

STUDENT LIFE EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



COLORADO SCHOOL OF
MINES

February 2024



A LOOK AHEAD... SPRING SEMESTER 2024



Dear Student Life Division Members,

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance communication within our division, this newsletter is intended to share updates, information, and reminders of relevance for professional Student Life staff every month. There's a LOT going on at Mines these days, so we are curating some information that we hope will be top-of-mind each month!

Thanks for your commitment to enriching the student experience, as we celebrate 150 years at Mines. Your dedication to supporting students in their journey towards academic success, personal development, and a sense of belonging is truly commendable.

The Office of Student Life
www.mines.edu/student-life/

GIVE A GOLD NUGGET!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE A GOLD NUGGET (SHOUT OUT) TO A SPECIAL COLLEAGUE OR OFFICE??

Student Life values the positive impacts we can have on each other in the workplace. In the spirit of recognizing our amazing staff in Student Life, we'd like to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for all the work you continue to do for our students, our division, and our Mines Campus.

On that note, we'd like to offer an opportunity for you to award a "gold nugget" to colleagues or offices on campus that have presented or implemented a successful new idea or process, have particularly gone above and beyond in their work and in support of others, or have just been an overall rock star!

The individual or office who receives a 'Gold Nugget' will be presented with a certificate containing their name and recognition of the work they've done. You may also submit a nomination for any campus partners or offices outside Student Life!

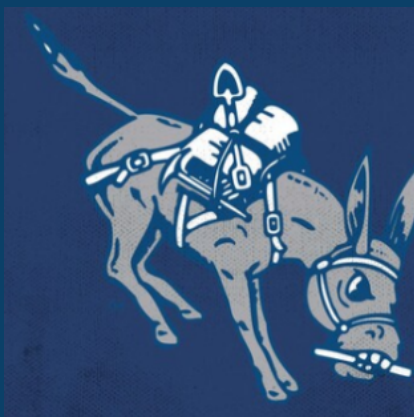
Special shout out to **Taffy Negonde** for sharing his "send a colleague a smokey idea" with us, from his days back at the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

Please send your nominations electronically via this [nomination form](#).



A gold nugget goes to **Jeri Brewer**, Assistant Director at the PASCAL Center for being a 2023 DI&A Award Recipient thanks to her work in 'Raising Awareness.'

As described by her colleagues and nominators, "Jeri is an asset to Mines, especially relating to her voluntary role as a DI&A Ambassador and her initiative to educate campus by leading a book group that read and studied *Me and White Supremacy* last spring. Jeri was a knowledgeable facilitator who made the participants think and challenge themselves. Jeri's efforts to foster conversation and raise awareness of DI&A on campus help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone."



A gold nugget goes to **Regina Willis**, Associate Director of Disability Support Services for her work in 'Creating a Culture of Inclusion'.

As described by her colleagues and nominators, "Regina consistently demonstrates a high level of care, compassion and advocacy for students. She is relied on for her expertise and guidance regularly, and is appreciated for her positive attitude and the joy and passion she brings to her work. Regina advocates for students when she communicates with faculty to discuss the importance of accommodations and how the presence of accommodations allow students to actively engage in their own learning. Regina also teaches Bounce Back. She uses humor and wit to break the ice with students and makes them feel at ease. Regina creates a safe space for dialogue in the classroom, which allows her students to learn more about their peers and the support available to them at Mines."

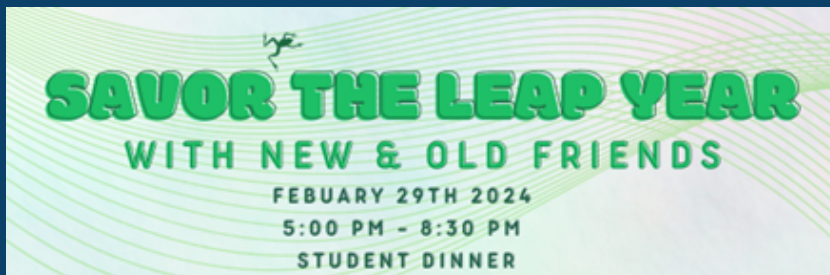


DID YOU KNOW?

Events that are open to the campus and/or to the general public should be included on the main [Colorado School of Mines University Calendar](#) to help spread the word.

When planning an event, please consider formally [submitting it](#) for inclusion on the main University calendar (in addition to the Daily Blast) for promotion to a broader audience.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Want to participate in fun event involving food and students? Student Life and Sodexo are teaming up for a "Savor the Leap" Student Dinner at Mines Market.

Thursday, February 29, 2024
5:00pm to 8:30pm

We need volunteers to help host the event, and "serve" our students. Volunteer shifts will be 4:45pm to 6:15pm and 6:00pm to 7:45pm. More details will be shared by the Office of Student Life, including sign up information and number of volunteers needed at each station, as well as, any "floaters".

[Sign Up](#)

STUDENT LIFE DIVISION MEETING



Wednesday, February 7, 2024 | 10am to 12pm
Student Center Ballrooms ABC

STUDENT LIFE TOWN HALLS



Tuesday, March 12, 2024 | 11am to 12pm
Student Center Ballrooms AB

Tuesday, April 30, 2024 | 11am to 12pm
Student Center Ballrooms AB

LET'S DO LUNCH

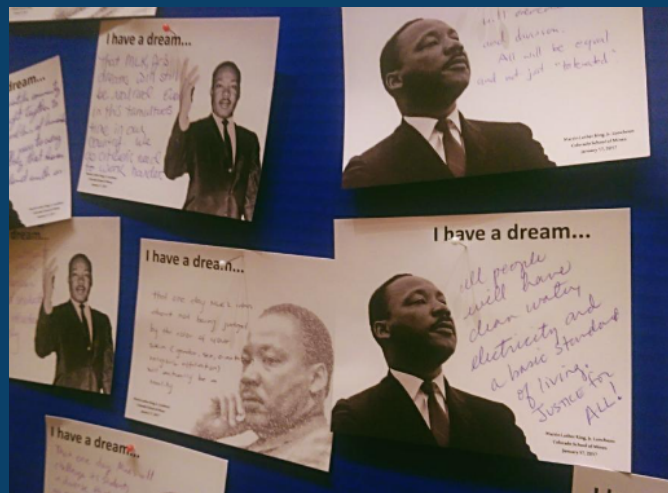
Keep an eye out for upcoming invitations (optional) to our **Let's Do Lunch Series**. We have a great roster of presenters and topics for Spring 2024.

The next **Let's Do Lunch** will be on **February 19, 2024**, and will feature a presentation led by Sam Ralston and the Trefny Center on Generative AI. The Administrative Professionals group will be invited to join us to learn more about this important topic. We hope to see you there!

Monday, February 19, 2024 | 12pm to 1pm
Brown W250



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MLK's Vision: Empowering Change in Turbulent Times and Celebrating 60 Years of Civil Right

This year, we mark not only the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s indelible legacy but also the significant milestone of the 60th anniversary of the historic 1964 Civil Rights Act. Gather with us as we draw upon the wisdom of esteemed community leaders, and featured guest speakers. Contact stzegai@mines.edu with any questions.

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 | 4pm to 6pm
Student Center Ballrooms ABC



LABRIOLA INNOVATION DISTRICT GRAND OPENING

The entire Mines community is invited to celebrate the long-anticipated Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of the Labriola Innovation District on Founders Day. Students will be able to experience hands-on learning in a unique makerspace environment at this state-of-the-art multi-facility district. Be one of the first to tour this central innovation hub at Mines and learn about its impact. No need to register and stick around to celebrate our Mines 150th Birthday Party at 1pm!

Friday, February 9, 2024 | 12pm to 1pm
Labriola Innovation District



ROCK THE LOCK-MINES BASKETBALL

Rock the Lock returns **Friday, February 9, 2024** when the Orediggers face off against Black Hills State at **Lockridge Arena**. Come support our teams and have a blast. For more details, check our [Men's Basketball Schedule](#) and [Women's Basketball Schedule](#).

Women's Basketball 5:30pm
Men's Basketball 7:30pm

Want to learn more about our Athletics and Rec Sports Teams playing this Winter and Spring?? Check out [Mines Athletics](#) and [Recreational Sports](#) for schedules, rosters, stats, and other information.



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Join your fellow Mines students, faculty and staff on **Thursday, February 22** for a full day of free activities and workshops focused on the seven dimensions of wellbeing. Drop in for sessions throughout the day and gain helpful knowledge and skills.

We will also have our first ever **annual Oredigger Awards** presented to an undergrad student, a grad student, a classified staff member, an administrative faculty member, and an academic faculty member.

Every Oredigger Day Schedule

8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. | Student Center Ballrooms

- Healthy Eating for Busy Lifestyles
- Introduction to Financial Wellness & Literacy
- QPR Training

10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. | Student Center Ballrooms

- Imposter Syndrome
- Social Wellness: Establishing Community Connections
- Fire Safety & Emergency Planning: Residential Setting
- Stronger through Stillness: Mind Is Strongest Muscle

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. | Friedhoff Hall

Student Social, Awards, and Keynote Speaker

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. | Student Center Ballrooms

- Balance and Self Care
- Neurodivergence and Mental Health
- Stressbusters
- Firearm Safety and Our Community

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | Friedhoff Hall

Employee Social, Awards, and Keynote Speaker

All day: Free access to the Student Rec Center (members and non-members), including 12 group fitness classes.

For more details visit [Every Oredigger](#) or contact [Molly Hutchinson](#) or [Rob Thompson](#).

Thursday, February 22, 2024 | 8:30am to 5:00pm

SAFE ZONE TRAINING

Would you like to learn strategies to support LGBTQ+ students, staff, and community members, by creating inclusive spaces and being an empowered ally? Our Mines DI&A Team would like to extend an invitation for you and your teams to join Safe Zone Training this February as an opportunity learn strategies to create inclusive spaces and support LGBTQ+ community members.

- Basic language and terminology
- The differences between sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and biological sex.
- The importance of pronoun usage
- The impacts of heteronormativity and cisnormativity
- The "coming out" and "transition" processes
- Dispel harmful myths about the LGBTQ+ community
- Explore ways to support the LGBTQ+ community through allyship

If you'd like to attend, please fill out this [RSVP Form](#). Contact [Serena Lewis](#) for more details.

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 | 1pm to 4pm
Student Center Ballrooms AB

AUTHENTICALLY ME SERIES: BLACK ENGINEERING PANEL

MINES | Multicultural Engineering Program (MEP)

Authentically Me Speaker Series
BLACK ENGINEERING PANEL

Come network with Black engineers and discover how they celebrate culture and community in their work. Food will be provided!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024
12:00PM - 1:00PM **BERTHOUD 243**

NSBE
NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS

NSBE promotes the recruitment, retention and successful graduation of Black and other underrepresented groups through student interaction, university academic support and career guidance programs.

FEATURED EVENTS



Adriana Alba

Assistant Director of Employer Engagement
Career Center

Prior to Mines: Her journey at Mines started as an Events Specialist and Res Life COVID Response Coordinator, before joining the Career Center as an Events Coordinator then Assistant Director of Employer Engagement.

Fun Facts: Currently taking classes towards her Master's degree in Engineering and Technology Management at Mines.

Contact: aalba@mines.edu | 303-384-2541



Marilynn Gallegos

Assistant Director of Student Engagement
Student Activities, Involvement and Leadership

Prior to Mines: Hailing from Española, New Mexico, she has a B.A. from CSU in Human Development and Family Studies, and an M.A. from UNC Greeley in Higher Ed and Student Affairs. Served as the Student Clubs and Organizations Coordinator for SAIL since May 2022, before transitioning to her new role

Fun Facts: Mines 2022 Chili Cookoff Champion

Contact: mgallegos@mines.edu | 303-273-3234



Aubrey Kray

Scholar Communities Coordinator
Professional & Scholar Communities - PASCAL

Prior to Mines: Born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii, she received her B.A. from UH Hilo in Communications and met her husband, Wolf, a Colorado native. She spent a big portion of her professional career at Regis, where she received her MBA.

Fun Facts: Loves to cook, do puzzles, and cuddle up with her French bulldog "Colette". At least once a year, she and Wolf love to travel aboard. She also has one of the longest middle names.

Contact: aubrey.kray@mines.edu | 303-384-2341



DePaul Straub

Assistant Director
New Student & Transition Services - NeST

Prior to Mines: Graduating from James Madison University with a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies, and from UNC Greensboro with Master's in Student Affairs Administration. Started at Mines in 2021, first as a grad assistant, then as a coordinator, before becoming Assistant Director. He'll be bolstering communication efforts with new students, families, campus partners.

Fun Facts: Served as member of Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity, Bluestone Yearbook, and Future Social Studies Educators.

Contact: fdstraub@mines.edu | 303-384-5532



Chelsey Adkins

Career & Professional Development Advisor
Career Center

Prior to Mines: Chelsey worked in Disability Services at a small college in Houston, Texas, and as a Rehabilitation Counselor in a mental health setting where she helped young adults explore work and school opportunities.

Fun Facts: Chelsey enjoys being outdoors, live music, spoiling her dog, and helping young adults explore work and school opportunities.

Contact: chelsey.adkins@mines.edu | 303-384-2544



Sam Araujo

Program Coordinator
Multicultural Engineering Program

Prior to Mines: Previously worked in the Computer Science department at Mines, and initiated two K-12 outreach programs, and after-school tutoring.

Fun Facts: Born in the Dominican Republic, he's a first-gen college graduate from St. John's University. He's fluent in Spanish, enjoys cinema, reading non-fiction, and live sports. He coaches at Bethlehem Catholic and in 2019 won PIAA 4A Girls Basketball Championship.

Contact: saraujo@mines.edu | 303-384-2212



Amy Beezley

Registered Nurse
Student Health and Wellness Center

Prior to Mines: She received her BSN from Metro State University in Denver, and joined our Student Health and Wellness Center in October 2023.

Fun Facts: Amy lives in Golden and enjoys spending time with family and friends, as well as hiking mountains and exploring the outdoors.

Contact: amy.beezley@mines.edu | 303-273-3381



Kathryn Chapman

Career Events Coordinator
Career Center

Prior to Mines: She is a dedicated events and marketing professional, who studied hospitality management at Rochester Institute of Technology and has grown her skills in event planning at country clubs, restaurants, hotels and breweries.

Fun Facts: Outside of work, Kathryn enjoys spending time with her dog, exploring new restaurants & events with friends, camping, hiking, skiing and photography.

Contact: kathryn.chapman@mines.edu | 303-273-32331



Lizi Fapp

Academic Advising Coordinator
Center for Academic Services & Advising

Prior to Mines: She worked in academic advising roles at the University of Colorado Denver, at Front Range Community College, and California Polytechnic State University. She hails from the California Central Coast, and has resided in Colorado for about 7 years.

Fun Facts: She enjoys salsa dancing, live music, spending time outside (preferably near water), and watching true crime docs. with her dog "Eddie".

Contact: lizi.fapp@mines.edu | 303-384-2600



Cheri Giammo

ROTC University Liaison
Reserve Officers Training Corps

Prior to Mines: A retired high school chemistry, biology, and environmental science teacher, who taught at St. Vrain Valley School District for a number of years, she's also a proud USAF (Air Force) veteran. She received her B.S. in Biology from Christopher Newport University and her Master's in Science Education.

Fun Facts: Loves paddle boarding, hiking, reading Stephen King novels, and mentoring ROTC cadets.

Contact: cheri.giammo@mines.edu | 303-273-3380



Christina Leedham

Professional Development Coordinator
Professional & Scholar Communities -PASCAL

Prior to Mines: Grew up in Las Vegas before moving to California to earn her BA in Communication at Cal Poly State University. Through her journey, one constant has been her commitment to supporting students during transitional phases of their lives.

Fun Facts: She taught high school English and Technology in Madrid, and enjoys climbing, mountain biking, and sharing her life with her partner, Sawyer, and their cat, Rango.

Contact: christina.leedham@mines.edu | 303-273-3478



Erin Manzanillo

Nurse Practitioner
Student Health and Wellness Center

Prior to Mines: She is a board-certified Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner received her graduate degree with honors from the University of Colorado and undergraduate degree with honors from Northeastern University in Boston.

Fun Facts: She has been practicing in the metro area in a variety of settings, including community mental health, addiction medicine and private practice. She enjoys working with college students and is interested in continuing to develop her expertise.

Contact: erin.manzanillo@mines.edu | 303-273-3381



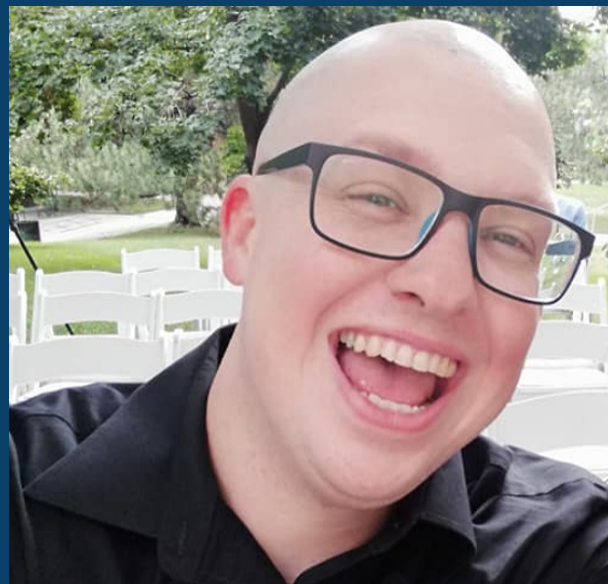
Kim Myers

Assistant Director of Community Standards
Dean of Students Office

Prior to Mines: Coming from MSU Denver where she previously worked in conduct and behavioral intervention, she is originally from Phoenix but has enjoyed living in Colorado for the past five years. She previously worked at CCD in student conduct, but kicked started her higher ed career in Res Life.

Fun Facts: She is a crafter, has been jazzercising for 15 years, enjoys traveling, and hopes to visit all 50 states.

Contact: kimberly.myers@mines.edu | 303-273-3350



Chris Rief

Academic Advising Coordinator
Center for Academic Services and Advising

Prior to Mines: He's worked with law enforcement, public libraries, human resources, international affairs, education abroad, administrative work, career and academic advising. His philosophy in higher ed is to be "person-centered," and not "student-centered."

Fun Facts: In his spare time, he enjoys streaming on Twitch, watching anime, Pokémon, cooking, traveling, card games, and spending time with friends.

Contact: christopher.rief@mines.edu | 303-384-2600



Holly Stone

Medical Assistant
Student Health and Wellness Center

Prior to Mines: She has worked in the medical field for 20 years after receiving her Medical Assistant Certification from Heritage College in 1996. Being a medical assistant is her passion.

Fun Facts: A Denver native, she loves spending time with her family, camping, and going to concerts.

Contact: holly.stone@mines.edu | 303-273-3381



Dave Williams

Assistant Athletics Trainer
Athletics

Prior to Mines: Received a B.S. in Kinesiology and Exercise Science from the University of Pittsburgh, and a Master's degree in Athletic Training from Temple University. Prior to Mines, he worked as an Assistant Athletic Trainer for the University of Colorado Boulder.

Fun Facts: While attending the University of Pittsburgh, he was also captain of the men's rowing team.

Contact: david.williams@mines.edu | 303-384-2758



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Fox Outstanding Student Service Award

Please consider nominating one or more senior students, graduating in our Spring 2024 Commencement, for the Dan Fox Outstanding Student Service Award. This award is presented by the Division of Student Life to a student who went above and beyond in their academic role, participated in activities or projects for the greater benefit of their peers and community, and promoted overall excellence and well-being during their career at Mines. We know there are many outstanding students who deserve this nomination! Please submit your nominations to studentlife@mines.edu by Friday, March 15, 2024.

Dan Fox Award Nomination Form

DID YOU KNOW? WE ARE COLLECTING PHOTOS

We love it when student and campus life is captured in photos! These snapshots help highlight the diverse experiences and accomplishments of our Mines community.

Did you know that our Communications and Marketing team is always looking for opportunities to photograph and share the student experience? This includes students participating in our events and programs, as well as outstanding scholars who have distinguished themselves in a newsworthy way. Photos from large-scale events and signature experiences, along with student competitions, projects, and hands-on learning activities can be downloaded from our **Mines Flickr photostream**, as well as **mines.zenfolio.com**.*

Of course, it can be difficult to capture smaller, department-hosted events or candid moments that can tell a wonderful story. If you have photos you'd like to share, please drop them into the **Student Life Photo Bucket** located in our shared **Student Life Teams Folder**. These photos can be featured in our newsletters, presentations, and websites, and shared with the Comms team.

**Photos taken by staff/faculty can be shared with the Communications team for storage in Zenfolio. Please email communications@mines.edu to request this service.*

HELPFUL REMINDERS!

As we move forward with Spring Semester and welcome new members to our team, please review the helpful reminders below!

Gift Ban: Colorado state employees are not allowed to accept gifts or favors that could influence their impartiality. This includes anything valued at more than \$65. Examples of gifts include food, swag, tickets, or experiences related to their role. It's the employee's responsibility to be cautious and decline inappropriate gifts. If unsure, please consult with your supervisor. For more details, please review Mines' **Gift Compliance Policy**.

Endorsements and Sponsorships: As state employees, we can't publicly endorse private businesses or products, even if it benefits our workplace. This rule applies to our official capacity and extends to friends, family, or any non-governmental affiliations. While we have personal freedom as private citizens, we must be cautious not to connect endorsements to our public roles. Sharing factual information about products or services at work is fine, but expressing opinions that could be seen as endorsements is generally not allowed. For more information, please review our **Conflict of Interest Policy**.

Contracts: Signing contracts on behalf of Mines should be limited, and unauthorized signatures agreements will be made null and void. The Procurement Office handles most contract signings after vetting, so it's crucial to consult with them for any contracting needs. Even if a document isn't explicitly labeled as a contract, if it presents like one, it should be treated as such, to avoid issues. Please check with your supervisor and refer to the **Procurement Office** or our University policy on **contracts**.

Media and Press Requests: Media requests where a staff member is speaking on behalf of, about, or with reference to Mines, should be coordinated with **Emilie Rusch** and **Jasmine Leonas** in University Media Relations.