



## Are We Making a Difference?

If you ask any of the faculty or staff members at CSU Pueblo: why are you working here, you are most likely to hear: “to make a difference.” Although the exact details of that answer will vary, most will have a common focus: students and community. If that was your answer, CSU Pueblo is a perfect place to be to make a difference. **A beautiful campus located in a proud and diverse city in a region that faces many of the challenges of rural America. A community of caring and hardworking faculty and staff that is ready to engage place, empower students, and impact society.** A city and region reimagining its future with many emerging leaders who are visible at the local and state level at a time when rural Colorado and rural America is being rediscovered, possibly as a side effect of the pandemic.

**CSU Pueblo is in the middle of all this focused on making a difference with and for our students and our community.** The institution is adapting its policies to accommodate the changing needs of its workforce, engaging in large-scale efforts with the CSU system and partnerships with other institutions, the private sector, the city, and the

county. Our aim is to make a difference in the region through education, developing a highly-skilled workforce, and impactful research efforts. **Our partnership with ENSCO and 7 other institutions from all over the country, as part of a Center for Surface Transportation Testing and Academic Research, is one example.** The Institute of Cannabis Research and the Cannabis Biology and Chemistry degree with their state and national reach and our success in attracting millions of dollars in external funding to support our educational and research efforts are other examples.

Our faculty and staff are working harder than ever to engage with the students inside and outside the classroom. **Faculty members are managing various teaching modalities to accommodate the varying needs of our students with equity and student success always in mind.** They are implementing experiential learning initiatives, engaging in professional development activities, and examining and reimagining our academic programs. **Our staff members are providing academic, personal, and financial support services to students striving to make sense of this new world.** We are all doing our best. Sometimes it does not feel enough, but imagine where we could have been if we were not as adaptive, imaginative, and hard working. **We are all making a difference for our students, our community, and ourselves. I am proud of what we do every day!**

*-Mohamed Abdelrahman*

*Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs*

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## FACULTY RECOGNITION

Led by Dr. Husam Alshareef, CSU Pueblo participated in the Transportation & Construction Girls event September 28th. This event was held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Golden, Colo. CSU Pueblo promoted its Construction and Civil



Engineering Technology degree programs at the event to high school students from across the state. "Our exposure over 530 people was remarkable," said Alshareef. "We were the only university among companies from the construction and civil engineering industries." Alshareef and his team of four female students created an exciting interactive display to engage with prospective students. This interactive exhibit showed girls how to do 3D modeling by using the university's survey equipment. "In this photo I was showing a nine-year-old girl how to do 3D modeling, which was an experience that overwhelmed me with joy."

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

In September, CSU Pueblo announced that it will participate in the Presidential Fellows program. This program will afford students the opportunity to study the United States Presidency and policy making. CSU Pueblo has announced that Justin Kurth will be the school's first ever Presidential Fellow. "I am humbled to be the first Presidential Fellow from CSU Pueblo," Kurth said. "It means a lot to me that I get to be one of the voices that will be at the table." A junior in the Political Science program, Kurth served in the Marine Corps for five years. Since his time in the Marines, Kurth has been politically active, lobbying as a civilian for reform on campaign finance. With his Presidential Fellowship, Kurth hopes to focus on establishing a peaceful US presence in



outer space that will help the country keep up with competing foreign powers. Thanks to the support from Dr. Malik and Seeme Hasan, CSU Pueblo is one of just 35 universities nationwide that sponsor the Presidential Fellows Program. CSU Pueblo is the only public university in the state of Colorado offering this program and one of just nine public universities in the United States that support the Presidential Fellows Program. "This fellowship means that I will be able to advance my career in an accelerated way, which is pivotal for a non-traditional student."

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## EVENTS

**10/21:** STEM Research Symposium

**10/4 - 10/22:** New Faculty Exhibition (**Reception:** 10/22, 7:30-9pm)

**10/27:** String Quartet Masterclass (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

**11/10:** Distinguished University Professor Webinar with Dr. Alegria Ribadeneira

**11/18:** Math Day

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# PROVOST'S OFFICE HOURS

**11/3: CHASS/ 3-4pm / GCB 110**

**12/7: STEM / 9:30-10:30am / CHEM 104**

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