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## REFLECTIONS FROM 9TH



### There's a Hole in My Bucket...

Every year, AHEC submits a request for capital funding to the state of Colorado on behalf of the collective institutions. The process is a journey that includes, but is not

limited to, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, Office of the State Architect, and two key bodies at the legislature—the Capital Development Committee and the Joint Budget Committee. In previous years, we have acquired funding for campus initiatives, including the Auraria Library renovation and the Science Building renovation and expansion project. For the past three years, the campus has presented a request for the renovation and expansion of the King Center, but with budgets being what they are, funding has never been available.

In the meantime, the collective leadership of the campus had been striving to come up with alternatives for addressing controlled maintenance and capital renewal of a rapidly deteriorating infrastructure. The initial campus structures were all built at the same time, meaning they are also aging at the same rate, presenting a daunting outlook for the most basic of facility needs. Every avenue pursued to this point has been ineffective for the long-term well-being of the campus facilities. It's time to come up with a creative solution to try and resolve the situation.

Consequently, the campus has embarked on another "first-ever" initiative—a state-funded capital renewal critical infrastructure project that proposes converting the 40-year-old failing steam heat



## HR INSIGHT



### Slips, Trips, and Falls

Slips, trips, and falls are leading causes of workplace accidents. Slips happen when there is too little friction or traction between your footwear and a walking surface. Trips happen when your foot collides (strikes, hits) an object causing you to lose balance. Falls result from slips and trips.

Follow these tips to help avoid accidents:

system and hot water system to natural gas. Currently, the campus relies on steam to provide all the heating and hot water needs for over 750,000 square feet of space in eight buildings shared by CCD, MSU Denver, and CU Denver. The system is aging and unreliable, with a high risk of failure that would result in building closures and emergency repairs.

Once the system is converted, the campus will recognize nearly \$1M in savings each year, which the institutions have already agreed to add to the internal campus deferred maintenance fund of \$1.8M, to continue to self-fund future maintenance needs. The goal is not only to replace the existing deteriorating system, but to also become more self-sufficient in the future. The submittal process began last June, and efforts continue as the campus pursues this important project request through the state process.

Our next step is to present at the Capital Development Committee hearings in December, and I will keep you informed of our progress. It represents a bold move that focuses on caring for existing facilities and paving the way for us to collectively define our own frontier.

**Barb Weiske**  
Chief Executive Officer

## CAMPUS NEWS

### COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER



*Republican George Brauchler responds to a question at CCD's attorney general debate.*

## Paralegal Program Hosts Attorney General Debate

In anticipation of the November election, CCD's **Paralegal Program** hosted a public debate between attorney general candidates Democrat **Phil Weiser** and Republican **George Brauchler** on October 22nd in the Confluence building. The debate, which was co-sponsored by the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar, focused on criminal justice issues and the differences between the candidates' views on the role of the attorney general.

### Plan Ahead and Take Your Time

- Study the area; pay attention
- Don't carry too many objects at once; take several trips
- Ask for help if carrying a large load of items

### Stay Organized

- Maintain clear, tidy work areas
- Keep clutter to a minimum

### Walk Safely

- Pay attention to your surroundings—don't take shortcuts
- Follow normal routes and sidewalks

### Wear Proper Footwear

- Wear shoes with good traction

### QUESTIONS

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Benefits Administrator

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT



**Ezra Headlee**  
Pipe Mechanic  
Facilities Services

**Ezra Headlee**, a pipe mechanic trades employee, is incredibly modest for the praise he's received since joining AHEC in March. As the October employee of the month for Facilities Services,

While open to the general public, the debate was mostly attended by CCD students who had the opportunity to learn more about the role of the attorney general in state government, as well as become informed voters for the election. They experienced history in the making.

The moderator posed questions on a variety of issues within the scope of the attorney general's office. The debate followed a traditional format where each candidate had the opportunity to provide a response that was governed by a set time limit.

Weiser and Brauchler both discussed the involvement of attorneys general in federal lawsuits, as well as the influence of "dark money" in political ads during the election. Much of the answers from the two candidates focused on their different perspectives on the role of policy in the attorney general's office. Weiser said he would be an attorney general who would be the "people's lawyer," protecting constitutional rights that are at risk under the current federal government. Brauchler said he would bring balance to a likely Democratic governor, and would refuse to legislate through litigation. He reinforced his position that the attorney general is not a policymaker; that is the job of the legislature.

## METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER



*MSU Denver women's soccer team plays at the Regency Athletic Complex.*

### MSU Denver Athletics to Conduct NCAA Division I Feasibility Study

Metropolitan State University of Denver has been approached about elevating its athletics program to NCAA Division I, and the athletics department is set to begin a feasibility study to assess its options.

"We are a proud member of NCAA Division II, however it is always in the best interest of an institution to do its due diligence when an overture such as this one comes," said Dr. **Anthony Grant**, MSU Denver's director of athletics. "While conducting the feasibility study

Headlee is clearly well respected by his colleagues, as they've nominated him several times for the department's monthly award.

He follows whole-heartedly the [Guiding Principle "Delight Our Customers,"](#) consistently receiving positive feedback by campus constituents for his workmanship, dedication, and professionalism. An MSU Denver professor recently sent an email to Facilities Services complimenting his amazing work: "I wanted to take a minute to let you know about the terrific experience with one of the AHEC facilities personnel, Ezra. [He] was polite, efficient, and persistent. He wasn't able to fix the problem on his first visit, but he returned with a new idea and part and fixed the problem...AHEC is lucky to have such a dedicated and professional person on their team."

After working in restaurants for 10 years, Headlee decided to change careers a little over four years ago, and he's never looked back. He loves his job, finding satisfaction in fixing machines while listening to Canadian indie music. Currently, he's working on his national mechanical certification.

Although Headlee left the restaurant scene many years ago, he still loves to bake. He makes a mean batch of peanut butter, chocolate chip, and granola cookies, and loves to experiment with hearty root vegetable pot pies. When he has time, he enjoys skateboarding, playing kickball with the Denver Kickball Coalition, hiking, and going to movies.

#### FAVORITE PLACE

Boston/Cambridge

#### BUCKET LIST ITEM

Run with the bulls

we will also be assessing the resources required to be successful at the Division II level.”

In order to move to Division I, institutions must have an official invitation from a Division I conference. The Western Athletic Conference contacted MSU Denver and requested that they look into the possibility of joining the conference. Dr. Grant shared that information during a Board of Trustees meeting on September 14th.

The feasibility study by Collegiate Consultants began on October 29th with student and faculty open forums. Other closed focus groups will be conducted with donors, fans, community members, and staff. The results of the study are expected later in 2018.

The Western Athletic Conference includes New Mexico State, California Baptist, Cal State Bakersfield, Chicago State, Grand Canyon, Missouri-Kansas City, Seattle, Texas-Rio Grande Valley, and Utah Valley.

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



Alice Jackson of Xcel Energy, Chancellor Dorothy Horrell, Mayor Michael Hancock, and Adeeb Khan of TIAA. Xcel sponsored the grand-opening event, and TIAA will sponsor a new Chancellor's Urban Engagement Scholars program.

## Celebrating Partnership: University, City Officials Join Grand Opening of CityCenter

Nearly 100 people packed the brand-new CityCenter on Oct. 10 for the official grand opening of what will serve as CU Denver's new "front door" to the city, designed as a transparent portal for the community. Partnerships between CU Denver, business people, and city officials are already forming within the glass walls of the center on the corner of 14th and Lawrence streets, fulfilling a vision set forth by the mayor and embraced by Chancellor **Dorothy Horrell**.

The grand-opening event included the unveiling of CityCenter's first initiative—Imagine a Great Region, aimed at targeting Colorado's booming growth in the years ahead—by CityCenter Executive Director **Nolbert Chavez**, CU Denver's chief of external initiatives and former state legislator.

## FAVORITE FOOD

Steak

## BEVERAGE OF CHOICE

Martinelli's apple juice

## FAVORITE HOLIDAY

July 4th/Independence Day

## NEW HIRES

Discover colleagues who have recently joined the "One Auraria" community, and recognize those who have retired.

## NEW HIRES

### AURARIA CAMPUS POLICE

**Francis Sesay**  
Police Officer

### EARLY LEARNING CENTER

**Danielle Cason**  
Operation Coordinator  
**Joselyn Gomez**  
Supervising Teacher

### FACILITIES SERVICES

**Danielle Romero**  
Data Entry Intern

### IT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Joshua Kelly**  
IT Technician

### PARKING & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

**Jacob Arck**  
Parking Specialist  
**Justin Lopez**  
Parking Specialist  
**Manuel Soto-Gonzalez**  
Parking Specialist

### SUPPORT SERVICES

**Jose Aviles Garcia**  
Custodian I  
**Donovan Coronado**  
Custodian I  
**Kunta Emory**  
Custodian I

“Today is a big deal,” Mayor **Michael Hancock** told the audience, which celebrated the CU Denver-City of Denver marriage with toasts and decorative cake. “In Denver, we have largely ignored this tremendous asset of student intellectual capital and faculty members that are some of the best in the world,” Hancock said.

Now, that expertise can help solve serious urban issues facing the city, from traffic and transportation to housing and homelessness.

“Innovation doesn’t happen in isolation,” said Xcel Energy President **Alice Jackson**. “CityCenter will be a true catalyst in promotion, innovation, collaboration and connection between students and faculty at the University of Colorado Denver and the great Denver-metro community that we get to serve and work in day to day.”

## ‘ONE AURARIA’ NEWS

### HUMBLE HEROES



**Seated:** Bryon Weber, Matthew Carlson

**Middle Row:** John Garrett, Jesus Lopez, Leonard Gutierrez, Ben Dorak, Brett Jones, Jeff Stamper

**Back Row:** Michelle Staker, JaNae Nelson, Diego Lopez Orozco

**Not pictured:** Tara Weachter, Mike Nichols, John Osterman, John Gonzales, James Adamson

## Landscaping and Safety Enhancement Team

Over the past year, a team from **Facilities Services** and **Campus Planning** has been actively working on a project to improve landscaping and safety enhancements throughout the pedestrian core of campus.

With concerns about protecting public spaces where there are high concentrations of people, the team embarked on developing ways to make the areas more secure while keeping aesthetics in mind. Senior Campus Planner **Carl Meese** said, “We wanted to seamlessly improve the space while making it more protected.”

## RETIREES

### AURARIA CAMPUS POLICE

**Curtis Fahrenholtz**

Neighborhood Community Officer

### SUPPORT SERVICES

**Vernon Hurd**

Custodian I

## WINTERFEST



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Friday, December 14**

**2–3:30 p.m.**

**Tivoli Turnhalle**

Join fellow AHEC staff at Winterfest to celebrate another successful year! State Service Awards will be given to AHEC staff celebrating milestone work anniversaries. In addition, Employee and Manager of the Year awards will be announced.

## CALENDAR & REMINDERS

The team used as many natural elements as possible to avoid overt, “closed-off” materials, such as fencing, gates, or barricades. Instead, natural boulders, pedestrian benches, planters, and walkway bollards were installed throughout the Tivoli Quad, 9th Street Historic Park, 10th Street Mall, and Lawrence Street Mall.

A testament to the “**Make an Impact**” [Guiding Principle](#), within 10 minutes of the team placing some boulders, students were using them to lounge and study. **Jeff Stamper**, Chief Operations Officer, said this project has been one of the strongest landscaping enhancements made to the campus to date. He applauded Assistant Campus Planner **Bryon Weber**’s role in the project: “As a landscape architect, he did an awesome job strategically picking the boulders and placing them in a natural formation.”

In total, the project involved 22 planters, 29 benches, 70 bollards, and 160 tons of boulders. Grounds staff, led by **Mike Nichols**, worked in tandem with Weber in placing and installing all of the materials. It was a huge team effort.

Weber reiterated that the goal of the team project was to increase the safety and significance of the campus pedestrian areas. He said, “Overall, we strived to introduce elements that would elevate a pedestrian focus, maintain operational needs (such as emergency and service access), and blend aesthetically with the campus environment.”

He said the next phase of the project is in progress, with a goal of better directing campus traffic along service vehicle routes.

Story Ideas & Newsletter Feedback  
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### November 19–23, 2018

Fall Break (no classes)

### November 22, 2018

Thanksgiving Holiday  
(campus closed)

### December 14, 2018

Winterfest

### December 24, 2018

Governor’s Holiday  
(campus closed)

### December 25, 2018– January 1, 2019

Winter Break  
(campus closed)

