

[Units within Office of the President coming together next year](#)<sup>[1]</sup>

<sup>[2]</sup>

The Boulder-based offices of University Information Systems (UIS) and Payroll & Benefits Services (PBS) will be moved to Denver in the fall of 2011, completing a shift of units within the President's Office that began three and a half years ago.

Most recently, the Procurement Service Center moved from its Lawrence Street location in Denver to the fifth floor of 1800 Grant St., where the Office of the President is based. After July 31, 2011, space on the building's second, third and fourth floors will become available because software company Quark Inc.'s lease is ending, thus enabling the next departmental moves. October 2011 is the tentative move date.

Leonard Dinegar, senior vice president and chief of staff, said about two years' worth of savings will cover the cost of the move and improvements; thereafter, the university will save about \$425,000 annually on lease costs. Another benefit: improved work relationships.

"It seems as though the units within the Office of the President are having to work more closely with each other over the past several years, especially because of the growing interdependence among all units," Dinegar said. "Having them so spread out makes it difficult to work more collaboratively when meetings need to take place via phone or videoconferencing rather than simply walking down the hall or down a flight of stairs to meet with the folks you need to see.

"For example, when we first moved the president's office from Boulder to Denver nearly four years ago, the staff currently on the eighth floor were spread out into seven different buildings in Boulder. Having these staff members located together has made life much easier for all of us."

Dinegar said about half of the UIS and PBS staff live in the Boulder-Broomfield area, while others live halfway between Boulder and Denver or closer to Denver.

"No doubt it will be a significant lifestyle and cultural change moving from Boulder to Denver, but there will be, I believe, significant benefits as well," Dinegar said. "Denver is a great place to work. Staff will also benefit by being closer to their fellow staff in other units within the Office of the President.

"I know some folks will be happy to make the move while others not so happy. I also know that many of the staff are taking the view that we'll see how things go in Denver."

The RTD EcoPass remains available to system administration staff. Some staffers may be able to take advantage of the recently approved Alternate Work Place/Schedule policy.

Human Resources soon will launch a website providing information for staff about the move.

In Boulder, the privately owned UIS building will be available for lease; PBS leases space from CU-Boulder, where administrators will consider options for use of the space once it's available.

[Supplier showcases set up shop in September](#)<sup>[3]</sup>

The Procurement Services Center's fifth annual Supplier Showcase series on the University of Colorado campuses gives faculty and staff chances to meet with existing suppliers and to discover goods and services from potential new vendors.

Representatives from various campus departments also will be on hand to discuss a variety of topics, including sustainability and ethics. Procurement Service Center (PSC) staff will be available to answer questions.

More than 1,200 CU employees are expected to participate in the campus events:

**Anschutz Medical Campus**

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9, RC2 Conference Room **CU-Boulder**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, UMC Glenn Miller Ballroom **UCCS**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21, University Center Ballroom

Showcase sponsor Staples will be featured at each showcase. Staples' office supply partners also will be present. Representatives from Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) will be in attendance. The division of the Colorado Department of Corrections sells furniture and other items manufactured by Colorado prison inmates.

"This year's showcases are off to a tremendous start. Showcase exhibitors will include suppliers from the hospitality and scientific industries, as well as other vendors offering an array of goods and services," said Penny Davis, small business liaison officer with PSC. "We invite all faculty and staff, regardless of their home campus, to join us at any or all of the showcases."

Davis encourages faculty and staff who would like to attend to register so that PSC can plan adequately. Complete information and a registration form is available at [www.cu.edu/psc](http://www.cu.edu/psc)[4].

[Federal grants totaling \\$850,000 available to improve educator effectiveness](#)[5]

The Colorado Department of Higher Education (DHE) is seeking proposals for programs that would partner educator preparation programs at institutions of higher education with Colorado school districts for the purpose of improving teacher quality.

Federal grants totaling \$850,000 are available under Title IIA of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (formerly known as No Child Left Behind).

The purpose of the competitive grants is to increase K-12 student academic achievement by improving educator effectiveness and the equitable distribution of effective educators throughout the state. The DHE is especially interested in proposals that offer professional development and college coursework to educators in small, rural school districts.

**Resources:**

[Request For Proposal](#)[6][Information on past award recipients](#)[7]

[CCHE passes resolution opposing ballot measures](#)[8]

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) opposes three November ballot measures that would reduce state funding and require school districts to trim current mill levies.

Members of the CCHE unanimously passed a resolution to oppose amendments 60, 61 and proposition 101 during their regular meeting Aug. 5. The University of Colorado Board of Regents passed a similar resolution July 16.

Proposition 101, one of three anti-government measures on the ballot, would reduce taxes and fees over several

years. It would eliminate transportation funding by cutting registration fees for vehicles to \$2 for new cars and \$1 for older vehicles. It also would reduce state income tax from the current 4.63 percent to 3.5 percent over time; it also would end taxes and fees on telephone, satellite and Internet services except for those fees collected for 911 emergency services. The Bell Policy Center, which [analyzed](#)[9] the proposition, estimates the initiative would cost the state more than \$2.3 billion.

Amendment 60 would, among other things, repeal any tax increases after 1992 that were not voter approved, would require school districts to cut mill levies by about half by 2020, and would generally overrule case law concerning TABOR (Taxpayer Bill of Rights). Amendment 61 would limit state and local governments' debt without voter approval.

The Colorado Union of Taxpayers, which backs the measures, says the changes would put more money in the hands of taxpayers and small businesses in order to grow the economy. The organization also maintains the measures would force local governments to cut costs and spend more efficiently.

Gov. Bill Ritter said his top priority was defeating the three measures, which he called "dangerous." The measures would "set Colorado back a generation and bring to a halt the pro-business environment we have all worked so hard to build," he has said.

According to a [memo](#)[10] prepared by the Colorado Legislative Council, passage of the ballot measures would result in \$2.1 billion in lost revenue for the state, from \$6.9 billion to \$4.8 billion, and the need to increase funding for K-12 education by \$1.6 billion. The combined impacts indicate that K-12 education funding would require approximately 99 percent of the General Fund budget, leaving only \$38 million for all other departments, including higher ed, corrections, judicial, human services and others.

CCHE Vice Chair Hereford Percy singled out the cuts to the state's funding source for K-12 education as his primary source of concern and opposition to the measures.

"These figures clearly prove that there is a specific impact to K-12 education, and if K-12 continues to be under-funded, there is a continued impact to higher ed," said Percy. "It only makes sense for the commission to oppose these ballot measures."

Besides school boards, chambers of commerce and local governments throughout the state, other colleges and universities in Colorado have publicly opposed the ballot amendments, including the CSU Board of Governors, the Colorado State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education and Colorado Mountain College.

#### [Alum leaves estate to benefit English department](#)[11]

A woman whose Air Force career taught her to stand up to those in positions of authority left her estate to the department of English at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

Patricia A. Gray of Cascade died July 27, 2009, at age 78. She graduated with honors from UCCS in 1986, having enrolled at the university as a 54-year-old freshman following a distinguished 26-year career in the U.S. Air Force.

"She was a hard worker and wonderfully efficient," local lawyer Henry Eastland said of Gray. "She retired as an E-9, the highest rank of enlisted personnel. Through hard work and perseverance, she made her way to the top in an era when it was difficult for women to advance in the military."

Eastland handled the estate for Gray who had no heirs but fond memories of her time at UCCS.

According to the Office of Admissions and Records, Gray attended UCCS from January 1984 until her graduation in

May 1986 with magna cum laude honors.

Gray directed that her estate, valued at \$195,500, be left to the CU Foundation to benefit the UCCS Department of English. Rebecca Laroche, associate professor, English, and department chair said the department will decide this fall how to best use the funds.

"We all are deeply moved by this gift and will do our best to honor Patricia Gray's wishes," Laroche said.

Joan Ray, English professor, remembered Gray as having earned an A in a 400-level special topics seminar, "Novels of Political and Social Reform," in 1985.

"From both the comments in my grading book and my memories of Pat as my student, I recall her as a fully engaged, energetic and thoughtful student who read the novels with care and insight," Ray said. "A lively and well-informed class participant, Pat was a wonderful example of how the older student with life experience adds a great deal to college classes."

Following her graduation from UCCS, Gray was active in the American Volkssport Association, serving as its national secretary, as well as participating in numerous walking events. She also was active in The Retired Enlisted Association Chapter One where she was elected as a national director. At the time of her death, she served as second vice president of TREA. She also was active in the Retired Sergeant Majors and Chiefs Association, the Disabled American Veterans, the Air Force Sergeants Association and the Non Commissioned Officers Association.

She was buried with full military honors July 31, 2009, at Evergreen Cemetery.

#### [Lunch and Learn workshops to explore teaching strategies](#)[12]

A series of free Lunch and Learn workshops for faculty who teach international students, or who are interested in teaching on international campuses, will explore teaching strategies that further learning outcomes for international students.

Led by Hilary Hughes, Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Colorado Denver, the workshops will be held monthly during the fall semester in the Auraria Library's Jackson Enhanced Learning Center. Lunch will be provided.

The series is presented by the UC Denver Office of International Affairs, the UC Denver Center for Faculty Development and the Auraria Library.

The lineup:

**International Students: Teaching and Learning Opportunities and Challenges**

Noon to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17

Identify the specific challenges faced by international students and faculty. **Faculty Experiences: Teaching International Students**

Noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15

Recall and share challenges and benefits of culturally diverse experiences. **International Student Perspectives: Every Student has a Story to Tell**

Noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14

Consider the experience of learning for students from other countries and cultures. **Informed Learning: Building on International Students' Prior Learning**

Noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9

Explore pedagogical strategies which value prior learning among international students. **Practical Teaching Strategies for International Students**

Noon to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3

Use practical teaching strategies to further international students' success.

To register, go to <http://tiny.cc/cnxqm>[13]. For more information, contact Mary M. Somerville, director of the Auraria Library, at [mary.somerville@ucdenver.edu](mailto:mary.somerville@ucdenver.edu)[14] or 303-556-4587.

[College of Nursing awarded grant for leadership in rural, underserved areas](#)[15]

The University of Colorado College of Nursing has been awarded a \$753,817 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to prepare advanced practice nurses with the expertise to provide leadership for high-quality health care in rural and medically underserved urban areas.

Funding was provided through a competitively awarded grant to i-LEAD, Innovation in Leadership and Administration in Nursing and Health Care Systems. Amy Barton, Ph.D, R.N., professor and associate dean for Clinical and Community Affairs at the College of Nursing, and the college's newly appointed Mordecai Endowed Chair in Rural Health Nursing, is the project director.

"We are delighted to provide education in nursing leadership and health care systems in an innovative manner, reaching nurses across Colorado and the U.S., targeting both underserved and rural communities," Barton said. "This funding allows us to develop the program with our nationally and internationally renowned faculty and establish a strong infrastructure of student support that will help to financially sustain the program into the future."

This new, innovative, flexible master's program aligns with the College of Nursing's multiple entry, multiple exit philosophy. The program provides a 30-credit core master's degree in nursing leadership and health care systems, with numerous exit options, including: 1) graduation with a master's degree in nursing leadership and health care systems 2) completion of an additional 12 credits for specialization in executive leadership, 3) completion of an additional 12 credits for specialization in health care informatics, and 4) seamless progression into the Ph.D. degree program with a health systems research focus. A second goal of the i-LEAD program is to help students complete a post-master's certificate in executive leadership.

In keeping with Healthy People 2010, i-LEAD will prepare culturally competent, advanced practice nurses capable of providing high-quality health care in medically underserved urban and rural areas, increasing health promotion and disease prevention in this population, and increasing access to quality health care. The target is to enroll at least 20 percent of all students from rural or medically underserved designated areas and enroll at least 10 percent underrepresented minority students.

The program will create and refine 10 new courses that incorporate distance learning methodologies to reduce barriers for nurses who live in the targeted populations of rural Colorado and other states that are part of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). The i-LEAD program features two innovative tools to support distance learners. Building on a well-established model, i-LEAD will use social networking tools to create a learner-centered environment to support, socialize, mentor and connect students who are engaged in computer-mediated learning.

Secondly, i-LEAD learners will be able to interact in the College of Nursing's "Virtual Clinic," where learners simulate decision making. To strengthen the i-LEAD program's collaborative teaching, research and practice environment, the program will establish at least 18 new partnerships with key professional organizations and health or public health providers/agencies, with particular attention to those who serve rural and medically underserved populations. These partnerships will provide opportunities for students to practice with underserved populations, and positively impact professional organizations and health care providers and agencies.

"The i-LEAD graduate program will fill important gaps in the education of future nurse leaders who will manage health care and provide leadership in health care in the rural and urban areas of Colorado," said Patricia Moritz, Ph.D.,

F.A.A.N., dean of the College of Nursing. "An important aspect of this new graduate program area is that future nurse leaders, managers and expert clinicians will be educated in management and leadership of the health care system, with opportunities for specialization in health care informatics. These areas are a crucial part of the goals of health care reform and health informatics technology."

Graduates will be eligible to take the Advanced Nursing Administration Certification examination offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center or the Advanced Nursing Administration Certification offered by the American Organization of Nurse Executives.

#### [University receives \\$140.8 million in private support for 2009-10](#)<sup>[16]</sup>

A pioneer of the University of Colorado at Boulder's Learning Assistants program gives more than \$100,000 to help innovative teaching practices reach more students. A University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) business-ethics initiative gets a seven-figure infusion. A major estate gift enhances Alzheimer's research at CU's Anschutz Medical Campus. A \$750,000 challenge pledge will foster innovation in family-violence prevention at the University of Colorado Denver's School of Public Affairs.

These are a few ways in which private funders have supported University of Colorado people, places and programs, to the tune of \$140.8 million in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2010, according to unaudited numbers. This caps CU's strongest four years for private support in its 134-year history and lays the groundwork for increasing focus on donor funding in an era of increasing university need.

"We are grateful for the ongoing support of our donors, who continue to make crucial investments in CU's people, programs and infrastructure despite difficult economic times," said CU President Bruce D. Benson. "Their contributions add significant value to our efforts to enhance the economic, social and cultural well-being of Colorado and the nation."

Benson stressed that while fundraising dollars add value to CU, they are targeted by donors to specific people, programs and infrastructure and cannot be diverted to replace diminishing state funding. Less than 2 percent of CU's philanthropic dollar pool is unrestricted.

The private support total for CU in 2009-10 includes \$92 million given through the University of Colorado Foundation, the university's fundraising arm, and \$48.8million directly to CU, which includes gifts-in-kind, gifts to the CU Real Estate Foundation and support from the university's clinical practice.

Overall, the 4.7percent private-support increase from 2008-09 reflects a strong performance amid continued economic uncertainty. While the slowdown of the market recovery impeded gifts of more than \$1 million and gifts from foundations (whose strength and weakness often parallels the strength and weakness of stock markets), supporters still are finding ways to commit financially to CU.

A particularly strong indicator is seen in the \$25.2 million in commitments created by donors in their estate plans in 2009-10. Though not counted in the 2009-10 fundraising total (because estate gifts are not realized until after a donor's passing), they increased 700 percent over 2008-09, making this the university's strongest year for such commitments, and indicating steadfast loyalty to CU.

Also, the Denver campus had its strongest fundraising year in history, raising more than \$8.6 million on the heels of a \$5 million multi-year commitment (the campus's largest ever) by Pinnacle Assurance to establish a new Risk Management and Insurance program at the UC Denver Business School.

#### **CU donors are funding:**

**Teaching and Learning** at UC Denver, whose Business School will educate tomorrow's corporate social responsibility

leaders thanks to a \$300,000 gift from Denver-based firm ProLogis to name the new Managing for Sustainability suite in the Business School's new building. **Discovery and Innovation** at CU-Boulder, where a transformative Systems Biotechnology Building to open in 2011 received several major gifts, including \$1 million from the Amgen Corporation and \$1 million from Jane Butcher in honor of her late husband and biotech entrepreneur, Charlie Butcher. **Culture and Community** at UCCS, where student athletes and campus events now host three times as many spectators thanks to a \$1 million gift toward a new Events Center from the Gallogly family, of which eight members have earned UCCS degrees. **Health and Wellness** at the Anschutz Medical Campus, where medical students directed toward primary care careers in underserved Colorado communities will receive scholarships thanks to a \$1.6 million estate gift from former CU School of Medicine researcher and CU-Boulder alumna Jean Baughman.

"I've been humbled by all the support for programs on all four campuses, and the fact that we've had such tremendous response from donors," said J. Wayne Hutchens, president and CEO of the University of Colorado Foundation. "The impressive support for CU shows that citizens are more motivated than ever to strengthen Colorado's flagship public university system."

During the upcoming year, the CU Foundation will redouble its fundraising efforts to support deserving students, help graduates meet tomorrow's challenges, and provide programs and services that meet community and industry needs. Priority areas include:

**Scholarships, fellowships, and faculty chairs** on all CU campuses **Boulder:** The Systems Biotechnology Building, an interdisciplinary Energy Initiative, and the Center for Community to open in fall 2010 **Anschutz Medical Campus:** A Health and Wellness Center, Cancer Center programs, and a Rural Health Initiative **Denver:** A building for the Business School, and funding for an eight-year bachelor's/M.D. program aimed at preparing Colorado students for primary-care physician careers **Colorado Springs:** Science Building upgrades, and the Heller Center for Arts and Humanities

The CU Foundation's Long Term Investment Pool (LTIP), which includes the vast majority of foundation endowments invested on behalf of CU, recovered substantially this past year as the market's economic shocks continued to moderate, and surpassed its benchmarks for the sixth consecutive fiscal year. As of June 30, the LTIP had appreciated 12.08 percent for the trailing 12 months. Structured to minimize risk and maximize long-term returns, the LTIP has appreciated 30.1 percent for the trailing five years, compared with 3.4 percent for its policy benchmark and a 3.9 percent decline for the S&P 500 during that period. The foundation's performance rates in the top 2 percent of its peer group over that period.

[CU. NREL name new director of joint energy institute](#)[17]

Knotek

The University of Colorado at Boulder and the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory ([NREL](#)[19]) in Golden has named **Michael L. Knotek**, Ph.D., as director of the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute ([RASEI](#)[20]).

Knotek brings more than 35 years of experience to RASEI, a joint institute between CU-Boulder and NREL. Since 2001 he has served as a consultant specializing in transitions and creating new research directions in agency and institutional programs, projects and major research facilities. He also has been involved in strategic planning and project management for multidisciplinary and multi-institutional programs and facilities, including DOE biological programs, high-performance computing, national facilities such as synchrotrons, environmental research and many aspects of energy science and technology.

Knotek, one of the nation's most experienced leaders in multidisciplinary energy research, will focus on renewable energy research within RASEI, one of the world's leading university and federal laboratory partnerships.

"The appointment of Dr. Knotek continues our tradition of attracting the highest quality leadership, and will foster new opportunities for Colorado's scientific and private sector communities to collaborate on new energy solutions," said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano.

Knotek will have overall responsibility for management of RASEI's CU-Boulder and NREL research fellows and private-sector Leadership Council.

"The breadth and depth of experience and knowledge that Dr. Knotek brings to RASEI is exactly the kind of leadership we need to help shape the nation's energy future," said NREL Director Dan Arvizu.

Knotek previously served as senior science and technology adviser to the U.S. Secretary of Energy; the distinguished science executive at Argonne National Laboratory in Argonne, Ill.; chief technology officer with the Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio; and chairman of the National Synchrotron Light Source research facility at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, N.Y.

He also served as associate laboratory director for environmental and energy sciences at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Wash., and as special assistant to the director at Lockheed Martin Energy Research Corp. in Oak Ridge, Tenn. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Physical Society.

#### [Former legal research associate to serve as assistant counsel](#)[21]

**Michelle Krech** recently was appointed to serve as assistant counsel at the Boulder campus Office of University Counsel.

Krech joined the university in 2008 as a legal research associate. She graduated summa cum laude from the Honors College at Arizona State University, receiving a bachelor's degree in anthropology and the Alumni Award. She went on to earn her juris doctorate from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at ASU. Before joining the Office of University Counsel in April 2008, she practiced law with emphasis on corporate, real estate and business transactions for three years with a private law firm in Arvada.

#### [Educational services board has new executive director](#)[22]

Howard

**Hi Howard**, former program officer at the Piton Foundation, assumed his role July 12 as executive director of the Front Range Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

The announcement of his appointment was made jointly by the School of Education and Human Development at the University of Colorado Denver and members of BOCES.

The Front Range BOCES historically has pooled and leveraged member school districts' resources to provide cost-effective professional development to teachers and school leaders. BOCES will continue to focus the content of its services on professional development as it moves forward; how, when and where that content is delivered, however, will shift significantly.



"The opportunity to help the BOCES board to re-invent this organization into a 21st century learning institution for member districts' teachers and to lead it in new directions that capitalize on innovations and partnerships in the professional development industry is truly exciting," Howard said. "I am looking forward to applying my business and nonprofit experiences in this arena. I also relish the opportunity to bring to bear for member districts the vast array of resources within UC Denver's School of Education and Human Development, which actively supports the BOCES' operations."

Howard has had a variety of careers in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors. His private industry experience was with Andersen Consulting and United Airlines; nonprofit work included stints at Shorebank Corp.'s community development subsidiary and the Piton Foundation. It was at Piton that he discovered his passion for the field of education – learning environments for teachers and low-income students in particular. Howard has served on the Denver Workforce Investment Board, boards of Goodwill Industries and Denver Employment Alliance and led various parent volunteer initiatives and committees within his sons' Denver public school.

### [School of Medicine professor honored in Switzerland](#)[24]

Schrier

**Robert W. Schrier**, M.D., professor of renal medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, was the honoree in June at the 50th Anniversary of the International Society of Nephrology in Geneva, Switzerland.

A previous president of the society, Schrier was instrumental in launching its fellowship program, which has trained more than 500 physicians from the developing world in kidney disease and hypertension. He also established a global fund for support of activities in developing countries. As the society's president, he initiated the Sister Renal Center program, which brought more than 100 kidney centers in the developing world together with kidney centers in the developed world for collaborative educational, clinical and research activities.

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### Links

[1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/units-within-office-president-coming-together-next-year-0>[2]  
<https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/theodorescu-dan-lab-450x233-web.jpg>[3]  
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