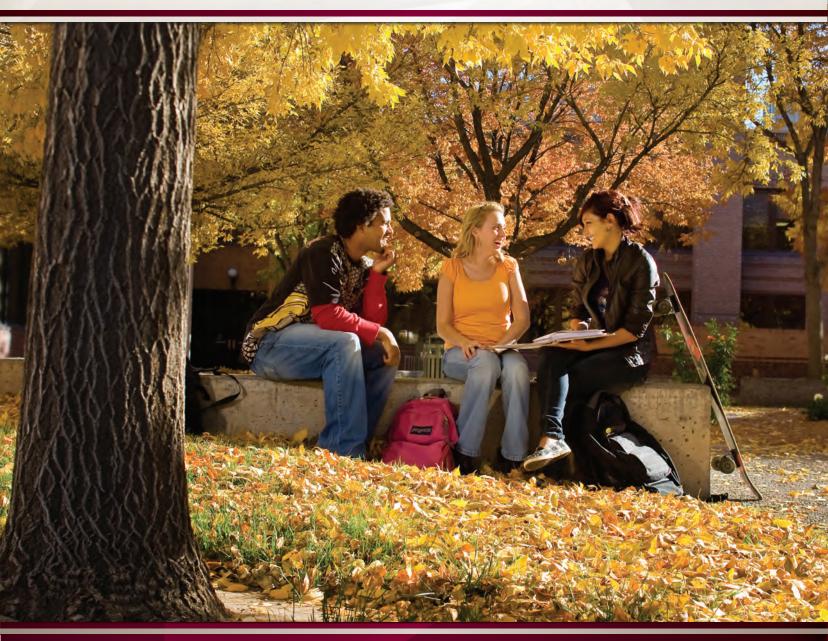


### FOUNDATION



## PRESIDENTS' REPORT July 2012 - June 2013

coloradomesa.edu/foundation

## PRESIDENTS' REPORT July 2012 - June 2013

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Appreciation is extended to Paul Harshman and Jessica Peterson for their writing and editorial assitance. Special thanks to Jeremy Smith for the report's design.

#### Dear Friends:

The new academic year at Colorado Mesa University started with a record number of students, new faculty, new facilities under construction and with a tremendous amount of gratitude for the contributions made by so many people. Students, faculty, alumni, local governments, businesses and individuals all share a commitment to CMU and the economic future of western Colorado.

CMU has done very well during a period of national and regional recession. However, even with economic revival, the challenges ahead are daunting.

Both state and federal aid to higher education are declining each year, and projections show the trend worsening over the next decade. Thankfully, at CMU we are still able to offer students a quality education at dramatically lower costs. Nevertheless, declining federal and state support means students are faced with paying a larger portion of their college education.

Education and economic growth are joined at the hip. Labor economists estimate that two-thirds of all jobs created in the future will require post-secondary education. At CMU and Western Colorado Community College, we are determined to ensure that every capable young person in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region who aspires to a college education or an advanced certificate is able to fulfill that dream.

To accomplish that, we need you to join us as ambassadors for this great commitment to the future of our state. CMU has long had a strong commitment to entrepreneurship, and is dedicated to providing students with insights on how they can remain here and fashion a new era of economic growth. It's fine to export agricultural products, timber, oil, gas and coal, but we want to be part of keeping the very best resource – our talented young people – at home if they so choose.

At the CMU Foundation, we have a goal to increase our endowment by more than five times to support more student aid. We have recently invested in sophisticated technology to make contributing money and gaining access for student scholarships much easier, and have also taken steps to ensure that we receive the best investment returns on our endowment.

We stand ready to assist in any way we can to help you become a CMU Ambassador. Our staff can explain how one-time or continuing gifts can be made now or though wills and estate plans – all tax-advantaged – to aid students and the university in years ahead.

We encourage you to call, email or visit the foundation office. More information can be found at **coloradomesa.edu/foundation**.

Again, thank you for your commitment and passion for higher education and CMU.

Tim Foster

Tim Foster President, CMU

Jam 1 Branscome

Jim Branscome President, CMU Foundation



## Expanding Partnerships

A partnership for global health

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." -Winston Churchill

CMU student **Shane Anderson** cares more about giving in life than about what he might get. A non-traditional student at age 36, married and holding a previous degree in psychology, Anderson entered the nursing program at CMU in January of 2012. He had worked at the Telluride Ski Resort, so when his lead instructor of nursing, Beverly Lyne, was developing a global health program, Anderson spotted an opportunity.

"I had worked for Telluride in various capacities," said Anderson. "When I began the nursing program, I envisioned a change from helping people have a good vacation to helping people improve their daily living. When the Global Health Program was organized by my instructor, I saw an opportunity to combine two great concepts for a greater good."

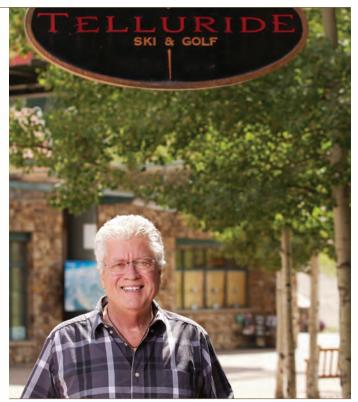
Based on his work at Telluride, Anderson had gained some insight into the resort's corporate structure. "I approached the marketing department about creating a fundraising package that could be sold to the local community," Anderson said. "Our discussions led to a great ski pass product that allowed people to support the Global Health 2013 project while also getting a deal on ski tickets."

The result? "Through Telluride Ski and Golf Company's assistance, along with private donors, we were able to take 14 students and faculty members to rural Nicaragua – supplying underdeveloped areas with nursing care, medical supplies, and our personal attention. In exchange, we received an introduction into foreign health care systems, experience in multi-lingual situations, and memories for a lifetime!"

According to people involved in the partnership, Anderson's enthusiasm and creativity in approaching Telluride was a significant factor in the success of the project.

**Chuck Horning**, owner of the Telluride Ski and Golf Company, played another pivotal role. Horning is typically described as a successful entrepreneur and real estate mogul. Although these descriptions are accurate, they barely scratch the surface of Horning's unique personality.

Horning, who is medically trained, shares Anderson's passion for global health, and sympathized with the aims of CMU's Global Health Project. "I spent my youth with my father who was a general surgeon in the small town of Paradise, [California], where he started the Feather River Hospital," he said. "I made house calls with my father, bringing in wood and attending to the personal needs of older folks and very sick patients who had difficulty getting to the hospital or a physician."



Chuck Horning, owner of Telluride Ski and Golf Company, supports nursing students through a unique partnership between CMU and his company.

Horning's business future was greatly influenced by these experiences. A believer in collaboration and community spirit, he could see the need for the CMU program. "I was drawn to Shane's efforts and thought this was a great idea," he said. "I liked the fact that we could partner with the university."

He is pleased with Telluride's relationship with CMU and hopes that the partnership will continue to accomplish great things in the future. "There's a sense of accomplishment at having created something together that can be sustained for the long term, and in being able to help those with the dream and drive to get what they need to succeed."

"Being able to participate in providing help to folks who really need it – and who lack the choices and support we have in this country – is an amazing and fulfilling experience," he added. "That this school has undertaken these efforts to help folks in South America is wonderful for the [people they've assisted]... and for the students and faculty who have helped them."

CMU nursing students and faculty participate in the global health program supplying nursing care to underdeveloped areas in Nicaragua.



Nursing major Shane Anderson, a former employee of Telluride Ski and Golf Company , worked collaboratively with Telluride officials to launch a fundraising program that raised more than \$23,000 to send nursing students to Nicaragua.

## Engaging Our Community

#### Constructing a sturdy future

Colorado Mesa University has always played a valuable role in making the Grand Valley's historically boom-and-bust economy more sustainable. The university provides the area with an educated workforce – an asset proven to correlate with the economic health of any community.

One way CMU contributes to the overall economic well-being of the region is through its construction management program. The program trains students in the discipline of planning, organizing and directing all the labor, material and equipment required to build and deliver a completed construction project. Classes include construction science, management and business, as well as mathematics and engineering.

The **Western Colorado Contractors Association** (WCCA) has generously contributed a substantial gift to create an endowed scholarship for construction management students. With 400 member businesses, the WCCA focuses on promoting construction in western Colorado and advocates for its members.

**Linda Smith**, Executive Director of WCCA, said the organization has been making various donations to CMU students for years. Their main contribution is a scholarship for four students per year, and the original endowment continues to grow to provide future scholarship money.

**Rich Keller**, former president of WCCA, says the association's donation creates a win-win situation. "We are contributing to the development of a qualified management force in the construction industry here. This is the next wave of local project managers and business owners."

**Michael Potter** is currently enrolled in the construction management program and was selected for a scholarship in



Mihai Martin, '13, a construction management major, was an integral part of the construction team that built CMU's newest residence hall, Garfield Hall.

2013. "It definitely helps financially," said Potter. "I have built relationships with local contractors and gotten experience in the real world. Right now I have an internship with a local general contractor. All of this makes me more marketable for when I get out of school."

The local community benefits from the program as well. "Just go to the campus and look at it," said Keller. "This school has been transformed from a small school to a leader in higher education in Colorado."

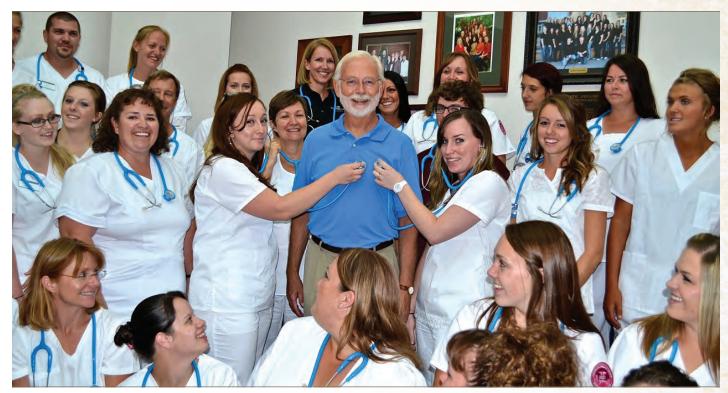
Both Keller and Smith think of the donations as a selfsustaining cycle. "These contributions to students' education – in all subjects, not just construction – help to support the community in general," Smith said. "They will hopefully inspire graduates to stay in the area and further contribute themselves."

"This is an association of contractors and I don't think there are any bigger givers when it comes to contributing to the community," she added. "These contractors have the biggest hearts and they truly love to give back to their community." •

## Elevating Our Campus

In response to ongoing growth in student enrollment, CMU broke ground this spring on a new classroom building which will open in fall 2014. The new building will provide 56,000 square feet of critically needed state-of-the-art, smart classroom space, and will house the Department of Languages, Literature and Mass Communication.





Nursing students meet with John Hopkins, donor and trustee of The Colorado Trust, to thank him for their new stethoscopes and nursing shoes.

# Enriching the CMU Experience

"When I told the level-one nursing students today of the gift from **John Hopkins** and the Colorado Trust, their faces lit up with smiles," said **Debra Bailey**, Department Head at Moss School of Nursing at CMU. "There is nothing like giving an eager person, ready to learn, a tool of the trade."

Bailey was referring to a recent gift of special nursing shoes and stethoscopes bestowed upon the CMU nursing program by the Colorado Trust via Trustee, John Hopkins. The trust's mission is "advancing the health and well-being of the people of Colorado."

"I am a strong believer in the value of higher education. Recognizing the significant role CMU plays in this arena, I wanted to support the university in its mission... because of my background in healthcare, I understand the need for healthcare professionals and the important roles that nurses fill in our healthcare system. I wanted to support the education and training of new nurses." – John Hopkins Bailey agreed: "The stethoscopes are the symbol of health care. We are in such a restricted economy that anything we can do for a new student is an incredible boost of support. We are asking the students to commit to a rigorous program of study, and it is costly."

In addition to the significant help such a gift delivers, John Hopkins said, "Personally, it is very satisfying to support the education of these nursing students and to realize the contributions they will make to our healthcare system and to patient care."

Beyond the nursing program, Hopkins acknowledges CMU in general. "I am particularly happy to support CMU because I recognize the value and contributions the organization brings to our community, the Western Slope and to the lives of the individuals it educates."

### Helping Students Fulfill Their Dreams

Long-time Western Slope residents **Tilman and Pat Bishop** have dedicated most of their adult lives to public service. Better known as "Tillie," Bishop served 28 years in the Colorado General Assembly serving as both a state senator and state representative.

A complete list of the Bishops' extraordinary contributions could take an entire publication of its own. The short list – which isn't all that short – includes a focus on education, water, energy, natural resource development, highways and transportation, legislative reform, youth corrections and the state personnel system.

In the early 1990s the Bishops established their first endowment at Mesa State College. The first scholarships were awarded to students majoring in political science and willing to serve as interns at the Colorado State Capitol.

The Bishops' son, Barry, obtained both an associate's and bachelor's degree at Mesa, as well as a second bachelor's degree at the University of Utah. Unfortunately, Barry passed away due to cancer in 2008. "Barry requested his mom and dad establish an endowment in his name," Tillie said. "He wanted the scholarship[s] to be awarded to students with average high school grades."

"We have chosen to establish an endowment and scholarship program at CMU because we believe in, and want to support, education beyond high school," Tillie said. •



Brigitte Sundermann, Vice President for Community College Affairs, appreciates the support of donors Pat and Tillie Bishop. Western Colorado Community College's campus is named in Tillie's honor.

### Giving Something Back

Gean F. Lipson Trust Scholarship

Born in 1918, **Gean F. Lipson** entered her adolescence during the most difficult years of the Great Depression. Regardless of her many life achievements, Lipson would never forget how challenging it was for many people to survive those years, and how hard it can still be for folks to get by.

Lipson passed away in 2008 at 89 years old. Prior to her passing, she made it clear that she wanted to establish the Gean F. Lipson Trust, and leave behind an endowment at Colorado Mesa University. According to Lipson's son, Robert, "Mom expressed a strong desire to gift a significant part of her estate to those working on college degrees, and the family fully supported her in that wish."

"The family feels great about Mom's choice to help college kids with this endowment," said Robert. "Mom lived through

the depression and simply wanted to give something back to her community. She wanted to give something to those who are starting out with very little just like she did."

Each year the Gean F. Lipson Trust Scholarship is awarded to a full-time student majoring in art, music or theatre. Lipson found a creative and generous way to give back to her community and her alma mater, and her family is making sure that her wishes are fully met. •

To the right: Nursing student and CMU Rodeo Team member Shelby Miller is the recipient of one of the many scholarships provided by generous donors.

## Donors Make Education Possible

The proof is in the student

CMU senior **Jared Ricks** is a 35-year-old U.S. Air Force veteran. Like many others wounded in military service, Ricks sustained a serious leg injury that left him permanently disabled. He is majoring in biology, and ultimately wants to be involved with orthopedics so he can help others with similar challenges.

Ricks feels quite fortunate to have been the recipient of scholarship funds through CMU. This year Ricks received a scholarship from the Western Slope Vietnam War Memorial Scholarship.

"I met one guy who flew helicopters in Vietnam, and others with serious head injuries from wars. I am honored to receive funding from guys like that, guys that have been through Hell."

Ricks said being successful in school while making ends meet is a serious balancing act. "I didn't get injured as badly as some of the guys I've met. I smashed my leg pretty good though, and I can't do the young-man construction jobs and all that anymore. So, I appreciate the help a lot. I feel very lucky!"

Ricks is set to graduate in May of 2014, and has earned a grade point average above 3.5.  $\bullet$ 



Student Jared Ricks is a disabled veteran who truly appreciates the generous scholarships he receives at CMU. Without crucial funds, higher education would be unattainable for many of CMU's students.

## **Reining In Tuition Costs**

**Shelby Miller** can handle the ride. Hailing from Denver, she won second place in the Colorado State Rodeo finals in high school, and was an aspiring rodeo champion well before she entered the CMU nursing program. Now as a junior working on a minor in business administration, Miller is still in the saddle.



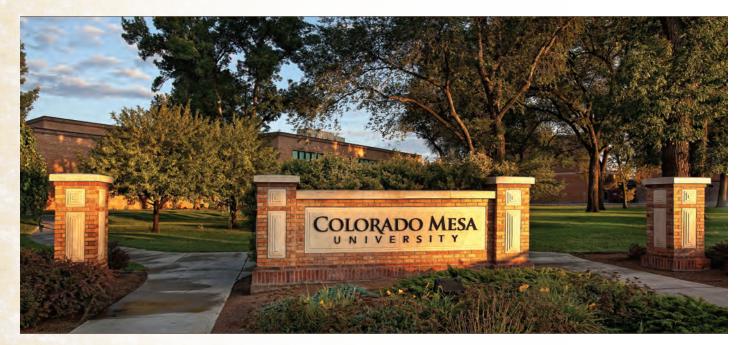
Rodeo is clearly a part of her future career plans, and she hopes to actually make money at it someday. As Miller initially weighed her college options, she realized that she had to consider the availability of rodeo activities – and the cost of boarding three horses – in addition to the other significant expenses of being a college student.

Fortunately, she received some much-needed breathing room when she was awarded a scholarship from the CMU Foundation. "The scholarship helps keep my college debt down and gives me more ability to study," Miller said.

CMU puts a strong emphasis on providing a great education for a reasonable price – and foundation scholarships such as this one help fill the gap when good students from middle-income families, like Miller, don't meet the criteria for need-based aid.

Miller is clearly mindful of the assistance that keeps her in the saddle. "The scholarship money... helps a lot," she said. "I am so glad and grateful for it. If it wasn't for the scholarship, I don't know how I would make it all work." •

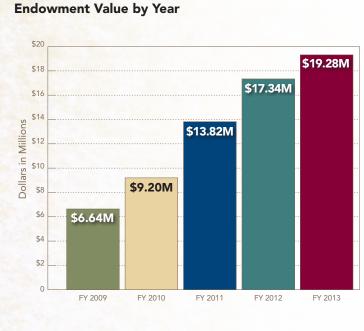
For more information on scholarships available at CMU, visit **coloradomesa.academicworks.com**. For eligibility questions, contact CMU's Financial Aid Office at 970.248.1396.



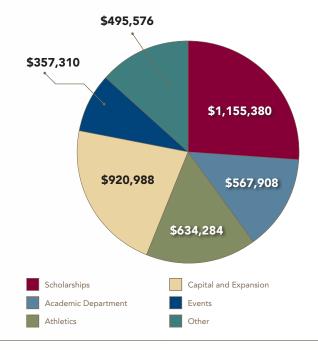
## **Financial Report**

The Colorado Mesa University Foundation is proud to report a successful year. Significant support continues to come from individuals, government entities, corporations and foundations. In our 2013 Fiscal Year:

Total gifts received	\$4,131,446
Number of Donors	3,686
Number of students receiving scholarships	359
Amount of scholarships awarded	\$541,656
Endowment value	\$19,284,005



Total Gifts Received (\$4,131,446)



## Donor Honor Roll

Thank you to all of our donors for their dedication to supporting student success at Colorado Mesa University. The following donors made gifts of \$1,000 or more to the CMU Foundation between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. We also greatly appreciate the 3,000+ donors who are not listed but made a significant impact on the educational experience of all CMU students.

### Valedictorian

\$100,000 and above

Jim and Sharen Branscome City of Grand Junction Mesa County Montrose County St. Mary's Hospital

### Summa Cum Laude

\$50,000-\$99,999

El Pomar Foundation Rocky Mountain Health Plans Shear Inc. Carole Strobl and Don Fiscus Ventana Capital Western Colorado Contractors Association WPX Energy

### Magna Cum Laude

\$25,000-\$49,999

Alpine Bank Bacon Family Foundation Chevron Community Hospital Steven and Caryn Crague Ed Bozarth Chevrolet and Buick Home Loan & Investment Company Impact Promotions Bryan Johnson Thom W. Johnson Montrose Memorial Hospital Telluride Ski & Golf Company





### Cum Laude

\$10,000-\$25,000

ANB Bank Herbert and Laura May Bacon Tilman and Pat Bishop Charles and Judy Black **BP** Foundation Phyllis L. Brownson Bush Cree Promotions The Colorado Trust Karen L. Combs Diagnostic Radiology Associates Edward and Lois Gardner Hilltop Community Resources HRL Compliance Solutions Max and Helen Krey CF Niles Test Family Trust Primal Wear Pyrolabs John and Nancy Riede Shaw Construction Sodexo US Bank Wells Fargo Bank Western Örthopedics & Sports Medicine

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#### **Distingushed Scholars**

\$1,000-\$2,499

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The opportunity to pursue higher education is limited for many students by financial pressures that are made greater by decreased state funding and rising tuition costs. This makes even the relatively affordable costs of attending Colorado Mesa University out-of-reach for many students.

Gifts to the Colorado Mesa University Foundation support student success by providing critical financial assistance for scholarships and academic programs. Since CMU's founding in 1925, the university has transformed students' lives, built a better-educated citizenry and strengthened the region's workforce.

## Ways to Give

Cash, Check or Money Order Send a check or money order or hand deliver cash to: 1450 North 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501.

#### Credit Card

You may make a gift online at **coloradomesa.edu/giving** or by phone by calling 970.248.1902.

### Online

You may make a gift online at **coloradomesa.edu/giving**.

### Gifts of Stock

Please contact the CMU Foundation at 970.248.1902 for instructions on stock transfers.

## Give now. Make a difference every day.



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