

## Street Talk



Bruce Goldberg

**SPEAKING OF "ARE YOU MY BUTTERFLY?":** As U.S. business people forge more ties with China, those who want to learn about that country's language and culture can turn to the **Community College of Denver (CCD)**.

CCD recently moved its **Confucius Institute** — aka the **Chinese Language and Culture Exploratorium** — into a new home in the **St. Francis Conference Center**, which is part of the **St. Elizabeth Catholic Church** on the Auraria campus.

There, it offers classes in Chinese culture and language training for business travelers, Chinese painting and calligraphy, tai chi and mulan, which is a combination of tai chi and martial arts.

There are more than 300 Confucius institutes in 50 countries, and CCD President **Karen Bleeker** says that CCD is the first community college in the world to house one of them.



**Karen Bleeker**

"We want people from business and industry who may be traveling to China to have a resource here they can turn to," she says.

There's much to learn about China in the atrium, which houses a costume exhibit, interactive learning via 50-inch plasma TVs, artwork, a Chinese medicine exhibit, a library and meeting space.

"If you're having Chinese businesses coming to town, you can meet here," says **Aimee Callahan**, executive director.

Businesses also can hire CCD to bring customized classes to their offices.

Info: 303-556-3698 or online at [www.ccdconfuciusinstitute.com](http://www.ccdconfuciusinstitute.com).