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VETERINARIANS UNLEASHED
Doctors at the James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital are passionate about animals – and about climbing, running, and antique medicine.

ON THE COVER
A girl in Bangalore, India, is ready to chow down on a chapatti. Photo by Bill Cotton.

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Thank goodness for laughing kids. Otherwise, on a trip to India this summer, the shock of traffic alone may have permanently dented my psyche. I’d made the long flights halfway around the world in good shape, but then I took a seat in a car at Bangalore airport, and my complacency turned to sheer panic. The driver blasted off into the anarchy of traffic, where horns and razor-sharp reactions were required and stoplights were optional nuisances. Our driver, A. John Paul, a native of India, was one of the better drivers on the road, but after missing yet another lorry by two inches and almost running into a three-wheeled taxi going the wrong way, it was hard to imagine careening any closer to disaster.

At least I was in good company. The crew included Colorado State video producers Greg O’Malia and Kathryn Visser, photographer Bill Cotton, and Bijah Gibson, technical journalism sophomore and intern in the President’s Office. We were documenting a project born in CSU’s Engines and Energy Conversion Lab that aimed to reduce indoor air pollution in developing nations through more efficient cook stoves.

Also joining us were two remarkably talented people – Melanie Sloan, graduate research assistant, and Christian L’Orange, mechanical engineering graduate student, who have been instrumental in developing and testing cleaner-burning stoves at the EECL. On that same drive from the airport, Christian said he realized what it meant to look death in the face. Strange to say, we got used to the insane traffic and even managed to nod off at times during interminable drives. Sometimes the crush of people, noise, dust, and heat would glaze our eyes, and we’d stare blankly at each other, wondering if we were getting sick or just besieged with culture overload. At one point toward the end of our stay, we sat on the stone floor in the hallway of our hotel while afternoon slowly changed to night, nursing Kingfisher beer, talking for hours about where we’d been and what we’d seen. Hunger finally drove us to seek food, but we could have kept talking for days about this immense nation of economic riches, numbing poverty, generous people, pampered cattle, open sewers, ubiquitous construction and pollution, some of the most varied topography on the planet – and those laughing, smiling kids.

But in the end, life-saving stove technology is what we were there for, and it was a pleasure to be a part of such a worthy project. The story about how stoves are improving the health of people in India and other parts of the world starts on Page 16.

Paul Miller

Your Name in Print

Coming soon – a new CSU alumni directory! Starting January 2009, Harris Connect will contact Colorado State alumni to verify information and take orders for the directory.
Transition at the top

In early November, Colorado State University changed leadership with the announcement that Dr. Anthony A. Frank, the University’s provost and senior vice president, was appointed interim president following Larry Edward Penley’s resignation as president.

Lance Perryman, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, will serve as interim provost. The Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System will start the process of a national search for the next University president within the next several months.

In a letter to the campus community, Doug Jones, chairman of the Board of Governors, noted Frank’s “16 years of CSU experience, impeccable support from the faculty, and a deep knowledge of CSU that will allow him to lead and make decisions while maintaining the momentum our faculty, students, and staff have created to make this University one of the premier land-grant institutions in the country.”

“President Penley’s leadership over the last five years has helped elevate CSU’s profile on the national stage, and his tenure has seen record levels of private and research support as well as a focus on sound strategic planning and budgeting,” Frank said in a message to campus. “During his presidency, the University has taken important steps to strengthen CSU’s engagement with the Fort Collins community and statewide economic development efforts, and these will continue to be institutional priorities. As a community, we wish President Penley and Yolanda Penley well on their future endeavors, and we thank them for their dedicated service to higher education and Colorado State.

“Colorado State University, by nature of its land-grant mission, is helping to prove a uniquely American hypothesis: that broad access to higher education is essential to preservation of a democracy and that elevating the individual through knowledge, skill, and understanding elevates society as a whole. Like you, I respect this mission and consider it a privilege to uphold it.

“The success of Colorado State in the future will have less to do with who occupies the president’s chair than who is teaching our classes, who is leading our research programs, and who we admit and graduate. In that light, CSU today is in good stead. We have an experienced and engaged governing board and a strong leadership team in all our academic colleges and vice presidential and vice provost areas. We have an outstanding, competitive faculty and staff that deserve full credit for the strength of CSU’s reputation and stature. And we have a student body that is responsible, service-oriented, and passionate about the world and their ability to make it better.

“I am honored to serve you and this institution, and I look forward to working closely with you in the months ahead.”

---

Resignation letter from President Penley to the Board of Governors

After more than five years, I want you to know that it is my intent to resign from my positions as president, chancellor, and professor effective Nov. 30, 2008. I believe that my leadership has contributed to significant progress for Colorado State University, but I want to be free to pursue other leadership positions in higher education. This resignation will allow me the flexibility to do so.

Colorado State University is a great University, and I am proud of its recent progress as a major research university that serves a diverse student population with high-quality degree programs. I want to thank the Board of Governors for the opportunity I have had.

Faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends will sustain CSU; Yolanda and I have appreciated their kindness and their support.

---

Colorado State’s future success depends on those who teach our classes, who lead our research programs, and who we admit and graduate.

Interim President Anthony Frank
Quarter-million kids experience hands-on science

by Jim Beers

The Little Shop of Physics, Colorado State University’s hands-on science outreach program, reached a major milestone in October: 250,000 student visits. Kevin Vorse, a fourth-grader at Moore Elementary School in Fort Collins, was honored by the Little Shop crew as the quarter-millionth student.

Vorse received a traditional tie-dyed Little Shop of Physics T-shirt and was recognized at an evening presentation at the school.

Brian Jones, instructional lab coordinator in the physics department and director of the Little Shop, brought a variety of experiments as part of their “Rainbow and Beyond” tour to Moore Elementary. The Little Shop of Physics is a collection of homemade science experiments designed to be used by students at all grade levels. Through the program, students experience science first-hand by observing, experimenting, and questioning – and they learn that science is something they can do.

Each year, Little Shop personnel share about 300 experiments with thousands of students throughout Colorado, the United States, and abroad in countries such as Korea. They’ve also worked with Native American groups and blind students.

“We’re making science real for kids. We want these interactions to be quick and zesty,” Jones says. “We started Little Shop on a lark and thought it would last a year or two. Now we’ve interacted with a quarter-million kids. We’ve had a half-million hands on our experiments.”

For the past 18 years, the program has visited dozens of different schools annually. “Our goal is two-fold,” Jones says. “Students working with our experiments discover some interesting and amazing things about physics, but they also learn that physics – and science in general – is accessible, engaging, and fun.”

In addition to school programs, the Little Shop of Physics presents an annual open house on the CSU campus, teacher workshops, and a television show produced in cooperation with the local Poudre School District Channel 10.

For more information about the Little Shop of Physics, visit littleshop.physics.colostate.edu.
University is a green titan

Being green is nothing new at Colorado State. Conservation and alternative energy research has a long history at CSU and spans the sciences in a multitude of disciplines.

Moreover, the University is moving well beyond just changing light bulbs on campus, although that’s certainly an important component. Recent plans include the University working toward carbon neutrality by 2020. Research capacity has been boosted with the Clean Energy Supercluster launched last spring. And new learning opportunities have been developed through the School of Global Environmental Sustainability.

Here’s a quick look back at just a few of Colorado State’s Green University firsts.

• One of the first universities in the country to offer green power as an option for students living on campus.
• The world’s first solar-heated and -cooled building created by university scientists.
• First university in the world to obtain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, Commercial Interior certification.
• Philosophy faculty pioneered the field of environmental ethics.
• First to collect data via satellite for weather forecasting.
• With NASA, created and launched CloudSat, the world’s most sensitive cloud-profiling satellite radar to monitor climate change.
• Established the nation’s first emissions control program.

And more green:

• Cost savings from expanded conservation efforts at CSU, which includes carbon neutrality, will be redeployed to help fund the adoption of renewable energy technologies.
• The College of Business’ new Global Social and Sustainable Enterprise master’s degree program teaches students to develop sustainable business solutions to serious problems affecting the globe, largely in the developing world.
• More than 400 volunteers from CSU – the Live Green Team – managed recycling at the Democratic National Convention in Denver. Sorters captured recyclables and compost-worthy material from 1.5 million square feet of convention area.
• In Denmark, Their Royal Highnesses the Crown Princes of Denmark and Spain recognized CSU with the 2008 Royal Award for Sustainable Technology Transfer.

The Green Man of Colorado State says that the University is a role model for environmental stewardship throughout the world. More green themes are on the Web at www.green.colostate.edu.
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Lovers of native plants now can visit specimens of buffalograss, sideoats grama, western snowberry, river birch, littleleaf mock orange, alder, and many other newly planted species at the Natural Resources Building’s atrium on campus. Some 500 plants representing diverse native landscapes were donated to the University by Randy Mandel, 1985 alumnus and co-owner of Rocky Mountain Native Plants, and Allen Goodness from Little Valley Nursery.

“We call it a learning-scape,” says Gillian Bowser, assistant dean of the Warner College of Natural Resources. “It’s a dynamic landscape and living classroom that students designed and helped plant. These native grasses, shrubs, and trees are beautiful to see and also are a valuable way for students to learn about flora.”

Bowser added that the replanting, which was done in August, was the first since the atrium was constructed in 1976. Non-native plants representing the Pacific West forests were common in the original atrium, says Katlin Miller, a senior wildlife biology major who helped replant the new arboretum. All the original flora, which included common houseplants with no environmental theme other than indoor hardiness, were removed, bagged, and given away to community members.

“With the help of our generous donors and volunteers, this project gave us a unique opportunity to install native plants that can be found from subalpine areas to lower wetlands,” says Scott Webb, director of Development for Warner College. “It’s an ideal way to show the diversity of the landscape that surrounds us. Students become invested in caring for the atrium as well, and overall, it adds greatly to their learning experiences.”

The atrium, prepared for its new look by students, faculty, and staff volunteers, is the largest indoor learning-scape on Colorado State’s campus.

*Renewal: Wildlife biology student Katlin Miller gives a deep drink to new plants at the Natural Resources Building atrium. The replanting was the first since the atrium opened in 1976.*
Swing time: Joe Alexander crushes one during a Ram baseball scrimmage in September at the renovated City Park South Ball Field. The field, a cooperative effort between the city of Fort Collins and Colorado State, is the new home for the national champion Rams and for the community.
For love of the game

by Tony Phifer

For some people, the notion of playing club sports in college conjures up visions of weekend volleyball games with burgers cooking and participants having more fun than worrying about winning or losing.

Such is not the case at Colorado State, where club sports have become synonymous with high-level success. Last spring, baseball team members showed just how serious they were by winning yet another national championship.

“We have a lot of students who come here with the desire to play sports at a competitive level, and our programs give them that opportunity,” says Marsha Smeltzer, associate director of sports programs. “You really see the love of their sport in these athletes.”

Smeltzer should know. She spent many years working in intercollegiate athletics, serving as CSU’s senior women’s administrator in the athletic department before moving over to the club sports program. While some funding for CSU’s 27 sports programs comes from student fees, club sport athletes have to foot much of the bill for uniforms, travel, hotels, meals, and even coaching salaries. In addition to attending classes and practices, many club sport athletes have to work to earn the money to pursue their passion.

“I’m continuously amazed at what these students accomplish,” Smeltzer says. “They have jobs, they have late classes, and very often they can only make one or two practices a week. And yet they still accomplish phenomenal things in their sports.”

Baseball has set the standard for club sport success at CSU. The program has brought home four of the past five National Club Baseball Association national championships, establishing itself as the nation’s dominant club. After making it through a tough series, the third-seeded Rams won the 2008 title by knocking off No. 1 Penn State 5-1 in a championship game at Fort Myers, Fla. CSU took an early lead over Penn State and held on behind the pitching of Cooper Liggett and the hitting of left fielder Brian Dilley, who was selected the tournament’s most valuable player.

“Once we got going, we knew we were going all the way,” Dilley says. “Winning the championship was indescribable. It was such a great feeling.”

The Rams became a national power under the direction of former coach Frank Gonzales, who pitched for CSU when baseball was still a varsity sport. After Gonzales led the Rams to back-to-back national titles in 2004-2005, he was replaced by Mike Abernathy, who won a championship in his first season in 2006, then added a second crown in 2008.

Abernathy said the key to the club’s success is attention to detail.

“I try to run the program the same way a Division I program is run,” he says. “Our practices are tough and organized, and our players are committed to getting better. They don’t just show up when they want to.”

The solid reputation of the program attracts high-quality players. Many, like Dilley, had scholarship offers to play at the Division I or Division II level but chose to play for the Rams.

Women’s lacrosse

The women’s lacrosse team earned its first national championship in the spring – the hard way, by knocking off perennial power Cal Poly. The Rams used a stifling defense in an 8-5 overtime win at Denver’s Invesco Field at Mile High.

“Cal Poly knew what it took to win a title, but we played really well and rallied when we were down,” says Diane Wilson, co-president of the club team. “It’s a sweet, sweet memory.”

The lacrosse team returns 16 of its top 21 players, including Lindsay Brown, the 2008 National Player of the Year.◆
A handful of gold at the Paralympics

She may not have the wing span of Michael Phelps, that tall drink of water who dominated men’s swimming at the Beijing Olympics, but Erin Popovich ended up with plenty of gold of her own.

Popovich, Colorado State alumna and 2008 Paralympic Games star, won four gold medals, two silver medals, and a handful of world and Paralympic records at the Beijing games in September. In three Paralympic Games, she has won a total of 17 gold medals.

Popovich, who is just over 4 feet 4 inches tall, was born with achondroplasia, a genetic disorder that severely restricts limb growth. A native of Butte, Mont., she lives and trains in Fort Collins with CSU swimming coach John Mattos and Fort Collins Area Swim Team coach Bill Spahn.

She graduated from Colorado State in 2007 in health and exercise science.

“Erin is not your typical athlete,” Mattos says. “She’s determined to succeed, works hard, and displays a positive, can-do attitude. She’s respected, admired, and loved by her teammates because she trains tall even though she walks small. She’s an inspiration to all of us.”

The Beijing Olympics capped a remarkable career for Popovich. In the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens, she competed in seven events and brought home seven gold medals. In 2006, she came close to topping that at the IPC World Championships in Durban, South Africa, setting two world records and winning six gold medals and two silver medals.

Bronze for an All-American

Former Ram athlete Becky Hammon played basketball for Russia at the Beijing Olympics and poured in 22 points against China to win the bronze medal. The United States later beat Russia in the semifinals and went on to win the gold medal.

While at Colorado State, Hammon scored more points in her four-year basketball career than any CSU player – male or female – in history. Hammon was a two-time All-American and is one of only five CSU athletes to have a playing number retired.

Hammon is back as a point guard for the top-ranked WNBA San Antonio Silver Stars, where she was MVP runner-up last season.
Track and field contenders

Colorado State alumni and track and field student athletes Casey Malone ('00) and Loree Smith ('05) were part of the 2008 Olympic team, with Malone competing in the discus throw and Smith in the hammer throw.

Malone, who is assistant coach at the University of Colorado, also participated in the 2004 Olympic Games, where he placed sixth in discus.

In this year’s Beijing Olympics, Malone finished 11th in his group in the preliminaries and 19th overall and didn't advance to the finals.

Smith had never seen a hammer before coming to CSU. At the end of her college career, she held two school records in the hammer and the shot put, three All-American awards, nine Mountain West Conference titles, and a gold medal from the North American-Central American Championships in the hammer. She was the first-ever female athlete at CSU to win the NCAA title in 2005.

Smith, who didn’t reach the medal rounds at the 2008 Olympics, noted on her blog that her performance was a disappointment, but “nobody tries for the Olympics because it’s easy, but many don’t because it’s hard.”

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Economy is a roller coaster ride

Commentary by Martin Shields

The recent nightmare on Wall Street has made the U.S. economy once again feel like a roller coaster ride. In October, the stock market teetered on the brink of disaster, then rebounded, then tanked again. We still don’t know when the wild ride will end.

But unlike such thrill rides, our economy doesn’t come back to where it started. Instead, we fervently hope it will march – or at least stagger – upward. As evidence, consider that, over the past 20 years, inflation-adjusted median household incomes have increased by about $6,000.

Recently, however, there has been a dramatic change in how growth is distributed across the population. Over the period 2000-2007, real total U.S. personal income increased by more than $1.5 trillion. Yet despite helping bake the largest economic pie in history, millions of households find themselves holding smaller slices.

Census data shows that one in five U.S. households had annual incomes of $20,291 or less in 2007. After adjusting for inflation, this marked a $1,300 decline from 2000. Put another way, the top income earners in the bottom fifth of all U.S. households made 6 percent less than their counterparts did seven years earlier.

And the erosion in living standards is not limited to the poorest households. Since 2000, the second and third quintiles have also seen their real incomes decline.

At the same time, the base income level that defined the top 20 percent of all households increased to $100,000 while the income level defining the top 5 percent increased to $177,000. Clearly, the gains of recent economic growth have accrued almost entirely to top income households.

Until recently, I was among the economists who subscribed to the notion that a rising tide lifts all boats, meaning that everyone shares in the gains of economic growth. And prior to this decade, that axiom held true, despite some periods of turbulent seas. Between 1970 and 2000, the lowest income quintile had the fastest average annual income growth rate. While certainly not the stuff of a Horatio Alger novel, living standards were improving across the board.

The good thing is that there is no fundamental reason why recent trends have to continue. With proper leadership, the United States can return to its previous experience of improved living standards through economic growth. But it all starts with economic policies that focus on creating opportunities for low- and middle-income families, such as better schools and improved access to job training and higher education.

However, before real progress can happen, policy makers and pundits need to stop vilifying those of us who are troubled by these trends. I don’t advocate “class warfare.” I like it when my paycheck grows. And I don’t find rising income inequality in and of itself all that off-putting.

But what does upset me is that millions of Americans are undeniably worse off today than they were eight years ago. Wages are flat, inflation is up, and more are going without health insurance every year. We are a better country than that.

Most of us won’t ever be rich. Many of us don’t even care to be. But increased economic security isn’t too much to ask for, is it?

Martin Shields, shown above in CSU’s Lory Student Center, is associate professor of economics at Colorado State and regional economist.
Repository safeguards research, creative works

by Dawn Bastian Paschal, coordinator for Digital Repositories Services and associate professor

Think for a moment about how much information today is born digitally. Books, reports, and articles are created using computers. Photographs, videos, and sound recordings are made digitally. E-mail drives business in all its manifestations.

The ability to record human thought and discovery in digital form has allowed information to proliferate at an accelerated pace and be shared with greater ease. But will this information be available to future generations? In a scholarly context, the question becomes even more pressing. Will digital products of Colorado State research and teaching be accessible years from now?

University Libraries has implemented a new set of services, the CSU Digital Repository, to maintain the institutional scholarly record and serve as an open-access showcase of research, scholarship, and creative works of University faculty, students, and academic staff.

Specific benefits to individual depositors include:

- **Increased dissemination and impact of research.** The Digital Repository, available to the public, provides high visibility and increased access to research. Descriptive information about deposited works will be indexed and crawled by Google and other search engines.

- **Increased citation of research.** Research suggests that open access to online articles may increase citation impact by 50 percent to 250 percent, depending on discipline, specialty, and year.

- **Persistence.** The Digital Repository provides permanent Web addresses to digital research.

- **Preservation.** The Libraries is committed to preserving the University’s digital content for long-term access and use in the repository.

- **Copyright control.** Because control of intellectual property has specific legal implications, every situation is unique. In some cases, a depositor may retain control and ownership of research and creative works. Even if a work has already been published, many publishers will allow deposit in the Digital Repository.

As of September, the Digital Repository contains more than 2,400 items including (but not limited to) theses and dissertations; preprints and postprints of faculty journal articles; award-winning student research projects; department publications such as the Atmospheric Science Bluebooks; conference presentations and proceedings; and videos. Also included are primary resource materials to support research, teaching, and scholarship and selected materials from University Archives that document institutional history.

The impact of the repository can be seen in one of its theses, “The Development of the Fort Collins Mormon Community During the Twentieth Century,” which has been viewed 54 times since deposit on March 31. The two print copies available have been circulated or viewed in-house a total of eight times since appearing on the Libraries’ shelves in 2001.

The repository, which supports the University’s strategic plan for research and discovery, makes it possible to capture and share material that may not, for whatever reason, be published in a journal or other publications.

View the Digital Repository at http://digitool.library.colostate.edu.
Motorized chariots cruise campus

Colorado State police have gained some hot wheels – and a lot more mobility – with the addition of four sleek, electric-powered vehicles to the department’s fleet. The environmentally friendly, three-wheeled T3 has a zero-degree turning radius and futuristic design, making the units look like souped-up Segways, those self-balancing, two-wheeled scooters seen occasionally.

The T3 can easily maneuver tight corners and roll into areas inaccessible by squad cars. Lighting on the vehicle, including flashing blue and red lights, is energy efficient LED lighting. Two removable, rechargeable power modules and a short, three-hour charging time allow the vehicles to be in virtually continuous use by officers. The electric vehicles are expected to cost less than 10 cents per day to operate and can scoot along at speeds up to 25 mph.

The units can travel over a variety of surfaces. “The T3 enables us to go places we never thought possible,” says Jackie Swaro, police spokeswoman. “The T3 emits zero gas emissions and therefore can be used indoors. This enables us to patrol residence halls, libraries, the student center, and any other buildings on campus.”

The T3s also create better community policing, a type of law enforcement that encourages officers to make themselves more visible and approachable. ♦

Ram fans in action

When Detachment Commander Maj. D.J. Fennell (B.S. ’96) isn’t busy loading onto an MV-22 Osprey at Al Taqaddum bound for Camp Fallujah in Iraq, he watches Ram football with buddies from MACS-23, the Colorado-based U.S. Marine Corps Reserve unit. The group – all rabid Ram fans – includes six CSU alumni and students. Most of the 73 Marines in the detachment are Colorado natives or residents.
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On a small plot of land surrounded by high-rise buildings in Bangalore, India, a woman in a make-shift tent is forming chapattis, or flatbread, and browning them on a frying pan placed over an open fire. Most of the smoke is trapped inside the tent, creating an environment similar to the inside of a chimney.

I lean my head inside the tent, and my eyes immediately burn. I can taste the smoke, as thick as it is, but the woman continues cooking as she’s done most of her life, squinting in the haze and heat. It’s almost sundown, and families need to be fed. The woman’s home, one of about eight on this plot, is made of scavenged tarp and plastic, and similar kitchen chores are taking place in other tents, while out in the open, children scribble school lessons in notebooks.

Whether in tents or other housing, more than half the world’s population cook in their homes over a fire or primitive stove, burning wood, crop waste, animal dung, coconut shells, or other biomass, says the World Health Organization.
Fumes and smoke generated by the stoves cause more than 1.5 million premature deaths in developing countries each year—and that’s why I’m in Bangalore, 9,000 miles from home, with a Colorado State film crew and two graduate student engineers. We’re here to see how a technology project is helping to ease severe health problems caused by the simple act of cooking food.

In fact, the tent we visited is just a five-minute walk from the headquarters of Envirofit India, a branch of Envirofit International, a Fort Collins-based, non-profit corporation that had its inception at Colorado State’s Engines and Energy Conversion Lab, or EECL. Envirofit India is dedicated to selling and distributing Envirofit’s clean-burning stoves in this country of more than a billion people.

One wall of the headquarters displays about 15 stoves, and after we greet her, Martha Kohlhagen, director of sales and product management, turns her attention to two local men who stopped by to check out the stoves they’d heard about.

“The stoves are designed to concentrate heat on the pots and not send that energy all over the room,” she says. “Efficient air flow means wood burns hotter, there’s 80 percent less smoke and emissions that harm your family’s health, and cooking time is reduced by almost half. Saves money, too, because you use only about half the fuel of traditional stoves.”

Harish Anchan, general manager for Envirofit’s Indian Operations, comes in and announces that two dozen stoves have been sold this day alone. That’s good news,
but it’s just a beginning indicator of Envirofit’s ambitious sales projections.

In September 2007, UK-registered Shell Foundation spun off its indoor air pollution-reduction project, Breathing Space, to be scaled up and commercialized by Envirofit International. Since then, Envirofit has worked with its research and development partners at the EECL to develop and test low-cost, clean-burning stoves. And because indoor air pollution is rated the fourth most prevalent global killer by the WHO, the potential to help clean up that air is staggering: Envirofit International aims to sell 10 million stoves in five countries over the next five years.

“The difference between traditional and Envirofit stoves is like comparing wagons to rockets,” says Harish, who remembers tears running down his cheeks from the stinging wood smoke in his childhood home.

Martha and Harish leave to attend to business – it’s expanding exponentially and requires a great deal of organization – and that frees up the two CSU students to continue setting up a stove emissions testing lab in the back of the headquarters.

Christian L’Orange, mechanical engineering graduate student, and Melanie Sloan, graduate research assistant, hammer, bolt, duct-tape and otherwise rig vents, hoods, and other paraphernalia. Eventually, the lab will be used to measure particulate concentrations and other elements of test stoves.

“This isn’t just a shiny stove, it’s a serious piece of equipment,” says Christian, who’s been involved in the project for more than two years at the EECL. “But I do get to set things on fire,” he adds with a grin.

Melanie, who like Christian is visiting India and seeing the stoves in action for the first time, says she was an economic analyst for a major corporation before deciding to pursue a different, more satisfying career.

“I started researching schools and found projects at the EECL that really caught my interest,” she says. She met with Bryan Willson, the lab’s director, and that cemented her new direction. “I wasn’t necessarily interested in cookstoves, but the idea of applying technical solutions to the real world brought me here (to CSU). This trip to India has been a real eye-opener.

“Efficient air flow means wood burns hotter, and there’s 80 percent less smoke and emissions that harm your family’s health.”

– Martha Kohlhagen
It’s so satisfying to see these stoves being used where they’re needed.” Melanie is the fuels specialist on the project and works beside Christian, burning things in the name of research.

Early on a humid Monday morning, our crew jams into a mid-size car and careens off to visit the village of Gooolhosahalli northwest of Bangalore. Four mind-numbing hours later, we step into the dusty street of the village and immediately draw the attention of what seems like most of the 500 residents. The temperature is searing, above 90 degrees. Oxen, roosters, and laughing children mingle in the deeply rutted streets, surrounding us in a fever of color and animal musk.

We make our way to a home where a grandmother is cooking. We ask permission to join her in the kitchen, then remove our shoes and step carefully into the heart of the home. On the hard-packed dirt floor is a black Envirofit B-1100, an elegant, one-pot stove. The grandmother is happy to show off her stove to strangers and tells us, with little prompting, how pleased she is with it. In fact, my eyes aren’t stinging like they had been in the smoky tent.

All around us, beyond the stone and mud walls of the kitchen, the richness and poverty and grace of India simmers in untold centuries of habitation. But I can’t take my eyes off the flames of the stove, and stare at the fire, the only way millions of people are able to make daily meals.

The grandmother reaches for a small stick and pushes it gingerly into the flames. She tends a pot of water on the stove, waiting patiently for it to boil so she can make tea, liberally sweetened, for her guests.
Mongolian grasslands an epicenter of change

by Kimberly Sorensen

For the past 15 years, Maria Fernandez-Gimenez has traveled to the same communities in Mongolia, getting to know the people, the land, and the way of life. But her latest trip to the country was different. Instead of field research in Mongolia’s vast grasslands, she was going to work with the people of Mongolia to develop an action plan to address how the nation was going to live in a world where climate change was expected to impact the daily lives of thousands of people.

Scientists expect that Mongolia will be significantly affected by global climate change largely because a third of the nation bases its livelihood on the 40 million grazing livestock on the country’s sparsely inhabited land. Nearly 80 percent of the country is rangeland. Droughts and severe weather – possible effects of climate change – greatly hinder the grazing and movement patterns of the people.

In June 2008, Fernandez-Gimenez, associate professor of forest, rangeland, and watershed stewardship, and a team of five other Colorado State scientists and graduate students organized a group of more than 100 Mongolian scientists, herders, policy makers, and nongovernmental organization representatives in Mongolia’s capital city of Ulaanbaatar for a week-long workshop. The joint research project was crafted on community-based natural resource management and how it can improve herders’ livelihoods and support sustainable use of Mongolia’s grasslands.

Fernandez-Gimenez has seen Mongolia cope with the challenges of the rapid shift from a communist nation to a democracy and free-market economy in the 1990s. The transition has presented economic and social challenges.

“The most amazing aspect of the meeting was when herders in their traditional clothing discussed research hypotheses with scientists from Mongolia, CSU, and other organizations,” Fernandez-Gimenez says. “It was clear that the herders not only supported the idea of the research, but they also wanted to be active participants in carrying it out and bringing the results back to their communities.”

She notes that participation of herders and policymakers in the project will help ensure that science addresses the problems rural Mongolians see as most important – accelerating land degradation, vanishing water sources, growing poverty, and changes in climate, land use, and herders’ knowledge and attitudes.
Center explores issues and diversity of aging

by Kay Rios

Aging is not just a fact of life for Manfred Diehl, director of Colorado State’s Center on Aging.

“Aging is not necessarily associated with decline and decrepitude,” Diehl says. “I have always been fascinated by how much diversity and plasticity there is in aging. And in some areas of functioning, people have reported they’ve become better with age, for example, in areas of emotional aging or coping with life stress. That means all of us have room for improvement.”

That philosophy forms the center’s foundation as it encourages education and career opportunities for students, applied research, and networking.

Although the center is administratively housed in the College of Applied Human Sciences, “it must have a universitywide presence that draws expertise from across campus,” Diehl says. “One of my major objectives is to form multidisciplinary research teams, an approach that is essential in aging research. Most aging problems cross boundaries. For example, research on preventing falls involves environment modification, an area of expertise in occupational therapy. It involves balance issues, which are studied in the Department of Health and Exercise Science. Neuromuscular and psychological aspects contribute to falls prevention.”

The center provides research opportunities such as the Daily Stress Interview Study, or DAISI, says Christine Fruhauf, associate director of the center. The study aims to learn more about how healthy adults and adults treated for cancer cope with stressful events in their daily lives.

She adds that students are a focal point for the center. “We show students the importance of gerontology and introduce them to career opportunities working with and on behalf of older adults.” Fruhauf coordinates the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Studies Program, a certificate program in which students study biological, psychological, and social aspects of aging.

“‘The certification makes students very marketable,’ Diehl notes. “There’s a big demand for people in the field of aging because of the change in demographics. Students often are offered jobs before they’ve finished their degrees.”

Like many of those students, Diehl’s interest began in college. Originally from Germany, he earned his master’s in psychology at the University of Bonn, where he was involved in a longitudinal study of aging. “The study followed people who were young adults in World War I into their 80s, looking at aging in different professions, different backgrounds. The data from this study showed there was not one uniform way of growing older.”

In 1985, Diehl came to the United States on scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service and contin-
aging, focusing on personality characteristics that contribute to successful aging.

“One specific personality characteristic I study is self-concept incoherence. Every person has a self-concept – his or her strengths and weaknesses, values, and beliefs. Incoherence would be in seeing yourself as different in different situations.”

The distinction is important, he says. “Incoherence has been found to be related to depression, feelings of anxiety, poorer relationships with other people, and so on. Older people, on average, tend to have a more coherent self-concept. I’m interested in how we can teach people to form a more coherent self-concept so it can become a psychological resource as we age.”

Diehl joined the center in 2006 and found a kindred spirit in Fruhauf. She’s been at the center since January 2004 and also has long been interested in the aging process. “My first paying job was at a nursing home when I was 16,” she says.

Fruhauf witnessed positive aging through her grandparents. “They were active members of the community even though they had chronic diseases. I never thought of aging adults as being scary.”

Fruhauf, who earned a doctorate at Virginia Tech with a focus on adult development and aging, is working with faculty in Extension and the School of Social Work on the Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies. She’s part of a team that presented a paper on the work of the Alliance at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Conference.

In addition to his duties as director, Diehl is involved as co-investigator in the Wayne State University study on cognitive and emotional development of adults. Through these kinds of efforts and the opportunities the center offers, he says, “we can add knowledge on how we can facilitate healthy aging. The idea is to help older adults have the highest quality of life possible.”

The Center on Aging is on the Web at www.coa.cahs.colostate.edu.◆
A champion of engineering and invention

by Emily Wilmsen

As a young girl in Rosario, the second largest city in Argentina, Carmen Menoni didn’t fit the mold of a typical child. She listened to her parents. She loved mathematics. And while other girls were playing with dolls, she set up a blackboard and played teacher.

Menoni has fulfilled those early dreams of teaching with a successful career not only motivating students – she’s now a Colorado State professor of electrical and computer engineering – but also in her creative research and scientific discoveries.

Throughout her career, Menoni has led a team that works on manipulating light to develop new optical methods and instruments, such as powerful microscopes, that can “see” objects smaller than one-thousandth the diameter of a human hair. The microscope, similar to those used in chemistry or biology labs, uses the world’s brightest extreme ultraviolet laser demonstrated at CSU and specialized lenses developed by collaborators at the Center of X-Ray Optics at Lawrence Berkeley Lab in California and the Lebedev Physical Institute in Russia.

This fall, R&D magazine named the team’s revolutionary laser-based microscope one of the top-100 innovations for 2008. The R&D 100 award, known as the “invention Oscars,” brings recognition to the world-class leadership in innovation of the National Science Foundation Extreme Ultraviolet Engineering Research Center in its efforts to develop and exploit new tabletop extreme ultraviolet lasers for nanoscience and nanotechnology applications.

Menoni, who is equally dedicated to teaching and research, shares her enthusiasm and thrill of discovery with her students. “I see students as apprentices who are eager to learn. I hold them to the highest standards and offer them opportunities for research internships and mentoring in addition to the academic experience.” She teaches undergraduate- and graduate-level courses and serves as adviser to Colorado State’s Honors Program for both her department and the College of Engineering.

Menoni emphasizes the importance of mentoring female students, who are a minority at most engineering programs in the nation. She has developed workshops on lasers and optics for elementary and high school students, and she has recruited talented undergraduate and high school students to participate in summer research experiences. The summer internship programs allow faculty to work more closely with students, Menoni says. And to enjoy more personal connections with students, Menoni and her husband, Professor Jorge Rocca, often invite students to their home for movies. “There’s a lot of common ground between art and science,” says Menoni, who, like her husband, is passionate about foreign films. “It’s a different way of expressing creativity.”

As a strong proponent for women in science and engineering, Menoni and colleagues from other colleges created the annual Colorado State University Distinguished Women in Science and Engineering Lecture, which attracts eminent female scientists from around the world.

Funded in 2003, the NSF Engineering Research Center program in extreme ultraviolet laser research has provided exceptional opportunities for Colorado State faculty and their collaborators at the University of Colorado and University of California-Berkeley to work on cutting-edge research and to train talented students in science and technology.

◆
Surgeon is an anti-gravity machine

In the glass-walled conference room at Colorado State’s Orthopaedic Research Center, Dr. C. Wayne McIlwraith is scrolling through photos on his laptop. The photos aren’t what you’d expect from a veterinarian whose abilities in equine orthopedic surgery and joint disease are known by the medical community throughout the world. Instead, for a brief time on a fall afternoon, McIlwraith is showing a visitor photos of his vertical (and overhanging) world of rock climbing from Canada to Europe to New Zealand, where he was born.

McIlwraith, director of the Research Center and Barbara Cox Anthony University Endowed Chair, has been absorbed in climbing longer than he’s been a veterinary surgeon. Still, his research in joint disease in horses is legendary, and he doesn’t hesitate to join lengthy research projects such as finding ways to build safer racetracks to reduce catastrophic injuries in the ultra-competitive world of thoroughbred racing. Other areas of research (as if he had 48-hour days) within the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences include advances in arthroscopic surgery, genetic susceptibility to injury, early diagnosis of bone and joint disease, and rehabilitation.

But for now, his eyes are riveted on the high, steep peaks of the world. He speaks of enticing places like the Lotus Flower.
FALL 2008

YAGING VETERINARIANS

CSU veterinarians are known for compassion and care for a world of animals. Here are three doctors who are just as passionate about pursuits like climbing, running, and collecting antique medicines.

Tower in Canada’s Logan Mountains, Italy’s Dolomites, the Heemskirk Face of New Zealand’s Mount Tasman, and the East Ridge of Chopicalqui, a 20,848-foot titan in Peru, where he almost perished.

McIlwraith was leader of that 1973 expedition in Peru, and he was belaying his partner at around 19,500 feet when a cornice broke. “I dropped and pulled my mate off,” he says. “I thought we were both done.” The face was vertical to overhanging, but by sheer luck, the rope snagged on a protruding boulder and caught both climbers. McIlwraith sailed a hundred feet before jolting to a stop, rupturing ligaments in his knee and seriously injuring his hip. The team extricated themselves and limped back home, but not before a donkey that McIlwraith was riding bucked him off three times. “Bloody beast was lucky to live through that,” he says.

He continued climbing, but success on the high peaks started mixing too often with misfortune. He survived three avalanches, rockfall on the Matterhorn, and heard about friends who had died climbing. He considered quitting the sport.

However, a year after McIlwraith joined Colorado State in 1979, his brother died from a heart attack at the age of 30, and that helped change his mind. “I rethought my purpose,” he says, and kept climbing. His brother’s death made him realize there weren’t enough hours in a lifetime to get it all done.

Over the years, his hip injury advanced into the insidious realm of osteoarthritis. The irony of being a leading expert in arthritis and having that degenerative malady didn’t escape him, but it wasn’t until a trip in 2001, to the Lotus Flower Tower, that he knew he’d need a new hip. The climb in thick mist was successful, but the pain of humping 80-pound packs to the base of the tower finally forced him to look into bionic replacement parts.

“I found a good doctor who does hockey players,” McIlwraith says. “He told me, ‘I don’t think you’ll need another hip once I’m done,’ which was all I needed to hear.” In 2005, the renowned veterinary surgeon and joint-repair specialist was under the knife, receiving a new hip.

McIlwraith’s laptop now shows the beautiful Diamond, or East Face, of Longs Peak in Colorado, where he’s done some climbs. In fact, photos of his latest climbing on Devils Tower in Wyoming this fall aren’t on his computer yet. Maybe, when he has time out of his 48-hour day, he’ll include them in a slide show he’s presented for years on climbing and osteoarthritis.

There isn’t much irony in a skilled surgeon with an artificial hip who talks with equal passion about high peaks and horse joints. After all, Wayne McIlwraith is just helping animals and humans move easier in a world that keeps him constantly occupied, always on the move himself.

– Paul Miller

Running for the health of it

Equine veterinarian Dr. Diana Hassel is all about moving fast. She specializes in emergency medicine and surgery and in taking care of horses in the hospital’s critical care unit at Colorado State’s James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital, where speed can make the difference between life and death for patients. Working 10 to 12 hours a day on weekdays and several more hours on weekends when she’s not on call – and as many hours as needed when she is on call – means Hassel is moving at a blur most days.
But she’s even tougher to keep pace with when she’s training for her 12th Ironman – and her seventh Ironman Hawaii World Championship – triathlon distance race since 2000. She manages to squeeze 14 workouts into each week, getting up at 4:45 a.m. to fit one in before work begins at 7 a.m. Her typical schedule and weekly totals: four to five runs clocking up to 40 miles, four swims at up to 16,000 yards, three to four bike rides totaling about 200 miles, and two sessions in the weight room.

The Ironman Hawaii World Championship consists of a 2.4-mile ocean swim, 112-mile bike ride, and a 26.2-mile run, all in one day, “and as fast as humanly possible,” says Hassel, 40, who has placed in the top five of her age group in five of her last six attempts and won in her age group in 2002.

“When I’m not working, almost all of my time is spent swimming, cycling, or running,” she says. “Although I’m competitive, it’s all just for fun and to help me lead a healthy lifestyle. My goal is always to have the best possible race I’m physically capable of. Even if I don’t win a race, I’m ecstatic if I had a great race and know I raced to my potential. It’s just icing on the cake when I do win.”

“I gained an interest in triathlons when I became friends with a number of athletes while working as an emergency equine surgeon at U.C. Davis. We swam together with a Master’s swimming group, and the next thing I knew, I had joined the local running club and bought myself a road bike,” says Hassel, who qualified for her first Ironman Hawaii World Championship in 2000 on her first attempt. “My first triathlon was a sprint – a 500-yard swim, 14-mile bike ride, and 3.1-mile run – in October 1997. After that, I was hooked.”

While she races for health, camaraderie, and the love of competition, Hassel’s Ironman Hawaii World Championships race this year had added meaning: She raced in memory of Sue Robinson, a dear friend and fellow Ironman athlete who died from ovarian cancer two years ago.

Hassel also competes in other races, typically an additional six to eight triathlons of varying distances a year, 12 to 20 local road bike races, and three to four local running races. She’s an avid cyclist and races with Team Rio Grande.

When she’s not racing, she loves to ski in the winter and recently took up a new favorite, skate skiing. She still enjoys downhill skiing, though, or any outdoor activity for that matter. “Can you see why I love living in Colorado?”

Iron clad: Diana Hassel’s time of 10:28:21 placed her second in the 40-44 age group at the October Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii.

A new look at old remedies

As Dr. Narda Robinson opens one of three display cabinets in her office in the James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital, a pleasant and earthy aroma soup drifts from century-old bottles, boxes, and books that once held the secrets of the world’s most advanced medicine.

Among shelves lined with hundreds of antiques are several doctor’s traveling cases, each holding more than a dozen vials, some brightly yellowed with old sulfur powder. An empty bottle of Burnett’s Cocaine, likely dating to 1880, sits near another empty bottle of ipecac and opium. A dispensary book from 1888 contains hundreds of concoctions of herbs and chemicals for curing a variety of ailments. One antique book, the size of a large dictionary at 2,010 pages, lists medicinal uses...
for everything from lavender flowers to eggs, including the shells.

Like the antiques she collects, Robinson is a rarity in today’s medical field. Passionately devoted to researching the roots of modern medicine including acupuncture, herbology, medical massage, and Chinese medicine, Robinson critically examines those complementary fields to ensure that claims involving techniques and substances are based on solid research. She’s proven that some antique approaches have merit while others are useless at best and often harmful – like the recent resurgence in using pennyroyal in pet products, which has caused death in dogs even when used as a topical oil.

Robinson has been collecting medical and holistic antiques for several years, but her journey into the field began at Harvard/Radcliffe where she began studying medicine and the body. She first pursued research at MIT on the impact of nutrition on the brain and behavior, then started down the path to become a neurosurgeon while in medical school at Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, where she obtained a doctoral degree in osteopathic medicine. Her Master of Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees are from Colorado State’s College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, where her work now is based.

Robinson, director of the University’s Center for Comparative and Integrative Pain Medicine and founder and director of Medical Acupuncture for Veterinarians Program, is an internationally known leader in research into complementary medicine. The field is exploding, with pet chiropractic, nutritional supplements, and herbal remedies becoming very popular – often without solid scientific bases that prove no harm is done to animals or that benefits exist. Her research projects cover new ground such as translating proven acupuncture points used in humans to exact locations on dogs and cats. She’s a passionate advocate for alternatives to animal use in research and education.

“I knew I wanted to work with animals,” Robinson says. “I realized there was a lot of work to do when I saw the state of complementary medicine in the veterinary field and how information is being applied to animals without knowing the differences between human and animal response to these practices – as well as without knowing what can be dangerous.

“Having all these antiques reminds me of how far we’ve come, how far we still need to go, and how people can be complacent with the status quo.”

Robinson’s shelves include bottles that once held pulverized “mixed glands”: powdered organs including pituitary and adrenal thyroid used to treat a number of conditions – but not always with optimal outcomes. She has bottles that once held calomel, or mercury, that was used in the 1800s to purge illness from the body, but it was given at such high doses that it sometimes caused death from mercury toxicity. At the time, it was believed that the symptoms of poisoning meant the treatment was working.

“It’s important to have intellectual debate and to question evidence, and not to just do what everyone else is doing without having the best knowledge available for the animal in mind – and at heart,” she says.

Complementary medicine does have value, Robinson says. The responsibility lies with professionals knowing how to practice it wisely and to understand the potential harm behind some approaches.

– Dell Rae Moellenberg
Grant focuses big picture on biofuels

by Emily Wilmsen

The biofuels industry in Colorado and around the nation has grown so complex that the next generation of scientists need to know all its angles from manufacturing to sales, says Colorado State Professor Ken Reardon. This fall, his team received a $3 million National Science Foundation grant to provide interdisciplinary biofuels training for doctoral students.

Reardon is joined by Dan Bush, chairman of the biology department; Jan Leach, University Distinguished Professor of bioagricultural sciences and pest management; and Keith Paustian, professor of soil and crop sciences and senior research scientist in the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, who helped develop the proposal and will run the program.

“The biofuels industry needs people who understand the whole picture – where biomass comes from, the ways in which it’s transformed into fuels and chemicals, and whether the entire process is sustainable,” says Reardon, a professor of chemical and biological engineering.

The NSF grant will establish the Integrated Graduate Education in Biorefining and Biofuels Program and will support up to 45 doctoral students over the next five years in everything from environmental assessment (greenhouse gas impacts) to fuel engineering and plant biotechnology. Colorado State will provide an additional $600,000 for graduate teaching assistants and tuition premiums. The funding also supports four master’s students from Colorado State University–Pueblo.

The grant, from NSF’s Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program, is one of only 20 selected nationwide.

At least 20 faculty members across the University are expected to mentor doctoral students in the Traineeship program, many from the colleges of Engineering, Natural Sciences, and Applied Human Sciences.

“The program is truly integrative with faculty, staff, and students working from across disciplines to address not just a Colorado challenge but a great global challenge,” says Peter Dorhout, vice provost for Graduate Affairs.

“Although biofuel production has increased, current production methods are not sufficient to meet long-term needs in terms of capacity, net energy produc-

“Current production methods for biofuels are not sufficient to meet long-term needs for capacity, net energy production, water consumption, and carbon balance.”

Greenhouse summit: A brain trust of professors exploring biofuels training for students includes Jan Leach, Dan Bush, Keith Paustian, and Ken Reardon.
Research hits new fiscal heights

Colorado State’s research expenditures of $302.6 million in fiscal year 2008 set a new record at a time when federal funding is at an all-time high.

The Office of the Vice President for Research announced in September that research expenditures for FY 2008 were $6.6 million more than the previous year and an increase of 35 percent over the past five years.

The University has climbed near the top of the rankings in terms of research dollars. In 2007, Colorado State ranked 16th nationally for research and development expenditures for major universities that do not also have a medical school – a feat accomplished with far fewer faculty than most other universities.

U.S. Department of Agriculture funding to the University has increased 54 percent since 2004. CSU research expenditures sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NASA, and the National Science Foundation have increased 26 percent, 31 percent, and 44 percent respectively since 2004.

As in 2007, expenditures of federal research funding in 2008 comprised the majority of the sponsored expenditures, totaling $214.9 million or 71 percent of the 2008 total. The U.S. Department of Agriculture provided the largest source of external funding in 2008, exceeding the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which held that position for seven consecutive years.

State, foundation, commercial, and other nonfederal expenditures comprised $43.4 million, or 14 percent, of Colorado State’s total research expenditures, with institutional support funds adding another $44.3 million, or 15 percent.◆

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Bill Cotton
Linny Frickman, director of the University Art Museum, prepares a Maasai woman’s cape for storage. Opposite page, top: Ankle bracelet from Kamba, Kenya, made of aluminum, beads, copper chain, and East African coins. Bottom: Suzanne Hale is the museum’s new registrar and collections manager.
The new Colorado State University Art Museum at the University Center for the Arts is empty and echoing – for now. However, some 3,000 objects including Japanese prints, Warhol photographs, African sculptures, and contemporary art soon will rotate through the space. In April 2009, the museum will open in a grand debut for the public.

Linny Frickman, museum director, notes that the lengthy process of opening the museum includes packing, moving, acclimatizing, and installing the works of art.

“The slow process of moving is helping to protect art objects made from wood and other organic materials that may otherwise be damaged from sudden climate changes,” Frickman says. The museum at the UCA is equipped with climate-controlled systems to store artwork at ideal temperature and humidity levels as well as museum-standard lighting and security.

A new staff member, Suzanne Hale, joined Colorado State in September as the museum’s registrar and collections manager. Her previous post over the past 10 years at Kansas State University included similar responsibilities, but her job here over the next several months will be to ensure that the new museum is properly prepared and all art objects are safe for moving.

“The artwork doesn’t have far to go – only from the Hatton Gallery (in the Visual Arts Building), but we need to take as much care as if the collection were moving hundreds of miles,” Hale says. Hale’s husband, Jay Ham, also is a new University faculty member who joined the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences this fall.

“Having Suzanne join the Department of Art takes us to a higher professional level,” Frickman notes. In addition, the new museum facility will help attract gifts and support from the art community.

“Collectors know that, with this new infrastructure at the UCA, we can safely care for and display a wide range of artwork. We’re ready to continue building the overall collection.”

Collections at the new museum continue to grow in modern and contemporary art, international and national work, and non-Western art including African, Oceanic, and Japanese works. The museum will feature rotating exhibits of objects from the permanent collection.

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New space for great art and historic textiles

by Paul Miller

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2009 Grand Opening for the Colorado State University Art Museum

- April 2, 8-10 p.m., Art Museum Grand Opening ceremonies, 1400 Remington St.
  In addition to the grand opening, a Department of Art Alumni Reunion will be held April 2-4.
- Guest Artist lecture with visiting artist Mel Chin. April 3, 5 p.m., UCA Griffin Concert Hall.
- Little Secrets: Significant Works Gala Dinner Party and Miniatures Art Sale. April 3, 7 p.m. Location to be determined.

Call (970) 491-1989 for more information on the museum and events.
Avenir Museum tells stories of clothing

Historic clothes, textiles, and chairs send Linda Carlson into raptures. And now that she’s knee-deep in setting up the new Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising in the University Center for the Arts, every day is like Christmas to her.

Carlson, the museum’s curator for more than 20 years, is settling more than 12,000 artifacts – some dating back 2,000 years – into new places in the UCA. The $2.3 million collection’s new home, which provides almost four times more space than the previous facility in the Gifford Building, safeguards pre-Columbian textiles, Civil War-era hoop skirts and men’s jackets, elaborate fans and hats, beaded flapper dresses, designer apparel, and many other artifacts.

After opening in April 2009, the climate-controlled facilities will offer easy access for experts, students, and visitors to study the collection.

This fall, the Avenir Foundation of Lakewood, Colo., donated $1.25 million to support exhibitions, conservation, and completion of the collection’s new home in the UCA. The funds will help finish storage areas, a gallery, and the conservation laboratory.

Carlson’s enthusiasm about the new museum is echoed in her re-telling of stories behind the items. “Some years ago, a donor brought in a box of family artifacts,” she says. “Her great-great-great grandfather was a Frenchman who was caught up in the turmoil of the French Revolution at the end of the 18th century and forced to flee Paris. He hid in a cave and made his way to England then to the United States, where he eventually became an importer of French ribbons and millinery goods.

“A beautiful red wool cape that the donor offered had belonged to her great-grandmother – the Frenchman’s granddaughter – Charlotte de la Chappelle. In a letter the donor shared with me, Charlotte wrote about watching Abraham Lincoln’s funeral train roll by.”

The Avenir Foundation derives its name from the French word for “future” and supports education, arts, and cultural activities. ♦
Visions

CSU photographer Bill Cotton captures community life on the banks of the sacred Cauvery River at Nimishamba Temple in Mysore, India.
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