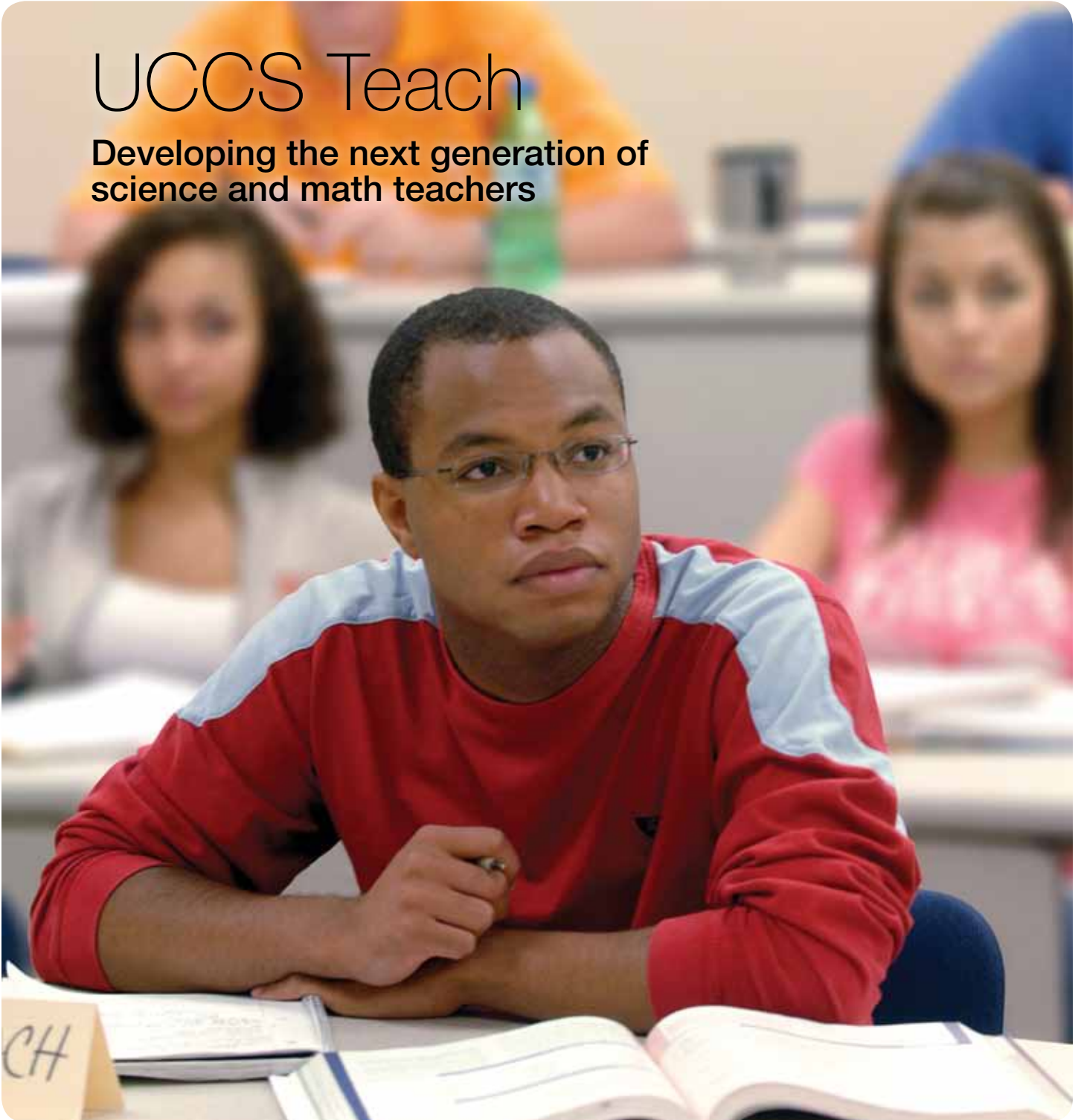


Creating Futures

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS

UCCS Teach

Developing the next generation of
science and math teachers





UCCS Teach Filling a Critical Need

In fields from energy to medicine to infrastructure, tomorrow's challenges demand citizens who are educated in high-tech disciplines. But primary and secondary teachers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) have not fully addressed this need. Many schoolteachers feel underqualified to teach these rigorous subjects; top high-tech graduates forgo teaching for more lucrative private-sector jobs. Also, new research tells us traditional math and science pedagogy may not sufficiently account for how students learn these subjects best.

The National Academy of Sciences has made it a top priority to produce more, and more effective, K-12 math and science teachers.

By mobilizing college students skilled in math and science to become public servants in K-12 schools, we provide our children a great service. If we don't address this issue now, we shortchange America's future and prevent Southern Colorado's citizens and economy—highly reliant on high-tech innovation—from achieving their full potential.

The University of Colorado Colorado Springs launched UCCS Teach to fill that gap.

Thanks to a generous gift from a champion of the university, UCCS became one of just 24 U.S. universities to replicate this innovative program, based on a pioneering and successful University of Texas at Austin program. Already, student demand to participate in UCCS Teach has surpassed our expectations, as has positive response from Pikes Peak region schools.

Today, we seek to build on this support. Your gift can ensure UCCS Teach will thrive for years to come.

***One Degree, Two Careers:** UCCS Teach's four-year program enables students to complete a full math, physics, biology, or chemistry major, and earn a teaching license at the same time.*

"No longer is there 'education' over here, and 'science and math' over there. By developing new teachers through UCCS Teach, graduates will be fully prepared to enter the workplace as scientists and mathematicians. And they will also be fully prepared and inspired to teach."

Carolyn Fisher
Master Teacher, UCCS Teach

Early Immersion into Teaching

The UCCS Teach program steeps math and science majors in real-world experiences from the outset.

Two initial courses (whose tuition is reimbursable upon successful completion) introduce UCCS Teach participants to effective math and science teaching approaches. These courses are taught under the auspices of the College of Education by experienced Master Teachers who know firsthand the challenges of teaching STEM subjects in public schools.

In these courses, students integrate into local elementary and middle school settings, where they observe and lead inquiry-based lessons. Three later courses (taught by College of Letters, Arts and Sciences faculty) help UCCS Teach participants refine their math and science pedagogy—incorporating themes such as technology, equity, and assessment, with an exploratory lesson-plan approach that goes beyond rote memorization and predetermined lab results.

Even as freshmen, UCCS Teach participants are already out there exploring, experiencing, and teaching. This early immersion into the excitement and challenges of teaching helps students see whether the profession is a good fit for them.

Tough, but Nurturing

All the while, UCCS Teach participants benefit from the support of like-minded peers and mentors, and complete the full math/science course loads of traditional majors—giving them a core mastery of the subjects they will teach after graduation.

In 2010, 16 students pursued initial UCCS Teach courses despite modest campus and community recognition of the program. As word gets out further about UCCS Teach, we expect interest and enrollment to grow further.

UCCS Teach is a tough path for students, but a nurturing one. It instills tomorrow's teachers with the fortitude and compassion they need to be leaders in the classroom.

***A Track Record of Success:** Since established in 1997 in Texas, 82 percent of program graduates were still teaching after five years—compared with a 65 percent new-teacher-retention rate nationally.*



“We actually got to teach three lessons with the 8th graders, three lessons with the 5th graders—the kids are really enthusiastic. When I was in high school or middle school, things were not as hands-on. But in UCCS Teach, they do a really good job of trying to do interactive lessons—something the kids can participate in. They’re not just listening to a lecture or watching a video. They’re doing things they can do with their hands. I think it helps them understand a lot better.”

Gabriella Bustos

UCCS student from Penrose, Colo.

Shown here teaching a 5th-grade class at Bristol Elementary with Rachel, her teaching partner

"Math and science teachers are a crucial part of our future. UCCS Teach builds on a proven model for preparing teachers with strong technical backgrounds, and gives them a deep understanding of how to teach math and science in ways that engage students."

Tom Christensen, Dean
College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences



You Can Fuel the Future

Compared with its sister programs around the country, UCCS Teach is highly distinctive in that it is donor-driven. Its launch was seeded by Lyda Hill, a businesswoman, volunteer, environmentalist, and philanthropist who wants to see the Pikes Peak region thrive.

For the program to continue for the long term, additional private support is needed. In this time of declining public support for higher education and great need among our region's population (30 percent of UCCS students are low-income), we must help more students pursue UCCS Teach, give them the resources to succeed, and perpetuate a cycle of success and enthusiasm in math and science classrooms.

You can support UCCS Teach by funding:

- **Scholarships** to make a UCCS education attainable for students of all backgrounds and circumstances, and compel our region's best and brightest to develop teaching ambitions at UCCS
- **Internships** to increase the hands-on exposure UCCS Teach participants have to innovative ideas in math and science, and inspire their passion for teaching careers in these subjects
- **Faculty and Program Support** to provide a foundation of leadership and excellence for UCCS Teach

To learn about the many ways you can make a gift, contact:

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Now is the Time

UCCS Teach is far more than simply a program for our students—it is a program for our children and our community. Please support our students' efforts to make a difference in tomorrow's classrooms, as we develop the next generation of math and science teachers here at UCCS.