

Bag (wait, recycle) bad habits and go green

Jennie Vader

Colorado College has recently been noticed for its increasing green savvy status as compared to other colleges. CC received a “B” on the Sustainable Endowments Report Card and a 97 out of 99 in the Princeton Review Green Report Card.

CC is more environmentally conscious than ever. In order to continue to increase awareness and because wasteful habits still exist, CC used 2.5 million pieces of paper in 2007-2008, EnAct along with the Campus Sustainability Council (CSC), are working to establish two new large trash and recycle installments on campus to make public points of reminding the campus to work towards changing those habits.

Beginning this Sunday, EnAct will put up a week-long display of giant piles of paper to stand between the pillars in front of the main entrance to the Worner Center, a reminder of the importance of recycling.

Campus Sustainability Council interns initiated “Trash Peak”, the pile of trash by the flagpole outside of the Worner Center, as a display reminding students to reduce wasteful habits.

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Photo: Sarah White

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Message to Board of Trustees: “Financial Aid First”

Ethan Axelrod

Students making their ritual noon-hour trips to the Worner Center on Tuesday were greeted by gold-clad activists urging them to voice their support for maintenance of full funding for Colorado College's financial aid program.

The event, which was independently orchestrated by students, was described by its organizers as a rally to demonstrate the importance of financial aid to the student body.

The rally comes as administrators begin to prepare an operating budget for the 2009-2010 school year that figures to diminish by as much as 10 percent from the current year's budget, according to President Dick Celeste.

At a meeting with faculty on Tuesday, Celeste said that the college's endowment has decreased from \$530 million at its peak to \$385 million. Consequently, the administration needs to cut the school's operating budget, roughly \$25 million of which is taken from the endowment. Celeste specified that the Board of Trustees will need to cut the budget by \$8 to \$12 million for the fol-

lowing academic years. The operating budget for 2008-09 was roughly \$146 million, according to a report distributed by the President's office at a December forum on the state of the budget.

At the forum, Celeste laid out the ad-

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ministration's financial priorities, stating that, as the administration looked to trim the budget, it would first work to preserve funding for financial aid and education programs.

Celeste promised that current students would not see their financial aid cut, but was unable to make any promise regarding the financial aid budget for future classes.

According to Mark Neuman-Lee, CCSGA President and organizer of the rally, planning for Tuesday's event began the Friday before it took place, when he and several other students



Photo: David Carlson

became aware that financial aid was among the programs that may experience budget cuts.

While acknowledging the necessity of tightening the college's operating budget, Neuman-Lee felt that the school should ensure that the cuts do not alter “the makeup of the student

body” by precluding low-income students from attending.

Organizer David Carlson voiced his sentiment that the board of trustees should look elsewhere to trim the budget, and the option of cutting financial aid should be taken off the table.

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