



# University Centers of the San Miguel

Equitable Access to Higher Education is a

Matter of Social and Economic Justice

## Annual Report 2008

### UCSM celebrates their third year of success

In 2005, Sarah Silver established the non-profit organization following an extensive community needs assessment study funded by the Mountain Village Owners Association. UCSM partners with regional colleges to bring accredited college courses to the area's workforce and residents at convenient locations and times. UCSM also offers non-credit continuing education classes, and provides students with free career



*Philosophy class in Bear Creek Preserve.*

and academic counseling and support. Community grants and donations subsidize the classes and services in order to maintain affordable prices for the local work force and visitors.

UCSM increased registration by 40% since 2005. It has become a well-established community institution with popular year-round courses. Classes are taught by highly qualified, local faculty. In 2008, UCSM offered 35 classes with enrollment of over 200 students, and 250 hours of counseling. Classes included accredited general education, place-based topics, and business and workforce development skills.

As a member of the National College Access Network, UCSM is pro-active in recruiting first-generation college students and

adult "non-traditional" students. Often times, dreams of starting or completing a degree may have been laid aside for family and work reasons. Residents of the San Miguel Watershed are no longer forced to leave their communities in order to study at a distant college campus. Many of the students state that they would not go back to college without the local access to classes and affordable tuition that UCSM provides.

UCSM students are diverse, just like the region's population. In order to meet the needs, UCSM is working with local institutions and organizations. "We look forward to collaborating with other organizations in order to expand class offerings and better serve the community members," stated Wilson, Executive Director.

#### Mission Statement:

*The mission of the University Centers of the San Miguel (UCSM) is to provide equitable access to higher education for the residents and workforce of the San Miguel Watershed.*

#### Communities Served:

- Mountain Village
- Norwood
- Naturita
- Nucla
- Paradox
- Placerville/Sawpit
- Redvale
- Telluride

#### Board of Directors:

- President Carol Dix, MLIS
- Vice President Joel Lee, Dr.PH
- Secretary Sarah Silver, MA
- Treasurer Lynne Beck, MPA
- Eric Nepsky, MA
- Yvette Henson, MS
- Paula MacMillan, BE, BBA
- Heather Exby, ME

### UCSM hires a New Executive Director

Since turning Telluride into a "college town" in 2005, the non-profit organization, the University Centers of the San Miguel has added staff and programming each year under the direction of founder, Sarah Silver. "We are very lucky that our search attracted the attention of Robyn Wilson, who has the academic qualifications and personal commitment we sought," stated Silver.

Wilson comes to UCSM from Flagstaff, Arizona, where she completed dual graduate degrees in community sustainability and multicultural/bilingual education at Northern Arizona University. During graduate school, she managed the Peace Corps recruiting office for Northern Arizona. From 2000 to 2002, Wilson was a Municipal Development Peace Corps volunteer in El Salvador

Her husband, Ryan Wilson, is the History and Technology teacher at Ridgway High School.

"UCSM is only one of a few community-supported, higher-education organizations in the country," explained Robyn. "Ryan and I are grateful to live in a region that places such a high value on education, and are proud to be a part of it."

## University Centers Thanks their Supporters

UCSM is able to provide affordable, higher education and counseling through generous support from community granting agencies and the following contributors:

- ADL Charitable Trust
- Lynne and Geoffrey Beck
- Sally Puff Courtney
- Nancy Craft
- Carol McCord Dix
- Yvette Henson
- Paula MacMillan
- Eric and June Nepsky
- Sarah and Dean Silver
- Ginger and Bob Snip
- Noelle Lepel-Cointet
- David Swanson
- Lance Waring
- Katie Jewett
- Elvira Tate
- Elinor London
- Sandy and Rodger Wickham

### Grantors:

- CCAASE (Town of Telluride)
- Just for Kids Foundation
- San Miguel County
- Telluride Foundation
- Telluride/Mountain Village Owners Association
- Town of Mountain Village

## UCSM Partners with One Telluride

Spanish classes have always been a popular and important series for UCSM. During the fall of 2008, an “Intercambio” class was formed through UCSM and One Telluride, the non-profit organization that works with the immigrant population. The two organizations are combining their intermediate language classes so that One Telluride’s English language learners and UCSM’s

intermediate Spanish language learners interact for the last half of each class.

“This allows students to practice oral communication with a native speaker, as well as increase cross-cultural relationships and intercultural understanding,” explained Wilson. This class is very popular with both groups of students, and will continue to be offered in the future.

## Outstanding 2008 Students Recognized

Five UCSM students were recognized this year at the Annual Reception. Two women studying Early Childhood Education (ECE) from the Redvale area, one man from Ophir who earned an associate degree with credits from UCSM, and two men from the Telluride area who are earning credits towards a bachelor degree.

Emily Davis and Michele Blunt received individual Student of the Year awards, based their outstanding individual achievements as students of UCSM. These awards will celebrate not only the fifteen credit hours each have earned during the past three semesters, while balancing young families, demanding nighttime college classes, and day jobs in early childhood education. “We deeply appreciate and admire your personal commitments to furthering your post secondary education and training and have been so happy to be able to make these college opportunities accessible to you in our remote rural communities,” state Sarah Silver, UCSM founder and instructor of the ECE

classes. Emily Davis owns and operates a day care in Redvale. Michele Blunt began classes at Prescott College in fall to complete her bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education.

Aaron Reece is a Telluride native who has apprenticed welding with the family business. He attended Mesa State College and was going to receive a technical

“I don’t think I would have completed my degree if it wasn’t for UCSM,”  
said Reece

certificate in welding. With the support of Sarah Silver, Aaron was able to complete additional courses through UCSM and obtained an Associates Degree in welding.

Daniel Krauss and Andy Helck won the Intellectual Band of Brothers Award. Dan moved to Telluride 15 years ago. He worked seasonally for sheet metal shops and Telluride Roofing and is now primarily self-employed, doing sheet metal

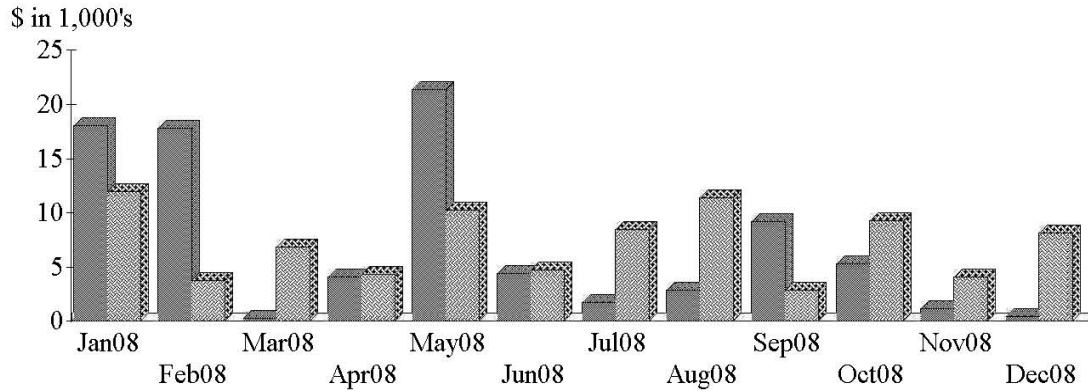
### Community and College Partnerships:

- AhHaa School for the Arts
- Bright Futures Regional Council
- Colorado Northwestern Community College
- KOTO Community Radio
- Mesa State College
- Nucla/Naturita School District
- One Telluride
- Prescott College
- Redvale Community Center
- San Miguel County
- San Miguel Watershed Coalition
- The New Community Coalition
- Town of Telluride
- Town of Mountain Village
- Wilkinson Public Library

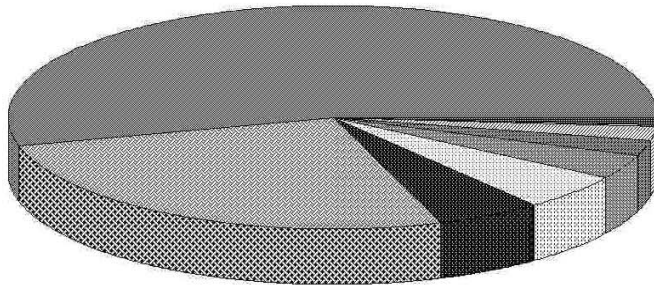
fabrication as Dan Krauss Construction. He has about 2 years of college, which started at UC Santa Barbara, then San Diego State, and a few junior colleges in between. Danny is 47 years old; his goal is to have a college degree by the time he’s 50.

Andy worked in technical theater in NYC from 1979-2007 on the shows “Cats”, “Sweeney Todd”, “Sunset Blvd”, “Mamma Mia”, “Little Mermaid.” He began visiting Telluride with wife Amy in 2001; and moved to Telluride last summer. He now works at the Wilkinson Public Library and has plans to complete his bachelor degree.

Income and Expense by Month  
January through December 2008



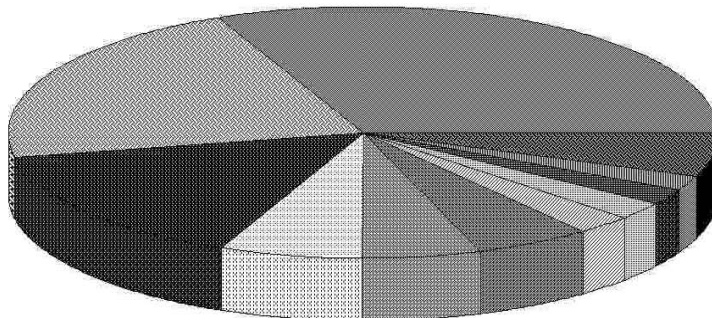
Income Summary  
January through December 2008



Grants	%54.17
Tuition	26.40
Textbook Reimbursement	5.40
College Partners Cost Share	5.32
Contributions Income	3.64
Carry Over from 2007	2.30
Registration Fees	2.18
Materials Fee	0.40
Interest	0.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$86,946.34</b>

By Account

Expense Summary  
January through December 2008



Salaries and Wages	%31.68
Contract Labor	21.49
Rent	15.33
Faculty Stipends	6.53
Program Marketing	5.46
Textbook Purchases	5.26
Communications	2.69
Payroll Tax Expense	2.37
Insurance	2.10
Supplies	1.96
Other	5.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$86,320.72</b>

By Account

**University Centers of the San Miguel  
 Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
 January through December 2008**

	Jan - Dec 08	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Carry Over from 2007	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
College Partners Cost Share	4,622.00	4,000.00	622.00	115.6%
Contributions Income	3,162.00	5,000.00	-1,838.00	63.2%
Grants	47,100.00	49,950.00	-2,850.00	94.3%
Interest	172.79	120.00	52.79	144.0%
Materials Fee	347.00	0.00	347.00	100.0%
Registration Fees	1,883.00	1,500.00	383.00	125.5%
Textbook Reimbursement	4,694.00	2,500.00	2,194.00	187.8%
Tuition	22,955.55	15,380.00	7,575.55	149.3%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>86,936.34</b>	<b>80,450.00</b>	<b>6,486.34</b>	<b>108.1%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>86,936.34</b>	<b>80,450.00</b>	<b>6,486.34</b>	<b>108.1%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Annual Fund Expenses	550.20	600.00	-49.80	91.7%
Bank Service Charges	391.70	400.00	-8.30	97.9%
Business Expenses	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
Classroom Rental	50.00	600.00	-550.00	8.3%
Classroom set-up/equip/furn/mat	202.46	150.00	52.46	135.0%
Communications	2,322.84	1,650.00	672.84	140.8%
Contract Labor	18,547.00	21,800.00	-3,253.00	85.1%
Dues and Subscriptions	700.00	500.00	200.00	140.0%
Faculty Stipends	5,640.00	4,000.00	1,640.00	141.0%
Furn/Fixtures/Equip<\$500	700.72	500.00	200.72	140.1%
Insurance	1,814.00	1,850.00	-36.00	98.1%
Mileage Reimbursement	0.00	600.00	-600.00	0.0%
Salaries and Wages	27,342.12	18,000.00	9,342.12	151.9%
Payroll Tax Expense	2,047.70	2,200.00	-152.30	93.1%
Postage and Delivery	456.38	500.00	-43.62	91.3%
Professional Development	150.00	500.00	-350.00	30.0%
Professional Fees	311.45	3,400.00	-3,088.55	9.2%
Program Marketing	4,713.71	6,500.00	-1,786.29	72.5%
Reconciliation Discrepancies	42.00			
Rent	13,230.00	11,400.00	1,830.00	116.1%
Repairs	205.00	500.00	-295.00	41.0%
Supplies	1,688.65	1,000.00	688.65	168.9%
Textbook Purchases	4,544.77	3,000.00	1,544.77	151.5%
Travel and Meetings	40.00			
UCSM Advisory Council Meetings	364.75	400.00	-35.25	91.2%
UCSM Board Meetings	265.27	250.00	15.27	106.1%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>86,320.72</b>	<b>80,450.00</b>	<b>5,870.72</b>	<b>107.3%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>615.62</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>615.62</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>615.62</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>615.62</b>	<b>100.0%</b>