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Colorado State University Student Accepts Conservation Scholarship in Partnership With The Congressional Black Caucus Institute

WASHINGTON DC – Colorado State University student Leander Lacy has accepted a Masters in Conservation scholarship in conjunction with Congressional Black Caucus Political Education and Leadership Institute and CSU’s Warner College of Natural Resources and the School of Global Environmental Sustainability and in partnership with Mexico’s University of Southern Frontier. This innovative, masters-level specialization is aimed at preparing the next generation of conservation leaders to be big picture problem-solvers.

“I was honored to receive this award due to the prestigious nature of both the Congressional Black Caucus Institute and the Conservation Leadership Through Learning Program,” said Lacy. “The Congressional Black Caucus Institute has been involved in producing great leaders in the African-American community and I am excited to be apart of the process. Conservation is not limited by skin color or minority status. Involvement in conservation issues is the responsibility of every citizen and the Congressional Black Caucus is making great strides to ensure that this becomes a reality.”

The two-year scholarship is a collaborative effort between CBCI and CSU’s newly launched Conservation Leadership through Learning initiative. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between CSU representatives and representatives from CBCI on April 19 to highlight issues related to the environment and diversity.

Details of the MOU agreement include:

- A two-year scholarship for the Conservation Leadership Through Learning initiative.
- Colorado State will serve in an advisory capacity on environmental issues to the Congressional Black Caucus Institute.
- Opportunities will be pursued in which congressional representatives will serve as guest speakers in the Conservation Leadership Through Learning initiative.
- Development of dynamic internship opportunities for CSU students with the Congressional Black Caucus Institute.

Lacy joined CBCI Chairman Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-Miss.) and CSU representatives President Tony Frank, Provost and Executive Vice President Rick

Miranda, Dean Joyce Berry of the Warner College of Natural Resources, Department Head Mike Manfredo of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and Associate Dean of Academics Peter Newman in the Warner College for the formal signing of the Memorandum of Understanding at CSU's main campus in Ft. Collins, Colorado. Also in attendance were CBCI Board Treasurer Art Collins and CBCI Executive Director Alicia Petersen.

The Congressional Black Caucus Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that works to create opportunities for young African Americans whose backgrounds, interests and aspirations guide them towards public service. Congressman Bennie G. Thompson serves as chairman of the Institute's board of directors.

For more information about the Congressional Black Caucus Institute, visit <http://cbcinstitute.org/db/>. For more information about the CSU Conservation Leadership Through Learning program, visit <http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/cltl-home/index.php>.

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