



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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Joseph Blake

Joe Blake became the first sole chancellor for the Colorado State University System on July 1, 2009. As chancellor, Blake oversees a three-campus system comprised of two traditional campuses and an online campus. Blake also served on the Colorado State University System Board of Governors from 2005 to 2009.

Prior to this appointment, Blake served as president and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce for a decade. His career has been focused on statewide leadership and stewardship of Colorado's economy, competitiveness and business climate.

He draws on a lifetime of business and civic experience to increase the university's visibility, build a strong alumni base and foster donor support for the Fort Collins and Pueblo campuses. A top priority for Blake is to marshal the leadership in higher education and around the state to begin working toward a sustainable source of funding for public higher education. He also is committed to helping build a more engaged and energized alumni community, particularly in the metro Denver area.

Blake's commitment to statewide leadership was highlighted in 2005 when he served as co-chair of the statewide Yes on C&D campaign, a coalition of more than a 1,000 organizations focused on passage of Referenda C and D, also known as the Colorado Economic Recovery Act. Referendum C passed protecting certain state agencies, including higher education, from drastic budget cuts for a five-year period.

Blake was a part of the Mission Viejo Company senior management team that created Highlands Ranch in 1980 and continued with that development team until he was selected as president of the Denver Metro Chamber. Blake also spent time in Washington, D.C. as an FBI special agent, an attorney, and legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Gordon Allott.

A Denver native, Blake is a graduate of Denver East High School, and then went on to Dartmouth College (B.A., English Literature) and then the University of Colorado School of Law (Juris Doctorate). He currently resides in Denver and is the father of two and the proud grandfather of four.