What would it be like if...

Close your eyes for a moment. Now attempt to envision Colorado State University without El Centro Student Services. Scary thought right? It may not seem like a huge deal to those of you who are yet to discover the wonder of El Centro, however for the students who frequent the office, this idea was inconceivable. I asked a few students in the office this question: “What would CSU be like without El Centro?” These were the responses I received:

“School would be a totally different experience,” commented Isaac Sotelo, Senior Finance Major.

“I wouldn’t know as many people, I wouldn’t have as many resources or networking opportunities, and I probably wouldn’t have stayed here [CSU],” said Gabe Barela, Senior Psychology Major.

Hiram Balderrama, Liberal Arts open option said, “It would make for a difficult transition.”

Jenna Espinoza added, “I wouldn’t feel like I was contributing to the Latino Community.”

For Ricardo Serna, a Sophomore double majoring in Hotel/Resort/Restaurant Management and Spanish, El Centro, “Helped me get connected.” He said that as a first year student it is really difficult to network and know what your resources are without anyone leading you or prompting you in the right direction.

Serna added that El Centro, “keeps a lot of students from drifting away.”

El Centro may not have immense impact on the entire campus; however, it has made the difference in the lives of enough students to have kept the office open and expanding.

You can make of El Centro what you will. We are here to support you in your endeavors. It is up to you to step up to the plate.

An Increasing Population

Each year the number of Latinos at Colorado State University increases. The chart to the left indicates the total number of Latinos in each college. This year there are 1,532 Latinos enrolled at CSU.