TRANSFORMING STUDENTS,
TRANSFORMING OURSELVES

REBECCA CHOPP, CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
LIBERAL ARTS ILLUMINATED CONFERENCE
JULY 12, 2016
“...make liberal arts a living tradition and not merely an ode to the past.”
Dramatic Changes

- Demographics
- Technology
- Knowledge
- Relationship to Democracy
- Regulation
- Generational
RADICAL DEMOCRATIZATION

• Increased enrollment
• More diversity
• New leaders in education
• Change coming from unexpected places
Beyond the University: Why Liberal Education Matters

Michael S. Roth

The Condition of American Liberal Education: Pragmatism and a Changing Tradition

Bruce A. Kimball

Executive Editor

Robert Orrill
“...reconstruct history as a launching pad for a comprehensive understanding for the future.”
LIBERAL ARTS: TRANSFORMATION
“...invitation to enter, and eventually the confidence to occupy, the life of the mind.”

DAVID BRADLEY
high-impact experiences

problem-based knowledge

porous structures

intentional community

life of the mind
PROMISES TO OUR STUDENTS

• **WE PROMISE**
  ROBUST
  INTELLECTUAL
  ENGAGEMENT
  THROUGH
  LEARNING,
  SCHOLARSHIP
  AND PRACTICE.
PROMISES TO OUR STUDENTS

• **WE PROMISE** a holistic education, including personal navigation skills for life and work.
PROMISES TO OUR STUDENTS

• **We promise** creative collaboration and ethical leadership development.
PROMISES TO OUR STUDENTS

- **We promise** deep, meaningful engagement in a diverse community.
PROMISES TO OUR STUDENTS

• **WE PROMISE** LIFELONG CONNECTEDNESS FOR PERSONAL AND CAREER ACHIEVEMENT.
HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICES

• First-year Seminars
• Learning Communities
• Writing-intensive Courses
• Undergraduate Research
• Study Abroad
• Internships
• Capstone Courses and Projects
Practices = Knowledge + Skills + Virtues/Habits
“...the notion of intentional community is almost counter-cultural in the current political and social context.”
CHANGES IN KNOWLEDGE

• PROBLEM-BASED INQUIRY
• DESIGNING FOR LEARNING
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

"In addition to being a fascinating and colorful read, this book is an indispensable guide to organizational change." — WALTER ISAACSON, from the foreword

TEAM
OF
TEAMS
NEW RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR A COMPLEX WORLD

GENERAL STANLEY McCHRystal
U.S. Army, Retired

with Tantum Collins, David Silverman, and Chris Fussell

What we were designed for
What we were facing

Complicated
Complex
1. INTEGRATIVE LEARNING ECOSYSTEM

Prepare students to navigate complexity and reinvent their work—and themselves.
2. INTEGRATIVE LEARNING ECOSYSTEM

Embed skills and capacity
3. INTEGRATIVE LEARNING ECOSYSTEM

Move toward competency-based assessment