

Amy Hill

1 of 2

Since she first started, Amy Hill has impressed me with her tireless work to collaborate with campus colleagues to create a meaningful first year experience for our incoming students in which they build a real community. She has taken the concepts of CC Bound and other communication with admitted students, as well as New Student Orientation (and Winter Start Orientation) far beyond what they were before she began.

Starting when I was an admitted student in 1999, I thought the communication and orientation process could be much improved. I tried to bring up the topic and influence it in my own ways over my years as a staff member in ITS (first putting the "CC Bound" materials in Canvas, and then a few years later building the first "CC Bound" website), but in all that time I always felt that the process never seemed cohesive; instead it was more like a collection of small pieces of communication and orientation from each separate department.

Amy succeeded in actually forming the communication into something much more cohesive so that admitted students felt they were hearing from the college in one voice rather than a multitude of different voices (who often said similar things but had different deadlines). Doing this was no small feat since lots of different departments across the college do own their own pieces of communication and orientation, but she brought us all together with regular meetings, shared documents, and an expert guiding hand that was sorely needed.

On top of all this, she was faced with the enormous challenge of conducting these activities during two incoming class years under the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic. Plans were constantly changing and couldn't truly be solid by the nature of the changing situation, sessions designed for in-person had to be put online, and Amy suddenly had to confront the problems such as how to keep students engaged in hour after hour of online sessions, how to build community with almost no meetings in person, etc.

Again, she successfully brought the community together to find solutions and while the pandemic orientations were far from perfect, I think they were as good as they possibly could have been and shudder to think of what we would have done without Amy there to lead the way and galvanize our efforts.

I tip my hat to her amazing work collaborating and building community – not just for the first year students, but for all of us representatives from around the college who have a hand in communication to and orientation of new CC students.

Amy Hill
2 of 2

I nominate **Amy Hill**, Director of Campus Activities & Student Orientation for the Jane Cauvel Cultivating Collaboration and Community-Building Award. People on campus call Amy a “Rock Star” every time they mention her name, and it’s no surprise. Her efforts to expand the Food Pantry, bolster mental health through a variety of in-person events, programming, and innovative take-away kits, and her collaborations with students and other campus partners to envision a re-vitalized new community in spaces in Worner Center vacated when offices moved to the new Yalich Student Services Center, is nothing short of remarkable. Most recently, students praised Amy’s effective and friendly communications, saying she’s the only person whose e-mails they actually read! Amy is one of the most tireless people I know; she centers students, and inclusion in all that she does.

It is our pleasure to nominate Dr. Jennifer Golightly for the Jane Cauvel Cultivating Collaboration and Community-building award.

Jennifer has worked at CC since 2014. Although her primary role is to administer Canvas, our Learning Management System, her contributions to teaching and learning at the College have extended well beyond this role. Jennifer has a wealth of knowledge about online pedagogy, courses design, and the digital humanities, which she shares with faculty when she consults with them about the LMS. She has collaborated with faculty, students, and staff colleagues on digital liberal arts (DLA) initiatives—leading CC's participation in the Digital Scholarship in the Front Range Initiative. She mentored student DLA fellows and co-taught several DLA courses, while also supporting the work of ITS.

Jennifer's expertise was never more necessary on our campus than it was during the spring of 2020, when, very suddenly, all CC courses needed transition to remote instruction. It is not an understatement to suggest that the campus would not have made a successful transition to online instruction without her. When the pandemic closed campus, faculty had varying levels of knowledge and comfort working in Canvas. Few faculty at CC (and staff working in faculty development) had any experience teaching online prior to the spring semester. CC had a limited infrastructure to support the faculty who needed to become experts in online instruction. Jennifer understood that the campus needed both her technology support and her pedagogical expertise, and she began immediately to assess faculty members' needs and develop a structure for supporting faculty.

Jennifer co-lead an *ad hoc* extended team of staff and faculty to develop a model for faculty support. Along with the team, she identified faculty and staff who had experience with online instruction and who could consult with faculty. The team created a liaison model, connecting an experienced online instructor with a librarian who had expertise in open access materials, and these pairings reached out to faculty. Through this extended support structure, CC was able to offer individualized support to every faculty member who was teaching. This structure also encouraged faculty and staff to work together and support one another at a time when our community was fractured and fragmented. One faculty member commented that the work she did to support other faculty as a liaison was incredibly gratifying and among the most meaningful experiences she has had at CC.

In addition to co-leading the *ad hoc* group, Jennifer single-handedly consulted with more than 25 faculty during the two-week period between the time the campus closed for in-person instruction and the first day of class. During this time, she also offered 8 workshops on online pedagogy for more than 100 faculty. She continued to build our capacity for online instruction throughout the summer by offering workshops and through in her work on an action team through the Dean's office. This team created a course design guide, developed and organized online instructional resources, and hosted target demonstrations throughout the summer and fall, highlighting pedagogical techniques to deepen student engagement and learning in the continued context of the pandemic.

Jennifer's knowledge and support have been instrumental in CC's ability to offer the finest liberal arts education in the country. She has worked tirelessly so that faculty could design and deliver exceptional courses during this time of extreme upheaval. For all of her work at the College, and especially her contributions during the last year, Jennifer Golightly is richly deserving of the Jane Cauvel Cultivating Collaboration and Community-building award.

Collaboration and Community Building Award – Makayla Nichols and Jeff Hinshaw

While still very new to Colorado College, Student Life Room Assignment Specialist Makayla Nichols and ITS Applications Programmer/Analyst Jeff Hinshaw set out to solve a problem for the CC community. Student Life was looking for a replacement for CBORD's Housing Management System (HMS), and ITS wanted it to integrate nicely with Banner. Rather than purchasing a new product, Student Life decided to go with a homegrown solution, so Jeff and Makayla set out to build new functionality in Banner that would ultimately provide the features students, staff, and parents were looking for in a housing module.

Makayla and Jeff worked closely within and outside their teams to analyze the needs of the community in order to come up with a solution that provided continuity with current capabilities, solved existing issues, and eliminated redundant housing data on campus.

The solution includes collection of student preferences, contract acceptance, roommate and room selection, room check-in and out, gold card access to buildings, address reporting, and much more. Student Life is now able to categorize buildings and rooms in Banner and use this information to aid in room assignments.

The collaboration goes beyond Student Life and ITS. Students and staff were engaged in testing and provided feedback that was crucial to a successful launch for Fall 2019 housing activities. This collaboration is a great example of what can be accomplished when teams pull together with a common goal. The solution also saved the College over \$6000 a year in costs.

Collaboration and Community-building

Jordan
Radke

Since arriving as Director of the Collaborative for Community Engagement (CCE) in 2017, Dr. Jordan Travis Radke has been a leader in collaboration at Colorado College. Using principles of democratic engagement, she has modeled what we try and teach our students everyday: collective impact is always greater than individual impact. Bringing together teams of community partners, faculty, staff and students in an effort to facilitate deeper learning through diverse perspectives, Dr. Travis Radke embodies the spirit of Jane Cauvel by building and sustaining relationships – creating links across divisions of the college and forging connections between the campus and community.

Among her first tasks as Director was facilitating a strategic planning process for the Collaborative. She organized a "Semester of Listening" by gathering input from more than 500 people, including 26 academic departments, leadership from every major division of the College, and community organizations. Dr. Travis Radke embodied democratic collaborative principles throughout this process, charting the future of the CCE by establishing clear goals to guide the office, routine opportunities to evaluate the work, and balancing throughout both student and community impact.

Dr. Travis Radke has been especially effective in building partnerships with faculty to institutionalize community engaged teaching and learning. She has created multiple programs for faculty development, including faculty service committees in the areas of education, sustainability, and mass incarceration. She has provided opportunities for faculty to share approaches to community engaged teaching and has created engaged learning course grants, seeking to support the development of engaged pedagogy.

In addition to her work with faculty, Dr. Travis Radke has worked extensively with other offices at CC. In collaboration with Campus Activities and Residential Life, she organized the first ever Sense of Place panel featuring leaders from the Colorado Springs community. She also organized campus-wide collaboration on the Week of Action, and worked closely with Admissions and Financial Aid to establish the Community Engaged Fellows program, a four-year, co-curricular civic leadership development program.

Last but not least, Dr. Travis Radke still finds time to work closely with students. Through Community Engaged Leaders, a three-year, cohort-based program, she helps students connect academics and community-engaged experiences. She also started the Community Engaged Scholars Program, which has graduated more than 40 students in two years and currently has 140 participating students. Furthermore, she creates dynamic spaces of learning and belonging for our students, inspiring those of us around her to be more collaborative and focused on what we can do together.

In her efforts to bridge the divide between our campus and the surrounding community, few faculty or staff have worked with as many campus stakeholders as Dr. Travis Radke. A master teacher, she believes that we learn best when we learn together. She seeks always to help our community discover shared spaces for co-educating and supports all campus and community members in taking action together to make our campus and our world a better place. For these reasons, we nominate her for the Jane Cauvel Cultivating Collaboration and Community-Building Award.