

Recapturing the Commons

The Colorado College Campus
Master Plan:

A Vision Through the Year 2025

Thompson and Rose Architects

November, 1995

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**Letter from Kathryn Mohrman,
President, The Colorado College**

December 6, 1995

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to give you a copy of the Colorado College campus master plan. For the last two years, a group of faculty, administrators, staff, students, alumni, and trustees has worked creatively to envision the CC campus of the future. The fundamental questions we posed for ourselves were these:

How can we express our vision of an excellent education in the liberal arts and sciences, through our classroom buildings, residence halls, and outdoor spaces? How do we reflect the particular opportunities of the Block Plan?

This report is the result. We give special priority on facilities for teaching, learning, and discovery -- looking ahead to the technical opportunities available in the years ahead. Because we are a residential college in which learning takes place outside the classroom as well as in, we give attention to the interactions of students' education and living arrangements. We are mindful of our unique and historic location, so we want to take advantage of the beauties of our position at the base of Pikes Peak and our site in one of the most historic neighborhoods of Colorado Springs.

Many people have given generously of their time to create this conception of Colorado College over the next thirty years. I particularly want to thank Charles Rose and his firm for their contributions as our consultants. Michael Grace, as chair of the campus committee, worked long and hard with his colleagues to achieve extraordinary results.

Now we can turn this plan into reality. Gradually, with the support of the entire Colorado College community, our long-term vision will take shape. In the process, some of our dreams and ideas may change, but we will maintain the fundamental principles outlined in this document. As a result, our classrooms, facilities, residences, and landscaping will demonstrate even more effectively than today our institutional commitment to teaching, learning and discovery.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Mohrman
President, The Colorado College

**Letter from Michael Grace,
Chair, Campus Master Plan Committee**

November 21, 1995

To the Colorado College Community:

A great many people have worked on the College's Campus Plan during the past two years. We, the Campus Master Plan Committee, are delighted that this report is now completed, and we are eager to share it with a larger audience. We believe that the ideas of the Plan are firmly rooted in the traditions and life of the College, but, at the same time, anticipate change and recognize the need for flexibility.

Throughout the planning process, the Committee has welcomed comment from both the campus and the larger community. The committee held open meetings and made presentations to various groups on many occasions. Nonetheless, many among the College's constituencies have not had an opportunity to respond to the Plan that has now taken shape. As chair of the Committee, I welcome reactions and suggestions from students, faculty, alumni, staff, and our neighbors in the community.

This report is a culmination of two years' work but in many ways represents just a beginning. While Phase 1 contains projects that are clearly defined, and, we believe, capable of timely completion, we realize that Phases 2 and 3 are more distant and will be subject to review within the context of changing institutional vision.

I wish to thank all members of the Committee for their many hours of service. Their creative ideas and patient accommodation to space and financial constraints have made the current vision possible. I also wish to thank the architectural firm of Thompson and Rose, particularly Charles Rose, for their thoughtful critique of the existing campus, their "outside" objectivity, and their imaginative solutions to problems. Their contributions have made our job easier.

I hope now that we can all work together to bring the campus vision described here into a tangible new working environment, one that is both aesthetically pleasing and functionally suited to our primary mission of teaching and learning.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Grace
Chair, Campus Master Plan Committee



The Colorado College campus.

Aerial photograph,

Nov. 10, 1995.