CU at a glance

Fall 10 Enrollment

Boulder	30,502
Colorado Springs	8,892
Denver	14,619
Anschutz	3,348

Fall 10 Faculty

Instructional Faculty
Tenured & Tenure Track

Boulder	1,090
Colorado Springs	221
Denver	364
Anschutz	1,314

Non-Tenure Track

Boulder	960
Colorado Springs	144
Denver	675
Anschutz	851

Research Faculty/Academic Research Staff & Public Service Faculty

Boulder	1,749
Colorado Springs	48
Denver	79
Anschutz	2,023
Denver/Anschutz	18

FY 10 Degrees Awarded

Boulder	7,748
Colorado Springs	1,741
Denver	3,274
Anschutz	926

FY 10 Research Awards

Boulder	$454.4 M
Colorado Springs	$8.3 M
Denver	$22.2 M
Anschutz	$399.2 M

University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Academic Affairs Highlights: Distance Education

As colleges and universities adapt to meet the needs of a new generation of students and the demands of a modern workforce, distance education has an expanding role. There is greater reliance on technology to deliver degree-granting academic programs, as well as professional development and continuing education. CU has a firm foothold in the realm of distance education through online, CD-ROM, telepresence, and live video feed delivery to address a wide range of educational needs.

For example, the CU Mini Med school is an eight-week lecture series on health topics that originates on the Anschutz campus but is accessed at many sites around the state through live video feed. The Center for Advanced Engineering and Technology Education (CAETE) on the Boulder campus offers degree programs, certificates and professional development opportunities through online access and CD-ROM content. On the Colorado Springs Campus, The Center for Homeland Security (CHS) offers distance education courses that meet the needs of communities with regard to homeland security and defense. The Designing eLearning Environments Certificate, offered by the Denver Campus, trains individuals to develop eLearning opportunities in educational environments.

These are just a few of the many ways that CU offers training in Colorado and beyond in flexible, accessible formats. However, online-education also presents unique challenges, such as the new U.S. Department of Education requirement that institutions comply with state regulations for operation in each state in which students are located. CU's unique offerings, opportunities, and challenges are explored in this issue.

University of Colorado Online Course Data, 2009-2010				
	UCB	UCCS	UCD	CU Total
Number of Online Courses[1]	264	361	351	976
Number of Online Course Sections[1]	705	534	615	1,854
Enrollments	7,170	5,489	17,928	30,587
Student Credit Hours	21,524	16,882	55,438	93,844
Headcount[2]	4,524	2,770	8,381	15,675
Headcount of Students Enrolled Exclusively Online[2]	1,259	1,130	2,421	4,810

[1] Hybrid courses and sections are not included
[2] Headcounts are "unduplicated", meaning that the same student is not counted multiple times across terms

CU Online Degree Offerings

Boulder
ME Computer Science
ME, MS Aerospace Engineering
ME, MS Electrical & Computer Engineering
ME Engineering Management
ME, MS Telecommunications
*14 certificate programs also available

Colorado Springs
BSN Nursing
BS Allied Health Completion
MBA Business Administration
MA Curriculum and Instruction
MA Leadership
MA Special Education
MSN Nursing
DNP Nursing Practice
ME Engineering Management
ME Space Operations
ME Systems Engineering
MPA Public Administration
MCJ Criminal Justice
*14 certificate programs also available

Denver
BA English Writing
BA Sociology
MCJ Criminal Justice
MBA Business Administration
MPA Public Administration
MA Early Childhood Education
MS Information Systems
MS Management and Organization, Managing
    for Sustainability
ME Geographic Information Systems
MA Information and Learning Technologies,
    eLearning Design and Implementation
MA Information and Learning Technologies,
    School Libraries
*8 certificate programs also available

Anschutz
BS Nursing
MS Nursing, Informatics Option
MS Nursing, Leadership and Healthcare Systems
DNP Doctor of Nursing Practice
PhD Nursing
*3 certificate programs also available

All degrees and certificates listed can be completed entirely online.

Campus Role and Mission Statements

Boulder

"shall be a comprehensive graduate research university with selective admissions standards. The Boulder campus of the university of Colorado shall offer a comprehensive array of undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degree programs…"

Colorado Springs

"shall be a comprehensive baccalaureate and specialized graduate research university with selective admission standards. The Colorado Springs campus shall offer liberal arts and sciences, business, engineering, health sciences, and teacher preparation undergraduate degree programs, and a selected number of master's and doctoral degree programs…"

Denver

"shall be an urban comprehensive undergraduate and graduate research university with selective admission standards. The Denver campus shall offer baccalaureate, master's, and a limited number of doctoral degree programs, emphasizing those that serve the needs of the Denver metropolitan area…"

Anschutz

"shall offer specialized baccalaureate, first-professional, master's, and doctoral degree programs in health-related disciplines and professions. It shall be affiliated with the University of Colorado Hospital and other health care facilities that offer settings for education, clinical practice, and basic and applied research…"

Online Education

National Trends

For the past eight years, the Sloan Consortium and Babson Survey Research group have produced an annual report on the findings of a national survey of institutions of higher education regarding online education. The notable findings from 2010 were the following.
- Sixty-three percent of all reporting institutions said that online learning was a critical part of their institution's long term strategy.
- The twenty-one percent growth rate for online enrollments far exceeds the less than two percent growth of the overall higher education student population.
- Nearly thirty percent of higher education students now take at least one course online.

Allen, I. E. & Seaman, J. (2010). Class Differences: Online Education in the United States, 2010. Babson Survey Research Group, The Sloan Consortium. Retrieved January 21, 2011 from http://sloanconsortium.org/sites/default/files/class_differences.pdf

Benefits

- **Access.** Allows flexible access to education for students who may not otherwise have the ability to attend.
- **Campus Capacity.** Allows CU to grow beyond physical boundaries and space restrictions to serve more students.
- **Recruitment.** Allows CU to recruit a broader pool of applicants, which can strengthen academic programs and improve economic viability.
- **Energy Efficiency.** Helps to reduce the environmental impact of CU.
- **Keeping Current.** Provides an institutionalized practice for keeping current in emerging learning technologies.
- **Flexibility.** Is responsive to changing student needs, including the life-long learning requirements of contemporary society.

Source: CU Online 2010 Briefing Book.

Challenges

The 2010 Annual Managing Online Education Survey by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications and the Campus Computing Project found the following key trends.
- Fully half (51 percent) of the campuses participating in the survey report that faculty who teach online must complete a mandatory training program.
  - CU provides various training options for faculty teaching online courses.
- Tech support is challenging for campuses to manage, with only 33% making tech support available to students "24/7." The remainder offer tech support only during campus work days and some limited evening and weekend hours.
  - At CU, technical support varies by campus and program. Many CU online courses have "24/7" tech support available while others offer support from 8 am–7pm or only during campus business hours.
- The majority of survey participants noted that faculty resistance (73%), lack of resources (61%), and institutional budget cuts (56%) inhibit the expansion of online education programs.
  - The rapid growth of CU online offerings suggests that these are not overwhelming obstacles at CU.

Source: The Campus Computing Project. 2010 Managing Online Education Survey. Retrieved January 21, 2011 from www.campuscomputing.net/item/2010-managing-online-education-survey-wvideo

CU Distance Education Links
UCB Continuing Education and Professional Studies—http://conted.colorado.edu/distance
UCCS Extended Studies—http://www.uccs.edu/~extendedstudies
UCD CU Online—http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/cuonline/Pages/CUOnline.aspx

UCCS Course Delivery Via Cisco Telepresence Technology

UCCS received equipment from Cisco as part of a distance education initiative to pilot new technologies designed for delivering education across institutions from urban to rural settings. UCCS is the first public university in the country to pilot the Cisco telepresence technology, and is using the technology in two community colleges in southern Colorado, Lamar Community College and Otero Junior College. These institutions are part of the Southern Colorado Educational Consortium, of which UCCS is also a member. UCCS was awarded $1,500,000 in equipment to set up the classrooms and create network connections to be able to deliver classes to the community colleges. This is part of an ongoing partnership that UCCS has developed with Cisco to continue to build more facilities and implement more telepresence technology in the future.