

GENERAL INFORMATION

At its first session in 1861, the territorial legislature of Colorado passed an act providing for a university at Boulder. The University was formally founded in 1876, the same year that Colorado became the Centennial State. Between 1861 and 1876, Boulder citizens donated land south of town and made gifts from \$15 to \$1,000 in order to match the \$15,000 appropriated by the state legislature for construction of the University. The cornerstone for Old Main, the first University building, was laid in 1875. The University opened its doors on September 5, 1877, with 44 students, a president, and one instructor.

THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Today, the University of Colorado system includes the main campus at Boulder and campuses at Colorado Springs, Denver, and the Health Sciences Center in Denver. The campuses have a combined enrollment of approximately 43,500 students. To meet the needs of its students, the University offers numerous fields of study.

The University of Colorado ranks 16th among public universities and colleges in overall research expenditures and 9th among public universities in federally funded research. Sponsored research within the University system represents annual awards amounting to approximately \$310

million. Various agencies of the federal government are the principal sources of these funds for research and training contracts and grants. The University's research activity is also supported by appropriations from the state of Colorado, private foundations, and private donors.

The University of Colorado is governed by an elected, nine-member Board of Regents, charged by the state constitution with the general supervision of the University and the exclusive control and direction of all its funds and appropriations, unless otherwise provided by law. The board conducts its business at regular monthly meetings, in special meetings open to the public, and through committees. The president is the chief administrative officer of the four-campus system and is responsible for providing leadership to the University. *The Board of Regents of the University of Colorado reserves the right to establish enrollment levels for all academic areas.*

The Boulder Campus

The University of Colorado at Boulder is a diverse community of advanced learning with the highest standards of scholarship, in which research and creative work enrich the teaching of students who thrive in an academic environment.

The strategic plan is consistent with the following mission statement for the Boulder campus: to advance and impart knowledge across a comprehensive range of disciplines to benefit the people of Colorado, the nation, and the world by educating undergraduate and graduate students in the accumulated knowledge of humankind, discovering new knowledge through research and creative work, and fostering critical thought, artistic creativity, professional competence, and responsible citizenship.

From the Strategic Plan for the Boulder Campus, 1996

The mission of the University of Colorado at Boulder (CU-Boulder) is to lead in the discovery, communication, and use of knowledge through instruction, research, and service to the public. As a comprehensive university, CU-Boulder is committed to the liberal education of students and to a broad curriculum ranging from the baccalaureate through the postdoctoral levels. The educational experience of CU-Boulder, therefore, is distinguished by the wide scope of its programs and course offerings, the notable reputation of its research facilities, the diversity of its student body, and the professionalism and dedication of its faculty.

With a total enrollment of just under 25,000 students, the University of Colorado at Boulder is the largest campus in the four-campus system. The student population

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Boulder Campus

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