

SERVING

Community College of Denver
Metropolitan State University of Denver
University of Colorado Denver



AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

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Annual Report
2020–2021

Respect
Courtesy
Honesty
Trust
Consistency
Service

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A Message from the CEO



During the entirety of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the world was focused on the COVID-19 global pandemic. For the Auraria Higher Education Center, this included finding ways to support our campus community, even when students, faculty, and staff were not physically present on the Auraria Campus.

COVID-19 upended all of our lives, and all indicators suggest that we will be dealing with the virus and the pandemic's compounding effects for the foreseeable future. Fortunately, the Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) now has significant experience supporting students, faculty, and staff while managing campus life in the face of this pandemic.

This past year demonstrated the power of coming together and that our commitment, collaboration, and perseverance were paramount to our success. As we prepare for our next fiscal year, we continue to set the stage for another thoughtful and carefully managed educational experience, relying on our community to be active participants in mitigating risk and protecting one another.

Whether stretched to their fullest potential or relatively empty, campus buildings and grounds require constant attention. Planned maintenance and improvements like the steam to natural gas project moved forward. The Auraria Early Learning Center remained a reliable and safe resource for families dependent on their doors to be open. In addition to keeping a watchful eye on our campus, the Auraria Campus Police Department (ACPD) readily stepped in to provide COVID-19 vaccine and testing site logistics and security. The ACPD, in collaboration with the Auraria Executives Council, launched the ACPD Community Advisory Board to strengthen the ACPD's partnership, communication, and transparency with our campus community.



The AHEC team worked tirelessly to provide the services people expect from our campus, and we made operational changes to improve critical areas most impacted over the year. The bookstore moved entirely to online textbook sales, and, ultimately, bookstore operations shifted to Barnes and Noble College to better serve the campus. We implemented an online Campus ID option and a new touchless parking pay-by-phone option to help support the safe return to campus. We kept the Tivoli Student Union doors open for voting center operations during the election. We collaborated with the Health Center at Auraria and COVIDCheck CO to provide safe, efficient, and reliable locations for our community to get COVID-19 testing and vaccines, with more than 20,000 people vaccinated on the Auraria Campus! Our doors remained open to our campus community, even during the worst days of the pandemic.

I know I speak for all of my dedicated colleagues and campus partners when I say that we certainly learned a tremendous amount over the past year. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the AHEC team, who approached their work in innovative and creative ways and kept showing up to ensure our campus was open, safe, and ready to serve our community. I have never been prouder.

With gratitude,

Colleen Walker, CEO | Auraria Higher Education Center

Our Mission, Vision & Values



MISSION

The Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) is committed to providing an effective, efficient, and supportive environment that facilitates the missions of the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and University of Colorado Denver.



VISION

We provide quality services that support quality education.



VALUES

The purpose of AHEC is to support and serve the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and University of Colorado Denver, and to facilitate the achievement of their goals and objectives.

The AHEC team is committed to the long-term success and development of the Auraria Campus. We strive to provide a safe and open environment for all employees and commit to the following in our daily activities:

- Respect
- Honesty
- Consistency
- Courtesy
- Trust
- Service

We commit to living these values by:

- Actively listening to others
- Being open to change
- Communicating and collaborating
- Accepting responsibility for our actions
- Working together as a unified “One Auraria” Team

Guiding Principles

Building on AHEC’s foundation, the One Auraria Guiding Principles steer us in achieving our mission to provide an effective, efficient, and supportive environment that facilitates the quality education, goals, and objectives of the campus institutions.



OWN IT

Everything starts with awareness. If you see a problem or issue, make it your problem to solve or report.



MAKE AN IMPACT

Every action, every decision, and every moment—big or small—makes a difference.



DELIGHT OUR CUSTOMERS

Customer satisfaction is our strongest measure of success.



“YES” BEFORE “NO”

Be committed to finding a solution. A “yes” mindset opens endless options.



RESPOND WITH URGENCY

Outcomes matter. Don’t remain idle—act now without delay and deliver remarkable results.

About the Auraria Higher Education Center

The Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) was built to house and serve 15,000 students, a number that was exceeded when we opened our doors in 1976. AHEC has continued to adapt and grow to become a modern campus bustling with activity in the heart of downtown Denver. Today, the Auraria Campus is the largest collective college campus in Colorado, serving over 43,000 students, faculty, and staff. AHEC proudly operates the Auraria Campus on an efficient shared services model to support three of Colorado's finest higher educational institutions: Community College of Denver (CCD), Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver), and University of Colorado Denver (CU Denver).

As a separate state entity, AHEC's role is to provide and manage shared services, facilities, and property to support these prominent institutions in achieving their goals.

AHEC provides the following services:

- Auraria Library
- Kenneth King Performing Arts Center
- Tivoli Student Union
- Auraria Early Learning Center
- Auraria Campus Police Department
- Parking and Transportation Services
- Acquisition and Property Management
- Classroom Scheduling and Media Support
- Commercial Lease and Contract Negotiation/Management
- Conference and Event Services
- Internal Support Services
 - Business Operations
 - Financial Management
 - Human Resources
 - Information Technology and Telecommunications
 - Marketing and Campus Relations



I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the AHEC team, who approached their work in innovative and creative ways and kept showing up to ensure our campus was open, safe, and ready to serve our community.”

COLLEEN WALKER, AHEC CEO

Fall 2020 Student Population Data

The Auraria Campus is proud of its diversity. Both CCD and MSU Denver are designated as Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) by the U.S. Department of Education. At the date of publication, CU Denver, while not yet officially recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, reached the threshold to be considered both an HSI and an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI).

In 2001, CCD officially received their HSI designation, and Latinx students make up approximately 34% of their student population. They have continued to lead the way for the past 20 years with enrolling and graduating Latinx undergraduate students. In 2019, MSU Denver officially received their HSI designation. Currently, Hispanic/Latina/o/x students represent 31% of their enrolled student body, which includes all undergraduate and graduate students.

While these designations place an importance on retaining and graduating the institutions' Hispanic/Latina/o/x students and Asian American, Native American and Pacific Islander students, it also provides opportunities to create and implement better and more effective practices aimed at retaining and graduating all students. The designation allows each institution to be eligible to compete for and receive federal funds, including multi-million-dollar grants designed to encourage educational access and degree completion, increase graduation rates, promote access to higher education, and strengthen institutional efforts.

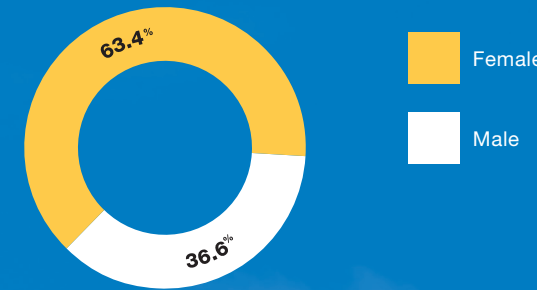
DEFINITIONS

A **Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)** is a term used for a federal program designed to support a college or university in the United States that is eligible and has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic at the end of the award year immediately preceding the date of application.

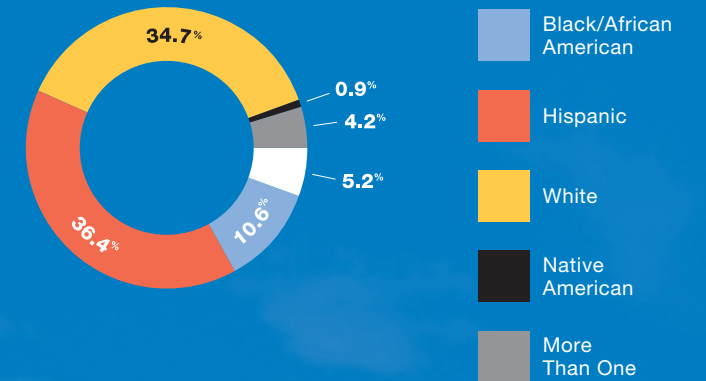
An **Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI)** is a term used for a federal program that provides discretionary grants to eligible institutions of higher education in the United States that have an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 10 percent Asian American, Native American or Pacific Islander at the time of application.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER

Gender % of Enrollment

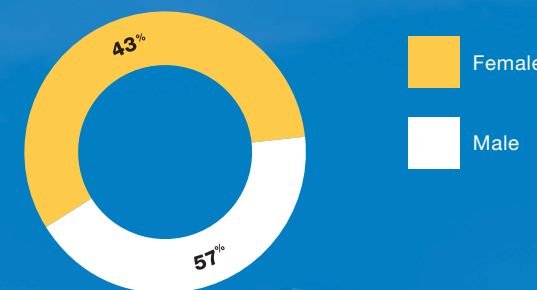


Race/Ethnicity % of Enrollment

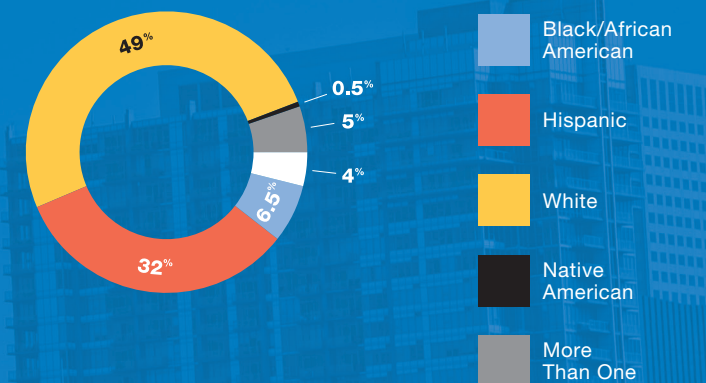


METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Gender % of Enrollment

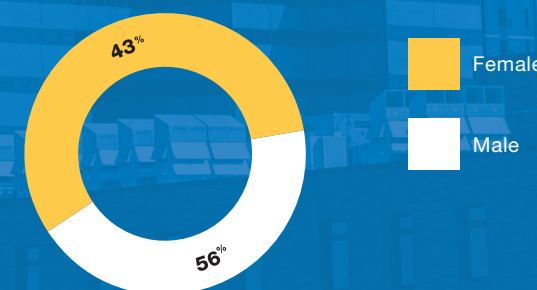


Race/Ethnicity % of Enrollment

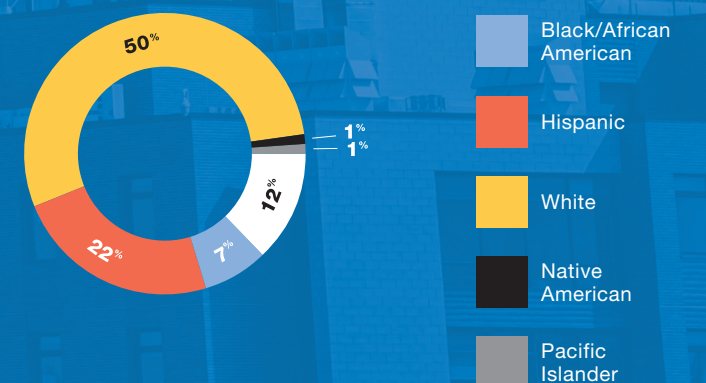


UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Gender % of Enrollment



Race/Ethnicity % of Enrollment



*All statistics were tracked and provided by their corresponding Institutions.

How AHEC is Governed

AURARIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Auraria Board of Directors is comprised of 11 members, nine are voting members and two are non-voting members:

- Three are appointed by the Governor of Colorado.
- Three are the chief executives of the three institutions (CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver) who share the Auraria Campus.
- Three are appointed respectively by the Regents of the University of Colorado; the Board of Trustees for Metropolitan State University of Denver; and the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

Among its statutory duties, the Auraria Board has the responsibility to:

- Plan, construct, own, lease, dispose of, acquire, operate, maintain, and manage the physical plant, facilities, buildings, and grounds of the Auraria Campus, and to allocate among the constituent institutions suitable space on the Auraria Campus, in accordance with their needs.
- Provide auxiliary services for the campus, including parking, daycare, the Tivoli Student Union with a campus bookstore, food service, student services and conference space, and campus police and security services.
- The governing board of each constituent institution establishes, maintains, and conducts the academic programming for its own institution.

MEMBERS OF THE AURARIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:



Tracy M. Huggins
Denver Urban Renewal Authority
Governor Appointee



Janine Davidson
Metropolitan State University of Denver
President



Paul Washington
IMA Financial Corporation
Governor Appointee



Marielena (Marie) DeSanctis
Community College of Denver
President



Kate Barton
Downtown Denver Partnership
Governor Appointee



Michelle Marks
University of Colorado Denver
Chancellor



Rollie Heath
Former Senator, Colorado
State Board of Community Colleges & Occupational Education Appointment



Nolbert Chavez
University of Colorado Board of Regents Appointment
University of Colorado Regent



Albus Brooks
MSU Denver Board of Trustees
Trustee



Michael Jacobs
Metropolitan State University of Denver
FACAB Representative



Mariam Osman
Community College of Denver
SACAB Representative

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE AURARIA BOARD

The Faculty Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board (FACAB) represents the faculty of CCD, MSU Denver, and CU Denver and advises the Board about policies and issues affecting the faculty.

Purpose: The purpose of FACAB is to represent the faculty at CCD, MSU Denver, and CU Denver, and to advise the Board about policies and issues affecting the faculty. FACAB is the primary conduit of communication between the Board, the AHEC CEO and the faculty.

Composition: FACAB consists of two elected, regular, full-time faculty members from each of the three institutions. FACAB members serve for a two-year term. Each institution determines the method by which its FACAB members are elected and are responsible for filling mid-term vacancies.

FACAB Members:

- Michael B. Jacobs | MSU Denver, Chair
- Zsuzsa Balough | MSU Denver
- Bret Hann | CCD
- Karey L. James | CCD
- Timberley Roane | CU Denver
- Jae-Do Park | CU Denver

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE AURARIA BOARD

The Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board (SACAB) is comprised of six student representatives elected or appointed by all three institutions on the Auraria Campus.

Purpose: SACAB endeavors to support a quality educational experience by providing a balanced representation of all campus individuals and their constituent academic institutions. SACAB provides an advisory role to the Auraria Board of Directors to represent the opinions and interests of the three institutions.

Composition: SACAB consists of two elected or appointed members from each of the three institutions.

SACAB Members:

- Marlena Fay | CU Denver, Chair
- Mariam Osman | CCD, ABOD Representative
- Olivia Neece | CU Denver
- Birungi Balijhe | MSU Denver
- Dominique Perez | MSU Denver

AURARIA EXECUTIVES COUNCIL

The Auraria Executives Council (AEC) shall be the primary medium for constituent institutions to provide executive-level guidance and direction to the Auraria Board and to provide opportunities for the constituent institutions to communicate with one another on issues of mutual interest and matters that arise due to the unique nature of a shared physical Auraria Campus. The AEC shall not be a committee of the Auraria Board. The AEC is responsible for:

- Providing executive-level guidance and direction to the CEO regarding operational policies and decisions in order to facilitate the effective, efficient and safe operation of the Auraria Campus and to ensure that the missions of the constituent institutions are supported by AHEC.
- Reviewing, developing, and recommending policies to be adopted by the CEO or the Auraria Board.

AEC Members:

- Colleen Walker | Chief Executive Officer, AHEC
- Marielena DeSanctis, Ph. D. | President, CCD
- Janine Davidson, Ph. D. | President, MSU Denver
- Michelle Marks, Ph. D. | Chancellor, CU Denver



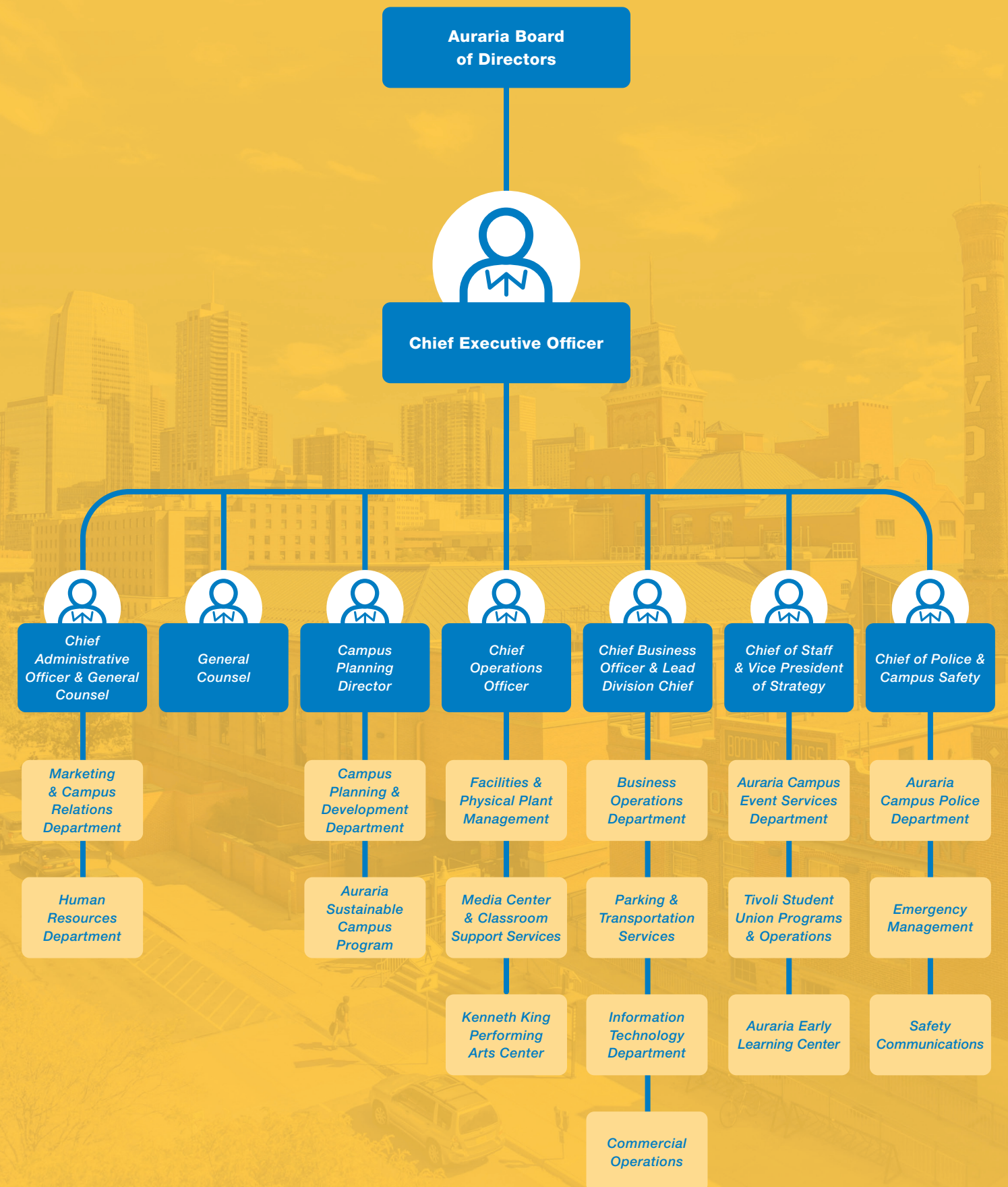
Internal Organization of AHEC

EXECUTIVE TEAM

The Executive Team oversees every department under AHEC.

Executive Team Members:

- Colleen Walker | Chief Executive Officer
- Bill Mummert | Chief Business Officer
- Rob Byers | Chief of Operations
- Fred Kuhlilm | General Counsel
- Leora Joseph | Chief of Administration, General Counsel
- Judy Montero | Chief of Staff, Vice President of Strategy
- Chief Michael Phibbs | Chief of Auraria Campus Police Department and Campus Safety
- Carl Meese | Director of Campus Planning



Departments & their Functions

AURARIA CAMPUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Auraria Campus has a dedicated, full-service police department, operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The Auraria Campus Police Department (ACPD) is committed to enhancing the quality of life on the Auraria Campus and for the institutions it serves—CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver and AHEC. ACPD is responsible for the protection of life; property; detection of crime; enforcement of laws and regulations; investigations; traffic control; and building and facility security.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

The Emergency Management and Safety Communications team is dedicated to ensuring the Auraria Campus faculty, staff, and students are equipped and ready for emergency situations. In partnership with the institutions on campus, they are responsible for coordinating the planning, training, and preparation for emergencies before they occur; responding quickly and effectively when issues arise; and managing recovery efforts to maintain fundamental campus services and operations after an emergency-related event.

AURARIA EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The Auraria Early Learning Center (AELC), a 5-star Colorado Shines-rated center, provides full-time programs for children 12-months to 5-years-old, and summer camp for children up to 8-years-old. The Center serves the students, faculty, and staff of the Auraria Campus, and on a space-available basis, the Center also serves the downtown Denver community. The AELC also regularly partners with the institutions to provide hands-on learning experiences to students of CCD, MSU Denver and CU Denver.

AURARIA CAMPUS EVENT SERVICES

The Auraria Campus Events Services department manages all event spaces on the Auraria Campus for both on and off-campus clients. Events range from business meetings and training sessions to weddings and other intimate celebrations. They provide event facility scheduling; event coordination and planning; audiovisual rental, set-up and support; manage student filming on campus; coordinate event advertising on campus; and organize information and fundraising tables.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

The Business Operations Department oversees several departments, including Accounting Services, Procurement Services, and Distribution Services. Accounting Services maintains the financial system of record for AHEC and facilitates business process review and improvements. Procurement Services administers and manages the acquisition of goods and services in support of CCD, MSU Denver, and AHEC. Distribution Services provides campus-wide mail services to the staff and faculty of CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver, AHEC, and recognized student organizations.

AURARIA SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS PROGRAM

The Auraria Sustainable Campus Program (ASCP) is a campus-wide program with the explicit mission of reducing the Auraria Campus's ecological impact and dependence on fossil fuels. The program works to accomplish this through projects, events, and programs addressing the following: alternative transportation; education and outreach; energy efficiency; food and gardens; renewable energy; water conservation; and waste diversion. ASCP serves the four partner institutions on the Auraria Campus —CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver, and AHEC.

CAMPUS PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Campus Planning and Development oversees campus planning, capital project planning, campus sustainability, and space management for the Auraria Campus. By supporting and advancing the strategic plan, mission and goals of each institution, the Office of Campus Planning and Development works to enhance the quality and use of space for the entire Auraria Campus.

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

The Commercial Operations department oversees the Campus ID Station and the Starbucks inside the Tivoli Student Union, as well as performs vendor and tenant relation responsibilities.

FACILITIES & PHYSICAL PLANT MANAGEMENT

The Facilities and Physical Plant Management department is responsible for the physical infrastructure on the Auraria Campus, including building maintenance, grounds, and utilities. The department also provides design and construction services for remodeling and specialty maintenance on campus.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The AHEC Human Resources department is dedicated to creating an environment in which both the employees and agency thrive. The department administers policies, procedures, and programs that advance the agency.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology office provides technology-related services in support of AHEC departments and employees. The department provides research and advice on the purchase of computers, software, and computer-related products, and purchasing approvals for all computer-related equipment and software are made by IT. The department supports, monitors, and optimizes network performance and availability for AHEC.

KENNETH KING PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The King Center is a modern performing arts complex located on the Auraria Campus in downtown Denver. It houses six performing arts spaces, including a concert hall, recital hall, courtyard theatre, and three permanently assigned production studios. With the inclusion of various support spaces, the facility has over 180,000 square feet dedicated to the education and development of students in the performing arts.

MARKETING & CAMPUS RELATIONS

The Marketing and Campus Relations department works to raise awareness of the services and programs that AHEC provides in support of the campus community. The department leads AHEC’s branding efforts and collaborates with each department to help reach the goals and objectives of each unit and the agency as a whole.

MEDIA CENTER & CLASSROOM SUPPORT SERVICES

The Auraria Media Center and Classroom Support Services Department assists the four partner institutions on the Auraria Campus—CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver, and AHEC—with the audio-visual needs of over 350 rooms on campus, performs as-needed and yearly audio-visual equipment maintenance, provides ADA furniture placement for students across campus, and manages three shared broadcasting studios for the Auraria Campus community.

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Parking and Transportation Services department manages, maintains, and provides safe, secure parking on the Auraria Campus for the students, faculty, and staff of the four partner institutions—CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver and AHEC. The department also serves members of the downtown Denver community by providing affordable Nights and Weekends Rates near popular tourist attractions, including Ball Arena, Empower Field at Mile High, and Meow Wolf.

TIVOLI STUDENT UNION PROGRAMS & OPERATIONS

A landmark of the Auraria Campus and the epicenter for campus life and services, the Tivoli Student Union supports CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver and the greater Denver community. As the hub of campus, the Tivoli Student Union houses many resources and amenities for students, faculty and staff, including the Barnes & Noble College Tivoli Station Bookstore, a food court, the Campus ID Station, conference and meeting spaces, and facilities for recreational, social, and organized co-curricular student activities, including the LGBTQ+ Center and the Phoenix Center.

THE AURARIA CAMPUS FOOTPRINT

AHEC cares for the facilities, grounds, sidewalks, and roads on campus. AHEC staff is responsible for maintaining **164 acres of property**, including **1.8 million square feet of landscape** and **3.4 million square feet of buildings**. Below, a map outlines the Auraria Campus, including buildings, parking lots, roads and green space.



Map Key:

- Buildings
- Lots, Garages & Roads
- Grounds

Budget

AHEC is funded through two main mechanisms, the Colorado state appropriated funds, which flow through the three institutions, and auxiliary revenue. The state appropriated funds make up 56% of the budget, and auxiliary services comprise 44% of AHEC's budget.

The chart on the following page illustrates AHEC's summary of revenues and expenses. A key component of this summary is the differentiation of operating and nonoperating activities. Operating revenues are received for providing goods and services to the various customers and constituencies of the Auraria Campus. Operating expenses are paid to acquire or produce goods and services provided in return for operating revenues and to carry out the mission of the Auraria Campus. Nonoperating revenues and expenses include interest expense on capital debt, state support for pensions, and investment income.



FY 2020–2021 BUDGET SUMMARY

REVENUES	Current YTD Actual
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$9,982,521
Appropriation (from Constituent Institutions)	\$21,514,441
Non-Appropriated Services	\$3,006,318
Deferred Maintenance Funding	\$2,000,000
Student Fees	\$5,640,316
Other Operating Revenue	\$379,392
TOTAL REVENUES*	\$42,522,988

EXPENDITURES	Current YTD Actual
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$20,166,125
Operations & Maintenance of Plant	\$5,101,710
Auxiliary Support of General Fund	\$611,707
Depreciation	\$14,215,889
Non-Operating	\$3,270,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$42,142,227

*Total revenues do not reflect state appropriated funds for capital construction or Senate Bill 21-109.

Navigating the Pandemic

COVID-19 TESTING SITE

In the summer of 2020, AHEC was the site of the first free COVID-19 drive-thru testing site through a partnership with King Soopers and the Colorado State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The Auraria Campus testing site was hosted in the 5th Street Garage, and handled approximately 250 vehicles per day.



A CU Denver staff member received a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at the 5th Street Garage on the Auraria Campus (Photo courtesy of CU Denver).

VACCINE POINT OF DISPENSING STATUS

More than a decade ago, the Health Center at Auraria became a Point of Dispensing (POD) for public health emergencies. Federal and state officials granted this POD status so that campus health officials could work closely with the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment and other partners to distribute medicine, vaccines, and/or medical supplies during emergencies such as a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or a pandemic.

In March 2021, the Auraria Campus began distributing COVID-19 vaccinations at the direction of federal, state, and local public health agencies. Working alongside COVIDCheck Colorado, AHEC provided space in the 5th Street Garage and ACPD assisted with the security and logistics of the site.

HEALTH CENTER AT AURARIA & SAFE RETURN TO CAMPUS PARTNERSHIP

From the start of the pandemic in March 2020, and throughout the entire 2020–2021 fiscal year, the four partner institutions on the Auraria Campus came together to form a Safe Return to Campus Committee. This committee worked to ensure that procedures that prioritized health and safety were implemented in all buildings and spaces on campus. AHEC provided campus-wide directional and informational signage to effectively communicate the new health and safety procedures. The committee was guided by health professionals at the Health Center at Auraria, which as of September 22, 2021, distributed over 20,000 COVID-19 vaccines.



Top: The CCD, MSU Denver and CU Denver mascots joined forces to encourage campus community members to get their COVID-19 vaccine (Photo courtesy of CU Denver). Middle: AHEC developed various types of directional and informational signage to ensure campus community members and visitors were aware of all health and safety procedures that had been implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bottom: A nurse prepares a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at the 5th Street Garage (Photo courtesy of MSU Denver).

Agency Achievements

AURARIA BIKE PAVILIONS

In August 2020, the Auraria Sustainable Campus Program announced its partnership with the CU Denver College of Architecture and Planning | Colorado Building Workshop to design and build covered bike shelters on campus with the help of 25 graduate architecture students. The two bike shelters, one located on the south side of the Auraria Library and one located on the northwest corner of North Classroom, were completed in November 2020. The Auraria Sustainable Campus Program also worked to promote bicycling as a carbon-free mode of commuting.



STEAM TO NATURAL GAS

The Auraria Campus received \$18.6 million in capital renewal funds to convert eight campus buildings from an aging steam-powered energy system to a natural gas system. Xcel Energy installed 4,200 feet of new gas main lines that feed into each of the eight buildings. Stage 1 began in September 2019. The Projects Team, HVAC Team, and the Plumbing and Electrical Shops collaborated with Xcel to transform the Arts Buildings, Boulder Creek, Central Classroom Building, Cherry Creek building, PE/Event Center, Plaza Building, Science Building, and the West Classroom Building into more cost and energy-efficient buildings. The project is expected to be completed in August 2021.

WEST CLASSROOM BATHROOM UPDATES

Within our original classroom buildings, the bathrooms have remained original in design. West Classroom was the first to receive critical bathroom updates in June 2021. The second floor bathrooms were completely remodeled and finished. Updates included touch-less fixtures, such as sinks, toilets, and urinals. Updates to the first floor bathrooms are underway and will be finished in September 2021.

AURARIA EARLY LEARNING CENTER'S 5-STAR ACCREDITATION

The Auraria Early Learning Center was named a Level 5 program, the highest possible rating by Colorado Shines, the state's quality rating improvement system for licensed childcare and preschool programs. The Center has been a Level 5 rated program since June 2018.

Colorado Shines evaluates licensed childcare and preschool programs on a scale of 1–5 based on how each organization works to:

- Support children's health and safety
- Ensure their early childhood professionals are well-trained and effective
- Provide a supportive learning environment that teaches children new skills
- Help parents become partners in their child's learning
- Demonstrate strong leadership and business practices

ACPD COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

In an effort to increase dialogue and identify opportunities for further collaboration and enhanced partnerships around public safety, the Auraria Executives Council established the Auraria Campus Police Department Community Advisory Board. The advisory board acts independently from the Auraria Campus Police Department (ACPD).

The advisory board makes recommendations related to campus issues and concerns, community outreach programs, training, and policy development to ensure that public safety aligns with campus community best practices, including the protections within SB20-217.

Membership is comprised of students, faculty, staff, and members of the surrounding Denver community appointed by the leadership of CCD, MSU Denver, CU Denver and AHEC.

TIVOLI REFRESH

The Tivoli Student Union got a face lift over the summer, including new paint, carpet and furniture, and wayfinding graphics to help welcome students back to campus.



Top: As part of the Tivoli Refresh, AHEC Marketing and Campus Relations designed wayfinding graphics that were installed inside the Tivoli Student Union to create a welcoming, inviting atmosphere as students returned to campus. Bottom left: New furniture was purchased and installed in lounge spaces and common areas throughout the Tivoli Student Union for students. Bottom right: The Auraria Early Learning Center was named a Level 5 program by Colorado Shines. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, they remained open to serve their students and families, and implemented stringent policies and procedures to ensure the health and well-being of both students and staff.

Strategic Planning Process

Since opening its doors in 1976, AHEC has remained committed to providing a culturally rich and diverse environment for the students, families, faculty, and staff who engage our three higher education partners. AHEC represents an extraordinary undertaking by the State of Colorado and the City of Denver for the “Development and Coordination of Higher Education in Colorado,” as we bring distinct higher education pathways together for significant collaboration between two-year and four-year colleges. The agency was born out of this vision to create an urban education campus in our Center City in tandem with the creation of CCD, MSU Denver, and CU Denver.

In partnership with Credo, a comprehensive higher education consulting firm, AHEC embarked upon a strategic planning process and began to take steps toward developing a future vision to advance the collective mission of the campus.

After bringing the idea of a new strategic plan before the Auraria Executives Council and the Auraria Board of Directors in December 2020, AHEC’s senior leadership team undertook creating a strategic plan with the help of our stakeholders. This included broad community engagement days with each partner institution, AHEC staff, and the Auraria Board of Directors in Spring 2021. In June 2021, a draft of the strategic plan was presented to the Auraria Executives Council and the Auraria Board of Directors. The Board accepted the draft plan with the intent to socialize it in the fall and approve it at the October 2021 Board Retreat.

