The Fray’s meteoric rise to success is a testament to the people who helped get them there, and lead vocalist Isaac Slade is quick to say so. The brainchild of College of Arts & Media (CAM) alumnus Slade and childhood friend Joe King, the Fray formed in 2002 and is selling out shows at national and international venues. Even so, Slade, drummer Ben Wysocki and guitarist Dave Welsh, made a stop at a smaller forum—the King Center on the Auraria campus—the night before commencement for two acoustic shows performed for UCDHSC spring 2007 graduates.

“I love it here!” Slade enthused to hundreds of whooping fans at the intimate venue. “I learned a lot here; I have a lot of good memories.” The 2004 music and entertainment industry studies (MEIS) graduate quipped that while he didn’t meet his wife, Ann, at the university, the failed relationships he tallied were inspiration for songs such as All at Once.

Slade attributes a good deal of his industry savvy to the MEIS program and its instructors. “Roy Pritts taught me it’s not about knowing the information—it’s knowing where to find the information. E.J. Choe, my piano instructor, was amazing, and Doug Krause was great,” Slade explained in an earlier interview. “They taught me the importance of networking, learning names of people to the right and to the left—whether for now or later—and making yourself available.

“In the music department, there’s a real sense of community. On a campus where people didn’t live, it’s hard to sense that community, but it was there in the music department.”

Slade isn’t the only Fray member to benefit from courses at the university. Bandmates
**Chancellor Wilson Builds Momentum, Support**

In the year since M. Roy Wilson, MD, MS, was named chancellor at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center (UCDHSC), he has defined a collaborative agenda to build on existing strengths and to expand support for the institution's mission.

One key to reaching the next level for UCDHSC is "optimizing the benefits for the consolidation of both the downtown Denver and Health Sciences Center programs," says Wilson. Already in the works are administrative efficiencies; financial diversification; recruitment of high caliber faculty; a School of Public Health; pipeline programs into health care professions; a clinical health psychology PhD program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and programs in health policy, health communications, community and global health.

Addressing management challenges also is a priority for Wilson and UCDHSC leadership. Among the matters that loom are chronic fiscal constraints; planning and implementation of the CU Student Information System; completing the move to the Anschutz Medical Campus, already anticipating space constraints there as well as at the Auraria Campus (see Science Building sidebar); and defining and implementing a new institutional identity. You can expect to hear and see more about the identity initiative in the coming months.

Throughout the past year, Wilson has been raising awareness of issues by talking to business, government and community leaders, in particular, about how “poorly funded higher education is in Colorado that—in order to compensate and simply keep basic programs intact—tuition and fees have risen to a level that is unaffordable for some students.” For example, at UCDHSC, the total annual operating budget is about $1.1 billion (not including University of Colorado Hospital). Of that, only about 8 percent is from the state.

Recent appeals for increased state support for UCDHSC have included Wilson’s advocacy for redirecting tobacco settlement monies back to their intended purpose for health care and health education. Earlier this year, the Colorado General Assembly did approve a plan to do so.

**Auraria Science Building Set to Break Ground**

A groundbreaking is expected early next year for a $104 million renovation and expansion of the Science Building on the Auraria Campus that received approval in the Colorado Legislature during the 2007 session.

Construction plans include a new multi-level structure attached to the existing facility that would be completed by July 2009. The addition will run along the Speer Boulevard-side of the current building with a complementary exterior. Renovations to the existing facility should be completed for the fall semester 2010.

Designed to maximize natural light and energy conservation, the facility will provide designated areas for teaching and research needs for each of the institutions located on the Auraria Campus.

---

**Education: Family Values Lead Brekke to New Paths**

Holly Brekke is living her dream, and she’s doing it in good company. The mother of two received her bachelor of arts degree in history and her IPTE (Initial Professional Teacher Education) degree in social studies at spring commencement alongside her daughter, Brittany, who received her communication degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Throughout her education at UCDHSC, Brekke shared class space not only with Brittany but also son Brandon, who is working toward his master’s degree in secondary education in social studies.

“We bounce ideas off each other,” Brekke explains of the upside of being in class with her children. She said that even when she did not sit next to Brittany, people still figured out their secret because of their similarities.

Some weren’t quite so quick to figure out the connection with Brandon. “I think everybody else in class knew before I did,” quipped Caron Westland, a senior education instructor. “I would pass back papers to them both and still didn’t make the connection.”

Brekke didn’t take the long road to obtaining her goal, but her path took patience. “For a long time, corporate moves—because of my husband’s work—interfered with my education,” Brekke explains. “I had to overcome the obstacle of finding the confidence in myself to make a change in my life.”

Brekke, who has lived in 20 different houses throughout her life, found the support of her husband and children to be an enabling catalyst in reaching for her dream, as well as the faculty and staff in the School of Education & Human Development. “The people in this program are awesome,” she stresses. “It’s humbling.”

With her degrees, Brekke plans to stay close to Colorado and begin her career working with at-risk students in alternative schools. “Working with these types of kids, I hope, will help them view themselves in a more successful light,” Brekke stresses. “I want to motivate these kids’ creative skills so that they take their education far beyond high school.”

Holly Brekke has always made a difference in the lives of the people around her. And with a degree from the University of Colorado, increased opportunities and her continued emphasis on helping others grow, more and more people will be beneficiaries.

“Never be afraid to follow your heart,” Brekke advises. “There’s so much joy to be had, and good people everywhere. Just go for it. Plug your nose, close your eyes and jump!”

Holly Brekke had a particularly happy Mother’s Day. She and daughter Brittany both attended commencement ceremonies May 12 on the athletic fields. Son Brandon is also a student—working toward his master’s degree on the downtown Denver campus.
Bronson brought plenty of public-sector experience to the job. He spent six years in Washington, D.C., as an aide to U.S. Sen. Bob Graham (D-Florida) and worked for Colorado Gov. Roy Romer in the 1990s. A decade-long stint in the private sector ensued, during which Bronson worked as an executive for telephone startups RMI Net and Sun Microsystems.

His duties with the city include a heavy dose of data management, which was his primary responsibility at Sun. Bronson also helps police department brass establish performance goals, and he develops metrics to gauge progress toward those goals. While it’s quite a leap from analyzing the broadband industry to examining the infrastructure and incentives that drive, say, the illicit drug market on East Colfax Avenue, it is surprising how much an MBA’s perspective can add to the information gleaned by the cops on the beat.

“The Capitol Hill neighborhood is one of the most successful markets any seller or buyer could hope for,” Bronson says. “You have to understand how a market works before you can disrupt it and break it up.”

Although he’s the only guy wearing a suit in an organization full of men and women in uniform, Bronson doesn’t feel the least bit self-conscious.

“It’s a different dynamic from the private sector,” Bronson concedes, “but I’ve been embraced. A lot of cities have experimented with data-driven policing. I had to establish some credibility, but the MBA really helps. Everyone knows I’ve got a certain tool kit.”

Jeremy Bronson, special assistant for public safety, is using an MBAs toolbox—data management, market and trend analysis, goal setting, etc.—to augment the city’s existing systems.
Dynak to Direct College of Arts & Media

There was much ado in the College of Arts & Media (CAM) this summer. After waiting more than three years, faculty and staff in the school welcomed a new dean, David Dynak. Dynak took the stage July 1 and began directing the new academic year.

Dynak had previously served as associate dean and associate professor of theatre at the College of Fine Arts at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City since 1997. He has also taught at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo College and Michigan State University in East Lansing, and has experience in theatre education from elementary through graduate school levels. Dynak holds a PhD (theatre), an MA (educational foundations) and a BA (English), all from Michigan State.

“Dean Dynak’s arrival was eagerly anticipated,” says Provost Mark Heckler, former dean of CAM. “He brings extensive experience in community partnerships, international collaborations, arts education and higher education administration to a college still challenged by significant growth.”

His artistic accomplishments include work as a production dramaturg for the Pioneer Theatre Company and development of a long-term partnership with the Sundance Institute’s Sundance Theatre Lab. He served in various capacities for the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, the Utah Arts Council and the Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration of Salt Lake City.

“Dr. Dynak will be focused on developing enrollment management and space plans, increasing community engagement, growing philanthropic investment, expanding international initiatives and growing partnerships between CAM and other UCOHSC colleges in response to the direction of the university’s Academic Master Plan,” says Heckler.

“I believe that Dynak’s experience, his clear vision for the future of the college and his affable and accessible personality will be a winning combination as CAM launches into a new phase in its history.”

Rising Music Alum Credits CAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Wysocki and Welsh took classes at the University of Colorado on the Boulder and downtown Denver campuses. In fact, the mix of pop-rock, soul, Emo and alternative rhythms that are striking a chord with music enthusiasts around the world began in Slade’s basement in Arvada and were featured on a CAM Records CD before the band signed a contract with Epic Records in 2004.

The Fray’s popularity took off after their songs were featured on hit shows such as Grey’s Anatomy, Intervention, Ghost Whisperer and One Tree Hill. And while their sound has been likened to popular bands such as Coldplay, Fountains of Wayne and the Wallflowers, Slade lists his influences as U2, Better than Ezra and Counting Crows. “Better than Ezra is raw, organic energy,” Slade says. “It’s hard to capture with guitar and bass drums; it’s kind of ‘white boy rock.’ It’s as original as it gets without getting too left of center; it still connects with the audience.”

“Counting Crows has incredible lyrical depth,” he adds. “[Lead vocalist] Adam Durtiz’s lyrics are poetry. If he didn’t have a good voice, he’d still be a poet. We’re trying to make our music as good.”

With their debut album, How to Save a Life, going platinum, two Grammy nominations and songs How to Save a Life and Over My Head (Cable Car) topping the “most downloaded singles” charts, the Fray has done just that. How to Save a Life speaks to troubled youth and is based on Slade’s work with a crack-addicted teen at a summer camp. Over My Head (Cable Car), is even closer to home, being an ode of sorts to Slade’s younger brother Caleb—whose nickname is Cable Car—and featuring the youngest of the three brothers, Micah, in the video. Surprisingly, “it was hard to get Micah to do the video,” Slade confesses. “I offered him $100 . . . he said he’d do it for $150. Then Sony threw in a PS2 to sweeten the deal.”

Not far from home, Slade and Welsh took part in the April unveiling of Patrick Marold’s Windmill Project Site in Vail, Colo., to demonstrate their dedication to sustainable energy and ecology. The Fray is teaming with Reverb, an online ministry that supports sustainable programs, to create an eco-friendly tour and educate fans about the environment. Each ticket sold for the summer tour has a 50-cent eco-tax added that provides biodiesel fuel for the band’s tour buses. Recycling bins are set up at all concerts, and Reverb is providing booth space to nonprofit organizations with information on how to help the environment.

The Fray’s popularity and fast-paced lifestyle isn’t likely to end any time soon. After wowing several hundred grads and guests May 11, an event sponsored by CU-Denver Live!, the Fray continues their U.S. tour in cities such as Minneapolis, Chicago and New York before heading to Europe for more summer performances.

After the tour, there’s the follow-up album to consider. “We were in the studio for the first record, and our producer came in and asked how the second one was coming along,” Slade says. “We thought he was joking…but he wasn’t laughing.” The Fray plans to be in the studio at the beginning of 2008 to cut the new album. “Hopefully, it will be just as honest as How to Save a Life.”
The summer sun isn’t the only thing greening up campus.

Students have taken an active environmental role not only by pushing an eco-campus agenda, but also by taking advantage of courses and opportunities that will help them incorporate sustainability principles into their careers.

Landscape architecture students Brian Behne, Roland Boschmann, Trevor Ehlers and Alex Madans submitted this proposed ideogram of a green roof atop the CU-Denver Building annex. The roof will be “greened” this year.

In the last handful of years, UCDHSC students have helped mount Earth Day events, swept the United States Green Building Council Colorado Chapter Natural Talent Design Competition and become one of 25 chemistry clubs nationwide designated as a “green” American Chemical Society student affiliate chapter. From young politicos working to pass a campus-wide student sustainability fee to classes on “Green Roof Design and Implementation,” “Energy and the Environment,” and “Energy Conservation,” color choices may be trending—olive and emerald.

The Auraria Higher Education Center, the tri-institutional campus that houses UCDHSC, has garnered attention as the state’s number one and the country’s 14th-ranked higher education purchaser of renewable energy (according to Environmental Protection Agency ratings). Forty-five percent of the electricity used campuswide comes from renewable energy sources.

But Auraria’s favorable environmental credentials owe an enormous debt to students, who passed a $1 Clean Energy Fee in 2004. That money has gone on to fund the purchase of more than $100,000 in renewable energy and has paid for seven small solar panels, which will illuminate campus flag polls, maps and ADA signage.

Not ready to rest on their organic laurels, students wanted to see Auraria go even greener, by purchasing 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources and tackling other environmental initiatives such as a campus recycling program and energy and water conservation.

School of Public Affairs MPA students Andrew Pattison, Susan Innis and Shelly Wallace, who serve on the Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board, have helped develop and campaigned for the Sustainable Campus Program—a wide environmental initiative overwhelmingly approved by the student bodies of all three Auraria institutions—UCDHSC, the Metropolitan State College of Denver and the Community College of Denver. The vote expands the existing $1 Clean Energy fee to a “sustainability fee” of $3 per semester beginning in Spring 2008 that ratchets up to $5 a term for Spring 2010 and 2011.

Pattison estimates that the four-year program will generate more than $1 million for campus sustainability. In addition to increasing funds for campus wind and solar energy—the goal is to run the campus on 100 percent “green” energy—the money also will go toward improving campus energy efficiency, implementing a comprehensive recycling program, reducing per capita water usage and marketing these programs to the broader student body. (Final approval of the fee is up to the governing boards of all three schools.)

Pattison, who hopes to eventually write a PhD dissertation on campus sustainability, says college is the perfect time to become more environmentally conscious and experience sustainability in action. “Students are the seeds of the future,” he says. “We feel we can make positive change as well as teach those lessons (of sustainability) that students will use for the rest of their lives.”

The roof will be “greened” this year.

The Auraria Higher Education Center, the tri-institutional campus that houses UCDHSC, has garnered attention as the state’s number one and the country’s 14th-ranked higher education purchaser of renewable energy (according to Environmental Protection Agency ratings). Forty-five percent of the electricity used campuswide comes from renewable energy sources.

But Auraria’s favorable environmental credentials owe an enormous debt to students, who passed a $1 Clean Energy Fee in 2004. That money has gone on to fund the purchase of more than $100,000 in renewable energy and has paid for seven small solar panels, which will illuminate campus flag polls, maps and ADA signage.

Not ready to rest on their organic laurels, students wanted to see Auraria go even greener, by purchasing 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources and tackling other environmental initiatives such as a campus recycling program and energy and water conservation.

School of Public Affairs MPA students Andrew Pattison, Susan Innis and Shelly Wallace, who serve on the Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board, have helped develop and campaigned for the Sustainable Campus Program—a wide environmental initiative overwhelmingly approved by the student bodies of all three Auraria institutions—UCDHSC, the Metropolitan State College of Denver and the Community College of Denver. The vote expands the existing $1 Clean Energy fee to a “sustainability fee” of $3 per semester beginning in Spring 2008 that ratchets up to $5 a term for Spring 2010 and 2011.

Pattison estimates that the four-year program will generate more than $1 million for campus sustainability. In addition to increasing funds for campus wind and solar energy—the goal is to run the campus on 100 percent “green” energy—the money also will go toward improving campus energy efficiency, implementing a comprehensive recycling program, reducing per capita water usage and marketing these programs to the broader student body. (Final approval of the fee is up to the governing boards of all three schools.)

Pattison, who hopes to eventually write a PhD dissertation on campus sustainability, says college is the perfect time to become more environmentally conscious and experience sustainability in action. “Students are the seeds of the future,” he says. “We feel we can make positive change as well as teach those lessons (of sustainability) that students will use for the rest of their lives.”

The Graduate School of Public Affairs is taking the power of its well-respected name into even greater dimensions of education and community involvement. This fall, the doors open wide for students at an undergraduate level with the introduction of a new bachelor of arts in criminal justice. Consequently, July 1, the school’s name officially became the School of Public Affairs (SPA).

Dean Kathleen Beatty observes, “Professionalization in the criminal justice sector is key to creating new solutions for social justice. SPA did extensive research and sought feedback from a number of important voices in Colorado’s criminal justice field. The whole criminal justice world has expanded: new prisons, sheriffs’ offices and police departments are opening throughout the state. Needs throughout agencies and the courts must be met by professionals who are receiving a broad-based education incorporating critical thinking, analysis and refined communication skills.”

SPA will double the size of the criminal justice faculty over the next five years, bringing in new people and ideas. The name changed, but the focus remains the same: to create educational avenues for professionals who will provide leadership, service and the means to build a productive, safer society.

Beatty observes, “Much more emphasis is now on working with communities to stop cycles and prevent crime before it occurs. The change from GSPA to SPA is a great way to meet the demonstrated educational needs of the state as citizens of the university. We want our graduates to have a fuller grasp of the social dimensions that cause the conditions of crime and be equipped with effective ways to treat problems well in advance.”

This year, MPA students Susan Innis (left), Andrew Pattison and Shelly Wallace helped lobby to increase student energy fees on campus with the goal of purchasing 100 percent renewable energy for the Auraria campus. They are pictured in front of solar panels purchased with the fees.
Did you know... The Department of Biology on the downtown campus enrolls more than 1,000 students (including prehealth majors)—one fifth of all students at CLAS and approximately 8 percent of all UCDHSC students on campus.

Prehealth Majors Old Hat for Department of Biology

Carmen Sepulveda transferred from CU-Boulder to focus on academics. The Denver campus has been a good fit for her academic ambitions.

Thirty years before the University of Colorado at Denver consolidated with the Health Sciences Center in 2004, advisors on the downtown campus were helping students prepare for health careers. Today, UCDHSC’s downtown campus boasts nine prehealth majors, from prevet to premed, and outstanding students are starting their health careers in the heart of Denver.

Carmen Sepulveda, 20, is a first-generation college student who transferred to UCDHSC from the Boulder campus. “The students here are focused on academics,” says Sepulveda. “This campus is a good fit for me. I have all the resources I need here to succeed, including great professors and advisors who really know about premed.”

Currently a junior with a double major in biology and Spanish and the goal of beginning medical school in 2009, Sepulveda manages to keep up with her intense course work as well as volunteering at various local hospitals. Quick to give credit to UCDHSC’s TRIO Student Support Services program for helping her thrive during her two years on the Denver campus, she now also works as a mentor for TRIO—her way of giving back what she’s gained. “I love helping other students reach their goals,” she adds.

Shane Cook, a 30-year-old nontraditional student, chose UCDHSC after a degree in accounting from CU-Boulder and a career that included playing professional football and working as a high school math teacher. Injuries ended his football stint, and although he found teaching “very rewarding” his suppressed dream of becoming a doctor continued to smolder. “I was watching a medical documentary one night with my wife, and I suddenly realized I couldn’t put it off any longer—I had to go back to school and try to make my dream a reality,” says Cook.

Reality it now is. After studying five semesters to complete stringent premed requirements, working off-campus to help support his family, serving in a number of clinical internships and even fathering a now 10-month-old baby, Cook learned that he was one of only 156 students out of more than 3,000 applicants accepted to the UCDHSC School of Medicine. “It’s so gratifying to know everything I put into this has paid off,” says Cook enthusiastically. “But for me, it’s really been about the journey. I couldn’t be happier with the process and my experience in the premed program. I know it’s [med school] a tremendous commitment, but I don’t feel there will ever be a time when I look back and ask why I went this direction.”

Gabrielle Jung didn’t start with a strong science background, but credits one-on-one time with professors and small class sizes for helping her succeed.

Like Cook, Senior Gabrielle Jung, 26, experienced a few life adventures before finding her way to UCDHSC’s biology department and the predental major. She first served in the Navy for five and a half years, working as a dental technician for most of that time, a job that piqued her desire to become a dentist.

It wasn’t an easy road to travel, however, particularly without a strong science background. “It was very tough taking biology, chemistry and physics together,” Jung remembers. “But the one-on-one time with my professors and the small class sizes really helped. The professors and advisors were always there to help us—their doors were always open.”

Happily, Jung has now successfully combined experience gained while serving her country with her passion for all things dental. She was thrilled to discover that out of 1,400 applicants, she is one of 50 students accepted into the highly competitive dental program on the Anschutz Medical Campus. “I cried when I found out,” says Jung. “I’ve worked so hard for this. I applied to dental school as a learning experience—I didn’t expect to get in on my first try. This is amazing.”

Former NFL player Shane Cook was teaching high school math, but couldn’t shake his dream of becoming a doctor. He came to the downtown campus for a second chance—at a medical career.
Mentoring Drives Success for Denver Alumni

To hear him tell it, Charlie Ferguson’s academic career didn’t exactly have an auspicious beginning. “I was basically a goof-off,” he recalls. “I had no role models, no mentors at home.” But he’s not complaining. He’s grateful, in fact, for the advice he got at then CU-Denver, which led to graduate school and his current position as associate professor of biology, associate dean of student affairs at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and academic advisor to premed students at what is now the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center.

Ferguson was washing dishes at a rehab hospital in Denver when a woman there suggested he further his education. He earned a certificate in radiological technology, and the seed was planted.

Motivated by his progress, he decided to give college a try. “I checked out other colleges, but there was no way I could be a full-time student and have a job.” The downtown campus, with its evening and weekend classes, fit the bill.

Ferguson majored in biology and credits the “angels on campus” for their willingness to see beyond his C average. “They said, ‘you’re not doing that well now, but you’re okay. If you screw up, though, you’re gone.’ That’s the beauty of this campus,” he says. “People are given a second chance. That kind of mentoring is unbelievably rare, and it happens on this campus all the time. The faculty can get to know you and can see beyond how you look on paper.”

He points out that faculty who could get jobs at the top 10 institutions in the United States choose to stay at UCDHSC because they love teaching as much as research.

Ferguson’s advisor encouraged him to go to graduate school. While studying for a master’s degree, he was required to teach a Monday-night anatomy class, and he dreaded it. When the class adjourned that first night, Ferguson knew he wanted to teach. He can’t explain the sudden change of heart—or mind—after that class. “Sometimes you just have to accept the magic and that you don’t have all the answers.”

He earned a doctorate in neuroscience from the Boulder campus in 1996.

For alumni like Ferguson and Cassie Liggins, who earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees at UCDHSC, focused attention has been essential in preparing for health-science careers. Liggins has chosen to attend UCDHSC’s School of Medicine over another school, she says, because of the warmth at CU’s open house and the array of opportunities to get involved in the community.

Ferguson was her mentor and, she recalls, a great teacher. “We’d all be taking notes, trying to write down every word, and he would say, ‘Please put down your pencils and just listen.’ If it weren’t for him, I wouldn’t be here.”

“I fell in love with CU,” she says. “The administration and faculty provide a great education, but I make my own success.”

While teachers here seem to have a talent for guiding undecided students, the campus is also a place for those who know what they want from the start. Brita Meijs, who emigrated from the Netherlands with her family in 1998, knew early on that she wanted a career in health sciences. She found what she needed at UCDHSC.

As a first-year dentistry student, Meijs, BS 2006, values “the small, diverse classes…and one-on-one time with instructors” at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Like Charlie Ferguson and Cassie Liggins, Meijs considered other universities, but found a welcoming atmosphere at the Denver campus. Meijs, too, was swayed by the openness of faculty and fellow students. “The advisors were really kind,” she says. “I didn’t feel like a number.”

The value of mentoring is unquestionable. And for people like Charlie Ferguson, simply saying thank you isn’t quite enough. “I owe it to my mentors to become a good mentor.”

For graduates Cassie Liggins (bottom) and Brita Meijs, the advising and academic preparation they received on the downtown Denver campus opened doors at the Health Sciences Center.
Ken Schroeppel, master of urban and regional planning ‘00, believes downtown Denver has the potential to be a great city, among the likes of San Francisco, Paris and Rome. But one of the major hold-ups to that stature is a sometimes-overlooked and often-coveted land use: surface parking lots.

Schroeppel is on a crusade to eliminate those lots.

“If you look at all the great cities where people love to go—New York, San Francisco, Paris, Rome—none have surface parking lots,” Schroeppel says. “If we want a vibrant, dynamic downtown Denver, we must eliminate all surface parking and replace it with buildings that are full of people and economic activity.”

Armed with that passion and a camera, Schroeppel created a Web site whose mission is “to promote the restoration of central Denver’s built environment through the eradication of surface parking lots and the construction of high-density urban development of quality design.” The site is called DenverInfill.com.

Schroeppel, an urban planner with Matrix Design Group, launched DenverInfill in July 2005 after spending a year and a half on its creation. He walked every block of downtown Denver and took more than 3,000 photos, one for each corner on a block. He also compiled a database to track all of the ongoing development projects.

“I believe very strongly that the quality of a community’s downtown is a direct reflection of the entire community’s health,” he says. “If downtown is struggling, the entire community is struggling.”

But why take aim at surface parking lots?

“Every surface parking lot detracts from the quality of a pedestrian’s experience,” he explains. “When they walk around and see storefronts and outdoor patios, it’s fun, interesting and engaging. But when they turn a corner and see a block and a half of ugly surface parking, they intuitively avoid those areas. We are drawn to areas where people are enjoying themselves.”

DenverInfill.com now averages more than 1,400 visits each day, and Schroeppel has become a media expert, quoted in the Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News, Colorado Real Estate Journal, Westword and many urban planning trade journals.

“I definitely feel that the site has had an impact. My goal was to provide information and get people excited about what’s going on downtown, raise general public awareness of urban planning issues and why it’s in all of our best interest to have as few surface lots as possible.”

To those who complain about finding parking, Schroeppel simply says, “Take mass transit.”
ost people don’t give their
drinking water a lot
of thought. But Kevin
Kennedy and Asnoldo
Benitez aren’t most people.

There’s a vast science behind water
quality, and these two undergraduate
civil engineering students have been
researching a means of evaluating how
water passes through porous material.
The purpose of their work, which was
presented at the 10th annual Research
and Creative Activities Symposium in
April, is to use static light scatter-
ing—laser technology—to gain insight
into the water filtration process.

Kennedy and Benitez, both juniors,
jumped at the chance to work with laser
technology under the tutelage of David
Mays, an assistant professor of civil
engineering, and Tim Lei, professional
research associate.

Learning about static light scatter-
ing and how it can be used to measure
water filtration afforded them an
opportunity to broaden their horizons
and develop new skills. “Being able
to work with a laser was interesting
eough,” Kennedy says, “but I realized
that it was an opportunity to take a step
outside the traditional civil engineering
curriculum.”

For Benitez, too, the research
project broadened his understanding
of what civil engineering is about. “Seeing
the role it plays in water quality gives a
deeper purpose to what I am doing,” he
says. “Before, I was under the impression
that civil engineering was to design
living and working space for people,
creating an infrastructure for society.
Now I see water quality as a real career
possibility.”

Benitez says he also learned some
skills that are universal, such as
communicating about the subject “on a few
levels, from layman’s terms to explaining
the work to someone who knows more
about aggregates than we do.”

Kennedy appreciated the professors’
guidance as much as the independence
the research enabled. “With background
information and software knowledge,
Dr. Mays and Dr. Lei pointed us in the
right direction,” he says. “They helped
us when we needed it, but they left
enough of the work up to us so we could
actually learn something.”

As a premiere research university,
UCDHSC celebrates both graduate and
undergraduate research and encour-
ages qualified students to present their
scholarly activities to their peers and
the public. From static light scattering
to exploring the impact of training for
officers who handle domestic violence,
students’ research demonstrates discov-
ery-based learning that is essential to the
university’s academic enterprise.
fieldwork is understood to be one of the most important elements of learning. For the department of anthropology, a recent field school in Ecuador was more than just a learning experience; it was transformative, with students stepping out of the classroom and learning how to do research from beginning-to-end in a setting where their work left a lasting impression.

During the winter break this year, senior instructor Jean Scandlyn and assistant professor John Brett, recently awarded a Fulbright fellowship to Bolivia to research small scale microfinance institutions, led a group of 16 students to Mondaña, Ecuador, a small Amazonian town in northern Ecuador. The field school focused on sustainable agriculture and community health and was organized through the Office of International Education. For a six-credit course, Brett contends the students deserved 20 credits for the amount of work they did. “The students embraced the projects,” he said, “showing their dedication by working even during their time off.”

Cathy Covey, an anthropology alum, took the course after graduating in December 2006. She plans to study the social implications of the built environment in the developing world in the architecture PhD program at the University of California, Berkeley in the fall.

“Because I am pursuing studies that relate to sustainability and society,” Covey said, “I thought that this opportunity would allow me a unique field experience with a high level of interaction and collaboration with local people in Ecuador.”

The anthropology students partnered with students from the Colegio Técnico Yachana, a private high school administered by the foundation FUNEDESIN. The school serves students from several indigenous communities and focuses on four subject areas—animal husbandry, micro enterprises, ecotourism and agriculture—all under the umbrella of sustainable development.

Using the Rapid Assessment Process, an approach to research using group skills and collaboration, the anthropology class and colegio students divided into two teams to collect and analyze data for two different projects. One group’s focus was to better understand health and sustainability by examining environmental and behavioral aspects of community health. The other group focused on the development of sustainable agricultural practices and conservation through mapping, observation and interviews.

Before returning to Colorado, the teams presented their findings and recommendations to the school and community. The presentations were made at a celebratory closing ceremony, which was attended by nearly 120 people including colegio students, faculty, staff and Mondaña community members.

Experiencing the trials, tribulations and joys of field research so early in their career, all of the students were transformed in one way or another. Some who had never had an intercultural experience were changed through the exchange of ideas and culture despite the language barrier. Others changed their career paths after participating in the course.

For Covey, the field school changed her perspective. “It enhanced my understanding of the relationship among resources, infrastructure and the people, and how much we (in the developed world) take for granted the relatively smooth operation of our infrastructure.” Covey’s hope is that subsequent groups will go to Mondaña to implement their recommendations.

The field experience didn’t conclude upon leaving Ecuador. Upon their return, the students wrote reflection papers on their experiences and the discomfort of being in a foreign environment. The students’ field notes culminated in nearly 200 pages of data that will generate bilingual reports on health infrastructure and sustainable agriculture. A proposal has been submitted for a peer-reviewed poster session at the American Anthropological Association conference in Washington, D.C., in December.

“I feel fortunate to have been part of this project,” Covey said, “and to have been able to work with the inspired professors and students who were part of this venture.”
The university community honored Rep. Terrance Carroll at spring commencement. He is shown with (left to right) Chancellor M. Roy Wilson, Regent Patricia Hayes and President Hank Brown.

Three Alumni Honored at Commencement

The University of Colorado Alumni Association honored three remarkable Coloradans whose contributions have directly benefited the university and Denver community.

Rep. Terrance Carroll, D-House District 7, co-sponsored Senate Bill 04-252 on Revenue for Higher Ed and was a staunch proponent of the successful Referendum C and House Bill 05-1194. The referendum freed monies for education, health care and roads. Now in his third term, Carroll is chair of the judiciary committee and a member of the state Veteran and Military Affairs committee. For his advocacy, his passion for education and affordable housing and for championing the underserved populations, the alumni association proudly awarded Carroll the University of Colorado Legislative Award.

Alumni Recognition Award honoree Patty Fontneau has been an active and contributing member of the Business School’s Board of Advisors for more than five years. Fontneau has capitalized on her connection with the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Denver Partnership to benefit everyone involved.

Fontneau, chair of the Downtown Denver Partnership, enabled the creation and launch of chamber leadership-build-

ing programs that draw on university talent. She helped establish the Colorado Leadership Exchange trip, which builds collaboration between the Business School, Denver and other major U.S. city government and commercial leaders.

Alumni Mack Easton Award recipient Karen Niparko, a partner in Corporate Solutions Inc., has been active on the Business School Board of Advisors for more than three years and helped design the Undergraduate Program for affordable housing and for education and advocacy, his passion

The Alumni Association offers many free and low-cost programs to alumni. Contact the number listed for additional information or visit the Alumni Association Web site: www.cudenver.edu/alumni.

Alumni Online Community
www.cudenver.onlinecommunity.com
• Receive periodic e-newsletters and updates from the school or college you attended
• Stay in touch with friends and colleagues from any school or college on campus
• Search for former classmates in the online directory
• Network with alumni from the downtown Denver campus
• Register for Alumni Association events online

Ambassador's Program
303-831-9295
cuambassadors@cu.edu or
www.cusys.edu/cuambassadors
• This voluntary group of Colorado residents advocates with the Colorado General Assembly for CU and higher education.

Career Center
303-556-2250
http://careers.cudenver.edu
• Career counseling and job-search coaching
• Career exploration and transitions
• Resume assistance
• Online resume referrals and job postings
• Mock interviews
• Career library resources

Loan Consolidation Program
1-800-900-COLLEGE or
1-800-448-2424 (outside Colorado)
www.collegeinvest.org/5821/
cudowntowndenver.htm
• Available to alumni with multiple student loans totaling more than $7,500
• Consolidate eligible federal student loans
• Upon consolidation, CollegeInvest will forgive 1 percent of the loan balance

CU Alumni License Plates
303-556-2549
www.cudenver.edu/alumni
• Cost includes a mandatory donation to the Alumni Scholarship Fund.
• Upon completion of an application and receipt of an approval certificate from the Alumni Association, CU plates may be purchased.
• An additional $25 county clerk fee and your standard vehicle registration fees are applicable.

Campus Recreation
303-556-3210
www.mscd.edu/~cra
• Enhance your level of fitness at the Campus Recreation Center for $75 per semester.

Bank of America Credit Card
1-866-438-6262 or
1-800-833-6262 (mention priority code Q179)
• Every time you use University of Colorado at Denver Platinum Plus® Credit Card, you support the downtown Denver campus Alumni Scholarship Fund.

Public Service Credit Union
303-691-2345
1-800-437-7328
www.pscu.org/ucdhscalumni
• Checking, money market accounts, CDs and IRAs
• Auto and mortgage loans and HELOC
• Home banking and bill pay
• Branches throughout the metro area
Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery on the 16th Street Mall closes its doors one Sunday each year for the downtown Denver campus’ “Rock Bottom Ruckus” scholarship fundraiser.

1 Educator and 2005 Alumni Leadership Award recipient Dick Koeppe and his wife Lu join Alumni Association Vice President Gedeon LaFarge (MArch 1990) for a photo.

2 Die-hard attendees Linda and Brad Chandler (left) and Dick and Melody Frost outfit themselves for the Ruckus.

3 Alumni Association Vice President Scott Beckley (MBA 2002, middle) enjoys the company of Bert Fickel and Anne Stilson-Cope during the silent auction.

4 Alumni Association Past President Mark Vappi (BS computer science 1992, left) rings the bell each year to end the silent auction. He joins College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean Jon Harbor, Association President Jack Gilbrath (BA geology 1982) board member and event chair Jodi Bunn (MA history 2003) and Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Teresa Berryman (BS accounting 1981) to award airline tickets donated by Polk Majestic Travel.

5 Alumni Association Vice Presidents James Villarreal (MBA 2004, left) and Vicky Henry (MS accounting 1992) with Past President Diane Messamore (BA math 1973, right) thank general manager Steve Cominsky for Rock Bottom’s support of the annual downtown Denver campus scholarship fund raiser.

6 Alumni Association scholarship winners, including 2006-2007 recipients (left to right) Shaun Lally, Phoebe Coleman, Mary Ortega and Jennifer Samimi, sell peanuts to benefit scholarships.

7 Chair of next year’s Rock Bottom Lola Salazar (MA education 1992, left) and this year’s chair Jodi Bunn (MA history 2003) join Rock Bottom’s Dawne Hostetter (right) for a group hug celebrating the evening’s $64,000 success.

Matthew Etter, grandson of Millie Draper Travis (MPA 2000), won this year’s Mutton Bustin’ contest during CU Family Night at the National Western Stock Show.
Alumni notes

David L. Reinecke, BS accounting 1972, received his master’s degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1986 and is a licensed CPA. After 31 years with the Colorado Department of Education as a grants accountant, Reinecke is now enjoying retired life with his wife of almost 40 years, Nadeen, and his grandchildren in Colorado and Texas.

Caroline Anne Levine, MA curriculum and instruction 1976, recently published a book, Jay Grows an Alien, which follows a young boy with Asperger Syndrome. Levine has taught K–6 grades in self-contained classrooms in the San Francisco Bay area and has worked as a reading specialist in both Colorado and Maryland. She currently lives with her husband in Washington, D.C., where she writes for children, tutors children with autism and continues her education by taking community college classes.

Margaret Browne, MPA 1978, is the manager of business development and financial planning for Denver Health. Browne’s responsibilities include physician-driven clinical services and commercial revenue generating initiatives. Previously, Browne worked for the city and county of Denver as the finance director.

Jack Gilbraith, BA geology 1982, has been named president and CEO of Envirotech, Inc. As former chief operating officer of the company, Gilbraith has been a key member of the senior management team during Envirotech’s unprecedented growth. He is currently president of the Alumni Association.

Kevin J. Todeschi, MA English 1982, was named executive director and CEO of Edgar Cayce’s Association for Research and Enlightenment (A.R.E.), Inc. where he is responsible for their affiliate organization, Atlantic University. A longtime spokesperson for the Cayce work, Todeschi is the author of 20 books, the former editor-in-chief of A.R.E.’s membership magazine and former director of content for their Web site. Todeschi will be one of the keynote speakers at the Cayce works international congress in Sweden next year.

Bill Dailey, MA communications 1983, along with two fellow Central Michigan University faculty researchers, was awarded the 2006 Daniel Rohrer American Forensic Association Research Award. Their article, entitled “Audience Perceptions of Politeness and Advocacy Skills in the 2000 and 2004 Presidential Debates,” has been nationally recognized and was followed by the book Politeness and Political Debate.

Maxine Fawcett-Yeske, BS music 1983, was named Nebraska’s 2006 professor of the year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Associate professor of music at Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) in Lincoln, Fawcett-Yeske was recognized for sharing her passion for music, contributing to diversity on the NWU campus and advocating for services and facilities for students with disabilities. Fawcett-Yeske is currently on a Sabbatical conducting research and writing about the life and music of Olgyvanna Lloyd Wright. She was awarded an Ameritas Foundation fellowship for her continued research on this project.

Margaret M. (Peggy) Gordon, MPA 1983, joined the Colorado Department of Revenue as director of the Colorado Lottery in January 2004. In her position, Gordon has seen an increase of revenue from $397 million to $470 million in the past three years. Gordon has lived in Colorado since 1972 and has two children: Chelsea age 24, a dental student at Marquette University; and Devin age 18, a student at Arapahoe Community College in Littleton.

Karen Ichiba, MPA 1984, is the special events compliance coordinator for the University of Colorado. Ichiba provides administrative and policy guidance to help assure fund-raising events comply with university policies and procedures.

Brian R. Propp, BS international business 1986, MBA 1988, is owner, president and CEO of Rocky Mountain, Inc., a company that manufactures structural insulated panels in Loveland, Colo.

Jason Fournier, MARCH 1989, has spent the past three years in Doha, Qatar, as the lead architect on “Education City,” a single campus housing a number of U.S. colleges and universities including Texas A&M, Cornell, Georgetown, Virginia Commonwealth and Carnegie Mellon. This campus includes a science and technology park, convention centre, teaching hospital and museum housing modern Islamic art. Fournier is currently an associate principal for a large multi-national design firm and is commuting from Washington, D.C., to Dubai where he is working on a new university.

Cyrus “Cy” Frost, BA English 1989, MA English 1992, along with two collaborators, wrote the musical “Ichabod,” based on Washington Irving’s “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” in 1995. It has been awarded “Best New Play” by the Denver Drama Critics’ Circle and “Best of Denver” in the musical theatre category by the prestigious New York Theatrical Magazine, This Month On Stage. In 2004, “Ichabod” was produced as a feature film and premiered at the Denver Film Festival and recently appeared on the big screen in United Artists Theatres and on PBS television.

Barton (Bart) Bishoff, BS music 1994, is producing and directing a technology show for NBC called “Tech Now,” which has been based in San Francisco since 2000. The show is currently producing a documentary about Jack Mullin, who brought the magnet phone from Germany and gave it to Ampex, which was the beginning of the recording revolution. Bishoff learned of this music recording pioneer in one of Professor Roy Pritts’ music technology courses and further explored Mullin’s life for this documentary.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Stay involved!
I’d like to join other alumni by:
- Selecting alumni award recipients
- Assisting with commencement
- Working on legislative issues as a CU Ambassador
- Planning and implementing CU Back on Campus and special events
- Providing information about my career field to students and alumni
- Selecting scholarship recipients
- Raising funds for scholarships
- Calling and welcoming new students
- Volunteering for university activities

Submit to: UCDHSC Alumni Relations, Downtown Denver Campus, Campus Box 189, PO. Box 173364, Denver, CO 80217-3364 or e-mail the information above to alumni@cudenver.edu
Roberta Selleck, PhD administration, supervision and curriculum development 1995, assumed the role of superintendent in the Adams 50 School District in the fall 2006.

Judy Walker, special education license 1995, currently teaches at Alsip Elementary in Adams County School District 14. In addition to her role as a special education teacher, Walker is actively involved in a number of professional development initiatives including: coordinating activities for the Colorado Department of Education’s Metro Region Differentiating Curriculum, participating in the Instruction and Assessment Team and helping to coordinate the metro region’s professional development “Share-a-thon.” This annual event supports professional learning communities for professionals who come together from 12 metro school districts to discuss their book study groups.

Chris King, PhD educational leadership and innovation 1996, is the newly named superintendent of Boulder Valley Schools. He will take over the school district leadership from George Garcia who is retiring. Prior to his appointment as superintendent, King served as deputy superintendent for educational programs in Boulder.

Carol Saft, MA curriculum and instruction 1996, is the director of academic assessment and institutional research for Ancilla College, a private, Catholic, two-year liberal arts college located in northern Indiana.

Derek Vanderhorst, BS music 1996, was the sound designer for the recently released movie box office block-buster 300, as well as sound effects supervisor on other films such as Independence Day, War of the Worlds and Sideways.

Colin Bricker, BS music 1997, has been owner/operator of Notably Fine Audio since 2000. The company specializes in studio production and music recording and sound reinforcement. Its credits include several music festivals across Colorado: the Vail Jazz Festival, Telluride Jazz Festival, Denver’s City Park Jazz Fest, the UNC Jazz Festival and Keystone’s River Run Bluegrass and Beer Festival. Bricker’s company has worked with many exceptional artists such as Chuck Mangione, Stanley Turrentine, Spyro Gyra, the Indigo Girls, the Four Freshmen, Natalie Cole, the Drifters, Insane Clown Posse and Nelson Rangell.

James Orihuela, MA curriculum and instruction 1997, is a Spanish language arts teacher and coordinator of the dual-language immersion program at Cecil B. DeMille Middle School in Long Beach, California. This program was one of three in California to receive the Seal of Excellence Award from the California Association for Bilingual Education. Orihuela also presents at local and national conferences, works as a consultant to several school districts and has served on several panels including the Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Symposium in Asilomar, California. A national board certified teacher, Orihuela resides in Whittier, Calif., with his wife and two sons.

Annemarie Dempsey Benson, MA special education 1998, currently teaches and serves as the coordinator of pupil services at Laredo Middle School in the Cherry Creek School District. She also serves as co-chair of the Response to Intervention team.

James Masias, MPA 1998, is deputy assistant to the chief administrative officer at the San Diego Unified School District. Masias’ main responsibilities include reorganizing the information technologies from many disparate groups into one centralized IT function/department and working as project manager for the reorganization of the maintenance and operations division into a new physical plant and operations division. Masias was one of three professionals recently featured in the National Society of Hispanic MBAs.

Jennifer Faherty, MA counseling psychology and counselor education 1999, is the managing clinician at Brain Matters Imaging Center in Denver which performs SPECT (Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography) brain imaging, an evaluation tool for a variety of neurological and psychiatric disorders. In her role at the clinic, Faherty supervises two clinicians and the medical editor and works directly with patients.

Sandra Mendez, MA curriculum and instruction 1999, is the new principal at Escuela Bilingue Pioneer Elementary School (dual language immersion) in Boulder Valley School District. Pioneer Elementary School is nationally known for its outstanding work and highly effective school reform efforts.

Tom Chikoore, MBA 2000, co-founder of Tru.vu, was recently selected to participate in the inaugural TechStars boot camp for entrepreneurs in Boulder, Colo. As a boot camp participant, Tru.vu, a start-up company which is developing a new Web service that tracks and monitors news media content for small and medium businesses, will receive advice from area technology entrepreneurs, up to $15,000 to get the business started and have a chance at funding from national venture capital groups.

Gwen Laine, BA communication and theatre 1994, BFA creative arts 2000, is rated one of the “13 hottest young photographers in the country” by Black & White magazine.

Nancy T. Kinney, PhD public affairs 2001, has been promoted to associate professor in the department of Political Science and Public Policy Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Paul Taylor, MBA 2001, is the director of the Trade Office for the City of Denver in Shanghai. Taylor was invited to present a seminar on campus in late 2006 to discuss the current business environment and consumer markets in China, the evolving political climate and the business successes and failures in the Chinese environment.

Abel Chavez, Jr., BS mechanical engineering 2002, is owner and president of Chavez Gruppo, a company which focuses on supporting the overall operations of its clients by using Six Sigma, Project Management, JIT and general management principals. Chavez resides in Aurora, Colo.

Ryan Morrison, BFA creative arts 2002, is a producer at Fox Sports.

Jennifer Jensen, MA information and learning technologies 2003, is one of 25 teachers nationwide serving on the Scholar’s Teacher Advisory Board. She is also an active member of the Discovery Educator Network. An online teaching unit Jensen created as part of an ILT class was selected as the rocky mountain regional winner for the International Reading Association’s Presidential Award for Reading and Technology.

Chris Covey, MA educational psychology 2004, is currently the fifth/sixth grade lead teacher at Foothills Academy, an independent, co-educational, K–12 day-school in Wheat Ridge, Colo. Covey is also a writer of poetry and short fiction.

Brian Doan, BFA creative arts 2004, is currently in the MFA program and on the teaching faculty at Massachusetts College of Art in Boston. Doan’s photography has been exhibited at locations including the Museum of Photography in Riverside, California; the International Center of Photography in New York; the Centre of Image in Mexico City; and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. He is the recipient of several grants and awards, including those received from the California Council for the Humanities and the Rockefeller Fellows in the Humanities. Doan’s monograph The Forgotten Ones was published by the Vietnamese Arts and Letters Association in 2004.

Elizabeth Ross Hubbell, MA information and learning technologies 2004, is a senior consultant in the Educational Technology department at Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning and was the featured guest expert in the March 2007 PBS online journal “Media Infusion.” Hubbell also co-authored Using Technology with Classroom Instruction that Works, which will be released this summer by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Alma Meeker, BA communications 2004, has accepted a high school special education teacher position in Los Angeles with Teach for America. Meeker will also attend Loyola Marymount University to pursue a master’s degree in education.

Katica Roy, MA information and learning technologies 2004, published an article on learning styles in distance education, “The impact of learning styles on interactivity in asynchronous e-learning.” This article was based on action research Roy completed for her master’s degree.

Joel Solomon, MA information and learning technologies 2004, is an instructional technology coach (ITC) for Cherry Creek Schools. He is one of seven ICTs who support all elementary schools in the district. In his position, Solomon serves as motivator, collaborator and coach to create technology-rich school environments that support teaching and learning and a high level of achievement for all students. The ITC supports classroom teachers, evaluates and provides professional development based on the needs of schools and communicates the district vision for technology integration based on research and best practice.
Veronica (Nikki) Zubiate, MA curriculum and instruction 2004, a fourth grade teacher at Foothill Elementary in the Boulder Valley School District, was the recipient of the 2006 Colorado Council International Reading Association New Teachers award. This award recognizes teachers with five years or fewer teaching experience who have demonstrated a significant and successful teaching program during their first five years of teaching.

Cheryl Ide, MA information and learning technologies 2005, has been serving as president-elect of the Colorado Federation of Business and Professional Women. She will assume the president's duties in May.

Tyrone Kelleywood, MA counseling psychology/community agency counseling 2005, is currently working as a master's level psychotherapist for the Health and Medical Division of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina.

Chun-Mai Michael Kuo, PhD public affairs 2005, is a research analyst in the HIV education program for the Department of Public Health for Los Angeles County, Calif.

Tim Nice, BFA creative arts 2005, is currently working for Lucas Arts in San Francisco.

Sumit Sarkar, BA history 1996, MCJ 2005, is a civilian special agent for the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. Previously, Sarkar was a probation officer for Denver Juvenile Probation.

Jennifer Sorokaty, BA marketing 2005, is marketing coordinator for the Downtown Denver Partnership, a public/private organization that works to enhance, maintain and promote downtown Denver.

Christie Chambers, BS music 2006, interned at Sony Corporation and is working for an entertainment law firm, JFR Holdings Corporation, in the A&R department.

Donald Easton-Brooks, MA early childhood education 1995 and PhD educational leadership and innovation 2006, is an assistant professor in the Department of Counseling, Development and Higher Education at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. He has had an article accepted for publication by the Journal of Negro Education on wealth, traditional socioeconomic status (SES) indicators and the achievement debt.

Travis A. Gasper, BA political science 2006, is assistant to the speaker for the Colorado House of Representatives. In this position, Gasper works for the speaker of the house and the majority caucus as a liaison between leadership and other members, staff and the general public.

David Hamilton, MPA 2006, is a detective and the department's legislative liaison for the Baton Rouge City Police Department's Criminal Investigation Bureau. Hamilton is teaching part-time at the University of New Orleans and has been appointed as the fund-raising committee chair for the Fallen Heroes Fund.

Sandra Johansson, BA international studies 2006, volunteered in Tanzania and toured de-mining efforts in Mozambique with UCDHSC's downtown Denver campus African history professor, Christine Sundberg. Johansson also traveled through South America and Mozambique Zimbabwe to intern for Grassa Machel (Nelson Mandela's wife) with the grass-roots organization AWIDE during the past year. Johansson is currently in graduate school at the University of Uppsala Peace and Conflict Resolution Institute in Sweden.

David M. Rapp, MBA 2006, is a coach on the shipping side of the Lowe's distribution center in Garysburg, N.C. Rapp works closely with receiving personnel to assess the load quality of trucks and determine procedures to reduce damages.

Prashant Singh, MBA 2006, and Palak Singh Mall, MBA 2006, are both employed by JP Morgan Chase in the credit card division.

In Memoriam


Michael A. Moore, BA history 1977, died July 17, 2006.


80s Joanne J. Thompson, MA library media 1982, died March 1, 2006.


Tracie Young-Gaumer, BA psychology 1984, died Sept. 17, 2006.


90s Nancy Falkenberg Deardorff, MS information systems 1993, died Nov. 17, 2006.


00s Terry Ann Page, MA special education 2000, died March 26, 2006.


Jerry Jacks, MA political science 1989, instructor, Department of Political Science, died Feb. 22, 2007.

Roy Prittis, professor of music and entertainment industry studies, died June 20, 2007.

Prehistoric Tour with Dr. Martin Lockley

Join us September 22 for a walk through prehistoric history with acclaimed CLAS paleontologist and dinosaur tracker Dr. Martin Lockley. Either meet us at Dinosaur Ridge to participate in the free tour only or come early to campus for a tour of the UCDHSC Dinosaur Tracks Museum, a chartered bus to Dinosaur Ridge and a picnic lunch. The bus will return to campus following Dr. Lockley’s tour. Parking passes for campus will be provided if you take the bus. For full appreciation of Dinosaur Ridge, we suggest walking about a ½ mile. The hike is not strenuous, but there are moderate short inclines to negotiate. Please wear hiking boots or comfortable walking shoes.

RSVP by September 7.

This event will be held rain or shine. No refunds will be given.