Five questions for Daisy McConnell[1]

Daisy McConnell (Photo: Aetherial Photography)

Daisy McConnell grew up in Italy, Canada and across the western United States with parents who were artists and seven brothers and sisters. She says her “bohemian upbringing” likely was influential to her decision to choose a career in visual arts. After earning an undergraduate degree at Colorado College, she worked in a variety of jobs: fine art printmaking studio manager, K-12 art educator, artist studio assistant, fine artist. But what excited her most were her experiences curating and managing a small academic art gallery at Colorado College.

When the position of co-director of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Galleries of Contemporary Art (GOCA) opened in 2010, her eclectic background was perfect for the job demands of a culture creator in the region. She became director of GOCA in August 2011.

The galleries produce eight to 10 curated exhibits each year in the two spaces and off-site venues, and run seven significant recurring programs. In 2012-2013, GOCA produced 79 individual programs, most related to exhibits on display.

The current exhibit, “Destiny Manifest,” features the work of two artists addressing the legacy of pollution in North America. French-Canadian artist Isabelle Hayeur's Underworlds and Excavations series of large-scale photographic digital assemblages capture polluted waterways and critically explore the impact of human sprawl on urban environments. Colorado-based Holly Parker Dearborn's Extreme Force and Roman Buses series and Destroyer of Worlds multimedia installation explore issues related to war, industrial weapons, climate change, pollution and resources.

The exhibit is on display at the downtown GOCA121 gallery through May 17. (Visit http://www.uccs.edu/goca/ART/DESTINY-MANIFEST.html[3])

McConnell still loves to travel, especially to visit her family living across the globe.

“I always incorporate art viewing into the trips. I was fortunate to visit a brother and sister living in Italy this past spring, and to spend a couple days at the opening of the Venice Biennale as part of that trip. I traveled with my mother and teenage daughter – it was a terrific experience. In a two-week span we went from viewing the ruins of Ancient Rome and Pompeii to immersing ourselves in an overwhelming contemporary art experience.”

1. What is the mission of GOCA and what does curating an exhibit entail?

GOCA’s mission is “to spark engaged dialogue about contemporary culture through visual art exhibitions, public programs and special events that articulate aesthetics, current issues and diverse perspectives.” Since 2010 we’ve grown our audience over 200 percent, thanks in large part to opening a satellite gallery in a donated space in downtown Colorado Springs that same year. Our student attendance has increased through working with faculty across all departments (not only Visual Art) to incorporate the gallery as a teaching resource, and through inviting students in for diverse programs that connect with them and their interests. Our community audience has grown tremendously through high-profile and award-winning exhibitions, inventive programs, and an incredible amount of energy spent on authentically marketing and engaging with our supporters. Ultimately, we’ve been able to raise the funding needed to bring experimental, engaging, often collaborative contemporary art projects through making a significant cultural impact on this community.

Our programs are playful, serious and experimental all at once – noontime dance parties in the gallery, a seven-evening series of talks on the central topic of water, collaborative dance and concerts connecting to the visual art on display, visual training combined with wine tasting, and mash-up lecture series featuring DIY and contemporary culture topics to name some – and they build on the exhibits in ways that a traditional gallery lecture cannot.

Directing and curating two contemporary academic gallery spaces is incredibly demanding and creatively exciting all at

once. It's much like running a stand-alone, nonprofit business – we fundraise to cover costs for 100 percent of our programs – but with support for two staff salaries and facilities from the university. I manage one full-time staff member, anywhere from three to 10 student employees and interns, and a volunteer Advisory Board comprised of university faculty and community members.

The process of curating an exhibit starts with an idea – some connect to faculty research, interdisciplinary programs or other campus initiatives, while others explore the leading edge of contemporary art practices, tackling current issues and addressing big and small concepts in our spaces. I work to stay current on contemporary art, connect with artists whose practice is evolving the boundaries of what we define as contemporary art, and whose craft is at superior levels through studio visits and research. Interdisciplinary, collaborative projects that stretch outside of our space both physically and conceptually (i.e. involving music, dance, performance, or all of the above) intersperse with more contemplative, quiet shows. It really runs the gamut.

I'm working ahead two to three years – this is fairly standard in the gallery and museum world – coordinating schedules with artists, galleries, collectors, faculty and classes. It can be tricky to be pulling together five to 15 exhibits at one time, all while working to design, install, light, market and create buzz to get people to the current exhibits on display. We are a small staff, so at the end of the night after the big opening, we are the ones cleaning up the floors and tables and changing the burnt-out bulbs in the gallery lights.

2. What is a favorite part of your job? What are some least favorite aspects of what you do?

I love the variety of this work and the people I am privileged to work with on this team at UCCS. My favorite experience on the job is probably when I'm conducting Visual Thinking Strategies sessions where I facilitate unpacking an artwork with a group of visitors. I've done this with everyone from elementary students to adults with wine glass in hand, and they always find aspects of the work that I had missed or hadn't connected to fully.

In these sessions we slow time down and practice sustained viewing of an artwork for 1 minute, followed by open-ended questions that I never answer as facilitator but just rephrase. It's so rare that we have the chance to slow down and look at anything for longer than mere seconds in our daily lives, so it's a real treat. I also love the noontime dance parties we throw. They're terrific community building wellness events and everyone always leaves with a big smile, including me.

My least favorite aspect is that we are always coming up short on resources to get it all done – staff time, funding and time in a day. We are constantly strategizing smarter ways to plan and execute our programs and we've streamlined a lot of our operations. Our programming is ambitious though and it really does take a lot of work to pull it all together. We are connecting with our audiences in meaningful ways and that is incredibly rewarding and keeps our team inspired and steaming ahead.

3. I assume everything doesn't always go smoothly at the GOCA. Can you share with us a story about when things didn't go perfectly?

In our recent exhibit PROTEST!, one of the artists had works traveling to us from the Istanbul Biennial. I tried contacting everyone and anyone possible to determine if the work would arrive on time, including deploying Google translate to get to the goal. I finally gave up on including these particular works and was redesigning the show a few weeks out when I got the call – the works were at customs and when could I take delivery? It could easily have gone the other direction, but we were fortunate and I breathed a huge sigh of relief.

The opening festivities for the PROTEST! exhibit this past January featured a performative collaboration between Ormao Dance Company, Ensemble Peak Frequency and Americana vocalist Tim Eriksen, set in the midst of the art on display by contemporary artists dealing with protest in their works. The marketing for this performance did not require tickets – admission was free and it was decided that ticketing would not work as many people often do not show up if they haven't paid for their tickets. It was to be first-come, first-seated to capacity, but as it got closer to the date I was starting to worry. Numerous press articles were released, buzz on social media was high, and I just had the feeling that we were going to be overrun – a serious concern for my staff and the security of the art in the gallery.

The day of the event a big snowstorm hit and every other event in town canceled. We had 20 dancers and 14 musicians who had traveled distance and rehearsed for this night, so we chose not to cancel unless the university closed (which it did not). We had just over the number of seats show up to see the show – 110 – and about 20 more were able to squeeze in on the floor. It was an incredibly moving performance, and those who made it through the storm to be there still tell me it was one of the best art experiences in their memory. But I was so grateful for that snow!

Another fun story was maintaining the "Rain Machine" exhibit by artist Eric Tillinghast. The artist created a monumental water sculpture featuring 300-plus jets dripping water in a grid pattern into a 30-foot-by-30-foot pool. It was incredibly beautiful and we had it on extended display for three months, during which we maintained it with pool chemicals. The jets clogged though, and someone had to get on a ladder in an outfit made for floating on a river, water pouring all over, to manually replace the clogged jet. That someone was, on two occasions, me – and that water was cold!

4. Is there an exhibit for which you are especially proud? Have you ever purchased art from one of your exhibits?

I'm proud and amazed by every exhibit I pull together – it always seems a herculean task and I'm grateful for the support of my staff and the genius and dedication of the artists we partner with in our spaces. I was especially proud of the PROTEST! exhibit that closed last month – it reached heights of success on multiple points. It was connected to the 100th anniversary of the Ludlow Rebellion and Massacre events of 1914, and the exhibit and related programs sparked discussion, reaction, thought and movement.

I have purchased art from several of our exhibits. My house is full of art! It's hard to live with the artworks for weeks and then just let them go. I am getting to the point of needing to rotate the art in my home though, so I'm trying to restrain myself more. Art is such a joy to live with in your home. I'm lucky indeed to get to live with it at work most days, too.

5. Do you have a favorite item or object that you keep on your desk at work?

I've got a few sculpted hands – one was a gift from my mother, cast in resin from Marfa, Texas; another was one of my father's drawing models and is carved out of wood; and a third was in gallery storage when I started working here in 2010. I love the symbolism of hands – they are the ultimate artist tool and express so much. Each one of these connects me to important histories for me personally.

Faculty Council discusses program prioritization, Social Climate Survey with Hybl[4]

CU Regent Kyle Hybl

Lengthy discussions on program prioritization and the Social Climate Survey dominated the April 3 meeting of Faculty Council at 1800 Grant St., where Regent Kyle Hybl was invited to speak.

Council members took the opportunity to express concerns over the amount of additional work for faculty and staff generated by the program prioritization process, which was initiated by the Board of Regents and began last fall.[6] They also were critical of the Social Climate Survey, the composition of which might compromise honest responses, they said. (For more on the survey and its recent suspension, see story here.)[7]

Joanne Addison, Denver Faculty Assembly Chair, thanked Hybl and the board for not imposing a system or method for conducting the program prioritization at each campus, and commended the board for stressing to administration that faculty must be strongly involved in the process.

"The downside to that is the amount of work that faculty are doing," Addison said. "The burden on faculty has been

quite a strain. … The time is coming out of other things faculty members should be doing. It comes out of our research, (which) is one of the main things we have to do to maintain our status in our fields and get our bit of (salary) raise that we hope to get."

Hybl said he would communicate to the rest of the board that the council suggested regents could make greater recognition of the effort going into such an undertaking, and that ideally faculty working on a prioritization committee could be provided a stipend or some other form of compensation for the time and effort.

"Whether it's this or accreditation, there's a ton of work that goes on at the institution, and we need to better harness the information (gathered)," Hybl said, noting that he expects the current prioritization efforts to help establish procedures that can be replicated for future comparisons.

Pam Laird of CU Denver and Peggy Jobe of CU-Boulder said that campuses already are in the habit of ongoing analysis of programs, and that cuts are made when programs don't seem justified. Laird criticized a book by Robert C. Dickeson, "Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services," as making an unfair assumption that "unnecessary fat" at universities is a given. (Dickeson spoke as a consultant during the Board of Regents' retreat last summer[8].)

"I think we can say as an institution, 'We're very mindful of everything and we (already) get rid of things that are not necessary,'" Hybl said. "(But) it's easier to build than to modify or reduce. I acknowledge the work that goes into determining what courses go forward. I also believe, when we're looking at everything all at the same time that it will yield interesting results."

The regents' Social Climate Survey, which was underway at the time of last week's meeting, also sparked discussion at the meeting.

Addison said that demographic questions and other potential identifiers could potentially be used to pinpoint and attach survey responses to individuals. Should that information ever be released, she said, "You will create an incredibly difficult environment for them. I think the validity of the survey is seriously in question because of that."

Scarlet Bowen, chair of the council's GLBTI Committee, said via phone that a climate survey can be very helpful – especially in gathering information from people who wouldn't necessarily make a formal report if and when an instance of discrimination occurs. But she said the regents' survey fell short by not including opportunities for open-ended responses to any of the questions.

Several members of the council said that these and other issues could have been identified prior to the survey's release had they and others been asked to test the survey on a pilot basis.

Hybl left the meeting to speak with Patrick O'Rourke, University Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Regents, then returned to stress to the council that results of the survey "won't be so thinly sliced that individuals can be identified." He also said the survey responses would not be released in their entirety.

Hybl eventually asked O'Rourke to join the meeting; O'Rourke said that because the board wanted to be able to take corrective action should the survey indicate any areas of concern, some identifying information had to be collected. For instance, he said, if the vendor conducting the survey determined concerns were concentrated in a particular department, the university would need to be able to track back and determine where efforts need to be made.

Kathleen Bollard, vice president of academic affairs, said that pinpointing data to the department level was problematic.

"The fear is that people most likely to have experienced discrimination will feel least safe in responding," Bollard said.

O'Rourke and Hybl said they appreciated the council's concerns, and O'Rourke said he would begin working with regents on how best to remedy the process.

In other business at last week's meeting, Vice Chair Laura Borgelt encouraged attendance at the Faculty Council/Faculty Senate meeting on April 24, as a quorum is required in order to make official changes that have been

proposed for the group's bylaws.

Social Climate Survey to return soon[9]

The CU Board of Regents is expected to launch a revised and updated Social Climate Survey in the coming days after Faculty Council expressed concerns about the level of identifying information in the original version that was distributed to the University of Colorado community last week.

The university temporarily suspended the survey on Friday following a discussion at a previously scheduled Faculty Council meeting[10], during which faculty leaders expressed some concern about the survey methodology. The most significant was that the amount of detailed demographic information contained in the survey would potentially identify particular respondents. Because of this perception, the faculty leaders were concerned that some members of the university community might not take the survey, even if the results were not reported at a high level of specificity.

"The Board of Regents hired an outside vendor to conduct the survey to ensure that the data was appropriately maintained and not used for inappropriate purposes. Nonetheless, when the faculty presented their concerns through shared governance channels, the board respected those concerns and took immediate action to address them," said Board of Regents Chair Michael Carrigan. "For this survey to succeed, we want every student, faculty member and employee to feel comfortable taking the survey, knowing that their opinions matter and will bring about positive changes."

Carrigan disputed a report in Wednesday's (Boulder) Daily Camera[11] that claimed there was an "uproar" at CU over the survey. Carrigan said that, other than Faculty Council concerns that were respectfully raised and quickly addressed, the board has had very little feedback from students, faculty or staff. He also said while there will always be those who take issue with such a broad-based survey, he is optimistic for a good result from the next iteration, a view he said Faculty Council shares.

"Faculty governance has committed to us that they share the desire that the Social Climate Survey succeed," Carrigan said.

Faculty Council Chair Melinda Piket-May said the council appreciates the responsiveness of regents and administrators. She met to suggest improvements with Carrigan, Regent Vice Chair Sue Sharkey, Secretary to the Board Patrick O'Rourke and Vice President for Academic Affairs Kathleen Bollard.

"Faculty Council identified key areas of concern and suggested modifications," Piket-May said. "We let them know what we were hearing and they quickly responded."

O'Rourke said he is working with the vendor, McLaughlin and Associates, on modifications and he expects the survey to relaunch within a week. More than 5,000 surveys were completed in the three days it was open last week, and O'Rourke said he is in discussions with McLaughlin about what to do with the completed surveys. In the meantime, the source data has been locked down.

The Social Climate Survey originated with a regent resolution in June[12], which passed unanimously, that aims to determine how well the CU community is meeting the university's guiding principle and core value of promoting diversity in all its forms. While surveys have been conducted previously on campuses, this is the first that attempts to measure progress on a systemwide basis.

Guest opinion: Visiting Scholar of Conservative Thought and Policy must strengthen dialogue, not debase it[13]

Steven Hayward, Visiting Scholar of Conservative Thought and Policy

When the University of Colorado Boulder announced its three-year pilot to establish a Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy Program, the stated goal was to "strengthen and diversify the level of dialogue on a variety of topics related to Conservative Thought and Policy" (cufund.org "Conservative Thought and Policy Pilot Project")[15]. Our administration made clear that not only would the person in this position teach classes and mentor students but also participate in public activities as a member of the CU community — a community committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive learning environment for all (http://www.colorado.edu/news/features/regents-vote-expand-anti-discrimination-policy[16]).

Thus, it was with dismay that many of us opened our newspapers on (April 3) to read about Visiting Scholar Steven Hayward's public comments[17] mocking women who have experienced sexual harassment, transgender people, and the LGBTQ community as a whole.

Dr. Hayward's apparent lack of understanding about people who identify as a different gender than what they were assigned at birth; his ridicule of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer; and his dismissal of the experiences of women who face sexual harassment, are unfortunately still too common at the University. As CU-Boulder's 2010 climate study revealed, students regularly experience prejudice in classrooms, in academic departments, in residence halls, and a number of other spaces. Responding to open-ended questions on the 2010 survey, a student wrote, "my department has quite a few transgender/ genderqueer students and most of the faculty are NOT sensitive to the issues these folks face, or think it's some kind of joke." Students, faculty and staff are daily confronted with prejudicial and uninformed remarks about various aspects of their identities having to do with their race or ethnicity, their sexual orientation, their gender, their ability status, just to name a few. Faculty who do research on these topics can also encounter similar forms of ridicule and trivialization by professors who are disrespectful of such studies that focus on historically marginalized and underrepresented communities.

Dr. Hayward's decision to devalue efforts to confront sexual harassment and instead call upon women to physically attack their harassers, as well as his complete dismissal of the real discrimination and violence experienced by LGBTQ people, has no place in an inclusive learning community. Holding the position of Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy requires the person bestowed this privilege to enhance and diversify our level of dialogue and spirit of scholarly inquiry, not weaken it. Engaging in meaningful dialogue in response to these events embodies the spirit of Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy Program.

Because these comments are contrary to the university's newly expanded anti-discrimination policy, the Faculty Council denounces Dr. Hayward's statements. We commend our students for speaking out so that we can continue to foster an inclusive learning community. We hope our Visiting Scholars of Conservative Thought and Policy are truly committed to strengthening dialogue, not debasing it.

CU System Faculty Council

Please send comments to facultycouncil@cu.edu[18]

Science communication efforts inspire largest gift yet for CU Sustainability Complex[19]

Legendary CU physics professor Albert Bartlett, who worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory for the Manhattan Project in 1944 before his 38-year tenure on CU's faculty.

Brian Daniell

Inspired by melting glaciers and CU scientists' efforts to educate the public about mechanisms that drive environmental change, emeritus Department of Communication faculty member Brian Daniell and his wife, Vicki Bynum, have stepped forward to pledge $500,000 toward CU-Boulder's Sustainability, Energy, and Environment Complex (SEEC).

The commitment will establish the Albert A. Bartlett Science Communication Center on the second floor of SEEC. The center will be a place for information exchange among students and scholars from CU and beyond, as well as federal researchers and community members, with the overarching themes of sustainability and collaboration.

When completed in 2015, SEEC will consist of 430,000 square feet of research labs, classrooms, and other academic spaces on East Campus—serving as a catalyst and national hub for learning, research and innovation. SEEC's partners include CU programs and federal labs such as the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), the Renewable & Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), and CU's Environmental Studies Program, among others.

Vicki Bynum chose the name to honor legendary CU physics professor Albert Bartlett, who worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory for the Manhattan Project in 1944 before his 38-year tenure on CU's faculty. He warned about the consequences of human overpopulation and the resulting depletion of resources and environmental degradation, giving his famed "Arithmetic, Population and Energy" lecture over 1,700 times before he passed away last September.

"The clarity and power of this lecture, and the energy with which he gave it over a period of decades, made him a quintessential science communicator and the archetype for the kind of people that we hope the new center will develop and support," Daniell says.

Bartlett played an instrumental role in the establishment of Boulder's open space policies. As a CU donor, Bartlett inspired a scholarship for CU physics students with aspirations to teach in high schools. His efforts to reach as many citizens as possible about sustainability issues will live on at SEEC.

As a Communication instructor, Daniell integrated sustainability issues into his lectures as he became increasingly concerned about climate change. In 2008 he created the Communication Project for Civic and Social Engagement (CASE), providing internship opportunities that enable CU-Boulder Communication students to serve environmental sustainability interests in their communities.

"That year I began to look for opportunities for students in my discipline to participate in and contribute to wider efforts to disseminate the threat of climate change to the general public," Daniell says. "My original motivation in this effort was to explore partnerships with the scientific community.

"Vicki and I have done two trips to Antarctica, the first to South Georgia Island and the Antarctic Peninsula in 2008. In 2011, we spent a month on a Russian ice breaker in the Ross Sea. Last year we visited Finnmark in the Norwegian Arctic. Every time we go outside, whether on a hike in the foothills west of Boulder or to British Columbia, the Arctic or the Antarctic, we become more attuned to the fragility and the preciousness of our planet, its wildlife and wild places," Daniell says.

Daniell's teaching experience and travels to the Arctic sparked conversations with INSTAAR Director, Jim White, the primary academic liaison for SEEC. Daniell envisions the complex of SEEC buildings, for which the effort to raise private support is intensifying, as a new way to learn—influenced as much by outside forces as by university leaders.

"Donations made toward SEEC today," Daniell says, "will be instrumental in creating a key facet of the university of the future."

"Building a resilient future for us all is a major challenge for the coming decades," White says. "It is our responsibility, as Colorado's flagship university, to help search for solutions, train the problem-solvers of the future, and communicate what we know to the people of our state. That communication piece is so vital to forming a working partnership with Coloradans, and Vicki and Brian's generous gift in Al Bartlett's name is key to ensuring that the communication continues and improves."

A century later, Ludlow Massacre's impact remains vivid[22]

[23]

"Re-collecting Ludlow,"[24] a panel discussion to commemorate the launch of the Colorado Coal Digital Collection, is set for 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, in Room M549 of the Norlin Library at CU-Boulder. The event coincides with the centennial of the Ludlow Massacre and offers participants an opportunity to explore this watershed in labor history from several disciplinary perspectives.

Panel speakers are Thomas Andrews, 2009 Bancroft Prize-winning author of "Killing for Coal"; Ron McMahan, Western mining history documentarian; and Dean J. Saitta, co-director of the Colorado Coal Field War Archaeological Project. The program is free and open to the public.

The event will incorporate sources from the soon-to-be-launched Colorado Coal Digital Collection (www.cu.edu/digitallibrary[25]), a free online resource consisting of about 100 videos, transcripts, and more than 4,000 images that chronicle the history of coal mining in the Western U.S., from immigration and daily life in the coal camps to labor conditions and strikes.

McMahan and Eric Margolis amassed the source material for this collection in the late 1970s, when they were conducting field research as a part of their graduate studies. From 1974 to 1979, they collected photographs and conducted video and audio interviews of retired coal miners, many of whom had witnessed major labor history events such as the Ludlow and Columbine Mine massacres. McMahan and Margolis received major funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities to turn excerpts of these interviews into a three-part documentary that was later aired nationally on PBS.

In 2013, the CU-Boulder Libraries undertook a project to digitize these materials, thanks to a generous grant by Ron and Jane McMahan.

The panel discussion and digital collection launch were timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Ludlow Massacre. Described as "a pivotal event in American history" on the monument that marks the site 12 miles northwest of Trinidad, the Ludlow Massacre was the culmination of a widespread strike against Colorado coal mines. It resulted in the violent deaths of 19-26 people, including women and children, when the Colorado National Guard and Colorado Fuel and Iron Company camp guards attacked a tent colony of 1,200 striking coal miners and their families in Ludlow.

Battles continued for 10 days from Trinidad to Walsenburg, resulting in a final death toll estimated from 69 to 199. These events fueled one of the reports issued in 1916 by the United States Commission on Industrial Relations calling for "industrial democracy."

Thomas Andrews, associate professor at CU-Boulder, is author of "Killing for Coal," awarded the 2009 Bancroft Prize by Columbia University, one of the most coveted honors in the field of history. His work also has been featured in The New York Times and The Denver Post.

Ron McMahan received his Ph.D. in 1978 from the CU-Boulder Institute of Behavioral Science. He directed the documentary "Out of the Depths, Redux: Coal Mining and Coal Wars in Their Own Voices."

Dean Saitta is professor and chair of the anthropology department at the University of Denver. Between 1997 and 2004, he co-directed the Colorado Coal Field War Archaeological Project, a Colorado State Historic Fund-supported project dedicated to better understanding events related to the 1913-14 Colorado Coal Field strike including the Ludlow Massacre. This research culminated in 2009 with the designation of the Ludlow Tent Colony as a National Historical Landmark.

1000 MORE scholarship initiative envisions moving lives in dream-fulfilling direction with more financial support[26]

CU Denver students who benefit from scholarships include, from left, Gerardo Ceballos, Ana Chauca-Diaz, Ronson Fox, Lubna Mazin, Maryam Rawesh and Mayra Gonzales. At far right is University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman, who has made increasing scholarship support the top priority for the Denver Campus.

Maryam Rawesh said she wouldn't be a student at CU Denver, pursuing her dream of becoming a neurosurgeon, if not for a scholarship.

Lubna Mazin credits a "random scholarship that came in the mail" for setting her down a path at CU Denver where she's flourished in academics and leadership.

Ana Chauca-Diaz is on the cusp of becoming the first member of her family to earn a college degree, thanks to a scholarship from the Denver Scholarship Foundation (DSF).

Imagine how many more lives would pivot in a dream-fulfilling direction if financial support for CU Denver students grew exponentially. Envision how thousands more success stories would ripple through our community, our state and our nation.

That's the kind of big-picture thinking behind CU Denver's 1000 MORE scholarship initiative[28]. Chancellor Don Elliman has identified scholarship support as the No. 1 fundraising priority for the campus. The university hopes to provide financial support for 1,000 more students every year—tripling the current level of private support for scholarships—by the year 2020.

Higher education access an 'enormous issue'

"I believe that access to higher education is an enormous issue for the state of Colorado, for our community, and I think we need to be working hard to provide more access than we're able to provide right now," Elliman said. "And, frankly, scholarships are the key."

Colorado has one of the largest education gaps in the nation between its minority and majority populations, the chancellor said. "For first-generation students, English-as-a-second-language students and students who just can't afford college but have the aptitude," he said, "it's really important that we find ways to get them here and help them succeed."

As state support for higher education has been shrinking, the need for financial support grows. More than 60 percent of CU Denver undergraduate students demonstrate a need for assistance.

A DSF scholarship meant that Mayra Gonzales, a senior majoring in sociology, could devote out-of-class time to her studies and goals. "I was able to divide my time between school and internships, so I gained experience in my field," she said.

Several scholarships made college affordable for CU Denver student Gerardo Ceballos, a senior double-major in international studies and ethnic studies. "I was able to not incur so much debt," he said. "It definitely means that I'm going to pursue grad school, and that will open more possibilities."

The goal behind 1000 MORE is to create possibilities for students who have academic ability, a strong work ethic and dreams—but limited financial means.

Both need-based and merit-based scholarships will be developed during the initiative—with an emphasis on need-based support for Colorado students—as well as support for international students, study abroad opportunities, transfer

students and graduate students.

Out of a record 1,157 freshmen who enrolled at CU Denver last fall, a third of them are first-generation college students and a third are low-income, said Raul Cardenas, Ph.D., associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

Unfortunately, he noted, Colorado spends less than half today on higher education than it did 13 years ago. "It would be so tremendous if we can give students that additional resource and additional opportunity for success," Cardenas said.

To support its largest-ever scholarship initiative the university will work to significantly ramp up private donations. Endowment gifts will be key to ensuring the program's long-term viability.

Current students who have enjoyed financial support see nothing but benefits from the 1000 MORE initiative.
More scholarships mean even more diversity
"It definitely gives more students who are first-generation (college students) and first-generation immigrants, like myself, the opportunity to obtain an education," Ceballos said. "I think right now a lot of students don't know that there are these resources out there for them. An increase in scholarships will attract more students and add even more diversity to the campus."

[29]
Several scholarships, including the Denver Bound Scholarship, made coming to CU Denver to pursue a civil engineering degree an easy choice for Ronson Fox (**at left**). Fox made the most of his time here, becoming SGA president and leading the drive to create a unique CU Denver identity, including the Milo the Lynx mascot[30].

"I've seen a huge transformation from five years ago, when I started here, to what the campus is now," Fox said. "With the new buildings and everything going on, it's like a complete 180. We're heading in the right direction."

Thanks to his CU Denver education, so is Fox. With graduation still seven weeks away, he has already lined up a civil engineering job back home in Hawaii. Fox, who won a scholarship that's for out-of-state students, said CU Denver is wise to increase scholarships to Colorado residents. If they can't find support to attend a university close to home, he said, they'll look out of state.

Elliman agrees. "Our main goal for scholarships ought to be need-based, and some merit-based, for Colorado kids," he said.
'Without a scholarship I wouldn't be at CU Denver'
Rawesh, a freshman from Westminster, said her full-ride Daniels Fund scholarship opened the door to higher education. "My mom passed away a couple years ago, so it's just my dad supporting three kids," she said. "Without the scholarship I wouldn't be at CU Denver."

She said scholarships help students emotionally as well.

"They give students the confidence that somebody actually wants to invest in them and believes that they can do it," said Rawesh, who is studying biology and psychology. "That's what the Daniels Fund did for me. They were willing to believe in me and invest in me, so it means a lot."

[31]
Mazin (**at right**), who is vice president of SGA and founding member of the CU Denver cheer and dance club, said she didn't even apply for the Urban Scholarship that arrived in the mailbox when she was a high school senior. "That really triggered something for me because it's like, 'Wow, they think I'm that special that I deserve a scholarship to their school,'" Mazin said. "I felt wanted."

CU Denver is making a strong statement that bright and ambitious students—whatever their financial circumstance—are wanted here. Elliman acknowledges that the 1000 MORE initiative is ambitious, but he likes its prospects.

"I think the need is recognized, and it's one of those kinds of campaigns where any amount donated is helpful," he

said. "It would be great if we found somebody who wanted to put in millions of dollars in one shot, but in essence what we're trying to do is build our endowment up through alumni donations. It's about paying it forward."

To support the 1000 More campaign, click here.[32]

Donor-funded peer educator program makes the grade[33]

[34]

A year ago Erica Rozbruch (?14) noticed that her friends majoring in business were struggling to cope with stress. She decided to leverage her skills as a peer educator for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at the University of Colorado Boulder to start a campaign called “How to Be a Happy B-School Student.” She talked with Leeds School of Business students about reducing anxiety, sleeping better and achieving success.

“A business student told me he never felt comfortable walking through the doors of CAPS,” Rozbruch says. “We find people who are not involved in CAPS, go into their community and give them resources.”

Rozbruch is one of CAPS’ four peer educators—student volunteers who commit to an academic-year internship to develop more advanced clinical and outreach skills. They are among 24 student volunteers who provide education about CAPS services for sororities and fraternities, multicultural groups, residence halls and student organizations. The volunteers also pass out care kits with snacks and school supplies to support students during finals at Norlin Library. CAPS Masters and doctoral therapists provide outreach to many campus groups to address academic concerns, diversity on campus, mental health issues and problems with drugs and alcohol.

Each peer educator has a different focus—for example, peer educator Mifa Kim (?14) developed “How to Help a Friend,” an online campaign that gives tips on dealing with eating disorders, stress, drug concerns and adjusting to college life. Since she created it one year ago, 1,400 people have visited the website. All four peer educators facilitate a program called Bounce Back that works with students on academic probation to get back on track.

The Peer Educator program exists thanks to donor support. “The CAPS program is providing a much-needed service to the student body of CU, particularly at the freshman level. There are huge changes that go on with men and women when they arrive at a college campus. They get homesick. The fact there is this outreach, a group of people who care and can help young people through that transition—that’s a great thing,” says television industry executive Howard Schultz (?75), who with his wife, Tana, made gifts to sustain the Peer Educator program.

When Schultz attended CU-Boulder, he worked on a counseling phone hotline to help other students. He also remembers living through a crisis in his dorm room.

“When I was a sophomore, my roommate died of a drug overdose. I think about how long he has been gone and how his life was cut so short. If I can help prevent that from happening by supporting a group of individuals to watch for the signs and take care of students, then I think that is money well spent,” Schultz says.

Reaching thousands of students is truly a combined effort for CAPS staff and volunteers. Program Coordinator Andrea Iglesias has grown the Peer Educator program and made it more diverse—which extends CAPS outreach throughout the campus.

“Peer educators can really speak to the needs of different communities and connect with them in a unique way,” Iglesias says. “With students, it’s more approachable and more accessible for them to reach other students.”

Over the past five years, there has been a 37 percent increase in individual sessions and a 78 percent increase in group appointments. As more students request services, CAPS looks to donors to also expand the Peer Educator

program.

After serving as a peer educator for three years and also as president of CU's Senior Class Council, Rozbruch will graduate this May to pursue a PhD in clinical psychology. Having struggled through a freshman biology class, she understands what students in the Bounce Back program are going through.

"I'm here because I've done better in school and I know these students can too," Rozbruch says. "If they keep trying they can become successful. Donors are helping to give these students a second chance."

Strong Communities for Children program launched[35]

Mary Coussons-Read

The CU School of Medicine and UCCS announced April 4 the launch of a Strong Communities for Children program in Colorado Springs.

Meeting at the Lodge as part of the Kempe National Forum, UCCS Provost Mary Coussons-Read and Gary Melton, professor, Department of Pediatrics, Anschutz Medical Campus announced the new program. Melton is also associate director for community development at the Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect housed on the Anschutz campus.

The Strong Communities for Children approach is a neighborhood-based strategy proposed by the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect when it issued a landmark report 20 years ago that proclaimed a national emergency in the child-protection system.

Since that time, the approach recommended by the board was implemented in Greenville, S.C. The result was stronger community engagement with thousands of volunteers from hundreds of organizations, safer children, parents with better support, and a significant decrease in reports of child maltreatment.

"Strong Communities engages many people who may not think of themselves as people whose job it is to protect children or strengthen families," said Melton.

"Strong Communities is a preventive intervention that mobilizes entire communities to work together to ensure that every child and every parent know that if they have a reason to celebrate, worry, or grieve, someone will notice, and someone will care."

Katie Kaukinen

The project will be based at UCCS under the leadership of Coussons-Read and Katie Kaukinen, associate professor, School of Public Affairs. The project will focus on enhancing support for families with young children by strengthening neighbor-to-neighbor assistance. The goal is to ensure that every child and every parent know they have support available in settings they go every day, such as school, workplaces, child-care centers and places of worship.

The U.S. Advisory Board's leaders re-convened this week in Aurora and Colorado Springs to commemorate the release of its report. The events were organized by the Kempe Center for Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect, which is housed on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

CU receives warm welcome from south Denver[38]

[39]

Maureen Tarrant, CEO of Sky Ridge Medical Center, talks about the benefits of CU offering health care education programs at its new south Denver classroom location in The Wildlife Experience. Photo by Patrick Campbell.

The University of Colorado received a warm welcome from the south Denver community at a reception to announce the university's arrival in the fast-growing region.

This fall, CU opens classroom space at The Wildlife Experience[41], which hosted more than 180 guests at the April 3 event. The Wildlife Experience sits at the center of the south metro area filled with robust and varied industries that are in need of an educated workforce.

CU President Bruce Benson explained that the expansion follows in the university's mission to serve the state. "This is a huge deal," he said. "This will allow us to meet the educational needs in this part of the city. It's a great area that's growing so fast."

Benson noted that CU's Anschutz Medical Campus and Denver Campus are starting the expansion at The Wildlife Experience with high-demand programs in business, computer science, education, nursing and public health. He said the university has heard from south Denver residents and businesses that want to advance their careers and grow, respectively. Benson expects that all of CU's campuses will eventually provide programs at The Wildlife Experience that also align with state's evolving demographics and student needs.

"We're going to be turning out some really high-quality programs, and I'm just delighted that we're here," Benson said. "Our priority is to create strong, mutually beneficial partnerships. We're going to improve the quality of life and we're going to advance this economy."

Benson and Don Elliman, chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus, both hailed the vision, community service and partnership of David and Gail Liniger, co-founders of The Wildlife Experience. They also thanked The Wildlife Experience's board and staff for being so accommodating as the university converts 11,000 square feet—on the second floor and in the basement—into classroom and lab space.

'An unbelievable opportunity'

Since its opening in 2002, Liniger said, The Wildlife Experience has seen more than 2 million visitors. He said he and his wife had no idea back then that the facility would evolve into an educational center teaching K-12 students about wildlife and conservation. The museum and its programs will continue as the partnership with CU, which The Wildlife Experience's leadership initiated, grows and evolves.

"It's an unbelievable opportunity to work with CU," Liniger said. "We certainly did not anticipate that we would also be a facility that could house training for college education, for nursing, business, entrepreneurial and other studies."

Elliman said he received nothing but positive responses from deans at CU Denver and CU Anschutz about the possibility of adding and extending programs in south Denver. Enrollment will begin April 15.

"Those schools and courses that we picked were not chosen at random," Elliman said. "We did an extensive market survey that made us realize that the opportunity for higher education in this community was immense and it was underserved and one that, as part of our mission, we were delighted to fulfill."

Maureen Tarrant, president and CEO of Sky Ridge Medical Center, gave a heartfelt thanks to CU for bringing health care education, particularly the high-demand nursing program, to a location that neighbors her fast-growing hospital.

CU brings the best of the best

Tarrant said that when people go to a hospital it can be one of the most joyous times in life—such as the birth of a baby—or one of the most difficult times. "I just want you to think for a moment about the people you want at your

bedside," she said. "And to have CU as my partner to bring the best of the best to the bedside to take care of every one of us—the ones we love and our constituents—it truly makes me proud."

Tarrant said Sky Ridge has hundreds of volunteers—both teenagers and professionals who are retraining in the wake of industries that have retrenched—and they are getting a sense of what health care is all about. "As CEO, to give them career paths, with the educators and leaders at CU, and to do it just a stone's throw away from my hospital, is truly as pleasure," Tarrant said.

Other attendees included Regents Sue Sharkey, vice chair, and Stephen Ludwig; Rep. Chris Holbert, District 44; and Tony Smith, new executive director [42]of CU's south Denver location.

Elliman concluded the festive evening by emphasizing how CU wants to continually serve the south Denver area. "That's why we exist. We're here for you, not the other way around," he said. "The university as a whole wants to serve this community, and we're thrilled to have the opportunity to do it in this facility."

Shay named dean of CU-Boulder College of Music[43]

[44]
Robert Shay, currently director of the School of Music at the University of Missouri in Columbia, has been appointed to the position of dean for the College of Music at the University of Colorado Boulder.

His appointment will begin Sept. 1.

“I have long considered the CU-Boulder College of Music one of the leading programs in the field and its faculty among the best in the country,” Shay said. “I am thrilled and honored to have been selected as the college’s next dean. At every stage of the search process, I was thoughtfully and warmly engaged by faculty, staff, students, administrators and supporters, and I look forward to joining such an amazing, committed team.”

Before moving into his position at the University of Missouri, Shay held positions as the vice president for academic affairs and dean of the conservatory at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass. (2000-08), and visiting associate professor of music at Duke University (1999-2000). He held various positions at Lyon College in Batesville, Ark., from 1991 to 2000 including associate professor of music and chair of the Fine Arts Division.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in vocal performance from Wheaton College in Illinois, a master’s degree in choral conducting from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a master’s degree and Ph.D. in musicology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

More than 50 applications were received for the position, said John Stevenson, dean of the Graduate School and chair of the search committee.

James Austin, professor of music education, has been serving as interim dean of the CU-Boulder College of Music since Dan Sher returned to teaching last year. Sher had served as dean for 20 years.

Thomas Jefferson Award winners honored at event[45]

Winners of this year's Thomas Jefferson Award, from left: Peter Simons, Therese Jones, Alexandra Antonioli and Helen Achol Abyei. (Not pictured: Charles Ferguson)

A high-achieving group of academics, all with a great devotion to the humanities and community service, received Thomas Jefferson Awards at a dinner and reception in the Terrace Room, Lawrence Street Center, at the University of Colorado Denver on April 2.

This year's honorees include two faculty members, a staff member and two students, and four of the five represent the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus. The award was established at the University of Virginia in 1951 by the Robert Earll McConnell Foundation to honor teaching faculty who exemplified the humanistic ideals associated with Jefferson. By 1962, six other institutions—including CU—had established a Jefferson Award.

The award recognizes CU faculty, staff and students—staff and student categories were added in subsequent years—who demonstrate excellence in the performance of regular academic responsibilities while contributing outstanding service to the broader community.

The winners, who each received a $2,000 award, are:
Therese Jones, Ph.D., associate professor, Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, CU School of Medicine at the Anschutz Medical Campus; interim director of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities; director of Arts and Humanities in Healthcare Program. Jones edits the Journal of Medical Humanities and co-leads the disability studies working group across CU. She earned her doctorate from CU-Boulder.
"As somebody who is a humanities scholar and educator, I bring the humanities and arts into health professions' education and into the clinical environment of the Anschutz Medical Campus," Jones said. "In many ways it's creating a community—a kind of cultural community—out there at CU Anschutz. It means a great deal to me."
Charles Ferguson, Ph.D., associate professor of biology at CU Denver. For years he has inspired students as a teacher, adviser, mentor and advocate. Ferguson is director of the BA-BS/MD Honors Program at CU Denver, and chairs the Health Careers Advisory Committee, which he helped develop. Past honors include Carnegie Foundation Professor of the Year for Colorado, and two College of Liberal Arts and Sciences awards for Excellence in Teaching. He also is a three-time CU alumnus. Ferguson was unable to attend the April 2 reception. **Peter Simons**, director of the Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement (IECE) at CU-Boulder. He led the development of the institute, and has served as director since its establishment in 2005. The IECE is a hub of civic-minded, service-learning efforts across the campus that has fostered the creation of 13 civic engagement programs. Through them, Simons emphasizes that the university and the community are equal partners. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from CU-Boulder.
"What we do at CU-Boulder really matches what (Jefferson) talked about in terms of citizenship and informed and engaged citizens," Simons said. "That's something we place great value on."
Alexandra Antonioli, M.D./Ph.D. candidate in the Medical Scientist Training Program, CU School of Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. A high school valedictorian in Montana, she went to Yale University, earned a bachelor’s degree in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry and worked in a laboratory. Now in the fifth year of the University of Colorado’s combined M.D./Ph.D. program, her thesis work focuses on the understanding of certain proteins and their role in autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and age-related macular degeneration. She is an accomplished classical pianist and devotes considerable time to charitable work.
Antonioli is in the fifth year of the eight-year M.D./Ph.D. program. She currently performs rheumatology research and would like to pursue research in autoimmune diseases as a career. She is donating her award prize to a pair of community groups. "Two of the groups I'm really passionate about are the Stout Street Clinic, which has helped me as a student, and the Aurora Fitzsimons Rotary Club, which just started a satellite club for students," Antonioli said.
Helen Achol Abyei, recent graduate of CU Denver with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and theater. Praised for her profound love of writing, the theater, and public speaking, she endured life in war-torn South Sudan while raising six children. After time in a refugee camp in Egypt, she settled in Denver, taught herself English and enrolled in college. As a young mother stressing education to her children, she worked in banking for nearly 30 years. Now she writes plays – some of which have been performed by CU Denver students – to shed light on atrocities taking place in her home country.
Abyei said her home country of South Sudan, which in recent years achieved independence, is still struggling as a divided and war-torn country. "People go through daily hardship," she said. "We need somebody to tell them how to survive, how to stand up for yourself and how to never feel that you are less than another. I love education, and I never felt good that I didn't have my education." She wants to return someday to South Sudan as a teacher. "I need to work with the kids there to address some of the things happening." Abyei said.

Smith to connect students, employers with CU programs in south Denver[47]

[48]
Tony Smith thrives on helping students to reach their full potential. He also loves chatting with employers about their workforce needs. So he jumped at the chance to lead the University of Colorado's forward-thinking expansion into the south Denver region that's teeming with ambitious students and professionals as well as growing industries in need of skilled employees. This new challenge, after all, is perfectly suited to Smith's well-rounded talents—and high energy level.

Smith recently became executive director of CU's new classroom space at The Wildlife Experience in Parker. Smith, who holds a master's degree in student affairs leadership and is finishing his Ph.D. in education, has been director of the CU Denver Experiential Learning Center since 2010.

Smith honed his leadership skills by directing ELC's innovative programs and connecting students, faculty, businesses and community organizations.

CU identified the need for program offerings after conducting a market study of south Denver and interviewing leaders from the area's major employers and professional organizations. Home to a variety of engineering, finance and health care-related companies, the region will greatly benefit from CU programs starting this fall in The Wildlife Experience's 11,000 square feet of classroom and administrative space. CU's Anschutz Medical Campus and Denver Campus are leading the way with program offerings.

Class schedules and admissions information for various programs offered by CU Denver and CU Anschutz—in business, computer science, education, nursing and public health—will be announced in the coming weeks. Additional courses will be offered in subsequent semesters.

A nationally certified life and career coach, Smith works with people across the spectrum—students and working professionals—to develop life, career and transition strategies.

Du, George receive patents[49]

[50]
The CU Technology Transfer Office recently announced that patents have been granted to university researchers.

Yiping Du of the CU Denver departments of psychiatry and audiology has been granted a patent for a novel MRI technique to collect images of both arterial and venous vasculature in a single scan. This technique allows for faster and more accurate MRI imaging, providing better clinical assessment of brain tumors and diseases, among other applications.

TTO began prosecuting this patent on behalf of the university in January 2008; the patent (U.S. 8,674,691, "Susceptibility weighted magnetic Resonance imaging of venous vasculature[51]") was issued March 18, 2014. Currently, TTO is exploring licensing options to bring this technology to the market, along with several other novel MRI techniques developed by Dr. Du.

A group of researchers led by **Steven George** (Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at CU-Boulder) has been awarded a patent for a process to create ultrathin metal films using atomic layer deposition – the films created using this process are especially well-suited for use as catalysts in fuel cells.

The initial patent application was filed in September 2010, and the patent (U.S. 8,647,723, "Nucleation of ultrathin,

continuous, conformal metal films using atomic layer deposition and application as fuel cell catalysts") was issued February 11, 2014. In addition to Dr. George, inventors on this patent include Layton Baker, a former CU research associate who is now at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and two industry collaborators.

Beall participates in conference, training workshop in Iraq[52]

[53]
Jeffrey Beall, associate professor at CU Denver and Scholarly Initiatives librarian for the Auraria Campus, recently returned from Iraq. He traveled to the Middle East to help conduct a conference and workshop. The three-day event in Erbil was presented by the Institute of International Education (IIE, the company that manages the Fulbright Program) and sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

Held in early February, the conference revolved around academic research in higher education institutional success. The goal was to expand on themes and topics introduced in prior conferences and provide strategies for maximizing scholarly research within Iraqi universities, as well as to address how to successfully teach research skills to students.

Beall was one of three invited speakers brought in for the workshop. He was invited to speak about scholarly communication and his specialty, predatory publishers.

The attendees were all Iraqis. About half were university administrators (deans, department chairs, etc.), and about half were beneficiaries of the Iraq Scholar Rescue Project, a part of IIE's Scholar Rescue Fund.

"On the first day of the conference," Beall said, "I met Dr. Nasser G. Yousif, one of the participants in the Iraq Scholar Rescue Project. Coincidentally, he is working at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. We struck up a friendship, and both of us were delighted to discover that we each had a colleague attending the workshop."

Beall currently is on sabbatical.

Dropping names ...[54]

Reno

Mariner

Browning

Sandra Reno, associate director for international programs, Office of International Affairs at UCCS, recently completed the 2013 National Association of Foreign Student Advisers Academy for International Education. The yearlong program is designed to help participants gain a thorough understanding of international education through a series of structured training events, personalized learning goals, professional networking opportunities, and support. … **Matthew C. Mariner**, assistant professor at CU Denver and head of Special Collections and Digital Initiatives at the Auraria Library, has a new book out. "Managing Digital Audiovisual Resources: A Practical Guide for Librarians" is the latest in The Practical Guides for Librarians series from Rowman & Littlefield. Mariner's book opens with a look at managing digital audiovisual resources and following chapters offer advice on evaluating, planning and promotion of such materials. The

book is available in paperback through Amazon. Colleague **Sommer Browning's** new book of poetry, "Backup Singers," has just been published by Birds, LLC. An assistant professor and head of Electronic Access and Discovery Services at the Auraria Library, Browning's first book "Either Way I'm Celebrating" came out in 2001. "The Whistler," a poem from Browning's new book, can be found at The Academy of American Poets website. According to the publisher, "Browning follows up her sold out debut, 'Either Way I'm Celebrating,' with an even rawer and starker, and again darkly humorous navigation of friendship, marriage, and motherhood. The result is a more overtly political assessment of the absurd deficit between what we're confronted with and what we're equipped with to deal with those confrontations: 'It's a girl, / and the wires she needs // open her hands / before they're fists.'" … Eight faculty or staff members joined UCCS in March. They are: **Suzanne Billot**, business and human resource services professional, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Nicole Blakesley**, staff clinician, Counseling and Career Development; **Johnny De LaCruz**, laboratory coordinator, Department of Biology; **Dionisia DeLaCerda**, professional research assistant, Center for Science, Technology, Engineering, Math Education; **Karlene Hansen**, assistant director of counseling, Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment; **Mark Hayes**, director, Dining and Food Service; **Rachel Schlueter**, help desk professional, Information Technology Computing Services; and **Katherine Tirado**, conference service marketing and event assistant, University Center.

COLTT 2014: Click, submit[58]

[59]
CU's in-house experts are encouraged to share their knowledge and experience with teaching, learning and technology at the popular COLTT (Colorado Learning and Teaching with Technology) conference.
The new April 21 deadline for timely submissions is fast approaching.

Please consider sharing new, timely and exciting teaching with technology knowledge and experiences with colleagues at this 17th annual event.

For the most updated information about the COLTT Call for Proposals, please see the wiki at: www.coltt2014.pbworks.com[60]. For more general information, please go to www.cu.edu/coltt[59].

Gessen part of Russian Culture Week at CU-Boulder[61]

[62]
The University of Colorado Boulder welcomes acclaimed Russian-American author, journalist and LGBT activist Masha Gessen for a discussion of her newly published book, "Words Will Break Cement: The Passion of Pussy Riot," at 7 p.m. April 24in Eaton Humanities, Room 150.

Gessen is a bilingual Russian-American journalist. She is currently at work on a book about the Tsarnaev brothers – the two suspects in the Boston Marathon bombing. "Words Will Break Cement" and other books by Gessen will be available for purchase and signing after the event.

The event is free and open to the public but space is limited, so RSVPs are appreciated. Please email glbtqrc@colorado.edu[63].

Gessen also will present a brown bag lunch lecture, "Russia: The New Anti-Gay Capital of the World," from noon to 1:30 p.m. April 24 in the University Memorial Center, Aspen Room. As one of Russia's most outspoken LGBT activists, she will discuss how Russia launched its anti-gay campaign and how it is being used to mobilize Putin's constituency around the notion of "traditional values" as well as provide Russia with a national identity it has lacked for

25 years. This is free and open to the public.

Gessen's visit is part of the annual Russian Culture Week, April 21-25, presented by the Russian Studies Program. For more information, go to http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu[64].

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-daisy-mcconnell[2] https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-daisy-mcconnell/5q-mcconnell[3] http://www.uccs.edu/goca/ART/DESTINY-MANIFEST.html[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-council-discusses-program-prioritization-social-climate-survey-hybl[5] https://connections.cu.edu/file/fac-cnclprog-surveyhyblpng[6] https://connections.cu.edu/news/program-prioritization-is-underway-at-campuses[7] https://connections.cu.edu/news/social-climate-survey-to-return-soon[8] https://connections.cu.edu/news/consultant-funding-climate-demands-fresh-look-at-academic-priorities[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/social-climate-survey-return-soon[10] https://connections.cu.edu/news/faculty-council-discusses-program-prioritization-social-climate-survey-with-hybl[11] http://www.dailycamera.com/cu-news/ci_25525645/cu-boulder-students-faculty-decry-regents-social-climate[12] https://connections.cu.edu/news/regents-call-for-survey-of-diversity-climate[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/guest-opinion-visiting-scholar-conservative-thought-and-policy-must-strengthen-dialogue-not[14] https://connections.cu.edu/university-of-colorado-media-highlights/steven_hayward2[15] https://www.cufund.org/wp-content/themes/cufoundation/images/brochures/UCB%20Cons%20Thought%20Brochure.pdf?PHPSESSIONID=89907c665d33999412e983c564f67a2f[16] http://www.colorado.edu/news/features/regents-vote-expand-anti-discrimination-policy[17] http://www.dailycamera.com/cu-news/ci_25480835/cu-boulder-student-leaders-speak-out-against-conservative[18] mailto:facultycouncil@cu.edu[19] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/science-communication-efforts-inspire-largest-gift-yet-cu-sustainability-complex[20] https://connections.cu.edu/file/bartletttoppng[21] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/bartlett.png[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/century-later-ludlow-massacre%E2%80%99s-impact-remains-vivid[23] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ludlowcollagepng[24] https://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/news/LudlowPanel.pdf[25] https://content.cu.edu/digitallibrary/[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/1000-more-scholarship-initiative-envisions-moving-lives-dream-fulfilling-direction-more[27] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/1000-more-scholarship-initiative-envisions-moving-lives-in-dream-fulfilling-direction-with-more-financial-support/ucd_scholarship_top[28] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/WhoWeAre/Chancellor/ViceChancellors/Provost/executiveteam/StudentAffairs/Pages/CU-Denver-Scholarship-Challenge.aspx[29] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/1000-more-scholarship-initiative-envisions-moving-lives-in-dream-fulfilling-direction-with-more-financial-support/ucd_scholarship_01[30] http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/studentlife/clubsports/Pages/CU-DENVER-LYNX-MASCOT.aspx[31] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/1000-more-scholarship-initiative-envisions-moving-lives-in-dream-fulfilling-direction-with-more-financial-support/ucd_scholarship_02[32] http://www.cufund.org/giving-opportunities/fund-description/?id=3768[33] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/donor-funded-peer-educator-program-makes-grade[34] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/donor-funded-peer-educator-program-makes-the-grade/ucb_caps_top[35] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/strong-communities-children-program-launched[36] https://connections.cu.edu/file/uccscoussons-readpng[37] https://connections.cu.edu/file/uccskaukinenpng[38] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-receives-warm-welcome-south-denver[39] https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzcu-south-denvertoppng[40] https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzcu-south-denvertarrantpng[41] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/SouthDenver/Pages/default.aspx[42] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/Smith-named-executive-director-of-CU-south-Denver-expansion.aspx[43] https://connections.cu.edu/people/shay-named-dean-cu-boulder-college-music[44] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pshaypng[45] https://connections.cu.edu/people/thomas-jefferson-award-winners-honored-event[46] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ptj-awardpng[47] https://connections.cu.edu/people/smith-connect-students-employers-cu-programs-south-denver[48] https://connections.cu.edu/file/psmithpng-0[49] https://connections.cu.edu/people/du-george-receive-patents[50] http://www.uspto.gov/[51] http://www.google.com/patents/US8674691[52] https://connections.cu.edu/people/beall-participates-conference-training-workshop-iraq[53] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pbeallpng-0[54] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-

names-87[55] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdnrenopng[56] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdnmarinerpng[57] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdnbrowningpng[58] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/coltt-2014-click-submit[59] http://www.cu.edu/coltt[60] file:///R:/Newsletter/04-10-2014%20Newsletter/Connections%20Final%20Edits%2004-10-2014/www.coltt2014.pbworks.com[61] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/gessen-part-russian-culture-week-cu-boulder[62] https://connections.cu.edu/file/dykrussian-flagpng[63] mailto:glbtqrc@colorado.edu[64] http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu/