Five questions for Gary Reynolds[1]

Gary Reynolds

Engineer, manager, project juggler extraordinaire and ambassador of understanding between facilities management employees and college professors: Gary L. Reynolds plays these and other roles as executive director of facilities services[3] at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs[4]. After nearly 30 years of conceiving, developing and delivering his vision for capital construction and facilities management on three university campuses, it is the title "teacher" that resonates most in his life. At his alma mater, Iowa State University, he taught thermodynamics and other classes, and now seeks those "aha" moments among the Colorado students who are learning from his experience, whether it be on campus, on the ski slopes, or in the cockpit of an airplane or glider soaring above the Rockies.

You've been executive director of facilities services at UCCS for more than 18 months, overseeing the construction, maintenance and architectural development of the CU system's fastest-growing campus. How do you keep so many balls in the air?

Overseeing the various aspects of the operation and construction of a campus is definitely a team effort. The success of the facilities department is dependent upon a team of staff who work well together toward the common goal of the university. I see my role as ensuring our department understands our role in fulfilling the mission of the university, and that we have the right staff in the right place that will work together toward that end. Through trust and delegation, the role of the director can be leveraged to accomplish the many tasks that help keep a university running. To paraphrase, a director needs to know when to delegate, when not to delegate and the wisdom to know the difference.

You have a bachelor's degree in engineering science and a master's in mechanical engineering, both from Iowa State University, and taught thermodynamics and other courses while overseeing capital projects at your alma mater. How has classroom teaching informed the way you approach facilities management and development?

At Iowa State University I had the wonderful opportunity to teach senior-level heating and cooling design courses and entry-level thermodynamics[5] courses for the mechanical engineering department. I quickly learned what was important and not important in helping students learn and the impact facilities had on my efforts. It became clear to me that there is a certain level of service that is necessary, but not sufficient to provide a high-quality learning environment, and that to truly excel in delivering facilities services we needed to move beyond just providing the basics. The challenge then became implementing those things I found to be important and beyond the basics and translating them into specific plans and actions for the facilities staff.

Today when a faculty member comes to me with a concern I hearken back to my days of teaching and I can immediately understand the basis for their concern. For example, I often find that faculty bring their problems to us in the form of their solution. Sometimes that solution will not work, is not according to code requirements, or is not appropriate for some other reason. Because I have had the opportunity to teach, rather than just saying "no," I am often able to relate to what they are truly trying to accomplish and suggest a means of meeting their needs with a different solution.

As another example, white boards are always a challenge and sometimes frustrating for custodial staff to keep clean, keep markers and erasures in supply and in generally good repair. It is a thankless task that takes a lot of time and effort. But having spent many hours in front of white boards I understand the significance of a good white board. I explained to facilities employees that the white board is my main communication tool, and while I can speak to students, the white board is my tool for creating a visual image to help with the learning process. Just like a clean mop or a sharp saw are important tools for us in facilities, the white board is an important tool for the faculty to teach our students, and we need to keep that "saw sharp" for the faculty. That comparison put white boards in a whole different light.

You spent 16 years at Iowa State University and 10 at Colorado College before coming to UCCS, and developed a well-regarded expertise in campus facilities management, planning, design, environmental health

and safety and transportation. After so many years in this business, what remains the single most challenging aspect of your job?

The greatest challenge can be summed up in one word, "resources." And fundamental to having enough resources is funding. There is a fundamental triangle of facilities management: quality, speed and resources. If you want quality and speed then you need to have the resources. If you are willing to give some on quality or speed, then the demand for resources is less. So a facilities manager is always trying to balance the expectations of his or her many stakeholders for quality and speed with the resources that are available. It is this balancing act that I find most challenging, and rewarding, as a facilities administrator.

CU campuses in Boulder, Colorado Springs and Denver together boast more than a half-dozen buildings certified by the U.S. Green Building Council's prestigious rating program**[6] Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED. The UCCS recreation center was the first building in southern Colorado to obtain a LEED gold certification, and the recently inaugurated** Science and Engineering Building**[7] is likely to obtain one of the program's highest ratings as well. These sleek, modern buildings seem to debunk the notion that campus structures have to be weathered, ivy-covered halls. What is your philosophy when it comes to eco-friendly construction and building management on a college campus?**

As facilities management has evolved over the past few decades, greater and greater demands are being place on the people involved with designing, constructing and maintaining facilities to meet a diverse array of expectations. And we are learning. We are learning how pedagogical changes, spatial relationships, color, outdoor spaces and other elements impact a building's design to enhance the learning experience. In addition, not only is the building expected to meet its fundamental role of providing a quality learning environment for students and researchers but it is expected to be flexible for future unknown needs, energy efficient, socially responsible, accessible, meet code requirements, be aesthetically beautiful and safe to name just a few.

Once again, the facilities manager's role is to find the balance between all these expectations and the resources available for the project or facility. From this perspective, building a LEED-certified building becomes one of those balancing components with a certain level of priority at certain decision points. For example, at key decision point energy efficiency may have the highest priority while at other times fire safety may play a more important role in the allocation of resources. As more and more diverse goals and expectations become part of the expectations for the building, the facilities manager's role becomes more and more important in managing to the "right balance."

Tell us something about yourself that few people know.

I really enjoy teaching. I am a certified flight instructor for airplanes and gliders and I am a certified ski instructor at a local ski resort. I am also a certified Franklin-Covey[8] 7 Habits facilitator. I love creating that "aha" moment for students when they suddenly get it. It is a great reward to be a part of the excitement that learning creates. And I think that is why I love my job so much as it gives me an opportunity to leave a legacy through those who receive their education here at UCCS.

SOM, state labor department to manage training facility[9]

A training facility that teaches nursing and medical students how to treat patients in a simulated setting will expand under a new agreement between the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

Colorado WIN Partners in the pediatrics department at the School of Medicine will manage the operation of the 4-year-old training facility, which is called the Work, Education and Lifelong Learning, or WELLS Center[10].

[11]
The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus center develops and delivers health care simulation curriculum and training that incorporates highly sophisticated patient simulators for hands-on nursing and allied health care training. The goal is to give students opportunities to learn and gain confidence in practicing surgical techniques in a critical care room.

Programmable, humanlike simulators at the WELLS Center help professors demonstrate specific training scenarios on demand, including heart attacks, child birth, trauma and other emergency situations that require immediate medical care.

The simulators represent men, women, children and infants, and have pulses, veins that receive injections, moving eyes, voice capabilities and hearts and lungs with audible beating and breathing.

Colorado WIN Partners[12] will expand the simulation center's training to offer new specialties such as operating room and emergency department training.

"We are excited about this new opportunity," said Colorado Win Partners Director Judy Emery. "We look forward to working with the WELLS Center and its partners, and expanding our relationship with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment."

Delta Dental gift creates first philanthropic chair in School of Dental Medicine[13]

[14]
A $1.5 million gift from Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation is aimed at improving children's oral health, and will establish the first philanthropic chair in the University of Colorado Denver School of Dental Medicine, the CU Foundation announced recently.

The school will use the gift to establish an endowed chair in early childhood cavities research. According to UC Denver experts, tooth decay is the most common, preventable chronic disease for children between the ages of 6 and 11.

As part of its strategic plan, the school will combine several existing programs under a single new Department of Prevention and Population Health Research, which will integrate proven dental health programs covering the entire patient life cycle.

"The School of Dental Medicine is privileged to treat the citizens of Colorado," said Denise Kassebaum, DDS, MS, dean of the School of Dental Medicine[15]. "Delta Dental[16] continues to be one of our very strongest partners in ensuring our Colorado neighbors, particularly the younger members of our communities, have a real chance at beginning their lives with healthy smiles."

"The establishment of this chair, and the world-class clinician researcher we are recruiting to fill the position will have a long-term positive impact on the fight against this disease," she said.

The CU Foundation[17], which facilitated this gift to the university, said endowed chairs are among the highest honors awarded by a university and are preserved for the most distinguished clinicians and scientists.

Study: Redheads more likely to fear dental pain[18]

[19]
Redheaded patients have a genetic variation associated with a fear of dental pain and care, and many may avoid receiving care due to accompanying anxiety, according to recent study co-authored by an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Colorado Denver.

The Journal of the American Dental Association published the findings[20] of the study by UC Denver assistant psychology[21] professor Abbie Beacham and five co-investigators in its July 1 issue.

According to the study, funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), people with naturally red hair are resistant to subcutaneous local anesthetics and may experience increased anxiety when it comes to dental care. To test their hypothesis, Beacham and the other researchers studied blood samples of 144 study participants, some with red hair and others with different hair colors.

Individuals whose blood displayed variants in the gene that causes red hair—the melanocortin-1 receptor (MC1R) gene—reported significantly more anxiety and fear of pain related to dental care than participants with no MC1R gene variants.

The redheads were more than twice as likely to avoid dental care, even after the authors controlled for gender and general anxiety traits, according to the study.

The researchers recommended that dentists evaluate all patients, but especially redheads, and work to manage any anxiety related to dental care.

CU startup to develop 'biogenerator' to power implanted medical devices[22]

[23]
A startup based on technology developed by a University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine professor will develop implantable "biogenerators" that will provide a potentially inexhaustible power supply to implanted medical devices such as pacemakers and insulin pumps.

CU and Biotricity Medical Inc., a medical device research and manufacturing company founded by School of Medicine researcher Simon Rock Levinson, Ph.D., signed an option agreement to develop the implantable power supplies, the CU Technology Transfer Office[24] announced recently.

Levinson, founder and chief scientist for Biotricity Medical[25], teaches physiology and biophysics and is a noted researcher in bioelectricity generation in the nervous system.

The company's first planned product, EpiVolt™, is a tiny, implantable biogenerator that will provide power indefinitely to pacemakers, insulin pumps, cochlear implants and artificial retinas, among other life-saving medical devices. According to researchers, implantable biogenerators eliminate the need for repeated, invasive replacement surgeries.

The new device will be made of living electricity-generating cells that use the body's own natural chemicals and processes to create electric power.

"It's an inexhaustible source of power that will be much smaller than the batteries it will replace," Levinson said. "This will allow the EpiVolt™ to be permanently implanted in very small spaces along with the device that it powers, without the need for long connecting wires running through the body to a remote battery power source."

Levinson believes such products will improve the quality of life for millions of people living with diabetes, chronic pain, Parkinson's disease and implanted medical devices.

UCCS earns reputation as 'global leader' in homeland security[26]

[27]
Homeland security is rapidly putting the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs on the map.

On Aug. 7, UCCS announced a new partnership with the Republic of Croatia's University of Zagreb. The universities will work with the City of Zagreb to create an Eastern Europe Center of Excellence in Homeland Security.

"This partnership is a natural outgrowth of the development of UCCS as a world leader in homeland security issues," said Mike Perini, executive director of the southern Colorado campus's National Institute[28] of Science, Space and Security Centers.

Perini said the partnership is an extension of the institute's Center for Homeland Security[29].

Zagreb officials turned to UCCS after the campus sponsored a series of seminars on trans-Atlantic civil security at Germany's George C. Marshall European Centre for Security Studies last July and earlier this year. They wanted UCCS to create a similar program for Croatia.

Under the agreement, UCCS will develop several courses in homeland security and assist the University of Zagreb in establishing a regional center of excellence in homeland security. Over the long run, UCCS will also help the university mature the center and develop graduate degree programs.

CU Foundation promotes Richard Lawrence[30]

Richard Lawrence, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, CU Foundation

The University of Colorado Foundation named Richard Lawrence its executive vice president and chief operating officer. Foundation President and CEO Wayne Hutchens announced the appointment at a recent board meeting.

In his new role, Lawrence will oversee and direct accounting, finance, legal, information technology, development services and marketing operations. He previously served as the foundation's senior vice president of administration, chief financial officer and treasurer, and has more than 25 years of experience in the banking industry. He has worked at the foundation since 2006.

State and university requirements[32]

[33]
To meet federal, state and university requirements, University of Colorado employees are often required to complete specific online training courses.

Knowing which courses to take can be confusing, especially because SkillSoft offers a wide array of standard courses in many compliance areas.

Under the "shortcuts" menu in SkillPort is a folder called **CU Custom Curricula**. This is where CU employees may find the customized courses that the university requires and/or recommends that employees complete, based on their job role or responsibilities.

All of these CU-specific courses are denoted by a "CU:" before the title. Â Successful completion of a CU custom course is reported into your **MY.CU Portal** within 48 hours. If you have any questions, please visit our Web site at www.cu.edu/eld[34].

Volunteers to welcome students back to campus[35]

Volunteers, including some campus leaders, will help new students move into residence halls at CU-Boulder.

New students moving into residence halls at the University of Colorado at Boulder will get a hand from volunteers, including a few campus leaders.

CU-Boulder Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs[37] Julie Wong is scheduled to lend a helping hand on Thursday, when the campus expects the majority of first-year students to move into residence halls for the 2009-10 academic year. Students began moving in on Tuesday.

Members of the CU Welcoming Assembly 2009-10, a coalition of some 100 volunteers[38] from the Residence Hall Association and several student groups, will station themselves near all residence halls to help students and their parents move belongings into the halls as quickly as possible.

Other groups sponsoring move-in volunteers include the football program[39], the women's basketball[40] team, Army ROTC[41], Hillel[42], the Black Student Alliance[43], the Panhellenic Association[44], St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Center[45] and others.

"We're excited to welcome the new incoming class and assist them as they adjust from home to college," said John Fox, assistant director of residence life. "This is a time of significant change for incoming students and their families and we strive to make this experience memorable and successful."

As part of communitywide efforts to help students adjust to life in Boulder, a coalition of student, city and university leaders will walk through neighborhoods that traditionally house the largest concentration of students living off campus, including University Hill and Goss Grove.

Boulder City Manager Jane Brautigam, CU-Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Julie Wong and Athletic Director Mike Bohn will conduct the annual "walkabouts" from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. today and on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

Walkabout participants will welcome students back to CU-Boulder and provide them with information about responsible off-campus living. Students will learn about local ordinances that apply to after-hours socializing, safe conduct recommendations, and sensible football fan conduct.

New CU astronaut-in-training relishes space exploration[46]

Kjell N. Lindgren could become CU's 19th astronaut alumnus.

His training as a medical doctor will no doubt help him and his crew if he makes it to the International Space Station, but it's the thrill of riding a rocket into space that most excites Kjell N. Lindgren, who is on target to become the next University of Colorado alumni astronaut.

Lindgren is among nine members of the United States' newest class of astronaut candidates[48] prepared to undergo rigorous training in hopes of one day flying to the International Space Station to conduct scientific research and explore Earth's atmosphere.

The group of six men and three women, ranging in age from 30 to 43, is NASA's first class of astronaut recruits in five years. All are expected to report to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston in August to begin two years of training. Their participation in the program comes as the nation marks the 40th anniversary of the first moon landing[49].

"I have long been inspired by the brilliance and courage demonstrated by the pioneers of early human spaceflight," Lindgren said in a NASA interview. "I am attracted to the thrill of exploration, the promise of discovery and I'm just plain excited about riding a rocket into space."

CU has played a key role in the United States' space program for more than half a century, receiving some $50 million in NASA research funding annually—more than any other public university. In fact, CU has led the way as the premier space institution in the world, launching instruments on NASA missions to every planet in the solar system. Recently the space agency awarded $6 million to CU-Boulder to build instruments to conduct experiments on the lunar surface and in the moon's atmosphere.

Lindgren, 36, of League City, Texas, joins a distinguished cadre of 18 CU alumni astronauts, including Scott Carpenter, who flew the second orbital flight in 1962, and Steve Swanson, an Atlantis and Discovery astronaut and space walker. Most of the university's alumni astronauts graduated from CU-Boulder, but at least two are UCCS graduates.

Lindgren graduated from the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine in 2002, and will become the first alumnus to represent the Anschutz Medical Campus and the School of Medicine. He said he has wanted to be an astronaut "for as long as I can remember."

Born in Taipei, Taiwan, Lindgren's Colorado ties run deep. In addition to obtaining his medical degree from CU, he earned a bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in Mandarin Chinese from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, and a master's degree in cardiovascular physiology from Colorado State University in Fort Collins. He also earned master's degrees in health informatics at the University of Minnesota and public health at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas.

Before being selected as one of NASA's newest astronaut recruits, Lindgren was flight surgeon for NASA's space shuttle, International Space Station and Constellation programs at the University of Texas Medical Branch-Wyle. To prepare for his seemingly written-in-the-stars future, he followed a career path and opportunities he enjoyed, but which also applied to manned space flight.

He competed against more than 3,500 highly skilled, highly trained professionals from across the country before being picked for NASA space flight training.

"After the rigorous selection process and years of hard work pursuing this goal—it was joyous and humbling," he said. "I really enjoyed sharing the news with my family."

Bill Gerstenmaier, NASA's associate administrator for space operations, said the new crop of astronaut candidates is among the most talented and diverse the agency has ever selected.

"They will join our current astronauts and play very important roles for NASA in the future. In addition to flying in space, astronauts participate in every aspect of human space flight, sharing their expertise with engineers and managers across the country," Gerstenmaier said. "We look forward to working with them as we transcend from the shuttle to our future exploration of space, and continue the important engineering and scientific discoveries aboard the International Space Station."

UCCS professor nets $1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education[50]

Lindy Crawford, Associate Professor of Education

Lindy Crawford, an associate professor of education at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, received a $1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant will support a project aimed at assisting students with math learning disabilities. Modeled after a similar program that teaches math to non-English speakers, the project will help students successfully engage in math instruction at appropriate grade levels.

Working with two research assistants and a team from Digital Directions International Inc., an educational technology company that develops and distributes online supplemental software products, Crawford will design a Web-based curriculum that will individualize lessons for students in algebra and other middle school math subjects. So far, Crawford has received interest from two Colorado Springs school districts, Denver Public Schools and rural school districts in southeastern Colorado to help design and implement the program. Work will begin in January 2010.

State senator lauds University of Colorado Hospital after surgery[52]

[53]
A Colorado lawmaker is singing the praises of a University of Colorado Hospital surgeon after undergoing successful surgery to remove a small, cancerous tumor from his esophagus.

Sen. Rollie Heath[54], D-Boulder, issued an official news release on Aug. 12 touting the treatment he received for esophageal cancer at UCH on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Sen. Rollie Heath, D-Boulder

Heath, who chairs the Interim Committee on Long-Term Fiscal Stability, said he stepped out of his legislative office in Denver, and into the hospital on Aug. 11 so a surgeon could remove a tumor Boulder Medical Center doctor Robert Levine, MD, found in early August.

Levine referred Heath to UCH's Norio Fukami, MD, one of a handful of physicians in the country who perform the

procedure to remove esophageal tumors during outpatient surgery.

I want to thank everyone, particularly my wife and family, for their love, support and good thoughts," Heath said in his news release. "I would also like to thank both my doctors. I am so grateful Dr. Fukami is in Colorado and was able to treat me. I'm feeling great, I'm ready to get back to work, and I'm feeling very positive about the success of the surgery."

Heath celebrated his successful surgery by returning to work on Friday, Aug. 14, attending the first meeting of the Business Personal Property Tax Task Force at the Colorado Capitol.

UC Denver professor receives nearly $1 million grant[56]

Mary Weber, Associate Professor, University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing

Mary Weber, associate professor in the University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing, received a three-year grant of nearly $1 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration. Weber will share the money with the college's family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner master's program. She and colleagues will provide future mental health nurse practitioners with knowledge that will allow them to provide quality mental health care in rural areas as well as urban areas that are medically underserved. The program will focus on the elimination of health barriers by giving nurse practitioners an increased supply of, and greater diversity and distribution of providers.

Weber has had 20 years of clinical experience and more than seven years of experience at the graduate nursing level. U.S. News & World Report ranked the College of Nursing's nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist programs among the top 10 in the country earlier this year.

School of Medicine recruits largest class in history[58]

Chair of the Department of Family Medicine Frank DeGruy, MD, MSFM, talks with Maggie Tillquist after she receives her stethoscope.

The University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine recently welcomed 160 entering students, the largest class in school history.

The new students received white coats and stethoscopes during a special matriculation ceremony on Aug. 13. In addition, they received advice from keynote speaker Daniel Johnson, an engineer-turned-physician who urged the first-year scholars to exhibit curiosity and humility.

Johnson, chief of palliative care for Kaiser Permanente's Denver region, called the traits "the most important attributes for doctors."

During his talk, Johnson spoke of the need for the medical students to learn to connect with patients and their families, as well as with classmates and other physicians. He also emphasized the importance of physicians admitting any shortcomings and seeking the support of others when they need it.

Associate Dean of Alumni Relations Bill Maniatis, MD, helps student Sarah Recktenwall-Work with her coat.

Rob Feinstein, MD, senior associate dean of education, and Bill Maniatis, MD, senior associate dean of alumni affairs were among those in attendance who helped members of the class of 2013 into the short white coats that designate physicians in training.

Several department chairs took turns hanging stethoscopes around students' necks, and students signed a pledge to abide by the School of Medicine's honor code.

The school[61] also inducted fourth-year medical students into the Gold Humanism Honor Society, and presented Ben Honigman, MD, head of the division of emergency medicine, with a faculty teaching award.

More than 800 family members and friends attended the ceremony.

Fourth-year medical students mingle after they are inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. The society recognizes fourth-year medical students who exhibit exemplary values.

President solicits nominations for President's Teaching Scholars[63]

President's Teaching Scholars for 2009

University of Colorado President Bruce D. Benson is soliciting faculty nominations for the 2010 President's Teaching Scholars, the university's highest recognition of teaching excellence.

All tenured faculty members who have taught at CU for five consecutive years are eligible for nomination, including clinical teaching track and School of Medicine faculty who are associate professors or professors. Chancellors, deans, departments and other faculty nominators are encouraged to nominate candidates, who must be teaching on their respective campus in the spring 2010 semester. The president's office will not accept self nominations.

A selection committee will evaluate applications based on past achievements and on furthering the goals of the President's Teaching Scholars Program, said program Director Mary Ann Shea.

"This designation is not an end-of-career-at-CU award, but rather membership in an active society of scholars and teachers," Shea said. "Scholars are a group of faculty from all campuses chosen not only for skill in their own teaching, but also for their promise of improving education for students, and enlarging educational possibilities across the four-campus university system."

In addition to an active commitment to teaching, the lifetime appointment recognizes substantial contributions to scholarly work in one's discipline or, in the case of a less senior scholar, indications of path-breaking contributions to his or her field, according to Shea.

"President's Teaching Scholars become part of a participatory, service-oriented and collegial community," she said. "Over time, the program has found that this group is composed of members who enjoy the opportunity, and make a commitment to interact, engage and grow with colleagues whose values, generosity of spirit and concerns about education are shared."

Those chosen for the designation receive a $3,000 stipend for each of the first two years, a one-time teaching development fund of $2,000, and an additional $2,000 to their base salary by the third year of their career as a

President's Teaching Scholar.

Shea said ideal candidates for the President's Teaching Scholars Program should have the following attributes: Enthusiasm and vitality in teaching and for learning Evidence of continuous growth and leadership in a field of study Effective ability to design and redesign courses to produce intellectual challenge Active and effective engagement in advising students and in guiding student learning and research projects Encouragement of intellectual interests in beginning students and/or of greater achievement with advanced students Highest level of responsiveness to, and understanding of, a diverse student body Willingness and ability to participate actively in the President's Teaching Scholars Program, and to continue working on program initiatives with other scholars
Learn more about how to prepare a candidate's nomination dossier, project guidelines and program contacts by visiting the President's Teaching Scholars[65] Web site.

Boulder professor honored for teaching community engagement[66]

Ben Kirshner, Assistant Professor, University of Colorado at Boulder School of Education

University of Colorado at Boulder School of Education Assistant Professor Ben Kirshner received the 2009 Ernest A. Lynton Citation for Distinguished Engaged Scholarship. The New England Resource Center for Higher Education confers the recognition on early career faculty for connecting teaching, research and service to community engagement. By reinforcing the integration between these three components of scholarship, the organization aims to help institutions of higher education teach students how to fulfill their academic and civic missions.

Professors honored with multiple awards[68]
University of Colorado Denver professors
Marlena Fiol, Ph.D., and Ed O'Connor, Ph.D.
University of Colorado Denver professorsMarlena Fiol, Ph.D., and Ed O'Connor, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver professors Marlena Fiol, Ph.D., (left), who teaches both health administration and strategic management, and Ed O'Connor, Ph.D., (right), who also teaches health administration and management, were recognized at the 2009 Academy of Management Annual meeting in Chicago. During the meeting, the pair received an award for outstanding contribution to research in both the health administration and entrepreneurship divisions. Additionally, Fiol was recognized on her own as the outstanding scholar by the organization and managerial cognition division.

Budget challenges continue for CU[70]

Ashley Mohr/University of Colorado

While higher education was seemingly spared when Gov. Bill Ritter on Tuesday announced $318 million in new cuts to the state budget, CU officials say the reprieve is only temporary and that additional cuts will be necessary this fiscal year.

Ritter said higher education will be cut $81 million in addition to the $150 million reduction colleges and universities have been taking since last fiscal year, but the governor indicated he would restore cuts with temporary stimulus funding. To make the cuts, the state must apply for and receive a waiver from the federal government, which had prohibited states from cutting higher education below 2006 levels (CU's budget last year was reduced to $159 million). Several states have received waivers, and it is expected that Colorado will as well. The governor also said he intends to restore funding to higher education in the 2011 fiscal year using general fund dollars.

But stimulus funding and one-time cuts to various areas of state government provide only momentary relief, said CU President Bruce Benson. And the prospects are bleak for a quick economic recovery to shore up the state general fund. The result is that CU will have to address the shortfall, in addition to the $21 million the university had already planned to take in the current fiscal year.

"We appreciate the fact that the governor will provide stimulus funds to temporarily cover the cuts, but we have to prepare for the longer-term impact by making additional cuts this year," Benson said. "We have to sustain the university over the long run, and taking cuts now will position us to address the cliff we are approaching."

The "cliff" is the difference between what the state currently provides CU ($159 million in general fund plus $50 million in stimulus funds) and what the budget will be when stimulus money is no longer available, beginning in fiscal year 2012. CU's state budget will revert to $159 million, but the news on Tuesday means the base budget could go even lower. CU's share of the additional $81 million cut will be determined in the coming weeks.

In a letter to the university community[72], Benson wrote that he is concerned about the ability of the state to recover quickly enough from the recession to provide adequate support to higher education.

"Without a robust economic recovery nationally and in Colorado, we are heading for a cliff," he said.

Benson said he will meet with the chancellors and senior staff to determine how best to approach the latest news.

Budget reductions will be determined at the campus and system administration levels, much as they were in the last fiscal year.

News briefs[73]

Pharmacy professor helps develop technology to protect hepatitis B vaccine
Research will have implications for safe vaccination delivery across the globe

UC Denver School of Pharmacy Assistant Professor LaToya Braun, Ph.D., helped develop technology that protects the hepatitis B vaccine from heat and freeze damage.

LaToya Braun, Ph.D., an assistant professor at the School of Pharmacy, helped develop a technology that protects the hepatitis B vaccine from heat and freeze damage.

Braun worked in collaboration with PATH, an international nonprofit organization that creates sustainable solutions aimed at breaking cycles of poverty, and Arecor, a company that works with pharmaceutical and biotech companies developing proteins and vaccines for application in drugs, medical devices or diagnostics.

PATH published the findings of the study[75] in this month's issue of the journal Human Vaccines, describing a new hepatitis B vaccine formula that exhibits nine-week stability at 55 degrees Celsius, and six-month stability at both 37 degrees Celsius and 45 degrees Celsius.

According to researchers, whose work was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the data indicate that the new hepatitis B vaccine formulation will be better able to withstand disruption in the cold chain, and could be stored at room temperature for a significant part of its shelf life.

Former CU chief financial officer passes away
C. William Fischer served four CU presidents

C. William Fischer

C. William Fischer, who served as vice president for budget and finance and chief financial officer under four University of Colorado presidents, died at his Boulder home on Thursday, Aug. 13. He was 78 years old.

His family will hold a service at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Mountain View United Methodist Church at 355 Ponca Place in Boulder to celebrate Fisher's life.

In lieu of flowers, and because of Fischer's passion for service to his community, his family requests that remembrances be made to one of his favorite organizations: Muskingum College, Frasier Meadows Manor Employee Education Fund or Special Transit of Boulder.

Born in Pittsburg in 1931, Fischer served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps from 1953 to 1955 during the Korean War. Over the course of his career he also served several federal agencies such as the U.S. Congressional Budget Office and the U.S. Department of Energy. In addition to CU, he served other universities, including Brandeis University and Northwestern University.

He met his wife, Betty Taylor Fischer, at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, and the couple went on to raise four children who gave them nine grandchildren. The Fischers celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary on Aug. 1, according to the couple's son, Mark Fischer.

Fischer served CU twice under four presidents, serving from 1981 to 1989 and from 1998 to 1999.

"Bill had an exuberant approach to living, which kept him going at top speed throughout his life. During his working career he worked long hours while still finding the time and energy to help raise four kids, take his family on incredible adventures, and travel with his wife," according to an online tribute[77] created by his children.

Discounted football season tickets for faculty/staff

[78]
University of Colorado faculty and staff across all four campuses are still eligible to receive a 20 percent discount on 2009 football season tickets.

According to the CU Athletic Department, all CU faculty and staff can purchase two season tickets at a discounted price. Pricing depends on seat location in the stadium and Buff Club membership status. To get more information on these discounted tickets, please go to the CU Faculty/Staff ticket information page[79].

On Sunday, Sept. 6, at 5 p.m., the Colorado Buffaloes will open their 2009 season in Boulder against the rival Colorado State Rams, the first of six games at Folsom Field this fall.

Other games will include the first in 12 years with Front Range foe Wyoming on Sept. 19, followed by a pair of key Big 12 North Division matchups against Kansas on Oct. 17, which is also Family Weekend, and Missouri on Oct. 31, the highlight of CU's annual homecoming weekend.

The Buffs will remain home the following week (Nov. 7) to take on Texas A&M, and conclude with the crucial end-of-season showdown against Nebraska on Nov. 27, the day after Thanksgiving.

To take advantage of this special offer, the Athletics Department encourages all CU faculty and staff to buy tickets by calling the Athletic Ticket Office at 303-49-BUFFS.

Underinsured to receive free colon cancer screenings

[80]
The Colorado Colorectal Screening Program plans to screen more than 800 underinsured and 3,200 uninsured Coloradans for colorectal cancer over the coming year, according to the University of Colorado Cancer Center, which oversees the program.

Program administrators said the increased outreach is due to expanded grant funding from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Since its 2006 inception, the program has screen 8,150 people, found and removed precancerous nodules from 1,945 people, and detected 80 cases of colorectal cancer. Last year, the program screened 3,015 people, including 30 who were diagnosed with colorectal cancer.

Cancer Center[81] officials said colorectal cancer is the second-highest cause of cancer death among men and women, and is the only cancer that can be prevented and cured through early detection.

Program Director Holly Wolf, Ph.D., said the program aims to decrease the colorectal cancer rate in Colorado by providing screening for uninsured people older than 50 who fall at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level.

"Some people have insurance, but the co-pay, coinsurance or deductible they'd need to pay to get a colonoscopy is too high for them to afford the screening test," Wolf said. "Starting this month (July), our program will pay for the cost of the colonoscopy, and, if needed, the person's insurance company will provide coverage for any follow-up treatment."

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-gary-reynolds[2] https://connections.cu.edu/file/reynolds-text-picjpg [3] http://www.uccs.edu/%7Efacsrvs/[4] http://www.uccs.edu/[5] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermodynamics[6] http://www.usgbc.org/[7] https://www.cusys.edu/newsletter/2009/08-06/science-engineering.html[8] http://www.franklincovey.com/tc/solutions/the-7-habits-solutions/the-7-habits-of-highly-effective-people-signature-program[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/som-state-labor-department-manage-training-facility[10] http://www.wellssimulationcenter.org/[11] https://connections.cu.edu/file/colorado-win-partners-logogif[12] http://www.cowinpartners.org/[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/delta-dental-gift-creates-first-philanthropic-chair-school-dental-medicine[14] https://connections.cu.edu/file/delta-dental-logojpg[15] http://www.uchsc.edu/sod/[16] http://www.deltadental.com/Public/index.jsp[17] http://www.cufund.org/giving-opportunities/[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/study-redheads-more-likely-fear-dental-pain[19] https://connections.cu.edu/file/campus-ucd-redheadjpg[20] http://jada.ada.org/cgi/content/abstract/140/7/896[21] http://thunder1.cudenver.edu/clas/psychology/[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-startup-develop-biogenerator-power-implanted-medical-devices[23] https://connections.cu.edu/file/tto-logo-finaljpg[24] https://www.cu.edu/techtransfer[25] http://www.biotricitymedical.com/[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-earns-reputation-global-leader-homeland-security[27] https://connections.cu.edu/file/homeland-security-logojpg[28] http://www.uccs.edu/%7Enisssc/[29] http://www.uccs.edu/%7Echs/[30] https://connections.cu.edu/people/cu-foundation-

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