

SPRING 2021 Convocation

January 11-15, Colorado State University Pueblo

Life. Changing.

Living and learning through a global pandemic



Pictured: Lindsay Schwalm, RN A'10



From the President

Campus community,

Over the last 10 months, the pandemic has forced us to learn how to teach and work in new ways. Like our students, we are gaining knowledge and learning new, important skills every day.

Some of us were ready for change and receptive to learning. Through self-study and professional development, we took on professional challenges and, through the acquisition of new knowledge and skills, we learned how to work remotely and how to teach effectively in an online environment. We were all reminded how great learning feels when you put in the work and see positive outcomes.

For others of us, learning something completely new was a challenge. Our rapidly changing circumstances required us to reveal what we didn't know. Admitting weakness made us feel vulnerable. And even though asking for help suggests a boldness, many of us struggled to acquire important skills and technological proficiencies that we needed to work remotely and to teach online.

For those of us who struggled, we also learned, first hand, the vulnerability our students often feel when they struggle to grasp new ideas or to process new knowledge. We learned what it takes to ask for help, but more importantly, we were reminded what it feels like to get help.

As a university committed to teaching and learning, I believe it is important for all of us, including staff members – those among us who have unique opportunities to educate and develop students in cocurricular environments – to have an enhanced understanding of learning. What is learning? How does it occur? What can we learn about learning that will make us better teachers?

One way to understand how learning may positively impact how we teach is to compare the university to a hospital.

Hospitals focus on practicing medicine and the ways certain treatments create expected outcomes in a patient's health. That is a laudable mission, of course. However, in contrast, a hospital that truly focuses on healing – rather than just practice – creates systems and employees who care for the whole patient, and, as a result, these facilities provide services in a different manner. Instead of putting the emphasis on the medical provider's experiences, the focus here is on the patient and on real, sustainable healing. These hospitals – and practitioners – understand the ways medicine can support healing the whole person.

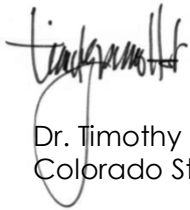
When university employees focus on learning, rather than just on the practice of teaching, we embrace education differently. When we understand the science of learning, including how the brain processes information, coupled with the social, cultural, and emotional aspects of learning, we develop the whole student. I once remember hearing a professor brag about getting through his entire slide deck after a lecture. The focus was on his teaching and not on his

students' learning. A learning-focused conversation may have sounded like, "Although I only got through the first six slides, I was most impressed with their engagement and their understanding of the content."

Our keynote speaker this morning, Dr. Mary-Helen Immordino-Yang, from the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California, is going to help us learn more about learning. With her help, my goal is to launch a university-wide discussion focused on learning and how we can teach in ways that are more compatible with how our students learn.

Thank you for all that you did during the Fall 2020 semester to support our students and colleagues. I appreciate and value you and all that you do to support our students and each other.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy P. Mottet". The signature is stylized and written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Dr. Timothy P. Mottet, President
Colorado State University Pueblo



Life in a Post-Pandemic Era

Dear Colleagues,

It is an understatement to say that 2020 has been a challenging year.

The pandemic upended the norms in our personal and professional lives. Higher education which is steeped in a slow and measured change culture had to make drastic shifts to adapt to the new pandemic-imposed rules. Our sudden shift to remote learning in Spring 2020 was followed by a summer of pedagogical and technological preparation for a blended learning environment in Fall 2020. With a lot of hard work from all students, faculty, and staff, we persevered in carrying out our educational and operational plan.

As I write this letter, the first vaccinations for COVID-19 are being administered in the US, ushering the 'beginning of the end' of the pandemic; however, we expect the spring semester still to feature blended instruction, social distancing, and quarantines. As we go through the spring, we need to ask ourselves what we want our new normal, post-pandemic, to be like. In other words, what do we want to retain from our experiences with the 2020 pandemic year, and what do we want to let go?

Despite missing our typical interactions with colleagues and students, being in smaller meeting rooms or classrooms, or on Zoom and other platforms facilitated local meetings and expanded our collaborative reach across the US and the globe. I believe Zoom meetings will continue to have a role and place in the post-pandemic era.

The pandemic forced us to use synchronous, asynchronous, and hybrid modalities for teaching, learning, and supporting our students. Although we yearn to go back to our Face-to-Face classes, these modalities will still offer much flexibility and outreach. They can help us address many of our students' needs as they balance life and seek a university degree in a post-COVID environment. How do we balance our return to normalcy with capitalizing on the new tools that have become available for us due to the pandemic?

We have started taking the first steps to prepare us for creating a new environment. We increased professional development on online pedagogy and upgraded our online infrastructure with enhancements to Blackboard Learning Management System and our Zoom capabilities for synchronous online instruction. We further enhanced the technology infrastructure in classrooms to facilitate hybrid instruction and acquired software platforms for improved student support and online tutoring.

Technology alone is not the solution.

Our ability to understand and utilize best practices in teaching, learning, and student support remains crucial to support our students' success. The provost's office will provide faculty opportunities to engage over the spring semester in discussions and professional development opportunities addressing these issues.

I ask for your engagement in these important activities as we chart our new post-pandemic pathway.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mohamed Abdelrahman", written over a light grey rectangular background.

Mohamed Abdelrahman, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Colorado State University Pueblo

SPRING 2021 CONVOCATION SCHEDULE*

*Zoom links, when available, are hyperlinked in session titles and provided to copy and paste

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

CAMPUS WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8:00am-10:30am

8-10:30am [President Timothy Mottet and Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang](#) **STREAM**
At this opening session, we will (1) Recognize employees, (2) Provide the campus with a comprehensive update on plans for spring 2021, (3) Welcome our keynote speaker, Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang (bio, pg.10), to our CSU Pueblo campus (virtually). In order to honor our commitment to developing people, all members of the CSU Pueblo campus community should plan to watch the live stream of the opening session of Convocation 2021 at www.csupueblo.edu. This year's keynote speaker is sponsored by the Title V Hispanic Serving Institution Programs, under the direction of Dr. Derek Lopez. Please operate your virtual offices with minimum staff and coordinate phone and email messages as necessary.

Per public health orders and in recognition of our current county COVID-19 status, all employees, students, and community members will be able to join the stream on the CSU Pueblo web site and on all social media outlets. If you have questions, please contact Jon Valdez at jon.valdez@csupueblo.edu or at 719-549-2997.

11am-12pm [NCAA Division II Athletics: Current Status and Future Trends](#) **ZOOM**
What are the current and future trends in the business of college athletics and how does it impact the ThunderWolves? The NCAA Convention is held virtually on January 15. This year's Convention may be the most impactful year of legislation in the history of the NCAA. The presenters will share how the commercialization of sport, paying student-athletes and name, image and likeness impact the role of college sports on campus. Presenters will also talk about Pack Athletics and the impact this could have locally. For more information, contact Dr. Paul Plinske at paul.plinske@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/98587164338>

1-3pm [Academic Affairs Meeting, Provost Mohamed Abdelrahman](#) **ZOOM**
All academic faculty and staff should plan to attend this innovative session with Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman and the faculty and staff of the Office of the Provost, via Zoom. For more information, email Lisa Chavez lisa.chavez@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/2409079131>

3:30-5pm [Campus Operations and COVID-19: What to Expect during Spring 2021](#) **ZOOM**
Join the COVID-19 Response and Planning Team, and campus leadership, in a roundtable Q&A session where you can ask questions about testing requirements, supervisory duties, response and contact tracing protocols, HR needs, and much more. For more information, contact Dr. Donna Souder Hodge at donna.souder@csupueblo.edu. Zoom link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/95949987734>

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

8-9:30pm [Student Success During COVID Distance Learning, with Professor Camblin](#) **ZOOM**
Join guest speaker, Professor Caren Camblin, Stevenson College Coordinator & Lecturer, University of California, Santa Cruz for this session. This session is designed to fill your toolbox with relationship-based teaching methods to support student buy-in, retention, and successfully met SLOs. We'll focus on the particular challenges of the remote format. Topics include: building and sustaining a learning community, streamlining lesson plans to minimize stress (for them and for you!), and the rituals and routines that help students feel centered, safe, and more prepared to learn. For more information, contact Denise Henry at denise.henry@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85618137860>

8:30am-5pm **Department/College/Unit Meetings** **VARIOUS | ZOOM**
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 Provost and his team, ask questions, and consider the work ahead in spring 2021. Zoom links will be sent to all faculty and staff by your individual college or unit administration.

8:30am-12pm **HSB Faculty Meeting** **ZOOM**

9am-12pm **CHEN Faculty Meeting** **ZOOM**

9-10:30am **Student Affairs Employee Meeting** **ZOOM**

9:30-11:00am	STEM Faculty Meeting	ZOOM
10am-12pm	CHASS Faculty Meeting	ZOOM
11am-2pm	Extended Studies Employee Meeting	ZOOM
3-5pm	Library Employee Meeting	ZOOM

3-4pm **[Pack Athletics: Building a Championship Program](#)** **ZOOM**

Join Dr. Paul Plinske, Head Football Coach, John Wristen, and selected staff who will present a case study on the process to winning the 2014 NCAA Division II football championships and what steps are in place to do so in the years to come. We will take a look back at the re-emergence of this program in 2008 and the steps taken to win the title in 2014. The presenters will also talk about the current roster, coaching staff and 2021 football schedule as we build for another conference and national title. For more information, contact Dr. Paul Plinske at paul.plinske@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/99621941833>

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

8-9am **[Tips for Connecting Assessment to Vision 2028 Guiding Principles](#)** **ZOOM**

How is your assessment informing our preparation of students in alignment with the guiding principles? Let's discuss plans with good outcomes and assessment measures and how the principles are included. Is the collected data and subsequent analysis informing improvements? Come learn and share your successes and challenges with colleagues. Sponsored by Institutional Effectiveness Committee. For more information, contact Dr. Helen Caprioglio at helen.caprioglio@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/98372855594>

9-10:30am **[Engaging Reluctant Online Learners](#)** **ZOOM**

Join Tina Twilliger and Denise Henry to learn about activities that encourage active participation in Zoom class meetings, asynchronous, and hybrid classes. We will share apps and methods to build community, draw out the lurkers, and boost cognitive engagement. Follow-up consultation is offered to support and sustain you and your students' success. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/8314545534>

11:30am-1pm **ALL EMPLOYEE WEBINAR with CSU System's Jocelyn Hittle** **WEBINAR ZOOM**

In order to honor our commitment to developing people, all employees should plan to engage in this exciting, virtual only professional development opportunity, with Jocelyn Hittle (bio, pg. 10), the CSU System's Assistant Vice Chancellor for the Spur Campus and Special Projects, "Engaging with the CSU Spur Campus." Moderated Q&A from 12:30-1:00pm. For more information, contact Dr. Donna Souder Hodge at donna.souder@csupueblo.edu. Access webinar: <https://www.csupueblo.edu/webinar/2020-engaging-with-the-csu-spur-campus.html>

1-2pm **[Supporting Students with Pack CARES](#)** **ZOOM**

The mission of Pack CARES is to advocate for the health, safety, and welfare of students in the CSU Pueblo community. The Pack CARES team utilizes nationally recognized assessment and intervention tools to respond to referrals for members of the campus community that pose, or may pose, a reasonable threat to the safety and care of themselves and/or other members of campus. We will discuss behaviors and observations that would prompt a referral to Pack CARES, how to submit a referral, what resources are available, and an overview of the Pack CARES process. To schedule personalized training for your department or class, contact Meera Layton at meera.layton@csupueblo.edu, or schedule a training: https://calendly.com/csup_navigator/navigator-meeting. Zoom Link: https://bit.ly/PackCARES_2021Convocation

2-3pm **[VISION 2028: SLO Implementation and General Education](#)** **ZOOM**

Session 1 of 2. Please join us for discussion, best practice, and ideas for implementing our new SLOs in our General Education courses. From assignments to group projects to assessments, we will explore our SLOs and how to meet them. Sponsored by the Provosts office and the General Education Board. For more information, email brian.vandenheuvel@csupueblo.edu. Zoom link <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/6173755068>

3-4:00pm **[New Advising & Mentoring Structure & YOU](#)** **ZOOM**

Session 1 of 2. Training and discussion on the logistics of our new advising model for student success. This collaboration includes Faculty Mentors (advisors), Pack Center Academic Success Coaches, Career Center, and peer mentors. To include technology tools and process: Starfish, DARS/uAcheive, AIS, Banner, Slate, etc. How this will impact you. Sponsored by Academic Advising Council. For more information, contact Dr. Helen

Caprioglio at helen.caprioglio@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/95747412665>

4-5pm **President's Open Office Hours** **ZOOM**
Join the President and members of his Cabinet at "Open Office Hours." Ask questions, seek counsel, or simply listen and learn about big ideas happening at CSU Pueblo during the spring 2021 semester. Join us via Zoom. For more information, contact Jon Valdez at jon.valdez@csupueblo.edu or at 719-549-2997. Zoom link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/91545735369>

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

8-9am **President's Open Office Hours** **ZOOM**
Join the President and members of his Cabinet at "Open Office Hours." Ask questions, seek counsel, or simply listen and learn about big ideas happening at CSU Pueblo during the spring 2021 semester. Join us via Zoom. For more information, contact Jon Valdez at jon.valdez@csupueblo.edu or at 719-549-2997. Zoom link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/91545735369>

9am-10pm **New Advising & Mentoring Structure & YOU** **ZOOM**
Session 2 of 2. Training and discussion on the logistics of our new advising model for student success. This collaboration includes Faculty Mentors (advisors), Pack Center Academic Success Coaches, Career Center, and peer mentors. To include technology tools and process: Starfish, DARS/uAcheive, AIS, Banner, Slate, etc. How this will impact you. Sponsored by Academic Advising Council. For more information, contact Dr. Helen Caprioglio at helen.caprioglio@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/95747412665>

10-11am **VISION 2028: SLO Implementation and General Education** **ZOOM**
Session 2 of 2. Please join us for discussion, best practice, and ideas for implementing our new SLOs in our General Education courses. From assignments to group projects to assessments, we will explore our SLOs and how to meet them. Sponsored by the Provosts office and the General Education Board. For more information, email brian.vandenheuver@csupueblo.edu. Zoom link <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/6173755068>

11am-12:30pm **Create a Course That Enables Student Success** **ZOOM**
Join Adam Pocius and Denise Henry to explore the different ways hybrid and online courses can be structured to remove barriers to rich learning and teaching experiences, including tools and strategies that promote students' access to course content and methods that support understanding of your expectations. Follow-up consultation is offered to support and sustain you and your students' success. For more information, contact Denise Henry at denise.henry@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/8314545534>

1-2pm **Being Courageous. Let's talk Mental Health** **ZOOM**
Join the Counseling Center for a session focused on mental health resources within the University for students, staff, and faculty. The first half of the talk will review how to talk with students about mental health, what resources are available, how to handle a student who reports Suicidal Ideations, and how to refer students to the Counseling Center. The second half will give updates on what resources are now available for faculty and staff at the Counseling Center for the Spring 2021 Semester. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/92913252313>

2-3:30pm **Blackboard Tools and Tips** **ZOOM**
Join Adam Pocius and Denise Henry to overview tools to develop and sustain your community of inquiry, differentiate instruction, and foster student success. Learn about tools for different types of student collaboration and communication and similarities and differences between them. Tools inside and outside of Blackboard will be shared in this session. Follow-up consultation is offered to support and sustain you and your students' success. For more information, contact Denise Henry at denise.henry@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/8314545534>

3-4:30pm **Hypothes.is Webinar** **ZOOM**
The Center for Teaching and Learning is sponsoring a Zoom webinar on Hypothes.is the social annotation tool that you and your students can use inside of Blackboard. You post documents, you or your students can then highlight sections of those documents, then conversations can occur in the margins of those documents. This session will offer a brief introduction to the tool, then go on to cover issues like designing the best Hypothes.is assignments across disciplines, grading comments and how other CSU-Pueblo faculty using Hypothes.is now. Everyone who teaches at CSU-Pueblo is welcome to attend. Contact Dr. Jonathan Rees at jonathan.rees@csupueblo.edu for more information. To RSVP and get access to the Zoom link, visit here https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf98TjauTc_eNfG7vJtjUh6bIBZa6Ab0YF_aGPhAOjO7Iyg/viewform?usp=sf_link.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

8am-5pm **Advising, All Departments**

Various | VIRTUAL

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

8-9am

[ICR Session](#)

ZOOM

The Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR) would like to share the recent innovative collaboration with MoreBetter which provides comprehensive Cannabis-related survey data and data collection tool. The data source will be of great value for researchers in CSU-Pueblo, enabling us to anonymously track real-time and historic experience with Cannabis and CBD products. If you are interested in harnessing the power of data to support your cannabis study, the ICR is would like to offer this service to CSU Pueblo researchers at no cost. Please join us for a brief presentation on this resource during Spring Convocation to learn more. Zoom Link:

<https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/94252415142>

9-10:30am

[Campus Operations and COVID-19: What to Expect during Spring 2021](#)

ZOOM

Join the COVID-19 Response and Planning Team, and campus leadership, in a roundtable Q&A session where you can ask questions about testing requirements, supervisory duties, response and contact tracing protocols, HR needs, and much more. For more information, contact Dr. Donna Souder Hodge at

donna.souder@csupueblo.edu. Zoom link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/95949987734>

11am-12pm

[The Drive Campaign: Fundraising Priorities and Vision 2028](#)

ZOOM

Join CSU Pueblo Foundation President Todd Kelly and Dr. Donna Souder Hodge for an interactive session on the new Foundation "Drive" campaign's fundraising priorities. For more information, contact Dr. Donna Souder Hodge at

donna.souder@csupueblo.edu. Zoom link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/98873308850>

1-2:30pm

[Promoting Well-Being in our Students and Ourselves, with Dr. Yescavage](#)

ZOOM

The students we serve at CSU-Pueblo regularly face a number of challenges, both economic and academic. As faculty and staff, we aspire to serve our students compassionately, responding to their myriad needs. However, this past year has been extraordinarily difficult and draining for us all. In this interactive session, we will identify and discuss the warning signs of secondary trauma, which refers to the emotional duress resulting from repeatedly bearing witness to the traumatic experiences of others. We will also promote and practice self-care strategies to help prevent compassion fatigue. Lastly, this session will offer an opportunity to reflect, connect, and provide each other much-needed support. For more information, contact Denise Henry at

denise.henry@csupueblo.edu. Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/8314545534>

3-4:30pm

[Preview Zoom's New Classroom Interface](#)

ZOOM

Join Adam Pocius and Denise Henry and be the first to see Zoom's new classroom interface, developed specifically for online class meetings. You'll learn about the features and functionality that makes online teaching feel more like a face to face class. An overview of the current Zoom interface and engagement tools are shared as well. Follow-up consultation is offered to support and sustain you and your students' success.

Zoom Link: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/8314545534>



About Monday's Keynote Speaker: Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang

Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang studies the psychological and neurobiological bases of social emotion, self-awareness, and culture and their implications for learning, development and schools. She is a Professor of Education at the University of Southern California's Rossier School of Education, a Professor of Psychology at the Brain and Creativity Institute, a member of the Neuroscience Graduate Program Faculty at the University of Southern California, and Director of the Center for Affective Neuroscience, Development, Learning and Education.

Immordino-Yang was elected 2016-2018 president of the International Mind, Brain and Education Society by the society's membership (www.IMBES.org). She serves as a distinguished scientist on the Aspen Institute's National Commission on Social, Emotional and Academic Development. She was appointed to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Committee on the Science and Practice of Learning.

Immordino-Yang is Associate Editor for the award-winning journal *Mind, Brain, and Education* and for the new open access journal from the American Educational Research Association. Among other funded work, Immordino-Yang has a cross-cultural, longitudinal National Science Foundation study investigating adolescent brain and social-emotional development, and relations to school and life achievement in urban contexts.

Immordino-Yang's 2015 book, *Emotions, learning and the brain: Exploring the educational implications of affective neuroscience*, is available from W.W. Norton publishers (author proceeds are donated to education-related causes). <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/Mary-Helen-Immordino-Yang/>

A pre-read for today's session with Dr. Immordino-Yang can be found here: <https://bit.ly/37xai4F>

About Wednesday's CSU System Guest Speaker: Assistant Vice Chancellor for the SPUR Campus and Special Projects, Jocelyn Hittle, and the SPUR Campus

Jocelyn Hittle is primarily focused on helping to create the CSU System's new Spur campus at the National Western Center, and on supporting campus sustainability goals across CSU's campuses. She sits on the Denver Mayor's Sustainability Advisory Council, on the Advisory Committee for the Coors Western Art Show, and is a technical advisor for the AASHE STARS program.

Prior to joining CSU, Jocelyn was the Associate Director of PlaceMatters, a national urban planning think tank, and worked for the Orton Family Foundation. She has a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Princeton, and a Masters in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Jocelyn grew up in Colorado and spends her free time in the mountains or exploring Denver.

READ MORE ABOUT the CSU System's SPUR Campus: <https://www.csuspur.org/>