

THE IMPACT Newsletter

October 2024



The Dean's Dispatch

Dear colleagues,

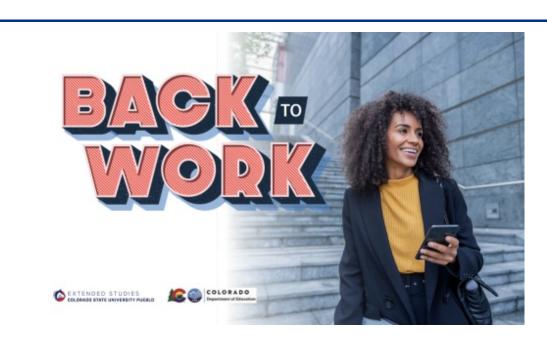
Welcome to the second installment of The Impact, Extended Studies' bimonthly newsletter. In August, we celebrated the ribbon cutting of our new satellite campus, CSU Pueblo at Spanish Peaks in Walsenburg, CO. This event truly embodied the goals of our division

—collaborating to expand educational opportunities for the communities we serve. In this issue of *The Impact*, we're excited to share scholarship opportunities, upcoming events, and highlight our progress in offering the GED exam. We hope you share this newsletter with your colleagues, friends, and family. We look forward to serving you and our community.

Read more about work happening in Walsenburghere.

With warm regards, Kathryn Starkey, Ph.D.

KEY FEATURE



Extended Studies Surpasses Goals in COSI Back to Work Grant, Supporting 140 Students in Degree Completion

The Division of Extended Studies just concluded one of two Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) grants from the Colorado Department of Higher Education, the COSI Back to Work Grant. Our team helped 140 students complete their bachelor's degree, surpassing our goal of 125 credentials. Other highlights included:

- 322 total scholarships awarded in 20 different majors
- Scholarship recipients studied at all CSU Pueblo locations and online
- Total of \$672,151.16 dollars awarded to Colorado residents in highest need industries across the state ex. Healthcare, education, social work and IT

See a copy of our full report here: COSI Data.

For any students who are interested in returning to school, there is a second COSI program: Finish What You Started. Finish What You Started program provides scholarships and support services to students to obtain college credentials or degrees. The grant is for Colorado residents with some college and no degree, and scholarships can be used to pay down past due balances. Interested students can fill out this

form: Interest Form

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS BY PROGRAM



Division of Extended Studies- Expanding Educational Access

The primary goal of the Division of Extended Studies is to provide courses to part-time students. A variety of educational methods – classroom instruction, correspondence, on-line courses, conferences, workshops and seminars – are utilized to expand educational access and meet the needs of students at convenient times and settings. Students may earn academic credit toward a degree, study for career advancement, or pursue cultural and vocational interests.

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Workforce Evolution: Education & Leadership Development in Key Industries

The workforce can mean different things to different people but often refers to hands-on fields like manufacturing, construction, health, and education.



The Levitt Fund Scholarship

The Independent Study program just launched the Levitt Fund Scholarship and will award two scholarships per semester, starting in Fall 2024.

This fund is the first of its kind at CSU Pueblo. It is open to any justice-involved student in a

Workforce development is essential for improving communities, and many leaders grow through on-the-job experience while continuing their education.

At Colorado State University
Pueblo, the Division of
Extended Studies offers
affordable online programs that
support continuing education for
leaders in industries like Health
Science, Education, Business,
Construction Management, and
Nursing. These flexible
programs allow you to work
while you study. For more
insights, check out the Wolf
Tracks podcast, where
educators and students share
their experiences.

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correctional facility across the nation, as long as they are currently pursuing a degree through CSU Pueblo's Independent Study program.

The scholarship was the vision of an outstanding justice-involved student, Christopher Levitt, who kicked off funding efforts for this scholarship by offering original artwork to donors. The scholarship was announced during Mr. Levitt's student art show last September.

If you're interested in donating to the Levitt Fund, please contact the CSU Pueblo Foundation at 719.549.2380 or foundation@csupueblo.edu.

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TEP Streamlines Processes and Expands Impact

CTEP has been working diligently to streamline processes and improve student and provider experiences.

The TEP Team has standardized the annual Student Work Sample selection and report, making the timeline easier for TEP providers to submit documentation and creating a consistent timeline for future annual reports.

Over 500 courses will require syllabus renewal in 2025 in



High School Programs Welcomes New Staff

High School Programs began the Fall semester with two new staff members.

Jasmine Herrera is the new STS Specialist. She comes to us with many years' experience working with high school students through the Gear Up program. As the STS Specialist she looks forward to helping instructors become approved to offer early college credit to their high school students from the comfort of their high school classroom. Being a part of High School Programs brings Jasmine joy in helping students

accordance with HLC accreditation guidelines. TEP Evaluator Andy Fox has contacted all impacted providers and is working closely with them to ensure they follow the new syllabus template.

TEP has onboarded eight new providers and is finalizing a ninth thus far in 2029, as more providers see the benefits of partnering with CSU Pueblo as an affordable avenue to support educators nationwide.

Andy and Jason attended the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) Conference in Denver this summer where Andy was able to meet one of our providers in person. The team is pursuing a membership with ATE to spread the word about TEP at CSU Pueblo, have access to a national educators' network and resources, and participate in conversations that impact our educator students.

TEP continues to make a worldwide impact, as the number of providers who serve 500+ students has doubled in less than two years, in all 50 states and over 11 countries worldwide.

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experience college early and earn credit toward their future college degrees. She recently travelled to nine high schools in Colorado, from Pagosa Springs to Colorado Springs, to help students register for course credit. It was a great experience for her to visit high schools and meet our instructors.

Melody Montoya is the new Concurrent Enrollment Specialist. Melody previously worked as an Academic Advisor in Independent Study. She will work with high school students to take classes on the CSU Pueblo campuses or online, outside of their high school classroom. She has quickly gotten to know and work with our Fall 24 cohort and will soon begin advising students for Spring 25. She looks forward to becoming a resource in helping students navigate this part of their educational journey.

Stop by LARC 184 to see Jasmine and Melody in their newly updated space!

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Expanding Services at the Testing Center

The Testing Center continues to see increases in utilization in



Inaugural College & Career Readiness Fair Launches

areas other than proctored exams. Among the larger suite of professional testing now available, over 350 exams have been administered in the following areas since Spring 2024:

- GED exams
- CompTIA for IT certifications
- Transportation Security Administration assessments
- Praxis educator exams
- TOEFL iBT language assessments
- GRE exams
- ACE personal trainer certification (Exercise Science)
- The Knowledge and Practice Examination for Effective Reading Instruction (KPEERI) exam
- Foreign Language
 Achievement Testing
 Services for college credit
 in World Languages

The Testing Center will also offer DSST (Dantes) exams by the end of Fall 2024. DSST exams are college subject exams that can be taken to earn college credit for knowledge learned outside of a traditional classroom setting. The availability of the DSST will allow students to potentially accelerate through their degree requirements more quickly and at a lower cost.

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On Wednesday, September 18th, CSU Pueblo's Rural Outreach team hosted the inaugural College & Career Readiness Fair in collaboration with CSU Extension.

This event was intended to serve area students and families who were looking to explore diverse post-secondary college and career options. Table topics included Admissions, Financial Aid, Concurrent Enrollment, Military enlistment pathways, Workforce Development opportunities, and more.

In the future, CSU Extension plans to take this event on the road to Otero Junior College, Lamar Community College, and Trinidad State College to serve rural students and families who are exploring their options and cannot make it to Pueblo for events like this.

The inaugural CSU Pueblo event was a success and now serves as a template that can be taken to neighboring communities who are in need of this information in an easy to access, localized format.

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HERE FOR MORE
INFORMATION



PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA)

Do you speak a language other than English? CSU Pueblo now offers its students opportunities to demonstrate mastery of their mother tongues or 2nd languages to earn anywhere from 3-12 credit hours!

If you've grown up speaking Spanish or Italian, enhance your college degree by earning a minor, 2nd major, or certificate. Turn your bilingualism into a Super Power!

You can also earn credit for other languages to fulfill your Humanities general education requirement and streamline your pathway toward graduation!

See all available languages here: Languages - Welcome to FLATS (byu.edu). (If you don't see your language, we can design a customized assessment for your skill!)

Interested? Set up an appointment with Prior Learning Assessment Specialist Phillip Schulz to learn how to earn credit for what you know at this link: https://calendly.com/csupueblopla/30min

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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

Read Set Enroll Events: Various Dates Thursday, October 24th 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, November 16th 8 a.m. - noon Saturday, December 7th 8 a.m. - noon Saturday, January 18th 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Monday, October 21st Registration begins for Spring 2025

> Tuesday, January 21st Spring classes begin

Thursday, March 6th, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Construction Management Discovery Day Recreation Center

> Monday, March 17th Spring B classes begin

ADMISSIONS

ACADEMICS

CAMPUS LIFE

ATHLETICS

2200 Bonforte Blvd Pueblo, CO 81001-4901 719-549-2316



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!









Colorado State University Pueblo | 2200 Bonforte Blvd | Pueblo, CO 81001 US

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