

**From:** Colorado School of Mines <communications@mines.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 1:50 PM  
**Subject:** The 150: A Newsletter Celebrating Mines at 150

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**The 150: A monthly update on all things Mines at 150**



Check out all the photos from Founders Week, including the grand opening of the Labriola Innovation District, Mines' Birthday Party and Blaster's visit to campus on the [Mines Flickr](#).



## Greetings Orediggers!

When people think of research at Mines, they may first think of the university's expertise in the geosciences, extractive and refining technologies — and rightfully so. After all, we're world-renowned for earth, energy and environment research. However, our true research legacy is that we've been at the forefront of solving economically important scientific and engineering challenges across disciplines — for 150 years.

Leading up to Mines' 150th anniversary, our focus has centered on being the “go-to place” for the use-inspired research and innovation needed to address the challenges facing industry and society. Toward that goal, the Office of Research and Technology Transfer continues to expand outreach and support for research success, while fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and transdisciplinary collaboration. Here's some of what we've accomplished recently:

- We earned the Carnegie R1 Classification, denoting very high research activity and designating Mines in the top tier of research universities nationwide.
- We have forged strong partnerships across public and private sectors, enabling us to accelerate and broaden our impact and to position Mines as a knowledgeable resource and preferred collaborator.
- We welcomed a director of federal relations, to help ensure Mines is a top-of-mind and first-choice partner for policymakers, federal labs and funding agencies.
- We added a role in research communications, to advance Mines' research message and elevate our public stature.
- In January, we launched our updated [Research website](#), which features the Mines Pillars of Research and Innovation. These pillars showcase the full spectrum of research across Mines while highlighting our commitment to discovering real-world solutions that incorporate an understanding of social, economic, political and environmental impacts.

I look forward to celebrating our indelible legacy of innovation and advancement together with you throughout this milestone year. Join us on our continuing journey to create lasting, positive change for a vibrant and prosperous future.

Regards,  
Walter Copan  
Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer

# Spotlight on Research and Technology Transfer

## **Mines contributing to \$160M Colorado-Wyoming Climate Resilience Engine**

Mines will serve on the governance board and contribute to research, innovation and workforce capacity development through the NSF's recently announced inaugural Regional Innovation Engine Award. [Read about the award.](#)

## **Mines and Carbon America awarded \$32.6M from U.S. Department of Energy CarbonSAFE Initiative**

Mines, Carbon America and Los Alamos National Laboratory have been awarded \$32.6 million in DOE funding to advance research and development of a potential carbon storage hub in Colorado. [Read about the award.](#)

## **Mines to receive \$1.5M in federal funding to explore potential of geologic hydrogen**

The project, led by Mines researchers Mengli Zhang and Yaoguo Li, is part of ARPA-E's Exploratory topics related to geologic hydrogen, a first-of-its-kind U.S. government effort to research technologies related to stimulation and reservoir management of geologic hydrogen. [Read about the award.](#)

*Celebrate*  
**150 YEARS**  
*with us*

**Happening in March  
#FlatBlaster on Spring Break**



Spring Break is around the corner, and we want YOU to bring Flat Blaster along on your adventures.

Download your Flat Blaster today and decorate the Mines mascot with whatever sparks your creativity (pencils, markers, mixed media, glitter...) Snap a photo of Flat Blaster – lounging on the beach, researching in the field, relaxing at home, enjoying a hike in Golden, wherever Spring Break takes you – and post the photo to your Instagram profile using the tag #FlatBlaster between March 15-25.

Photos will be entered into a random drawing for an awesome Mines prize pack. For the full content rules, check out [150.mines.edu/fun](http://150.mines.edu/fun).



MORE  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATIONS

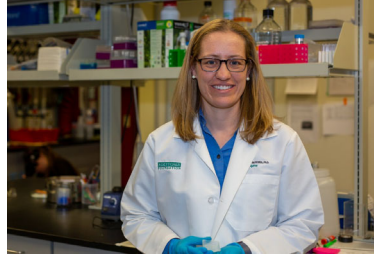


## University Headlines



## Mines marks 150 years with grand opening of Labriola Innovation Hub

All the hallmarks of a great birthday party were present as campus came together to celebrate Founders Day on Feb. 9. [See the photos.](#)



## Mines faculty-founded biomaterials company wins inaugural Mines Venture Fund I investment

GelSana Therapeutics was founded by Melissa Krebs, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering. [Read about the funding.](#)



## Mines, Lunar Outpost team heading to finals in NASA's Break the Ice Challenge

The Ice Diggers are one of six teams that qualified for the finals of the NASA competition. [Read about the challenge.](#)

# Mines in the News

## Financial Times

### [Geologists signal start of hydrogen energy 'gold rush'](#)

"A gold rush for gold hydrogen is coming," Mengli Zhang of Colorado School of Mines told attendees of the AAAS Annual Meeting in Denver.

## Nature

### [Moon mission: will a private firm finally land a craft on the lunar surface?](#)

"We're going to get there, with smaller and newer companies building US spacecraft," says Christopher Dreyer, a mechanical engineer at Colorado School of Mines.

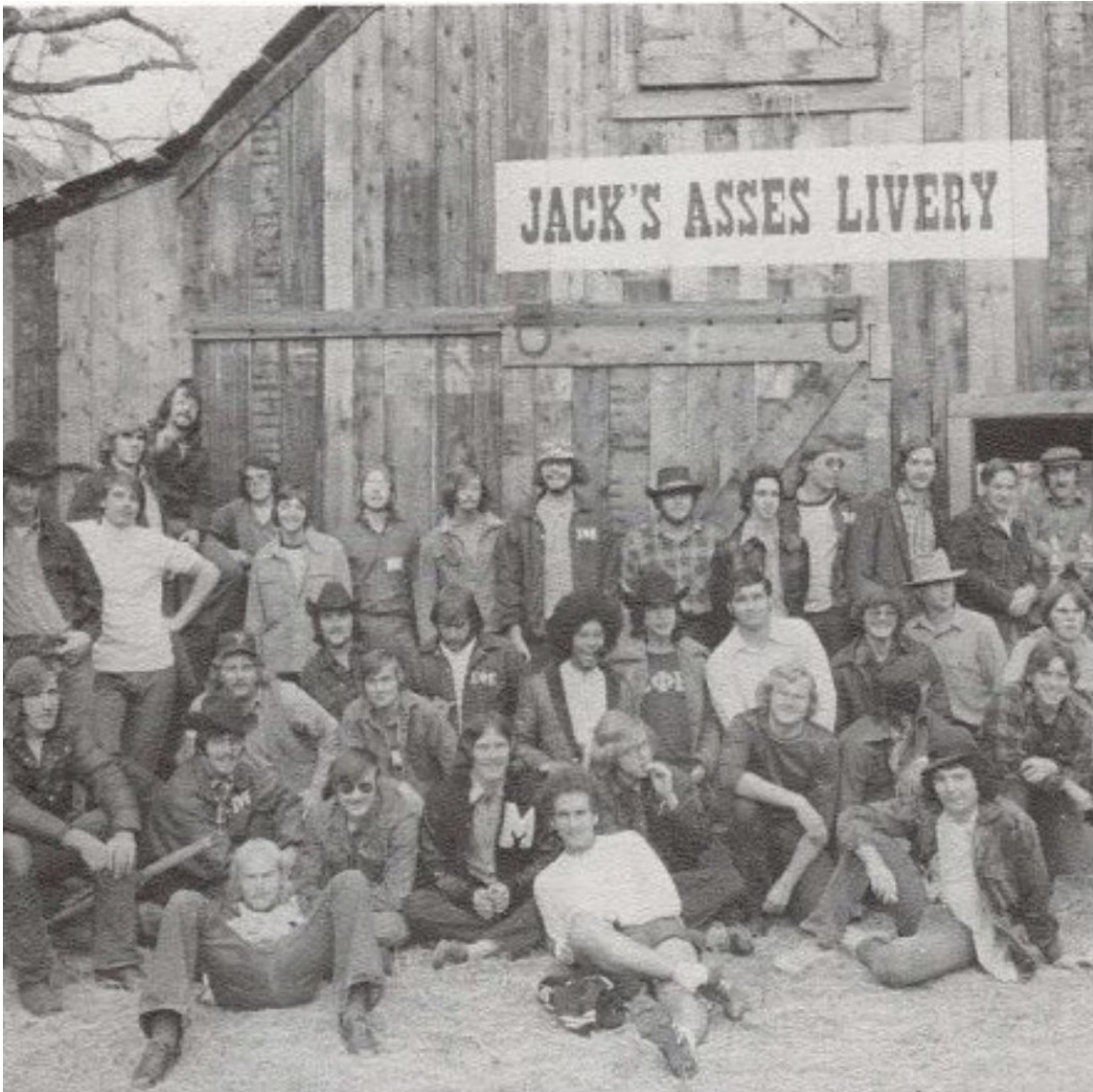
## The Baltimore Sun

### [Gore-Tex maker polluted some Marylanders' drinking water with 'forever chemicals,' officials say. The question is how many.](#)

Chris Higgins, University Distinguished Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, was

quoted about PFAS contamination.

## #Mines150History



In 1974, Orediggers celebrated 100 years of Mines in a uniquely Mines fashion — by building their own Mineral City! Located in Stratton Commons, Mineral City was a replica of an 1874 mining town complete with a café, saloon, jail, two-story outhouse, laundry and horse-mounted police — all constructed by Mines students. David Matlock, Professor Emeritus of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, witnessed the town in all its splendor and said its construction “highlighted the resourcefulness and capabilities of Mines students” and drew such a crowd that “all, including the Governor of Colorado, enjoyed the environment on campus facilitated by the existence of Mineral City.”

Celebrate **150 YEARS** with us  **150.MINES.EDU**

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