EXTENDED STUDIES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO



THE IMPACT

Newsletter

May 2026



The Dean's Dispatch

As we arrive at commencement season, I'm filled with pride and gratitude as we celebrate the perseverance, dedication, and achievements of our students. This is a time that reminds us why we do this work—to support learners as they reach meaningful milestones and prepare for what comes next. For so many of our students, especially adult learners, earning a degree represents not just completion, but transformation—a new chapter, a new opportunity, and a renewed sense of purpose.

At Extended Studies, we remain deeply committed to creating pathways that meet students where they are and help them move forward with confidence. That's why I'm especially excited to share the launch of the COSI Achieve program, a new initiative designed to help students fund their educational journeys while connecting them to vital wrap-around support services. Through scholarships, guidance, and holistic support, this program will help remove barriers and make higher education more attainable.

Our goal is simple and powerful: to help adult learners take the next step toward their career goals and build the future they envision. Whether students are returning to finish what they started, pivoting into a new field, or advancing in their current careers, programs like COSI Achieve help turn possibility into reality.

As we celebrate our graduates and look ahead to the opportunities to come, I am continually inspired by the resilience and ambition of our students and the commitment of our team and partners who make this work possible. Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping us create impact that lasts far beyond graduation. Go Pack!

With warm regards,
Kathryn Starkey, Ph.D.

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

CSU Pueblo Celebrates First Doctoral Graduates in Educational Leadership!

The Doctor of Educational Leadership at Colorado State University Pueblo proudly celebrates a historic milestone - its very first cohort of doctoral students has successfully completed the program.

Seven students from the inaugural Spring 2023 cohort have defended their dissertations, marking the culmination of years of rigorous research, leadership development, and commitment to advancing education. The program, designed to prepare transformative leaders to address complex challenges across P-12 and higher education, emphasizes both practical application and scholarly inquiry.

As the first group to progress through the program from start to finish, these graduates not only earned the title of "Doctor," but also set the foundation for future cohorts to follow.Their achievement represents a significant step forward

in CSU Pueblo's mission to expand access to advanced, career-focused education and to develop leaders who will make a lasting impact in their communitiies.

Learn more about the Ed.D. program!

COSI Achieve



Your Path to a Degree Starts Here: COSI Achieve

Thinking about going back to school but not sure where to start? COSI Achieve can help. The program provides scholarships along with personalized support to help students stay on track and graduate.

Designed for nontraditional students- those returning after time away or balancing work and family- COSI Achieve removes common barriers to success.

At Colorado State University Pueblo, a $1,007,841 grant will support up to 150 students each year as they work toward earning a degree or credential.

Funded by the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative, COSI Achieve is helping make college more accessible- and achievable.

Limited spots available - apply today!

Apply today!

INDEPENDENT STUDY



Celebrating Creative Growth: Levitt Returns to the Gallery

We are proud to celebrate the continued artistic growth of one of our justice-involved students, Christopher Levitt, who has been a student in the Independent Study program since 2020. This April, his work was featured in his second exhibition at Blo Back Gallery in Pueblo- an exciting milestone that reflects the evolution of his work since his first student art show at the University's student art gallery in 2023. Despite working with limited supplies within the facility, he consistently pushes creative boundaries and produces meaningful work.

Christopher continues to donate proceeds from the sale of his artwork to the Levitt Fund- a scholarship fund he created to support fellow incarcerated students pursuing college courses, particularly in the arts. We continue raising funds for the Levitt Fund Scholarship through year-round donations and invite our community to help expand access to education for justice-involved students by donating to the Levitt Fund.

THE LEVITT FUND

OUTREACH

Online Preferred Partnerships Program

As employers seek to offer more benefits to their teams while continuing to develop talent, CSU Pueblo Online has created the Online Preferred Partnerships Program to meet that need. Our partners promote CSU Pueblo Online as an education partner, and their employees receive a discounted tuition rate to begin their educational journey in any of our online certificates and degrees! Interested partners can contact **Hawley Young**, our Rural Outreach and Partnerships Specialist, at 719-549-2198 for more information.

CONTACT US HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

STUDENT RESOURCES

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)



Through CSU Pueblo's Prior Learning Assessment program, one student in the Health and Exercise Science program turned real-world experience into real academic progress.

With a background in lifeguarding, including certifications in first aid and swimming instruction, Charles Rawlings partnered with our Prior Learning Specialist to translate his existing knowledge into college credit.

By submitting his certifications for evaluation, he was able to earn credit for two courses—saving both time and money. The result? He graduated a full semester early, demonstrating how valuable hands-on experience can be when it's recognized and applied toward a degree.

LEARN MORE

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

We are excited to offer financial support options to our students. Please click the link below to discover these scholarship opportunities.

FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

WOLF TRACKS PODCAST

View Our Wolf Tracks Podcast Here

A podcast brought to you by Extended Studies highlighting the people and projects that we get to work with every day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sturm Graduation Celebration: May 6th
Classes End: May 8th
Commencement: May 16th

Past Newsletter Issues

ADMISSIONS ACADEMICS CAMPUS LIFE ATHLETICS

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter and learn more about Extended Studies programs, please have them email **rachel.jiron@csupueblo.edu** and they will be added for the next issue!

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