

SOUTH DAKOTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT DAVID OWEN TO ADDRESS GRADUATES OF CTU SIOUX FALLS CAMPUS

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (Jan. 6, 2009) – David Owen, president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will be the keynote speaker at commencement ceremonies at the Colorado Technical University (CTU) campus in Sioux Falls.

The year's first graduating class will be recognized at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11 at the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science, 301 S. Main Ave. in historic downtown Sioux Falls.

Owen, a Rapid City native who has served as the state chamber and industry president since 1998, will weave his personal experiences in economics and business, among others, into his speech that should inspire the 80 graduates who are expected to attend Sunday's ceremony.

"We are looking forward to hearing from David Owen," said David Heflin, president of the CTU campus in Sioux Falls. "His experiences with economic development and education provide the perfect backdrop for these challenging economic times and this graduation ceremony."

Owen's experience with the chamber of commerce goes back more than 30 years, starting as an assistant in Aberdeen and later managing chambers in Pittsburg, Kansas, and Missoula, Montana. His diverse background also includes a four-year stint on the U.S. Chamber Institute for Organization Management Board of Regents, several years of teaching experience, 10 years of counseling at Montana Boys State and involvement in a number of statewide election issues on a variety of topics, including taxes, environmental regulations and minimum wage and campaign reform.

Learning about Owen's real-world experiences is right on par with CTU's philosophy of teaching hands-on, industry-current applications to serve the needs of students and their aspirations for employment and career advancement.

"Graduation is always a very special day for our graduates," Heflin said. "We are proud of their accomplishments, and it is a privilege to share in the celebration of one of life's special moments."

About Colorado Technical University

Since 1965, Colorado Technical University (CTU), an institution of higher learning that provides career-oriented education by teaching applied industry programs, has provided students with a pathway towards personal, academic, and professional advancement. CTU offers degree-track programs at the associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels in a variety of disciplines. For more information about Colorado Technical University, please visit www.coloradotech.edu. Through its internet-based channel, CTU Online, the university offers degree programs that are delivered 100 percent online. For more information about the online campus, visit www.ctuonline.edu.

Colorado Technical University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The University is also a member of the Career Education Corporation (NASDAQ:CECO) network of colleges, universities and schools.

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