



Colorado State University

# State of Innovation



Colorado State University designated a 2016 APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity University

Colorado State University is a partner with Colorado industries and communities in serving as a catalyst for research, innovation and economic prosperity.

**To strengthen these partnerships and our continued ability to drive fruitful collaborations for Colorado,** the University sought designation in 2016 as an APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity University.

This prestigious designation by the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities required Colorado State to **undertake an intensive self-study to identify the strengths of our economic engagement enterprise as well as areas for growth.** The effort included extensive data collection and the involvement of more than 500 campus and community partners.

CSU launched this process in conjunction with its campus Re-Envision Colorado State initiative, designed to re-imagine the University in all its dimensions to position it for its next century of achievement.

This designation is just the beginning. This document highlights some of the strengths identified through the self-study process and the next steps to be pursued.

**Thanks to all who played a role in earning this designation**

– the doors it opens and the opportunities it creates will benefit Colorado for years to come. We look forward to continuing to collaborate and serve you as your land-grant university.



# Success Stories

APLU's Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Economic Prosperity views university contributions to the economy across a spectrum of activity, classified into three overlapping areas: **Talent, Place, and Innovation.**



## Talent **T**

### Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

In partnership with the Bernard Osher Foundation, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is a member-driven learning community for curious minds of all ages with special attention to those ages 50 and better. One of 119 such institutes nationwide, the institute provides continuous opportunities to seek knowledge and a community where members can share new insights, exchange ideas, ask questions and accomplish goals while making new friends.



## Place **P**

### Lory Student Center

Located in the heart of CSU's Fort Collins campus, the LSC is campus "connection central" – a supportive and creative learning environment, a hub of multiculturalism and social justice, a venue for intellectual dialogue, and a meeting place for friends and colleagues. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and the world at large gather here to work, learn, play, and thrive amongst the energy of the university community.



## Innovation **I**

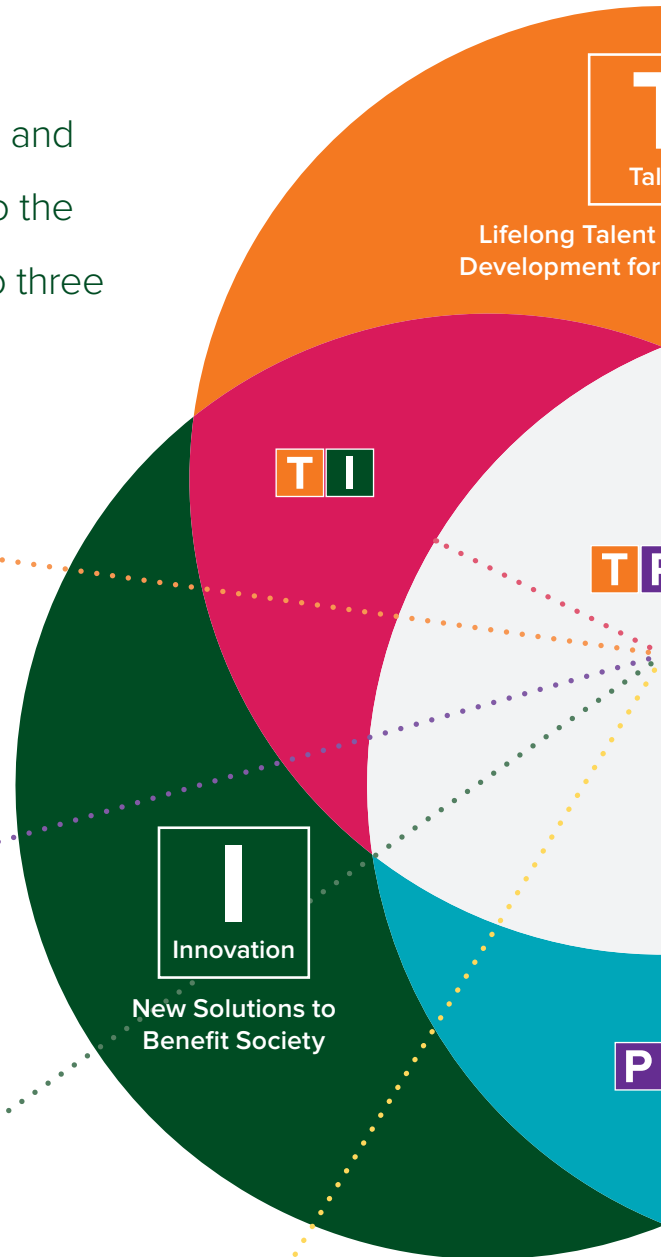
### CSU Ventures

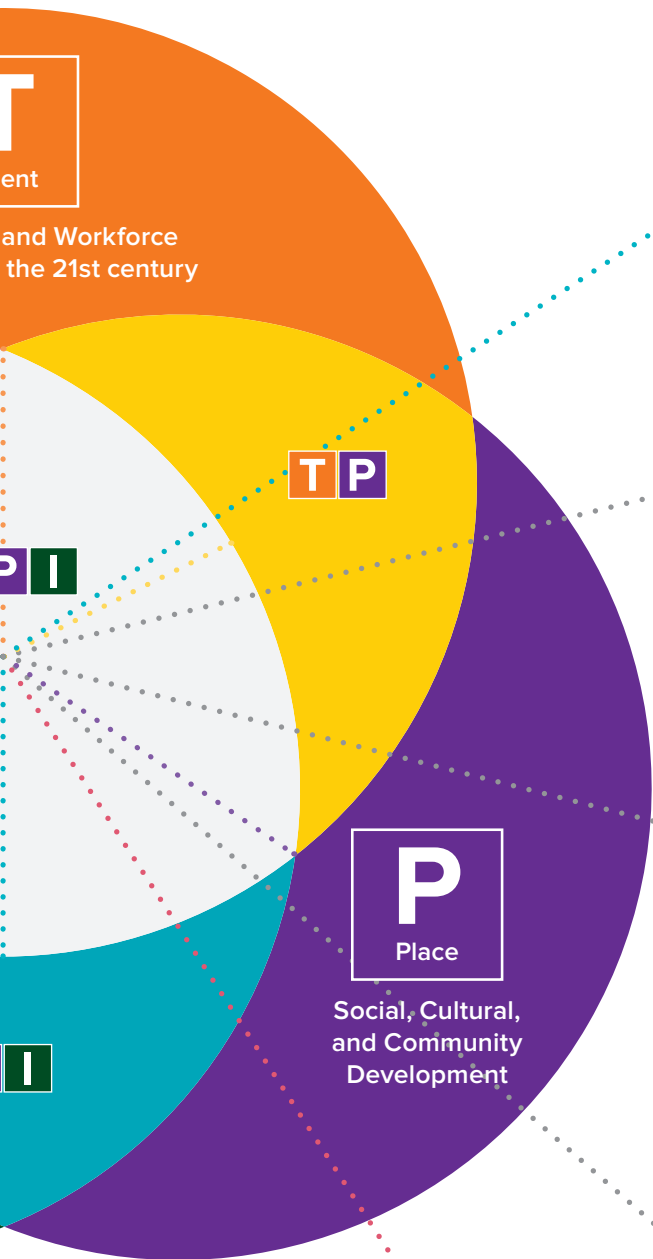
CSU Ventures brings innovations and technologies discovered at CSU into the marketplace for the benefit of society. Their team provides the environment for ideas to grow, engages the resources for ideas to evolve, and develops the partnerships for ideas to become a force locally, nationally and globally. In the past five years alone, CSU Ventures supported 563 inventions, 152 patents, 198 licenses, 30 startup companies and produced \$9.6M in revenue for the university. CSU startup companies currently employ nearly 500 people, with most of these in Colorado.

## Talent + Place **T P**

### University Center for the Arts

The University Center for the Arts is an immersive and inclusive campus for music, theatre, dance and art, born out of the historic Old Fort Collins High School. Encompassing five performance venues, two museums, and over 100 faculty, future generations of arts professionals gather here to make contributions to the essential vitality of our culture and society and advance knowledge in the arts through discovery, dissemination, teaching, and preservation. UCA partners closely with the thriving artistic community in the region to offer exceptional experiences for students and community members alike.

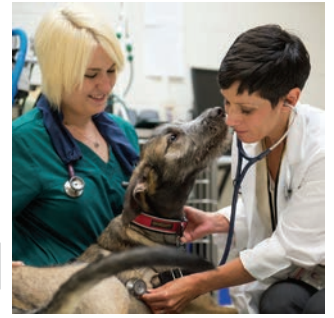




## Place + Innovation **PI**

### One Health Initiative

The global One Health movement recognizes that the health of humans, animals and ecosystems are interconnected. Launched three years ago, this campuswide initiative leverages CSU's distinctive expertise and interdisciplinary team science to address today's complex climatic, ecological, food security, population and public-health challenges.



## Talent + Place + Innovation **TPI**

### National Western Center Partnership

CSU is one of five partners committed to the redevelopment of Denver's National Western Stock Show Complex to become a vibrant year-round destination for agriculture education, research, tourism and commerce. The university will oversee the educational hub for the collaboration with opportunities for experiential learning, research and entrepreneurship on global-scale issues in agriculture, food systems, water, energy, and equine sports medicine. The reimagined complex promises to be an asset to the surrounding communities and state of Colorado.



## School of Global Environmental Sustainability **TPI**

The School of Global Environmental Sustainability serves as a hub to connect CSU's community of scholars and practitioners interested in applying interdisciplinary perspectives to large-scale environmental, economic, and social questions. SoGES has embedded innovative educational programming across the university curriculum, including the Global Social and Sustainable Enterprise MBA program that prepares aspiring international entrepreneurs to manage global ventures with results focused on the triple bottom line of economic, social, and environmental performance.



## Talent + Innovation **TI**

### Institute for Entrepreneurship

Powered by renowned faculty and experienced staff from the College of Business, the Institute for Entrepreneurship is fostering the development of extraordinary entrepreneurs and accelerating the growth of impactful new ventures. Through its multi-disciplinary entrepreneurship education, high-impact learning experiences and strong cross campus collaborative initiative, the Institute is working to foster an entrepreneurial spirit within students across the university.



## Powerhouse Campus Energy Institute **TPI**

Completed in 2014, the Powerhouse Energy Campus has transformed the 1930s Fort Collins Municipal Power Plant into a five-acre site housing the CSU Energy Institute and its 13 affiliated research centers. The LEED Platinum-certified complex represents a new model of collaborative space that fosters interaction and cooperation among researchers, departments, policy makers, partners and start-ups, combining efforts to grow the impact, reach, and reputation of energy education and research at Colorado State University.



# Next Steps ▶

You want us to be more **collaborative and transparent** in establishing economic and community development priorities with regions across Colorado.

- The Office of Engagement will begin facilitating the development of regional strategies with Colorado communities this fall.
- We will invest additional resources and focus in communicating university contributions and inviting your ongoing feedback on opportunities.
- We are conducting an updated comprehensive analysis of the CSU System's economic impact and contributions.

You want us to **better support and reward faculty** involvement in a wide array of economic development activities, including research collaborations with industry and communities.

- A new Provost's Council for Engagement will help lead this focus across CSU's academic colleges.
- We will facilitate opportunities for interested faculty to network, learn, and provide feedback to university leaders.

You want us to **make it easier for community partners to connect** with university expertise.

- We will be studying models at other universities to gather information and best practices about how we can do this better.
- We will develop new platforms to help you better understand how CSU can help and find the right point(s) of contact at the university.
- Partners across the CSU System will collaborate to develop a stronger regional presence across Colorado, connecting University assets to emerging community issues and opportunities.

The university is also exploring ways of **extending our leadership in diversity and inclusion** from campus to the broader community to catalyze regional innovation.

- Stay tuned in the coming months for **more information and invitations to engage** as our improvement plan moves forward.

## Feedback?

Visit [source.colostate.edu/re-envision-csu](https://source.colostate.edu/re-envision-csu) to share your ideas as part of our Re-Envision Colorado State initiative.

## Questions?

Please contact **Paula Mills**, Office of Community & Economic Development at 970-491-3883 or [paula.mills@colostate.edu](mailto:paula.mills@colostate.edu).

## Sponsors

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**Colorado State University**

An equal-access and equal-opportunity University