MTM Annual Report
2014-2015 Vol.2

Colorado State University
Wadee College of Natural Resources
Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
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August 2015

Dear MTM Advisory Board Members,

As we look forward to the fourth on-campus cohort of MTM students to arrive and a new academic year that will see the graduation of our 100th MTM student, we can look back on a very successful year in the Master of Tourism Management program. The 2014-2015 academic year saw many milestones for the program:

- We successfully completed our third on-campus cohort this year with more international students attending than ever before
- Our online program continued to grow with more than 50 students enrolled, one of the highest retention rates for CSU online master’s programs and its first eight graduating students
- We continued to expand the international scope of MTM; welcoming an executive from the UNWTO Themis Foundation, establishing international relationships with PGI, a global ski and water resort development corporation, the University of Derby, the University of Macerata; and Central China Normal University
- These growing international partnerships have resulted in plans for an inaugural tourism conference, Tourism Naturally: Mountain and Coastal Systems in 2016
- This fall we will launch the first on-campus cohort of a CSU master’s program in China at Central China Normal University in Wuhan, Hubei province
- This fall will also see the first online cohort for the Ski Area Management Program (SKAMP), the first program of its kind in the U.S., and developed in cooperation with the National Ski Areas Association and resorts across the country
- We have implemented business-focused curriculum changes suggested by our advisory board;
- And, we have completed construction on a donor-funded classroom addition that will serve as the hub of MTM and Conservation Leadership Through Learning (CLTL) activities

Naturally, these many accomplishments would not have been possible without the guidance, support, and assistance of our advisory board members, the Dean of the Warner College of Natural Resources, Dr. John Hayes, Colorado State University Online, and a supportive University administration. Our Advisory Board in particular has provided exceptional insight into the positioning of the program as a major provider of business-focused, high quality tourism management education. Individual advisory board members have also contributed countless hours to student growth through our weekly industry seminar series. Thank you!

Please join us in celebrating the continued success of the Master of Tourism Management program at Colorado State University. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to a terrific year in 2015-2016!

Best wishes,

Michael Manfredo
Professor and Department Head
Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
Colorado State University
DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The 2013-2014 MTM cohort got a special VIP tour of the airfield and had a question and answer session with Kim Day, Chief Aviation Officer of Denver International Airport. It truly was a once in a lifetime experience for these students, and was a great case study in how transportation plays a critical role in tourism development and sustainability. Additionally, they received a hard-hat tour of the new on-site Westin hotel at DIA.

VISIT ESTES, DMO

The fall of 2014 the MTM cohort students had the opportunity to hear from the leadership team from Visit Estes and get a in depth review of the roll that Visit Estes plays in development and tourism as well as risk communication related to the floods of 2013.
DENVER HOTEL TOUR
In October, we also traveled to three beautiful hotels in Denver to learn about their operations, organizational structures, and corporate cultures. We visited the Grand Hyatt, the Hotel Monaco, and The Curtis.

YMCA OF THE ROCKIES & RMNP
We heard from Emily Herman, Events Manager, at the YMCA of the Rockies about non-profit event management, trends, and the challenge of managing the largest non-profit retreat/event campus in the US. We also spent time with Dr. David Pettebone at Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) discussing operations, how analysis and social science saved the National Parks, and the ethos of responsible use.
Omar Valdez, Executive Director, Themis Foundation, UNWTO, presented to MTM cohort and Advisory Board at August board meeting.

Sam Martin pictured with Charles Goeldner, author of the seminal text *Tourism: Principles, Practices, Philosophies*. Dr. Natalie Ooi and Sam Martin attended the Colorado Governor’s Tourism Conference to represent MTM and SKAMP’s role in tourism and tourism education.

Joan Viladomat, President and Josep Anon, General Director of PGI, Andorra gave a campus-wide presentation and worked through a real-world case study with the MTM students.

Dr. Manfredo, Dr. Xiong, and Sam Martin traveled to China to further the partnership with CCNU for the delivery of MTM in China, as well as built relationships with other strategic partners: Anhui University, Anhui Agricultural University, Shànhuì Tourism College, and Fudan University.
Accomplishments

During the spring and fall semesters, many of our board members presented to the on-campus MTM cohort in our seminar course, and we are deeply appreciative of the time and thought they put into sharing their experience and wisdom.

Thanks to:
- Kathay Rennels
- Rick Cables
- Amanda Graham
- Michael Berry
- Richard Scharf
- Michael Logan

(Special thanks to Kim for welcoming the MTM cohort to tour DIA)

Each presentation was filmed for use in our online program.
Please contact wesley.white@colostate.edu for links or more information regarding our seminar course.

MTM online video wins Marcom Award for excellence in creative visual arts. MTM was one of only five organizations in Colorado that received platinum distinction.

Dean Hu of CCNU Wuhan and other faculty visit CSU to meet with WCNR Dean Hayes and MTM faculty.

Ski Area Management Graduate Certificate Program is approved by Colorado State University Board of Governors.
Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.

~Benjamin Franklin
UNWTO AND MTM

Through a partnership with the United Nations’ World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Themis Foundation, the Master of Tourism Management Program (MTM) and Ski Area Management Program (SKAMP) will take steps toward program certification this coming fall. As the world leader in promoting responsible, accessible, and sustainable tourism, UNWTO is instrumental in maintaining national accounts to gather data on tourism phenomena used for determining international investments. UNWTO’s Themis Foundation promotes education programs for poverty alleviation in alignment with the United Nations Programme for Poverty Eradication.

Ski Area Management Program

This fall is the first offering of our new Ski Area Management Program (SKAMP). An affordable and flexible 12 credit (six course) online program, it is the only ski-area specific graduate-level program within North America. This program is designed for those individuals who are looking for a career in the ski industry and want to enhance their opportunity to move into middle-senior level management positions. The focus of this graduate program is on teaching relevant finance, strategic management, sustainability, marketing, planning and development, and human resources skills, as they relate specifically to ski area operations. Thanks to: Michael Berry, NSAA; Mark Gasta, Vail Resorts Inc.; Andy Wirth, Squaw Valley Holdings, Inc.; and Daren Cole, Synergy Solutions & Moab Under Canvas, for their assistance in contributing valuable content to the program and also for their support in the marketing and promotion of SKAMP.

MTM China

This fall, the MTM Program will be offered in full at Central China Normal University (CCNU) in the first and only educational tourism partnership of its kind between China and the United States. The collaboration marks MTM’s expansion into international leadership in tourism education. May 2014, representatives from the MTM program visited CCNU’s College of Urban and Environmental Science to submit a more specific agreement to China’s Ministry of Education that would establish a new collaborative program between the two universities for the following year. The Chinese government asked Department Head, Michael Manfredo to serve on a council for the Wuhan branch of the China Tourism Academy where he attended a press conference for the release of a national tourism report, televised on China’s national television network.

Tourism Conference

Tourism Naturally: Mountain and Coastal Systems

In fall 2016, the Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources will partner with the University of Macerata, The School of Tourism Economics and Business at the University of Sassari, the regional tourism ministry - Sardegna Turismo, and the Marine Protected Area of Tavolara to launch a new conference, entitled Tourism Naturally: Mountain and Coastal Systems, on the Italian island of Sardinia. The conference will explore perspectives on ecological integrity and tourism industry sustainability. Presentations, trainings, and excursions will be offered in and around the port city of Alghero. The island of Sardinia provides the perfect venue with its own rich history of cultural tourism, beach tourism, adventure tourism, and more available to explore.
The MTM class of 2015

Row 1: Iain McConachie, Bekky Blenkitni, Lexi Ryan, Stacey Leach, Kelly Mason (online), Erin Hailstones, Patrick Perry, Sydney Jackson-Clockston, Melissa Bollig, Jonathan Zimmerman
Row 2: Dr. Natalie Ooi, Warut (Snook) Chaipornvadee, Sarah Rosenbaum, Meilan (Ginger) Jiang, Dr. Ken Tsai, Dr. Stu Cottrell
Row 3: Mr. Sam Martin, Don Rangel Jr., Kip Loynd, Luke Davies, Mike McConnell, Amy Nesler, Dr. Jerry Vaske

Not Pictured: Dawa Sherpa, Kevin Garrett, John Maattala, Joseph DeMoor, Bryn Geddes

Photo by: Wes White

Master of Tourism Management 2015 Graduating Class

Bekky Blenkitni
Melissa Bollig
Warut (Snook) Chaipornvadee
Luke Davies
Joseph DeMoor
Kevin Garrett
Bryn Geddes
Erin Hailstones
Sydney Jackson-Clockston
Meilan (Ginger) Jiang
Stacy Leach
Kristofer (Kip) Loynd
John Maattala
Iain McConachie
Mike McConnell
Amy Nesler

Patrick Perry
Don Rangel Jr.
Sarah Rosenbaum
Dawa Sherpa
Lexi Ryan
Jonathan Zimmerman

Online:
Christine Anderson
Shawn Beveridge
Stephanie Bristley
Tyson Hanrahan
Alison Jenkins
Kelly Mason
Adam Peachman
Michael Watson
**Welcome Additions to the MTM Advisory Board**

Mr. Hans Desai, CHA, joined Xanterra Parks & Resorts in October 2004. His responsibilities include sourcing new business, due diligence and transition of newly acquired assets. Desai also provides executive oversight of Windstar Cruises, the world’s leading boutique cruise line, which was acquired by Xanterra in May 2011 and Vermont Bicycling and Walking Vacations, originally known as Vermont Bicycle Touring (VBT) acquired in February, 2013. VBT offers deluxe, small-group bicycling, walking, river barge and cross-country skiing tours worldwide with destinations in Europe, Costa Rica, New Zealand, Vietnam, Thailand, Peru, Argentina, Canada and the U.S.

Desai brings more than 25 years of hotel management experience to his position. As Chief Operating Officer for HVS Hotel Management, he had oversight responsibilities for the operations of more than 45 lodging facilities throughout the United States. Desai’s experience also includes executive positions with Fairmont Hotels, Hyatt Hotels & Resorts, the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group and Sheraton Hotels.

A graduate of Michigan State University’s School of Hospitality Business, Desai serves on the Executive Board of The School of Hospitality Business Alumni Association. He has received accreditation as a Certified Hotel Administrator (CHA) from the American Hotel & Lodging Association, and has served as Vice President of the Metro Denver Hotel Association.

Mrs. Amanda Graham is an accomplished public relations director with ten years of travel, entertainment, and event experience. Currently Amanda is the Director of Public Relations for Windstar Cruises, a leader in luxury small ship cruising. In this role, she leads Windstar’s public relations efforts, media management with consumer and trade publications, social media, and crisis communication as the company doubles the size of their fleet.

Amanda has a strong background in the travel and tourism market. Previously, she served as the Manager of Media and Public Relations at Norwegian Cruise Line, the third largest cruise line in the world. In that role she was responsible for the inaugural activities and launch of Norwegian Epic, various film projects, organizing high profile press events as well as handling all media and crisis management.

Prior to Norwegian, Amanda worked as an Account Manager for Starmark International, a boutique advertising agency in South Florida. She serviced travel accounts such as Atlantis, Paradise Island; Sandals Resort; MSC Cruises; and Regent Seven Seas. She has also worked at T-Mobile International and HitFlip Media, both headquartered in Germany.

Amanda, a graduate of Colorado State University, is as passionate about public service as she is about public relations. She volunteers her time as a board member for Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Puget Sound. Amanda currently resides in Seattle, Washington and spends most of her free time traveling, both on and off ships.

Mr. Ken Mitchell has a MS and BS degree from Colorado State University and graduated with high honors in 1976. Mr. Mitchell’s undergraduate and graduate degrees focused on Natural Resource Management and Economics. Upon graduation, Ken pursued a career in land acquisition and development in major markets in Texas and Florida. Ken returned to Fort Collins in 2013 and is now active in the local real estate community with his own firm, Mosaic Real Estate LLC. Ken is currently building Prairie Village, a townhome community in Fort Collins, and managing the development of Heritage Ridge, a 450 unit new home community in Berthoud.

Ken is a former Division President of Argent Management a real estate management firm. While with Argent, Ken managed southeastern U.S. land assets in distressed debt portfolios containing 1,700 loans with a combined Book Value in excess of $1.2 Billion. Additionally, Ken is the former National President of the Land Acquisition and Development Division for Mercedes Homes and the Texas Vice-President of Land Acquisition and Development for Ashton Woods Homes. Both Ashton Woods and Mercedes were among the 50 largest homebuilders in the nation. Ken formerly served as Senior Vice-President of First American Bank in Dallas, managing $500 million in REO sales. Ken has also owned several real estate companies over a period of 15 years, providing land brokerage, development and construction management services.

Ken is a licensed real estate broker in both Florida and Texas and has had an active real estate broker’s license for more than 30 years. Married to Karen Mitchell, son Andrew, proud father of Australian Shepherd Joey. Hobbies are hiking, backpacking, canyoneering, kayaking and reading environmental history. Grassroots member of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and business sponsor.
Joe Blake  
Board Chair/ Chancellor Emeritus  
Colorado State University System

Michael Berry  
President  
National Ski Areas Association

Rick Cables  
Vice President of Natural Resources and Conservation  
Vail Resorts

Jim Clark  
CEO  
Steamboat Chamber Resort Association

Tom Clark  
CEO Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation

Daren Cole  
General Manager  
Moab Under Canvas

Ken Cruse  
CEO  
Alpha Wave Investors, LLC

Kim Day  
Aviation Manager  
CEO  
Denver International Airport

Tamara Door  
President and CEO  
Downtown Denver Partnership

Laura Nilo Fryer  
Director  
NA Wholesale Marketing  
Smartwool

Mark Gasta  
Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer, Vail Resorts

Steve Hood  
Vice President of Research  
Smith Travel Research
Bill Hybl
Chairman and CEO
El Pomar Foundation

Kyle Hybl
COO, Trustee, and
General Counsel
El Pomar Foundation

Mike Logan
Events Manager
Budweiser Events Center;
MTM Graduate

Kathay Rennels
Assistant Vice President Colorado State University

Christie Lee Rolph
Educator
MTM Graduate

Richard Scharf
President & CEO
Visit Denver

Will Seccombe
President & CEO
Visit Florida

Ken Widmaier
Chief Operating Officer Sage Hospitality

Andy Wirth
President & CEO
Squaw Valley Ski Holdings

Timothy Wolfe
Area Managing Director/General Manager Renaissance Denver Hotel
Dr. Alan Bright  
Dr. Stu Cottrell  
Esther Duke  
Dr. Soo Kang  
Dr. Mike Manfredo  
Sam Martin  
Eric Milholland  
Dr. Joe O’Leary  
Dr. Natalie Ooi  
Dr. Sharon Shen  
Dr. Ken Tsai  
Dr. Jerry Vaske
Dr. Chin-Hsun (Ken) Tsai is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. Dr. Tsai has lived in the U.S. since 1998. He earned his Ph.D. in Hospitality Administration from Texas Tech University. Prior to Colorado State University, Dr. Tsai has taught hospitality and tourism courses at Wiley College in Marshall, Texas. Currently, Dr. Tsai is responsible for developing several MTM courses in Mandarin.

His research interests are destination marketing, cloud computing technology, sustainable tourism management, and hospitality study abroad education. He has authored several journal articles and conference proceedings. In addition, he serves as a reviewer for several refereed journals and conferences, such as Journal of Travel and Tourism Marketing, Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research, Journal of Culinary Science & Technology, Annual I-CHRIE Conferences, and Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism.

Dr. Tsai is also an self-taught photographer specializing in sport, action, landscape and event photography with a style consisting of colorful and energetic imagery. He is currently pursuing his Professional Photographer Certification from Professional Photographers of America (PPA). (Thanks to Dr. Tsai for his generous contribution of his photographs for this publication.)

Dr. Lina Xiong is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. She is also called “Dr. Bear” because her last name in Chinese means “bear”. Dr. Bear came to the U.S. in 2006 from mainland China. Lina completed her Ph.D. in Business Administration from Temple University in Philadelphia. Before coming to CSU, Dr. Bear has taught many business courses in the College of Business at Marshall University. Her teaching assignment at CSU includes tourism strategic management, tourism marketing, and advanced lodging in the MTM program. She is also responsible for developing several MTM courses in Mandarin. Dr. Bear’s research interests include service management, internal branding, employee brand motivation, and customer loyalty. She has published several articles in hospitality management journals. Recently, Dr. Bear’s dissertation titled “Employee brand internalization: the central route to a brand aligned workforce” has received a Highly Commended Award of the 2014 Emerald/EFMD Outstanding Doctoral Research Awards in the Hospitality Management category. This is a prestigious international annual award presented by Emerald and the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD). In addition, she is the winner of the Outstanding Paper in the 2015 Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence. Dr. Bear has worked in hospitality and tourism businesses in China and in the U.S. She also has a cat named “Mulan”.

Haozhi (Harry) Wang is a MTM alum and Phd Candidate. Before joining CSU, Mr. Wang got his Bachelor’s degree in Business & Economics from Muskingum University, USA. He was hired in Spring 2014 to lead course integration in Mandarin for on-campus and online platform deliveries. Given his considerable experiences with the regular English MTM program and bilingual skills, he is an ideal fit as an instructional designer and specialist in Mandarin MTM course development. He is also a tutor in the Communication and Conflict Management course in MTM to help with the Chinese students in class. Harry is passionate about the tourism industry and believes in a bright future in this business. After work, he loves to play basketball and hang out with friends.
Cheryl Glanz (2013)
Northern Colorado Scenic Byway
2012-2013 Master of Tourism Management cohort member Cheryl Glanz has been part of a cooperative effort on a byways/national heritage area loop driving tour for Northern Colorado. Glanz became involved in this project as an MTM student and served as a teaching assistant for Associate Professor Stuart Cottrell for an undergraduate tourism planning course. Members of this course worked on a part of a UniverCity Connections project for the updating of the Cache La Poudre-North Park Scenic & Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan and three additional areas: the brewery district, a foodie walk, and agritourism in Larimer County. The Cache La Poudre River National Heritage Area was one of the major partners, and their foundation, the Poudre Heritage Alliance, gave a $10,000 grant along with matching funds from Visit Fort Collins, Visit Estes Park, and Grand County Tourism.

Glanz continued as part of a small group managing the project from its proposal to its implementation on the byway heritage loop. Recently, they have produced a loop tour brochure package with individual byways/heritage area inserts and a website landing page, with more planned for the future. We are excited by the work that she is doing, and we are proud of her and all our Alums.

John Beye (2014):
After completing the MTM program in May 2014, John took a group of 15 high school students to Norway for a summer of leadership development in the wilderness. Upon his return, John accepted an offer in Seattle to work as an Operations Supervisor at one of the country’s largest rock climbing and lifestyle gyms. He will soon be moving to Alaska to work as a seasonal sea kayak and naturalist guide from a remote eco-lodge on the Kenai Peninsula and is searching for leadership opportunities in organizations that help expose people to the outdoors in sustainable ways.

Michael Logan (2013):
Michael is still happily employed at the Budweiser Events Center. It has been exactly one year since being promoted to Events Manager and he has had a busy yet successful year planning events. Some notable events include The Beach Boys, George Lopez, Justin Moore, Gavin Degraw, Disney on Ice, WWE, Colorado Eagles hockey, and Colorado ICE football.

Looking towards the future, Michael is currently getting to travel to other arenas throughout the country to either learn from their directors and GMs or to assist other arenas in event set up and execution. For example, he just returned from a trip to the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines Iowa where he shadowed their Director of Events at a sold out Kenny Chesney concert. These experiences will help to provide him with the knowledge to grow and move within the company.
2015 Master of Tourism Management Graduating Class Profiles

Bekky Blenkitni

Born in Canada, but raised in the United States, Bekky spent much of her youth traveling throughout North America. She graduated from Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina with BAs in International Studies and History. She spent three summers studying abroad in eleven countries throughout Europe with EF Educational Tours, and spent a semester studying Spanish at the University of Granada in Granada, Spain. Upon completion of the MTM program, she hopes to share her passion for travel with others by working with students studying abroad, or with an education focused tour company.

Melissa Bollig

“Melissa has a Bachelor’s of Arts in Sociology- Criminology and Criminal Justice from Colorado State University. She has experience working as a Marketing and Communications Manager for a small, local business. Melissa will be attending law school at the University of Colorado to pursue a Juris Doctor (JD) degree, beginning in the fall of 2015. The length of the program and job prospects attracted her to the MTM program.

Warut (Snook) Chaipornvadee

I am an international student from Thailand. I have been living in the states for 9 years. I came over to the U.S. when I was 15 and attended a boarding school. I went to Chapman University in southern california for BA in advertising and public relations. Last year of college, I worked as a weekend trip coordinator, and I got to organize large scale outings like Halloween Night at Universal Studio and Six Flags and small trips to climb tall peaks around California and camping excursions, sharing my love for the outdoor with other students. After college, I worked for a hospitality phone app company for a year, mostly designing application mock ups and marketing materials for hotels and resorts. I spent this past summer in Northern Thailand working as a videographer and marketing manager at a rock climbing company. I truly love the outdoors and want to spend my life working and living outside and doing all I can to help preserve the wilderness. My aspiration is to return to Thailand and help expand the outdoor tourism industry there. I hope to inspire people in Thailand to adapt a more active and sustainable lifestyle.

Luke Davies

After graduating from the University of Florida with a BS in Anthropology, Luke was not entirely sure what he wanted to do in life. Regardless, he remained open to anything and everything. He finds travel and sustainable practice among his most passionate interests, hence his attraction to the MTM program. Luke is determined to be a force for good in this world, however he can.

Joseph DeMoor

I have a B.A. in Anthropology and English Literature from the University of Colorado. Upon finishing the Master’s of Tourism Management program I hope to continue working in the ski industry within Colorado. During this program I have worked at Loveland Ski Area which has furthered my passion for skiing and being in the outdoors. I hope to remain close to the natural environment and be involved with conservation efforts that seek to protect and utilize natural resources in the best way possible. My dream is to impact Colorado tourism in a way that makes this dynamic industry sustainable forever.
Kevin Garrett

After graduating from the Tourism Masters program I intend on returning to Vail to work with their Product Sales and Services team. Since completing my undergrad I have spent summers in Grand Lake and winters in Vail, two very different tourist destinations.

Bryn Geddes

Bryn has a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology with a focus in Archaeology and Physical Anthropology from the University of Wyoming. She worked in Italy and Peru as an archaeologist and decided to pursue the Masters in Tourism Management after her experiences working abroad. She was an intern for SAGE Program (Studies Abroad for Global Education), researching trip itinerary possibilities for the company. Bryn loves trail running and spends a good deal of time running in the mountains in Colorado and Montana. She is currently a swim coach and works for REI. She hopes to be involved in the outdoor and adventure travel industries in marketing and trip development. www.linkedin.com/pub/bryn-geddes/97/604/37a

Erin Hailstones

Erin Hailstones received her undergrad degree in Parks & Recreation Management with an emphasis on Ecotourism from Northern Arizona University. She has been lucky to work at Joshua Tree National Park and Devils Postpile National Monument. Both being National Park Service sites and where her love for our nation’s treasured natural areas was fostered. She has also been a certified low/high ropes summer camp counselor for the YMCA of Portland, ME. Her interests lie in learning how our National Parks can foster more sustainable tourism practices, as well as experiential education programs, and would like to learn more about agritourism. She is keeping an open mind and looks forward to learning about all aspects of tourism management. A passion for wildlife is at the root of what makes her tick and a need to protect them in a practical way. At the end of the day she wants to know that she did her best to create happiness within others and herself. She chose this program because of its cohort style, time frame, and geographic location.

Sydney Jackson-Clockston

Sydney received her Bachelors of Science in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism from Colorado State University. Her goal in life is to provide memorable moments and life experiences to others, which has led to her passion for tourism and event coordination. Since the development of her career, Sydney has worked for various organizations gaining her skills and knowledge in small to large scale events, conferences, festivals and more. Sydney’s experience in the event planning industry began as Special Events Coordinator for Colorado State University’s Campus Activities Board (ASAP). Through this position she worked and managed a budget of $30,000 and successfully planned and executed various small to large scale events. Sydney was promoted to Recurrent Coordinator where she developed her human resource skills by managing organizational hiring for a staff of 20 while holding a position on ASAP’s executive board. During her time at ASAP Sydney learned a great deal about grant writing and successfully acquired over $10,000 in program funding. After ASAP Sydney spent some time diversifying her event and hospitality skills. During the summer she spent time working as Event Coordinator for Team Player Productions organizing and hosting urban adventure races along with food, wine, and beer festivals. She has also spent a summer working as an Activity Director for several timeshare resorts on Hilton Head Island, SC. More recently Sydney assisted in the coordination of Warner Collage of Natural Resource’s international conference Pathways: Common Futures. She was also working for CSU’s office of External Relations as an event coordinator assistant. Currently she is the events coordinator at the Grand Lake Lodge.
Meilan (Ginger) Jiang

My name is Meilan Jiang, you may also call me Ginger. I am from China where I earned my bachelor degree in Tourism Management. I have worked in 5-star hotels in the F&B and Sales department. I have also worked in travel agency and a tour guide in my college city. I owned a decorating firm in my college city for two years. I came to CSU because I wanted to study abroad and continue my program of study. I like swimming and reading.

Stacy Leach

Stacy was born and raised just outside of Boulder, Colorado and has always had a taste for travel and sustainable living. She received her BS in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism with a Minor in Business from CSU. She and her Maine-raised boyfriend, Carle, started a Striped Bass sport fishing and charter business that operates out of Portland, Maine each summer. They actively participate in Striped Bass sustainability as well as educate their clients about it. They believe that teaching this concept with actual hands on the fish is a unique and powerful method in understanding how our impact on fish and wildlife resources directly impacts our natural resources and why we must protect them. Together and with the tools and connections that Stacy receives from her time in the MTM program they look forward to continually growing and expanding their market from fishing and lighthouse tours to adventure tours and an eventual year-round sustainable guiding business.

Kristofer (Kip) Loynd

My name is Kristofer Loynd, everyone calls me Kip. I am the oldest of 6 kids. All of us are within 6 years of each other so I always saw myself as a leader, and comfortable around other people. I grew up in St. Louis County in a little city called Wildwood, MO in the middle of the woods. I went to Belize when I was 11 for a trip with Save the Rainforest and have loved the forest ever since. I graduated from Lafayette High School and came to study at Colorado State in 2007 to study art. I changed my degree choice shortly after coming to CSU to study Natural Resources. I still create art as a hobby, but my heart is in sustainable travel and the forests of the world. I got the opportunity over the past 5 years to travel to Puerto Rico, The Dominican Republic, Mexico, Canada, Argentina, and Costa Rica. I currently on the Board of Directors for Friends of the Children's Eternal Rainforest, a non-profit organization that raises money to protect a 55,000 acre forest in Costa Rica. I would love to continue doing work for them and would love to work in Costa Rica. I love playing disc golf, ball golf, snowboarding, and hiking.

John Maattala

Originally from the great state of North Dakota, John graduated from Syracuse University with a B.A. in International Relations. During this time, he spent a year studying at universities in Chile and Argentina and continues to travel to South America when he can. John has spent the last six years teaching Spanish in Massachusetts and hopes to take a younger generation of travelers outside of the classroom and to places they may only ever get to see in a textbook. In addition to experiential education and student travel, he is interested in other tourism opportunities in South America. This past summer John interned at a student travel and adventure company in Manizales, Colombia. He was attracted to the MTM program for its emphasis on business, opportunities to network with industry professionals, and recreational and professional opportunities in Fort Collins. When free time is available, John enjoys biking and playing soccer.
Iain McConachie

I am from the United Kingdom (born in England with Scottish parents so I have to tread carefully sometimes as to where I say I am from!). As a child I grew up living in England, the States and Switzerland before my family settled back in Scotland. I studied my undergraduate degree in Law & Business Studies at Edinburgh University. Following a couple years of traveling I then completed a two year post graduate course to get my English law degree and started working as a lawyer in London. My focus had been on environmental law but the economic downturn following 2008 had limited the resources in this area (particularly at the firm I worked for) and so I joined the corporate finance department focusing on private equity investment and fund structuring. However I decided this was not a long term career path for me and began to look at other options. Having lived abroad and travelled throughout my life tourism was the obvious choice (I had originally considered studying hotel and hospitality management for my undergraduate degree). Not knowing exactly what role I would enjoy and be best suited to in the industry I decided to study the area first. The masters in Tourism Management at CSU offered the perfect opportunity to do so with a well-established natural resources department, excellent faculty and perfect setting next to some of North America’s leading tourist destinations (providing the perfect excuse to go snowboarding at weekends!).

Mike McConnell

Mike graduated from Colorado State University with a BS in Natural Resource Recreation & Tourism with a concentration in Parks & Protected Area Management. He has worked for the USDA Forest Service and currently works for Colorado Parks & Wildlife in Fort Collins, specializing in Small Game & Waterfowl Research. As a way to accelerate his career and unlock new opportunities within the Natural Resource and Tourism fields, Mike chose the MTM program. With aspirations to become a small business owner within the tourism industry, specializing in fly fishing and adventure travel, Mike recognizes how important it is to gain a holistic and integrated understanding of such a complex industry. In addition, Mike chose the MTM program because of the duration of the program and of CSU's reputation.

Amy Nesler

A Colorado native, Amy was drawn to the MTM program for its focus on sustainability. After earning a bachelor’s degree in natural resources from CSU, Amy focused on environmental education and sharing a love of nature with her students. An aspiring naturalist, Amy hopes to use the experience and skills acquired in MTM to incorporate community-based conservation into wildlife tourism. Among her other interests are hiking, travel, archery, and gardening.

Patrick Perry

Patrick completed his undergraduate degree last year within the Human Dimensions of Natural Resources here at CSU. His passion lies within the fly fishing industry. He worked at the local fly shop here in Fort Collins throughout his time with MTM. He plans on moving to Vail to run his seasonal river shuttle business on the Eagle River while splitting time as the floor manager of Vail Valley Anglers. He also enjoys skiing, photography, camping and being outside. Patrick was attracted to the program due to the programs length, CSU’s reputation, current faculty, and his passion for making a career out of something that he loves.


www.linkedin.com/pub/patrick-perry/88/3a/224
Don Rangel Jr.

Don has a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and Marketing from Colorado State University and spent part of his undergrad as a Music Performance Major at the University of Northern Colorado. He has worked in a variety of fields after graduating, including work in photography and work as a Field Organizer for a National Political Campaign focusing on the 2014 Senate races. After graduate school, Don will pursue a career internationally working in the Tourism industry as a marketing professional. He hopes to open his own resort/hotel chain in domestic and international locations, while building career in marketing and tourism related fields. Don wants to be able to make a difference for people around the world and bring joy to them through tourism and travel experiences. The MTM program will serve as a valuable resource to make connections within the industry, and provide the knowledge that Don needs to pursue a career in the Tourism Industry. Don has started an internship at the MTM partner program, the University of Macerata, Italy, www.linkedin.com/pub/don-rangel-jr/31/400/6b4/Alex's LinkedIn Profile

Sarah Rosenbaum

Sarah has a BS in Business Administration from Trier University, Germany. Within the past few years, she gained valuable experience living abroad through working in Virginia, studying her senior year in Arkansas, as well as volunteering in South Africa and Costa Rica. Moving to New Zealand in July 2015, Sarah will be starting her PhD studies in Forced Migration Studies. Length of program, career prospects, and CSU reputation attracted her to MTM.

Dawa Sherpa

I was born in the remote village of Mera, Solukhumbu, Nepal. I am an American citizen. My undergraduate major was BS in Business Management. Currently I am a part owner of the Mt. Everest Cafe here in Fort Collins. I am also a trekking and mountaineering Guide for Peak to Peak Trekking Travel, which specializes in small-group treks in the Himalayas. I love hiking, biking, traveling.

Lexi Ryan

No bio provided.

Jonathan Zimmerman

Jonathan graduated with a BS in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management with a focus on commercial and community from Penn State University. He has extensive knowledge in residential camp operations and environmental education. Jonathan is currently serving as Camp Director of a Boy Scout residential camp in Virginia were he has dedicated the past 11 years to; this summer will be his 3rd summer as Camp Director. Jonathan’s current plan is to serve one last summer as Camp Director, head to Vermont for a 6 month internship at a therapeutic community, then thru-hike the Appalachian Trail next spring and summer. From there Jonathan aspires to follow his passion and discover a path serving others by enhancing their lives though meaningful experiences.

http://www.linkedin.com/in/jonzimm2291/
Shawn Beveridge

Shawn earned a BS in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism from CSU and has since led a successful career in supply chain and database management in the power generation industry. His document control contributions to the construction of a co-generation power facility in Hobbs, NM, displayed his ability to exceed all expectations in the pursuit of operational excellence and team leadership. He is an inspirational parent and youth sports coach that takes the time to teach and motivate his children and players to get the most out of their daily lives, on and off the field. He also volunteers with The Nature Conservancy as a Community Ambassador because he feels we all need to sacrifice a little bit in order to sustain our planet.

Stephanie Bristley

No bio provided.

Tyson Hanrahan

Tyson graduated from the University of Oregon in 2005 with a BS in Sociology and a minor in Business Administration. Since that time, his professional background has largely been in international education, having worked for a study abroad program provider promoting international opportunities to U.S. college students from 2005 to 2012, and most recently teaching English abroad in South Korea from 2012 to present. His love for international travel, interest in sustainable business practices, and the flexibility of online coursework are what attracted him to the MTM program. In addition to international travel and sustainability, Tyson's other passions include outdoor recreation, home fermentation, and craft beer and spirits. Tyson plans to return to the U.S. in August of 2015 and hopes to apply the skills gained in the MTM program to a career the craft beer industry, ideally as an events coordinator or brewery representative.

Alison Jenkins

No bio provided.

Kelly Mason

Kelly has a BS in Biological Science and a BA in Spanish Language, Literature, and Culture from Colorado State University. Following the completion of her undergraduate degrees, Kelly worked for Colorado State University Conference & Events Services as the Guest Services Manager, providing hospitality and accommodations for summer conference guests of the University. She used the experience from this position to aid in her transition to the role of Conference Coordinator at the University of Colorado Boulder where she currently coordinates the logistics of twenty-five conferences annually. These conferences range from academic outreach programs to professional association events to international literature festivals. Kelly joined the Master of Tourism Management program to align her education with her professional career interests as a collegiate conference and event director. The ability to complete the program online while still working full time attracted her to the MTM program as well as the added benefit of being able to graduate once more from her alma mater. Kelly plans to use her experience in the MTM program to inform her professional business decisions and partnerships in her current and future positions in the university hospitality and events industry.

https://www.linkedin.com/pub/kelly-mason/57/89a/a5a

Adam Peachman

No bio provided.

Michael Watson

https://www.linkedin.com/in/mikelwatson
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