MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW DEAN

Daniel N. McIntosh Begins Appointment as Dean of AHSS

Greetings,

Now that my term as dean of DU’s divisions of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences has begun, I want to convey to you my excitement about the opportunities that lie ahead for AHSS.

AHSS is at the core of DU, and it is an honor to serve as your dean.

I am looking forward to collaborating with you — our expert faculty, curious students and supportive alumni and friends — to champion scholarship in AHSS and develop strategies that will allow AHSS to be a leader in the changing climate of higher education. I am driven by the belief that an AHSS education is inherently important because creativity and scholarship is liberating, empowering and transformative for the teacher, the student and the community. Read more... Read Dean McIntosh’s bio

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Alum’s Career Spans Sports Operations to Financial Analysis

When Matt Gohl (BA ’99, English and philosophy; MBA ’02) first arrived at DU, he knew that he wanted to pursue a business degree. While he did get an MBA, he did so via a diverse liberal arts undergraduate education. For 14 years, Gohl worked in...
athletics and recreation operations at DU’s Ritchie Center. He now works as a financial analyst for the town of Castle Rock, CO.

Gohl chose DU because of the competitive financial aid package combined with its elite reputation. Although he knew he wanted a business degree, it was the common curriculum that sold him on an AHSS education.

“Ultimately, I pursued a course of study that was something that I enjoyed, and that gave me fundamental skills that would prove beneficial throughout my career,” he said. “The combination of my liberal arts undergraduate degree and a master’s in business provided strong footing for a career in management and operations at the University,” Gohl said. Read more...

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Historian Looks at Environmental Changes to Colorado High Country

The Colorado high country is a renowned tourist destination with spectacular scenery, ski areas and outdoor activities that attract visitors from around the globe. But before 1945, the region was very little known, very little visited and mostly shunned by vacationers, according to William Philpott, assistant professor in the department of history.

Philpott is a fourth generation Coloradan who grew up on family stories of the Colorado high country, from his grandfather’s boyhood in Cripple Creek in the early 1900s, to his father’s mountain memories of the ‘40s and ‘50s. These stories and his own love of the mountains inspired his new book, *Vacationland: Tourism and Environment in the Colorado High Country*.

*Vacationland* takes a look at post-1945 tourism and recreational consumerism that remade American landscapes, and in the process, reshaped the environmental values of people living, working and vacationing there. Read More...

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

PhD Student Promotes Inclusive Excellence through Research in Clinical Psychology

Skyler Leonard, a second-year PhD student in child clinical psychology, is an example of how students incorporate Inclusive Excellence (IE) into their academic pursuits. IE is the recognition that a community or institution’s success is dependent on how well it values, engages and includes the rich diversity of students, staff, faculty, administrators and alumni constituents.

Leonard studies how students’ mental health impacts their academic achievement. While IE and mental health concepts may appear unrelated, Leonard shows how this is not the case.

“I’m interested in developing and testing interventions that improve the academic functioning and mental health of students,” said Leonard. “Specifically students from traditionally marginalized groups, including racial and ethnic minorities, gender and sexual minorities, students from low socio-economic backgrounds and students with histories of trauma exposure.” In this way, Leonard’s work recognizes the rich diversity of these students and attempts to finds ways these students can be academically successful. Read More...
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

French Student Hopes to Pursue French Career

Andrea Gerdes discovered a love for French while in middle school. Over the years, she pursued studying the language and today she’s a junior with a double major in French and finance. This fall, Gerdes will continue her studies in Lille, France, where her classes will be taught in French at the Université Lille III.

“I first started studying French in middle school because I thought it was a beautiful language and my godmother, who was a high school French teacher, encouraged me to do so. I fell in love with it and have continued study ever since,” said Gerdes, who often immerses herself in the language through French films, music and books.

“As faculty, our deepest satisfaction derives from teaching bright, inquisitive students. Andrea always meets you more than half way,” said Susan Stakel, associate professor of French in the department of languages and literatures. Read More...

FEATURED EVENTS

OPEN-AIR CONCERT: July 6 & July 20, 7:00 p.m. — Fourth Annual Carillon Summer Recital Series
Join us for a carillon concert at the Williams Carillon at the Ritchie Center, featuring Carillonneur Carolyn Bolden (July 6), and Carillonneur Hunter Chase (July 20). The best listening place to enjoy the free concert is in the courtyard at the south end of the Ritchie Center, which is located on the SW corner of Buchtel Blvd. and University Blvd. A carillon is a set of chromatically tuned stationary bells, usually hung in a tower and played from a keyboard. For updates, call the Lamont Concert Line weekly recorded message at (303) 871-6412.

FAMILY SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Join the University of Denver community for a series of open-air, family-friendly concerts in celebration of DU’s sesquicentennial. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, picnic, family and friends. All shows are free. Click here for more information.