

The 2005

SCOLORADO COLLEGE
STATE OF THE ROCKIES CONFERENCE



Photo by Stephen G. Weaver

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TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, APRIL 5-7, 2005



COLORADO COLLEGE
STATE OF THE ROCKIES
CONFERENCE

T U E S D A Y , A P R I L 5 , 2 0 0 5 _____

9:00 AM – 4:15 PM - Rockies Registration/Information Table Open: Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

1:30 – 5:00 p.m. – All Events in Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

1:30 – 2:15 p.m. **Unveiling of the 2005 State of the Rockies Report Card**

Presenters: **Prof. Walter Hecox, F. Patrick Holmes and Bryan Hurlbutt**

- Background to the State of the Rockies Project
- Brief History of Rockies Region
- 2004 State of the Rockies Conference and Report Card
- 2005 *State of the Rockies Report Card* Contents
- Results of *Rockies' Baseline: Vital Signs For A Region in Transition*

2:15 – 3:30 p.m. **Celebrating Rockies Civic Engagement and Creativity** (Moderator: **F. Patrick Holmes**)

- Session Kickoff Talk: Cathy Robbins, Assoc. VP, El Pomar Foundation,
“*The Challenge of Creating Community in the Rockies*”
- Results of *Ranking Each Rockies County on Civic Capacity and Engagement* **Chase Whitney and Matthew Lee-Ashley**
- Results of *Evaluating Rockies' Employment Creativity Measures* **F. Patrick Holmes**
- Panel of respondents and discussants:
 - o**Mary Lou Makepeace**, Director, Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado
 - o**Joseph Garcia**, President, Pikes Peak Community College

3:30 – 3:50 p.m. Break: Refreshments and visit with speakers

3:50 – 5:00 p.m. **The Toxic Rockies** (Moderator: **Prof. Walter Hecox**)

- Session Kickoff Talk: **Prof. Phillip M. Kannan**, CC Distinguished Lecturer and Legal Scholar-in-Residence,
“*The Toxic Rockies: Law as Cause and Cure*”
- Results of *Evaluating Rockies' Pollution*, **Bryan Hurlbutt and Caitlin O'Brady**

6:45 – 8:00 PM - Rockies Registration/Information Table Open: Outside Gates Common Room (Palmer Hall, second floor)

7:30 – 9:00 p.m. – **2005 State of the Rockies Conference Challenge Talks**: Gates Common Room (Palmer Hall, second floor)

- Welcome: **Richard F. Celeste**, Colorado College President
- Speaker Introductions: **Prof. Walter Hecox**, State of the Rockies Project Director
 - o**Patricia Limerick**, Professor of History & Environmental Studies, Faculty Director, Center of the American West at University of Colorado, Boulder; Challenge Talk:
“*The Rockies: Enduring Myths and Iconoclastic Realities*”
 - o**Terry L. Anderson**, Executive Director, Property and Environment Research Center, Bozeman, Montana; author of “Challenge Essay,” 2005 State of the Rockies Report Card:
“*From the Old West to the New West and Back Again*”

W E D N E S D A Y , A P R I L 6 , 2 0 0 5 _____

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM - Rockies Registration/Information Table Open: Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. – **Continental Breakfast & Conversation**: Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

Open time for out of town-registered attendees to sightsee and relax

1:30 – 4:45 p.m. – Armstrong Theater (in Armstrong Hall)

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Energy in the Rockies: Patterns, Trends and Assessment** (Moderator: **Prof. Walter Hecox**)

- Results of *Energy Use/Development Patterns in The Rockies* **Chase Whitney, F. Patrick Holmes and Bryan Hurlbutt**
- Respondents
 - o**Michelle Sullivan**, Wyoming Rancher and President, Ucross Foundation
 - o**John Nielsen**, Energy Program Director, Western Resource Advocates

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Break: Refreshments and visit with speakers – Armstrong Great Hall

3:30 – 4:45 p.m. **The Energy Challenge in the Rockies** (Moderator: **Prof. Walter Hecox**)

·Speaker: **Amory Lovins**, CEO, Rocky Mountain Institute, Snowmass, Colorado

“*Winning the Oil Endgame: What Role for the Rockies?*”

6:45 – 8:00 PM - Rockies Registration/Information Table Open: Outside Armstrong Theater (in Armstrong Hall)

7:30 – 9:00 p.m. – **2005 State of the Rockies Conference Keynote Talk:** Armstrong Theater (in Armstrong Hall)

·Welcome: **Prof. Walter Hecox**

·Introduction of Speaker: **President Richard Celeste**

·Keynote Speaker: **Bill Richardson**, Governor of New Mexico

“*A New West, A New Energy Policy*”

Respondent: **Matt Simmons**, President: Simmons & Co., Intl.

T H U R S D A Y , A P R I L 7 , 2 0 0 5 _____

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM - Rockies Registration/Information Table Open: Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. – **Continental Breakfast and Conversation** for Registered Attendees: Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

·Moderated Informal Focus Group Session: Topics for Future Rockies Reports and Conferences – Launching a *New West*-based Web Discussion About Key Topics, Problems and Issues Pertinent to the Rockies

·Co-Moderators:

o**Prof. Walter Hecox**, Director, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project

o**Jonathan Weber**, Founder & Editor in Chief – *New West – The Voice of the Rocky Mountains* a new online publication devoted to the Mountain West

Open time for out of town-registered attendees to sightsee and relax

1:30 – 4:45 p.m. – Gaylord Hall (in Worner Campus Center)

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Native Americans Regaining Sovereignty: Success Stories** (Moderator: **Prof. Walter Hecox**)

·Challenge Speakers:

o**Mr. A. David Lester**, Executive Director, Council of Energy Resource Tribes

o**Ms. Jacqueline Johnson**, Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians

Perspectives on Native American Sovereignty

·Presentation of Native American Nation Success Stories from *2005 State of the Rockies Report Card* **Chase Whitney**

·Panel of respondents and discussants:

o**Tony Skrelunas**, Director: Native American Program, The Grand Canyon Trust

o**Ira New Breast**, Ex. Dir. Native American Fish and Wildlife Society

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Break: Refreshments and visit with speakers

3:30 – 4:45 p.m. **State of the Rockies Highlights: Sprawl and National Parks' Stress** (Moderator: **Chase Whitney**)

·Results of *Grading Rockies' National Parks* – **F. Patrick Holmes**

·“*West Yellowstone's Economy & the Vagaries of Snowmobile Access*” – **Bryan Hurlbutt**

·“*A National Monument Becomes a Park: Great Sand Dunes*” – **Christie Renner**

·Results of *Grading Rockies' Communities on Urban Sprawl*- **F. Patrick Holmes**

6:15 – 8:00 PM - Rockies Registration/Information Table Open: Outside Armstrong Theater (in Armstrong Hall)

7:00– 8:30 p.m. – Armstrong Theater (in Armstrong Hall) – TICKETS REQUIRED!!

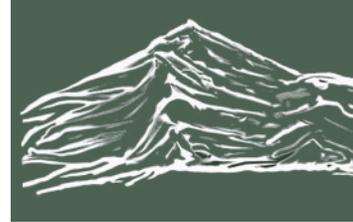
·Introduction of Speaker: **President Richard Celeste**

·Speaker: **Terry Tempest Williams**

“*Ground Truthing: The Open Space of Democracy*”

Colorado College Sponsor: English Department's MacLean Fund for English Studies Symposium on “Literature and Environmental Imagination,” in conjunction with the 2005 State of the Rockies Conference

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



INVITED SPEAKERS & RESPONDENTS



Terry Anderson is the executive director of PERC—the Property and Environment Research Center, a non-profit institute dedicated to improving □

Montana State University. His work helped launch the idea of “free market environmentalism” with the publication of his book by that title, coauthored with Donald Leal. Anderson is the author or editor of 30 books. These include *Enviro-Capitalists: Doing Good While Doing Well* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers 1997), also coauthored with Leal, *Property Rights: Cooperation, Conflict, and Law*, co edited with Fred S. McChesney (Princeton University Press 2003), and *The Not So Wild, Wild West*, coauthored with P. J. Hill (Stanford University Press 2004). He has published widely in both professional journals and the popular press, including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and *Fly Fisherman*. Anderson received his B.S. from the University of Montana in 1968 and his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Washington in 1972, after which he began his teaching career at Montana State University where he won several teaching awards. Anderson is an avid outdoorsman and a skilled bow hunter with a passion for hunting in Africa.



Joseph A. Garcia is the fifth president of Pikes Peak Community College. A resident of Colorado Springs for over 20 years, Garcia has an undergraduate degree in business from the University of Colorado (1979) and a J.D. from Harvard Law School (1983). He has also studied at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government and at Oxford University. Garcia has a diverse professional background including extensive legal, governmental, and management experience. He has served on the Governor’s Cabinet as Executive Director of one of Colorado’s executive branch agencies, and has served in the federal government as the regional director of one of the chief federal agencies, representing the White House and a cabinet secretary in the six Rocky Mountain states. Garcia has taught as an adjunct professor, and has lectured in classrooms at CU-Colorado Springs and UC-Denver. He has also been very active in this community as a volunteer and board member for a number of non-profit, community-based organizations.



Jacqueline Johnson is a member of the Raven/Sockeye Clan of the Tlingit Tribe and is a former member of the Central Council of the Tlingit-Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. She is the Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). NCAI was founded in 1944 and is the oldest and largest tribal government organization in the United States. NCAI serves to inform the public and the federal government on a broad range of federal policy issues affecting Tribal governments, coordinates communications among all Tribal governments and serves as a forum for consensus-based policy development among its membership of more than 250 Tribal governments in the United States. Prior to joining NCAI in June 2001, Johnson served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) administers programs throughout the United States, which provide affordable housing for Native Americans. Previously, Johnson served as the Executive Director of the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority headquartered in Juneau, Alaska and she is a former Vice-Chair of the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. She served as Chairperson of the National American Indian Housing Council and was appointed to the National Commission on American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Housing. She also has served on the National Community Development Financial Institution Fund Advisory Board, an advisory board to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



A. David Lester is a member of the Muscogee Creek tribe and has served as the Executive Director of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT), based in Denver, Colorado, since 1982. Under the direction of the elected leadership of the 53 federally recognized US Tribes and four First Nation Treaty Tribes of Canada, CERT has dramatically restructured the federal-Indian relationship with respect to minerals, mining, taxation, and Tribal jurisdiction over environmental regulation on Indian lands. The Council’s other priorities include building an understanding of Tribal values with federal agencies and private industry. CERT has contributed to the development of Tribal competencies in energy and environmental resource management through technical assistance, training and education. David is also president of the CERT Education Fund. Nearly 1,000 Indian students have benefited from the CERT Education Program, with 80% of the students □

T in 1982, David served as the Commissioner for Native Americans in the Department of Health and Human Services, a position to which he was first appointed under President Carter in 1978 and later re-appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1980. David graduated from Brigham Young University in 1967 with a degree in Political Science.



Patricia Limerick is professor of history and environmental studies as well as faculty director, Center of the American West at the University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Born and raised in Banning, California, Patricia Nelson Limerick has been observing the West for many years. She received her B.A. in American Studies in 1972 from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her Ph.D. in American Studies in 1980 from Yale University. Limerick has published a wide variety of books, articles, and reviews. Her best-known work, *The Legacy of Conquest*, has had a major impact on the field of Western American History. In addition to numerous scholarly articles and book reviews, she writes frequent columns and op-ed pieces for *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Denver Post*, *The Boulder Daily Camera*, and *The Rocky Mountain News*. Her recent books include *Something in the Soil* (a collection of essays) and “*The Atomic West*,” (in progress). As an advocate for bringing academic knowledge into the community, she has spoken to dozens of groups and has served on a number of advisory boards and committees -- most recently the Board of Advisors for Ken Burn’s and Stephen Ives’s eight-part PBS series, “*The West*”. In 1996, she served as President of the 5500 member American Studies Association.



Amory B. Lovins, chief executive officer of Rocky Mountain Institute, is a consultant experimental physicist educated at Harvard and Oxford. He has received an Oxford MA (by virtue of being a don), nine honorary doctorates, a MacArthur Fellowship, the Heinz, Lindbergh, Right Livelihood (“Alternative Nobel”), World Technology, and TIME Hero for the Planet awards, the Happold Medal, and the Nis , water, semiconductor, and several other sectors toward advanced resource productivity. He has briefed eighteen heads of state, held several visitin governments worldwide. The Wall Street Journal named Mr. Lovins one of thirty-nine people worldwide “most likely to change the course of business in the ‘90s”; Newsweek has praised him as “one of the Western world’s most influential energy thinkers”; and Car magazine ranked him the 22nd most powerful person in the global automotive industry. His latest book, *Winning the Oil Endgame*, was published September 2004. RMI, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was established in 1982 by resource analysts L. Hunter Lovins and Amory B. Lovins. What began as a small group of colleagues focusing on energy policy has since grown into a broad-based institution with approximately forty full-time staff, an annual budget of nearly \$6 million, and a global reach. RMI brings a unique perspective to resource issues, guided end-use/least-cost approach; biological insight; corporate transformation; pursuit of interconnections; and natural capitalism.



Mary Lou Makepeace joined the Gill Foundation as the director of the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado in December 2003. In this role, she oversees the fund’s programs, builds alliances with Colorado communities and other nonprofits, and directs the fund’s staff and policy. of community leadership programs designed to develop leadership skills and promote civic involvement. She was the first female mayor of Colorado Springs, serving from 1997 to 2003. As mayor, she lead a nine-member city council, served as chairman of the board of Cent From of Soc on a Harvard University, and holds a Masters of Public Affairs from the University of Colorado and a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of North Dakota.



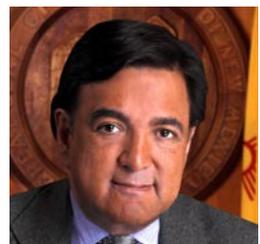
Ira New Breast, is a Tribal Member of the Blackfeet Nation of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Montana. He serves as Executive Director of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, a national non-profit organization based in Denver, Colorado. It was formed in 1982 by Tribal fish and wildlife managers, professionals, conservation law enforcement officers and administrators to assist Native American and Alaska Native Tribes with the conservation, protection and enhancement of their fish, wildlife, habitat and cultural resources. As each Tribe recognizes themselves as sovereign governments operating in perpetuity, the Society embraces its role to provide assistance for the interminable future. The Society’s relationship with Tribes is intrinsic and is viewed as a sacred commitment to Native American people and their natural resources. Tribes of America have a vital role to play in the national and international environmental community and in the arena of future conservation management. Mr. New Breast’s formal study includes Humboldt and San Francisco California State University. Informal professional experience in fish, wildlife and habitat management, administration, training, policy and legislative consultation span 19 years of which 12 years involved working within tribal government.



John Nielsen is Director of the Energy Project at Western Resource Advocates, a leading clean energy advocacy group serving the Interior West. John has worked at WRA as an economist and policy advisor since 1995. His work focuses on developing and implementing policies to promote renewable energy and other clean energy technologies. He is the lead author of several publications on clean energy development in the West including the *Renewable Energy Atlas of the West* and *A Balanced Energy Plan for the Interior West*. He has served as an expert able energy, energy conservation and green marketing. He is also a leader in the western environmental community on the relationship between energy policy and air quality. Mr. Nielsen holds a B.A. (summa cum laude) in mathematics and economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder and M.A. and M.Phil degrees in economics from Yale University. Founded in 1989, Western Resource Advocates (WRA) is a non-profit environmental law and policy organization dedicated to restoring and protecting the natural environment of the Interior American West. With more than 22 employees and offices in two states (Colorado and Utah), it has developed strategic programs in three areas: Water, Energy and Lands in each of which it pursues its goals in collaboration with other environmental and community groups. The mission and vision of Western Resource Advocates is to protect and restore the natural environment of the Interior West. It uses law, econ that energy demands are met in environmentally sound and sustainable ways throughout the seven states of the Interior West.



Bill Richardson is Governor of New Mexico, elected in 2002 by the largest margin of any candidate since 1964. He served for 14 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing northern New Mexico’s Third Congressional District. (1983-1997). In 1997 he served as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (1997-1998) and in 1998 was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate as secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy (1998-2001). In 2001 Richardson taught at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government and the United World College in Montezuma, New Mexico. He was born in Pasadena, California. He received his Bachelor’s Degree from Tufts University, in Massachusetts, in 1970 and earned a Master’s Degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, of Tufts University, in 1971. The New York Times July 20, 2004 depicted him thus: “For nearly three decades as a congressman, cabinet official, governor, rising start in the Democratic Party ... Mr. Richardson, 57, has built a widespread reputation as a skillful trouble-shooter, gleeful workaholic....” tmes (1995, 1997, 2000, and 2001) for the Nobel Peace Prize.



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Cathy O. Robbins is Vice President, El Pomar Foundation, having joined the foundation in May 2003. She is responsible for the Penrose Nonprofit Institute, whose purpose is to regionalize El Pomar Foundation operating programs and grant making. She also oversees leadership initiatives and expanding training and technical assistance programs in rural Colorado. To these responsibilities she brings an extensive background in nonprofit sector management, consulting and training. Robbins is a nationally recognized facilitator and leader in the field of nonprofit management and has 23 years experience as a nonprofit chief executive officer. Since 1992, Robbins has conducted over 100 board planning and training sessions with a variety of nonprofit organizations. Since 1993 as an instructor at the University of Colorado, Graduate School of Public Affairs, she teaches nonprofit management curriculum. In 1991, she started the Colorado Springs Nonprofit Center. In 1996, the Chamber Foundation added two leadership initiatives, IntroSprings and the Colorado Springs Leadership Institute. In 1998, the Volunteer Center of the Pikes Peak Region joined the programs of the Chamber Foundation. Robbins has a BA in Sociology from Northern Illinois University and a Master's degree in Urban Affairs from Wichita State University. She attended the Center for Creative Leadership Community Leaders program. Robbins was awarded the 1998 Women in Your Life Award and the 1996 Jefferson Award for significant public service.



Matthew Simmons is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Simmons & Company International, a specialized energy investment banking firm with offices in Houston, Texas and Aberdeen, Scotland, London, England and Boston, Massachusetts. The firm has guided its broad trustee of the Farnsworth Art Museum in Maine, serves on the Board of Deans Advisors of Harvard Business School and is past President of the Harvard Business School Alumni Association. He serves as a Board Member of Brown-Forman Corporation, the Center for Houston's Future, Houston Technology Center, ICIC and The Atlantic Council of The United States of America. Mr. Simmons is also Co-Chair of the National Trust Council, a member of the Council of Foreign Relations and past Chairman of the National Ocean Industries Association.



Tony Skrelunas is Senior Program Manager, Grand Canyon Trust in Flagstaff, Arizona. Tony re-joined the Trust in 2003 after spending 12 Government Development Office, a partner in Horizon Springs Partnership, and as the former GCT Native American Program Director. He coordinates the Trust, works with Tribes, communities, and non-governmental organizations on conservation and sustainable development projects. He currently serves as a partner in Southwest Tradition Log Homes – specializing in small diameter log homes, Board of Directors for the Navajo Nation Shopping Centers, Inc. – a \$40 million realty management company, and Board Chair of the Native American Community Development Corporation – a non-profit affiliate of the Native American National Bank. Tony successfully combines his traditional Navajo upbringing with a western education: he has B.A. and M.B.A. business degrees from Northern Arizona University.



Michelle M. Sullivan is President of the Ucross Foundation. Founded in 1981, the Foundation is a nonprofit organization located on an historic 22,000-acre working cattle ranch in northern Wyoming. The Foundation operates an international artists and writers retreat, and a variety of conservation programs designed to protect and preserve Western heritage and landscape. Ms. Sullivan previously served as Vice President and Director of the Wyoming Office of the Daniels Fund. Prior to returning to Wyoming in the fall of 2000, she was Senior Associate with the Aspen Institute's Community Strategies Group and the Global Interdependence Initiative in Washington, DC. While at the Institute she worked with regional non-profit organizations and national foundations to assist their leaders to be more effective in their work. Sullivan's experience bridges the worlds of the non-profit and foundation communities. She is the Founder of the Snake River Institute in Jackson Hole, an organization that presented educational programs in the arts and humanities throughout the American West. She also worked with the Greater Yellowstone Coalition. In 2003, she was appointed by the Governor of Wyoming to the State Board of Education. From 1995 through 1999, Michelle was a Kellogg National Fellow. In 1994 she was awarded a Loeb Fellowship at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design and spent a year there. Also in 1994, she was awarded an honorary Doctorate from the Colorado College for her work with the Snake River Institute. Michelle graduated from Colorado College in 1996 with a B.A. in Fine Art. Ms. Sullivan is a native of Wyoming and now lives in Big Horn, Wyoming.



Jonathan Weber is the founder and editor in chief of New West, a new online magazine about the Rocky Mountain West. Weber was previously the co-founder and editor in chief of The Industry Standard, the award-winning weekly news magazine that chronicled the rise and fall of the Internet economy. Weber served eight years as a writer and editor at the Los Angeles Times, and before that helped launch the Geneva-based international affairs magazine World Link. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University and lives in Missoula, MT. New West is a network of online communities devoted to the culture, economy, politics, environment and overall atmosphere of the Rocky Mountain West. In a time of dramatic change, New West aims to serve as a nexus of dialogue and a smart guide to the news and issues that are affe occupation, but share common interests and hopes for the region as it wrestles with growth and change. The site stands for forward thinking about the big picture and believes that citizen engagement will be instrumental in the development of the region.



Terry Tempest Williams is a prolific author, having grown up and now living within sight of the Great Salt Lake in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is perhaps best known for her 2000 book *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*, where she chronicles the epic rise of the Great Salt Lake and the flooding of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in 1983, alongside her mother's diagnosis with ovarian cancer, believed to be caused by radioactive fallout from the nuclear tests in the Nevada desert in the 1950's and 60's. It is now regarded as a classic in American Nature Writing. In *Red: Patience and Passion in the Desert* (2001) she traces her lifelong love of and commitment to the wilderness of southern Utah. Her other books include *Coyote's Canyon* (1995); *An Unspoken Hunger – Stories from the Field* (1989) and *Pieces of White Shell – A Journey to Navajoland* (1987). Her most recent book is *The Open Space of Democracy* (2004) presenting a sharp-edged perspective on the ethics and politics of place, spiritual democracy, and the responsibilities of citizen engagement. About her writing she says simply, "I write through my biases of gender, geography, and culture. I am a woman whose ideas have been shaped by the Great Basin and the Colorado Plateau, these ideas are then filtered through the prism of my culture and my culture is Mormon. The tenets of family and community which I see at the heart of that culture are then articulated through story." She lives in Castle Valley, Utah and has served as the Annie Clark Tanner Scholar in Environmental Humanities at the University of Utah.

COLORADO COLLEGE STUDENTS, FACULTY, & STAFF

Walter E. Hecox is professor of economics, Director of the Slade Sustainable Development Workshop, and Project Director for the State of the Rockies Project.

M.A. (1967) and Ph.D. (1970) from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York. He teaches courses in international economics, ecological economics, and sustainable development. He has conducted research and taken leave to work for the World Bank, U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of Energy and Colorado Department of Natural Resources. He is author of *Charting the Colorado Plateau* (The Grand Canyon Trust, 1996), co-author of *Beyond the Boundaries: The Human and Natural Communities of the Greater Grand Canyon* (Grand Canyon Trust, 1997) and co-editor of the 2004 Colorado College State of the Rockies Report Card.



Patrick Holmes is 2004-05 Program Coordinator of the State of the Rockies Project, at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, having served in the same position during 2003-04. A graduate of Colorado College in May, 2003 with a Liberal Arts and Sciences major: Environmental Economics and Policy, he was research assistant at the Sonoran Institute in Montana during the summer of 2003 and involved with the Colorado College Sustainable Development Workshop as an undergraduate. Patrick is coauthor of the "Changing Economy of the West," Sonoran Institute, September 2003, "The Colorado Plateau Economy: Shifting Patterns and Regional Disparities," (forthcoming) "Does Wilderness Impoverish Rural Regions?: Research on Economic Conditions in Rural Counties in the American West Containing Designated Wilderness," *International Journal of Wilderness*, December 2004, as well as co-editor of the 2004 Colorado College State of the Rockies Report Card.



Bryan Hurlbutt is 2004-05 Project Researcher for the Colorado College State of the Rockies Project. He graduated from Colorado College with a BA degree in May 2004, majoring in Physics. During Summer 2004 he worked for the Rockies Project on research concerning West Yellowstone, Montana and the impacts on this "captive" gateway community of variable Yellowstone National Park snowmobile access policies. During his undergraduate years he was a Physics tutor, worked on solar physics research in Bozeman, Montana and astrophysics research at Colorado College, as well as Orca whale research in the San Juan Islands, Washington. He was active in the New Voters Project during the 2004 Presidential elections. Bryan plans to work on the Rockies Project again during 2005-06.



Matthew Lee-Ashley is a visiting researcher for the 2004-05 Colorado College State of the Rockies Project. He graduated summa cum laude from Pomona College in Claremont, CA, in May, 2004, with a major in History and a minor in Mathematics. He has studied and lived in

Colorado politics, served as the editor-in-chief for the Claremont College independent newspaper, conducted field research under a Student Undergraduate Research Project grant, and volunteered as a classroom aide and soccer coach. He is an NCAA fellow, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an Academic All-American, and was the 2004 winner of the Barbara Wertheimer Prize in Labor History and the John Hayes Beaver Prize in History.



Phillip M. Kannan is Distinguished Lecturer and Legal-Scholar-in-Residence, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado. His education includes a BS (1961) and MA (1963) in Mathematics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC; and a J.D. degree (1974) from the University of Tennessee College of Law, Knoxville, TN. He has practiced law for over 30 years as the general counsel for non-profit and public corporations and has published many articles in the fields of administrative and environmental law. Since 1997 he has been a part of the State of the Rockies Project, focusing on environmental policy nationally, internationally, and in the Southwest.



Caitlin O'Brady is a student researcher for the State of the Rockies Project for 2004-05. She will graduate from Colorado College in May 2005 with a major in Environmental Science. She has a keen interest in social and environmental issues of different regions that she has explored while studying sustainable development and social change in Central America and working for a bioregional nonprofit in the Pacific North West.

grants to complete and present her senior thesis research on the effects of an invasive nitrogen-fixing tree on Hawaiian ecosystems.



Christine A. Renner is a student researcher during 2004-05 for the State of the Rockies Project. She will graduate from Colorado College in December 2005, with a major in Economics/International Affairs and a minor in Environmental Issues. She has worked for the Colorado College Writing Center as a writing consultant, supervised the CC Fair Trade Coffee Co-op, written for the campus *CiPher Magazine*, and served as a

impact of the Great Sand Dunes National Monument becoming a National Park with expanded boundaries. This topic is also the focus of her Senior Thesis in Economics.



Chase Whitney is a visiting researcher for the 2004-05 Colorado College State of the Rockies Project. From July 2002 to July 2004 he was a Fellow with El Pomar Foundation, Colorado Springs, CO, working on the Awards for Excellence program and Fellowship Recruiting. During 2003-04, he assisted the Palmer Land Trust in Colorado Springs with administration and land preservation. He earned a B.A. degree (May 2002) with majors in U.S. History and Environmental Studies/Policy and Values from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA. He studied

served as a geology teaching assistant in New Zealand, and has been involved with management and leadership training programs.



Editors' Preface and Executive Summary



Editors' Preface

We do not believe in a “sophomore slump!” In this our second year of the Rockies Project, we have moved beyond the 2004 State of the Rockies Report Card’s assessment of 14 county-based indicators related to: land and environment; social and cultural capital; income, employment and equity; as well as an overall “GPA” for each county based upon vibrancy and vitality. Perhaps in future years we will return to some of those measures of what is happening in the 280 counties comprising the 8-state Colorado College Rockies Region.

In this year’s 2005 Report Card we have retained the approach of “grading,” but are applying it to different entities in the Rockies besides counties, including national park units, energy-rich areas, toxically challenged regions, and communities with creative occupations.

Major work has been devoted to undertaking original analysis and discussion to illuminate dimensions of the Rockies we consider important, interesting, and central to the health of this spectacular but fragile part of the US. A “Rockies Baseline” section is introduced for the first time to track vital signs that depict a region in transition; we intend to present similar baseline information in future Report Cards, appropriately updated to show changing trends and magnitudes.

We have held onto the tradition of assigning an overall “GPA” to each county throughout the Rockies, this year in the area of civic engagement and capacity, both components of social capital. We have few illusions regarding “grading”: communities earning a high grade will be pleased, while communities graded low will howl with protest! In the ensuing discussion and debate, much good arises as people within the Rockies start to converse about “their” region, acting for brief periods like citizens of the Rockies.

Future years will bring new topics, different analysis, more discussion and dialogue. Central to each year’s activities are the three aims of the Colorado College State of the Rockies Project:

- Student involvement in analysis, writing and delivery,
- A written Report Card that is packed with valuable information and provocative discussion,
- An annual State of the Rockies Conference at Colorado College.

The overall project goal: involve undergraduate college students to learn about the complexities of the Rockies, to help create the Report Card and to help conduct the State of the Rockies Conference. Further objectives: encourage conference attendees and Report Card readers to engage with experts, stretch their minds, ponder what is required to protect and promote a region whose future requires engaged citizens, careful management, and dynamic

change to reinvent -- again and again -- a region of explorers, settlers, entrepreneurs, and residents.

Executive Summary

Responding to 2004 Rockies Challenges: “Reflections on Inland Colony Status and Regional Sovereignty”

Matthew Lee-Ashley, 2004/05 Visiting Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

Heard once or twice, perhaps an accident; heard repeatedly, a message becomes important! During the 2004 Rockies Conference and in the 2004 Report Card, a number of experts harped on the questions: do the Rockies lack “sovereignty” and is the area for all intents and purposes an “inland colony” of the nation? This “response” to challenges made last year first identifies the specifics of such charges. It characterizes the region’s large proportion of federal land holdings/management, aridity and rural nature; moves to investigate further what experts say about sovereignty and “colony” status; and ends with examples where the Rockies Region and its people and communities are asserting their independence in demanding an equal voice as major issues are decided about energy, environment, and growth.

“Rockies Baseline: Vital Signs for a Region in Transition”

Walter E. Hecox, Project Director, F. Patrick Holmes, 2004/05 Program Coordinator and Bryan Hurlbutt, 2004/05 Project Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

Vital signs for an area as immense as the 8-state Rockies Region are important if we are to measure each year magnitudes of population, employment and income, as well as rates of change and comparisons to US trends and averages. Starting with this 2005 Rockies Report Card we intend each year to provide information in tables, companion charts and graphs that highlights key dimensions to what is happening in the Rockies. To be updated in each future Rockies Report Card, these vital signs will help readers navigate through the complexities of US Census data on population and housing as well as other data on employment and income.

2005 State of the Rockies Challenge Essay: “From the Old West to the New West and Back Again”

Terry Anderson, Executive Director, Property and Environment Research Center, Bozeman, Montana

Terry Anderson, renowned for his work on “free market environmentalism,” challenges readers with an intriguing discussion of the historic roots of Rockies development and resource extraction, transition to amenity-based economies and societies that bring with them rampant conflict and indecision, and finally

the prospect for a return to some “Old West” attributes of local, community-based cooperation and increasing use of markets to make tough decisions. The “Old West” is sketched out as an era when commodity demands and development dominated, a rapacious frontier existed, and development forces ran rough shod over people and natural resources. The “New West” has become increasingly oriented towards amenity demands to use the land for recreation and tourism rather than extract resources from the same lands. Conflicts abound as newcomers butt heads with established tradition and old-timers. Resolution of these conflicts, argues Anderson, will come increasingly from a modern adaptation of some “old” practices and institutions so that resources and their modern uses can be more easily exchanged through markets and power is devolved to lower levels of decision makers.

“The Role of Law in the Toxic Legacy in the Rockies”

Phillip M. Kannan, Distinguished Lecturer and Legal-Scholar-in-Residence, Colorado College.

The opening of the Rockies in the nineteenth century was facilitated by how law was used to expand land use rather than protect its associated environmental characteristics. For decades economic development and a pushing back of the frontier was paramount, with few laws protecting the environment. This has been true for water, minerals, timber and grazing. Federal uses of the Rockies to promote private ownership of the lands and extractive uses of the public lands were supplemented during the twentieth century by large-scale military reservations in the region. Starting roughly in the 1970s, society has strengthened the legal forces protecting the environment through landmark legislation. There are nascent forces at work seeking further alignment of federal laws with increased amenity use of the area’s resources and new individual and community ideas about how federal resources should be managed and protected.

Sketches of Regional Management Issues in the Rockies:

The Rockies’ population and economy continue growing and evolving, forcing government, business, and community in the Rockies to adapt to new conditions. These sketches illustrate the implications of coming to grips with such sweeping changes on regions of the Rockies and highlight the creative ways these communities are adapting.

-“*San Luis Valley, Colorado: A New National Park*”

Christine Renner, 2004/05 Student Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

-“*San Juan Mountains: Reshaping the Region for the Twenty-First Century*”

F. Patrick Holmes, 2004/05 Program Coordinator, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

-“*West Yellowstone, Montana: A Captive Gateway*

Community”

Bryan Hurlbutt, 2004/05 Project Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

The Rockies is largely defined by spectacular natural beauty, often with the most stellar lands owned and managed by the federal government. Gateway communities exist adjacent to many of these areas, providing locals and visitors alike with services and facilities. Wild variations in the public’s access to federal lands as management priorities change can devastate these communities, creating seasonal and even prolonged dips in visitation and economic activity. West Yellowstone, Montana’s experience in recent years with variations in Yellowstone National Park snowmobile management is summarized as a quintessential example of both the symbiosis that exists between federal lands and their adjacent communities and the frustrations that arise. Lessons from “West” are applicable to many other communities around the Rockies.

“National Parks Under Stress”

F. Patrick Holmes, 2004/05 Program Coordinator and Bryan Hurlbutt, 2004/05 Project Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

How healthy are our national parks? Critics charge that they are languishing, with dilapidated buildings, trails, and roads to the tune of billions of dollars. Supporters argue that the Bush Administration has a plan to eliminate the deferred maintenance backlog by devoting \$5 billion during the second term. The Rockies Project has tackled the task of gathering data, some through a Freedom of Information Act request, to assess all 70 National Park Service units in the Rockies on visitation, funding, capital assets, accumulated maintenance backlog, and projected budget allocations through federal fiscal year 2009. Each park unit has been graded on its current and projected ability to reduce/eliminate deferred maintenance under Bush Administration plans. While parks are making progress on human infrastructure, little information and less funding exists to assess and protect cultural resources. The Rockies needs to advocate for and protect against erosion of the “crown jewels” of the region’s vast public estate.

“Energy Use/Development Patterns in the Rockies”

Chase Whitney, 2004/05 Visiting Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project, Bryan Hurlbutt, 2004/05 Project Researcher, and F. Patrick Holmes, 2004/05 Program Coordinator.

Are the Rockies a huge welcome mat for visitors, or does the rest of the nation wipe its collective feet on the region? Vast energy resources denote the region and comprise an important part of its economy. Fierce debate rages over a national energy plan and what role the Rockies should play alongside of or instead of energy conservation. Three national energy strategies are reviewed to demonstrate the dramatic differences in what the Rockies may



be called upon to provide for the nation in resources extracted and refined/processed, with incumbent waste and pollution alongside lucrative jobs and community growth. Our analysis measures the location and magnitude of energy resources throughout the Rockies, both non-renewable and renewable. Critical regions and communities both sit on top of vast energy wealth and potential; and at the same time are in line to bear the benefits and brunt of the impacts. How, where and when the Rockies makes its “fair” contribution to a national energy strategy will largely determine the future of the region.

“The Toxic Rockies”

Bryan Hurlbutt, 2004/05 Project Researcher, with assistance from Caitlin O’Brady, 2004/05 Student Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

Where, when and why are toxic substances being generated and disposed within the Rockies? Picking up a challenge from the 2004 Rockies Conference, we have gathered data on toxic generation and release throughout the region. Federal facilities in the Rockies are an important source of toxic legacy and even continuing toxic generation and release. Communities and businesses compound the amounts of toxic chemicals in the Rockies. Using measures such as the EPA’s Toxic Release Inventory and other analyses of pollution, the pattern of toxics has been analyzed for each of 280 counties. We have identified the most toxic counties based upon air, water and land, with a final “overall” rank assigned for a composite measure of toxicity within the Rockies.

“Rockies Sprawl Index”

F. Patrick Holmes, 2004/05 Program Coordinator, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

Is beauty and functionality in the eye of the beholder? Sprawl to some is an unfortunate consequence of cheap land and energy and rapid growth surrounding urban areas. To others the lifestyle and incumbent housing, commercial and transportation patterns developing throughout the Rockies epitomize market forces providing individuals with inexpensive housing and livable communities far away from urban cores with their pollution, crime, and congestion. The State of the Rockies Project has measured sprawl in metropolitan Rockies communities. Five metrics have been used to develop an index of sprawl, using computer-based mapping analysis (GIS). Two groups of metropolitan statistical areas as defined by the Census Bureau have been ranked separately: communities with populations above and below 50,000 people. Governance and “costs of sprawl” have also been visited to conclude this analysis of what Rockies citizens are doing to their built-environments.

“Native American Tribes Regaining Sovereignty: Success Cases”

Professor Walter Hecox, Rockies Project Director, Rebecca Schild, 2004/05 Student Researcher and Chase Whitney, 2004/05 Visiting Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

Charles Wilkinson, law professor at the University of Colorado and eloquent writer of many books on the American West, spoke at the 2004 State of the Rockies Conference on “Endurance and sovereignty among the Indian Nations of the Rocky Mountain West.” Taking up his challenge, the State of the Rockies Project has sought examples in the Rocky Mountain region of Native American Nations that are creative and energetic in strengthening “sovereignty” over their lives, communities, and resources. We have written a number of capsule sketches of these “success stories” throughout the Rockies, spread among tribes, and covering initiatives in education, community services, and resource protection/development. The fabric woven by these case studies is consistent with Wilkinson’s observation of a year ago: “Tribal governments now are clearly the real governments in Indian Country.”

“Creative Occupations Patterns”

F. Patrick Holmes, 2004/05 Program Coordinator

Much is being made around the nation about “the creative class.” Analysis by Richard Florida in his book *The Rise of the Creative Class* suggests emergence of a new socio-economic and demographic group that is posited to be the new driver of economic productivity, affluence and ingenuity in “with-it” communities. Florida challenged the State of the Rockies Project to seek out “emerging areas of indigenous culture on the fringe.” Analysis of the larger metropolitan areas in the Rockies reveal three top central cities on our “creativity” scale, with smaller neighboring areas out-competing their core centers. Beyond the reach of Richard Florida’s analysis lie scores of non-metropolitan communities: how do they rate and rank? Our analysis extends Florida’s concept within the Rockies, adding measures of protected lands, amenity-ratings, and a new “charismatic mega-fauna” index, each of the latter investigating the pull of nature for creative people. Results show strong associations between stellar natural conditions in and around flourishing creative economies and communities.

“Civic Engagement and Capacity”

2005 Rockies Final Overall GPA:

Chase Whitney, 2004/05 Visiting Researcher and Matthew Lee-Ashley, 2004/05 Visiting Researcher, Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.

Do cowboys bowl alone? Robert Putnam’s *Bowling Alone* suggests American society has turned inward, asocial, less engaged. The State of the Rockies Project set out to measure dimensions of civic capacity and engagement in search of an answer for the Rocky Mountain Region. Measures range from charity to health, literacy, political as well as religious involvement. Communities of roughly like-kind/size are compared to each other. Finally a measure of “social capital” provided each community a type of overall GPA. Top 10 communities are identified for civic capacity, civic engagement, and overall social capital. A companion table provides data and grades for each county in the Rockies where data supports assigning grades. Selected profiles of “civic” success stories show that the Rockies Region is engaged in strengthening “civics” as a fundamental determinant of healthy, well-functioning communities.



At Colorado College our goal is to provide the finest liberal arts education in the country. Drawing upon the adventurous spirit of the Rocky Mountain West, we challenge our students, one course at a time, to develop those habits of intellect and imagination that will prepare them for learning and leadership throughout their lives. (CC Mission Statement)



COLORADO COLLEGE & THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Colorado College today, as for the past 130 years, is strongly defined by location and events of the 1800s. Pike's Peak abruptly rises out of the high plains that extend from the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers towards the west. This eastern-most sentinel of the Rocky Mountain chain of 14,000 ft. peaks first attracted early explorers and then was the focus of President Jefferson's call for the southern portion of the Louisiana Purchase to be mapped by Zebulon Pike in 1806. Gold seekers in 1858 spawned the start of the "Pike's Peak or Bust Gold Rush" of prospectors and all manner of suppliers to the mining towns. General William Jackson Palmer, while extending a rail line from Kansas City to Denver, in 1869 camped near what is now Colorado City and fell in love with the view of Pike's Peak and red rock formations now called the Garden of the Gods. An entrepreneur and adventurer, he selected that site to found a new town with the dream that it would be a famous resort—complete with a college to bring education and culture to the region. Within five years both Colorado Springs and Colorado College came into being in Colorado Territory, preceding Colorado statehood in 1876.

Early pictures of present day Cutler Hall, the first permanent building on campus that was completed in 1882, speak volumes to the magnificent scenery of Pike's Peak and the lonely plains. Katherine Lee Bates added an indelible image of the region. In 1893 she spent a summer teaching in Colorado Springs at a CC summer program and on a trip up Pike's Peak was inspired to write her "America the Beautiful" poem. It helped spread a celebration of the magnificent vistas and grandeur of Pike's Peak and the surrounding region -- and provided bragging rights for CC as "The America the Beautiful College."

The last quarter of the eighteenth century was challenging both for Colorado Springs and Colorado College. Attempts to locate financial support i

Tenney's "New West" that encompassed the general Rocky Mountain region. His promotion of this small college spoke of Colorado College being on the "very verge of the frontier" with a mission to bring education and culture to a rugged land. Even then, Tenney saw the college as an ideal place to study anthropology and archeology, use the geology of the region as a natural laboratory, and serve the mining industry by teaching the science of mineralogy and metallurgy. In the early 1900s a School of Engineering was established that offered deg

Pass, upon which a forestry school was built, the fifth forestry school created in the US and the only one with a private forest.

Subsequ

and creation of innovative courses, majors, and programs. The unique Block Plan, implemented in the 1970s, consists of one-at-a-time courses that facilitate extended course field study, ranging across the Rockies and throughout the Southwest. Thus CC has a rich history indelibly linked to the Rockies.

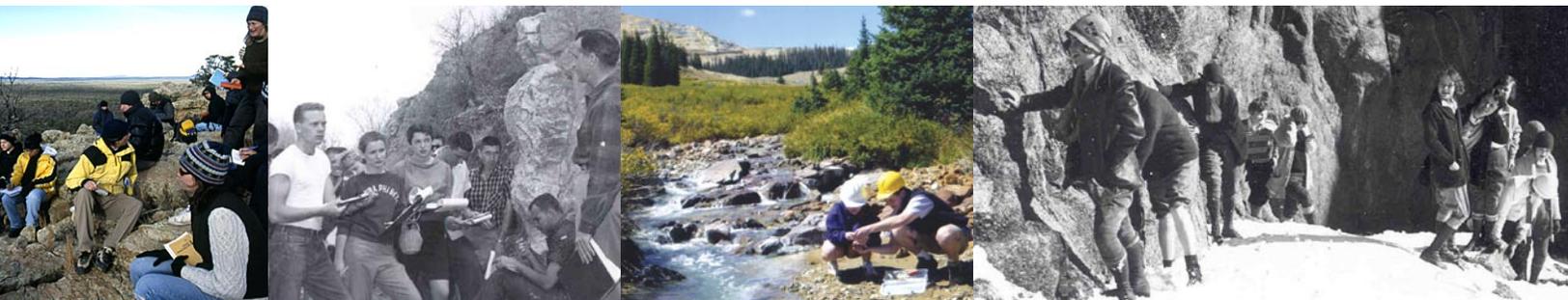
Today is no different: CC has new programs that meet evolving challenges in the Rockies, including environmental science and Southwest studies programs, a sustainable development workshop, and exciting field work offered by a variety of disciplines. Students can thoroughly explore the Rockies through the block plan.

The Rockies Project:

The Colorado College State of the Rockies Project is designed to provide a thoughtful, objective voice in regional issues by offering credible research on problems facing the Rocky Mountain West, and through convening citizens and experts to discuss the future of our region. Each year the Project provides:

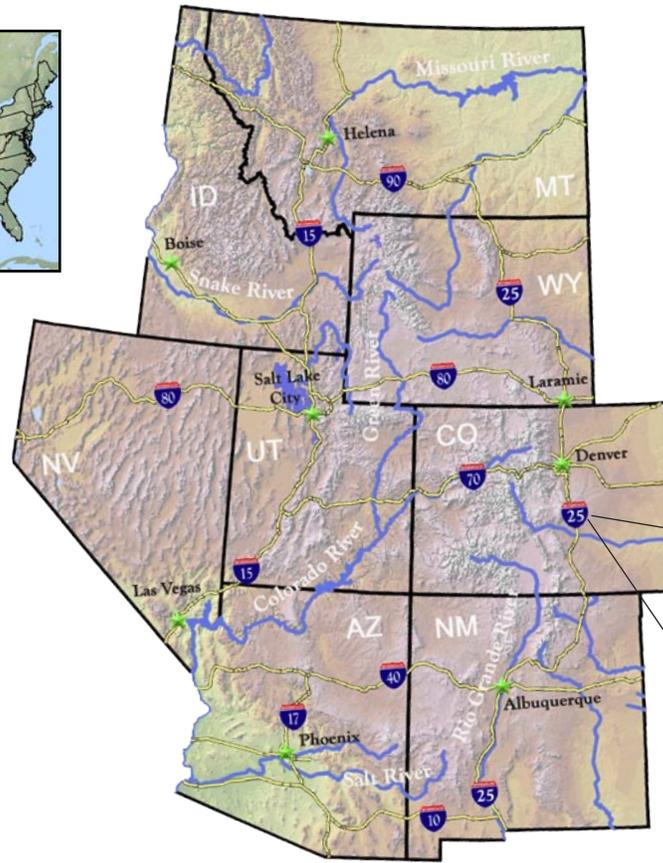
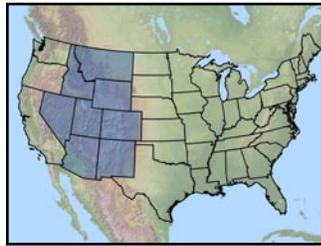
- Opportunities for collaborative student-faculty research partnerships
- An annual State of the Rockies Report Card
- A companion State of the Rockies Conference.

Taken together, these three arms of the State of the Rockies Project offer the tools, forum, and accessibility needed for Colorado College to foster a strong sense of citizenship for both our graduates and the broader regional community.





COLORADO COLLEGE'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN STUDY REGION



This second annual State of the Rockies Conference celebrates, once again, CC's past and present 8-state "backyard" with a varied group of speakers and events. These conferences are intended as yearly forums that bring together on the CC campus thoughtful people with provocative perspectives about the region. Their purpose is to both inform and challenge current and future community leaders of the Rocky Mountain West and beyond. We welcome you to the Colorado College campus and our efforts to explore the Rockies through this work of inquiry, nurturing, and protecting in the coming decades.

Richard F. Celeste
President
Colorado College



2004-2005 Rockies Project Staff



2004-2005
Rockies Project
Researchers

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THE COLORADO COLLEGE
STATE OF THE ROCKIES PROJECT
Economics and Business Department
14 E. Cache La Poudre St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

www.coloradocollege.edu/stateoftherockies