

FALL
—
2023

NEWS FOR DONORS

Foundation Insights



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO
Foundation



MISSION

Our mission is to support and enhance the mission of Colorado State University Pueblo by providing strategic investments, advocacy, and partnerships that advance student success, faculty excellence, and institutional effectiveness.

CORE VALUES

- **Accountability**
- **Integrity**
- **Donor Focus**
- **Transparency**

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CSU PUEBLO FOUNDATION

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As we near the end of the year 2023, I would like to reflect on our recent successes as we look forward to the next chapter of this great University and to wish the CSU Pueblo President Dr. Timothy Mottet the very best as he leaves us on December 31 to pursue other professional opportunities.

For the first time in seven years CSU Pueblo saw an increase in enrollment with another large freshman class. Due to the hard work of Vice President of Enrollment Management Dr. Kristyn White Davis, and her admissions team, enrollment grew by 4 percent over the previous fall semester.

Because of loyal and dedicated partners like you, the CSU Pueblo Foundation also saw record numbers as over \$4 million was awarded to CSU Pueblo students in the form of scholarships. Overall, more than \$5 million was raised last fiscal year and the Foundation announced the expansion of new suites at the CSU Pueblo ThunderBowl.

The CSU Pueblo Foundation recently was asked by the University to assume alumni outreach and in October hired Daniel Minich, a CSU Pueblo graduate, as the new CSU Pueblo Director of Alumni and Engagement.

The timeline for OverDrive, a Campaign for CSU Pueblo, is halfway done and we are well ahead of our pace to raise \$135 million by 2028. For more information about the campaign, please visit [overdrive www.csupueblofoundation.com](http://overdrive.www.csupueblofoundation.com).

As we move into 2024, I would like to thank Dr. Mottet for his hard work and dedication to our students and staff over the last seven years and look forward to welcoming a new CSU Pueblo president in January to begin writing our next chapter.

Thank you so much for all you do for our students and I wish you the best this holiday season.

Go Pack!

Todd Kelly, President/CEO
CSU Pueblo Foundation



CORINNE & DENNIS KOEHLER

ALUMNI
PHILANTHROPISTS
COMMUNITY ADVOCATES



Hailing from northern Wisconsin, Corinne and Dennis Koehler came to Pueblo in the 1970's to begin a career at a national insurance company, and as one thing led to another, Dennis came to Southern Colorado State College, obtaining a degree in accounting in 1973.

Corinne's mother and father did not even reach high school, so being a first-generation student and the youngest of nine children, college and obtaining an education was always the goal, thus eventually having the means to support the next generation of students was a no-brainer.

"We came to Pueblo and saw the struggles of students in our community and having no children of our own, it just made sense to invest in their education," said Corinne. Because of their generous investment annually, they created two scholarships to support one math student, and one accounting student.

Their focus on accounting and math was because Dennis, a CPA by trade, realized a need for quality accountants in the workforce and had a passion for mathematics. One of the requirements of their scholarship agreement is to award the funds to a student from southeastern Colorado, as Corinne said, "There seems to be countless support and dollars available in the northern part of the state, and opportunities north, but our rural area is

more appropriate to emphasize and support the need of education." One of their recipients this year is George James, who is also featured in this publication.

The Koehler's have a strong belief that the value of a CSU Pueblo education supports more than our immediate community. "After graduation, students go to all regions, and you never know where they may end up. The support of our students may be helping someone where you live now," said Corinne.

"Having a bigger car, or a bigger house is not a priority for us. Being able to help improve our community is what matters the most."

Having been a product of a large family, Corinne's parents always instilled the mindset of giving back. As children

they volunteered in their community through their church and 4-H activities. "Having a bigger car, or a bigger house is not a priority for us. Being able to help improve our community is what matters the most," said Corinne.

In addition to supporting CSU Pueblo, Corinne gives her time to support cleanup efforts of the Arkansas river, refurbishment of the Keating school and Pueblo conservancy.



Members of the Jami Baker Orr Team with Keller Williams Performance Realty, Alea Blazer and Caitlin Norton, A13, enjoy the 2023 President's Club "Lucky to Have You" Donor appreciation event.



In May, more than 400 partygoers attended the President's Blue & Red Gala honoring the President's Distinguished Award recipients to include Tim Simmons, A69, Dr. Margie Massey, A02, Eric and Renee Carson, and Johnson Controls, Inc.



Each year, the Foundation hosts the Friends & Scholars Luncheon, bringing together scholarship students and their generous benefactors. Pictured l-r: Leslie Shepard, A96, Dante Bartolo, and Nicole Buttram, A23

ALEXIA VALDEZ

CSU PUEBLO SENIOR
 B.S. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MARKETING)
 3+2 MASTERS IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Recipient of the
 American Furniture Warehouse Scholarship
 Helen M. McLoraine Scholarship

Alexia Valdez is in her fifth year at CSU Pueblo as a participant of the Hasan School of Business (HSB) 3+2 MBA program. In May 2024, she will graduate with her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, with a Marketing emphasis, and minors in Media & Entertainment and Nonprofit Administration, as well as her Master of Business Administration degree. She is a recipient of the CSU Pueblo President's Scholarship: American Furniture Warehouse, and the Helen M. McLoraine scholarship.

Helen Myers McLoraine (1918–2003) was the founder of The Pioneer Fund, a philanthropic organization "with a focus on figure skating, higher education assistance and medical research". She was a private investor in the gas and oil industry since the 1950s and became an early female figure in business leadership. It's only fitting that Valdez is already a strong, female leader on campus and in

the business community. Born and raised in Pueblo, and the daughter of a single-parent household, Valdez grew up surrounded by a tribe of strong women: her mom, grandma, auntie, and a very close family friend, who, together, are a very close-knit, supportive family. "My mom is my best friend. I don't know where I'd be without her." As a child, she struggled with a speech impediment, but after a short time in speech therapy, she overcame the obstacle and excelled in school from then on.

Growing up in Pueblo's Belmont neighborhood, she had become very familiar with CSU Pueblo at a young age, but her decision to become a Thunderwolf was solidified during a Discover Day visit when she was a senior in high school. After turning up absent for the event due to a soccer commitment, a CSU Pueblo University Tracks Center employee personally called her and encouraged her to stop by when she had time.

FOUNDATION
 EFFECTIVENESS

Cost to Raise \$1	\$.08
Scholarships Awarded	920
Percentage of expenditures used to support students, University programs & ThunderBowl activities	85.4%

STUDENT COST

2023/2024 Annual Tuition & Fees	\$11,676*
2023/2024 Average Book Cost	\$1,460*
2023/2024 Room & Board	\$14,680**

* Based on 15 credit hours, in-state tuition

** Standard shared occupancy room and unlimited meal plan



It was at this Discover Day that she received a campus tour from a student ambassador and learned more about the AACSB-accredited Hasan School of Business. “It oddly felt like home and staying [in Pueblo for college] has been the best decision.”

“CSU Pueblo oddly felt like home. Staying in Pueblo has been the best decision.”

Valdez enjoyed her campus tour so much that she became inspired to become a student ambassador herself - a bubbly person who is rarely seen without a smile, and loves talking and interacting with others, she has given approximately 200 tours over the past five years. “I love being able to interact with prospective students because I was one of them at one point, and there is nothing more rewarding than having those students recognize me years later and say, ‘Hey! You gave me a tour!’” In addition to this role, while juggling an 18 credit hour course load, Valdez is also a New Student Orientation Leader, Associated Students’ Government (ASG) Speaker of the House Pro Tempore (previously

Senator at Large for HSB and Parliamentarian), a student member of the HSB Dean’s Advisory Council, and most recently in May 2023 acquired her first “big girl job” as Special Events Coordinator at the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Pueblo, Inc. where she is one of a small team of five who are all either CSU Pueblo alumni or soon-to-be graduates. In this role, she manages everything event related including marketing and communications, securing venues and sponsorships, RSVPs and food selection just to name a few, and also hosts event planning workshops for the community.

When asked if she lives by any philosophies, she said, “Everything happens for a reason.” After receiving the disappointing news that she did not get a promotion for a previous role, she later came to realize this disappointment allowed her to become more involved in ASG, meet new friends, and test her limits more, specifically with helping to coordinate CSU Pueblo’s annual Winter Wonderland, an event for the campus and the Pueblo community to gather and celebrate the holiday season. This event ultimately showcased her event planning skills and connected her with her current boss at the Latino Chamber which led her to where she is now in her professional life.

As for life after graduation, she plans to stay at the Latino Chamber as long as possible, but has a heartfelt, future goal of creating a nonprofit organization in Denver to assist the homeless population in securing jobs. “There are so many different obstacles

to getting a job that most people don’t think about because they’ve never had to worry about it before,” Valdez said, referring to haircuts, the job acquisition process, mock interviews, transportation, and even having a physical address. “I want to help provide everything they need to succeed.”



Alexia, far left, poses with student org. reps and President Mottet at the annual awards ceremony. At this ceremony she was awarded with ASG Project of the Year.

Reflecting on her time at CSU Pueblo, she said she enjoys the sense of community, both in the individual departments and the campus as a whole, and appreciates the work the campus is doing to become more connected with the Pueblo community. Additionally, her professors know her name, but so do University staff members, academic advisors and Wellness Center counselors. “It’s the little things that have made a huge difference that I don’t think I would have found at a bigger school.”

In the little free time she has, Valdez enjoys spending time with her family as much as possible, watching Gilmore Girls, reading, and listening to music, her favorite song being “Put Your Records On” by Corinne Bailey Rae.



GEORGE JAMES

CSU PUEBLO JUNIOR
B.A. IN ENGINEERING: MECHATRONICS
B.S. IN MATHEMATICS

Recipient of the
Dennis & Corinne Koehler - Math Scholarship
Juliaetta Chostner Memorial Scholarship

Following in his parent's footsteps, George James, a junior double majoring in mathematics and engineering, is a proud legacy of his alumni parents, Katrina and George, who just so happened to meet on campus in the late 90's. CSU Pueblo was always the right choice from the small class sizes to the affordability factor. George said, "I had always been interested in STEM and the cost savings of staying at home and attending my parents' university made total sense." Not only is attending as a legacy student honoring his parent's time as students, but Katrina recently passed away and he gets to honor her legacy on this earth by achieving academic excellence.

Receiving multiple scholarships, James stated that they impacted his academic journey, and it only truly came apparent when meeting his donors stating, "...going to a reception in my honor I realized how supported I truly was in meeting my needs and goals. I was inspired seeing everyone and it gave me the drive to keep pushing forward."

"...going to a reception in my honor I realized how supported I truly was in meeting my needs and goals. I was inspired seeing everyone and it gave me the drive to keep pushing forward."

Beginning as an engineering major, and adding the mathematics double major, James found beauty in numbers. The two degrees, though challenging in the classroom and making schedules line up, go hand-in-hand to support his goals of starting a tech business in an engineering field. The vision of

working with technology came about during his time as the president of the Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) club. "I was able to present at the IEEE conference on artificial intelligence and we made a model that collects motion signals on a smart phone and was able to distinguish one person from another



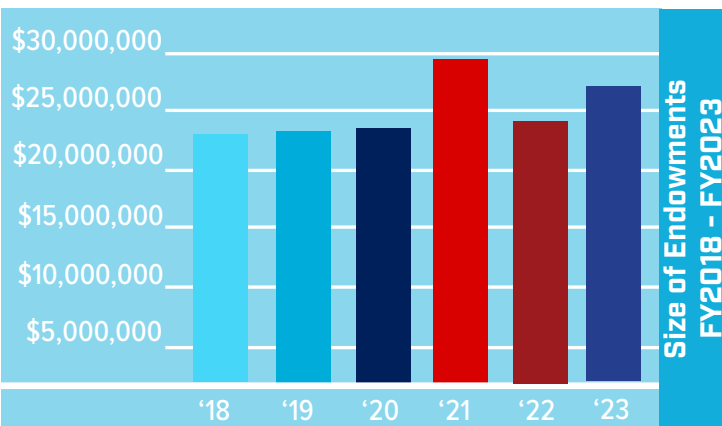
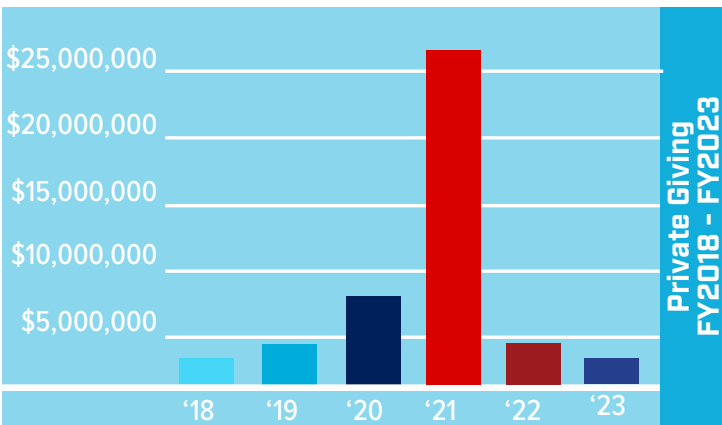
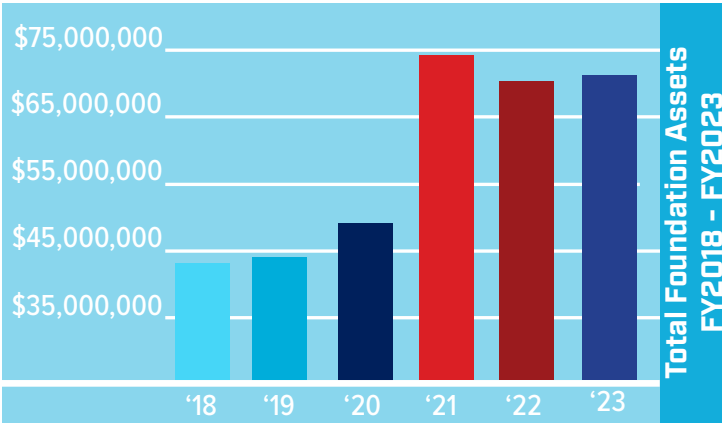
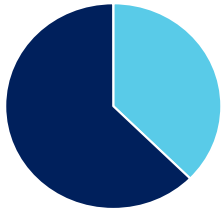
George receives second place for his student research presentation at the IEEE conference in Denver

based on their movements," said James. Beyond the classroom, IEEE gave James leadership skills that he never imagined he needed. "The club sort of fell into my lap and I was charged to keep the wheels turning. It has been tough, but I get to receive a lot of support from my mentors and strategic leadership to further my abilities," said James. George hopes to, in the long-term, research and develop new technologies that will benefit humanity, specifically in the realm of artificial intelligence and nuclear fusion.

James credits his mentor, Dr. Stephen Aldrich, the department chair of math and physics, for supporting him in all his endeavors stating, "He is my number one guy, he's got my back, and I am thankful to have him." Within the Math and Physics department, George works for the Math Learning Center as a tutor. In his free time, he likes to hike 14ers.

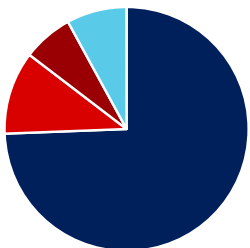
NET ASSETS

- 37.5% Unrestricted
- 62.5% Restricted by Donor



- 8.3% Fundraising Expenses
- 7.2% Administrative Expenses
- 11.3% ThunderBowl Expenses
- 73.2% Program Expenses & Student Scholarships

The Better Business Bureau's Standards for Charity Accountability recommends that non-profits spend at least 65 percent of their total expenses on program activities.



CSU PUEBLO FOUNDATION

Statement of Financial Position

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$734,266
Accounts receivable	53,439
Unconditional promises to give, net	1,247,122
Marketable securities	42,521,220
Prepaid expenses	46,309
Miscellaneous assets	602
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	240,120
Notes receivable	85,328
Investment in limited partnership	249,948
Commercial real estate projects	2,476,228
ThunderBowl Stadium	19,867,723
Right to use assets under leases - CSU Pueblo Thunderbowl, LLC	1,232,307
Leasehold improvements and office equipment	34,357
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,300,571)

TOTAL ASSETS **\$67,488,398**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$1,675,539
Other liabilities	70,346
Notes payable	2,472,746

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$4,218,631**

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted net assets	\$23,752,418
Donor restricted net assets	39,517,349

TOTAL NET ASSETS **\$63,269,767**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS **\$67,488,398**

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Contributions	\$3,835,445
In-kind contributions	99,377
Fundraising revenue	436,580
Net Investment Return	4,007,388
Thunderbowl Operating Revenues	188,533
Miscellaneous revenue	113,058
Gain on sale of assets	35,540
Changes in value assets held by others	10,367

TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT **\$8,726,288**

EXPENSES

Program expenses	\$5,589,373
ThunderBowl expenses	863,022
Management and general	546,632
Fundraising	631,116
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7,630,143