PBS working to resolve possible overcharges to UA Net members[1]

Payroll & Benefit Services (PBS) is working to resolve a programming error that may have resulted in some members of the UA Net health plan being overcharged for recent office visits.

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield recently notified PBS of a programming error between Anthem and the University of Colorado Hospital. Since July 1, some plan members might have been charged more than the $30 copay for a primary care visit, or more than the $40 copay for a specialist visit. Anthem has since corrected the error and is reprocessing all affected claims.

Plan members who believe they received a bill with the overcharge are asked to call Anthem at 1-800-735-6072 for an adjustment.

Plan members who already paid a health care provider for a suspected overcharge are asked to contact the University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) billing office on or after Sept. 1 at 1-800-298-8682 to arrange for reimbursement.

When contacting UCH, please have the following information available:
Patient name Date of service That you have received notice from Anthem that the service has been reprocessed That you are seeking reimbursement from the hospital on the payment you made as result of the incorrectly applied deductible The amount and the date you paid the hospital
Later this month, PBS will mail to the residences of all UA Net members summary information on the features and costs of the plan. For a full description of the UA Net plan, visit the PBS website[2]. A comprehensive UA Net plan benefits booklet[3] also is available for review.

In the meantime, if you would like to speak with a PBS benefits counselor about your particular situation, please call 303-735-6500, option 3.

COLTT kick-starts fall semester with latest in technology, education[4]

Joni Dunlap, School of Education and Human Development at UCD, presents at the COLTT conference.

As we gallop toward the return of students and the start of fall courses, the COLTT conference gave educators from near and far the tech ed tools they need to grow and improve their courses.

Earlier this month, more than 350 faculty, instructional designers, academic technologists, IT staff, instructors and graduate students converged at the ATLAS Building on the University of Colorado Boulder campus to explore and share the latest innovations in technology and education. Besides Colorado higher ed representatives, the 14th Colorado Learning and Teaching with Technology (COLTT) conference brought together attendees from both coasts representing the University of Pittsburgh, Roberts Wesleyan (Rochester), Kansas State University, California State University, California State University Channel Islands, the University of Calgary and the University of Wyoming.

“We had a competitive process for proposals that allowed us to offer a schedule packed with information-filled sessions that were well-attended,” said Jill Lester[6], COLTT conference coordinator at CU-Boulder.

The conference engaged participants in learning about teaching practices and technologies and challenged the way attendees think about both. Educators took part in presentations and hands-on workshops, networked and gathered effective practices to enhance the way they teach and learn in classrooms, online and in virtual environments.

Attendees agreed the conference made its mark.

Storm Gloor, College of Arts & Media at UCD, presents at COLTT 2011.

“The COLTT conference allows Colorado faculty to share educational technology research findings and exchange just-in-time best practices," said Diane Sieber, associate professor and director of the Herbst Program of Humanities in the College of Engineering and Applied Science at CU-Boulder. "I also got to see demos of three new educational apps that I had not explored; I will try at least one of them next week when my new first-year course begins.”

Said Ellen Stevens, director of the Center for Faculty Development at CU Denver, “It is always fun to talk with people who care deeply about their students' learning. This year, I was impressed with the sessions both in the quality of the presentations and the variety of topics. I came away with some great ideas to share with colleagues.”

Storm Gloor, assistant professor of music and entertainment industry studies at CU Denver, said attending COLTT was an invaluable experience. "Among other things, it was a great time to learn and work hands-on with the latest teaching technology just prior to the new semester. As a presenter, I was honored to have the opportunity to contribute what I've learned from utilizing technology to improve engagement in the teaching process.”
Popular presentations included:
Gaming Education: Things I Have Learned in My Online Course So Far; Leveraging Game Psychology for Better Learning; Friends and Twits: Social Media and Education; Introduction to Digital Graphics; Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3 and Photoshop CS 5; Quick and Easy Videos: Producing and Uploading Video Content.
Led by JJ Cohen and Helen Macfarlane from Anschutz Medical Campus, the ever-popular Café Pédagogique concluded the first day of the conference with lively discussion on teaching and learning. During the event people came together for food and refreshments to hear three informal presentations on educational topics, each led by someone with strong feeling for the subject. This year’s speakers included CU Denver's Gloor, CU-Boulder's Jacie Moriyama and the University of Denver's Joseph Labreque.
Gloor floated the idea that technophobe professors should be dragged into the 21st century. The audience, most of whom already had dragged themselves, agreed. Moriyama discussed whether academic technology was a necessity or a distraction in the classroom; "both" was the consensus. Labreque , an ur-techie, asked, “Does your institution need a mobile app for that? Probably not.”
Each talk, which was limited by the rules to five minutes, was followed by about 20 minutes of questions and answers and general discussion. The Café Ped, the first of its kind and based on the Café Sci, was initiated for the COLTT conference in 2008 and has been held each year during the conference in Boulder. Last year, Macfarlane and Cohen started a monthly Café Ped at the Anschutz Medical Campus, which has been popular with staff, students and faculty (http://medschool.ucdenver.edu/cafeped[8]).

Williams Village North showcases sustainable design[9]

Williams Village North (Photo by Patrick Campbell/University of Colorado)

The University of Colorado Boulder’s newest residence hall, Williams Village North, this week is welcoming students, many of whom will be learning about the building’s sustainable design through two new Residential Academic Programs (RAPs), housed in the residence hall.

The RAPs, “Sustainable by Design” and “Social Entrepreneurship for Equitable Development and Sustainability (SEEDS),” will allow students to use the building as a living and learning laboratory.

CU-Boulder now has 12 campus RAPs that allow students to live and learn together in the same residence hall with other students who have shared interests. The RAP programs are designed to introduce students to faculty and to allow them to take selected courses and to participate in educational and social events – all within their residence hall.

“One of our main objectives with the SEEDS RAP is to bring students from different academic backgrounds together and have them work together to learn about sustainability,” said Professor Susan Clarke, faculty director of the SEEDS

RAP. “Figuring out how to solve problems coming from different disciplines is what we want the students to take from this program.”

Professor Joann Silverstein of the College of Engineering and Applied Science is the faculty director of the Sustainable by Design RAP.

As an introduction, students from both new RAPs are required to take the course “Social Innovation and Design for Sustainable Communities,” which highlights the multidisciplinary aspect of the programs. Architecture Assistant Professor Matthew Jelacic will serve as the faculty in residence for both of the RAPs, and he will be one of the professors team-teaching the course.

The course is centered on the concepts of design, innovation and sustainability, and uses the concept of design to bridge engineering and social science domains, Jelacic said.

“My hope for this course is that it helps prepare students to work on solving the complex local-to-global problems faced in the world today such as environmental pollution, sustainable resources, energy scarcity, hunger and socio-economic disparities,” he said.

The RAPs also will have an annual theme; this year the focus is food.

“The issue of sustainability is not a straightforward concept,” Clarke said. “Sustainable food production is a very difficult problem to solve, but it is also something that students can relate to and learn about with a hands-on approach.”

Throughout the school year, local chefs, farmers and others involved in sustainable food production will visit Williams Village North to share their experiences with the students. And because the new residence hall has a kitchen stocked with energy-efficient appliances, students also will get to sample some recipes made from locally produced food.

“Having vibrant sustainability entrepreneurs in Boulder is a real bonus to our program because it shows our students the value in what they are learning,” Clarke said. “There are numerous opportunities available to graduates who can apply sustainability to real-world problems like food production.”

Built to a high Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, standard, the Williams Village North building has numerous sustainability features. Besides the usual sustainable items such as efficient lighting and water fixtures and appliances, the facility also includes energy-efficient lighting with windows that maximize daylight use, occupancy sensor lighting, and advanced heating and cooling systems with automatic controls and native landscaping.

Also, more than 50 percent of all of the construction waste was diverted from the landfill. The building also is on track to be the first LEED Platinum building on campus.

“Compared to a building of the same size that wasn’t constructed with these sustainability features, Williams Village North is expected to use about 39 percent less energy,” said Heidi Roge, building project manager from CU-Boulder’s Housing and Dining Services department. “This translates into more than $220,000 in annual utility savings.”

The $46.5 million residence hall includes 131,246 gross square feet, 500 beds, five classrooms, a faculty apartment, a residence hall director apartment, a great room/lobby and study spaces on each floor. Construction on the residence hall began in January 2010.

The total cost of the residence hall has been financed through bonds taken out by the campus Housing and Dining Services department. The bonds will be repaid through revenue generated by the 500 additional beds.

Additional building features include:
Solar-heated water On-site solar photovoltaic renewable energy on the carport at Bear Creek Apartments Covered bike parking Phantom load switches Light emitting diode, or LED, lighting Building materials and construction maximized by the use of regional, high recycle content and low Volatile Organic Compound, or VOC, materials Storm

water diverters for roof drainage to provide irrigation to landscaping Energy Star appliances

Accessing Higher Ground webinar to take on improving digital access on campuses[11]

A Google or Yahoo search on “campus accessibility policy” reveals that the number of campuses implementing (or at least posting) a systemwide access policy for Web pages and digital media seems to be rapidly growing. Is this an effective way to improve accessibility at a university or college? Are there other strategies for increasing the accessibility of a campus’ electronic resources?

The Aug. 25 webinar “Strategies and Case Studies for Improving Digital Access on the College and University Campus” will attempt to answer these questions.

Highlighted speakers include Jon Gunderson, whose accessibility survey of university websites was published in the December issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education. He will talk about the strategies undertaken to encourage and ensure accessibility by universities that ranked in the top tier for Web accessibility. He also will discuss what his own university – the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – does to address the issue of digital access. Susan Cullen will talk in a similar vein about her campus, California State University at Northridge, which rated second out of 183 in Gunderson’s survey.

John Whiting of WebAIM will talk about the organization’s ongoing grant-funded project to help institutions in systemwide web accessibility efforts, addressing such issues as:
Gaining top-level support for institutional web accessibility. Creating a campuswide accessibility committee. Benchmarking institutional web accessibility with an eye toward continuous improvement. Gaining buy-in from faculty and staff. Understanding how web accessibility may tie into regional accreditation.
Teresa Haven from Arizona State University will discuss recent statements by the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Justice regarding technology accessibility compliance and how to work with institutions to enact necessary changes. Haven also will discuss recent legal updates, ideas for building alliances, and strategies for engaging key stakeholders in dialogue.

Other topics covered in the webcast will include: building collaboration on campus, selling accessibility to resistant faculty, and best practices for digital access.

The webinar, from 10 a.m. to 1:35 p.m., is split into three segments. Cost of the event is $150 for an individual watching via computer, or $390 for group viewing. CU campuses receive a 10 percent discount.

For more information, contact Howard Kramer at ahg@colorado.edu[12] or 303-492-8672. Online registration is available at http://www.cvent.com/d/1cq7gw/4W[13]

Anseth to lecture on ‘The Body Shop’[14]

Kristi Anseth

Kristi Anseth, distinguished professor of chemical and biological engineering and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, will present “The Body Shop,” a lecture on her work in engineering tissues to improve medical treatments, at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 24 at Math Building 100, University of Colorado Boulder.

Anseth was awarded the Distinguished Research Lectureship for 2011, the highest honor the faculty of CU-Boulder

can bestow upon a fellow faculty member.

The lecture is open to the general public, especially middle- and high-school students who are interested in science. Anseth will showcase the broad range of her work, from helping broken bones heal faster to replacing diseased heart valves.

“Kristi always gives clear, compelling and captivating lectures, and she is highly skilled at tailoring her talk to the level of the audience,” said colleague Professor Thomas R. Cech.

Anseth is one of the youngest recipients of the award. An alumna of CU-Boulder, she received her Ph.D. in chemical engineering in 1994.

Anseth’s research group has published more than 190 publications in peer-reviewed journals and presented more than 170 invited lectures in the fields of biomaterials and tissue engineering. She has received numerous national awards for her research activities, and was the first engineer to be named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator. She received the Alan T. Waterman Award, the highest award of the National Science Foundation for demonstrated exceptional individual achievement in scientific or engineering research. Most recently, she was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine.

Anseth also is a dedicated teacher who has received four university awards related to her teaching, as well as the American Society for Engineering Education’s Curtis W. McGraw Award. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. She serves on the editorial boards or as associate editor of Biomacromolecules, Journal of Biomedical Materials Research — Part A, Acta Biomaterialia and Biotechnology & Bioengineering.

Magazine features professor's water-splitting ‘triple play’[16]

Weimer

University of Colorado Boulder Professor **Al Weimer’s** unique method of producing hydrogen fuel using sunlight was highlighted in the July issue of Chemical Engineering Progress.

A May report commissioned by the U.S. Department of Energy concluded that Weimer’s approach, which involves mirrors that concentrate the sun’s rays and splits water into its gaseous components (hydrogen and oxygen), is projected to meet future cost targets set by the federal agency.

The process, which is being developed by Weimer’s research team in the chemical and biological engineering department, does not result in greenhouse gas emissions and is more cost effective than competing technologies because the water-splitting reactions occur at lower temperatures and are faster, said Weimer. Also, less energy and fewer active materials are required, resulting in lower costs.

Currently, the lowest-cost method for producing hydrogen is the steam-methane reforming of natural gas, primarily methane. In this process, significant amounts of carbon dioxide – a powerful greenhouse gas – are released into the atmosphere.

Weimer refers to his water-splitting method as a “triple play.” It not only uses renewable resources and produces sustainable hydrogen, but it also can purify brackish into potable water – a byproduct that he says could address water shortage issues in the future.

Weimer directs a research group of three postdoctoral research associates, 12 doctoral students and six undergraduates. He has the largest academic research group in the United States focused on solar thermochemical

processing.

University community roams with dinosaurs at Red Rocks[18]

University community roams with dinosaurs at Red Rocks

Lured by the promise of an evening with friends and big screen dinosaur action, hundreds of university faculty, staff, students and alumni helped sell out CU Film on the Rocks on Aug. 8.

On a perfect Colorado night, the crowd cheered Marc Broussard as he performed songs from his albums including “Lucky” and “Yes Man.” Stand-up comic and CU Denver alumnus Matt Baca entertained with stories of his teaching career. Jerry Wartgow, chancellor for the University of Colorado Denver, received a warm welcome when he took the stage and asked the crowd, “Isn’t it great to be from Colorado?” He also took the opportunity to invite any prospective students in the crowd to visit the university.

But the star of the night was the feature film “Jurassic Park.” Todd Gibson, an alumnus of the Anschutz Medical Campus who teaches at the Denver campus, escorted his daughter Raeghan, 5, to the event. She solemnly assured anyone who asked that “there are still dinosaurs.” Jyndia Schiable, a physical therapy student at the Anschutz Medical Campus, remembered how much she “loved watching ‘Jurassic Park’ as a kid” and appeared to be no less excited seeing it again at 24.

The university crowd also enjoyed the venue and the chance to socialize with colleagues and friends. Casey Lindberg, who has his Ph.D. in psychology and now is studying architecture at the Denver campus, pronounced Red Rocks “awe-inspiring.” Ben Fordahl, a physical therapy student and student representative on the Physical Therapy Alumni Association board, took the opportunity to “chat up some potential students in the parking lot.”

Anyone who bought a ticket through the university website walked home with a free fleece blanket. At one point in the evening, the line to pick up the blankets stretched 25 yards. And although the night was warm and dry, those blankets helped handle the chills when the dinosaurs finally roared into Red Rocks at dusk.

In case you're interested in enjoying another night of movie fun, Film on the Rocks has extended the discount on tickets for University of Colorado Denver and Anschutz Medical Campus alumni for the final movie of the season, “Friday the 13th,” on Aug. 22. Begin the registration process online at **Film on the Rocks**[20]. Choose "General Admission" and the quantity of tickets desired. Enter "**2011CUredrocks**" as the redemption code in the "coupons" section of the checkout page. Enter the redemption code for each ticket being redeemed. For example, if you want four tickets in a single order, enter the redemption code four times separated by commas in the box. Enter your campus affiliation (Denver Campus, Anschutz Campus, or Dual Campus) in the "comments" box. Once complete you will receive a confirmation email with a PDF attachment for print-at-home tickets.

Business schools team to bring together alumni[21]

Molly Wendell

The first tri-campus business school alumni event will bring together University of Colorado graduates interested in making connections and ramping up their personal career plans.

The event – featuring guest speaker Molly Wendell, an executive networking expert – is set for 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 29, in the Lawrence Terrace Room, second floor, 1380 Lawrence St., Denver.

Wendell is owner of Executives Networks and author of “The New Job Search.” Her irreverent style and rule-breaking approach to executive networking will provide new ideas for moving to the next stage of your career.

The event is open to all business alumni from the three campuses and begins with networking from 5:30 p.m to 6:30 p.m., followed by Wendell’s presentation, then more networking and a book signing. Beer, wine and appetizers will be served.

The event is presented by the University of Colorado Colorado Springs College of Business Alumni Relations Office, University of Colorado Denver Business School Graduate Career Connections and University of Colorado Boulder Leeds Alumni Relations and Communications.

Alumni should RSVP online[23] by Aug. 23.

Thursday will be the new day to connect[24]

Beginning next week, the weekly publication of CU Connections will move from Wednesday afternoon to Thursday morning.

We will continue to post news updates in between issues as events warrant, and a weekly email reminder still will be sent to faculty and staff on all campuses. Notification now will be sent on Thursday mornings, when each new issue is available.

Story ideas and submissions are welcome from current and retired CU faculty and staff. News items must be submitted no later than noon Friday prior to Thursday publication. Inclusion of links to relevant Web pages is encouraged.

Formerly the Faculty and Staff Newsletter, CU Connections became the publication’s new name in July. The name was chosen with the input of the systemwide Faculty Council and Staff Council.

CU Connections recently was redesigned to provide a cleaner look and to enable commenting on individual stories. Readers are invited to take advantage of the opportunity to engage in discussion about individual items – simply sign up today to register with our site. We ask those who post comments to provide their names and contact information so that we may verify authenticity, but only names will be posted to the site with comments.

We’ll also continue to publish letters to the editor – including any thoughts and comments you have on this redesign. Material should be emailed to the editor of Connections: Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[25]

Thanks for connecting with us.

Reminders and appointment scheduling changes from the International Tax Office[26]

Online appointment scheduling: Effective immediately, appointments to meet with our international tax specialists should be made online via our new appointment scheduling system[27]. Employees will select their campus of employment and identify the reason they require an appointment. They will then be able to select a date and time that is convenient.

Please help get the word out and provide all of your international employees with the website address of our system. Employees also may link to this system from the PBS and International Tax Office homepages, after Sept. 1.

New international employees: All new international employees of the University of Colorado, including students, scholars and researchers, are required to consult with an international tax specialist to determine and document tax residency status and to fill out related paperwork. When possible, it is ideal for this consultation to occur prior to receipt of the first paycheck. Employees should be prepared to review their entire history of presence in the U.S., including dates in and out of the U.S. and corresponding immigration statuses. **A Social Security number is not required to schedule an initial appointment with an international tax specialist.**

International tax specialist campus contact information:

CU-Boulder and UCCS:
Alicia Dandeneau, alicia.dandeneau@cu.edu[28], 303-735-0816 Kendra Zafiratos, kendra.aafiratos@cu.edu[29], 303-735-5534
CU Denver:
Bernadette Mirelez, bernadette.mirelez@CU.edu[30], Anschutz: 303-724-0145, Denver: 303-315-2005

Vendorpalooza: Supplier Showcase series returns next month[31]

The sixth annual Supplier Showcase series on the University of Colorado campuses is set for September. The events provide faculty and staff opportunities to meet existing suppliers and discover goods and services from potential new vendors.

The showcase schedule is:
University of Colorado Boulder: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, University Memorial Center, Glenn Miller Ballroom University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus: 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, RC2, Conference Room University of Colorado Colorado Springs: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, University Center, Berger Hall
Procurement Service Center (PSC) staff will be available to answer questions about fiscal procedures, travel rules and the new CU Marketplace[32]. Representatives from various campus departments also will be available to discuss a variety of topics, including sustainability and ethics.

Showcase sponsors Staples, Dell and Xerox, along with their supply partners, will be featured at each location. Also, representatives from Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) and Christopherson Business Travel will attend. CCI is a division of the Colorado Department of Corrections that sells furniture and other items manufactured by Colorado prison inmates.

“This year’s showcases are off to a tremendous start: We have changed the event hours slightly to better serve our attendees,” said Penny Davis, PSC small business liaison officer. “Showcase exhibitors will include suppliers from the hospitality and scientific industries, as well as other vendors offering an array of goods and services. We invite all faculty and staff, regardless of their home campus, to join us at any or all of the showcases.”

Complete information and registration form can be found at www.cu.edu/psc[33], or contact Penny Davis, penny.davis@cu.edu[34] or 303-764-3445.

Leave from hospital will enable work on warfare injuries[35]

Kelly

James Kelly, M.D., is on a leave of absence from the clinics of University of Colorado Hospital on the Anschutz

Medical Campus and is now in Bethesda, Md., where he will help lead the fight against the signature injuries of modern American warfare.

Kelly is director of the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) at the National Naval Medical Center, which works to diagnose and treat soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with traumatic brain injury and associated disorders, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

“There’s essentially nothing equivalent to it in the country at any of the academic centers,” said Kelly, who was a professor of Neurosurgery and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the School of Medicine. He’s a top concussion expert, a former neurologist for the NFL’s Chicago Bears and co-author of the sports concussion guidelines of the American Academy of Neurology.

He was asked to lead the nascent NICoE in 2008, just after becoming the first chairman of the Defense Health Board’s Traumatic Brain Injury External Advisory Subcommittee for Military Clinical Care, Research and Education.

The patients who began arriving at the center from the front lines eight months ago face much steeper challenges than dinged linebackers do, though.

“It’s not just TBI (traumatic brain injury). These people come back with a combination of concussion and stress reaction, sleep disturbance, substance abuse and chronic pain,” Kelly said. “They’re coming back with problems we’ve never even seen before.”

Athletes with concussions don’t suffer from PTSD or emotional trauma, Kelly said. They usually just want to get back on the field. “It’s completely different when you’re blasted into a building and your buddy’s blown to pieces,” he said.

A 2008 Rand Corporation Study, “Invisible Wounds of War,” estimated that, of the 1.64 million service members deployed in Iraq or Afghanistan through October 2007, roughly 320,000 had suffered a TBI, and 300,000 were suffering from PTSD. Treating TBI alone was costing the military between $600 and $900 million a year, the study estimated.

Study: Common class of drugs reduces severity of postpartum breast cancers[37]

Pepper Schedin and Virginia Borges

A new study reports that nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs including ibuprofen reduce the severity of postpartum breast cancers in animal models. The information recently was published in the journal Nature Medicine.

“We caution patients and providers that because a mother’s body is undergoing radical changes during this time, we can’t yet speak to the safety of these drugs for women diagnosed with or at risk for postpartum breast cancer, and thus can’t yet recommend NSAIDs as a preventative therapy or cancer treatment,” says Pepper Schedin, Ph.D., investigator at the University of Colorado Cancer Center and professor in the division of medical oncology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, who teamed up on the study with Virginia Borges, M.D., an expert in young women’s breast cancer who is also at the Cancer Center. First authors of the paper are University of Colorado trainees, Traci Lyons, Ph.D., and Jenean O’Brien, Ph.D.

The story starts with breast involution – the process by which milk-producing cells that are no longer needed are killed and replaced with fat cells. During this time of change, the breast is especially susceptible to the development of cancer. Recent studies show that women who have children before age 30 increase their risk of pre-menopausal breast cancer by 10 percent; women who wait to have children until after age 35 increase their risk by 30 percent. Not only is breast cancer more prevalent in young mothers than women who have not had a child, but cancers diagnosed in the early years postpartum tend to be more aggressive, with increased risk of spreading to other organs. For

example, one study reported that women diagnosed with cancer within two years of giving birth had a 40 percent five-year survival rate, as opposed to a 70 percent five-year survival rate for women diagnosed outside the postpartum window.

What this University of Colorado research team discovered is that breast involution shares similarities with wounds, and wounds can cause cells to become cancerous in addition to promoting metastasis of otherwise localized tumor cells. Two wound-like changes that occur in the postpartum breast are an increase in fibrous collagen (the protein that gives flesh structure) and increase of an enzyme called COX-2.

Besides causing inflammation and pain, COX-2 aids the formation of fibrous collagen, which in the process of wound healing serves as a highway along which healthy skin cells travel in order to close the wound. However, this collagen also forms a rich architecture for the growth and spread of cancers. In short, breast involution leads to COX-2, which leads to fibrous collagen, which promotes the release of more COX-2, and this positive feedback loop can help a tumor grow and push into other tissues.

It's a vicious chain, but one with a weak link: Many drugs exist that inhibit COX-2. These include the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen or celecoxib, which is a more targeted COX-2 inhibitor used in other inflammatory diseases like arthritis.

"Inhibition of COX-2 slows the formation of fibrillar collagen and thus both tumor growth and the tumor's travel into the lung," wrote Schedin and collaborators. Schedin and the research team found that in postpartum mice, ibuprofen and celecoxib treatment reduced mammary tumor size, collagen architecture, COX-2 expression and breast tumor cell spreading into the lung.

However, recommending ibuprofen for women undergoing breast involution is premature. Schedin and Borges point out that early studies of vitamin A in lung cancer and vitamin E in prostate cancer at first found the vitamins to be cancer-fighting but eventually showed them to be cancer-promoting.

"It becomes a numbers game," says Borges, "with the benefit of the drug weighed against its dangers. It seems as if the safety of these drugs is self-evident, but it's only because we don't fully understand the effects of NSAIDs during this unique period of a woman's life, when her body is undergoing dramatic changes. So it becomes very important to study the effects of NSAID treatment in this particular group of women before we can make any prevention recommendations."

This is about the fifth step down an extremely promising path toward identifying a simple, inexpensive, effective treatment of postpartum breast cancers. But there are many steps still to go.

Dropping names … [39]

Qualls

Krizek

Goldstein

Sara Qualls, the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Kraemer Family Professor of Aging, presented "What Gets Aging Families in Trouble? Structures and Processes" as a plenary address at the American Psychological Association's 119th annual convention Aug. 5 in Washington, D.C. … **Kevin Krizek**, associate professor at the University of Colorado Denver's College of Architecture and Planning, and co-director of the Active Communities /

Transportation (ACT) Research Group and director of the Ph.D. Program in Design and Planning, chaired and co-organized the inaugural meeting of the World Symposium on Transport and Land Use Research on July 28-30 in Whistler, British Columbia. During the event, the World Society for Transport and Land Use Research was founded; Krizek was appointed to serve as chair of the elections committee for the society. **Wes Marshall**, assistant professor, College of Engineering, and **Eric Stonebraker**, CAP Ph.D. student in design and planning, also participated in the conference. … CU-Denver College of Architecture and Planning Professor **Peter Schneider** and Associate Professor **KatVlahos** are featured in the September annual all-teachings issue of Shambhala Sun, a Buddhist magazine. Barry Boyce's column "Building harmony" describes how Schneider and Vlahos seek to instill in their students an aesthetic of simplicity, quiet and harmony. … School of Medicine Pediatrics Professor **M. Douglas Jones**, M.D., has been appointed to the Denver Health and Hospital Authority Board of Directors. Jones is a senior associate dean for clinical affairs. … **Bruce Goldstein**, associate professor of planning and design at the University of Colorado Denver, spoke at the World Planning Schools Congress in Perth, Australia, July 4-8. His talk was titled "How Do Networks Learn? A Comparison of Conservation Learning Networks Around the World, With Implications For Network Design and Operation." While down under, Goldstein conducted fieldwork on the Australian Landcare network, gave a research seminar on learning networks for the Department of Resource Management and Geography, University of Melbourne, and on July 12-14 attended Four Degrees or More: Australia in a Hot World, a conference exploring the unintended consequences of current domestic and international climate policies, and the social, economic and ecological implications of catastrophic global warming for Australia and its region.

Faculty, staff can test-drive new fitness equipment for free[43]

UCCS Recreation Center

Brand new equipment and access to facilities at no cost might be the push some people need to start their own fitness programs.

At least that's what UCCS Recreation Center administrators are hoping. Matt Gaden, director, invited faculty and staff to take advantage of the center at no charge before the fall semester begins. Tim Stoecklein, associate director, says those who come will see new equipment.

"We've recently added several brand new pieces of equipment to our collection of exercise machines upstairs," Stoecklin said. "There are seven new treadmills, seven new low-impact elliptical machines and three upright stationary bikes. There's no better time than now to check them out.

"Fall classes start Aug. 22, and new students will literally fill the center as they explore new surroundings and what's available for their use. The crush will ease up once they get into their studies and set up their routines, but right now very little is happening. It's the best time for members of the faculty and staff to take advantage of what's right here on campus, and even bring their families."

"Shoot some hoops, swim some laps, or try out some of our new cardiovascular equipment," Gaden said.

"We all know we need exercise, but we have to make time and create opportunities to do it," Stoecklein said. "Everyone has schedules and priorities that can seem more important. That's understandable. But we just want to remind them that having the rec center on campus makes it easier for them to fit exercise into their busy schedules."

The free access window opened Aug. 10.

"Summer Rec Center hours are also a factor and the 22nd will be on top of us before you know it," Stoecklein said.

UCCS identification is required.

More information about programs and activities is available at www.uccs.edu/campusrec[45] or by contacting Gaden at mgaden@uccs.edu[46].

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/pbs-working-resolve-possible-overcharges-ua-net-members[2] https://www.cu.edu/pbs/benefits/[3] https://www.cu.edu/pbs/benefits/plans/documents/UANet-BenefitsBooklet.pdf[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/coltt-kick-starts-fall-semester-latest-technology-education[5] https://connections.cu.edu/news/coltt-kick-starts-fall-semester-with-latest-in-technology-education/coltt1[6] mailto:jill.lester@colorado.edu[7] https://connections.cu.edu/news/coltt-kick-starts-fall-semester-with-latest-in-technology-education/coltt2[8] http://medschool.ucdenver.edu/cafeped[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/williams-village-north-showcases-sustainable-design[10] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/williams-village-north-showcases-sustainable-design/ucb_willvillno[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/accessing-higher-ground-webinar-take-improving-digital-access-campuses[12] mailto:ahg@colorado.edu[13] http://www.cvent.com/d/1cq7gw/4W[14] https://connections.cu.edu/people/anseth-lecture-%E2%80%98-body-shop%E2%80%99[15] https://connections.cu.edu/people/anseth-to-lecture-on-%E2%80%98the-body-shop%E2%80%99/people_anseth-2[16] https://connections.cu.edu/people/magazine-features-professors-water-splitting-%E2%80%98triple-play%E2%80%99[17] https://connections.cu.edu/people/professor-writes-of-water-splitting-%E2%80%98triple-play%E2%80%99/al-weimer[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/university-community-roams-dinosaurs-red-rocks[19] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/university-community-roams-with-dinosaurs-at-red-rocks/ucd_redrocks[20] http://denverfilm.thundertix.com/events[21] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/business-schools-team-bring-together-alumni[22] https://connections.cu.edu/news/business-schools-team-to-bring-together-alumni/business_wendell[23] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/business/News/RSVP/3/Pages/form.aspx[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/thursday-will-be-new-day-connect[25] mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/reminders-and-appointment-scheduling-changes-international-tax-office[27] https://www.securedata-trans7.com/ap/universityofcolorado1/index.php?page=10[28] mailto:Alicia.Dandeneau@CU.edu[29] mailto:Kendra.Zafiratos@CU.edu[30] mailto:Bernadette.Mirelez@CU.edu[31] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/vendorpalooza-supplier-showcase-series-returns-next-month[32] https://connections.cu.edu/../news/cu-marketplace-to-boost-efficiency-of-purchasing[33] https://www.cusys.edu/psc/[34] mailto:penny.davis@cu.edu[35] https://connections.cu.edu/people/leave-hospital-will-enable-work-warfare-injuries[36] https://connections.cu.edu/people/leave-from-hospital-will-enable-work-on-warfare-injuries/people_kelly[37] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/study-common-class-drugs-reduces-severity-postpartum-breast-cancers[38] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/study-common-class-of-drugs-reduces-severity-of-postpartum-breast-cancers/amc_schedin-borges[39] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-113[40] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-%E2%80%A6-3/people_quals[41] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-%E2%80%A6-3/people_krizek[42] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-%E2%80%A6-3/people_goldstein[43] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-staff-can-test-drive-new-fitness-equipment-free[44] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/faculty-staff-can-test-drive-new-fitness-equipment-for-free/uccs_rec-ctr[45] http://www.uccs.edu/campusrec[46] mailto:mgaden@uccs.edu