Denver's rooftops are going green: What does it mean?[1]

Board of Regents April meeting coverage[2]

Regents pass small tuition increase, 3 percent compensation boost[3]
The Board of Regents on Friday passed a modest tuition increase for the University of Colorado campuses and a 3 percent compensation pool for employees.
Read more[3]

Board learns how big data can reap big dividends in higher ed[4]
Imagine a world where prospective students could automatically see classes and programs in their areas of interest simply by calling up the school's website, where attendance is taken by recording the time the student came into – and then left – the classroom via smartphone tracking, or where an algorithm takes massive amounts of faculty reviews and determines gaps that hinder retention.
Read more[4]

CU Boulder chancellor, students continuing discussion of CUSG budget[5]
The CU Boulder Chancellor's office said it is continuing discussions with students.
Read more[5]

Regents pass small tuition increase, 3 percent compensation boost[3]

The Board of Regents on Friday passed a modest tuition increase for the University of Colorado campuses and a 3 percent compensation pool for employees.

Before the vote, Regent John Carson introduced a budget proposal to amend Article 13 of the Laws of the Regents to control expenditure growth, limit tuition increases and add spending restraints into the university's five-year budget plan.

"I just want to express my feelings that we as regents need to get a better handle on the long-term budget picture," said Carson, R-Highlands Ranch. "Costs have got to be controlled in the long run. I will vote 'yes' today, but I hope by next year we have more of a long-term budget program in place."

Chair Sue Sharkey, R-Castle Rock, and Regent Jack Kroll, D-Denver, said they also would like to further examine student fees.

"We need to continue to look into the cost of education, the entire cost," Sharkey said. "Student fees have gone up dramatically, but that's not what we talk about because that's not the sexy headline."

Todd Saliman, vice president of finance and CFO, presented the budget to the board at its April 5-6 meeting at CU Colorado Springs. He had first presented the budget at the February meeting and affirmed the budget request remained pretty much the same. (See the presentation here.[6])

Tuition and fees for typical undergraduates will increase 1.22 percent at CU Denver, 2.57 percent at CU Colorado Springs and 3.71 percent at CU Boulder for freshmen and transfer students. The guarantee of no tuition increase remains in place for continuing students at CU Boulder.

With the elimination of some course and program fees, many CU Boulder students will see a decline in costs, which will vary from $1 to $1,200 with a $34 average, Saliman said. CU Denver students also will see an average $43 decline

in fees and CU Colorado Springs students will see fees increase by nearly $22.

The low tuition increase and the largest salary pool in three years is the result of Gov. John Hickenlooper's state budget proposal, which has been approved by the House and Senate and is now headed into conference. State higher education institutions are set to receive $82.2 million; CU's portion is $18.9 million.

The CU Board of Regents will vote on the final budget at its June meeting, after the state budget has been set by the Legislature.

Board learns how big data can reap big dividends in higher ed[4]

Imagine a world where prospective students could automatically see classes and programs in their areas of interest simply by calling up the school's website, where attendance is taken by recording the time the student came into – and then left – the classroom via smartphone tracking, or where an algorithm takes massive amounts of faculty reviews and determines gaps that hinder retention.

During its April 5-6 meeting at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, the Board of Regents heard from Bijal Shah, senior vice president of analytics and data products at Ibotta. Shah discussed how big data can benefit learners and higher education in general. In its inaugural Emerging Issues session, the regents saw how text mining and artificial intelligence can be administered to recruit and retain students, and how using technology can help them have a more personal interaction with learners.

In the not-too-distant future, a dynamic website could automatically show a prospective student what the university has to offer for their specific area of study – similar to how the Amazon website functions, Shah said. Through data mining, the university could develop profiles of people who could be successful but aren't coming to college by looking at the individual's motivations. It could also create a profile of successful students and match them to all household data sets.

And although tracking students' actions such as attendance through geodata is admittedly impersonal, understanding their behavior can enable more personal and strategic interactions, she said. For instance, tracking could find that a student had missed four consecutive classes – the student could then be provided support to get them back on track.

Interactions could be automated to walk individuals through processes or trouble-shoot incidents. And while automated coaching has no empathy, it can inform the individuals – such as advisers and faculty – on areas of concern, Shah said. Text mining also could allow educators to keep a pulse on their students' "pain points," whether about courses or campus life, and allow them to make adjustments.

The one-hour Emerging Issues section of the regents meeting was approved at the board's February meeting as time set aside to discuss topics that could become relevant to the university. The allotted time allows for longer-term discussions on issues that should be on the board's radar screen.

In other business at last week's meeting:
Kathy Nesbitt, vice president of employee and information services, and Patrick O'Rourke, vice president of University Counsel and secretary to the board, presented to the board the latest draft of the University of Colorado president job description[7]. O'Rourke asked that the board consider the needs and character specific to the University of Colorado as well as to keep various aspects generalized to reach a larger pool of candidates. Nesbitt noted certain sections were intentionally vague, saying those specifics would be determined by the regents and the search committee to emphasize aspects of the candidates' background, such as particular strengths in academics or business. The regents will review the position description and report back to Nesbitt and O'Rourke before the next Governance Committee meeting so the document may be finalized by the regents' July 11-13 retreat. Three University of Colorado students addressed the board about alleged discrimination they had encountered because of their conservative viewpoints. Regent Sue Sharkey, chair, asked each if they were aware of the regents' nondiscrimination policy[8], which

specifically states political philosophy and affiliation as protected status. The students were aware of the policy but none had not filed a report. Because the students reported the alleged discrimination at the public meeting, CU Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano noted he is obligated to report the incidents to the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance.

CU Boulder chancellor, students continuing discussion of CUSG budget[5]

UPDATED APRIL 11, 2018: The CU Boulder Chancellor's office said it is continuing discussions with students; for the chancellor's updated statement, click here.[9]

The story below first appeared as breaking news on April 6:
[10]

CU Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano announced he would pull back on the timing to shift more than 90 percent of University of Colorado Student Government (CUSG) oversight of its $23 million budget to the control of the vice chancellor for student affairs, vowing further conversation and engagement with students. The statement came Thursday afternoon at the CU Board of Regents meeting at CU Colorado Springs amid students' protests on the CU Boulder campus and at the meeting.

Led off by the grandfather of a student who had called him in tears concerning the move, which had been announced Wednesday evening, CU Boulder student (and grandparent) representatives made the most of their 2-minute public comment allotment at the board meeting.

"CUSG is being made a mockery by the administration," said Mavjuda Ashrova, one of several CUSG representatives who spoke. "The whole point of student government was to encourage democracy and student engagement. The action by Chancellor DiStefano was unilateral and totally void of student voices and student government representation."

After a break in the meeting, DiStefano read a statement thanking the students for coming and sharing their concerns and said he would take another look at the decision, incorporating student input.

"I have to say that I was really affected by and impressed with our student leadership who spoke today. I want to respond to your concerns and hear your voices," DiStefano said. "I am committing to the board and students that after conferring with the president and board chair, that I will be pulling back on the timing of this move in order to allow for further conversation and engagement with the students.

"This will give us time to hear all points of view. I look forward to working with you and will charge my administration to immediately commencing those conversations. I will bring the Board of Regents an update at your next meeting," he said.

Troy Fossett, president of internal affairs for CUSG, thanked the chancellor for holding off on the action and pulling student representatives into the process. "My only word is just 'thank you,'" Fossett told the board. "Basically the students' biggest point, as everyone saw today, is that they thought their voice was in jeopardy and what I saw today is that they were heard."

Open Enrollment begins April 23: Few changes, no rate increases[11]
[12]

It's almost the time of year for employees to dial in on available benefits options and select plans to meet their needs. Open Enrollment, from April 23 to May 11, allows employees to make changes, enroll in or waive elements of their

benefits package.

What's changing?

While it's common to hear of rising medical plan costs, the University of Colorado has good news: Plan rates will not increase for the 2018-19 plan year for faculty, staff and regular retirees. Early retirees may see small increases in dental premiums.

CU Health Plan – Exclusive members will have access to more doctors and specialists when the current three regional networks merge into a statewide network. Emergency room costs and out-of-pocket limits are increasing for all medical plans.

Find more details on upcoming changes.[13]

Open Enrollment Sessions and Carrier Fairs

Benefits professionals and plan representatives are coming to each CU campus April 23-May 2. Benefits specialists will be there to dial in available plan options and answer questions to ensure CU faculty and staff may examine the best available benefit options.

Preview the upcoming schedule and directions.[14]

Be on the lookout for more details on this year's plan changes, rates and documents coming to CU Connections, your mailbox, email inbox and on the Employee Services website[15].

Faculty Council Committee Corner: Educational Policy and University Standards[16]

Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing CU Connections series in which the Faculty Council[17] highlights each of its committees and their efforts. See past installments here.[18]

As a committee of the Faculty Council, the Educational Policy and University Standards (EPUS) Committee considers and recommends policies on education, academic and procedural standards, including:
university academic standards, including the uniform grading policy, procedural standards affecting academic affairs common to all academic units of the university, honorary degrees and recognition medals, and evaluation and improvement of learning and teaching at all university levels.
In recent years, the EPUS committee has reviewed and made recommendations on many policies that are crucial to the academic and professional aspects of the faculty. For example, it has provided feedback to the administration on policies that have included: Article 4 (Organization of Academic Units), APS 5012 (Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Research), APS 5002 (Faculty Appointment Process), APS 1019 (Degree Program Review) and APS 4013 (Disclosure of Interests).

Most recently, the committee's primary focus has been the review of Regent Article 5 and its associated policies. Article 5 is of paramount importance for faculty, as it deals with appointment and evaluation, academic freedom and freedom of expression, faculty governance, dismissal for cause and grievances. EPUS has been working diligently to review proposed changes and to share faculty feedback with Michael Lightner, vice president for academic affairs, who oversees the review of the Regent Laws and Academic Policies.

Looking ahead, EPUS will continue with the review of Academic Policy Standards and the ongoing review of the Regents Laws and Policies. We invite comments — which may be posted below or directed to the EPUS committee chair, David Thompson (david.thompson@ucdenver.edu[19]) – regarding what university policy issues concern you most on education, academic and procedural standards.

CU Faculty Council EPUS Committee members (2017-18): **David Thompson** (Committee Chair; CU Anschutz Medical Campus), **Lawrence Cunningham** (Committee Vice Chair; CU Denver), **Rick Collins** (Committee Secretary; CU Boulder), **Neil Box** (CU Anschutz), **Helen Macfarlane** (CU Anschutz), **Monique French** (CU Colorado Springs), **Mark Malone** (CU Colorado Springs), **Terry Boult** (CU Colorado Springs), **Sarah Fields** (CU Denver)**, Vivian Shyu** (CU Denver), **Michael Lightner** (CU system)*, **Jill Taylor** (CU system)*

*non-voting

Click here[20] for more information about the EPUS committee.

Changes to Regent Article 1, 2, 13.A, and related policies approved[21]

The Board of Regents has approved changes to Article 1: University of Colorado Legal Origin, Mission, Ethical Conduct; Article 2: The Regents of the University of Colorado; Article 13.A: Finance; and related policies.

The changes to the laws and policies are effective April 5, 2018.
Law or PolicyAction Article 1: University of Colorado Legal Origin, Mission, Policy Framework and Ethical Conduct Revision Policy 1.A Preservation of Self-Governing Responsibilities Revision Policy 1.B Guiding Principles Revision Article 2: The Regents of the University of Colorado Revision Policy 2.B : Regent Acceptance of Money from the University Revision Policy 2.D: Regent General Study Sessions Rescission Policy 2.E: Faculty, Staff, Student and Alumni Advisors to the Board of Regents Revision Policy 2.G: Direct Expenditure Authorization via Board Resolution Clean-Up Only Policy 2.H: Regent Travel Policy Clean-Up Only Policy 2.J: Sexual Harassment Rescission Policy 2.J Fiduciary Obligations New Policy 2.K: Personnel Authority for Employees Exempt from the State Personnel System Revision Policy 2.L: Public Comment at Committee Meetings of the Board Revision Policy 2.M: Reprimand or Censure of a Board Member Revision Policy 2.N: Approval, Revisions or Repeal of Regent Policy Clean-Up Only Article 13.A: Finance Revision
For more detailed information, go to https://www.cu.edu/regents/rlpreview#tabs-2[22].

For more detailed information concerning the ongoing review of Regent Laws and Policies, go to https://www.cu.edu/regents/rlpreview[23].

Musical rings win $75K in startup contest; robotic muscles grab $25K [24]

Bachelor of Innovation program lauded by Board of Regents[25]

Seven years of Boots to Suits[26]

A sign of the future: Bioscience 3 heralded for innovation to come [27]

Kiser honored with Chancellor's Teaching Award[28]
[29]

Jennifer Kiser, PharmD, associate professor at Skaggs School of Pharmacy at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, has been selected as this year's recipient of the Chancellor's Teaching Award. This was based on nomination by graduate students in the pharmaceutical sciences and toxicology program.

Kiser's laboratory is a world leader in the development of state of the art analytical methods to quantitate antiviral drug concentrations in various biologic matrices. She is a panel member for the national Hepatitis C treatment guidelines and does groundbreaking research into adherence and difficult-to-treat populations by recruiting active drug users into a study that cures them of Hepatitis C.

Kiser will be honored at commencement this spring and will receive a plaque and $1,000 award.

Rockies Fantasy Camp a 'grand slam' for Powell [30]

Scott's career celebrated at retirement event[31]

Crawford to receive alumni award [32]
[33]

David Crawford, professor of radiation oncology in the School of Medicine, has been selected to receive the Distinguished Alumni Recognition Award by the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, where he earned his doctor of medicine degree in 1973.

Crawford will be honored at the school's reunion weekend April 12-14.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/denver-s-rooftops-are-going-green-what-does-it-mean[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/board-regents-april-meeting-coverage-0[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-pass-small-tuition-increase-3-percent-compensation-boost[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/board-learns-how-big-data-can-reap-big-dividends-higher-ed[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-boulder-chancellor-students-continuing-discussion-cusg-budget[6] https://www.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/AXKNMB5AE6DC/$file/FY%202018-19%20Budget%20Proposal%20April%20BOR%20Final%20(4-6-18).pdf[7] https://www.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/AXBTZQ79D377/$file/Presidential%20Job%20Description%20from%20March%2014%2C%202018%20Governance%20Meeting.pdf[8] https://www.cu.edu/regents/laws-and-policies/regent-laws/article-10-nondiscrimination[9] https://www.colorado.edu/today/2018/04/05/updated-statement-chancellor-regarding-cusg-budget[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/2018_phil.jpg[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/open-enrollment-begins-april-23-few-changes-no-rate-increases[12] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/oe_top.jpg[13]

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https://connections.cu.edu/stories/bachelor-innovation-program-lauded-board-regents[26]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/seven-years-boots-suits[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/sign-future-bioscience-3-heralded-innovation-come[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/kiser-honored-chancellor-s-teaching-award[29] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/p_kiser.jpg[30] https://connections.cu.edu/people/rockies-fantasy-camp-grand-slam-powell[31] https://connections.cu.edu/people/scott-s-career-celebrated-retirement-event[32]
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