



# COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Colorado State University • Colorado State University - Pueblo • CSU - Global Campus

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Lesley Di Mare Selected as President of CSU-Pueblo**

**PUEBLO, Colo. – October 5, 2011** – The Colorado State University System Board of Governors today voted unanimously to name Lesley Di Mare as the next president of CSU-Pueblo. She will become the first permanent, female president in the university’s history.

“It’s a tremendous honor to be offered the job of president at CSU-Pueblo,” Di Mare said. “I’m happy to accept, and I look forward to working with the Board of Governors and the university’s students, faculty and staff to build upon the institution’s reputation for excellence in Pueblo, throughout the state of Colorado and across the nation. We have much to accomplish together, and I’m eager to get started.”

Di Mare is currently interim president and chief executive officer at Nevada State College in Henderson, Nev. The Board of Governors is working with Di Mare to negotiate an employment agreement, which will include compensation package and start date.

“CSU-Pueblo is one of the fastest growing universities in the state, and I’m confident that Dr. Di Mare has the experience, energy and proven leadership skills to guide the campus during this important period of growth and expansion,” said Joe Zimlich, chair of the CSU System Board of Governors. “The board certainly is excited to work with Dr. Di Mare to develop and implement a strategic vision for the future of CSU-Pueblo.”

The search for a new, permanent president of CSU-Pueblo started in November 2010 following the resignation of Joe Garcia, who was elected Colorado lieutenant governor. Julio Leon has

served as interim president of CSU-Pueblo. A 10-member search advisory committee engaged in the process of identifying candidates for the position and was charged with recommending up to three candidates to the CSU System Board of Governors.

“I’d like to thank Board member Dorothy Horrell for her leadership chairing the committee and all the members of the search advisory committee for their dedication and hard work over these months,” said Joe Blake, chancellor of the CSU System. “The thorough and rigorous search process the committee followed has truly produced a positive result for the Pueblo campus and the CSU System. I have great confidence that Dr. Di Mare will successfully maintain and build on the CSU-Pueblo’s positive momentum and upward trajectory.”

Di Mare joined Nevada State College in 2007 as provost and executive vice president of academic affairs. Previously, Di Mare served as associate vice provost for undergraduate initiatives and academic programs at Arizona State University’s West Campus. She also has served as a faculty member in the speech communications department at the University of California, Los Angeles. Di Mare has a bachelor’s degree in theatre arts from California State University, Chico; a master’s degree in speech communications from California State University, Hayward; and a Ph.D. in speech communications from Indiana University.

As part of the interview process, Di Mare met with CSU-Pueblo students, faculty, staff and alumni and with leaders from the broader Pueblo community.

“I’d like to welcome Dr. Di Mare to Pueblo, and I’m confident that she will be effective and successful in working with the campus and broader community in a positive and collaborative manner,” said Dennis Flores, a Pueblo businessman who served on the search committee and who is also a member of the CSU System Board of Governors.

A curriculum vitae for Di Mare is available at <http://csusystem.edu/csupueblopresidentalsearch/index.asp>.

## **ABOUT CSU-PUEBLO**

CSU-Pueblo is a regional, comprehensive university emphasizing professional, career-oriented and applied programs. Displaying excellence in teaching, celebrating diversity and engaging in service and outreach, CSU-Pueblo is distinguished by access, opportunity and the overall quality of services provided to its students. More information: [www.colostate-pueblo.edu](http://www.colostate-pueblo.edu)

## **ABOUT THE CSU SYSTEM**

The CSU System Board of Governors has nine voting members, each appointed by the governor and confirmed by the State Senate and four non-voting members who are faculty and student representatives from CSU and CSU-Pueblo. The board provides oversight to ensure effective management, accountability and leadership at all the CSU System campuses – Fort Collins, Pueblo and the online Global Campus.

The CSU System educates nearly 37,000 students annually, with approximately 6,800 new graduates each year. There are more than 200,000 living alumni worldwide. The system involves a total operating budget of over \$800 million, with annual research expenditures totaling more than \$300 million. More information: [www.csusystem.edu](http://www.csusystem.edu)

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