

For Immediate Release

Contact: Michael Leonard
Phone: 970.351.1273
Cell: 970.590.7884

STATE FARM DONATES \$99,500 TO MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

GREELEY, Colo.(2007-10-24 00:00:00.0)

The State Farm Insurance Companies are continuing their ongoing partnership with the University of Northern Colorado's Monfort College of Business with an \$86,500 donation to the College and an additional \$13,000 to other University programs.

Through its annual donations, State Farm has developed a meaningful partnership with the College of Business. This year's donation will go to student scholarships, a faculty fellowship, and several programs.

"The programs we've developed with the Monfort College of Business have been a great asset to us and the College," said Ken Cook, vice president of operations for State Farm's western zone. "We are glad to be a part of the excellent education the College provides."

Finance professor Christine McClatchey is the College's State Farm Faculty Fellow. In addition to supporting 45 business students through scholarships, State Farm this year has provided additional scholarship funding for several upper-division student mentors who, with the help of State Farm employees, facilitate the engagement of new freshmen into the University and Greeley communities.

State Farm's donation will also allow instructors of the University's First-Year Experience, a class for freshmen, to integrate local business professionals more effectively into the class. Seeking to keep students in school and prepare them with important life skills, the College of Business' component of the course includes a self-paced online offering targeted at helping freshmen manage their personal finances.

"State Farm has been a wonderful partner of the Monfort College of Business and the University for years," said Tim Jares, interim dean of the Monfort College of Business. "We value their support and look forward to continuing to enhance this mutually-beneficial partnership."

The other University programs receiving funds include the Cumbres program, which received \$10,000, and the Avanza program, which received \$3,000. Cumbres is a teacher preparation program for students committed to working with Hispanic school children, language minority students, and children of poverty in public schools. Patterned after Cumbres, Avanza was created to encourage and promote more bi-lingual business majors.