



THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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27th SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIRST SENATE  
27 APRIL 2022

**BILL #5130**  
**Remembering Our Lost Rams: ASCSU-Honor Guard Memorial March and The Tree  
Memorial - In Loving Memory**

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WRITTEN BY: Christian Dykson, ASCSU President; Noah Burge, Senator for the College of Business

COLLABORATED WITH: Emily Baller, Director of Finance; Samantha May, Senator for the College of Liberal Arts; Nicholas DeSalvo, Speaker of the Senate – Elect; Brandon Baum, Speaker Pro-Tempore

ENDORSED BY: Board for Student Organization Funding (BSOF);

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*Abstract: This bill will formally establish the ASCSU-Honor Guard Memorial March tradition, founded by ASCSU President Christian Dykson, as a way to recognize CSU students who have passed away. This bill will also allocate \$15,000 for the development of The Tree, a memorial to be placed west of the Lory Student Center to honor and remember the CSU Rams who are no longer among us.*

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**WHEREAS**

Every time a CSU student passes away, the CSU flag west of the Lory Student Center is flown at half-staff for 3 days. The Sutherland Sculpture Garden, directly below the flagpole, is a place of gathering and reflection, a heartbeat in the center of our campus, watching over the students who pass by. It exists as a sanctuary to remember the loss of a sincere friend, classmate, and fellow Colorado State Ram; and,

**WHEREAS**

This flag is ultimately delivered to the grieving family, along with a letter written by the ASCSU President, on behalf of the student body; and,

**WHEREAS**

The flying and delivering of the flag, along with the written letter, are enduring traditions within ASCSU and serve as a constant reminder of the

gravity of loss and our collective responsibility to stop, reflect, and remember those who have passed, those who called CSU home; and,

WHEREAS

The ASCSU President has a responsibility to ensure that every student is remembered for the life that they lived, for the hearts they impacted, and to ensure that their legacy is upheld; and,

WHEREAS

In 2021, ASCSU President Christian Dykson introduced a new layer to this tradition, the ASCSU-Honor Guard Memorial March. In this solemn tradition, ASCSU President marches alongside the ROTC Honor Guard as they travel from the Lory Student Center to the Administration building. Throughout the tradition, the Honor Guard formally folds, transports, presents, and seals the flag, to then be delivered to the family; and,

WHEREAS

While the flag is held open at the Administration building, the ASCSU President reads the obituary of the student, followed by a moment of silence. If the gathering draws in family or friends, they are given the opportunity to share words. Upon conclusion, the Honor Guard fold, seal, and deliver the flag; and,

WHEREAS

In partnership with the Student Affairs division, the ASCSU President is responsible for ensuring that grieving family and friends are informed of this opportunity to recognize the loss of their loved one; and,

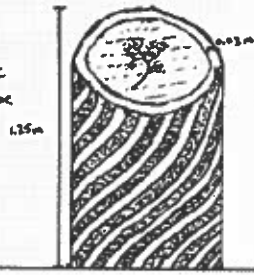
WHEREAS

To foster visibility for this tradition and to ensure that all students who pass by the CSU flag at half-staff understand the gravity of this symbol, ASCSU proposes a memorial be erected to inform passers-by of this tradition, and the gravity of such loss; and,

WHEREAS

In an effort to define the gravity of this loss, ASCSU Senator Burge designed the following memorial: The Tree

*The glass surface will have a background of a "forget-me-not" flower, which is commonly used to symbolize remembrance. The artwork will consist of the phrase originally planned for the sign.*



*- Sign signifies a tree stump  
- Once the person we are remembering is no longer with us, they are very much a part of our roots.  
- "Flange" surface of the sign will be glass, the body of the "stump" will be hollow  
- A light will be placed at the base and shine upward, illuminating the written surface  
- The "stump" will have two sections one of brass and the other, either silver or marble.  
- The interior of the stump will be either silver or marble.*



Design by Noah Burge

3d rendering by Ben Norby

; and,

WHEREAS

The vision/logistics of the design are as follows: The Tree will have a cylindrical stainless-steel centerpiece with copper bands wrapping around the exterior, to reflect the bands of growth on a tree. It will have an acrylic plate at the top that holds the engraved words "*aeternum arietes*", Latin for Eternally Rams. There will be light coming from within the hollow cylinder, shining upwards towards the heavens, and cutouts along the base of the memorial, allowing light to shine horizontally, demonstrating the interconnectedness, even in death, between the lost and those who pass by this memorial. The memorial will be surrounded by forget-me-not flowers, a turquoise blue flower that will unite the blue sky and the memorial below. The life of the tree has been cut short, although its foundation is a glorious testament to years of growth, transformation, and impact – stories that will never be forgotten. Viewers will not see the bottom of the hollow cylinder, but will only encounter the emanating light. This communicates the profound impact of loss. It cannot be easily defined or characterized, and neither can the gleaming stories of those who have passed away. On the front plate, it will describe the ASCSU flag tradition and Memorial March. There will also be a dynamic QR-code on the front plate. If the flag is flying at half-staff (due to the loss of a student), community members can locate the QR code to reach whatever webpage the Office of Student Affairs inputs. If the family wants to route our community to an obituary or fundraising page, that will be possible with this design; and,

WHEREAS

According to Article IX, Section 905b of the Constitution of the Associated Students of Colorado State University, "The Board for Student Organization Funding may approve allocations not to exceed \$14,000 for any one eligible organization. If a specific request exceeds \$14,000 it must be ratified by the Senate through a Bill following the Board's recommendation." The total amount requested from BSOF is less than \$14,000 and therefore does not formally require Senate approval. However, the authors of this bill are putting this forward in hopes that The Tree and the vision for the project will reach a wider audience and generate greater interest in the importance of this endeavor; and,

**WHEREAS**

Although the ASCSU Fund Balance, from which this bill will draw \$4,000, is intended to serve as a rainy-day savings account for the organization (in the event of unanticipated expenses), the fund balance has reached an unsustainable threshold, well beyond the 12-15% mark consistent with other budgets of similar size. Furthermore, the student fees of past generations were collected with the assurance that meaningful projects would be supported. Over time, those funds have accumulated and are now available for ASCSU to invest projects such as this; so,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ENACTED**

That the Associated Students of Colorado State University formally codify 3 traditions in ASCSU's active statutes: (1) Upon the passing of a CSU student, the CSU flag (west of LSC) shall fly at half-staff for 3 days, (2) the ASCSU President shall write a letter to the grieving family, offering condolences and solemn respect, and (3) The new tradition started by President Dykson: after the flag has flown for 3-days, ASCSU President shall convene the ROTC Honor Guard to conduct the ASCSU-Honor Guard Memorial March, as a way to honor and remember students who have passed away and who are no longer among us; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

That \$2,000 will be transferred from the ASCSU BSOF budget to the Senate Discretionary to be earmarked in the ASCSU Fund Balance for the funding of the Tree, to be placed adjacent to the CSU flagpole (West of the Lory Student Center); and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

That \$5,000 will be transferred from the ASCSU Office of the President Discretionary to the Senate Discretionary to be earmarked in the ASCSU Fund Balance for the funding of the Tree; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

That \$2,000 will be transferred from ASCSU Marketing, Event + Organizational Marketing line item, to the Senate Discretionary to be earmarked in the ASCSU Fund Balance for the funding of the Tree; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

That \$1,000 will be transferred from ASCSU Health mental health line item to the Senate Discretionary and \$1,000 from ASCSU Health food security line item to the Senate Discretionary to be earmarked in the ASCSU Fund Balance for the funding of the Tree; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

That \$4,000 will be transferred from ASCSU Fund Balance to the Senate Discretionary to then be earmarked in the ASCSU Fund Balance for the funding of the Tree; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

That the aforementioned allocations shall be available to SiloWorks LLC, or to whichever fabricator(s) shall have the capability, skillset, and desire to advance the vision of this project. All aforementioned funds must be utilized by the first day of June 2023, otherwise the earmarked funds will expire and the funding will become available in the ASCSU Fund Balance for general ASCSU expenditures; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED**

Based on previous conversations, this funding allocation is being advanced with the hope of an equal, or comparable, funding match from the LSC Executive Office, and/or other campus partners to help bring this project to fruition; and,

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**PASSAGE AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF BILL #5130**

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**INTRODUCED — 27<sup>th</sup> SESSION**

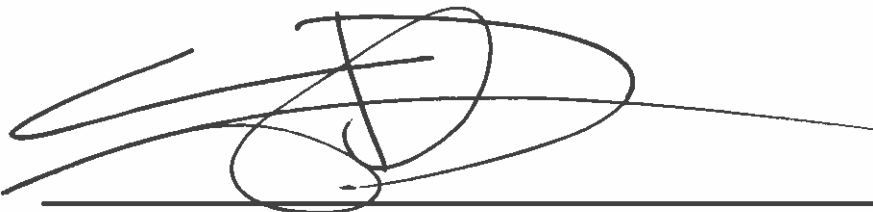
**27 APRIL 2022**

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**SENATE PASSAGE [EXPEDITED] — 22-0-0**

**27 APRIL 2022**

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4/29/2022

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**ASCSU PRESIDENT CHRISTIAN DYKSON**

**DATE**

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**THAT A COPY OF THIS LEGISLATION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO**

**Mike Ellis**, Executive Director of the Lory Student Center  
**Tony Frank**, Chancellor for the Colorado State University System  
**Joyce McConnell**, Colorado State University President  
**Blanche Hughes**, CSU Vice President for Student Affairs  
**Craig Chesson**, CSU Dean of Students, Student Affairs division  
**John Henderson**, Associate Dean of Students, Student Affairs division  
**Jody Donovan**, Assistant Vice-President, Student Affairs division  
**Shirl Portillos**, Advisor, Student Case Management

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**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**Sen. Athey - AYE**  
**Sen. Carracedo-Perez - AYE**  
**Sen. Deason - AYE**  
**Sen. Epperson - AYE**  
**Sen. Long - AYE**  
**Sen. May - AYE**  
**Sen. Morgan - AYE**  
**Sen. Ritter - AYE**  
**Sen. Sandoval - AYE**  
**Sen. Shephard - AYE**  
**Sen. Sherer - AYE**  
**Sen. Silverhart - AYE**  
**Sen. Thiam - AYE**  
**Sen. Torres-Doxey - AYE**  
**Sen. Trout - AYE**  
**Sen. Welch - AYE**  
**Sen. Whaler - AYE**  
**Sen. Williamson - AYE**  
**Sen. Sanchez - AYE**  
**Sen. Nguyen - AYE**  
**Sen. Rencher - AYE**  
**Sen. Correa - AYE**