“Whatever good things we build...
... END UP BUILDING US."

- Jim Rohn
OPENING DAY CELEBRATION
January 25, 4 - 5 p.m.
Whalen Gymnasium, Fort Lewis College
Everyone’s invited to our 100 year birthday party!

CENTENNIAL BOOK SIGNING
January 27, 5 - 7:30 p.m.
Sorrel Sky Gallery, 870 Main Avenue, Durango
Dr. Duane A. Smith will be signing copies of Rich Heritage, Shining Future: Fort Lewis College 1911-2011
Features

Time for a Centennial
On January 25, 1911, Fort Lewis, the public educational institution, was born. That deserves a celebration!

by Mitch Davis

FLC Research Gets National Attention
Dr. Lehmer leads research project with Dr. Korb that makes news across the country.

by Mitch Davis

COPLAC Awarded STEM Grant
Schools awarded grant to support science, technology, engineering and math programs.

by Nancy Hensel

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**Announcements**

**New Travel Information**
On January 1, 2011, the state raised the mileage reimbursement rate to 46 cents per mile. New Travel Authorization and Travel Expense Reconciliation forms have been updated to reflect the change. Any mileage which occurs after January 1 will be reimbursed at the higher rate.

Visit [http://www2.fortlewis.edu/travel/home.aspx](http://www2.fortlewis.edu/travel/home.aspx) for forms and more information.

**Call for 2011 Images of the Southwest Juried Photography Show**
The Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College, in partnership with the Durango Arts Center, announces a call for entries for the 2011 Images of the Southwest: Juried Photography Show. This year’s theme is Animals Rule!

All submissions must fit the theme, whether pet or predator, fur or feathers, tracks or tails. Submissions accepted at the Center’s exhibit gallery during regular business hours, March 14 – 19, 2011, with the final deadline at 4 p.m. on March 19. Photographers from all levels are welcome to enter.

Visit [http://swcenter.fortlewis.edu](http://swcenter.fortlewis.edu) for more information.

**New P-Card Rules Regarding Durango Herald (From Wayne Hermes)**
Accounts payable is having major challenges getting the Durango Herald account paid on a timely basis. Part of this is due to a change in the Herald billing system. However, an even larger part is that so many ads are being placed by so many different departments without benefit of a P.O. or use of the P-card that getting Request for Payments sent in a timely fashion is almost impossible. With the cuts that were made in the AP staff it is imperative to reduce the amount of paperwork that they receive for the purpose of cutting checks.

Effective immediately all advertisement with the Durango Herald must be put on the P-card. This eliminates the need for the Herald to send invoices to AP and allows Accounts Payable to process only one check per month. As with any P-card purchase the user will need to keep the Herald invoice for balancing and back-up for their card. My wife is the General Manager for the Durango Herald and I have asked her to instruct all of her ad reps and the front desk of this policy. This should not place an extra burden on anyone at the college and will allow us to pay this account on a timely basis with far less work than is currently the case.

Since the small dollar limit for the P-card is $2000 any single purchase exceeding that amount would require a Purchase Order.
**KEVIN BRITZ REMEMBERED**

Family and friends packed the McPherson Chapel on Friday, January 14, for a memorial service for Dr. Kevin Britz.

Kevin came to Fort Lewis in 2008 as the director of the Center of Southwest Studies. He was remembered at the memorial service as a dedicated father and husband, as well as a passionate learner and teacher.

Elayne Silversmith and Ken Francis, both close colleagues of Kevin’s, spoke during the service. Kevin’s friends, including a former student, and his wife and daughter also spoke.

Kevin’s humor was fondly remembered by several of the speakers. One such memory was an instance during Kevin’s illness when he realized that he’d spent the entire day on his couch in his robe. He sat up suddenly and remarked, “I’m turning into Hugh Hefner!”
Fort Lewis College will celebrate its 100th year as public educational institution throughout 2011, and it all begins with a kick-off “birthday” party for the College on Tuesday, January 25, 2011. The community is invited to the Fort Lewis College Centennial Opening Celebration, which begins at 4 p.m. in Whalen Gym. The free event will include a little history, a few surprises, a lot of fun and a giant birthday cake.

Also as part of the College’s centennial celebration this year, a new Fort Lewis College logo was created. The new design, which features the dates “1911-2011” over the number “100,” was chosen after a campus vote and will be used throughout 2011.

January 25 is an important date in the College’s history as it was on January 25, 1911, that Colorado Governor John Shafroth signed the bill creating an agricultural high school on the Old Fort Lewis property near Hesperus, CO. The first financial appropriation from the state of Colorado for the high school totaled $60,000.

From that agricultural high school with its handful of students, Fort Lewis would evolve into a junior college in 1927, move to Durango in 1956 (the school was then called Fort Lewis A&M College), before finally becoming the four-year liberal arts institution that it is today.

Over the past 100 years, Fort Lewis has become a standout institution. The College continues to honor the agreement the state of Colorado made in 1911 to offer Native American students a tuition-free education. Today, more than 800 Native American students are enrolled at Fort Lewis College and the College bestows more bachelor’s degrees on Native Americans than any other four-year institution in the country.

Another point of pride is the fact that five Fort Lewis professors have been named a Colorado Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education since 1990. In Colorado, only the U.S. Air Force Academy has had more Colorado Professors of the Year come out of its teaching ranks.

Other centennial events are planned throughout the year. More information will be made available in the future.
FLC MILESTONES

1911 (January): Congress deeds the Hesperus site to state of Colorado.

1911 (January 25): Colorado Governor John Shafroth signs a bill establishing an agricultural high school at Fort Lewis under the governance of the State Board of Agriculture, as a branch of the State College of Agriculture.

1912 (summer): Normal school sessions begin at Fort Lewis.

1925: Petition of over 1,000 signatures requests the 26th Colorado General Assembly to establish Fort Lewis as a college.

1927 (September): Two-year college curriculum inaugurated at Fort Lewis; beginning of some college level courses in education during regular school year.

1929: The Student Council selects the beaver as the school mascot, because of the animal’s industrious habits. The school colors are green and gold.

1948: Fort Lewis is officially designated a junior college with its own president; autonomous from Fort Collins but under control of State Board of Agriculture.

1949 (June): Charles Dale Rea becomes the first president of Fort Lewis A & M College after resignation of Dean E. H. Bader.

1956 (summer): Fort Lewis College is moved to Durango (classes begin there in September).

1962: Fort Lewis College becomes a baccalaureate degree-granting institution; Dr. John F. Reed is installed as president; 7 majors are authorized.

1964 (April): “A & M” is dropped from Fort Lewis College’s name. College mascot is changed from Aggie to Raider, and school colors are changed from green and gold to blue and gold.

1994: College mascot is changed from Raider to Skyhawk after much controversial discussion.

2002 (June 4): Colorado Governor Bill Owens signs House Bill 1419, approving the creation of a stand-alone Board of Trustees for Fort Lewis College.
FLC Research Goes National

Dr. Erin Lehmer, assistant professor of Biology at Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO, was featured in a January ScienceNews article on sudden aspen decline and the effect on deer mice carrying the sin nombre virus. Click here to read the article.

Other national publications have taken notice of Dr. Lehmer’s work, which was done with the help of fellow FLC Biology Professor Dr. Julie Korb, including USNews and the New York Times:


The study looks at the relationship between the decline of aspen trees and the rise in population of deer mice. As the number of deer mice rise, so does the prevalence of the deadly sin nombre virus.

Dr. Lehmer and her colleagues presented the research findings that contributed to the article at the January 2011 meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Her excellence in her research and her teaching led to Dr. Lehmer being named the Fort Lewis College New Faculty Award winner in 2010.

As an alumna of Fort Lewis, she is very familiar with the College’s academic and research chops. According to Dr. Lehmer, Fort Lewis offers its students wonderful opportunities to combine learning in smaller classes with learning by doing research, something not always accessible at other schools.

“The obvious difference is that, at a bigger school, the undergraduate classes are huge, maybe a hundred to over four hundred students, so even seniors are going to be in very large classes,” she explains. “Because larger colleges and universities have so many students, it can be difficult for them to offer labs with their science courses, and generally, if labs are offered, they are taught by teaching assistants. At Fort Lewis College, most of our classes are well below thirty students and most of our science classes have labs that are taught by professors.”

Getting the opportunity to learn and do research is one thing, but the quality of those experiences makes a huge difference as well.

“Students at Fort Lewis College get more individual attention and because of this individual attention, they are able to achieve a higher level of learning and a more comprehensive understanding of the material,” she says.

“Built into our curriculum, every biology student is required to complete a year-long senior thesis project, which is an independent, self-directed research project. It’s almost like doing a master’s degree in a year.”

“As part of this research, each student is required to design their own study, collect their own data, and present their findings. In contrast, undergraduates who seek out research opportunities at larger institutions usually have limited opportunities for hands-on data collection because graduate students usually fulfill this role. Fort Lewis College students are given opportunities as undergraduates that they would never be given at larger universities.”
COPLAC Awarded STEM Grant

by Nancy Hensel
Nancy Hensel, executive officer of CUR, said “we see this as an opportunity to enhance the academic experience for thousands of students and we know undergraduate research can also lead to innovation, discovery, and economic development and job creation.”

All of the awardees will work to build and enhance a culture that supports undergraduate research at the institutional and system/consortium level. The workshops will assist participants in articulating goals for institutionalizing undergraduate research, as well as developing strategies to achieve these goals on each campus. Mitch Malachowski, professor of chemistry at the University of San Diego and co-principal investigator on the grant stated, “undergraduate research is one of the most powerful educational experiences students can have. It helps move them from studying a subject to becoming an active participant. This grant will allow us to display to institutions the wonders of undergraduate research and strategies – and to overcome the challenges. Our goal is to support campuses that are committed to achieving more active forms of learning.” During the workshop participants will also be developing an integrated approach for initiating and sustaining faculty-student collaborative or mentored undergraduate research across the system/consortium.

Ephraim P. Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer, California State University notes the large scale impact the participation of the CSU team members will have on the system, “as the largest public baccalaureate degree-granting system in the country, CSU is committed to educating more students to enter careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. We know that undergraduate research is a proven strategy to increase student retention, graduation, and success, and can be particularly effective for groups underrepresented in STEM. That makes our selection for the prestigious CUR workshop opportunity an exciting development for us.”

Rebecca Martin, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at University of Wisconsin System has expressed how excited the team from Wisconsin is to get started and stated “the CUR workshop is an excellent opportunity to further the work that we are doing across the University of Wisconsin System to institutionalize undergraduate research. There is a steadfast commitment on the part of the UW System leadership to facilitate and sustain undergraduate research for two very intentional reasons: it is a high impact practice for achieving excellence in education and a high impact practice to revitalize regional and state economies.”

William Spellman, Director of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges acknowledges the considerable impact the workshop will have on COPLAC, “the Workshop Program will allow over ninety faculty members at twenty-three member campuses of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges to strengthen collaborative efforts in the high-impact practice of undergraduate research. This workshop will have a long-term impact on the public liberal arts sector across the U.S.”

CUR will be announcing a second call for submissions in the near future to select the remaining three slots.

The Council on Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) will be overseen by system administrator William Spellman, Ph. D., Director of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges. COPLAC will have 24 teams from colleges across the country participating during a summer 2011 workshop that will target the development of models for undergraduate research that work best in an environment where faculty focus heavily on student learning and outcomes.
Skyhawk Cycling Hires McGovern, Kight to Coach During Road Season
Search to find permanent director to begin this spring
by Chris Aaland

The Fort Lewis College cycling team has new leadership as it heads into the road portion of its season, Skyhawk Director of Athletics Kelly Higgins announced today. Chris McGovern has been hired as men’s road coach and coordinator of the road cycling team for the spring season and Jimmy Kight has been hired as women’s road coach.

Both men start their jobs on Monday, January 10, 2011.

“Many thanks to the candidates we met with, all the members of the Cycling Advisory Board, the current and past members of the cycling teams, as well as other supporters of the program for taking part in this quick review process,” said Higgins. “It was critical that we put good people in place to handle the upcoming road season which starts soon, and it’s clear we have that now with Chris and Jimmy on in these interim positions. I know they will work great together this spring, and look forward to working with both of them and with the Advisory Board this semester as we move forward with a search for a new director of the program.”

McGovern is currently owner and head coach of Cycleution. He is a USA Cycling certified coach, working with all levels of riders from newcomers to seasoned veterans. He has more than 30 years experience as a racer, from the BMX level on up to the professional level for the Zaxby’s, Jelly Belly, HealthNet and Sierra Nevada teams.

McGovern also helped the Skyhawks finish second in the nation at the 2010 USA Cycling Cyclocross Championships in Bend, Ore., last month.

Kight has five years of coaching experience in a variety of disciplines, including road, cyclocross, mountain biking and BMX. As a professional mountain biker for Team GT and Dos Equis/Barracuda from 1989-97, he was a World Cup slalom champion, won a gold medal in the X Games, and claimed numerous U.S. championships.

Kight already serves as personal coach to one of the Skyhawk women’s cyclists.

Fort Lewis College is home to the nation’s elite cycling program. The Skyhawks have won 17 USA Cycling national championships in the mountain biking, cyclocross and road disciplines. The 2010-11 team won the national championship in mountain biking, finished second in cyclocross and third in track racing.
**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM HOSTS GOLF & RESORT RAFFLE**

Four guests can enjoy four days, three nights at The Phoenician in Scottsdale

by Chris Aaland

The Fort Lewis College women’s basketball team is once again holding a raffle for the ultimate golf and resort package for four people.

The vacation, valued at $8,500, includes lodging for four guests for four days and three nights at the world-renowned 5 Diamond Phoenician Resort Suite in Scottsdale, AZ (retail value at $3,000); three day Troon Academy Golf School at the Talking Stick Golf Club/Troon Golf in Scottsdale (retail value at $2,800); four rounds of golf for four people at your choice of Talking Stick and a round of golf for four at Troon North Golf Club, the top-rated course in Arizona (retail value at $1,800); a Callaway Performance Center club fitting for four people at Troon North (retail value at $600); and a golf goody bag for four (retail value at $300).

The drawing will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2011 during the Fort Lewis vs. Regis basketball doubleheader. The winner need not be present to win. The package is valid through December 31, 2011.

The raffle costs $30 for one ticket, $50 for two tickets, and $100 for five tickets.

Last year’s winner was Emil Wanatka of Durango.

“Without exception, everything and everyone exceeded our expectations,” said Wanatka. “The accommodations, golf course and staff at the hotel were first rate. We greatly appreciate the extra treatment we received over and above the package.”

Click here to download the pdf of the brochure. Mail payment and the printed form to: Fort Lewis College, attn: Women’s Basketball Golf Raffle, 1000 Rim Drive, Durango, CO 81301. Checks should be made payable to the Fort Lewis College foundation, with “Women’s Basketball Golf Raffle” written in the memo line. Forms and payment can also be dropped off at the FLC women’s basketball offices or at the Jan. 21 and 22 home games.

For more information, contact assistant women’s basketball coach Kristen Mattio at (970) 247-7390 or mattio_k@fortlewis.edu.
To purchase your copy, contact the Margie Deane Gray by e-mail, gray_m@fortlewis.edu, or by phone: 970-247-7177