What are lectures for?[1]

Photo: Rick Thompson
John Cohen
Photo: Rick ThompsonJohn Cohen

Lecturing is a big part of what J. John Cohen, M.D.C.M., Ph.D., does at the University of Colorado School of Medicine's department of immunology. But after watching some video footage of his own classes, he asked himself: What are lectures for?

"For years I've taught an online course in immunology for pharmacy students," Cohen said, noting that students received complete sets of notes and access to videos of lectures. "When I watched those videos, it was striking how excruciatingly boring an hour of video lecture is. ... Only occasionally was I saying something that went beyond or deeper than the notes."

Cohen made his remarks as a featured speaker at last week's COLTT – Colorado Learning and Teaching With Technology – Conference at CU-Boulder. In its 13th year, the two-day conference enjoyed record turnout of 373 education and technology professionals from throughout the region. Seminars and workshops provided educators with hands-on experience – using Apple's Garage Band to produce podcasts, brainstorming how to engage students with such free Web tools as Poll Everywhere and Twitter – but also examined the nature of teaching and learning, which was Cohen's focus.

"I'm going to suggest it's nearly impossible to learn anything from a lecture," Cohen said. After deciding his video lectures weren't effective, he replaced them with abbreviated audio lectures. "So far, no class has needed more than 12 minutes of audio lecture to replace a full video lecture."While listening to a lecture is considered a passive activity, Cohen said students actually are juggling far too many activities – listening to what's being said, reading PowerPoint text, watching the lecturer, referring to notes or illustrations on laptop computers, comparing what's being said to what's in the notes. Those competing tasks are followed by processing – moving thoughts through the working memory, extracting information from PowerPoint images and more.

"It's a lot of stuff to be doing in a supposedly passive learning atmosphere," Cohen said.

Still, he knows that lectures aren't going away. And that's not what he's calling for, either.

"My point is that the lecture is not the place for learning new material, because too much is going on," he said. "Lecture is the place for understanding material (that's already been learned)."

[3]
The keys for students getting the most out of a lecture include having read their notes or book chapter(s) at least one day before the class, as well as quizzing themselves based on the learning objectives. Also critical: a full night's sleep, or at least a nap, in between study time and the classroom. "That's where the consolidation happens," Cohen said.

He also praised a sometimes derided concept: testing.

"Testing is better than studying for retaining material," he said. "Learn it, test yourself, repeat. Testing helps recall. Testing helps learning."

First day of classes on all campuses marks latest step for student info system[4]

A new information system that integrates essential student services on a single electronic platform will undergo a major

test Monday, Aug. 23, when thousands of returning and new students begin the fall semester on all four University of Colorado campuses.

The Integrated Student Information System, or ISIS, will track student information over the course of students' education at CU, making it easier for them to enroll each year, register for classes, pay for tuition and housing and access class schedules. ISIS also will enable faculty to access class rosters and teaching schedules, and will make it easier for staff to access pertinent information to counsel students or process paperwork.

Lee Ann Baronett, ISIS training and communications manager, said the idea is to offer a one-stop system for all of a student's needs over the lifecycle of their academic careers at CU. Next week, the system faces a heavy load test the first few days of classes, but ISIS administrators have run more than two dozen tests and results indicate the system can handle the load.

"It is possible we could experience processing slowdowns – or in a worst-case scenario, a system outage – but we're working with campus liaisons to handle any problems as they arise," she said. "Any time a new computer system is deployed – particularly of this size and scale – a few bumps are expected. But most of our students have used the system successfully so far."

To help offset the expected increased load on the system, the university has e-mailed copies of class schedules to students so they need not log on the system at the same time.

Baronett said more than 30,000 CU-Boulder students have registered successfully for the 2010 fall semester through ISIS; more than 17,000 have registered at UC Denver; and more than 8,500 have registered at UCCS. In total, some $89 million in financial aid has been disbursed successfully across all three campuses. Also, between July 15 and Aug. 15, some 13,000 students requested and processed degree audits successfully.

The university has been rolling out the new $44 million student information system over the past year, testing each phase and working out the bugs as necessary. ISIS replaces a 20-year-old, mainframe-based system that had become outdated, and whose technical features were no longer supported by the original vendor.

Kari Branjord, executive director of the ISIS project, said CU's approach to the implementation is unique in higher education.

"The level of effort and collaboration among the campuses and project team has been extraordinary," she said. "Getting the new system into place wouldn't have been possible without collaboration across the campuses. Since the beginning of the project, our project and campus teams have been working collaboratively towards the success of this project. We have seen over and over that we can do great things when we act as one team."

ISIS will automate many administrative processes over the Internet to create greater efficiencies and enable the university to serve its students better with a seamless system that can meet the needs of four unique campuses, said John Cooney, associate vice president for University Information Systems, or UIS, which is overseeing the ISIS implementation.

Cooney said the university knew it would have to replace its outdated student information system eventually, and accounted for the cost accordingly through the allocation of initiative funding based on interest earnings over time, and not through state funding or student fees.

"With a project of this size requiring several years of planning and implementation, hedging against an economic downturn was the sensible thing for the leadership of the university to do," he said. "As it turns out, we could not have sustained implementation through this recession otherwise."

Given the current economic climate, I'd say our decision to set aside funding for this mission-critical project was a sound one," he said.

Baronett said one of the most difficult aspects of implementing a new system is overcoming the learning curve that

accompanies the change.

"After using the same system for more than 20 years, we know it can be tough to make the shift to something that's new, but the change to ISIS will bring long-term benefits to the university and its students, faculty and staff," she said.

CU administrators encourage all CU faculty members to become familiar with the new system before the start of the fall semester by visiting the ISIS Faculty Center[5], which provides a single point of entry to view teaching schedules and class rosters, search for classes, browse course catalogs, and locate other faculty members. Step-by-step tutorials that walk faculty through the system, and information about other ISIS processes[6], also are available.

Later this fall, faculty will be able to use the Faculty Center to view grade rosters and to enter and post grades.

CU campuses, programs ranked in magazine's 2011 'Best Colleges' issue[7]

University of Colorado campuses and undergraduate programs remain well-regarded at the regional and national levels among public and private universities, according to the 2011 edition of U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges.

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs tied for seventh place among the top public universities in the West. The University of Colorado at Boulder ranked in 39th place among the top 50 "Best Public National Universities," and the University of Colorado Denver's downtown campus ranked 106 among the top national public universities. Other highlights include:
UCCS' undergraduate engineering program tied for seventh among universities whose highest degree is a bachelor's or master's. CU-Boulder's undergraduate engineering program came in at 18th among public universities whose highest degree is a doctorate. CU-Boulder's undergraduate business program came in at 22nd overall among public universities.
U.S. News & World Report rankings are based on its measures of academic peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving. According to the magazine's editors, "national universities" are the 262 U.S. universities (164 public and 98 private) that offer a wide range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral degrees.

The rankings are available at www.usnews.com/colleges[8]. Highlights of the magazine's annual rankings of more than 1,400 colleges will appear in the September issue, on newsstands Monday, Aug. 31. The magazine's 2011 Best Colleges guidebook will be available in bookstores and on newsstands Monday, Aug. 24.

Five Questions for Katja Friedrich[9]

[10]
May and June are a most perfect and tumultuous time of year for Katja Friedrich. That's when blue skies turn black, swirling clouds become furious funnels and Friedrich travels thousands of miles across the country in search of storm data.

Friedrich – professor in the department of atmospheric and ocean sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder since 2008 – is a storm chaser, hoping to find clues about the processes involved in cloud development, thunderstorms and precipitation in order to better predict precipitation amounts, flash floods and severe weather.

This spring, during the Verification of the Origins of Rotation and Tornado Experiment (or VORTEX2), she and other researchers deployed sophisticated equipment that measured data including the size of raindrops and how fast they fell.

While the job sounds dangerous, the researchers carefully analyze storms and "always have an exit route in our minds," Friedrich said. She and the others are not only responsible for the safety of students participating in the fieldwork, but also the million-dollar equipment.

This past January and February, Friedrich participated in an experiment – the inhibition of snowfall by pollution aerosols – which tried to quantify the impact of aerosols on winter precipitation across the Colorado mountains and the Colorado River basin.

Although technology has come a long way, the instruments used to research storms have limitations. Friedrich spends time developing more advanced instrumentation, including an upgrade of the mobile Doppler radar to better characterize the properties of precipitation.

— Cynthia Pasquale

1. You just returned from fieldwork chasing storms around the country. Explain how VORTEX2 works.

VORTEX2 was conducted between May 1 and June 15. Since we were studying tornadic thunderstorms, we had to travel with the severe weather, which means we drove about 13,000 miles covering the Great Plains (Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, the Dakotas). You can view a map of the hotel locations here:http://bit.ly/b8j6yV[11].

We were taking measurements almost every day in the project, covering about 24 events. Some of them were tornadic thunderstorms (six to eight events) while the rest were severe thunderstorms. It is important to study both supercells that form a tornado and those that do not in order to see the important processes and environmental structures of temperature, humidity and wind in tornadic versus nontornadic storms.

Usually the morning started out with a meeting of all the principal investigators giving status updates of instruments and determining the best chances to encounter severe weather for that day and for the following day. At the end of the meeting, we tried to find a consensus on what the targets of the day would be and set a meeting time and point. Then each team would get the instruments ready, gas up the car, check out of the hotel, get lunch, etc.

A team of three forecasters constantly monitored the weather. When we arrived at the target location, we re-evaluated our plans and continued to monitor storm development. Once we found a storm we thought had the potential to become a tornadic supercell, each team took a position and deployed instruments. The radars were on the southern side, ahead of the storm and moving with the storm. Surface instruments were deployed ahead of the storm on the southern side. The unmanned aerial vehicles flew in the area of radar coverage and the mobile mesonet (weather sensors on vehicles) took measurements of temperature, wind and humidity in the area close to where the tornado would form.

We would follow the storm and continue to take measurements until the storms died or we found a more interesting storm. At the end of the day's mission, we collected our instruments and drove back to a hotel that would be close to the area where we thought storms would develop the next day.

[12]

2. You also participated in last year's VORTEX2 fieldwork. What did you learn from that trip?

When you are out for six weeks, you collect a huge amount of data. Usually we spend several months going through the data, applying quality control algorithms and trying to find a handful of interesting cases. Last year was an unusually bad year for tornadoes: We only had three events with interesting tornado formation. So far, we have analyzed the rain size distribution measurements and found some interesting rapid changes in size and intensity of

rain. Using this year's data, we will try to verify the results from last year to find out if these rapid changes occur on a regular basis or if they are related to a special event.

3. You received your education in Germany. Why did you choose to come to Colorado to continue your research?

Boulder is a great place for atmospheric sciences, which I think is unique in the world. Most of the famous scientists in atmospheric science are affiliated with NCAR (National Center for Atmospheric Research) or NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). Although some of them live in different areas, most of them will stop by for the summer at NCAR. I very much like the atmosphere in Boulder and the opportunity of collaborations between the university and NCAR and NOAA.

I started studying physics for my undergraduate degree but wanted to do something more applied. At the University of Leipzig in Germany, the department of physics has a close collaboration with the department of meteorology, which I thought was an interesting area. At the time, meteorology or atmospheric science was not a popular area since it was a time when climate change, severe weather or even weather forecasting was not a popular topic in the media. I remember that there were a total of 10 students in the entire department. Later I moved to Munich to finish my Ph.D. and then I became interested in mountain meteorology. When you are out in the mountains, you discover so much more interesting phenomena that are caused by the mountains and that fascinated me. I also started to become a glider pilot spending many hours in the European Alps.

4. When you're not chasing storms, how do you spend your time?

Although I am a passionate scientist, I am always trying to live a balanced live. I love music and play the violin and the piano, and I love being outdoors. It's interesting that a lot of my research ideas were born during a hike in the mountains or while practicing boring scales at the piano. Although I loved to fly when I lived in Munich, I hardly find the time anymore. Right now I enjoy things that I can do with my family and friends like ski touring, downhill skiing, biking and hiking. While I used to be very ambitious – climbing a lot of mountains in the Alps and Mount Kenya in Africa and participating in bike races in the Alps – I have become more settled over the last few years and enjoy just being out with friends in nature.

5. What do you love most – and dislike most – about your work?

I like the diversity of education and research on a daily basis. I am teaching, supervising students, working on research topics, designing field campaigns, doing fieldwork and writing research grants. I am very passionate about my job and that is what I am trying to pass on to the new generation of students and also the general public. What I have learned is that as a professor, you also serve as a role model to a lot of students and you teach them not just science but also ethics and principles in research and even life.

I am a very positive person, so for me there is not such a thing as a "worst job." Every job has excitement but at various levels. I strongly dislike paperwork. And I am very impatient, especially when I have a new idea that I would like to move forward as quickly as possible – then I hate it if people stop me or slow me down.

Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[13]

Buffalo Bicycle Classic helps bright stars among students[14]

Shervin Rahimpour, while a biochem undergraduate at work on a laser table.

Shervin Rahimpour's family, members of the Baha'i faith, fled religious persecution in Iran when he was 5 years old. He and his sisters could not have pursued higher education in Iran. In the United States, the Rahimpours were free to learn. Though finances could be a "tremendous obstacle," he found help.

Rahimpour is one of the hundreds of recipients of $1.2 million in scholarship money raised by the University of Colorado's Buffalo Bicycle Classic.

"The BBC scholarship helped give me and my family the support I needed to pursue my education with an ease of mind," Rahimpour said. "As a result, I have been able to focus on my studies both during college and even now in (CU's) medical school."

The Buffalo Bicycle Classic, which debuted in 2003, is the brainchild of Todd Gleeson, dean of CU's College of Arts and Sciences, and Woody Eaton, a 1962 alumnus, investor and philanthropist. The pair hatched the idea of a fundraising ride for scholarships while cycling together in support of The Children's Hospital.

The event has generated 448 scholarships for good students who have demonstrated financial need. Students cannot apply for the scholarship and don't even know they're in the running until they learn they have won. It is the single largest source of scholarships in the College of Arts and Sciences, which is the largest of the university's colleges and schools.

Stephanie Protsman wears traditional Renaissance attire while in Italy with her host.

Recipients call it a significant windfall.

Stephanie Protsman, a 2009 alumna who graduated with degrees in communication and Italian, started dreaming about studying in Italy when she was in sixth grade. But in college, fiscal constraints made the dream seem more "elusive than attainable."

"Receiving the scholarship two years in a row provided the financial jumpstart I needed to make my Italian dream a reality," Protsman said. "I spent a year in Italy, where I not only became fluent in the language, but where I built the self-confidence to know I am capable of anything."

She is "forever grateful" for the support of her "life-changing" studies.

So is Marta Kostelny, a former College of Arts and Sciences student who graduated in 2007 with a marketing degree from CU's Leeds School of Business.

The scholarship was "a big help financially and really eased my mind about tuition, making it easier to focus on my studies," Kostelny said. "What I didn't expect was how the BBC opened my eyes to volunteering and how much fun it could be. I had an amazing time volunteering at the event and met a lot of great people, whom I stayed in contact with afterward."It was amazing to even be considered for the scholarship, and receiving it was an honor. I am proud to say that I was a part of the Buffalo Bicycle Classic."

Cyclists of all ages and abilities are gearing up for this year's Elevations Credit Union Buffalo Bicycle Classic, set for Sept. 12 in Boulder. Ambitious cyclists can participate in 100-mile, 70-mile, 50-mile or 35-mile rides. More casual riders, including families and recreational riders, are encouraged to ride the 14-mile Little Buffalo, which will include snow cones and complimentary face paintings.

Marta Kostelny, near Moab, Utah.

Early registration is recommended since participation will be capped at 2,500. The event's popularity is widely

recognized; Bicycling Magazine dubbed the BBC as Boulder's No. 1 "Cool Event" in the magazine's 2006 "best cycling cities" issue.

All cyclists participating in this fully supported, fundraising ride will generate scholarship funds. Online registration of $95 for the longer rides includes a scholarship donation of $45. Registration for the Little Buffalo is $65 for participants 14 and older and $35 for riders ages 8 to 14.

Those who "Ride the Buffalo" will start and finish in Boulder at the University of Colorado, Benson Field, across Colorado Boulevard from Folsom Field. The longer courses traverse through Boulder and Larimer counties. The 14-mile Little Buff is a fun cruiser ride around Boulder to the town of Marshall; it is perfect for those who want to participate but don't want to face long courses and busy roads.

The 35-mile course is a fun ride in Boulder County to St. Vrain Road, on to Hygiene, and back past the Boulder Reservoir; the 50-mile ride challenges riders north to a turnaround point near Berthoud and back; and the 70- mile and century ride for stronger cyclists winds past Carter Lake, with the century continuing up to a turnaround point on Buckhorn Road (near Horsetooth Reservoir) and back.

Registration for all rides includes a Ride the Buffalo T-shirt, water bottle, great aid station treats, breakfast and lunch. Jerseys, socks and other merchandise are available separately. An expo featuring sponsors will be at the start/finish where riders can win raffle prizes and enjoy after-race food, beverages and entertainment. Riders of all abilities – 8 years and older for the 14-mile ride; 12 and older for the longer lengths – are welcome to choose the length of ride that fits their capabilities.

Riders may register online by Sept. 7 at www.buffalobicycleclassic.com[18]. Walk-up registration is available the day of the ride and includes a $10 late fee. For information, call 303-735-1569 or e-mail bbc@colorado.edu[19].

Regents OK tenure for 10[20]

At its Aug. 11 meeting, the Board of Regents approved awards of tenure and appointments with tenure for 10 faculty members throughout the system:

University of Colorado at Boulder
Appointments with tenure, which took effect Monday, Aug. 16:
Angela Bryan, department of psychology **Vanja Dukic,** department of applied matehematics **Kent Hutchison,** department of psychology **Markus Raschke,** department of physics
University of Colorado Denver and Anschutz Medical Campus
Awards of tenure and appointments with tenure, which took effect Wednesday, Aug. 11:
Gary Fullerton, department of radiology **Kevin Masters,** department of psychology **Nanette Santoro,** department of obstetrics and gynecology **Holger Eltzschig,** department of anesthesiology **Ross Kedl,** department of immunology **Hari Koul,** department of surgery

Dining hall anchors new Center for Community[21]

Photo by Casey A. Cass/University of Colorado
The new Center for Community building at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Photo by Casey A. Cass/University of ColoradoThe new Center for Community building at the Universityof Colorado at Boulder.

The nearly completed Center for Community at the University of Colorado at Boulder is set to open for students this fall.

The center will be home base for 12 student support offices, including Career Services, Center for Multicultural Affairs, Counseling and Psychological Services, the Office of International Education and the Office of Victim Assistance. The student services offices will open by the end of October.

The building's anchor: a 900-seat, street-market-style dining hall offering freshly prepared food in nine specialty dining stations, including sushi, Italian, Brazilian and Persian dishes. The facility – which opened Tuesday, Aug. 17, when students began returning to CU residence halls – will serve nearly 4,000 meals daily and close to 1 million per year.

"While the Center for Community will be used by thousands of students every week for vital student services, it also is designed as a place where they can come together to eat and socialize in a comfortable setting that highlights a wealth of cultures," said Julie Wong, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Preparing and serving thousands of meals under one roof, while also providing a one-stop shop for student services, were driving factors in the building's design, according to Philip Simpson, assistant director of CU-Boulder's Facilities Planning office.

"By consolidating many food services at one site, instead of operating and maintaining multiple facilities, the campus is able to control production costs and provide more venues designed to support the needs of a diverse campus population," Simpson said.

This consolidation of food preparation and service will allow CU to shut down at least two other campus dining facilities and reduce production needs at others. The consolidation also makes it easier for students to conduct business because student services from throughout campus are in one location, according to Simpson.

The $84.4 million facility, which includes 183,000 gross square feet of program space, and an additional 140,000 gross square feet of parking space, is being financed through bonds and will be repaid through auxiliary revenue. Parking fees, housing and dining revenue, as well as private fundraising will pay for the building.

No tax or tuition dollars were used for Center for Community construction and there was no net increase in room and board rates because the student services offices in residence halls will be converted back to housing for students.

How potential students view campus amenities is an important element to the success of any campus, according to Amy Beckstrom, director of Dining Services.

"This dining center, which builds community by bringing a new cultural dining experience to the CU-Boulder campus, offers our busy students a single location where they can utilize the resources of several student affairs support services," Beckstrom said.

One of the major upgrades for students is the new Career Services office. Currently located in Willard Hall, the interview and counseling rooms were useable but outdated and cramped, according to Lisa Severy, director of the Career Services office at CU-Boulder.

"We graduate a class of students every year who excel academically and are leaders in a diverse range of interests," Severy said. "We currently showcase that pool of talent that will impact our state, country and the world, in the basement of an older building. This new facility will allow us to showcase our students and graduates in a space that reflects their accomplishments and potential, and that will be more pleasing to the professional needs of recruiters as well."

The Center for Community was designed and is being built to be energy- and water-efficient with a minimum carbon footprint. Compared with similar-sized buildings, the Center for Community will be 20 to 25 percent more energy- and water-efficient. It also was built with the goal of receiving at least a LEED Gold Certification, which it is on track to achieve.

The Center for Community: Floor by Floor
Underground
A one-level, 375-space underground parking garage will be used primarily by faculty, staff and students with parking permits, but also will be open for event parking after 5 p.m. and on weekends. **First Floor**
The BuffOne Card office, Dining Services offices, a retail bakery counter and a late-night Italian-style food hub are on the first floor. The first level also will have 50 additional parking spaces. **Second Floor**
The second floor includes nine specialty dining stations – Italian, Brazilian, garden fresh produce, Latin/Mexican, sushi, Asian, chef's choice, Persian and dessert – and a grab-n-go restaurant. Disability Services also is on the second floor.
Third Floor
Career Services, International Education, Multicultural Affairs, the J.D. Abrams Student Cultural Center Lounge and the Housing and Dining Services offices are on the third floor. **Fourth Floor**
The offices of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and the Dean of Students, Counseling and Psychological Services, Victim Assistance, Veterans Affairs, Ombuds, Student Academic Affairs, GLBT Resource Center, Parent Relations, University of Colorado Foundation and the Office of Pre-Collegiate Outreach are on the fourth floor.

UCCS schedules rededication ceremony for Centennial Hall[23]

A dedication ceremony for a renovated science building at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 19.

The reopening follows a yearlong, $17.1 million renovation and includes a renaming from Science Building to Centennial Hall.

Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak will welcome Colorado State Treasurer Cary Kennedy as a special guest. Members of the CU Board of Regents, as well as campus faculty, staff and students, also will attend the ceremony.

In June, the CU Board of Regents approved a name change for the 1980s-era Science Building to avoid confusion with a new Science and Engineering Building at UCCS. Science and Engineering opened in Aug. 2009.

"The renovation of Centennial Hall, coupled with the opening of our new Science and Engineering Building last fall, gives UCCS some of the finest facilities for science education and research in the state of Colorado," said Tom Christensen, dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. "The impact of these facilities on student learning will be substantial."

Gary Reynolds, executive director of facilities services, said the renovation transformed one of the most dated buildings at UCCS to one that incorporates modern technology and state-of-the-art laboratories.

"From the new welcoming entrances and landscape, to the interior hallways, to modern teaching and research labs, to the completely renovated auditorium, past visitors to the building will not recognize it come this fall," Reynolds said.

The new Centennial Hall features two new smart classrooms, electronically enhanced lecture halls that provide students immediate access to computer, multimedia and network technology. There are 10 teaching labs with audio and visual capabilities that allow faculty to teach and conduct lab experiments without changing rooms and 14 research labs.

All labs are designed specifically for the three disciplines permanently housed in the building: chemistry and

biochemistry, anthropology and geography. They also are accessible to those who use wheelchairs.

A new auditorium features 290 seats of new, leatherette material with maple wood accents. High-definition video with surround sound and improved lighting will enhance lectures, academic presentations and many other functions. A new podium, curtains and screen also are included.

The Science Learning Center, one of the Project EXCEL learning facilities, is upgraded and 75 percent larger. The SLC features a reception desk, offices and meeting space in addition to a larger main room and adjoining 32-station computer room.

Outside, a mini-amphitheater will hold about 30 people. There also will be a Xeriscape demonstration garden.

The Science Building was built in 1980 to serve a student population of fewer than 5,000 students. In summer 2005, unfinished ground floor storage space was renovated to create four large classrooms. In late August 2006, UCCS presented plans for renovations, which began June 1, 2009.

The project was funded by the state of Colorado through certificates of participation with debt service from federal mineral lease grant funds that are returned to the state. The funds were obtained by the state treasurer for the renovation of the Science Building under legislative authority.

First Dinner in White could launch annual series of cancer fundraisers[24]

Shana Mader and Krista Gilbertson led a group of young professionals in producing the first Dinner in White fundraiser for the AMC Cancer Fund.

On Saturday, Aug. 14, the first Dinner in White raised more than $24,000 for the AMC Cancer Fund to benefit the University of Colorado Cancer Center. Organizers hope the event will return annually.

More than 150 guests dressed in white converged on the Chase Bank building patio at 18th and Lawrence, with picnic dinners in tow, after eagerly awaiting the disclosure of the surprise venue just one hour prior. Upon arriving, they found the patio adorned in white lights and decorations, and enjoyed an evening under the stars and city lights.

As Meniskus violinist-lead singer Eric Ostberg played tableside for diners, guests had their caricatures drawn by local artist Brooke Howell, visited vendors in a Parisian market and bid on items at a silent auction.

Committed to establishing it as the next "must-attend" event on the Denver social scene," Shana Mader, Krista Gilbertson and the rest of the steering committee organized a group of young professionals in the yearlong planning of the event.

At dusk, Mader shared her story as a young cancer survivor, reminding the guests of the importance of early detection and healthy living in the battle against the disease. In an intimate gesture of honor and remembrance to those who have survived and those who have been lost to cancer, Mader invited guests to release white balloons into the sky.

Among the guests: Gary and Kathy Kortz, Mark and Melissa Osborn, Todd and Lina Olinger, Anamaria Osborne, and Laurie Gaspar and her husband, David.

Sponsors that supported the event: Novus Biologicals, ACE Cash Express, Walter and Laura Dear, McDonald Audi, FirstBank Transwestern and Village Homes. In-kind sponsors were Barefoot Wine, Jamba Juice, Love Hope Strength, Sir Chocolate, Coors Distributing and Samantha Hamilton.

For updates on plans for the next Dinner in White, to be held in August 2011 at a new undisclosed location, follow it on Facebook or visit the website, www.dinnerinwhite.com[26]

Deputy director to take fundraising to new heights[27]

Thorburn

Just how much would you pay to see **Andrew Thorburn,** the deputy director of the University of Colorado Cancer Center, rappel down a 28-story building in downtown Denver?

Then again, how much would you pay to see him make the journey in a kilt?

Thorburn, along with other participants, is raising money for the Cancer League of Colorado. Money from the agency helps support work in his lab and provides funding for other scientists studying cancer. He promises that if he raises $2,000 or more, he'll wear a kilt for the big event Aug. 27 at One Lincoln Park.

Anyone who pledges $1,000 to the Cancer League will get the opportunity to rappel the skyscraper. Thorburn has passed the $1,000 mark and is looking for his next grand.

The nonprofit Cancer League of Colorado[29] has no paid staff and no officers. All donations go directly to cancer research and cancer patient services, and since 1985, the league has donated more than $8 million in grants to those efforts.

Thorburn says money from events like Over the Edge have helped with start-up funding for new research ideas.

"Awhile back my lab was studying a drug we hoped would kill brain cancer cells," Thorburn said on the pledge website. "The drug did that, but along the way, we made an unexpected observation. To take our idea further, we needed seed money, and CLC provided $30,000 for additional experiments. If the ideas we're testing turn out to be correct, this might establish a new way to treat brain cancer, and this initial investment from Cancer League of Colorado – and really, from you – will have played a major role in making it happen."

To make a pledge, or learn more about the Aug. 27-28 Over the Edge event, click here[30].

Excellence in nursing care, education recognized[31]

Erickson

Victoria Erickson, Ph.D., PNP-BC, associate professor and MS/DNP program director at the University of Colorado College of Nursing, was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP).

"Dr. Erickson was recognized for her accomplishments in nursing care and education as well as for her state and national leadership in health care and policy," said Patricia Moritz, Ph.D., FAAN, dean of the College of Nursing. "Vicki

is clearly known for her continued excellence in nursing, primary care and mentoring others."

The FAANP program was established in 2000 to recognize nurse practitioner leaders who have made outstanding contributions to health care through nurse practitioner clinical practice, research, education or policy. Priority initiatives of FAANP are the development of leadership and mentorship programs for nurse practitioners and nurse practitioner students.

Distinguished Professor Emeritus receives Harvard honor[33]
Courtesy of
Stephen Fischer-Galati
Fischer-Galati
Courtesy ofStephen Fischer-GalatiFischer-Galati

Stephen Fischer-Galati, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of history at the University of Colorado at Boulder, is one of four Harvard alumni who recently received the Harvard Graduate School's highest award, the 2010 GSAS Centennial Medal for his "lifelong commitment to chronicling the history of East and Central Europe, tireless support of junior scholars in the field, and remarkable legacy as a scholarly publisher, whose works populate the world's great libraries."

Fischer-Galati is the founder, publisher and was principal editor for more than 40 years of the scholarly journal East European Quarterly. He also is founding editor of the scholarly series East European Monographs, which has put out nearly 800 scholarly books on East-Central Europe in collaboration with Columbia University Press.

Galati is one of the world's foremost specialists on East European history and civilization, exploring the evolution of East-West relations and the intersection of Western and Eastern political and cultural developments. He also has published extensively on Balkan issues and guerilla warfare in the region.

Born in Romania, Galati escaped the country as a teenager during the early stages of World War II, finishing his high-school studies in Massachusetts before going on to Harvard. His books include "Romania: A Historic Perspective;" "Eastern Europe and the Cold War: Perceptions and Perspectives;" and "Man, State and Society in East European History," and he has authored more than 250 articles. He holds several honorary degrees and major grants and fellowships from American and international scholarly foundations. He also is president of the International Commission of East European and Slavic Studies of the International Congress of Historical Studies.

"There are those people who spend all their lives doing their own writing and their own work, and there are others who share," says Roman Szporluk, Harvard's Mykhailo Hrushevs'kyi Professor of Ukrainian History, Emeritus. "Stephen is one who shares. He was an inspirer, and an organizer, and a mobilizer of others to produce work that would be of lasting significance."

Public safety pro earns quarterly employee kudos[35]

Ryan

Claudia Ryan, public safety operations manager at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, recently was named employee of the quarter in recognition of her professional and personal skills.

In her letter nominating Ryan, Josephine Benavidez, director of the precollegiate development program, said Ryan "possesses exemplary interpersonal communication skills in a consistent and honest manner. Claudia approaches daily issues and problems in a refined manner, gracious and helpful at the same time."

Ryan's supervisor, Jim Spice, director of public safety and chief of police, praised her excellent organizational skills, people skills and dedication to the department and to UCCS.

Ryan supervises two student employees and two state classified employees. She is responsible for various department of public safety projects, including all department human resource paperwork, campuswide background checks, department finance and accounting control, maintenance issues, police records and campus crime report statistics.

But Ryan minimizes her individual contributions. "I'm like everybody else. I have good and bad days. Some days you shine, others, you trip up. But you keep going. You do your job and try to help people along the way."

"I'm grateful for the award," she added, "but the people in this department are dedicated, hard workers, and we're a team. So it's everybody's award, not just mine."

Shelter plan chosen for Haiti[37]

University of Colorado Denver assistant professor of architecture **Matthew Jelacic** in the College of Architecture and Planning and his team have been selected to participate in the Building Back Better Communities competition hosted by the government of Haiti. His proposal is one of 20 selected from more than 365 entries from more than 30 countries. Working with a team from the Mortenson Center in Engineering for Developing Countries in Boulder, OperationUSA and Fabio Matta of the University of South Carolina, Jelacic will design and build a prototype shelter on a site north of Port-au-Prince that will serve as a model for reconstruction.

The selection of this proposal by the Haitian Government will allow him to extend his current research on affordable transitional shelters for traumatically displaced people and the poor, and to continue constructive and collegial relationships with his multi-disciplinary team.

This competition announcement follows a second related award: Jelacic and Matta have been awarded a $50,000 National Science Foundation grant to document structural failures in confined concrete masonry structures caused by seismic activity in Haiti. Together, Jelacic and Matta will explore and test low-cost opportunities to repair and stabilize buildings damaged during the Jan. 12 earthquake.

Dropping names ...[38]

Gutierrez-Hartmann

Jenkins

Poetry Daily, the pioneering syndication project that has been bridging the world of print journals and the Internet since 1997, recently featured University of Colorado Denver associate professor **Jake Adam York's** "Narcissus

Incomparabilis"[41] as its poem of the day. The poem is a preview of his new book, Persons Unknown, scheduled for release in October.

... **Arthur Gutierrez-Hartmann**, M.D., a professor of endocrinology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, has been awarded the inaugural Ruth Kirschstein Diversity in Science Award. The award honors an outstanding scientist who has shown strong commitment to encouraging and mentoring under-represented minorities.

... **Peter Jenkins,** mechanical engineering professor at the University of Colorado Denver,presented papers at two conferences this summer. Jenkins spoke during the ASME Turbo Expo 2010 conference June 14-18 in Glasgow, Scotland, and at the eighth Conference of the International Sports Engineering Association on July 12-16 in Vienna, Austria. ... University of Colorado Denver Civil engineering professor **Anu Ramaswami**, director of the new Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Systems, has been awarded $39,347 from the National Science Foundation to chair a joint U.S.-China workshop on "Pathways Toward Low Carbon Cities: Quantifying Baselines and Inventories." The workshop, set for December in Hong Kong, will be planned in conjunction with faculty from University of Wisconsin and Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

... **Chris Colwell**, M.D., has been named director of emergency medicine at Denver Health after a national search. Colwell is associate professor of emergency medicine and will be a vice chair of the new CU School of Medicine department of emergency medicine.

... **John Sladek,** University of Colorado Denver professor of pediatrics and neurology, has been given a special privilege by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Sladek is now allowed to submit grant applications at any time independent of due dates. For more than 35 years, Sladek has served on study sections for the NIH, which has continuously supported his research since 1974.

Single tickets available for CU Presents events[42]

Single tickets for all CU Presents Artist Series concerts and CU Opera performances are now on sale. Click here [43] for information on single-ticket discounts for youth, seniors, groups and CU students, faculty and staff.

The Artist Series slate includes Hal Holbrook in "Mark Twain Tonight!," Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Nnenna Freelon and Christmas in Ireland with Danu. The opera lineup features "Carousel," "Susannah" and Leonard Bernstein's Mass.

Single tickets for the 2010 Holiday Festival will go on sale Sunday, Sept. 26. To reach the box office, call 303-492-8008; more info is available at **www.cupresents.org**[44]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/what-are-lectures[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/coltt1.jpg[3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/coltt2.jpg[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/first-day-classes-all-campuses-marks-latest-step-student-info-system[5] https://metamorphosis.cu.edu/resources/Shared%20Documents/FC.aspx[6] http://upk.cusys.edu/onlineresources/toc.html[7] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-campuses-programs-ranked-magazines-2011-best-colleges-issue[8] http://www.usnews.com/colleges[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-

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