mentor 4th and 5th grade students throughout the school year. VA's mission takes into account that it is a mentoring program first and foremost. CC mentors strive to interact with their elementary students in a positive fashion. They focus on academic and other healthy activities to inspire interests such as arts and exercise.

The mentors believe in the importance of providing a wide range of activities and experiences for the positive, sustainable development of the at-risk students they work with. A small sampling of activities planned for this year include making gingerbread houses, visiting Cheyenne Mountain Zoo (they applied for and received a scholarship from the zoo to assist with the cost), bowling, dance lessons, and visiting Garden of the Gods. Cassie Prouty, Marissa Maurelli, and Helen Kissel are the three (amazing) leaders of VA!
GlobeMed

GlobeMed is a student organization that is dedicated to increasing the visibility and awareness of global health issues with the goal of improving health disparities around the world. At Colorado College, GlobeMed has a partnership with Western Organization of Pueblo Living with HIV/AIDS (WOPLAH) in Western Kenya to improve the health of vulnerable communities. In December, the group held their annual benefit dinner and silent auction to raise awareness and funds for WOPLAH.

This month, GlobeMed at CC is hosting Water Polo for WOPLAH on Saturday July 30th at 1pm. If you’d like to participate in their first Innertube Waterpolo Tournament, Waterpolo for WOPLAH, you can put together a team of 6-12 players for this double elimination tournament. Team captains can sign up January 25-29 at the Worner Desk and the cost is $5 per person. Please respect that this is a substance free event.

In addition to working with WOPLAH, GlobeMed at CC hosts important conversations about issues related to global health, health of underserved populations in the United States, humanitarian relief, international development, and health policy. Some members of the group also engage in local community building through volunteering at Meadows Park Community Center in Colorado Springs. Every week, a group of GlobeMed students goes to Meadows Park Community Center to play and interact with the children. In addition to working with the kids weekly, GlobeMed is in the process of solidifying some events in collaboration with Meadows Park (such as a farmers market/arts fair, field trips, etc.) for this upcoming spring.

This block, GlobeMed at CC will be focusing on reflecting on the fall semester events and identifying goals for the current semester. The topics of conversation and advocacy will focus on hunger and malnutrition. If you’re interested in getting involved, email cc@globemed.org for more information.
As part of a citywide effort to better support homeless families in Colorado Springs, the Family Day Center at the Marian House is a safe place for at-risk families to go during the day to participate in various enrichment programs and build skills to help them gain stability. The CCE is working in conjunction with nonprofit organizations Catholic Charities of Central Colorado and Family Promise to provide meaningful programming at the Family Day Center. CC students will be facilitating skills-based and art-based workshops, and a variety of other programs to help meet families’ needs.

The enrichment programs, led by CC students, are offered every Tuesday from 2-3:30pm. Currently, Arts for Social Change LLC and Ponderosa Project are signed up to lead sessions during the spring semester. We are looking for additional students and/or student groups to coordinate enrichment activities. For more information or to volunteer with the enrichment programming, contact Shanna Farmer at shanna.farmer@coloradocollege.edu or 719.389.6022.

The Family Day Center is made possible by the efforts of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado, Family Promise of Colorado Springs and Colorado College.
Announcements and Events
Look here for great opportunities!

Call for Proposals for William P. Dean Mini-Grants

The Collaborative for Community Engagement (CCE) is pleased to announce a call for proposals for this year’s William P. Dean Memorial Fund Community Engagement Mini-Grants. The William P. Dean Memorial Fund supports undergraduate initiatives and projects that collaborate with a community nonprofit to address the needs of marginalized populations. The maximum award will be $750, and a maximum of two awards will be given this year. Any student-initiated project that works with a community nonprofit partner to address a social need will be eligible. Applicants should be actively engaged in community-based work in the local Colorado Springs community or in the student’s home community. More Information can be found on the CCE website (https://www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/cce/)

Judges Needed!

Volunteer Science Fair Judges are needed for North Middle School on January 28th. Volunteers are needed during the following times: 8:30-11:15am, 11:00am-1:30pm, and 1:30-4:00pm. To volunteer, please contact Janit Pollard at janit.pollard@d11.org.

Volunteers Needed!

North Middle School (within walking distance of CC) is looking for volunteers to assist an ESL teacher and her students. No requirements necessary; no knowledge of a language other than English necessary. Great way to positively influence the lives and academic growth of students. Flexible commitment - work around your availability. Contact Sarah Marshall at sarah.marshall@coloradocollege.edu if interested.

K-12 Exchange Meeting

February 4, 2016 from 3:30-4:30pm in Tutt Science Center room 214. Tricia Waters, Associate Professor in Psychology, will facilitate a brief discussion of mindset, an idea developed by Stanford University psychologist and researcher, Carol Dweck

30 Days of Homlessness Film Screening

February 4, 2016 at 7pm, American Winter will be shown by the CCE in partnership with United Way. The film will be followed by a panel. Tickets are not required for entry, though a donation is appreciated.

Now Hiring: CC Farm Interns!

Applications are now being accepted for interns for the CC farm! Students must be able to work this Spring, Summer and Fall. For more information, go to CC’s student employment web page. Applications are due Monday, February 8.
A Note from the Editor

Readers,
My name is Salem Tewelde and I am a sophomore at Colorado College. I am a Political Science/International Affairs major with a minor in Feminist and Gender Studies. I live just 20 minutes south of Denver (so being at CC means I’m not too far from home). I began working at the CCE as a student intern last semester! My favorite part of being at CC (and why I love the CCE) is how much people, from students to faculty and staff, care about this community, our city, and our world. I truly believe I am surrounded by amazing individuals in this community and I feel fortunate to be able to learn from them.

Thank you for supporting the Community for Collaborative Engagement! This issue is a reintroduction of the CCE to the community that it loves. Newsletters will be published blockly with information regarding the CCE, its community partners, student groups on campus, and updates and announcements. Feel free to share this publication!

For questions or concerns, please contact me at salem.tewelde@coloradocollege.edu. If you would like to submit to this letter, or have topics, events, or announcements you would like me to share, please email me at salem.tewelde@coloradocollege.edu.

Sincerely,
Salem Tewelde