Teamwork: About two-thirds of Colorado State University classes have an in-person component

By Jeff Dodge

When the fall semester got underway at Colorado State University on Aug. 24, about 64% of classes were taught either entirely face-to-face or in a hybrid model with some in-person instruction.

Considering the new health protocols prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, members of the university community say that it took a lot of collaboration and hard work by many people behind the scenes to have so many courses with an in-person element.

“In early April, the challenges seemed monumental,” said Kelly Long, vice provost for undergraduate affairs. “Yet collaboration with many units on campus made accomplishing an ambitious goal possible.”

Shuffling pieces

Lise Youngblade, dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences, said one major initial issue in adhering to those new room capacities was that most CSU students, with the notable exception of first-year students, had already registered for their courses and created their schedules, so staff in the Registrar’s Office had to figure out how to deal with classrooms that could now only accommodate half — or fewer — of the students they normally would.

“That was very time-consuming and a lot of effort,” Buffington said. “It took us most of the summer.”

Once the team determined the new room configurations and capacities, it was a bit of a shock.

“Capacities went way down,” Buffington said. “Everyone was surprised because it was a big drop.”

“Most of the course schedules were already set, so we couldn’t easily move things, especially into new times,” Youngblade explained. “That’s where the magic of the Registrar’s Office came in. It was a constant moving target to keep the students who were enrolled in courses intact, the time of the courses intact, but be creative with our spaces.”

Long highlighted the efforts of Julia Murphy and D. Tobiassen Baitinger in the Registrar’s Office.

Continue on page 4
Do you know a CSU employee who has gone above and beyond for the University, students or fellow workers during this unusual time of teaching, learning and working remotely, and/or going to campus (at least in part)? Nominate them for the Everyday Hero Award. Everyday Hero is an ongoing special program to recognize day-to-day achievement of CSU employees. This recognition is open to state-classified, administrative professionals, and faculty members.

Nominations ask for a description of one special incident or outstanding day-to-day exemplary job performance that makes this CSU employee worthy of recognition. Include specific details about why your Everyday Hero deserves this recognition.

CSU Appreciates YOU!

Experience more of CSU Life online

Print editions of CSU Life are being delivered in smaller batches to campus buildings this semester as some university community members are working remotely. Additional copies are available in the Lory Student Center. Read more stories about faculty, staff and the CSU community, online at csulife.colostate.edu.

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Contact us at csulife@colostate.edu.

Tips to help navigate parking and transportation

By Melonie Green

Coming back to campus always brings excitement and challenges, including navigating various parking and construction projects. Alternative Transportation Manager Aaron Judge has a few important changes.

The campus has installed the first protected bike lane, which runs the entire length of Amy Van Dyken Way. This street has had issues in the past with students being ticketed for riding the wrong way but now bicyclists can ride in both directions and remain safe. They are protected by parked cars which will sit at half their legal width.

Other changes this semester include a transit detour for Around the Horn due to the Sharparion Revitalization Project on campus, south of University Street. More parking is also now available on Hughes Way near the Intramural Fields. In more exciting news, and in keeping with the theme of being a bike-friendly campus, a new bike trail has been constructed that leads from Shields to Eddy. It is now fully landscaped and ready to be used.

In order to follow health and safety guidelines that have arisen due to COVID-19, all bus riders must wear their mask, and capacity is limited to available seating (no standing). There will be hand sanitizer available on all buses and riders are encouraged to use it when entering and leaving the bus. Additional stops will be made on the university grounds online after Thanksgiving break, the Horn will run every 20 minutes and service-levels systemswide will reflect a typical Winter Break Schedule. Visit pts.colostate.edu/home/coronavirus for the latest transportation updates.

If you plan on using the transit for transportation around campus, Judge recommends downloading the Ride Transit app. Through the app, notifications can be set for which routes the rider uses the most and also report on the availability of seating on a specific bus.

For more information and updates, visit divestasis.csu.edu/symposium.

Virtual Diversity Symposium scheduled for Oct. 19-23

By Melonie Green

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Colorado State University’s Diversity Symposium, an annual event that brings together the university and Fort Collins community. This year’s edition will have a virtual twist, with exciting new opportunities for individuals to experience.

In the past seven years, Ria Vigil, the assistant vice president for Inclusive Organizational Practice, has seen a lot of changes and challenges as a part of the Diversity Symposium, and this year is no different. This year’s symposium is scheduled for October 19-23, and it involved a lot of planning, Vigil said.

The planning for the online version of the symposium began in May, and the symposium team spent examining the event’s format. Even so there are at least 100 new things up in the air because of COVID-19, Vigil explained. “It was never a question of not having the event, just a question of how.”

There will be 24 sessions that will be live and eight workshops that will be pre-recorded. A new exciting feature that is available will be Q&A’s with the CSU Inspire speakers. Before this wasn’t an option. But with Zoom, it can now be.

The committee was especially thoughtful about the variety of content this year, wanting to keep it relevant to what is going on in our world.

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In the past, there were aspects of the event that happened throughout the day and it made it difficult for those who had class or jobs to attend. Having the event online means it will be more accessible for individuals who may not have been able to attend events during the week. This way you can watch and participate from the comfort of your own space.

One change this year will be that the event will require attendees to register for the work. This is so that they can provide the greatest safety while utilizing Zoom. Only those from the CSU community will be able to register, but the public doesn’t need to worry about missing out. All the sessions will be recorded and posted a week after the event.

For more information and updates, visit diversity.colostate.edu/symposium.
Withers — along with Youngblade, Associate Provost Steve Dandanoo, College of Natu-
ral Sciences Dean Jan Nieror, and Graduate School Dean Mary Stromberger — served on the
Teaching and Learning Continuity and Recovery Task Force chaired by Long. Non-academic
leaders such as Buffington were also members of that group.

“We need to take great pride in the hard work
done over the summer,” Withers said. “We realize we’re not out of it yet, and we may need to
pivot but there was a lot of effort and thought
that went into this fall would hook. It’s quite
a testament to people’s commitment to the
students here.”

Quality of online teaching

“We are talking about incredible efforts by
our faculty to enhance and expand their teaching,”
Youngblade added, while noting some ques-
tion the quality of online learning versus in-
person learning, it can sometimes be more effective
during this time. Youngblade noted that student engagement in an online discussion board can be higher than in an in-person discussion with
everyone wearing face coverings, in a sparsely
populated, socially distanced room.

“There is nothing subpar about online teach-
ing that uses intentional approaches to maxi-
mize learning,” she said. “The amount of effort
that faculty have put in to learn new technolo-
gies and make their courses flexible, accessible
and high-quality has been above and beyond.

The bottom line is we learn from both types of
teaching. As I actually think this is going to be one
of our finest semesters for teaching because of
the efforts of our faculty in responding to this
challenge, and their commitment to expanding
their teaching toolbox and refining their use of
different modalities.”

Facilities Management

Once Buffington’s team determined the new
capacities and configurations of classrooms,
Facilities Management staff took on tasks like
moving and removing chairs and desks, taping
off and marking surfaces and seats that
shouldn’t be used, and rearranging furniture.

Tom Sutterley, associate vice president for
Facilities Management, said every group in his
department contributed to the effort, from the
custodial, operations team ramping up cleaning
disinfection to the engineering and trade
shops’ efforts to improve building ventilation,
increase filtration and boost the rate at which air is
exchanged through buildings. In addition to
Buffington’s team, he praised the building code
compliance group and the remodel construc-
tion teams that had to implement the changes to
rooms configurations.

Sutterley said the last few weeks leading up to
the start of the semester were extremely busy,
but his staff responded remarkably well.

“We had to sprint these last couple of weeks,”
he said. “But we’re a can-do kind of organiza-
tion. It’s a 600-person team, they are facilities professionals, and that’s why a lot of this got done. People step up and do the right thing. We just
rose to the challenge, like we always do.”

By Mark Luebker

In July, President Joyce McCo-
rell announced the selection for
Colorado State University’s inaugu-
ral Rams Read: Claudia Rank-
kie’s Citizen: An American Lyric.
This initiative follows closely on
heels of a less formal campus
read. Brian Kendrick’s How to Be
An Anti-Racist, which Provost
McConnell asked all of her Executive Leadership Team
to read and to share with those on
their own leadership and supervi-
sory teams.

“Right now, people and com-
munities across our nation are
generated in difficult conversations about racism, anti-blackness in
particular, and other forms of bias,” she said. “CSU’s commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive
community—one where every person has a sense of belonging
and the ability to thrive—is ongo-
ing. And this particular moment
in time offers us a tremendous
opportunity to bring that conversa-
tion onto campus. Reading is one of
the best ways I know to explore our
world from other points of view. I
hope Claudia Rankine’s excellent and highly readable book, will be a
catalyst for getting those discus-
sions started.”

The initiative is being planned
and guided by three individuals,
collectively known as “the tri-
chairs”: Albert Bimper, Jr., an
associate professor in the Depart-
mnt of Ethnic Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and senior associate
athletic director for diversity and inclusion; Ryan Barone, assistant
vice president for student success;
and Ryan Claycohn, professor of
English and acting assistant dean of CLA, who led the Campus Read
program for his previous institution
before joining the CSU faculty.

The chairs have convened a
diverse working group of nearly 20
others from across the university to
plan a range of events and facilitate
discussions this fall. A complete
schedule will be released later this
month.

Rams Read planned as catalyst for important
community conversations across the campus
A survey of CSU students taken before the start of the Fall 2020 semester found that 91% practice public health behaviors to avoid spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. One of the most important of those is wearing a face covering in public, and CSU faculty and staff are also on board with masks. From the classroom to the dining hall, indoors and outside, here are just a few who are modeling the concept that Rams take care, Rams take action. Na-mask-e, everyone.

1. John Parry, director of the CSU Bookstore, takes a student’s temperature at the Lory Student Center while wearing a mask made from a sesquicentennial bandana.

2. Blanche Hughes, vice president for student affairs, stops by the Rec Center during Move-In Week, to see the social distancing between exercise equipment.

3. Kathy Phifer coordinated the 29th annual School is Cool – and the stuffing of the 50,000th backpack with school supplies for Poudre Schools District students in need – sporting an official Rams mask.

4. Corey Seymour took time from his duties in the Art Department to volunteer for School is Cool, where every volunteer wore a mask while filling backpacks.

5. Frieda Whaley checks out a summer student’s meal to go in The Foundry in her face covering and behind a Plexiglas shield.

6. Mike Mansfield of the history department was one of the first faculty members to pilot the University’s COVID-19 health protocols in a classroom in the Clark Building over the summer.

7. Robin Rathje, assistant director for conference and event services, coordinated Move-In Week in her face covering and a safety vest.

8. Provost Mary Pedersen greeted parents and students, who were also wearing masks, arriving at the residence halls during Move-In Week.
Sanitation stations there when you need them

By Maggie Hall Wald

You’ve seen them everywhere around campus, but you won’t see the exact same thing anywhere else: disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer dispensers in convenient, sturdy racks. The unique bottling at Colorado State University sanitation stations are the brainchild of Steve Burn, director of the departments of Central Receiving. When he became clear of access to hand sanitizer and wipes would be crucial to prevent the spread of COVID-19 when campus reopened for Fall 2020, Burn and Linda Moseve, director of Procurement Services, scoured the internet looking for solutions. Sure, there were some sanitizer stations available— for a LOT of money and in limited quantities. So, Burn did what he does so well. He used creativity, expertise and professional connections to secure and distribute almost 900 stations around the CSU campuses.

“I just started sketching up some ideas of what this might look like, met with a local fabricator and we formalized a design,” he explained. “Next thing you know, they delivered a prototype. We got exactly what we needed, we got to use local businesses, and they cost about 25% less than anything online and were built to last, unlike most others.”

The sanitation stations are powder-coated the green and gold of CSU and each has an individual QR code that can be scanned to report if supplies need to be refilled. Working with Burn, Thomas Hickey, assistant emergency coordinator, and teams of CSU employees have installed stations both indoors and outside.

Other pandemic contributions

The sanitation stations aren’t the only contribution Burn has made to CSU throughout the pandemic. “Steve and his team have worked tirelessly to help CSU adapt and adjust to the changing times. They have been incredible to work with, and Steve is a logistical genius,” said Marc Barker, co-chair of the University Pandemic Preparedness Team.

Burn and his team, along with Moseve, have been responsible for securing personal protective equipment, creating a central supply store online for CSU departments to secure PPE and health-related signage, and are continuing the collaboration started by the Dobbs Lab with a local brewery to produce thousands of gallons of hand sanitizer.

His leadership and ingenuity are well-known across campus but Burn wants to make one thing clear: “I couldn’t do any of these things if it wasn’t for my amazing team in Central Receiving,” he said. “This team of 72 people has not missed a day of work since this all began, and I have not heard one single complaint. Their whole goal is: What can we do to keep this campus operating and help out anyone who needs help? It’s just incredible what they have done.”

Please do not move sanitation stations, as they are all mapped and numbered by location. If you would like a sanitation station in your area, please email pandemicplanning@colostate.edu.

Rams Against Hunger

By Makenna Green

Food insecurity is something that 30% of students in higher education are struggling with. Whether that means not knowing where their next meal will come from, not knowing how they will pay for it, or something as simple as wanting to eat healthier and not being able to afford it, CSU has taken a stand against this problem with tangible measures such as providing a food pantry, a meal swipe program, pocket pantries and support with SNAP Benefit applications, but also by addressing the issue with transparency and advocating to end the stigma against food insecurity.

Rams Against Hunger was started in 2016 and has proven to be highly valuable to students in the CSU community. In previous years, the IBAH Pantry was only available one day per month but was still able to serve around 820 students. Now there will be a permanent food pantry set up in the LSC, making it more available and accessible to those who need it.

I spoke with Michael Buttram, the Rams Against Hunger Coordinator, about what this new set up will look like and why it is so important for our community.

“The momentum and support for a full-time pantry has been growing,” explained Buttram, but the pandemic that has left many individuals’ lives changed by tragedy, financial burden, and other losses, demonstrated how important it is to have a pantry program available on a full-time basis.

“Being able to have access to food goes beyond the student’s experience. “Our hope is to address each student as a person first, so that they can go out and be the very best student they are able to be,” explained Buttram.

“The stigma that food insecurity is something to be ashamed or embarrassed about needs to stop. One major goal of Rams Against Hunger and the food pantry is to acknowledge that anyone can end up in the position of needing assistance accessing food. Helping fight the stigma by providing a service open to all will ensure fewer people go hungry.”

If you would like to support the food pantry, a great way to help would be by providing some information that will go to the Larimer County Food Bank. They are the major partner in Rams Against Hunger, the data provided to them will help ensure that we have the funding to keep this program going.

If you would like to support the food pantry or other Rams Against Hunger programs, they are accepting donations of food as long as they are in unopened packages and have not been handled previously. There is also the option to give a monetary donation on the website. Learn more by visiting lsc.colostate.edu/slice/slice-engagement/rams-against-hunger.

When CSU pivoted to teaching, learning and working remotely in March, many of us suddenly found ourselves at home with more time to cook nice meals, and in search of recipes for those meals.

That provided an opportunity for staff and students in the Office of International Programs to share a bit of their cultures with the Ram family, through a series of cooking demonstration videos. The Cooking with International Programs series launched in May, and now features eight YouTube videos, with more on the way. Some of the demonstrations show how to create tamales from Mexico, or arancini from Italy.

Which recipes would you like to try cooking at home? Comment below or on the CSU Life Facebook page and let us know.

CSU Life will be featuring one of these recipes each month, starting with chilaquiles rojos from Chef Ana Maria of the Todos Santos Center in Baja Sur, Mexico.

If you’d like to watch this video, or any in the series, go to https://youtu.be/ user-CSU-International.

Richland County

Food bankers are the brainchild of Steve Burn, director of the departments of Central Receiving. When he became clear of access to hand sanitizer and wipes would be crucial to prevent the spread of COVID-19 when campus reopened for Fall 2020, Burn and Linda Moseve, director of Procurement Services, scoured the internet looking for solutions. Sure, there were some sanitizer stations available— for a LOT of money and in limited quantities. So, Burn did what he does so well. He used creativity, expertise and professional connections to secure and distribute almost 900 stations around the CSU campuses.

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## Calendar of Events

### CSU:
- **Food Bank in COVID Era**
  - Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2-3 p.m.
  - Zoom
  - Lauren Rhodes is the programs director of the Food Bank for Larimer County. She will share about the Food Bank’s programs to keep feeding local residents safely this year and COVID-19-related impacts on food banks across the country.

### BINNH DANH Online Interview and Studio Tour
- Wednesday, Sept. 9, 5-6:30 p.m.
- Zoom
- Binh Dauh emerged as an artist of national importance with work that investigates his Vietnamese heritage and the collective memory of war. His technique incorporates his invention of the chlorophyll printing process in which photographic images appear embedded in leaves through the action of photosynthesis.

### Creative Writing Reading Series
- **Cabeza-Vanegas and Sunil Yapa.**
- CSU will welcome authors Lina María Ferreira d'Hont and Sunil Yapa to share their work.
  - Thursday, Sept. 17, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Live online via Zoom
- The Creative Writing Reading Series at CSU, through the Department of English welcomes distinguished literary voices to share their work.

### Creative Writing Reading Series: Lorna Dee Cervantes
- Thursday, Oct. 8, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Live online via Zoom
- Cervantes is a Xicana/Chumash/Purepecha author of five award-winning books of poetry and numerous awards for her work.

### NoCo Urban Homestead Tour
- Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Gardens on Spring Creek
- Want to learn about bees, raising chickens and all things edible gardening? Get inspired by the three homesteads in Fort Collins featured on our seventh annual NoCo Urban Homestead Tour, a fundraising event benefiting the Gardens on Spring Creek and Loveland Youth Garden.

### Larimer County Farmers’ Market
- Every Saturday until Oct. 31, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Location: Larimer County Courthouse parking lot
- The market is a growers-only market, which means that all products offered must be grown, produced, or made by our local vendors. We are proud to include around 100 vendors per market season. Vendors offer a wide variety of items including fruits, vegetables, coffee, flowers, baked goods, art, and crafts. Thank you for supporting local farmers.

### Spring Creek and Loveland Youth Gardeners’ seventh annual NoCo Urban Homestead Tour
- Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- The market is a growers-only market, which means that all products offered must be grown, produced, or made by our local vendors. We are proud to include around 100 vendors per market season. Vendors offer a wide variety of items including fruits, vegetables, coffee, flowers, baked goods, art, and crafts. Thank you for supporting local farmers.

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Help us to Keep NoCo Open, healthy and thriving. Together we can reopen safe and strong.

**When in Doubt**
Keep at home if you feel unwell.

**OPT OUT**

**Wear a Face Covering**
Keep covered for others.

**SOCIAL DISTANCE**
Keep 6 feet or more apart.

**Wash Hands Frequently**
Keep healthy by keeping clean.

**Be Kind and Patient**
Keep caring for each other.

**Support Local Business**
Keep investing in our community.

#KeepNoCoOpen