



CENTER of the
AMERICAN
WEST

Thinking Forward, Moving Forward



2010 - 2011
Annual Report



CENTER^{of} the AMERICAN WEST

Turning Hindsight Into Foresight™

The Center of the American West takes as its mission the creation of forums for the respectful exchange of ideas and perspectives in the pursuit of solutions to the region's difficulties. We at the Center believe that an understanding of the historical origins of the West's problems, an emphasis on the common interests of all parties, and a dose of good humor are essential to constructive public discussion.

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About the Center

The Center of the American West's motto, "turning hindsight into foresight," rests on the understanding that we can better deal with our current dilemmas if we understand our journey from the past to the present. Yet it is certainly not the case that, when we grapple with the issues that we face us as Westerners, we direct our gaze only toward the past. (If you are inclined to think that we are essentially a "center of Western history," a quick look at the range of disciplines and departments of our Faculty Affiliates, on pages 30-31, will cure that misapprehension.) Confronting tough issues, both regionally and nationally, the Center considers one of our greatest assets to be the ability to think backward, to pay attention to the present moment, and to think forward. When it comes to living for and respecting the future, our resources include our talented and dedicated staff, faculty affiliates, volunteers, donors, and, most important, our students. We think of our students as our ambassadors to the future, and we do our best to prepare them for the trip, making sure their bags are packed with a great store of ideas, facts, insights, contacts, and points of reference. The human

predicament—misunderstandings, conflicts, injuries, tragedies—has roots as deep in the West as any other part of the planet. But we know that relief from the predicament is most likely when these troubles are explored and considered with clear and compassionate communication. Thus, spending time in the company of bright and engaging young people, watching their gifts for expression and reflection grow, we receive the grace of optimism and cheer. Our student affiliates are a key aspect of our lasting legacy. They will be citizens whose consideration of society's troubles will be characterized by good humor and balanced listening; they will continue the Center's work of developing innovative ways to refresh old alliances and build new ones, clarifying and reconciling the wide-ranging convictions and opinions of Westerners. They will not only think forward, they will move forward with enterprise, originality, and energy. And, if we're lucky, when they get to reminiscing about the origins of their commitment to solving problems, they'll tell their fellow old-timers of those times that the Center of the American West played a role in making them who they are.

Ted Turner, recipient of the 2010 Wallace Stegner Award, talking to CU Boulder students about his career and his philosophy behind land conservation and preservation.



Thinking Forward, Moving Forward

The Center of the American West has...



- A unique capacity for lively and disarming written and spoken communication.
- A proven ability for refereeing, umpiring, and inviting the “better angels of our nature” to emerge, even in bitter and disputed terrain.
- A substantial list of influential and often-cited publications.
- A widespread reputation for trustworthiness and credibility.
- An astonishing faculty team of experts on every imaginable Western issue.
- A stunning “rolodex” of affiliates and allies that ranges from federal, state, and local government agencies, to a myriad of nongovernmental organizations, to a vast array of the West’s most influential writers, scientists, artists, musicians, and thinkers.
- A dedicated and talented staff.
- A broad range of experience and knowledge provided by the Board of Directors.
- A group of screened and selected students of spirit and talent who are committed to clear, compassionate, engaged, and thoughtful communication.

Through her work, Amanda has found that the success of the Center relies on the staff’s commitment to work as a close-knit team.



Amanda Hardman Administrative Assistant

Amanda Hardman came to the Center of the American West from Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in August of 2007. In her role at the Center, Amanda manages all facets of Patty Limerick’s calendar, acts as a liaison to the Board of Directors, assists with events marketing, and copy edits the various publications that the Center provides.

Through her work, Amanda has found that the success of the Center relies on the staff’s commitment to work as a close-knit team. She has greatly enjoyed collaborating with the talented and intelligent individuals with whom she has had the pleasure to work, as well as the opportunity to dabble in enterprises ranging from crafty boot-painting to sharing her love of music at the annual Thompson Awards banquet.

Amanda holds a B.A. in English and Piano Performance from the State University of New York at Geneseo and an M.A. in English from the University of Colorado Denver. She is leaving the Center at the end of the summer in order to pursue her Ph.D. course work in Religious and Theological Studies through the University of Denver/Iliff School of Theology’s Joint Ph.D. program.

A Letter from Patty

Faculty Director and
Chair of the Board

“

Every few hundred yards,
I came upon a student
with an interesting and
lively comment on stories
and ideas that had come
up in class

”



Dear Center of the American West Community:

In a year when the nation's politicians did not always meet the highest standards for grown-up-ness as they struggled over the national debt, the relationship between young and old and the obligations and responsibilities that should knit the generations together, have preoccupied all citizens of good will.

For that very reason, this is a good time to pick up a classic of Western American history, Elliott West's *Growing Up with the Country: Childhood on the Far Western Frontier* (1989). In this book, the aptly surnamed Professor West set out "to recapture some sense of what the frontier looked like from two or three feet off the ground." In dozens of ways, West's descriptions—of children's reckoning with the excitement and disorientation of westward travel, the need for their labor on farms and in towns, the dangers they faced in illness and accident, the opportunities for and obstacles to gaining their educations, and the whole project of coming to feel at home in new surroundings—bring to mind a torrent of telling contrasts and similarities with the circumstances of children in our world today. As they and their families participated in the founding of new communities, West observed, "children and the country were growing up together."

While shifting topics from a fine work of history to an organization's bylaws may seem like a very steep literary decline, a recent change in the bylaws of the Center of the American West matches up with the idea of young people and an organization "growing up together." In the spring of 2011, our bylaws gained a provision that created two positions on the Board for recent CU graduates affiliated with the Center. We have followed the custom for several years of having students visit board meetings to talk about their experiences with the Center. After one of those visits, when two CU students had dazzled the group with their remarkable qualities of intelligence, kindness, humor, ambition, idealism, and realism, board member George Beardsley asked a very good question. Why, he asked, did we not have positions on the Board for extraordinary young people like these two?

The only proper answer to that question was a bylaw amendment. And thus, in July of 2011, we appointed HannaLore Hein and Jeff Maslow to the Board (you can read profiles of them elsewhere in this report).

The recruitment of these two energetic and committed board members stands for a big trend at the Center in the last years: the steadily increasing involvement of students in every aspect of the Center's work. Aspects of this trend have been under way for a long time, with the Western American Studies Certificate, the Thompson Writing Prize, internships with organizations and agencies, and the Hoffman Scholars Program. Still, the involvement of undergraduates

accelerated in 2010-2011. Teaching the Center of the American West's introductory course in the format of a large lecture class was a big step toward bringing greater numbers of students into our circles. With that class in full swing, walking across the campus got a lot more pleasant, even if it took a little more time; every few hundred yards, I came upon a student with an interesting and lively comment on stories and ideas that had come up in class. And, when Governor Bill Ritter and First Lady Jeannie Ritter accepted the invitation to come to my house to talk to Center students, each square foot of the floor in my living room held a lively and promising future leader of the West!

One dimension of Center involvement with students takes place in various classrooms located hundreds of miles away from our base of operations. Every year, thanks to a collaboration between the Center and The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York, fifty teachers from around the country spend a week in Boulder. I teach a seminar on American environmental history, and Center faculty affiliates Phoebe Young, Paul Sutter, Thomas Andrews, and Mark Williams make memorable and valued visits, causing the seminar participants to exclaim repeatedly about the talent and insight of the CU professors on our team. An extraordinary graduate student in geography, Adrienne Kroepsch, serves as coordinator for the whole shebang, orchestrating all the logistics, bringing her own substantial knowledge of the West to bear on our discussions, and generally signaling the arrival of an inspiring next generation of Western American scholars.

During the same week and in the same building, Elliott West (who, having received his Ph.D. in history at CU in 1971, represents the finest traditions of Western scholarship) teaches his own Gilder Lehrman seminar on the history of the Great Plains. For the better part of a decade, both Elliott and I have had this seasonal privilege of spending hours and hours in the company of the nation's best teachers. When we live up to this privilege, we have the satisfaction of knowing that any worthy idea that we can offer will ripple, echo, and ricochet around the country, reaching students in classrooms all across the nation.

Researching his book, Elliott came upon a spectacular quotation from a youthful traveler on the overland trail, exhilarated with the West's open spaces. "Oh solitude solitude how I love it," she exclaimed in her diary. "If [only] I had about a dozen of my acquaintances to enjoy it with me."

With different timing and honoring George Beardsley's excellent suggestion to us, this is a young person we would have recruited as a board member, where she would have found dozens of acquaintances eager to join her in enjoying the West.

Patty Limerick

A Letter from Kurt

Program Director



We have stepped up
our student outreach
programs



Dear Center of the American West Community:

The day I graduated from the University of Colorado with a B.A. in English, I wasn't actually on campus. I'd recently taken the four hundred dollars I'd saved over the course of that last semester and purchased a 1972, red and primer gray, VW van. Although the van had problems reaching 70 miles an hour, it ran well, needed no work, and had a little tape deck and a built-in platform in the back for a futon. It was, in short, a perfect road trip vehicle.

For the past year, my father had made me brutally aware that English majors rarely found jobs doing what they loved. I knew he was right but I wanted him to be wrong. Every time I talked to my father, the question—either overtly stated or silently implied—was, “What are you going to do next?”

This trip was my answer. I'd stocked my van with a small card table, two aluminum folding chairs, a Coleman lantern, and a library that included the works of Edward Abbey, Henry Miller, D. H. Lawrence, and *Don Quixote*.

I spent weeks driving all over the West, from the Western Slope of Colorado, down through Durango, into New Mexico, to the Gila, through Arizona, up to Pyramid Lake, and more. The seat in a VW bus puts you up close to the flat windshield, your face up against the wall of an aquarium. From that vantage, a distant mountain peak changed character depending on the angle of approach or the time of day; a scree rock slope that looked dramatic from a distance became little more than a small slide when up close.

And when I was close to it all, I'd pull over, set out my little folding table and lamp, and I'd watch the light change the scenery yet again. Sometimes the stark, desert landscapes, like those of the Sedona area, turned hues of red until the gray shadows that puddled the valley floors flooded the rock formations in darkness. Other times, pine-crowded hillsides interrupted by glacial slabs of pure white simply faded from view.

I became intimate with the dynamics of closing space and shifting perspective and learned that there's a myriad of ways to see the world. And sitting there with my cheese and crackers, and bottle of wine, with a book and a pen and paper, I parsed out how I would find a way to take my English degree and use it for something I loved. I plotted a course that included practicality (yes, I'd take a restaurant job), vision (I'd write and read and study for graduate school), and a smidgen of the dream (I'd keep writing).

Little did I know that all those years ago, as I sat on a scrap of public lands, I was in fact preparing myself for the chair I sit in now as program director for the Center of the American West. The time I spent driving, watching the landscape—and, literally, the future—come towards me, helped me to figure out how to begin to manifest my own future, my own life's goals, and form a process for achieving those goals.

This is what the Center of the American West has been doing consistently during the last few decades. We've been driving towards our goals with dogged determination, but we've also been sitting in the quiet moments, contemplating how best to move forward—thinking about the future and our place in it. We've updated our website, making it easier to navigate, but also making it far more nimble and adaptable to future needs. We have stepped up our student outreach programs, as we come to understand that our future includes creating a legacy out of the Center's particular brand of synthesizing information and communicating that information in ways that entertain, inform, and explore, rather than in ways that play towards dogma. We've also created two new seats on our Board specifically for recent graduates of the University of Colorado so that we can gain from the insights of the youth we spend so much time training. And the Center is instituting a new Visiting Fellows Program as a means of bringing in new recruits who will learn the ways of the Center. We are, in short, thinking forward so that we can move forward.

When it came time for my Don Quixote-esque journey to come to an end (I'd run out of books and money), I pointed my van towards New Mexico and drove for a day and a half. Soon I was puttering my way back up the driveway of my parents' house in Belen, New Mexico.

Within an hour of my arrival, as we sat at the table reading the paper, my father asked, “What are you going to do next?”

I shrugged my shoulders. “A little of this, a little of that.”

He raised his eyebrows, waiting. In Albuquerque I'd stopped at Salt of the Earth bookstore and picked up a GRE prep book. I set it on the table next to my journals and other books. I took up the classified section of my father's paper and opened it up to restaurant jobs and started circling possibilities.

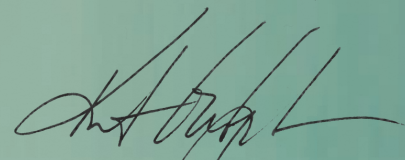
He picked up his paper and started reading. “Going to work?” he asked. I could tell he was smiling behind the paper. He'd seen the GRE book and that made him happy.

“Yup. And preparing,” I said, patting my stack of journals, study guides, and literature.

He wrinkled his paper a bit when he folded it. I know he tried his best to sound nonchalant. “For what?” he said.

“For all that's possible.”

This is what the Center is doing now, with a stack of opportunities at our elbow, plotting a course, being practical while allowing ourselves to dream about the Center we are and the Center we're becoming. In the parlance of my twenty-two-year-old self, “The future's so bright, we gotta wear shades.”



Outreach

The Center of the American West is situated on the campus of the University of Colorado Boulder. Given our activity in a variety of arenas, from energy to land use, to Native American identity—and given our extensive rolodex—it would be easy to forget that the Center is first and foremost a collegiate educational unit. Fortunately, for the Center and for our future, we understand both the responsibility and the opportunity this position offers us. Our students are the Center's ambassadors—our agents of good will and embodiments of the Center's work in the world. Whenever we bring speakers to campus, the Center makes it a point to schedule times so these speakers can meet with students. We not only want to show off the talent pool at our disposal, but we also enjoy watching our speakers field the tough questions these powerful young minds

“Visions of the American Environment,”

**The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American
History Summer Seminar for Teachers, University of Colorado
Boulder, CO – July 18-24, 2010**

2010 marked Patty's seventh year with Gilder Lehrman's summer program, a week-long intensive seminar for history teachers nationwide. “Visions of the American Environment” asked participants to pursue a very intense and instructive review of the main patterns and trends of U.S. environmental history through a series of focused case studies. The goals of the program are to educate teachers, and to enable them to create curricula to bring back into their own classrooms.

conjure up. Of course, they ask these questions with the charm and disarming humor that are the trademarks of the Center, making them that much more of a formidable audience. This year has been a banner year for our students. They have accompanied the Center on presentations to the Bureau of Land Management Leadership, they have served as note takers and fact checkers, they have become board members of our very own Board of Directors, and they have taken the initiative to begin their own projects. They are not only our ambassadors; they are our future. While it's tempting to brand 2010-2011 as the year of the student, in point of fact, every year here at the Center of the American West has been and will be the year of the student.

National Landscape Conservation System Summit

Las Vegas, NV – November 14-17, 2010

The Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS)—an extraordinary, but under-recognized, collection of treasured public lands — hosted this two-day event focused on NLCS and envisioning its future. Patty brought five CU undergraduates to the summit and they all played significant roles in leading discussions at breakout sessions, conveying their impressions of the agency's opportunities and difficulties, and offering their recommendations for the next 10 years of the NLCS. A unique aspect of the summit was the use of a pre-enactor (extending the concept of the



historical re-enactor into the future), who acted out sketches of various possible prospects for the NLCS from the perspectives of different characters of the future who remarked on scenarios that they had observed or helped to make happen.

“Insights on Front Range Water Supplies,”

Douglas County Public Libraries Lecture Series,
Presentation with John Hendrick
Highlands Ranch, CO – January 20, 2011

Through a variety of public presentations Patty has tested and refined ideas and arguments for the Center’s upcoming book, *A Ditch in Time: Denver, the West, and Water*. One such example of this was Patty’s presentation to Highlands Ranch Library, for which she teamed up with John Hendrick, Assistant Secretary Treasurer of the South Metro Water Supply Authority. The format for this presentation was a conversation, allowing Patty to summarize key points from *A Ditch in Time*, then Mr. Hendrick addressed these points in the context of Douglas County’s water supply. The public audience reacted in ways that confirmed or improved the conclusions on which the book rests.

“A Ditch in Time: The Lessons of Water in Denver, Colorado,”

Teaching American History Summer Institute through the OAH
Distinguished Lectureship Program
Little Rock, AR – June 16, 2011

The Organization of American Historians’ (OAH) Distinguished Lectureship Program is a speakers bureau that is dedicated to American history. This resource allows organizations to identify and contact leading historians who can share their experiences, also fostering relationships between the OAH, experts in the field, and organizations. The Teaching American History Summer Institute exposes history teachers, from elementary to high school, to interesting content and research in the field, including training on and discussion about how to teach primary documents. The theme for this institute asked the question, “How have struggles for and conflicts over resources shaped U.S. history?” Patty’s appearance at the institute was scheduled for the day in which participants considered conflicts over resources in the American West. In addition to delivering a lecture that was based on the Center’s book manuscript about the history of the Denver Water Department, *A Ditch in Time*, Patty led a document analysis discussion of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Bureau of Land Management’s “organic act” that established the agency’s multiple-use mandate to serve present and future generations.

Through my interactions with the Center, I’ve met many wonderful people, ranging from distinguished professors to governors to folk singers to Ted Turner.

Anthony Garcia Student Highlight

After completing an internship in Southern California this fall, I will begin my junior year at CU in January. I am a broadcast production major who is also pursuing certificates from both the Chancellor’s Leadership Program and the Center of the American West, in addition to an minor and a second major. I first found out about the Center when a professor mentioned it in passing, and it immediately sparked my interest. Through my interactions with the Center, I’ve met many wonderful people, ranging from distinguished professors to governors to folk singers to Ted Turner.

I was fortunate enough to take the introductory class to the American West from Patty Limerick in the spring of 2011 and, as a result, met many interesting people who shared their experiences living in the West and working in fields ranging from waste management to forestry, to film, to poetry and county government.

One of my favorite experiences with the Center was when I was sent to write a paper on the town of Glenwood Springs, CO. Through the Center’s contacts, I was able to meet with several local officials and learn things about the town that I otherwise wouldn’t have ever discovered.

Thinking Forward, Moving Forward



Academic Opportunities

Internships

The Center of the American West sponsors a variety of internships for juniors and seniors at CU-Boulder. Under the guidance of faculty members, students work for prominent non-profit organizations and governmental agencies for hands-on experience with issues facing today's West. These career-building internships offer the kind of learning opportunity that only real life experience can provide.

During the spring 2011 semester, staff researcher Jason Hanson served as faculty sponsor to four bright and enthusiastic interns. Students Eugene Wan and Laura Schafenacker worked for Colorado Humanities on a Colorado history encyclopedia project. Student Amy Meyer worked for Coalition for the Upper South Platte on a searchable library database about the watershed that supplies three quarters of Colorado's citizens with part or all of their municipal water. Student Jared Bloch worked for The Nature Conservancy, assisting with the advance of water conservation and planning around the state of Colorado and across the Colorado River Basin.

Jason, in his role as advisor to all four interns, enhanced and deepened the academic aspect of their internships by encouraging them to share their experiences with one another in weekly e-mail journals. The interns came together on May 2, in the midst of finals week, to give presentations on the work they had done, to share insights about their employing organizations and projects, and to give us valuable feedback about the internship program.

Western Studies Certificate Program

This spring, we awarded Western Studies certificates to six graduating students: Jared Bloch, Gracie Hannah, HannaLore Hein, Jonathan Nelson, Dan Omasta, and Christopher Simmons.

These students completed our 24-credit-hour program, which offers undergraduates the chance to explore the region's distinguishing features and issues from a multitude of perspectives. The program includes an introductory course and a capstone seminar, as well as a sampling from subject areas such as geography, history, ethnic studies, environmental studies, economics, biology, geology, and philosophy.

Twelfth Annual Thompson Awards for Western American Writing

Each year, the Center of the American West awards cash prizes to talented CU students writing on Western topics. Judges select work with vibrancy and appeal to a broad, informed audience. The recognition bestowed by these awards helps to launch the careers of budding writers. This year's contest drew a record number of entries, and the April 28th awards banquet was a delightful and entertaining tribute to the prize winners, the judges, and the donors, Jeannie and Jack Thompson, whose generosity and support make this contest possible.

2011 Thompson Award winners. Visit www.centerwest.org for more details about the evening. >>

These evenings were an inspiration and delight to students and faculty alike, offering windows into the lives of such remarkable Western thinkers and leaders, all in the warmth and intimacy of a living room. Thanks to Patty and Houston for so kindly and hospitably sponsoring these gatherings. Pictured below are featured speakers Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory Hobbs and the education-minded community leader, Bobbie Hobbs. And Governor Bill Ritter with Center certificate in Western American Studies student, Dan Omasta.





Student/Faculty Gatherings

We invite our students to take their education beyond the classroom. To that end, we offer small group gatherings featuring visiting and local noteworthy Westerners. Many of these gatherings are hosted by our faculty director, Patty Limerick, and her husband, Houston Kempton. Our hosts held four such dinners over the past year, featuring accomplished couples with complementary careers who make time to care for their Western communities even as they handle demanding leadership roles in those communities.

September 23, 2010: Environmental scientist and water resources expert Dan Luecke and his wife, psychotherapist Rosemary Wrzos

November 11, 2010: Governor Bill Ritter and First Lady Jeannie Ritter, advocate for veterans, children, and mental health awareness

January 26, 2011: Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory Hobbs and the education-minded community leader, Bobbie Hobbs, sharing stories of their careers, their family, and how they came to be devoted Coloradans

March 31, 2011: Tisha Conoly Schuller, President and Chief Executive Officer of Colorado Oil & Gas Association, and her talented environmental-consultant-turned-stay-at-home-dad-and-child-chauffeur husband, Brian Schuller

Thinking Forward, Moving Forward

Publications

New and Forthcoming Projects from the Center

A Ditch in Time

Denver, the West, and Water

Tracing the origins and growth of the Denver Water Department, *A Ditch in Time: Denver, the West, and Water* places this case study in the big picture of regional and national history. Written in a lively style and enriched with photographs and maps, this book raises questions of consequence about the complex relationship among cities, suburbs, and rural areas, the crucial role of engineering in shaping the West, the unexpectedly entrancing workings of governmental agencies and bureaucracies, and the varying roles of contention and cooperation, litigation and negotiation in the control of the West's water. Patty Limerick seeks to reconnect the people who benefit from natural resources to the processes and projects that deliver the resources for their use. In a world that can no longer take a supply of clean and life-supporting water for granted, this book offers an opportunity to enhance the human capacity to think about the past, present, and future with a combination of optimism and realism. Look forward to *A Ditch in Time* from Fulcrum Publishing in 2012.

CenterWest.org

The Center of the American West's New Website

This past January, the Center of the American West debuted its redesigned website. Clean lines accented by vivid color schemes give the Center a clear brand and a distinctive look. The user-friendly interface makes it easy to access the Center's events, academic programs, and projects or to connect directly with the Center via e-mail and social media. And we're not done yet. Moving forward, look for enhancements designed to increase our effectiveness as we share scholarship in a variety of formats, including the addition of more video content and the development of more dynamic online reports that will improve our ability to remain responsive to new developments in the West while reducing our use of paper.

Mutual Benefit

Building Vibrant Communities

The future of many Western communities will be determined at the intersection where public lands and private property meet. In *Mutual Benefit*, the Center is launching a project designed to examine and spotlight strategies that communities can deploy to capture the energy and value created by the interaction of these lands. Forward-thinking decision makers need accurate information about how open space, public lands,

trail systems, and other public amenities add value to their communities. Our goal is to identify tools that Western communities can use to increase well-being, prosperity, and economic resiliency. The first steps toward shaping this vision, expected later this year, will be an analysis of more than a hundred land valuation studies to identify open space strategies that can be used to create a wide range of benefits for the people who call the West home.

Exploring the Interior

The founding of the Department of the Interior in 1849 was a direct response to the nation's acquisition of an enormous parcel of land in the Trans-Mississippi West – the northern Mexican borderlands and the Oregon Territory that had been held in joint occupation with Britain. Having originated in a rebellion against empire, the United States very soon found itself in the ironic situation of owning and governing a vast contiguous land empire of its own, populated with Indian people, the descendants of Spanish colonists, and an ever-increasing population of migrants and settlers. Agencies like the General Land Office and the Office of Indian Affairs, located in the Department of the Interior, thus bore an uncomfortable resemblance to the agencies and structures of colonial governance worldwide. Over the years, Interior acquired a host of new agencies, all of them with particular bearing on the history of the West: the U.S. Geological Survey, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. And yet, paradoxically, the history of bureaucracies can strike even engaged and historically attuned citizens as a terminally boring subject. Patty Limerick hopes that the book, *Exploring the Interior*, will invite readers to recognize and reflect on the great significance of Interior and the people, places, and creatures whose destinies are intertwined with this vast and complicated bureaucracy. In the second decade of the twenty-first century, when anti-government sentiments swirl around the nation, Limerick is discovering, thinking, writing, and speaking about how one of the largest units of the federal government can provide nearly as much adrenaline as the hang-gliding, extreme skiing, and high-risk rock-climbing often performed on lands managed by the Department of the Interior.



Turning Hindsight Into Foresight™

Reports

What Every Westerner Should Know About Oil Shale, 2009
The Power to Change the World: Energy Epicenter and the State of the Natural Gas Industry, 2009
High Energy Prices and Low-Income Americans, 2009
Climate Change in Rocky Mountain National Park, 2008
What Every Westerner Should Know About Energy Efficiency and Conservation, 2007
Climate Change and Aspen, 2006
Cleaning Up Abandoned Hardrock Mines in the West, 2006
Living with Fire, 2006
Western Futures, 2005
Ranchland Dynamics, 2005
What Every Westerner Should Know About Energy, 2003
Making the Most of Science in the American West, 2003
Boom and Bust in the American West, 2002
Facing Fire: Lessons from the Ashes, 2001

Books

An Entirely Synthetic Fish: How Rainbow Trout Beguiled America and Overran the World — Anders Halverson, 2010
Remedies for a New West: Healing Landscapes, Histories, and Cultures — Patricia Limerick, Andrew Cowell, and Sharon K. Collinge, 2009
New Geographies of the American West: Land Use and Changing Patterns of Place — William Riebsame Travis, 2007
Seeing and Being Seen: Tourism in the American West — edited by David M. Wrobel and Patrick T. Long, foreword by Earl Pomeroy, 2001
Atlas of the New West — James J. Robb; edited by William E. Riebsame and Hanna Gosnell, 1997
Thomas Hornsby Ferril and the American West — Thomas Hornsby Ferril, Robert C. Baron, Stephen J. Leonard, and Thomas J. Noel, 1996
Arrested Rivers — Arrested Rivers - Chuck Forsman, Helen Mayer Harrison, and Newton Harrison, 1994
A Society to Match the Scenery: Personal Visions of the Future of the American West — edited by Gary Holthaus, and Charles F. Wilkinson, 1991

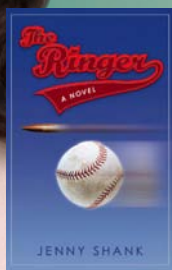
Jenny Shank received the Thompson Award for Graduate Fiction. She credits the Award with encouraging her to continue with her writing.



Jenny Shank

Thompson Writing Award Winner

In 2000, while a student in creative writing at CU, Jenny Shank received the Thompson Award for Graduate Fiction. Jenny credits this award with encouraging her to continue with her writing. Along the way, she's published stories, essays, and reviews in *Prairie Schooner*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, *The Onion*, *Poets & Writers Magazine*, *Bust*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Boulder Daily Camera*, *NewWest.Net*, and *The Huffington Post*. This last year, Jenny published her first novel, *The Ringer*. It tells the story of Patricia Maestas, the Mexican-American wife of a Mexican immigrant killed by police, and Ed O'Fallon, the officer who shot her husband. *The Ringer* was a finalist for the Mountains & Plains Independent Booksellers Association's Reading The West Award, and a Tattered Cover Summer Reading selection. Jenny has also been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and has an essay listed among the "Notable Essays of the Year" in the Best American Essays. She currently lives in Boulder with her husband, and their two children.



Thinking Forward, Moving Forward



Center Stage

Highlighted Events & Speeches

The Center of the American West presented a range of dynamic and unique public programming over the past year. Our speakers ranged from world-renowned entrepreneur and media mogul Ted Turner, who accepted our Stegner Award, to our heroic locals who lived through the Fourmile Canyon Fire. As always, the schedule reflected our desire to engage the Front Range community with an array of speakers and topics intended to both educate and entertain. In this vein, Ted Turner frankly shared the perspectives that have influenced his philanthropy and land conservation and preservation efforts in an interview conducted by Patty Limerick. Long-time Center affiliate Buzzy Jackson provided a glimpse not only into the processes involved in genealogical research, but also painted a compassionate portrait of the people at the core of the genealogical community. Walter Echo-Hawk

immersed us in the legal maneuverings of a Native American legal advocate and did so with grace and good humor. We celebrated the release of Center co-founder Charles Wilkinson's book, *The People Are Dancing Again*, a unique history of the Oregon Siletz tribe compiled through extensive interaction with the tribe and their elders. John Stocke guided us through Native American understandings of astronomy and the night sky. And we ended the year with an event honoring the six-month anniversary of the Fourmile Canyon Fire. A variety of people from the affected communities including residents of the canyon, fire fighters, and public officials gathered to share readings they felt captured an essence of their experiences. We thank all of our participants, our sponsors, and especially you, our audience, for a remarkable year.

Book Release with Buzzy Jackson *Shaking the Family Tree* on October 21, 2010. >>



2010 Wallace Stegner Award presented to Ted Turner by Patty Limerick and Charles Wilkenson on September 28, 2010 in the Whittemyer Court Room, Wolf Law School, University of Colorado Boulder Campus. >>



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**“Retrofitting the Environmental Tradition:
Practicing Preservation in a World that Won’t Hold Still”**
Patty Limerick, 2010 Colorado Open Space Alliance Conference Keynote
Address in Westminster, CO
September 14, 2010

**“Adventures in Applied History:
Transforming Hindsight into Foresight”**
Patty Limerick, Pomona College Lecture Series in Claremont, CA
September 16, 2010

Stewart Udall Dedication Ceremony in Washington, DC
September 21, 2010

After the death of former Interior Secretary Stewart Udall, a successful movement began to name the Department of the Interior building in Washington, DC, after him. On September 21, Secretary Ken Salazar hosted a ceremony at Interior to honor Secretary Udall. Patty was one of a small group of people invited to speak.

2010 Wallace Stegner Award
Presented to Ted Turner
September 28, 2010

Shaking the Family Tree
Book Release with Buzzy Jackson
October 21, 2010

90th National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference
Patty Limerick, featured Speaker in Denver, CO
November 13, 2010

Modern Indian Identity Featuring Walter Echo-Hawk
“In the Courts of the Conqueror: A Native American Experience”
December 2, 2010

**The People Are Dancing Again:
The History of the Siletz Tribe of Western Oregon**
Charles Wilkinson Book Release
January 27, 2011


**“From the Ground Up: Harvesting the Lessons of Westward Expansion
to Recalibrate Human Pride and Vanity”**
Patty Limerick, Peak to Prairie Landscape Symposium in Colorado Springs, CO
February 4, 2011

“Native American Skies” Featuring John Stocke
March 2, 2011

**Words to Stir the Soul and Reckon with Reality
The Six Month Anniversary of the Fourmile Canyon Fire**
March 14, 2011

“Too Close To Home: Facing Sand Creek on the CU-Boulder Campus”
Patty Limerick, Modern Genocide Conference and Aspinall Lecture, Mesa State
College in Grand Junction, CO
April 6, 2011

“No Country for Old Habits: Denver, the West, and Water”
Patty Limerick, American Water Resources Association Luncheon Speaker in
Golden, CO
April 22, 2011

 *The People Are Dancing Again* Book Release with Charles Wilkinson and
Siletz tribal members Tina Retasket and Robert Kentta on January 27, 2011





There was standing room only for the Modern Indian Identity event featuring Walter Echo-Hawk book *In the Courts of the Conqueror: A Native American Experience* on December 2, 2010. Walter Echo-Hawk, the author, signs his book. Patty Limerick and Charles Wilkinson, who wrote the foreword and afterword, also sign.

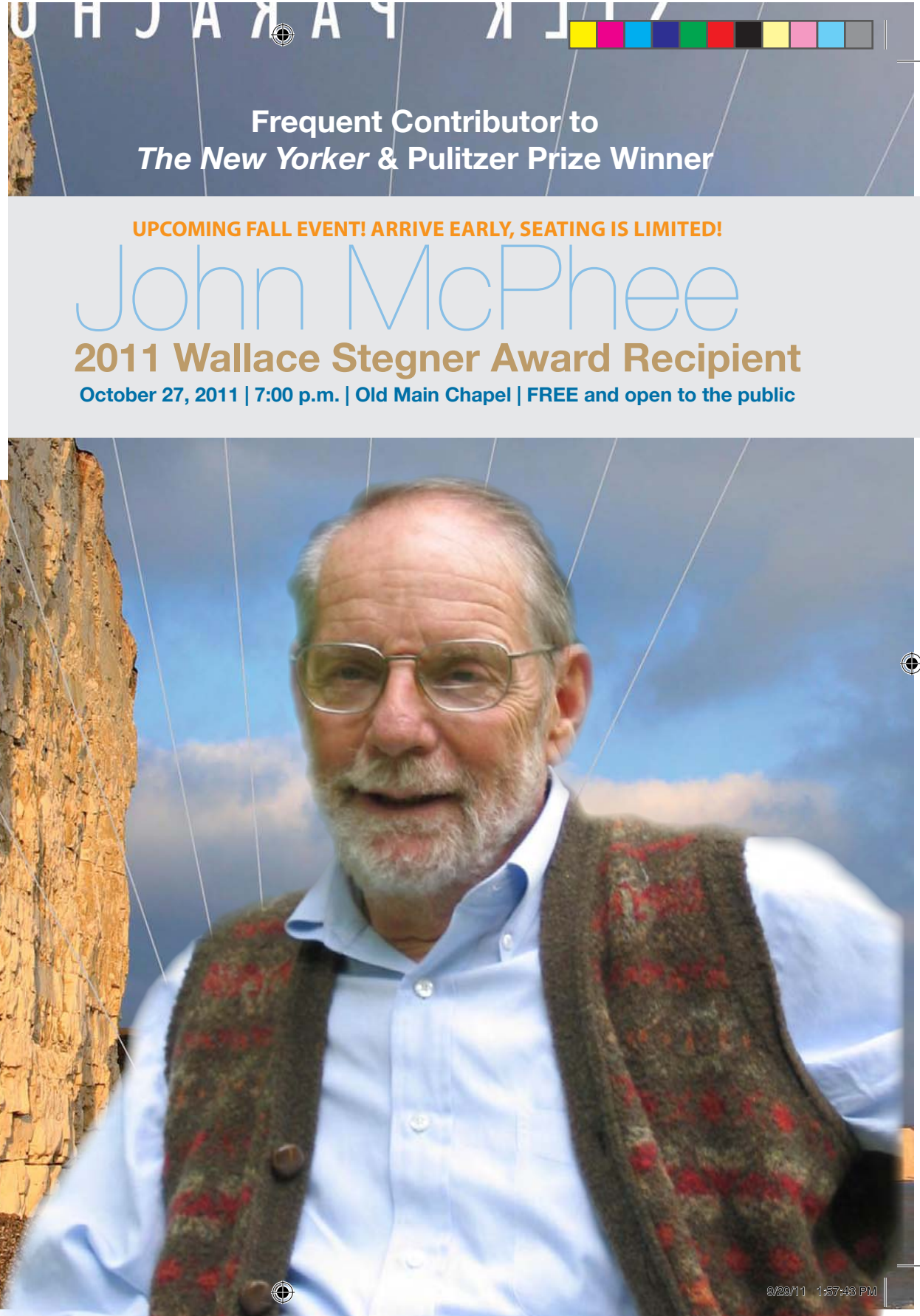


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AMERICAN
WEST

Frequent Contributor to
The New Yorker & Pulitzer Prize Winner

UPCOMING FALL EVENT! ARRIVE EARLY, SEATING IS LIMITED!

John McPhee
2011 Wallace Stegner Award Recipient
October 27, 2011 | 7:00 p.m. | Old Main Chapel | FREE and open to the public



Financial Information

Fiscal Year July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

Statement of Income and Expense

For the period ending June 30, 2011

(With Comparative Totals for 2010 and 2011)

	Jun-11	Jun-10	Jun-09	2011 Details			
				State Funded	Other Revenue	Grants	Gifts
Beginning Balance <small>(if applicable)</small>	191,387.05	262,918.56	299,284.35	(2,046.00)	13,318.14	5,696.86	174,418.05
Income <small>(Incl. Cash, Budget, Revenue)</small>	571,515.52	513,323.26	601,831.31	290,650.00	40,757.56	15,974.11	224,133.85
Salary Expense Total	414,487.69	409,639.17	434,657.04	276,289.00	-	8,742.90	129,455.79
Faculty				95,340.40	-	6,062.00	78,969.92
Officer/Exempt				38,721.28	-	-	9,680.27
Classified Staff				131,187.20	-	-	10,612.80
Students (Incl. Student Faculty)				9,320.12	-	900.00	-
Benefits				-	-	1,780.90	27,182.80
Operating Costs Total	119,050.42	175,214.48	195,773.18	11,855.27	47,296.72	7,167.48	52,730.95
Operating Expenses				11,837.27	40,379.89	3,303.22	51,142.03
Travel				18.00	4,253.75	3,864.26	838.92
Equipment				-	-	-	-
Indirect Costs					2,660.13	-	
Other (Transfers)				-	2.95		750.00
Available Balance as of June 30, 2010	229,364.46	191,388.17	270,685.44	459.73	6,778.98	5,760.59	216,365.16
CUF Spendable Balance	167,936.09	138,888.00	105,615.44				167,936.09
Total Available Balance	397,300.55	330,276.17	376,300.88				

* Beginning balance consists of only net assets that roll forward to the next year. It does not include any budget amounts that may roll forward. Those amounts are included in the income figure because they become part of the total budget for the current year.

Statement of Assets

For the period ending June 30, 2011

	Fiscal Year 2011		Fiscal Year 2010		Fiscal Year 2009	
	Asset Amount	Actual Expenses as spent from asset categories	Asset Amount	Actual Expenses as spent from asset categories	Asset Amount	Actual Expenses as spent from asset categories
Beginning Balance	191,387.05		262,918.56		299,284.35	
Asset Type <small>(received during the fiscal year)</small>						
State Appropriations	290,650.00	288,144.27	313,336.00	315,380.88	347,048.00	339,281.12
Grant or Contract Activities	15,974.11	15,910.38	40,000.00	39,974.00	32,500.00	32,499.04
Gifts and Donations	224,133.85	182,186.74	110,236.27	191,721.28	156,528.86	202,004.90
Endowment Earnings (Spendable)	167,936.09		138,888.00	-	105,615.44	
Royalty Income	34.23	27.80		31.78	234.74	309.12
Other Income (Ancillary)	40,723.33	47,268.92	49,750.99	37,745.71	65,519.71	56,336.04
Total Assets	930,838.66	533,538.11	915,129.82	584,853.65	1,006,731.10	630,430.22
Net Assets <small>(as of June 30, 2011)</small>		397,300.55		330,276.17		376,300.88

Endowment Holdings

For the period ending June 30, 2011

	2011	2010	2009
Endowment Name			
Wren and Timothy Wirth Thompson Awards	140,833.36	125,858.33	119,720.95
Endowed Chair	2,332,608.50	2,044,665.48	1,915,495.45
Hoffman Scholars	104,317.15	92,212.00	84,476.65
Olson Stegner Award	90,227.43	76,059.81	67,794.87
Balance <small>(as of June 30, 2011)</small>	2,908,944.34	2,529,172.90	2,361,267.95

Acknowledgments of Contributions

The names that follow represent friends who helped make fiscal year July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011 a success. We extend our sincere thanks for your support of the Center of the American West.

Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and comprehensive listing of donors for the fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. The Center of the American West apologizes for any incorrect listings, spellings, or omissions.

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**“We don’t owe the West a lot. Rather, we owe it everything.
That’s why we contribute to the Center of the American West...”**



Doug and Mary Ann Looney

Donor highlight

The American West is Mary Ann and me. It’s a miraculous gift that keeps on giving to us every glorious day. But the West is not so much a geographical area with sweeping splendor as it is a magical state of mind that always has lived at our core. I was born and raised in Boulder and played at the base of the Flatirons; Mary Ann grew up mainly in Southern California and played on the freeways. We met in a freshman English class at CU. We subsequently lived for almost 30 years in eastern environs, the bulk of it in Westport, CT, when I was a *Sports Illustrated* writer. But the West never left us. It was just on sabbatical in our hearts. We don’t owe the West a lot. Rather, we owe it everything. That’s why we contribute to the Center of the American West to help Patty, Kurt, and the whole marvelous crew there in the care, feeding, nurturing, understanding, and love of this stunning part of our land and our souls.

Thinking Forward, Moving Forward

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“The Center of the American West undoubtedly ranks as one of CU’s and the area’s most valuable assets.”



Catherine Kunce

Donor highlight

Novelist Catherine Kunce received her Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Denver. A recently completed project involves the transcription and annotation of two nineteenth-century American women writers, one of whom was Edgar Allan Poe’s onetime fiancée. As senior instructor in CU’s Program for Writing and Rhetoric, Catherine has relied on the Center of the American West to enhance her teaching. During a class that collected stories told by Boulder-area senior citizens, Patty Limerick treated students to classroom visits and shared her experiences about visiting retirement homes while she was an undergraduate student. Students read with interest Patty’s unique thesis about her visits with the elderly, which had gained national media attention. This thesis helped prepare Catherine’s students for the rewarding yet challenging experience of dealing with a generation so often neglected and so richly deserving of attention and respect. Another course, Native American Topics, uses *Legacy of Conquest* as a central text. And students can count on the Center’s numerous events to invigorate classroom learning. Last fall, for example, Catherine’s Native American Topics classes attended the Center’s wonderful Native American Skies presentation at CU’s Fiske Planetarium.

Thinking Forward, Moving Forward

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Through her involvement with the Center, HannaLore worked as an intern in 2008 at the State Capital with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.



HannaLore Hein

New Board Member

HannaLore Hein, a recent CU graduate, spent most of her early childhood in Boulder, Colorado. At the age of 12, she moved with her family to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, where she resided for six years, becoming fluent in Spanish and learning a valuable lesson in the importance of new perspectives. After graduating from the American School of Puerto Vallarta, she returned to Boulder to attend CU.

As a history major and ethnic studies minor at CU, HannaLore's interests paralleled many of the Center's projects. She had the opportunity to take classes with Patty Limerick and graduated with a certificate in Western American studies. Through her involvement with the Center, HannaLore worked as an intern in 2008 at the State Capital with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. In 2009, she traveled as a Hoffman Scholar to Salt Lake City to attend the Wallace Stegner Center's 14th Annual Symposium, and, in 2010, she traveled to Las Vegas to participate in the Bureau of Land Management's NLCS Summit. Through these experiences, HannaLore has developed a love for the West and a great appreciation for the Center's work. She is eagerly embracing the opportunity as a new board member to continue to foster her relationship with the Center.

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Earning his Certificate in Western American Studies served as the centerpiece to his B.A. in political science and minor in ecology and evolutionary biology at CU.

Jeff Maslow

New Board Member

Jeff brings a wealth of perspectives to the Center of the American West Board of Directors from studying, exploring, and serving the West. He has worked on energy initiatives with the Western Governors' Association, researched natural resources law and policy for the Wilderness Society's BLM Action Center, and assisted in adapting wildlife protection to changing landscapes at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Born in Denver amidst a development boom across Colorado's Front Range, Jeff grew up witnessing his home city's transformation from cow town to thriving Rocky Mountain capital. Against this backdrop, he was inspired to pursue a path where he could have a meaningful impact on the region's progress. He attended the University of Colorado Boulder, where he discovered the Center of the American West. Earning his Certificate in Western American Studies served as the centerpiece to his B.A. in political science and minor in ecology and evolutionary biology at CU.

After a winter serving as a volunteer interpretive park ranger at Yellowstone National Park, Jeff ventured to the Pacific Northwest to study environmental and natural resources law at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon, where he earned his J.D.



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Don is a past chair of the Colorado Republican Party, the Colorado Council on the Arts, the Denver Foundation, and the Auraria Higher Education Center Board of Trustees.



Don Bain

New Board Member

Born in Denver, Don Bain is a fifth-generation Colorado native. He graduated from Yale College and Harvard Law School, and then joined the Denver law firm of Holme Roberts & Owen LLP, where he has practiced since. Don specializes in commercial litigation and is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He was a candidate for mayor of Denver in 1987.

Don is a past chair of the Colorado Republican Party, the Colorado Council on the Arts, the Denver Foundation, and the Auraria Higher Education Center Board of Trustees. He has served on the Republican National Committee and as a director of numerous nonprofit organizations, including the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Denver Public Library Commission, the Fairmount Cemetery Company, and the Association of Yale Alumni.

Don is an informal student of English history and Western American history. He has three children and seven grandchildren and lives in Denver.

Thinking Forward, Moving Forward

New Board Members 2011-2012

Don Bain

Of Counsel
Holme Roberts & Owen LLP
Denver, CO

Jane Butcher

Community Volunteer
Boulder, CO

New Term Directors 2011-2012

HannaLore Hein

Boulder, CO

Jeffrey Maslow

Denver, CO

Jane was founder and then chair of the Women of the West Museum. She served with Tish Winsor and Patty Limerick to make this a national museum.

Jane Butcher

New board member highlight

Jane Butcher is co-chair of the Conference on World Affairs (CWA)—a lifelong passion that started when she was a student at CU. Her long-term goal is to ensure that CU students have a significant responsibility for all aspects of the planning and execution of CWA.

Jane graduated from CU in 1966 with a degree in international affairs. After working in the San Luis Valley on a grant for the poverty program, she moved to the East Coast, where she was a social worker actively seeking housing for minority families in Boston. Jane and her husband moved back to Colorado in 1971 to raise their large family in the West.

Jane has worked in many aspects of the community, from education to city boards. At CU, her primary engagement has been CWA. She is also chair of the Dean's Advisory Council for Arts and Sciences, and serves on the Advisory Boards for both the Colorado Initiative in Molecular Biotechnology and the Global Studies Residential Academic Program.

Jane was founder and then chair of the Women of the West Museum. She served with Tish Winsor and Patty Limerick to make this a national museum. Eventually WOW merged with the Autry National Center. Jane served four years as a trustee of the Autry.





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Kurt Gutjahr

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Jason Hanson

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Alex Lande & Ryan Rebhan (not pictured)

Undergraduate Research Assistants

Administrative Staff

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Program Assistant

Amanda Hardman & Jennifer Aglio (not pictured)

Administrative Assistants

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Thinking Forward, Moving Forward

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2010-2011

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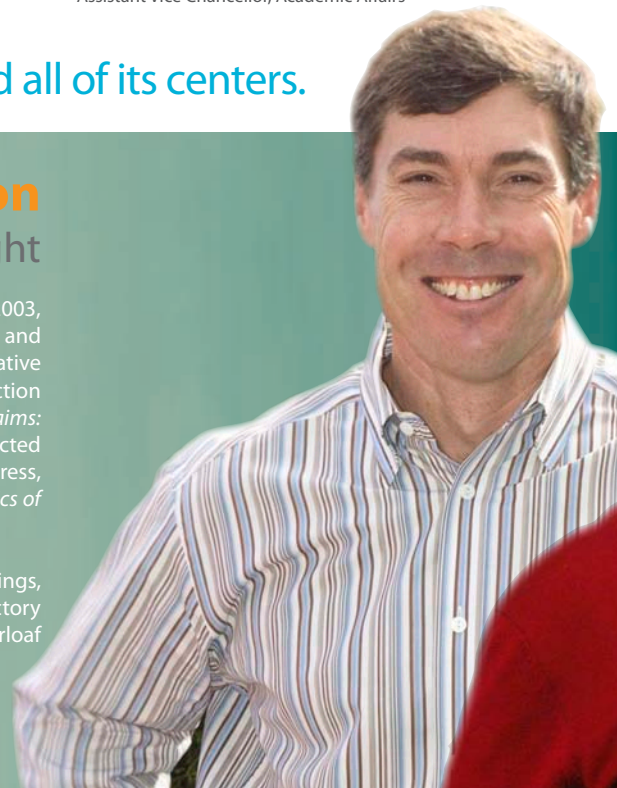
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- Stephen Graham Jones**
Department of English
- Alphonse Keesley**
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs

Professor Johnson has a deep love for the West and all of its centers.

Greg Johnson Faculty Council Highlight

Greg Johnson is associate professor and chair in the Department of Religious Studies (Ph.D. 2003, University of Chicago). He teaches in the areas of indigenous traditions, method and theory, and religion and law. Professor Johnson's research focuses on contemporary Native American and Native Hawaiian religious life, particularly in legal and political contexts. Repatriation and burial protection issues are at the center of his current research. His recent publications include: *Sacred Claims: Repatriation and Living Tradition* (University of Virginia Press, 2007); "Courting Culture: Unexpected Relationships between Religion and Law in Hawai'i," in *After Secular Law* (Stanford University Press, 2011); and "Apache Revelation: Making Religion in the Legal Sphere," in *Secularism and the Politics of Religion-Making* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

Professor Johnson has a deep love for the West and all of its centers. He grew up in Colorado Springs, completed his undergraduate work at the University of Colorado Boulder, and considers it a life victory to have returned "home." He and his family—Kari, Hayden, Soren, and Simone—live on Sugarloaf Mountain, where they can be found hiking and climbing on sunny days.



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School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Current awards include the Distinguished Engineering Educator from the Society of Women Engineers...

JoAnn Silverstein Faculty Council Highlight

JoAnn Silverstein received her Ph.D. in Civil (Environmental) Engineering from the University of California, Davis, in 1982. From there she went on to become an Associate Professor in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering at the University of Colorado at Boulder and holds that position presently. She has been a Register Professional Engineer (Colorado #26151) since 1989.

Current awards include the Distinguished Engineering Educator from the Society of Women Engineers in 2000 and the NSF Faculty Award for Women Scientists and Engineers from 1992 to 1997. She holds national committee memberships with the National Water Research Institute, Women in Academia-Society of Women Engineers, and WEF, Biosolids Committee.

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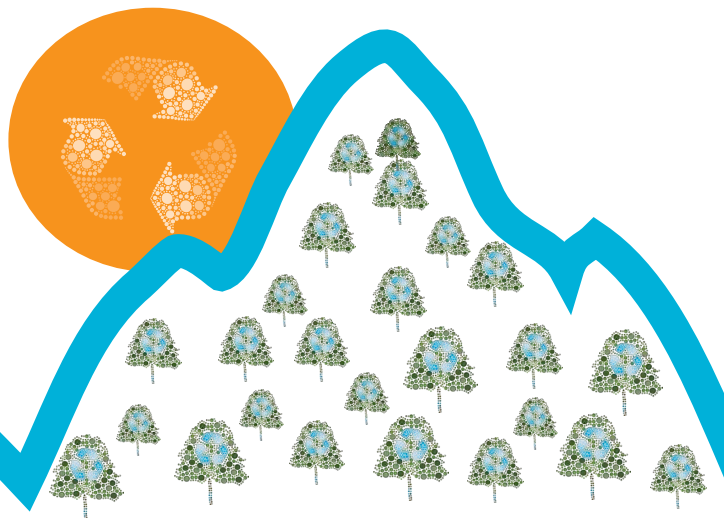
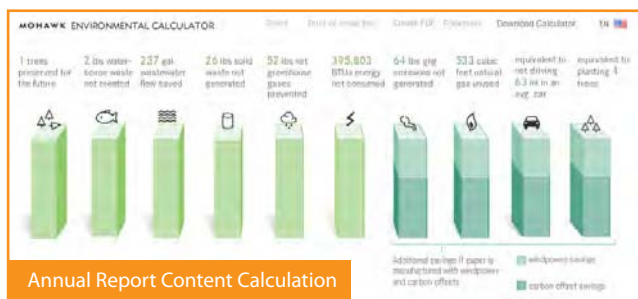
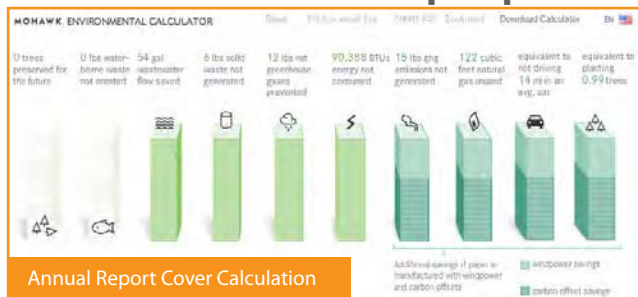
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