

# Letter from the Editor

LFTE: This year is harder, but we will be better

By The Collegian Editorial Board · August 16, 2020

Share     

Dear readers,

As you return to a very different campus than the one we left — or step for the first time onto a campus you had imagined very differently — we want to make an introduction.

If you didn't know, *The Collegian* is a student-run newspaper. We report on the issues that matter most to our Colorado State University community, but CSU doesn't get a say in what we cover or how we cover it.

Our primary goal is to be a voice for the students. In the midst of a public health and human rights crisis, we understand that it is more important than ever that we provide you not only reliable information but investigative analyses of the issues that affect our community.

We want to make it clear that *The Collegian* editorial board and management team is now run by an almost completely new group of students. While we respect and appreciate the hard work of our former colleagues, we recognize mistakes that were made in the past.

**“OUR COVERAGE WILL LOOK DIFFERENT THIS YEAR AS WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RECALIBRATE OUR ROLE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND IMPROVE IT FOR THE BETTER.”**

In the midst of a [series of racist incidents](#) on campus last year, *The Collegian* failed to foster an inclusive environment for its staff or report on the incidents in a timely and transparent manner.

We knew it then, and this summer we have resolved even further that we do not intend to repeat these mistakes.

The COVID-19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter protests have forced us all to reassess the way we do things, and the newsroom has been no exception. Our coverage will look different this year as we take this opportunity to recalibrate our role within the community and improve it for the better.

*The Collegian* editorial board has begun the process of creating concrete steps to increase the inclusivity and equity of our coverage and among the staff in our newsroom. We understand that inclusivity efforts must go beyond empty buzzwords and a desire to regain trust; inclusivity isn't an achievement, it's a basic human rights requirement that we desperately need.

We are currently taking steps to review our internal policies, especially in regards to revising our employee training and onboarding process with the goal of making inclusivity and anti-racism an integral aspect of our coverage and work environment. We have also begun preparations to increase community engagement and feedback and are grateful to be completing each of these steps with the assistance of Hodge-SaintJour and Associates, a diversity, equity and inclusion consulting firm owned and operated by former CSU students, some of whom were *Collegian* members.

As we prepare for the fall semester, we must situate ourselves within the national and global context of adversity and change that will surely mark this time in history. We understand our responsibility as a publication to accurately reflect our surroundings and are ready to rise to the occasion.

We strive to make *The Collegian* a place where every student who wants to join us will be welcomed and given the tools to improve their community through their work. Rams, stay safe, be strong and know that we are with you.

Respectfully,

*The Collegian* editorial board

Laurn Bolz, editor-in-chief

Abby Vander Graaff, content managing editor

Matt Tackett, digital & design managing editor

1 Comment

Sort by **Top**

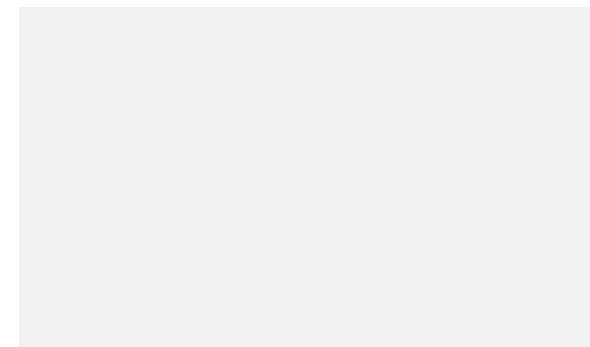
 Add a comment...

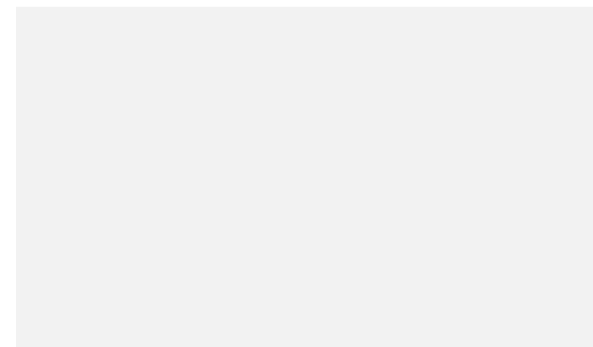
 **Richard Bodley**  
Well thought out approach. Congrats!  
Like · Reply · 6w

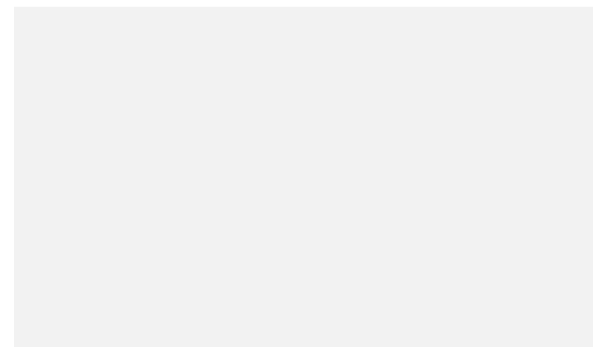
Facebook Comments Plugin

 **The Collegian Editorial Board**

RELATED ARTICLES MORE FROM AUTHOR

  
**Campus**  
Officials discuss COVID-19 precautions as Rams return to campus

  
**Campus**  
Fort Collins community joins in daily national protests

  
**Campus**  
Black Lives Matter: A 2020 protest timeline

Support Our Student Media

PRINT EDITION



Powered by

Publish for Free

CAMPUS NEWS, EMAILED TO YOU

**THE STUMP**


ADVERTISE WITH US:




TWITTER

Collegian Feed

A Twitter list by @CSUCollegian

 Serena Bettis Retweeted

 **When We All Vote** @WhenWeAllVote

If you live in:  
Arizona  
Arkansas  
Florida  
Georgia  
Hawaii  
Indiana  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
Ohio  
Texas

Your voter registration deadline for the November elections is this Monday, October 5th.

DON'T WAIT! Get #RegisteredandReady:

[Embed](#) [View on Twitter](#)

Lasik eye surgery Denver

This publication is not an official publication of Colorado State University, but is published by an independent corporation using the name 'The Rocky Mountain Collegian' pursuant to a license granted by CSU. Visit [rockymountainstudentmedia.com](http://rockymountainstudentmedia.com) for more information.

**Rocky Mountain Student Media Corporation**  
Editor-in-chief, Laurn Bolz:  
[editor@collegian.com](mailto:editor@collegian.com)  
Newsroom: [news@collegian.com](mailto:news@collegian.com) (970) 491-7513  
Advertising Inquiries: (970) 491-2126  
Letters to the editor: [letters@collegian.com](mailto:letters@collegian.com)  
Suite 118, Lower Level, Lory Student Center  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado

**Publications**

Collegian Print Edition Archives  
Parent and Family Guide  
Visitors Guide  
Graduation Guide  
Orientation Guide  
Best of CSU  
Greek Guide  
Housing Guide  
Ram Deals

**Other Information**

About us  
Alumni/Donate  
Advertise with us  
Contact  
Delivery  
Work for us!  
News tips  
Classifieds  
OnSpec Video Training  
Staff Resources  
Privacy Policy  
Terms of Service