The Auraria Campus continues to be on the cutting edge of development and innovation, as the three institutions served by the campus continue to advance. In four short years, the campus horizon has completely changed, both physically and programmatically. What was a stark line of identical buildings has been profoundly transformed into a new pattern of distinctive and exciting facilities that celebrate the individual institutions and their prominence in the shared community of Auraria. That shared community has become stronger and more vibrant because the uniqueness of the institutions has been embraced as the signature of the campus.

So, what’s next? The evolution continues.

In August, the Regency Athletic Complex at MSU Denver will take further shape when the soccer fields are added to the already-opened tennis courts on the new field property just south of Colfax. Baseball and softball fields are planned by December and an extraordinary support facility comes next. In addition, MSU Denver continues to plan for their Aerospace, Engineering & Science Building at 7th and Auraria Parkway.

The 5th Street Garage will also open this August, with development plans for the first-floor retail complex to follow. CU Denver’s Academic Building at Speer and Larimer will open in late July. And, CCD has begun to envision the possibilities for the Boulder Creek (former Technology) Building at the center of their neighborhood.

Winterfest 2013
Winterfest, held on December 20th in the Tivoli Turnhalle, gave staff an opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of their colleagues while celebrating the achievements of the year.

A total of 52 AHEC employees received State of Colorado service awards for milestone work anniversaries. In addition, the annual employee awards were announced:

Student of the Year
Mason Hohstadt
Student Employee
Auraria Campus Bookstore
Plans are in development for the proposed Tivoli Entertainment Multiplex, which includes programmatic elements for all three institutions. A film center concept is being developed to highlight CU Denver’s dynamic film program. The MSU Denver world-class beer industry education program, complete with a training center, will be associated with the multiplex. In addition, a privately-operated craft beer taproom and brewery geared towards curriculum prospects with all three institutions, including a potential CCD certificate in Beer Industry Welding, is in the works. All of this will be balanced with a new 11,000-square-foot conference center, back-dropped by the Tivoli Park. The input from the Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board (SACAB) has been invaluable in the planning as they collaborate on creating enhanced study spaces and engagement opportunities to further support the student experience.

Thus, the evolution continues…and the Auraria Campus persists in becoming a prominent spotlight in downtown Denver. Stay tuned to the excitement!

Barb Weiske
Executive Vice President for Administration
Agency Chief Executive Officer

CAMPUS NEWS

METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Regency Athletic Complex Becomes New Home for Many MSU Denver Teams

In November 2013, Metropolitan State University of Denver President Stephen Jordan announced a $1 million naming rights agreement for the new athletic complex. The new name, the Regency Athletic Complex at MSU Denver, is part of a 10-year agreement with the Regency Student Housing community.

The Regency Athletics Complex at MSU Denver includes eight tennis courts that opened in August, a soccer stadium scheduled for completion by fall 2014, and baseball and softball diamonds to be completed in early 2015. The long-term project plan includes construction of a 20,000-square-foot building to house locker rooms, a strength and conditioning facility, and an athletic training room.

Located on 12.5 acres south of the Colfax Avenue viaduct adjacent to Shoshone Street, east of Interstate 25, the complex will have three athletic fields with synthetic turf. It will be home to six of the Roadrunners’ 15 sports teams: baseball, softball, men’s and women’s soccer, and men’s and women’s tennis. In addition to using the facility for NCAA athletics, intramural sports, and

Employees of the Year
Terry Buck
Project Planner II
Development Services

Pete Hagen
Project Manager
Development Services

Manager of the Year
Tony Medina
Maintenance Coordinator Student Facilities Services

A generous amount of non-perishable food items were collected before and during the event for the tri-institutional food banks. Raffle tickets were given to employees in exchange for the donations as a chance to win gift baskets of items contributed by various community restaurants, organizations, and merchants. To conclude the event, a drawing was held for various prizes arranged by the Employee Recognition Committee.

View photo slideshow:
http://bit.ly/1mafAmT

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Children’s Art Show & Auction Raises Money for Supplies

The Auraria Early Learning Center (AELC) hosted their annual Art Show & Auction on February 17th in the Tivoli Turnhalle. The older preschool
Food Trucks 
Serving Up Good Eats on Mondays

The Auraria Higher Education Center has reintroduced “Food Truck Mondays” as a way to offer a variety of quality food options on campus.

Every Monday from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., excluding holidays and academic breaks, four mobile food vendors will serve a range of cuisines at the Lawrence Way turnaround between St. Cajetan’s and the King Center.

View the upcoming schedule and mark your calendar: www.ahec.edu/foodtrucks/.

HUMBLE HEROES

Accounting Services Team Helps AHEC Achieve Another “Clean” Audit

The Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) is audited annually by the State Auditor’s Office to test internal controls, review business processes, and verify that the financial statements are presented fairly. The Accounting Services Department, led by AHEC Controller Janet Miks, prepared all the documentation and compiled the data for KPMG, the independent firm hired by the State Auditor’s Office to run the audit.

and kindergarten classes worked very hard in the weeks leading up to the event to create unique and fun art pieces for the special evening. Using multiple mediums—from watercolors and pastels to light switch covers and wax paper—their fantastic artwork transformed the Turnhalle into an art gallery.

Parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, and teachers attended to competitively bid on the children’s artwork.

While the teachers and children worked incredibly hard to prepare for the art show, the payoff was tremendous. The proceeds of the auction will enable the AELC to purchase additional classroom supplies and provide experiences for the children that would otherwise be impossible.

COMMUNICATIONS

New Website Rolling Out this Spring

A new website for the Auraria Campus will launch later this spring. Some key highlights include: primary task buttons located on the homepage to allow for direct access to key functions; content organized by audience (students, campus faculty & staff, and AHEC staff); and a new navigation structure.

If you have questions, please contact Katy Brown at katy.brown@ahec.edu for more information.

Conceptual architectural renderings of the facility are available on MSU Denver’s website: www.gometrostate.com.
An audit is a long process—it started in spring of last year with pulling together documents, statements, information, and having many meetings with KPMG; and it didn’t conclude until December. A 70-page “Financial and Compliance Audit” document with descriptive narrative, prepared by the Accounting Services Department, was the final step of the process. The audit document was reviewed by the Legislative Audit Committee and was released on December 9th. The Auraria Board of Directors approved it on December 11th.

The final audit opinion was “unqualified,” meaning that AHEC received a “clean” audit. KPMG concluded that that the financial statements were presented fairly, and there weren’t any findings or recommendations related to internal controls. This marks the fourth consecutive “clean” audit for AHEC, a significant achievement.

The Accounting Services team deserves huge kudos for the successful audit. Miks explained the biggest feat was that five of the eight person staff were either new to their position or new to the auditing process. Miks, one of the new employees, joined AHEC in May.

“We were all able to work closely together to ensure that the audit came together successfully,” said Miks. “The process as a whole really helped build our team.”

**STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

**Tammy Gonzales**

**Business Manager Auraria Campus Bookstore**

Tammy Gonzales has spent her entire career working for the Auraria Higher Education Center in the Auraria Campus Bookstore. She started out as the Vault Supervisor in her very first position, nearly 22 years ago. Over the years she has moved up through the ranks, taking on the Accounts Payable Supervisor position and then moving into her current role as Business Manager.

Gonzales is a Colorado native, born and raised in Denver. She still lives in the same neighborhood, just a few blocks from her childhood home.

When she is not crunching numbers in the Bookstore, Gonzales can be found photographing Colorado landscapes and spending time with her husband Manuel, an ophthalmic technician. Together they like to garden, do yard work, and spend time in their lovely home. They are parents to three dogs: two Shelties and a longhaired Chihuahua/Yorkie mix, who despite being the smallest, definitely rules the house.

**HR INSIGHT**

**Colorado State Employee Assistance Program (C-SEAP)**

C-SEAP is a professional, no-cost assessment, referral, and short-term counseling service offered to all state employees with work-related or personal concerns.

C-SEAP also provides resources for supervisors and managers, including individual managerial consultation, work-group organizational development, assistance with conflict resolution, and help with resolution of workplace traumatic events.

C-SEAP has been a trusted confidential resource for over 30 years, working to improve the quality of life and work for state employees through organizational and individual assistance.

As an AHEC employee, you have direct access to this free-of-charge benefit. To learn more, visit [www.colorado.gov/pacific/c-seap](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/c-seap) or call 303-866-4314.

**NOW ENROLLING**

for Kindergarten Fall 2014

**Early Learning Center:**

**Fall 2014 Kindergarten Enrollment**

*Enroll by March 1st for a Chance to Win an iPad mini!*

If your child will be five before October 1, 2014 and you’d like to explore the excellent educational experience of AELC Kindergarten, please visit [www.ahec.edu/kindergarten](http://www.ahec.edu/kindergarten) or call 303-556-3188 to schedule a tour and learn how to enroll for fall 2014.
5 Questions for Tammy Gonzales

1. Before working for AHEC, what is the most interesting or unusual job you’ve had?
AHEC was my first full-time job. Before that I worked as a student employee for the Colorado Community College System in their accounting office.

2. If you could choose any period of history to live, when would it be and why?
There’s no time like the present.

3. What is a tool you use for work that you couldn’t live without?
I couldn’t live without post-it notes and colored pens.

4. If you could travel anywhere in the world for a week, where would you go?
I would love to travel to Cuba.

5. What do you enjoy most about your job and working for AHEC?
I enjoy working with numbers and doing reconciliations. I also enjoy working for AHEC because of its environment and location, along with the great employees that I have come to know and work with throughout the agency.