SPRING 2020 Convocation
January 6-10, Colorado State University-Pueblo

Connecting the Pieces.
Campus Community,

Welcome to the spring 2020 semester.

I hope all of you enjoyed your time away and are feeling a renewed sense of energy.

This semester, we will work together to connect a number of pieces allowing us to reach three goals: (1) build enrollment by tapping into new student markets, (2) develop enhanced learning and support systems allowing more students to pursue their dreams, and (3) keep our focus on improving employee satisfaction.

We will increase our marketing efforts, develop an enhanced advising model and work-based financial aid program, and invest more time and resources into our professional development.

Each month is filled with a number of academic, artistic, athletic, and community events all mapped to our mission of developing students so they are able to navigate work and life in a rapidly changing world.

Our semester will go quickly. Let’s work together to serve our students and each other.

Best wishes,

Dr. Timothy P. Mottet
President, Colorado State University-Pueblo
Together on a Mission

Colleagues,

With Vision 2028, Colorado State University-Pueblo established a set of values as a Hispanic Serving institution dedicated to interdisciplinary learning and entrepreneurship. Through this dedication, CSU-Pueblo will elevate its people and community, create educational opportunities, foster unique collaborations, and support inclusion, access, and affordability as a gateway to the world. Our new mission reflects our desire to increase student success in a rapidly changing world by instilling resilience, agility and problem-solving abilities in our diverse student population. They not only have to master the technical skills associated with their field of study, but also successfully function within interdisciplinary teams, analyze information and seamlessly transfer their knowledge and expertise between different contexts. Moreover, students also need a robust educational basis that supports creativity, cultural agility, empathy and communication.

CSU-Pueblo has, with support from the Board of Governors, started working on initiatives to create an educational environment that can make this a reality. Most of these initiatives depend on the heavy involvement from faculty and academic professionals. These initiatives include experiential learning opportunities for students through a revised financial-aid model that allows students to have meaningful work experiences as early as their freshman year. A re-imagination of Capstone experiences for all disciplines complements these experiential learning experiences and provides opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations. The redesign of general education creates an educational environment for students to develop skills, create knowledge, and participate in experiences that will instill resilience, work with complex problems, and transfer their knowledge and expertise to their next steps as graduates of CSU-Pueblo. The organizational structure of academic affairs needs to be supportive of this educational environment. An examination of the current structure has revealed opportunities to enhance our ability to meet our goals, including:

1. Support the implementation of Vision 2028 by creating an organizational structure to facilitate collaborations and entrepreneurial activities among academic units at CSU-Pueblo in the areas of Health, Education, and STEM.

2. Enhance the marketability of programs in the Health, Education & STEM Areas by increasing the visibility and recognition of these areas. These are signature programs that already have a strong presence at CSU-Pueblo and, with increased exposure, can have a significant impact on the societal and economic fabric of the region.

3. Identify and capitalize on opportunities in academic areas, including collaborative and/or online degrees in the STEM/Health/Education areas.

4. Position ourselves with a clear vision for a Technology Building renovation plan to strengthen the STEM and education areas.
5. Identify opportunities for reducing the administrative burden in the academic colleges.

Starting in summer 2019 and over the fall semester, I have been consulting with the academic deans, campus leadership and faculty. I have received valuable feedback on the restructuring as well as implementation of Vision 2028 through various faculty, department, and college meetings. Using this feedback, I have developed a draft restructuring plan. I have shared this plan with the President and Cabinet and discussed it with the faculty senate in December. I look forward to sharing this plan with you at the academic meeting during convocation.

Best Regards,

Mohamed Abdelrahman, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Colorado State University-Pueblo
SPRING 2020 CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

MONDAY, JANUARY 6:  CAMPUS WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8:00am-11am

7:30am-8am  Reception and Light Breakfast  OSC Ballroom Foyer

8am-11:00am  Keynote: Jaime Fall, Aspen Institute / State of the University Address  OSC Ballroom
During this opening session, Jaime Fall, Director of Upskill America from the Aspen Institute, will offer the spring keynote address. During the State of the University address, President Mottet will announce the Distinguished University Professor and update campus on important, upcoming events. In order to honor our commitment to developing people, all members of the CSU-Pueblo campus community should plan to attend the opening session of Convocation 2020. CAMPUS WILL BE CLOSED FOR THIS EVENT. Please operate your offices with minimum staff and coordinate with student workers, as necessary. Open to the public.

1pm-3pm  Together on a Mission, Provost Mohamed Abdelrahman  OSC Ballroom
All academic faculty and staff should plan to attend this innovative session with Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman. Open to all university employees.

3pm-4pm  General Education Roundtable Discussion  OSC Aspen
Please join us for a round table session to discuss big ideas, perspectives, and feedback as part of our Vision 2028 General Education and Capstone Curricular Redesign.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

8am-9am  President’s Open Office Hours  OSC Fireplace
Join the President and members of his cabinet in “Open Office Hours.” Ask questions, seek counsel, or simply listen and learn about big ideas happening at CSU-Pueblo during the spring 2020 semester.

8am-5pm  Department/College/Unit Meetings  Various
Please check with your chairs and directors to confirm these meetings. All college meetings will include an opportunity for faculty and academic staff to meet the President and the Provost to ask questions.

8am-12pm  HSB Faculty Meeting  HSB 113
9am-12pm  CEEPS Faculty Meeting  CHEM 106
9:30am-11am  CSM Faculty Meeting  CHEM 104
10am-12pm  CHASS Faculty Meeting  GCB 111
1pm-3pm  Library Faculty Meeting  LARC 317
11am-2pm  Extended Studies Meeting  LARC 108
11am-2pm  Faculty and Staff Head Shots / Pickup Tickets for All Employee Lunch  OSC Fireplace
All regular full and part-time employees are encouraged to check-in, get a new or updated head shot, learn about events for this year’s convocation, and pick-up a lunch ticket for THURSDAY’S ALL EMPLOYEE LUNCH. You must have your staff ID in order to pick-up the FREE ticket. Employees will only be given their own ticket.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8:  CAMPUS WILL BE CLOSED FROM 11:30am-1pm

9:30-11am  HLC Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness  OSC Aspen
Join the HLC and Institutional Effectiveness Committees for an update on campus assessment and continual improvement planning as we head toward our November 2020 HLC comprehensive site visit. What has been accomplished and what is underway? What is your role? All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

11:30am-1pm  All Employee Lunch with CSU Chancellor, Dr. Tony Frank  OSC Ballroom
Please join us for a boxed lunch and a talk with Colorado State University Chancellor, Dr. Tony Frank. Lunch will be open at 11:30am, and talk will begin at 12pm. In order to honor our commitment to developing people, all
members of the CSU-Pueblo campus community should plan to attend this session. CAMPUS WILL BE CLOSED FOR THIS EVENT. Please operate your offices with minimum staff and coordinate with student workers, as necessary.

2pm - 3pm  Hypothes.is Pilot Orientation  GCB 210

Hypothes.is Pilot Orientation faculty annotate documents uploaded to Blackboard using a program called Hypothes.is. Professors can offer running commentary on those documents or whole conversations can break out in the margins of any text. This orientation will acquaint you with the tool and tell you all you need to do to set it up for your classes. All faculty are welcome to participate. Feel free to join us if you just want to see how Hypothes.is works, as attending this orientation does not obligate you to join the pilot. For more information, contact Dr. Jonathan Rees at jonathan.rees@csupueblo.edu

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

8-9:30am  Academic Program Assessment & Curriculum  OSC Aspen

Faculty, come share ideas with your colleagues on assessment and continual improvement of student learning. Focus will be on 2020 annual assessment data, reporting, and documentation of “closing the loop” for curriculum. Bring your assessment plan and most recent report with you.

9:30-11am  Advising with Dr. Daniel Brown from Texas State University  Great Plains

Dr. Dann Brown, Dean of University College, Director of Personalized Academic & Career Exploration (PACE) Center, and Principal Investigator Title III / V Programs from will share with us successes creating a robust advising program at Texas State University.

11:00am-1pm  All Employee Lunch  OSC Pack Café

Stop by the registration desk from 11am – 2pm on Tuesday, January 7th, and pick-up your FREE lunch ticket.

1-2pm  COFFEE BREAK: Sponsored by Strategic Plan Advisory Team  OSC LL Foyer

Drop by the lower level of the OSC, outside Great Plains, for networking, conversation, and an opportunity to hear more about the work of Academic Affairs. Open to all CSU-Pueblo employees.

1:30-3pm  Advising Workshop  OSC Aspen

Dr. Dann Brown, Dean of University College, Director of Personalized Academic & Career Exploration PACE Center, and Principal Investigator, Title III / V Programs at Texas State University will lead a round table workshop to discuss concepts, advising roles, and student outcomes as part of our goal to create a robust advising model for CSU-Pueblo.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

8am-5pm  Advising, All Departments  Various

All academic departments will be available to advise new students, meet with prospective majors, and discuss available classes and major/minor options.

7-10pm  Inaugural ThunderWolf Dance Party  OSC Ballroom

Open to all faculty, staff, and students. Faculty and Staff are encouraged to bring one adult guest to the fun evening of dancing, food, and fun! Join us for music, a cash bar, and snack foods as we celebrate the conclusion of spring 2020 Convocation and welcome the start of the new semester.