

Colorado College Long Range Development Plan

Summary of Alumni Roundtable Forum, April 24, 2004

On Saturday, April 24, Colorado College held an Alumni Roundtable Forum to gather input from Alumni related to the College's Long Range Development Plan. These notes are a summary of that session and, as such, are not a complete transcript of the event. Rather, the notes reflect common themes that arose during discussions related to the Strategic, Academic/Student Life, Financial and Physical programs of the College.

Strategic Program

- The sense of arrival to the campus is lacking. Signage, monumentation and other wayfinding techniques should be used to define the campus clarify the sense of the arrival.
- The Cornerstone Arts building, a new Library, and a new Fitness/Wellness Center are all priority projects for the attraction of new students and for the quality of student life.
- There is a perception that the Humanities have been neglected when it comes to campus development and rehabilitation projects.
- A program for developing "alumni-in-residence" housing on or near campus should be investigated.
- A public art program across campus – perhaps geared toward CC alumni artists – should be investigated.
- Each campus precinct should provide opportunities to live, work and study. The campus should not be overly zoned.
- The College should have a goal and program for development that they'll stick to.
- Make sure and keep students involved in the planning process.

Academic Program/Student Life Program

- Many memories are related to classes and time spent in classrooms and laboratories. Good experiences were remembered in Palmer Hall, Olin Hall, Cossitt Hall and small houses in the Western Ridge, while Armstrong Hall is remembered as a bad place to learn.
- The style of housing in the new Western Ridge residences is well suited to students' housing desires.
- The experience of living in small, historic homes on campus was a good one.
- The safety and security of students and others on campus needs to be of primary concern.
- Lounges should be scattered across campus for student gathering, studying, and opportunities for serendipitous encounters. Currently, the majority of this activity is in Worner.
- Dining facilities should be located across the campus, not relegated to Worner.
- The campus needs some spaces for students to let loose, like the old fraternity area.
- The student center might better serve the entire campus if more centrally located.

Financial Program

- The College should strive to encourage and/or support near-campus retail and services development to provide a place for students to go without the need of a car.
- Deferred maintenance and repair and replacement should receive continual financial support and attention.

Physical Program

- The campus does not have an architectural style or standard, resulting in an eclectic mix of buildings with little architectural cohesion across campus.
- Because there is no defined architectural style on campus, the broader landscape should be used to unify the campus.

- The scale of buildings across campus should reflect the openness of Colorado. High-density development should be discouraged.
- Views to Pikes Peak are important to the campus setting. Efforts should be made to maintain and regain these views, notably from Shove Chapel across Armstrong Quad.
- The east campus needs to integrate better into the rest of campus, both visually and physically.
- Parking is a major problem across campus, both in a perceived lack of spaces and in the unfortunate location of certain lots (ie, at the terminus of Tejon Street on both sides of campus.)
- Open space is part of the appeal of the campus. Open areas, such as Armstrong Quad, should not be considered future building development sites.
- While the signage, wayfinding and lighting efforts are helping to beautify the campus, the College should be careful to not create clutter in the outdoor spaces.
- Landscape materials used on campus should reflect the Colorado climate and environmental sustainability, although irrigated areas for students to recreate are also very important.
- Access to the athletics district is very unwelcoming and difficult to negotiate. The inter- and intra-collegiate athletics and recreation participation is very high on campus and should be better recognized in the physical plan.
- There is a lack of continuity across the grounds.
- Outdoor spaces for active and passive use should be located adjacent to residence halls.
- The heart of the campus needs to regain its intimacy and cohesiveness.