The red carpet was rolled out in front of the ATLAS building Feb. 15 for a Hollywood-style premiere of the film “Woodshop,” a locally produced comedy starring Jesse Ventura and University of Colorado theater freshman Scott Ryan.

The event included showings of the movie to the media, invited guests and members of the production. It received widespread print, television and online coverage. The movie currently is being released for distribution throughout the United States.

“Woodshop is kind of a modern day Breakfast Club. It is about a group of high school kids who all end up in a Saturday Woodshop detention. I will say, however, it is a bit edgier and a lot more tongue-in-cheek than Breakfast Club,” said Pete Coggan, the producer, writer and director of the movie, in an online chat session with Boulder Camera newspaper reporters. Coggan is a University of Colorado

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‘Woodshop’ premieres in ATLAS

performance music alumnus who directed, produced and wrote Woodshop.

The movie is the first film produced by Coggan’s 42 Productions in Boulder and utilized high-tech digital cameras as well as familiar Colorado locations, including Fairview High School in Boulder. ATLAS was chosen for the premiere as “a world-class media facility” that reflected the Colorado flavor of the film production, which was shot entirely in Colorado, according to 42 Productions.

The main character of Woodshop, Chris (played by Ryan), is a high school senior with the goal of making it through high school unscathed and move on to an Ivy League college. But when he causes an accident in his chemistry class, he is ordered by his principal to spend Saturdays in woodshop detention with the woodshop teacher (Ventura), who is an ex-Army Ranger, and a bad kid gone really bad who intends to blow them all up.

Ventura, an actor who is a former professional wrestler and former governor of Minnesota, has appeared in several films, including Predator, The Running Man and Demolition Man.

Woodshop’s high school principal is played by actor Don Davis, best known as Gen. Hammond in the long-running television series Stargate SG-1. Mitch Pileggi, a veteran of the television series X-Files and Stargate: Atlantis, plays the character Agent Miller. The film also features a cameo appearance by former Denver Bronco Rod Smith as an FBI agent, and several other Colorado actors, including Jeff Nixon, a senior mechanical engineering student at CU.

Woodshop was filmed over several months in the spring of 2008. Use of RED ONE digital cinema cameras enabled Coggan to use less lighting equipment and a smaller crew, which also allowed the production to move quickly. The entire feature was completed in 21 shooting days.

The ground-breaking cameras also allowed the filmmakers to capture film resolution (4k) images without traditional costs associated with film, such as film stock and processing. Takes were reviewed at high resolution in a mobile editing suite, set up in a mobile home parked just outside the set—a strategy also not possible in traditional film production.

The 4K technology “is roughly five times the size of HD and is sometimes referred to as digital cinema,” Coggan said in the chat. “It is pretty much like a hydrogen-powered car showing up on your doorstep.” RED, which is headquartered in Lake Forest, Calif., “has finally produced a camera that allows you to make movies that are not dictated by cost per resolution. It gives us the best pencil we have ever had,” Coggan said.

The ATLAS premiere festivities were hosted by the Center for Arts, Media and Performance.

HOLLYWOOD STYLE: Guests and stars mingle in the ATLAS Lobby (above, left), enjoying food and refreshments. Below left, Jessie Ventura, star of Woodshop, poses with ATLAS employees Rebecca Rowley, left, and Lulu Davis, right.

Ph.D. student Kate Starbird gets NSF fellowship

Kate Starbird, a second-year student in the ATLAS interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Technology, Media and Society, has been selected to receive a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship.

The fellowships are funded for a maximum of three years. The rate for the 2009-2010 period is $30,000.

Starbird is an ATLAS research associate in the Department of Computer Science, working with professor Leysia Palen, and in the School of Education, where she works with professor Margaret Eisenhart.

“I am extremely excited and grateful to my advisor, Leysia Palen, for helping me through the process, iterating over my application about 100 times, and helping me to figure out which NSF category my work falls under, perhaps the hardest part of the application process for an interdisciplinary student,” Starbird said.

Starbird’s research involves the use and creation of technology for education, gender issues, and encouraging young women to explore engineering as a career.
Hutchinson’s course gives teachers info that they put to use in their classrooms

John Hutchinson, an ATLAS visiting professor from Rice University, this semester has been teaching a Thursday course in nanotechnology to 12 Colorado high school teachers who come to his ATLAS classroom, 35 high school science teachers who come to a classroom at Rice University in Houston, and six teachers who participate from their homes.

Linking the students and instructors together are Web and videoconferencing technologies that allow everyone to participate and learn in a single real and virtual classroom.

Hutchinson’s ATLAS classroom uses cameras, microphones and projector screens so that students can see, hear and interact with each other. Carolyn Nichol, associate director for education at Rice’s Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology, uses a similar teaching setup in her classroom at Rice.

Using what they learn

Usually, professional development workshops for high school teachers happen during the summer when schedules are open. But the benefit for the high school teachers taking the course during the evening during the school year is that they can put what they learn to use in their own classrooms more immediately.

“We have found that teachers are able to do the most with the information we provide when they receive it while they are actively teaching,” Hutchinson said. “We have many examples of this. Just last week on the day after a discussion of vapor pressure and dynamic equilibrium, one of our teachers e-mailed me a lesson plan and a photograph of how she had implemented the lesson in her class.”

The class, called Nanotechnology for Teachers, is designed for teacher professional education and is an overview of recent research in nanotechnology combined with an introduction to new teaching approaches in chemistry and physics. Using the videoconference classroom at ATLAS, Hutchinson offered this course via distance learning for the first time this spring.

Ultimate delivery system

Hutchinson, a professor of chemistry who will return to Rice in the fall, sees the Web as the ultimate delivery medium for teacher professional education courses.

“If we can provide these experiences in such a way that more teachers can join us via the Web, that’s the direction we really want to take this in the future,” he said.

“The experiment in distance teaching has gone remarkably well,” he added. “I know we took on some interesting challenges, and we’re testing the limits of what can be done technically. It’s all come together, thanks to a lot of hard work and collaboration by the educational technology staff at ATLAS and Rice.”

Hutchinson cited Manu Ghaffarifar of CU’s Information Technology Services for his excellent work in teaching him about ATLAS’ videoconference facilities.

Hutchinson has been at Rice University since 1983, following a postdoctoral appointment in the Chemistry Department at CU-Boulder from 1981 to 1983.

Rice recognized him in 2007 with the George R. Brown Certificate of Highest Merit in recognition of outstanding contributions to undergraduate education.

Disney, Cirque, Broadway pros hold workshops

Hands-on format draws crowds to Black Box

A series of four weekly directors labs brought entertainment industry professionals to the Black Box Studio in March, providing CU students and community members a unique opportunity to learn various aspects of the process of telling a story through technology.

The professionals came to Boulder through a collaboration with the Center for Arts, Media and Performance, and Broadway in Boulder Studios, which is producing the musical “The Secret Garden,” scheduled to be performed in the Black Box Studio in June. Broadway in Boulder is a division of the Parlando School for the Arts – the largest music school in Boulder and one of the largest in the state.

About 30-60 students, faculty and members of the general public attended each lab.

Follow-up surveys indicate that the labs provided opportunities in disciplines including music, theater, conducting, casting, directing, musical directing and technology. The surveys indicate that about 70% of attendees felt their understanding of working with a range of story structures increased, higher work ethics were instilled, and their network was expanded.

All felt the apprentice-mentor approach in the labs valuable.

‘Secret Garden’ performances scheduled for June in Black Box

“The Secret Garden,” a musical production of Broadway in Boulder Studios, will be performed in June in the Black Box Studio.

The performances will be Tuesdays-Sundays from June 12-27.

Evening performances will be at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays also will have 2 p.m. performances. There will be eight shows each week.

Tickets will be sold at The Dairy Center for the Arts in Boulder, online and at the door. Prices are $18 for adults, $14 for students; opening night is $32.

MEET THE DIRECTORS

Jen Rudin, director of casting and talent development for Disney Theatrical Productions in New York

Rudin discussed her experience as an actress and her path toward casting director and her present position with Disney Theatricals. She then worked with 19 students one-on-one with their audition pieces. Students from music sang, and those from theater presented monologues.

Thomas Kail, Broadway director of ‘In the Heights’

Kail is the director of the currently running show, “In The Heights.” He brought both a director’s and writer’s eye to the table, sharing how that production was made over seven years. The University of Colorado at Denver brought several actors and scenes for him to direct. Most students also presented individual monologues for feedback. Kail’s warmth reminded everyone of the collaborative nature of theater.

Tony Award winning conductor, Kevin Stites

As musical director for 18 Broadway musicals, Stites brought his vast experience to bear on fine-tuning music. Four graduate students in composition and conducting worked with Stites and the cast of the production of Secret Garden. In addition, Stites worked with another dozen students in developing musical audition skills.

Eric Ludacer, director of projections, Cirque du Soleil

Ludacer is the director of projections for The Beatles’ “LOVE,” playing in Las Vegas. In two evenings of detailed presentation, he outlined Cirque’s history and development process, as well as what is needed from design to execution to running a show several times a week for years. After the workshop, he met several CU and DU students for dinner and tech talk.
University of Colorado Ph.D. Theatre candidate Emily Harrison presented her solo work, "Tornado Season," in nine performances in March in the ATLAS Black Box Studio. Harrison performed the work as a member of square product theatre, a Boulder community theater company. Tornado Season, which received a Boulder Arts Commission grant, explored love, faith and violence through text, images, sound and video.

"The most haunting image comes late in the show, when a live, but slightly delayed video feed projects Harrison as she twists alone on the swing," wrote Boulder Camera theater critic Mark Collins. "The moment gives us two perspectives. One is the adult performer in front of us, and the other, the video, shot from directly above, is a childlike image. It suggests how storms from our past can continue spinning us in circles even as the years collect."

Trojan Women, a collaboration between the ATLAS Center for Arts, Media and Performance, and Naropa University in Boulder, was presented in three performances in February in the Black Box Studio. The performances examined the aftermath of war and its dehumanizing affects and is based on Jean-Paul Sartre’s adaptation of Euripides’ war story. The production combined song, dance, music and multimedia.

Trojan Women was directed by Kevin Kuhlke of New York University’s prestigious Tisch School of the Arts, with music by New York-based composer Cynthia Hopkins and choreography by CU Dance faculty member Onye Ozuzu.

"As someone who has worked inside a university environment for the past 25 years, I know all too well how difficult it can be to pull off collaborations of this kind," Kuhlke said. "I really must applaud all who participated."

A media team, which was under the direction of Center for Arts, Media and Performance Director Rebekah West, included center technical manager Bret Mann and performance production manager Gary McCrumb; Jean Hertzberg, a professor in Engineering at CU; CU students Grant Reynolds, Kevin Rice, Autumn Bjegstad, Brandon Lied, Nate Wheeler and Alex Hesemann; associate dean of journalism Steve Jones; journalism instructor Paul Daugherty; and Russ Schissler, a member of the Boulder community and computer wizard. Center Director West also served as the production’s media designer.

This group, along with the production team assembled by Wendell Beavers at Naropa, which included local designer, Mark Fisher, CU faculty member and choreographer Ozuzu and internationally acclaimed SITI company lighting designer Brian Scott, helped create a work of theater that broke new ground in the use of media in live performance.

"What I Saw at the Apocalypse," an immersive performance/concert/installation/spectacle conceived by University of Colorado music professor Michael Theodore, was featured in the Black Box Studio in February. The production combined music, dance, theater, sculpture, painting and animation. It featured the creative works of Tim Erikson, a master folk musician; painter Michael Kuch; sculptor Talice Lee; choreographer and CU dance professor Michelle Ellsworth; actor/director Elizabeth Jochum; violinist Lina Bahn; saxophonist John Gunther; and a large number of student performers.

Theodore also directed the music and created animated projections.

The event was part of the “Apocalypse and Transformation” Colloquium being presented this year by the Center for Humanities and the Arts at CU-Boulder.
Predki’s ‘TOEplitz’ inspired by math, science

Nicole Predki drew on a mathematical concept and an Einstein theory for inspiration in producing her Master of Fine Arts aerial dance concert entitled “TOEplitz” in three February performances in the Black Box Studio.

The performances featured dancing, intricate rhythms, operatic voices and video that was manipulated in real time.

Predki drew inspiration for TOEplitz from German mathematician Otto Toeplitz’s matrix concept, which led to his theory of infinite dimensional spaces.

The acronym TOE refers to the “Theory of Everything,” a concept associated with Einstein’s pursuit of a unified field theory.

While evolving her concepts for the TOEplitz performance, Predki worked with the staff of the Center for Arts, Media and Performance. Predki also performed three works-in-progress and participated in a critical evaluation of her work with MacArthur genius Liz Lerman.

For the final performances, audiences were placed in both the Black Box and in front of a live broadcast of the performance in the ATLAS film screening room.

After TOEplitz was performed once, the audiences switched places for a second performance, allowing them to experience the creative work both in two-dimensional and three-dimensional spaces.

Predki has danced with Frequent Flyers Productions, Interweave Dance Theater, Fred Benjamin Dance Company, Steps on Broadway Scholarship Ensemble, Liss Fain Dance, and Moving Arts Dance Collective.

The concert was sponsored by the Department of Theatre & Dance and the ATLAS Center for the Arts, Media & Performance. More information is available at http://www.meetmytoe.com.

AERIAL DANCE: Nicole Predki, above, was inspired by Otto Toeplitz’s matrix concept as well as the “Theory of Everything,” which has the acronym TOE, in creating her MFA dance concert entitled “TOEplitz.” The creative work included aerial dance, operatic voices and video that was manipulated in real time. Audiences were able to view the show from two different perspectives.

Students plan, jury, curate ‘Time Trap’ exhibit

Conceived, curated and juried by students for students, “Time Trap” was a digital projection installation that was on exhibit in April in the ATLAS digi’liminal space near the lobby stairwell.

The installation was an interpretation of time using digital media juxtaposed with a live video projection of people watching the exhibit.

Time Trap featured the creative work of students in Art & Art History, Computer Science, English, Creative Writing, Film Studies and the ATLAS Technology, Arts and Media certificate program.

A $250 first prize was awarded to Film Studies graduate student Mark McCoin (the Center for Arts, Media and Performance’s next ATLAS Innovator), a $150 second prize went to Scott Raby from Art & Art History, and a $100 third prize went to WilliamTodd Seabrook from English/Creative Writing.

The committee members who created the installation were Ph.D. Theatre candidate Emily Harrison and Daniel Levinson from Business. Kris Kauftheil, a TAM student, designed the curatorial elements.
Leslie Gaston named to CableLabs Fellowship

Leslie Gaston, an assistant professor of recording arts at the University of Colorado at Denver, has been named the recipient of the first CableLabs Fellowship as she joins the ATLAS Technology, Media and Society Ph.D. program in the fall.

Gaston’s research includes comparing multichannel audio codecs and making recommendations for sharing audio among planetariums. She also is pioneering a new style of music video production, “Music Video Vérité,” which avoids lip-syncing in favor of live performances.

At ATLAS, she plans to study the link between audio quality and its impact on perceived video performance within the context of technological progress both toward and away from high audio resolution. Through her research, she will continue to advocate for audio quality in television, Internet, mobile broadcasting, and other new forms of media and digital entertainment.

The CableLabs Fellowship focuses on recruiting and supporting the education and research of an interdisciplinary ATLAS Ph.D. student.

Richard Green, CableLabs CEO, envisioned the fellowship as a way to assist the

Events in ATLAS building kick off three-day Communikey Festival

ATLAS hosted a full day of sound/video workshops and performances on April 17 as part of the Boulder-wide Communikey Festival of Electronic Arts.

The Communikey festival, which is in its second year and is held in Boulder over the Earth Day weekend, provides creative forums for the exploration of electronic music and new media arts.

The festival is a three-day event held at various venues in Boulder. The first day of the festival was held in ATLAS.

The ATLAS events featured free workshops and performances that integrated and created immersive audio and video experiences, some of which also offered audience interaction.

One highlight of the day featured a demonstration of a pre-release version of an audio software known as Max for Live, a high-end audio program popular with artists, musicians and DJs for creating sound and music in live performances.

The evening featured audio and video performances by Gudrun Gut, of Berlin, Germany, who has created film scores, plays and videos, radio programs and mixed media performances internationally; NoiseFold, an interactive art and performance group that creates sound-art, visual-music and noise along with live 3-D animations comprised of visual forms that both create and respond to sound; and the Normal Ones, a Boulder duo that creates live immersive surround sound performances both in the experimental sound design/soundtrack realm as well as dance floor techno and electro.

At Indiana University (Bloomington), she earned an associate of science degree in Audio Technology (1989) at the IU Jacobs School of Music and a bachelor of arts degree in Telecommunications (1991).

Just a few months after graduating, she was hired at National Public Radio in Washington, D.C., as a broadcast/recording technician, working on shows such as “Morning Edition,” “Performance Today,” “Talk of the Nation” and “All Things Considered.”

In 1995, she moved to Denver to work for Colorado Public Radio as the studio systems manager. While at CPR, she recorded the Colorado Symphony Orchestra for broadcast on “Colorado Spotlight.”

In 2000, she earned the regional Edward R. Murrow award for her work on the feature A Columbine Diary.

In 2002, Gaston began graduate studies and at the same time took on full-time work at Post Modern Company, a post-production house. She now holds a master of science in Recording Arts degree from the University of Colorado Denver (2003). She is currently chair of the Audio Engineering Society’s Colorado Section.
Gwen Bell leads social media series

Hands-on lectures allow participants to explore branding

Students, faculty and the public participated in a series of five hands-on lecture/workshops that explored using social networks for branding both businesses and themselves during March and April in ATLAS.

The series, entitled “Navigating the New Social Media Landscape Plus Marketing the Brand Called You,” was led by Gwen Bell, who was named one of the Top 50 Most Powerful and Influential Women in Social Media in 2008.

Bell is an experienced, knowledgeable and “networked” lecturer who started her own series of conferences on social media, Chicks Who Click, in January in Boulder. She writes a regular blog at http://www.gwenbell.com; she has 8,100 followers of her Twitter account at http://twitter.com/gwenbell.

Workshop participants were introduced to a broad range of social media technologies and techniques, including an overview of the social Web; Twitter, Facebook, social network job searching, using social networks to promote and brand businesses, using social networks to brand and promote individuals, and how monitoring social networks can contribute to protecting and promoting brands.

“Students have commented on how dynamic, hands-on and learner-friendly the series was for beginners,” Bell said. “More advanced students enjoyed the social media case studies, best brand practices and Entrepreneur Speed Dating,” which was a breakout session were attendees sat in groups with social network entrepreneurs.

From 30-50 people attended each of the sessions; an additional 20-30 people participated by watching a live Internet video stream of the sessions.

ENTREPRENEURS: The last session of the series featured a panel of social media entrepreneurs, including, left to right, Casey Capshaw, Wordpress Website Production; Chelsea Brady, Fresh Twist Creative, a design and marketing company; Ryan Oelke, a screenwriter and director; and Forest Linden, a Joomla trainer and Web developer.

The free lecture/workshops were a part of the ATLAS Institute Speaker Series, which is supported by a generous gift from Dr. Idit Caperton and daughter Anat Harel. Guest speakers in the Speakers Series range from technical experts to digital artists, each invited to enrich the curriculum and stimulate discussion.

While Bell led most of the sessions, she also brought in social media experts from the surrounding area.

“It would be wonderful to do a follow-up series at the ATLAS building in intermediate and advanced strategies as they pertain to the social Web,” Bell said.

Archive video of the sessions, and more information, is available at http://www.colorado.edu/atlas/bell.
NCWIT gives 32 Aspirations awards

NCWIT and Bank of America recognized 32 high school women for their accomplishments and aspirations in computing and technology in March.

The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing was created to highlight the computing aspirations of young women, introduce them to leadership opportunities in the field and generate visibility for women’s participation in technology fields.

The 32 award-winners, chosen from among 379 applications from 38 states, were selected for their outstanding aptitude and interest in technology and computing, leadership ability, academic history, and plans for post-secondary education.

The award-winners were honored in Charlotte, N.C., at the Bank of America Technology Stars of the Future Technology Showcase & Awards Ceremony.

AWARD WINNERS: Thirty two women were recognized for their computer and technology accomplishments and aspirations at the Bank of America Technology Stars of the Future Technology Showcase and Awards Ceremony in March in Charlotte, N.C.

NCWIT has released “Pipeline-in-a-Box: Promoting Advancement of CS/IT Students from Two-Year to Four-Year Institutions,” and “Pair Programming-in-a-Box: The Power of Collaborative Learning.”

NCWIT also has updated one of its most popular resources, “By the Numbers,” (at left) a one-page sheet that provides a look at women’s participation in IT based on statistics from Catalyst, College Board, Department of Labor, Higher Education Research Institute, National Center for Education Statistics and others.

By the Numbers provides a snapshot of the entire education and workforce pipeline across which NCWIT’s efforts strive to make an impact.

Pipeline-in-a-Box outlines five steps for strengthening the relationship between faculty, administrators, and advisers at community colleges and four-year institutions in order to increase the number of students, including underrepresented groups, graduating with computer science or IT baccalaureate degrees.

Pair Programming-in-a-Box is a set of resources that helps instructors of introductory college programming classes integrate and evaluate pair programming into their courses. The box provides validated methods for implementing pair programming, including orienting students and course staff, forming programming pairs, facilitating teamwork and evaluating the effectiveness of pair programming.
Assessment and Research News

Tim Weston’s work in creating and disseminating the Undergraduate Research Student Self Assessment (URSSA) is featured in the Spring 2009 Council for Undergraduate Research Quarterly Journal. He also is developing customizable online assessments for university instructors, departments and evaluators with the Student Assessment of Learning Gains (SALG), for professional development programs with the Biological Sciences Initiative, and for elementary school students with the ICARE initiative.

Sarah Hug is writing a chapter for the 35th edition of the Education, Media and Technology Yearbook in co-operation with her mentor, Susan Jurow. The book is an annual publication of the Association for Educational Communication and Technology. Hug’s chapter is entitled “Developing technological fluency in community practice: Implementing invisible tools.” She continues to participate in the Broadening Participation in Computing (BPC) national community-- she traveled to Charlotte, N.C., for the National Science Foundation BPC Principal Investigators meeting in February and to Google headquarters to attend the CAHSI annual meeting in January.

Kim Kalahar organized 10 Broadening Participation in Computing Alliances in a triple booth at the ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE) in Chattanooga, Tenn. The symposium theme was “Engaging Computer Science Education.” The 10 alliances took turns in the booth talking with nearly 1,300 conference attendees. Attendees commented the “one stop shop” of a booth focused on diversity efforts made it easier for them to pick up materials and see what was available.

Kalahar also worked with the Practices, Aggregation, Infrastructure and Retrieval Service (PAIRS) BPC collection team digital library to convene their board at the Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing in Portland, OR. The team co-PI’s showed the board the existing site and solicited their feedback for making improvements.

Sonal Lamba Malhotra, an NCWIT graduate research assistant, has been awarded a Dale Hatfield Scholarship. The scholarship will sponsor her in an internship this summer with the Federal Communication Commission. Dale Hatfield is an adjunct professor with Interdisciplinary Telecommunications Program and was the chief of the Office of Engineering and Technology at the Federal Communications Commission. The Dale Hatfield Scholars and Research Program was created to promote and carry on the values that Dale has embodied in his distinguished career. Award recipients receive a $3,500 stipend for expenses incurred during their internship.

TAM to award record number of certificates

The Technology, Arts and Media (TAM) certificate program plans to award a record 52 certificates to students during graduation ceremonies at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 7, in the ATLAS auditorium.

With this class, the total number of students earning the certificate would top 400. TAM enrolls students from 50 different majors on campus from within the following schools and colleges: Arts and Sciences, Business, Journalism, Engineering, Music, and Architecture and Planning.

Because of high demand for the certificate, TAM core courses again will have long wait lists for the fall. For students planning to graduate before May 2011, TAM can no longer guarantee they will be able to fulfill the 21-credit course requirements to earn the certificate before they graduate.

However, TAM is offering a record number of elective courses for the fall, including: Virtual Worlds: Intro to Computer Science; Game Development 1; Digital & Social Systems Professional Development; Global Warming & Video Production; Client Projects; Music Video Projects as a Catalyst for Social Change; Digital Sound; Digital Video; and Creating Identity.

Alumni Association recognizes Limerick with Stearns Award

Patty Limerick, director of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado at Boulder and an ATLAS Board member, has been recognized by the CU-Boulder Alumni Association as the recipient of the Robert L. Stearns Award.

The Stearns Award recognizes outstanding members of the current CU-Boulder faculty and staff. It honors exceptional achievement or service in any one, but usually a combination, of the following areas: outstanding teaching, extraordinary service to the university, exemplary work with students, significant research and/or off-campus service to the community. The awards committee considers the qualifications of staff nominees separately from the qualifications of faculty nominees.

Limerick has been a faculty member of the History Department since 1983. She has received a number of awards and honors recognizing the impact of her scholarship and her commitment to teaching.

ABOUT ATLAS UPDATES

ATLAS Updates is a quarterly newsletter published by the ATLAS Institute at the University of Colorado at Boulder. To request copies of the publication, send an e-mail to cuatlas@colorado.edu. Copies of Updates also are available in PDF format at http://www.colorado.edu/atlas/about/updates/
West leaving ATLAS for art in public spaces

Rebekah West, director of the Center for Arts, Media and Performance, is leaving her position at the end of June to pursue projects involving art in public spaces.

“ Inspired by El Sistema in Venezuela, where 300,000 children each year are shown the world through orchestral music, I will be recommitting my leadership back to the streets, so to speak, where song replaces food when food is scarce, stories transport people from despair, and rhythm joins people together toward common purpose,” West said. “I anticipate working further with many of my ATLAS colleagues in a larger social venue where arts, education and society intersect.”

The Center for Arts, Media and Performance is the arts arm of ATLAS, hosting and providing performances, television and other broadcasts, recordings, installations, exhibits, workshops, festivals, seminars and classes in multi-media art.

West has been director of the center for the past two years.

West’s experimental films and photographs are shown around the world and she performs with her flamenco company PolkaDot.

After June 30, West can be reached via her Web site at rebekahwest.com.

Dave Kalahar wins ATLAS Award

Dave Kalahar, the curriculum adviser for the ATLAS Technology, Arts and Media (TAM) program since 2004, is the recipient of the ATLAS Award, an annual ATLAS recognition given “to the person who shoulders a heavy burden for ATLAS.”

As curriculum adviser, Kalahar not only advises TAM certificate program students, but he also organizes and recruits students for various TAM courses through open houses and presentations around campus. He also communicates regularly with faculty from various disciplines across campus who teach in the TAM program and helps schedule courses within the ATLAS building.

Kalahar’s colleagues note that while he does the work of three people, he always is willing to spend time helping staff, faculty and students, and is “irreplaceable.”

Prior to joining ATLAS, Kalahar worked in advising for 14 years with Aerospace Engineering, where he received advising awards from Engineering, the Boulder campus, Athletics, Air Force ROTC, and the Minority Engineering Program.

He enjoys playing hockey and softball, as well as boating.

Kim Kalahar named ATLAS ‘Titan’

Kim Kalahar, who is program manager in the ATLAS Assessment and Research Center, is the winner of the ATLAS “Titan of the Quarter” Award.

Kalahar manages complicated grants, organizes conferences, travel and the budget.

“Her mind is a super-galactic vault of knowledge that allows her to handle several large projects at once without letting a single detail slip, noted a colleague. “At the front line, Kim negotiates what she needs and stands firm on what she knows has to be done.”

She enjoys jet skiing, watching Redwings hockey, and spending quality time with her husband, Dave, who was named the winner of the ATLAS Award (see above story), and their two sons.

Pam Jones named director of development for ATLAS

Pam Jones, an assistant vice president for the CU Foundation, is the new development director for ATLAS.

In her role, Jones will raise funds for ATLAS and build support for its initiatives and programs.

Jones, who also is the development director for the School of Journalism, has worked in advancement and development for the past 12 years, most recently as the principal of her own consulting firm. Prior to that, she directed and oversaw a university-wide corporate and foundation relations program.

At CU, she was a major gifts officer for the Leeds School of Business. She began her career in higher education fundraising as the director of development for University Libraries at Colorado State University, where she received her undergraduate and MBA degrees.
Laptop orchestra enters virtual world
Instruments blend with electronics in dual-venue show

Musicians combined electronics on laptops with traditional instruments in the Boulder Laptop Orchestra (BLOrk) performance Saturday, May 2, in the Black Box Studio and simultaneously in the online virtual world of Second Life.

The performance was led by assistant professor of Jazz Studies John Gunther.

“Producing a laptop orchestra concert is a very exciting, fun project,” Gunther said. “We’re trying to explore and expand the boundaries of both electronic and traditional music. To do this, it helps to have a sense of humor.”

Janet Feder, music department chairman at Naropa University, joined the group on acoustic guitar for a performance of a work inspired by Maurice Sendak’s “Where the Wild Things Are.”

The musicians performed with graphic backdrops projected on screens. One screen displayed the live stream of the performance in Second Life, which is an online 3D world where people interact with each other as avatars.

Each of the six laptop musician had an individual speaker that uses a new technology. Originally designed at Princeton University, such speakers are able to recreate the way acoustic instruments project sound. Audience members could distinguish the sounds each laptop musician produced, as with a more traditional string quartet.

BLOrk is part of the Center for Innovative Studies in Music, Art and Technology research initiative funded by a CU Innovative seed grant. More information about the initiative is at http://www.cismat.org/.

VIRTUAL, REAL INNOVATION: Members of the Boulder Laptop Orchestra (BLOrk) use laptops and traditional instruments in a performance Saturday, May 2, in the Black Box Studio. The performance also was broadcast live in the virtual world of Second Life (top photo, and in a projection used as a backdrop for the performance).

The Alliance for Technology, Learning and Society (ATLAS) at the University of Colorado at Boulder was established in 1997 as a campus-wide interdisciplinary initiative.

ATLAS broadens the benefits of the networked information age by providing multidisciplinary curricular, research and outreach programs that integrate information and communication technology with a wide variety of disciplines and people, both inside and outside the university.

More information about ATLAS and its initiatives can be found at http://atlas.colorado.edu. To contact ATLAS, call 303-735-4577, or e-mail cuatlas@colorado.edu.