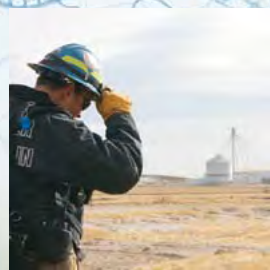


A GROUND BREAKING COLLEGE

New Degrees | New Surroundings | New Classrooms



An outdoor classroom takes shape on the Greeley campus

Aims Community College:

A GROUNDBREAKING INSTITUTION



Wherever you turn at Aims Community College, it appears we are breaking new ground.

In fact, we are doing just that. Figuratively and literally, we are building for the future.

Aims Community College is offering new degree programs in the fields of agriculture, agribusiness, and oil and gas technology. We are breaking new ground in Fort Lupton to add classroom space for these programs. Students and faculty on our Greeley campus will discover Westview Hall has a new look from top to bottom. And, a new pedestrian promenade is becoming the heart of the campus. The promenade completes a long-standing goal of creating a unified feeling of community and adjacencies across campus. It is much more than a sidewalk connecting buildings. The promenade is an inviting environment lined with benches, study areas, and an outdoor classroom.

We are at a turning point in the history of Aims Community College. In a cooperative effort, the trustees, faculty, and staff have been following a financially responsible approach during the past few years requiring patience and perseverance. Because of these actions, we are in a position to engage in planning and preparation for the future.

While difficult times are not over, there are signs things are changing for the better. Northern Colorado is moving forward and Weld County is at the center of impressive economic activity. Much of this is driven by oil and gas development. Additionally, we are seeing new investments by businesses and individuals as they plan ahead for better times.

Here at Aims, we are taking steps to be ready for the future and to prepare our students for the opportunities already at hand.

Two different studies showed Aims has a \$1 billion economic impact in our service area. Agriculture and energy are essential businesses in Weld County. They are the cornerstones of our economy. Think about this: agriculture literally grows economic activity from the ground up. One in 12 jobs in the U.S. is due to agriculture. From agronomy services to food processing, agriculture is behind the paychecks of millions of Americans. Oil and gas are generating jobs from underground reserves just now being tapped, thanks to technological advancements. By every measure, the oil and gas industry is making a long-term commitment right here at home. We want our students ready to enter these career fields.

While we are breaking new ground on so many fronts, we are not breaking the bank for our students. Thanks to the financial stewardship of the Board of Trustees, tuition at Aims will remain the same. That's right: no tuition increase. Aims Community College continues to be the leading choice for students serious about building their careers.

"At Aims, we are equally serious about building careers and communities."

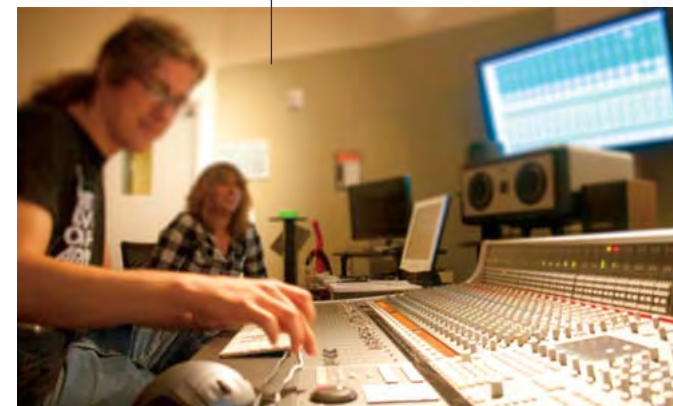
and communities. We believe in providing students with the best instructors who use state of the art equipment. We believe in providing businesses and industries with a well-trained workforce. We believe in our students and know our graduates are eager to make the world a better place. We believe our campuses are integral to their hometown communities.

Aims Community College is a groundbreaking institution. We believe our best years are just ahead. Aims Community College continues to be the right choice at every step.

Dr. Marilyn "Marsi" Liddell
President, Aims Community College

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Aims Community College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. For more information about Aims' accreditation, go to www.aims.edu and click on "About Aims" and then "Accreditation."

Aims Community College is an Equal Opportunity Institution. The College prohibits discrimination in its practices, programs, and activities on the basis of age, race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability and is committed to maintaining an environment free from sexual or other harassment and retaliation.

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The right choice at every step

aims.edu | www.facebook.com/aimsfan

On the Air & ON THE JOB

Aims Student Radio, 89.1 FM, Where Music Matters www.aims.edu/radio/

Hosting a radio show is as easy as flipping a switch and talking into a microphone, right?

Wrong.

Going live on radio sounds like, and can be, a fun career. Yet it takes training to build the confidence and experience required to really engage an audience. It can test the best.

lounge and coffee cart. "Sometimes you play a song you like and look out to see someone else bobbing along to it too." On occasion, students will gather at the windows and hold up hand-written signs to

communicate with the DJs. Listeners will offer email comments and requests using Facebook. Listeners of Aims Student Radio will hear everything from new pop to old rock. For Cross, Pigg, and other DJs, the test is whether they make the show interesting, educational, and entertaining between songs for their listeners. The latter is where Cross and Pigg shine.

Pigg, whose on air nickname is "Pork Chop," wants to be a recording and audio engineer after graduation. "This is just good experience," she says of hosting the show. Pigg, 19, grew up and continues to live in Fort Lupton. "I was not initially all that interested in radio, but I'm in the audio program and it was one of the classes offered, so I figured it couldn't hurt to check it out. I sat next to Joe in my first audio class and he gave me the push to try it out. I'm glad that I did because as terrifying as it is being in front of a microphone, it's a blast."

Cross, 36, is starting his second year at Aims. The father of two, he works several jobs and attends college full time. "I listened to radio a lot as a kid and always wanted to be that guy on the other end. I used to record the Doctor Demento show and other shows and rerecord them with me as the host. I have always found radio interesting and thought how cool it would be to be part of the industry." On air he goes by, well, Joe Cross. His goal is to become a radio station program director or operations manager.

Pursuing a career in radio resulted in Bob Grayson coming back to Aims. A second year student. Grayson, 41, was a first-

"I listened to radio a lot as a kid and always wanted to be that guy on the other end."



BRITTANY

year student 12 years ago. "I never gave up the dream," he says. In simple terms, life and health issues got in the way. He remembers when Aims Student Radio had a "three to four person listenership." Today, Grayson has family and friends in Missouri, Florida, Texas and Colorado who "tune" him in via internet streaming. He looks forward to being an on air personality or program director after he graduates. His enthusiasm for radio comes out loud and clear.

At one time, the best way to hear Aims Student Radio was from the neighboring hallway. The station's signal covers a very small footprint. Technology, however, is allowing the station to reach across the nation. Thanks to audio streaming to iPhones and iPad Touch devices, Pigg has family and friends in Chicago listening to her show. "My ideal career would be to become a recording engineer, to be the woman behind the music and the reason it's able to get to the masses to be enjoyed," adds Pigg. "I have already taken the first step to getting there by getting an education about the business."

Cross, too, wants to make the most of his education. "Radio is not the easiest profession to break into, so you have to stay out in front and make sure people

"My ideal career would be to become a recording engineer, to be the woman behind the music and the reason it's able to get to the masses to be enjoyed."

know who you are and what you can do," says Cross.

"Our Communications Media program is unique in Northern Colorado," says Jim Crandall, who is the program chair. "Our students receive more hands-on instruction on equipment that is the standard in the industry. We have great instructors and the finest equipment in the area."

At Aims, all of the radio students must do board shifts and complete internships with media outlets.

"I'm impressed most with the instructors at Aims. When I graduated high school, I had this weird fear that my teachers from then on out would be cranky and wouldn't care to even know the students' names. But I got to Aims and was pleasantly surprised to find that it was the exact opposite," says Pigg.

How to succeed as an Aims Communications Media student

"Learn everything you can! Even if you are a radio guy or an audio guy, learn video too. The more you know the more marketable you are. Never turn down a chance to learn more, and never be afraid to ask questions. Everyone at Aims is always willing to answer questions. After some research, I discovered Aims has the best program around. It allows you to have a hands-on education from day one and gets you on the air quicker than anyone else. I need to mention how good the instructors are and how they have the newest equipment. Sometimes it's even better than what is in the industry. Aims is always on top of the new technology."

— Joe Cross

"My advice would be to just jump in and do it! If you want to be a part of the media department, I'd suggest not to just take classes in the one area you looking at, but to get involved in them all. I chose Aims because it helps with the costs that come with going to college. I do plan on transferring to expand my education, but I'm happy where I am now with teachers that are amazing and classes that are small and more personable. I'm glad I took the opportunity to be a part of Aims and take advantage of what Aims has to offer because it's definitely been worth it!"

— Brittany Pigg

Careers in Communications Media run the gamut from radio DJs to producers and directors on television shows (both broadcast and corporate); photojournalists; news videographers; video editors; newspaper, radio, & television reporters; live sound engineers; recording engineers; and many more.

Potential students and their parents are welcome to contact Jim Crandall at jim.crandall@aims.edu or 970-339-6339 anytime to schedule a tour or to discuss the Communications Media degree and certificate requirements.



JOE

For Aims Community College students Joe Cross and Brittany Pigg, that test occurs every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. They host the Morning Mayhem show on Aims Student Radio. Broadcasting from the "Fish Bowl" in Ed Beaty Hall, Cross and Pigg engage in on air banter that suggests a high level of practice. Not as audibly obvious to listeners is that this banter is not scripted: it is spontaneous.

Talking to an audience you cannot see is a challenge, explains Pigg. The daily task for Cross and Pigg is to build a relationship with their audience, and it isn't always one way. The Fish Bowl's windows look out on two intersecting hallways near a student

GETTING NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS, CLASSROOMS

It may not look like it on the surface, but both agriculture and energy are big business in Weld County. Agriculture taken as a whole is a billion dollar business. And when it comes to oil and gas, business is good. Make that very good.

This is why Aims Community College will break ground for a new 28,000 square foot building on the campus in Fort Lupton. The \$9 million project will be open for students just 12 months from now. That's an ambitious schedule, yet it is in keeping with the Aims mission to offer students educational programs that literally can be put to work.

The building will be home to the new oil and gas, agriculture business, and production agriculture degrees. Students already are enrolling in these programs, which will be offered for the first time this year using existing classroom space.

"The expansion on the Fort Lupton campus shows Aims is serious when it comes to preparing our students for today's job openings. These industries continue to grow, leading northern Colorado's economic recovery," says Aims Community College President Marsi Liddell.

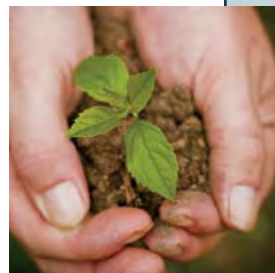
The Fort Lupton campus is a little more than a mile east of the downtown. The main building was constructed in 1984. For the people of Fort Lupton, the investment has value beyond dollars.

"This is a heavy duty investment not just in this community, but in this region," says Paul Harter, president of the

Fort Lupton Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's mission is to build a healthy economic community for businesses and residents. Harter says good community colleges understand their hometown community is, in effect, their overall customer. "That's what I see Aims doing," he said of the new degrees and plans to add classrooms.

"This is a heavy duty investment not just in this community, but in this region."

Brenda Rask, dean of the Fort Lupton campus, says Aims Community College is a valuable asset to the community. Students are taking advantage of the lower costs of attending Aims and the guaranteed transfer to Colorado's four-year colleges. She expects the new degree programs to be popular, given the ongoing and significant investment by energy companies in Weld County.



Also, agriculture is experiencing a shortage of good employees. Both industries effectively are growing jobs from the ground up. Rask expects the new degree programs and new building will lead to additional opportunities for students and residents of Fort Lupton.



AGRICULTURE + OIL + GAS

Nationwide, agriculture accounts for one in 12 jobs. In addition to farming, these jobs range from agronomy and transportation to food processing.

Weld County is Colorado's leading producer of beef cattle, grain, sugar beets, and is the state's leading dairy producer. Weld is the richest agricultural county in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, leading the state in the value of agricultural products sold, and is typically in the top ten richest overall nationally.

There are over 3,000 farms in Weld County. In total, Weld's agricultural products annually create over \$1 billion of market value. Every year over 875,000 acres of cropland are planted each year.

The state's climate, readily available feed, and quality water make it an ideal dairy state. Weld County is now the 21st largest dairy county in the nation and is expected to increase production in the coming years.

Weld County has roughly 18,000 oil and gas wells. These wells support approximately 4,000 jobs and generate just under \$50 million of tax revenue for the county annually.

During the past decade, Weld County was named one of the fastest growing counties in the nation; job growth spurred by the energy industry will continue to fuel that growth. In fact, Weld County's job-growth rate from 2009 to 2010 was the 11th highest among the nation's counties according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Loveland Campus is a COMMUNITY CORNERSTONE

A sense of community is what makes the Loveland campus of Aims Community College stand out. Students feel welcome and they feel at home, says Heather Lelchook, dean of the campus. "Faculty and staff work side by side with students to help them gain the skills and knowledge they need to be successful in their future career paths," she says.

Nestled in the heart of downtown Loveland, the campus is home to a varying group of students. "We have a core curriculum that seamlessly transfers to universities, a popular nurse aide certificate program, and a wide range of course offerings from the meat-and-potatoes classwork to the creative arts," Lelchook adds. "We meet the diverse needs of our community, with class schedules from the time you pour coffee in the morning until the 10 p.m. news comes on at night."

The campus draws artists and other creative types from the surrounding area. In fact, the City of Loveland and Aims Community College are working together to have a local artist paint a mural on the westward facing brick wall of the campus. Aims student Stephanie Ruelas' design was selected to be painted on the wall. The theme of the mural is the "Where Art and Science Meet."

Add in exceptionally capable and dedicated instructors, along with individual attention from faculty and staff in small classroom settings, and it is easy to understand why the Loveland campus is popular with students of all ages and backgrounds. Also helpful is the one-stop shop for all student services and admissions and records.

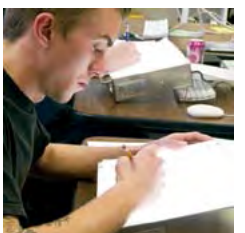
Students enrolled at the campus may take advantage of a novel "Pay It Forward Pays for Your Books" program. Students who volunteer in the community can earn a stipend for textbooks or course materials.

The campus is on the edge of a dynamic urban environment. Great shops, restaurants, galleries, and museums all are within easy walking distance. In all ways, Aims Community College is a cornerstone of the Loveland community.

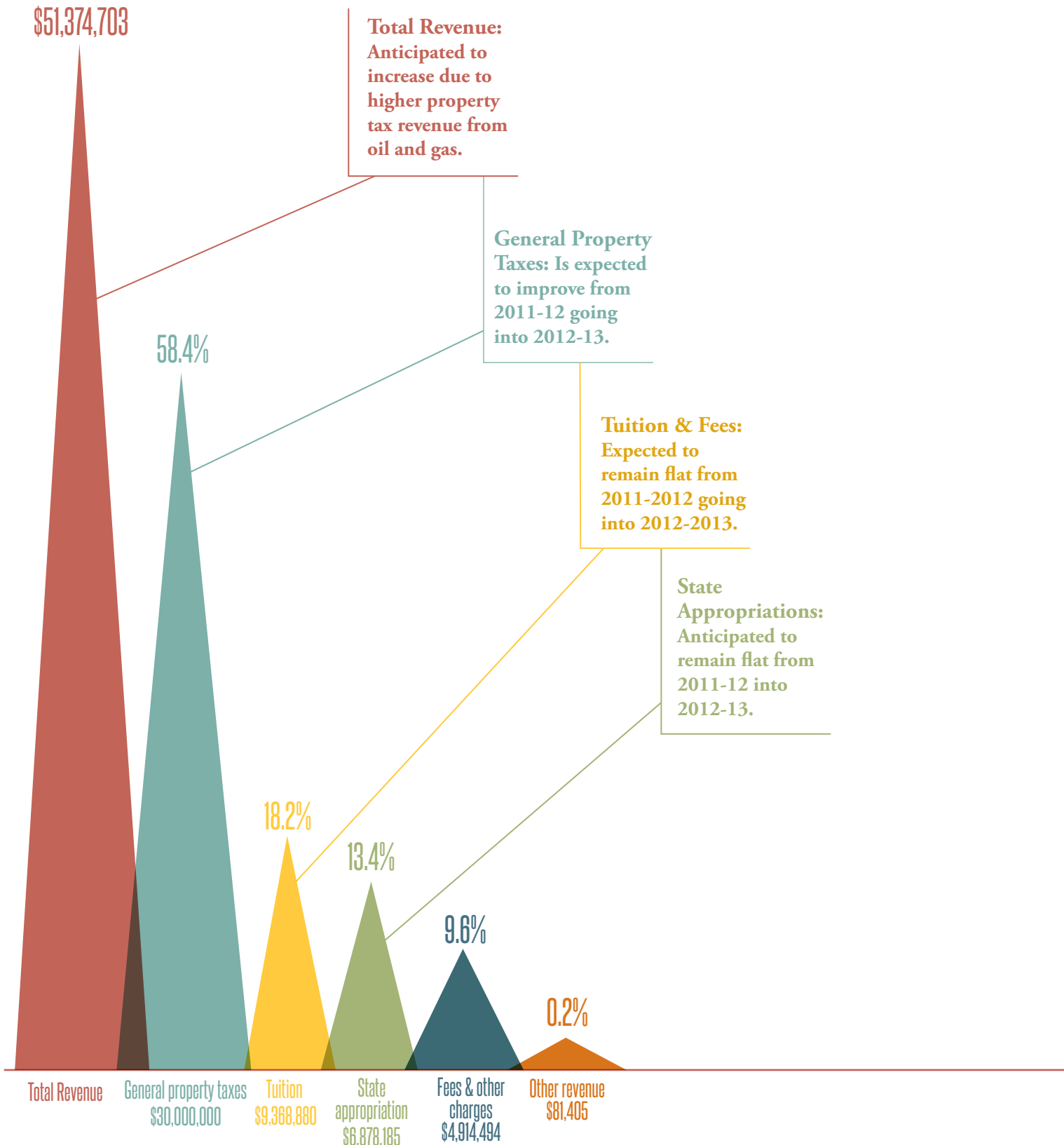
"Whether you plan to complete an associate degree, get an affordable head start toward a bachelor's degree, or build your professional skills, you will find what you are looking for in Loveland," says Lelchook.



FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.



REVENUE*



Total Revenue: Anticipated to increase due to higher property tax revenue from oil and gas.

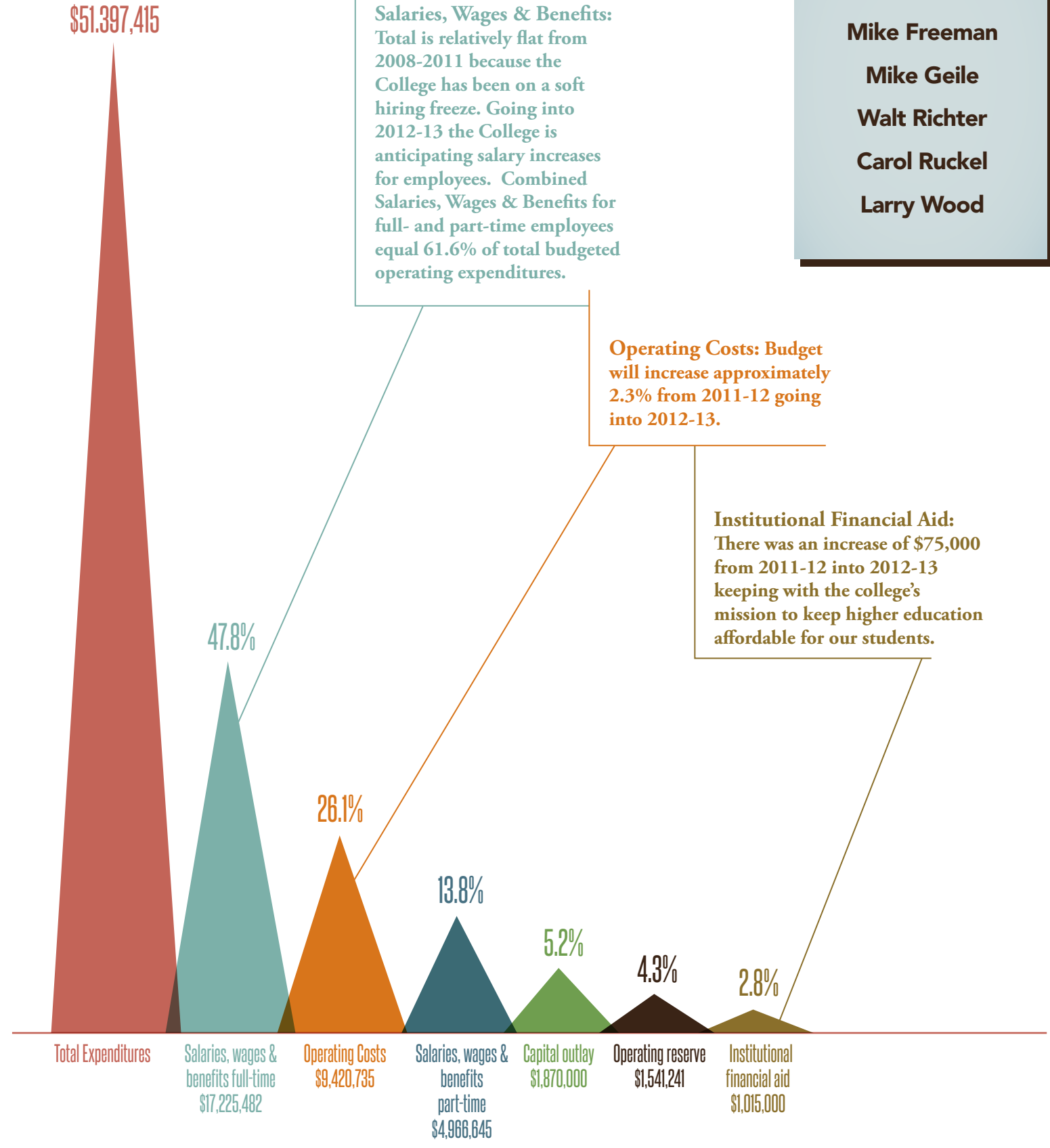
General Property Taxes: Is expected to improve from 2011-12 going into 2012-13.

Tuition & Fees: Expected to remain flat from 2011-2012 going into 2012-2013.

State Appropriations: Anticipated to remain flat from 2011-12 into 2012-13.

As a publicly funded institution, good stewardship is always first and foremost in our minds as we move through the budgeting process here at Aims. The information on these pages shows the unaudited revised budget for the 2011-12 General Fund. The complete budget and financial statements are always available online or by contacting the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. As always, thank you for your support. Mike Kelly, Chief Administrative Officer, mike.kelly@aims.edu or (970) 339-6655

OPERATING EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS*



Salaries, Wages & Benefits: Total is relatively flat from 2008-2011 because the College has been on a soft hiring freeze. Going into 2012-13 the College is anticipating salary increases for employees. Combined Salaries, Wages & Benefits for full- and part-time employees equal 61.6% of total budgeted operating expenditures.

Operating Costs: Budget will increase approximately 2.3% from 2011-12 going into 2012-13.

Institutional Financial Aid: There was an increase of \$75,000 from 2011-12 into 2012-13 keeping with the college's mission to keep higher education affordable for our students.

For their stewardship and financial acumen, we thank our Board of Trustees:

Mike Freeman
Mike Geile
Walt Richter
Carol Ruckel
Larry Wood

*These figures are from the 2011-12 Revised Budget, which will be submitted for external audit in November 2012 and are, therefore, subject to change.

Zac's Passion for Life PUTS HIM IN FRONT

You are likely to find Zac Kreider under the hood of a car, examining the engine. Then again, you might see him inspecting the suspension of a pickup on a lift. The most likely place to find Zac, however, is behind the steering wheel and ready for the open road.

Zac's passion for all things cars is what makes him a great teacher. His career in cars goes back to a high school counselor's scheduling recommendation. "In high school, I needed to fill an open slot in my schedule. Welding was the only option.

"My first car was a 1967 Ford Mustang. Growing up I always liked old cars, but never thought I would make a career out of it," continues Zac. "I was born and raised with values based on hard work and diligence in the very small community of Holyoke, Colorado. My father taught me at an early age that if it is worth doing,

"I have been taught so many things from so many people over the course of my life that I knew I could benefit others."

Distinguished Colleague of the Year at Aims Community College.

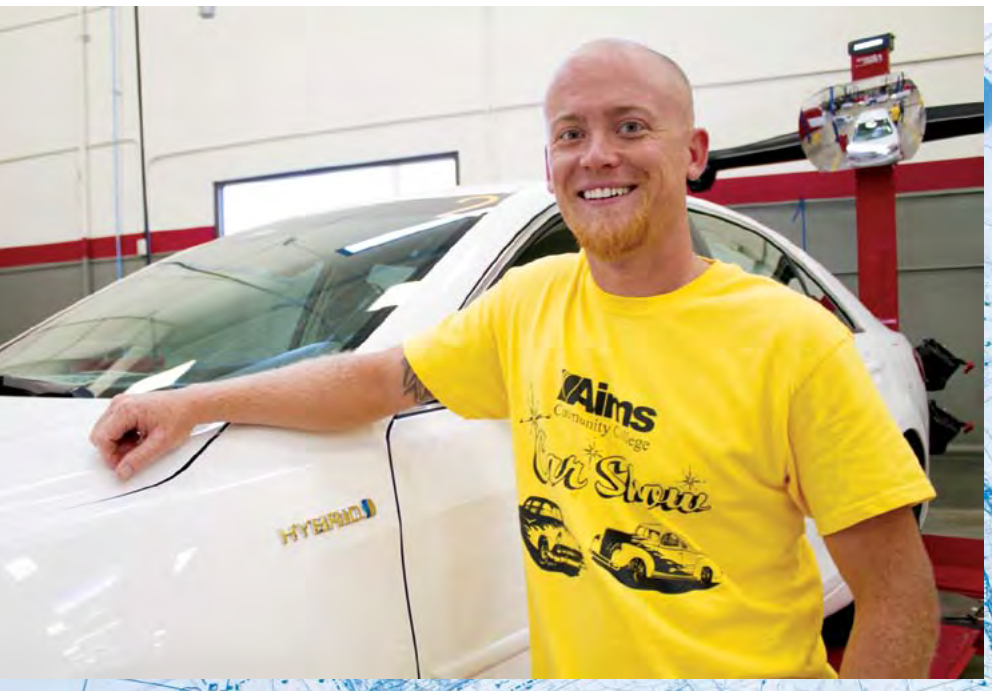
"I have been taught so many things from so many people over the course of my life that I knew I could benefit others," he says. The benefits go both ways. "I like taking students who know absolutely nothing about a process and watching them, over time, master a

skill. Look where we have come in the last one hundred years. What interests me the most about cars is the technology behind the paint finishes. Some people see it as just paint. I see it as technology."

Ask Zac to name his favorite car or classroom topic and you will hear an unexpected answer. "I love them all. The sound of American muscle, the lines of an Italian sports car, the way chrome glistens in the sun, the illusion of depth in a paint job, the story behind rust." Still, one car does stand out. "I worked in the restoration industry before joining Aims. A customer who became a dear friend was restoring his 1968 Shelby GT500 KR, when he was diagnosed with cancer. It was an honor to help finish that project. He was able to drive it only a few times before he passed. That pony is a little closer to my heart than the rest of the herd."

Not everything in Zac's life focuses on cars. He and his wife Tegan have been married for three years. "Life has only gotten better with her." And, he says, his parents and siblings are his heroes.

Family, classic cars, and a love of teaching students provide the fuel to drive Zac to achieve excellence in life.



I did not want to take such a class but my high school counselor forced me to. It all started from there," he says. One class opened the door to doing much, much more.

it is worth doing well. Everything that I encounter in life I approach with this attitude."

This approach to life may explain why Zac was chosen to be the first

Students are learning what it takes to get hired and be successful once they are on the job.



Hands On Education FROM INDUSTRY EXPERTS

By all measures, the Aims Community College automotive and technology programs are impressive. For one, students are learning their trade in the largest automotive educational facility in Northern Colorado. For another, they are gaining knowledge and experience by using cutting edge, technology driven tools and curriculum. Then again, the director, professors and instructors have industry experience.

It all adds up to a great program that uses hands-on education to help students develop their skills and, ultimately, their careers.

The Automotive and Technology Center is located south of Windsor, near Highway 34. The 45,000 square-foot building

opened in 2010. In addition to classrooms and labs, the facility is equipped with work bays and tools matching those found in most repair shops. For example, a Snap-On diagnostic training center puts the latest technology in the hands of students.

The facility is equipped with something that counts as much as the latest automotive equipment: attitude. Fred Brown, director of the center, says his crew of instructors has experience in the automotive industry and a passion for cars. Students are learning not just what it takes to diagnose problems and repair them, they are learning what it takes to get hired and be successful once they are on the job. Areas of study range from electrical

systems and collision repair to painting and upholstery.

Brown knows what skills it takes to work in a dealership facility or a small town garage. Students follow a well-designed course of learning. And, they have fun. In addition to challenging students, Brown knows they are there because they love cars. The annual car show hosted at the center attracts an amazing variety of rides, from exotic European sports cars to chopped and channeled steel from the early '50s. From camshafts to connecting rods, it's all about cars.





This year I want to give a big “thank-you” to the Aims Foundation Board of Directors. The members are: Julie Buderus, Director of Institutional Advancement for Aims; Linda Archibeque, CPA, Aims Community College; Andrew Romero, Finance Director for the High Plains Library; Sean Conway, Weld County Commissioner; Nick Francis, Business Owner, Tommy Holton, Mayor of Fort Lupton; Mike Kelly, Chief Administrative Officer of Aims; Teresa Mueller, Owner of Mueller and Associates; Gene O’Hara, adjunct professor and Director of Monfort Executive Program at the University of Northern Colorado; Tamara Pacht, Community Outreach, State Farm Insurance; Vicki Sears, CPA, Anderson Whitney, PC; Chalice Springfield, CEO and Managing Broker, Sears Real Estate. Our ex-officio members are: Dr. Marsi Liddell, President, Aims Community College and Mike Freeman, Business Owner and representative from the Aims Board of Trustees.

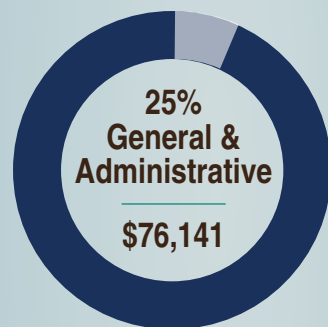
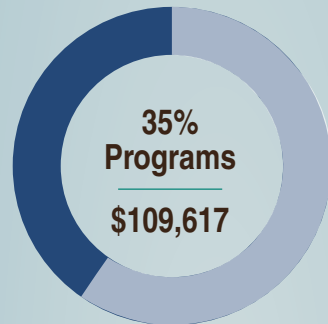
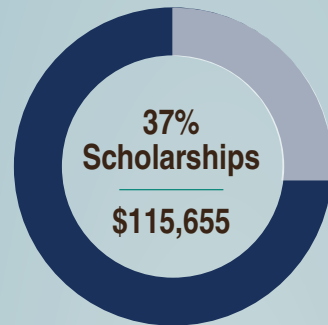
Each member has worked hard to lead the Foundation into a very interesting period in Aims’ history. The primary duty of the Foundation is to raise money for the school and to use the funds raised in a fiscally responsible way. In May of this year, we met together all day to strategize how to best accommodate the changes that are taking place at Aims. The primary concept that will apply to the Foundation is flexibility. We must be ready to respond to the changes as they arise. For example, the oil and gas industry is growing in Weld County, with its need to train oil rig workers. Aims is responding to that need and, in turn, reaping the benefits that occur as a result of increased funds.

The Foundation is also building toward self-sustainability. To that end, a quasi-endowment has been established directed to operational support and placing donor dollars where they are needed most—to students and programs at Aims.

I am very proud to be affiliated with Aims. As an Aims graduate, I have personally experienced the benefits of this fine school. Aims provides affordable and exceptional academic opportunities for students of all ages and interests. Take a class—give Aims a try!

Sally Asmus
President
Aims Foundation

PRIVATE GIFTS



Based on most current unaudited data

It is an exciting time to work for a community college foundation; specifically Aims! Our work is dynamic, adjusting to the immediate needs of our community. During the past year, scholarship support provided by the Aims Community College Foundation increased ten percent. Over \$100,000 was awarded to students in the form of scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year. This level of support is significant as the average cost of tuition at Aims is less than \$2,000 per year.

Your endorsement of Aims is appreciated. Our Foundation board members take their responsibility and your investments seriously. Only three percent, or three cents of every dollar raised, of our operational budget is spent on fundraising costs. Over 82 percent of support from our donors is directed to programs and scholarships.



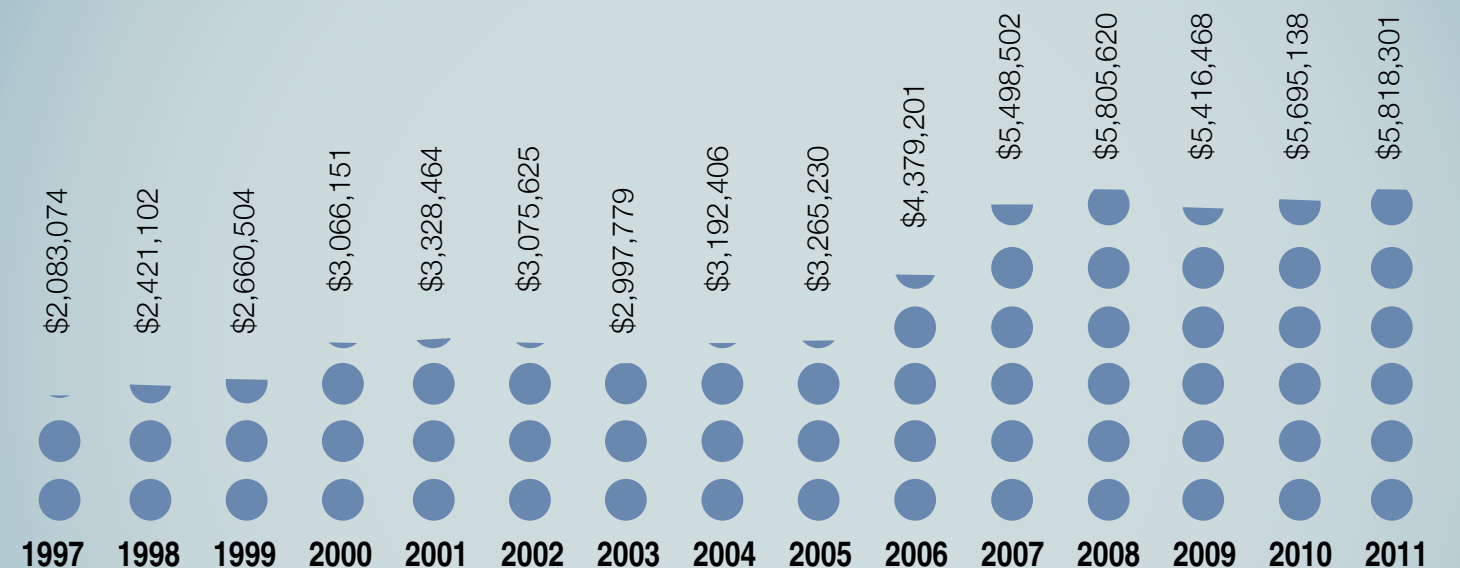
The 2012-2013 academic year provides additional opportunities for students and for you. New certificate and degree programs in Agriculture and the Oil and Gas industries provide immediate work force development training. A Promenade that connects the north and south sides of the Aims Greeley campus will make accessibility to the Greeley campus enjoyable and convenient.

You can make a sustainable difference in the economic health of Weld County with contributions directed to Aims scholarships, programs and/or capital investments.

The Foundation board of directors and I look forward to working with you.

All the best,
Julie Buderus
Executive Director
Aims Foundation

Endowment Growth



Aims President Marsi Liddell has been recognized by the American Association for Women in Community Colleges as the 2012 Carolyn Desjardins CEO Award Recipient. Dr. Liddell was honored for her contributions to women in the community college environment and her service and support to AAWCC at the Annual Conference held in April in Orlando, Fla.

The Department of Labor awarded Aims a \$2 million grant to expand its **Applied Environmental Technology** programs. As part of the Colorado Energy Training Consortium, the grant awarded a total of \$17.3 million to 15 community colleges in the state. Aims is using the funds to develop its Applied Environmental Technology programs, including Oil and Gas Technologies, Industrial Technology, Construction Management and Computer Aided Drafting.



The Aims Board of Trustees recognized **Sandy Neb and Sallie Johnson**, along with her late husband, **Bob**, as recipients of the 2012 Aims Fellows award at its meeting in May. Neb served on the Aims Board of Trustees from 2003-2011 as a Trustee, then as Secretary, and finally as Board President from 2009-2011. Neb also received Trustee Emeritus status at the March 7 Board meeting. In appreciation for her service, a tree was dedicated to her on the Fort Lupton campus.

Bob and Sallie Johnson are well known in the community for their dedication to providing educational access to all, including generous contributions to Aims

Community College. The Johnsons have been involved in post-secondary education for many years. Dr. Johnson was a professor emeritus and dean at the University of Northern Colorado, and Mrs. Johnson is a piano teacher and founding member of the Greeley Area Music Teachers Association. They have been involved in community service organizations including the Kiwanis, United Way, Hospice and the Assistance League.

The Aims Fellows award was established in 2005 to recognize individuals from the community who have made outstanding contributions to higher education and/or Aims Community College.



Weld County Paramedic Services donated an ambulance to the **Aims Emergency Medical Services** program at the Weld County Commissioner's September 14 Board meeting. "We've had a great long-term relationship with the college, so this was just another way to show our support for Aims," said Dave Bressler, director of Weld County Paramedic Services and a member of the Aims EMS Advisory Committee. The ambulance will give Aims students in the EMS program the opportunity to learn in a more realistic environment, practicing important skills, such as starting an IV while in a moving vehicle. "The majority of our first-responders in Weld County receive their training and re-training at Aims," Program Director Randy Souther said. "It's wonderful to have such great collaboration between Aims and local EMS professionals in providing critical services for our community."

The Daniels Fund donated \$24,000 to Aims to provide need-based scholarships for adult learners who are interested in the **Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic** programs. Aims EMS programs include EMT Basic, Paramedic, EKG Technician, EMT-IV and Medical Assisting – Phlebotomy. The Daniels Fund was established in 2000 by Bill Daniels, a pioneer in cable television, to provide grants and scholarships in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

The Early Childhood Education program at Aims earned national accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Early Childhood Education programs that receive the NAEYC accreditation demonstrate commitment to quality in 12 areas related to professional preparation standards and positive student outcomes. The accreditation lasts for two years, during which time the college will continue to develop its annual report to the association in order to extend accreditation for an additional five years.



Psychology Professor Dr. ShawnaLee Washam received a 10 Year Service pin in recognition of the time she has been an advisor of the Beta Kappa Lambda Chapter at Aims Community College.

Aims President Marsi Liddell presented the pin on behalf of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. "We at Phi Theta Kappa's Center for Excellence owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our chapter advisors whose dedicated service is responsible for the success of our local chapters," noted the honor society.



Several improvements have been made to the **Aims Greeley campus** this summer. A new promenade walkway, which will run through the heart of the campus, will include benches, trees, LED lighting and an outdoor classroom featuring sandstone stadium-style theater seating. A new road will connect the north and south areas on the west side of campus, along with a new 60-space parking lot near the Aims gym and three new tennis courts. In addition, renovations were made to the interior of Westview, which houses classrooms and faculty offices.



In today's world, CAD (computer-aided drafting) is used by many businesses to convert ideas into working plans. CAD is just one program offered by Aims Community College, where the AET department converts a student's interest in technology into ability, experience, and prepares him or her for employment. AET stands for Applied Environmental Technology, and it has a lot to offer.

Anyone who wants to learn more about construction, construction management, industrial technology courses and CAD will do well to check out the AET offerings at Aims.

The value of learning such skills is obvious: new jobs are popping up as fast as oil wells across Northern Colorado. The economic boom driven by oil and

Aims has helped more than 2,000 **Weld County tax payers** claim more than \$3 million in federal and state refunds in the past three years through the program. Students from Aims and the University of Northern Colorado, as well as community volunteers, helped with tax preparation this year.



"Tax Help Colorado has been a tremendous success and is an extremely rewarding experience," said Aims Accounting Instructor Gina Jones, who received the Faculty of the Year Deans' Selection for her efforts. "Our volunteer tax

preparers and quality reviewers are well-trained individuals who are dedicated to superior customer service and producing a quality product. This is also a tremendous benefit to our local businesses as the refund dollars are spent in our communities."

Taxpayers who earn less than \$49,000 received help preparing and e-filing their taxes for free at Aims Community College through Tax Help Colorado. The program is funded by a grant from the Denver-based Piton Foundation.

Aims Community College has earned the Military Friendly Schools designation from G.I. Jobs. The designation is awarded based on a list of criteria such as Aims offering training programs approved by VA, assisting military students with career placement, providing a wide field of study and programs ranging from aviation to welding, and being a member of the Service members Opportunity Colleges Consortium. Aims welcomes military members with open arms and with gratitude for their service to the country.

gas development is rippling across the area, creating additional business activity in related industries.

Working with area industry leaders, Aims develops or refines its key courses to meet the needs of employers. As a result, the college has invested in classroom equipment that matches or exceeds what students are likely to find in the workplace, and the curriculum is equally tailored to reflect current conditions. Construction management is not merely a "trades" program at Aims. Students learn how to use software and technology to manage construction projects and businesses in an every-changing environment.

CAD is essential to many businesses and industries. It is not uncommon for engineering companies to ask their CAD drafters if they have an Associate of Applied Science degree. In addition to a strong emphasis on computer-aided drafting, the program provides students a background in mathematics, building systems, construction regulations, site utilities, and materials and methods used in the architecture. At Aims, attention is given to comprehensive education that reflects the rapidly changing needs of employers.

FAST FACTS

MORE THAN

8,000

PEOPLE ENROLL AT AIMS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE EACH YEAR



OVER

1000

DEGREES & CERTIFICATES
AWARDED EACH YEAR

1,442

AWARDED IN
2010-11

75%

OF THE DEGREES/
CERTIFICATES
AWARDED ARE IN
CTE PROGRAMS

1,031

COMPLETERS

430

COMPLETERS
CONTACTED

58%

EMPLOYED
IN A FIELD
RELATED TO
DEGREE

18%

EMPLOYED IN
UNRELATED
FIELD

22%

SEEKING
FURTHER
EDUCATION

97.4%

TOTAL
PLACEMENT