

# NOW TRENDING: DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO  
**Enrollment Management,  
Communication & Student Affairs**

**Now Trending** is a communication focused on the Enrollment Management, Communication, and Student Affairs (EMCSA) Division, highlighting the important and innovative work done by the team and campus colleagues to recruit, retain, and support students.

HAVE IDEAS FOR ENHANCING CAMPUS ENROLLMENT EFFORTS, AND HOW YOU CAN PARTNER WITH EMCSA ON THOSE? SEND YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO [CHRISSEY.HOLLIDAY@CSUPUEBLO.EDU](mailto:CHRISSEY.HOLLIDAY@CSUPUEBLO.EDU)

## PACK TALK: CAMPUS TALK SHOW PROMOTES ENGAGEMENT, EXAMINES IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

A new initiative to reach out to our campus community and keep students engaged was launched by the Student Affairs team during the Fall 2020 semester. The campus talk show "Pack Talk" aired its first episode in September for Hispanic Heritage Month, followed by episodes in October ("Imposter Syndrome") and early November ("LGBTQ Month"). Gena Alfonso, Assistant Dean of Student Engagement and Leadership, explained that the goal of Pack Talk is to discuss important issues and events with our students, faculty, and staff in a casual conversation format. It provides another opportunity to engage our students and the campus community while we are not able to physically be together on campus. SEAL is working with partners on the production side of the show to make improvements, and more episodes are planned for the Spring 2021 semester, with a focus on Black History Month, Self Care and Mental Health, as well as Commencement. Check out [the episode on Imposter Syndrome](#), which featured faculty, staff and students talking about their experiences of feeling as if they did not belong and how they persisted in order to achieve their goals.



## MVSC WORKS TO ENHANCE SERVICE TO STUDENTS

Laura Barela returned to CSU Pueblo as director of the Military and Veterans Success Center (MVSC) Nov. 1. Laura, an alum of CSU Pueblo who has worked in higher education for 17 years, is leading efforts to engage with our veteran and military-affiliated students and expand University services for them. Two positions currently under active searches will assist in providing those services. A grant-funded Military and Veteran Success Coach will provide academic advising and career counseling for student veterans, and a student-fee-funded Operations Manager will assist with certification of veterans education benefits, as well as billing and reconciliation of veteran student accounts. The MVSC helps student veterans and dependents understand how veterans education benefits work to ensure they are maximizing their benefits. The department also connects them with various campus resources and services to support their success. The MVSC is actively expanding campus collaborations, including one with our Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) TRIO program. VUB offers refresher classes, assists with financial aid applications, and provides career counseling plus exposure to cultural events, academic programs and other educational activities. VUB and MVSC will partner to re-establish a veteran lending library, one step in a larger plan to jointly provide veterans the best experience possible at CSU Pueblo. The MVSC will implement other support services for veterans and dependents in the coming months, including a revamped orientation and scholarship program. The department is also updating its processes to make the use of veteran benefits a more seamless experience.



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