Regents begin search for University Counsel, Secretary of the Board[1]

UPDATED MARCH 30: The deadline to apply has been extended to April 10.

The CU Board of Regents has begun its search for the next Vice President, University Counsel and Secretary of the Board of Regents.

The position is the senior administrative position for the Board of Regents and senior legal professional position at the University of Colorado. The Board of Regents is the appointing authority for the position.

Currently serving in the role is Dan Wilkerson, who last week was named[2] interim general counsel and secretary to the Board of Regents. Wilkerson, who is not a candidate for the permanent post, replaced Patrick O'Rourke, who last week became the chief operating officer[3] at CU Boulder.

Details on the position and the search are posted here[4]. Applications are due at the end of the month, with interviews scheduled for April and May.

The search committee is:
Regent John Carson, chair Regent Lesley Smith President Mark Kennedy Kathy Nesbitt, vice president for administration Eric Olson, solicitor general, Office of the Colorado Attorney General Mary Coussons-Read, UCCS psychology department chair and professor
For more information, please contact the search administrator, Amanda Billing, business operations manager, Office of University Counsel, 303-860-5686 or amanda.billing@cu.edu[5].

Regents OK modest increases to tuition, compensation[6]
[7]

The CU Board of Regents on Monday voted to approve a slate of modest tuition increases at campuses for the next fiscal year. They are among the lowest rate increases proposed in nearly a decade, and well below the 6 percent maximum increases currently allowed by the Legislature.

During the meeting at 1800 Grant St., the board also approved salary increases of varying percentage amounts for faculty, classified staff, university staff and officers.

Tuition will rise only 2.9 percent at CU-Boulder for typical resident undergraduates, 3.5 percent at CU Colorado Springs and about 1.6 percent at CU Denver. The last figure is a blended amount that takes into account the many varying tuition rates at the campus.

Full-time students also will pay slightly higher fees next year, as the board approved increases at CU-Boulder ($38), UCCS ($15) and CU Denver ($42).

Compensation rates as recommended by administration passed with a unanimous nine-member vote, while the separate tuition and fee votes passed 8-1, with Regent John Carson, R-Highlands Ranch, opposing both.

"As someone who just ran in the last election, I'm pretty sensitive to this," Carson said. "That's pretty much what anyone wants to talk about is the constant tuition increases. I'm just concerned we're not focusing enough on the tuition increases."

Regent Glen Gallegos, R-Grand Junction, noted that last year, CU tuition increases were kept below those at many other state institutions, and that the same is expected this year.

"Regent Carson, I think we're damned if we do (raise tuition), damned if we don't," Gallegos said. "The fact that

we're at 3 percent … I don't know anything other than the price of gas that's any lower."

Regent Linda Shoemaker, D-Boulder, said CU offers "a very excellent product at a fair price. When you look at the market, the fact that we are able to attract so many out-of-state and international students who are willing to pay two or three times our in-state rate shows that we are providing a good value for those in-state students."

She said that while she favors a zero tuition increase, that wish isn't realistic or fair to faculty and staff.

For classified staff, the board approved a 1 percent cost-of-living increase and a 2 percent salary pool to be awarded based on merit and revised pay ranges for some job classifications. For faculty, officers and exempt professionals (university staff), a 3 percent pool for merit raises continues.

During a presentation to the board, Todd Saliman, vice president for budget and finance, said credit for keeping tuition increases low and enabling compensation increases goes to the state, which is budgeting increases for higher education. The long bill is making its way through the Capitol and still could be revised, but currently includes a $66.6 million boost for universities and colleges – translating to increases between 10 percent and 11 percent for CU campuses.

Regents Michael Carrigan, D-Denver, and Sue Sharkey, R-Castle Rock, also praised the efforts of campus chancellors and President Bruce Benson for ensuring efficient operations and good stewardship of resources.

In other action at Monday's meeting:
The board approved revisions to Policy 3B, which pertains to conflict of interest for faculty and staff. Pat O'Rourke, University Counsel and secretary of the Board of Regents, said the changes include updated language aimed at eliminating confusion and clarifying that the policy applies to all employees, including part-time. The board approved the appointment of Ronald W. Williams of the 1st Congressional District to the University of Colorado Hospital Board.

Q&A: John D. Griffin, director, Conference on World Affairs[8]

John D. Griffin is honored to be director of the "beloved Boulder tradition" – the Conference on World Affairs (CWA) – now in its 67th year at the University of Colorado Boulder. The event begins Monday and features 100 participants from around the world and 200 sessions with titles such as "The Pope Francis Revolution," "Please Trip Responsibly: Consumption Beyond Alcohol," "The End of American Exceptionalism" and "Better Than an Apple, a Poem Every Day."

This is the first year Griffin has directed the event – he took the reins of the program on June 1, 2014. An associate professor of political science at CU-Boulder, his research focuses on political equality in political institutions. He has written extensively on the subject, and his most recent work – a book he wrote with a colleague about the failure of representation in the American South – has just been sent to a university press. Besides overseeing the conference, Griffin also directs the CWA Athenaeum, which brings speakers to the campus throughout the year.

Much of his time is devoted to fundraising, planning and outreach for the five-day, free event, which attracts more than 77,000. This year, CWA's audience will be even bigger: Events at Macky Auditorium, the University Memorial Center (UMC) center ballroom and UMC room 235 will be streamed live, and audio recordings from all of the sessions will be available within 24 hours after the event on the conference website; video on demand will be here.

Griffin graciously took some time from his busy schedule to answer a few questions about this year's conference.

1. What goals did you have for the conference this year?

My aims this year were to improve fundraising and to enhance student and faculty engagement. Already, we have raised more this year than last year — a new record — partnering with Assistant Dean for Development Lissy Garrison

and her team. To further improve campus engagement, we are piloting a program that will have CWA speakers make an appearance in CU-Boulder courses.

2. In your few months as director of CWA, what stands out for you?

The CWA is the event that makes the single largest contribution to the civic life of the greater Boulder area.

3. Speakers pay their own way to the conference and are not paid honorariums to appear. How does this affect the dynamics of the event?

I think that these norms facilitate the recruitment of speakers who want to make the most of their stay – to spend the entire week with us, to get to know the students and community members who plan the conference, and to interact with other speakers informally.

4. How do you determine topics for the event and how do you determine invitees? How many staff members/volunteers are involved with the conference?

The conference has just 3.5 full-time employees and does not hire an army of temporary employees just prior to the event. We can get away with this because we have well over 100 volunteers on our planning committee who work (individually) in many cases hundreds of hours each year for the CWA. These committee members make invitations to and recruit our speakers each fall and then arrange the speakers into panels each spring. The panel arrangements are aided by the speakers' submission of "topics" – issues the speaker is interested in addressing during their stay with us.

5. Is there a person (or persons) you wanted to speak at this year's conference but were not able to woo?

We were very much hoping to lure one of the Republicans likely to run for president next year. We got close.

6. This year's conference sessions will be accessible online. What are your goals for an online presence?

Online viewing is an important avenue for us to grow the impact of the conference within our venue constraints. It also allows us to reach people who cannot attend, be they at work in Boulder or at home in Gunnison.

7. What is the first thing you will do the day after the conference is finished?Z

I will begin the process of evaluating what went well at this year's event and what challenges we need to address for CWA 2016. I would like to identify ways to further diversify our audience and to connect the conference even more to the needs and concerns of Boulder and Colorado.

Global Health Responders course to help humanitarians 'do no harm'[9]
[10]

In 2010, a devastating earthquake hit the Haitian capital of Port au Prince – one of the most vulnerable cities on Earth. More than 200,000 Haitians were killed and many more severely injured and left homeless. Thousands of well-meaning humanitarian responders flooded the country trying to pitch in, yet many of them were unprepared and were more of a hindrance than a help.

"The proximity to the North American mainland made it easy for good Samaritans to rush to the country in an effort to help," said Jay Lemery, M.D., associate professor of emergency medicine in the CU School of Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. He points to aphoto of a U.S. helicopter in front of the crumbling Haitian capital building. "This helicopter was part of the U.S. government's response to Haiti. Yet in the first week of the disaster response effort, 18 percent of all its flights were not medevac'ing earthquake victims or delivering food or medical supplies, but

rather going on search-and-rescue operations looking for lost humanitarian responders who were ill-prepared to take care of themselves."

With the ascendancy of the field of global health this past decade, many institutions and organizations are increasingly sending their personnel abroad, but few have addressed the question of what competencies someone needs to thrive in a global health capacity, Lemery said. Now, a first-of its-kind, free Foundations for Global Health Responders massive open online course (MOOC) aims to provide participants from all walks of life competencies in global health care.

Launching May 4, the Foundations for Global Health Responders will provide foundational knowledge on global health to better contextualize experiences, optimize self-reliance and situational awareness, and allow learners to be more effective in their work in low- to middle-income countries, Lemery said. The course will be of interest to aspiring engineers, NGOs (non-government operations) and nonprofit workers, agricultural scientists, university students and faculty, government officials, as well as those providing direct patient care.

"It also will provide basic competencies for organization or university members traveling abroad with a goal toward mitigating institutional risk," he said. "We developed this course as a starting point for all-comers, and have invoked the guiding principle of medicine as our mantra: Do No Harm."

Led by world class experts from the University of Colorado, Harvard School of Public Health, Weill Cornell Medical College, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and others, the course is a primer for people who seek the knowledge and skills to effectively participate in global health ventures. The course lasts six weeks and participants will spend between three and six hours studying each week, he said.

"To be clear, this course is not about disaster response," Lemery said. "But it is about responsible engagement, to give you the introductory foundational knowledge to be a meaningful participant in the world of global health."

The course is a stand-alone introduction to global health, and also serves as the first step toward a more advanced certification. Those wishing to obtain additional hands-on skill sets may participate in an in-person, three-day course offered at locations around the world this year to be certified as a Global Health Responder through the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

The course will be taught by CU medical school faculty, leaders in austere care medical education. Details, including dates and locations, are at the workshop website.

Global health workers and volunteers, such as those in Haiti, are often exposed to unfamiliar situations for which they are unprepared. "What should have been a net positive to a precarious relief effort (in Haiti) was in fact a drain on already precious and desperately needed resources," Lemery said. "It was all avoidable."

The Foundations for Global Health Responders course is an important initiation toward being an asset in times of crisis at home and across the globe, he said.

Facebook app encourages individuals to get in touch with their DNA[11]

UCCS, Ent Federal Credit Union extend agreement; new arts venue named[12]

Instructor works nights for Secret Service[13]

Match Day 2015 inspires smiles, tears[14]

Kappler named interim scientific director of Barbara Davis Center[15]

John Kappler, Ph.D., has been named Interim Scientific Director of the Barbara Davis Center for Childhood Diabetes (BDC) in the School of Medicine at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. He will open his laboratory at the BDC and will expand his research and mentoring activities as the leader of the Center's Division of Basic and Translational Research.

Dr. Kappler is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbiology of the School of Medicine. He has been a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator since 1986 and a member of the National Academy of Sciences since 1989. The Kappler-Marrack Research Lab at the National Jewish Health will remain his primary laboratory. He has co-directed that lab and shared multiple discoveries with his wife, Philippa Marrack, PhD.

Dr. Kappler received his PhD in biochemistry from Brandeis University and began a now celebrated career in immunology through a postdoctoral fellowship under Richard Dutton, PhD, at the University of California at San Diego. Drs. Kappler and Marrack were the first to isolate the T cell receptor. Together they have contributed extensively to our understanding of the nature of antigen processing and major histocompatibility complex (MHC)-restricted peptide presentation. They have explored positive and negative selection of T cells in the thymus, T cell superantigens and the evolutionarily conserved structural relationship between T cell receptors and MHC molecules.

For the past six years, Dr. Kappler has collaborated with investigators at the Barbara Davis Center on the nature of the peptide/MHCII complexes that drive islet autoimmunity leading to type 1 diabetes. In the past year, he has become the primary mentor for several BDC researchers.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the science of immunology of type 1 diabetes, Dr. Kappler will receive the George S. Eisenbarth Memorial Award at the Immunology of Diabetes Society 14th International Congress, in Munich, on April 14th, 2015. Dr. Eisenbarth served as the BDC Director, 1992-2012, and attracted Dr. Kappler to the field of immunology of diabetes.

"Dr. Kappler's leadership and scientific vision will allow us to enhance the caliber of discoveries in our research labs to prevent and cure childhood diabetes. He has established strong working relationships with Research Division faculty and we are very much looking forward to working with him in this expanded role," said Marian Rewers, MD, PhD, BDC Director. "A major strength of the BDC is the breadth of work at the cellular and molecular level strengthened by the unique clinical resource of ongoing studies of patients with diabetes and those at high risk of developing the disease."

In addition to his own research and providing scientific direction to faculty and staff, Dr. Kappler will play an active role in recruiting the permanent Director of the Division of Basic and Translational Research at the Barbara Davis Center. Dr. Kappler will assume his responsibilities March 31, 2015.

Limerick named Official CU Fool by President Benson[16]

CU-Boulder professor Patty Limerick this week announced the launch of the Center of the American West's Humor Initiative. The choice of date for the announcement wasn't surprising: April Fools' Day.

What might have surprised some is this: a proclamation from President Bruce Benson naming Limerick the Official Fool of the University of Colorado. Read the proclamation here[17].

The Humor Initiative was created to celebrate those individuals whose temperaments support a central conviction of the Center of the American West: A dose of good humor is essential to constructive public discussion, and not coincidentally, to public health. Its centerpiece is the Distinguished Visiting Fool for a Day Award that will be presented once a year on the CU-Boulder campus. Read more here[18].

Baker awarded Sarabhai Professorship and Prize[19]

University of Colorado Boulder Distinguished Professor Daniel Baker was awarded the Vikram A. Sarabhai Professorship and Prize for 2015, which honors internationally distinguished scholars and is named for the founder of India's space program.

As part of the award, Baker, director of CU-Boulder's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, traveled to the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, in February to work with scientists and students and give seminars and lectures. His primary research interests include the study of physical and energetic particle phenomena in the plasma of planetary magnetospheres.

The Vikram A. Sarabhai Professorship and Prize was created at PRL in 1977 to give young researchers access to the latest developments in various areas of research through interactions with distinguished researchers from around the world. Past winners of the Sarabhai Professorship include Arthur C. Clarke, Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar and Roger Revelle.

Baker, member of CU-Boulder's Department of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences faculty, has won a number of international awards in recent years. Earlier this year he was selected to give the prestigious Kavli Foundation Plenary Lectureship at the American Astronomical Society's 225th meeting held Jan. 4-8 in Seattle.

Baker, who chaired the National Research Council's 2012 Decadal Survey for Solar and Space Physics, is currently involved in a number of NASA missions, including the MESSENGER mission to Mercury, the Van Allen Probes mission, the MAVEN mission at Mars, and the Magnetospheric Multiscale mission, launched earlier this month to better understand the process of magnetic reconnection. The NRC is an arm of the National Academy of Sciences.

Taylor presents on bilingual education[20]

CU Denver associate professor Sherry Taylor, PhD, was an invited presenter at the Research & Evaluation Symposium at the National Association for Bilingual Education's annual conference in March, 2015.

She presented twice at the symposium, on supporting oral language development of young emergent bilinguals and early childhood teachers' instruction of young emergent bilinguals' oral language development.

Taylor is faculty in the Literacy, Language and Culturally Responsive Teaching Program[21] within the School of Education & Human Development[22] at CU Denver[23]. She recently concluded a grant project awarded by Colorado Department of Higher Education with funding by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Title II-A Grant.

In December, 2014, Taylor also served as guest editor for a special issue of the Journal of Writing & Pedagogy on perspectives of teaching and learning writing. Her most recent book, “Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: Teaching like our students’ lives matter,” was published in 2011.

Classified Staff reviews underway this month[24]

Evaluations for all University of Colorado classified staff members must take place in April. This process is the same for each campus, and evaluations must be turned in to campus human resources offices by May 1. Any merit raises still will take effect July 1.

Classified Staff review cycle deadlines:
April 1, performance cycle begins.
All classified staff must be evaluated during the month of April. May 1, all evaluations must be turned in to your campus human resources office.
During the month of May, meet with each classified staff person to discuss goals for the year. June 1, a copy of the signed front page of the performance plan is due to your campus human resources office.
Each campus has specific performance management documents and evaluation forms to be used when evaluating classified staff members. Please review these on your campus human resources website:
CU-Boulder[25]CU Denver[26]UCCS[27]System[28]

President Benson’s town hall series continues Wednesday[29]

CU President Bruce Benson has begun a spring slate of Town Hall meetings, where faculty and staff at all four campuses and system administration are invited to hear an update on the university and responses to questions posed by employees. He began the series this week at CU Denver and will make his next appearance Wednesday at CU Anschutz.

Benson plans to speak on state funding, the CU Foundation to Advancement transition, the systemwide constituent relationship management (CRM) project and more.

Registration instructions are being distributed via email. While registering, faculty and staff members may submit written questions, which the president will answer at the town halls, time permitting.

Those unable to attend in person may view webcasts of each event; details also will be included in email communication.

The remaining 2015 Town Hall Schedule:
CU-Boulder
9:30 a.m. April 29, Old Main **CU Colorado Springs**
2 p.m. April 20, Berger Hall **CU Anschutz Medical Campus**
3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Hensel Phelps Auditorium **System administration**
8 a.m. May 6, location TBA

Author of ‘Caribbean Critique’ to present lecture[30]

The Caribbean Lecture Series at CU-Boulder continues Friday with professor Nick Nesbitt, who will give a lecture on "Spectres of the Infinitesimal: Posthuman Francophone Worlds."

The free event runs 6-7 p.m. in Humanities 150.

His work is anchored in the Black Atlantic and engages with Postcolonial and Critical Theory, Political Philosophy, Hatian and French-Caribbean Studies, among others. His most recent book, "Caribbean Critique: Antillean Critical Theory From Toussaint to Glissant" (Liverpool University Press, 2013) explores the contribution of Caribbean critical thinkers to global Critical Theory and focuses on how the formative experiences of the Middle Passage, Colonialism and Slavery have marked the work of Caribbean theorists.

For more information on Professor Nesbitt's work, click here[31]. This is the second of three events in the Caribbean Lecture Series which is organized by the Departments of English and French and Italian, and was made possible thanks to the generous support of the President's Fund for the Humanities and Center for Western Civilization. For more details on the lecture series, click here[32].

RTD offers tours on Aurora Line/I-225 Rail Project[33]

Members of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus community may be interested in the progress of RTD's Aurora Line/I-225 Rail project; soon, they'll be able to tour the project.

Starting May 21, the project team will give tours of the alignment to the public. Tours will be at 10 a.m. the third Thursday of every month, from May until October.

Space is limited; click here to reserve a spot[34].

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-begin-search-university-counsel-secretary-board[2] https://connections.cu.edu/people/wilkerson-named-interim-general-counsel-secretary-board-regents[3] https://www.col

[4] https://www.cu.edu/doc/vpucposition-descpdf[5] mailto:amanda.billing@cu.edu[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-ok-modest-increases-tuition-compensation[7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/2014_03-30_bor-meeting_top.jpg[8] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/qa-john-d-griffin-director-conference-world-affairs[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/global-health-responders-course-help-humanitarians-do-no-harm[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/global-health_top.jpg[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/facebook-app-encourages-individuals-get-touch-their-dna[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-ent-federal-credit-union-extend-agreement-new-arts-venue-named[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/instructor-works-nights-secret-service[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/match-day-2015-inspires-smiles-tears[15] https://connections.cu.edu/people/kappler-named-interim-scientific-director-barbara-davis-center[16] https://connections.cu.edu/people/limerick-named-official-cu-fool-president-benson[17] https://www.cu.edu/office-president/benson-statements[18] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/limerick-to-review-nearly-40-years-as-university-fool-on-april-1[19] https://connections.cu.edu/people/baker-awarded-sarabhai-professorship-and-prize[20] https://connections.cu.edu/people/taylor-presents-bilingual-education[21] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/SchoolOfEducation/Academics/Pages/Literacy-Language-and-Culturally-Responsive-Teaching.aspx[22]

http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/SchoolOfEducation/Pages/home.aspx[23]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/denver/Pages/DenverCampus.aspx[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/classified-staff-reviews-underway-month[25] http://hr.colorado.edu/lr/pm/Pages/default.aspx[26]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/departments/HR/Documents/ClassifiedStaffPerformanceEval2015.pdf[27]
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http://www.princeton.edu/fit/people/display_person.xml?netid=fnesbitt[32] https://www.colorado.edu/p149f28e2a94/[33]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/rtd-offers-tours-aurora-linei-225-rail-project[34] http://www.rtd-fastracks.com/i225_231