

[Wildfire resilience, not suppression, supports the environment](#)^[1]

[Systemwide strategic plan earns backing of Board of Regents](#)^[2]

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The Board of Regents on Friday gave its formal support to the new systemwide strategic plan, a document over two years in the making.

The vote was 8-0; Regent Chance Hill was absent from the meeting, which was held remotely.

The board's resolution states that annual reports will be provided to the regents to show progress toward the established goals and any changes to action plans that might be implemented by stakeholders.

"We had a phenomenal effort across all our campuses and the system office to develop a plan that will really guide the university forward," said Board of Regents Chair Jack Kroll. "A tremendous amount of work went into this."

Kroll and President Todd Saliman thanked the hundreds of stakeholders who provided feedback and input during the strategic planning process. Saliman – who served as co-chair of the planning process with Sharon Matusik, dean of the Leeds School of Business at CU Boulder – also thanked President Emeritus Mark Kennedy for his leadership of the effort, and Angelique Foster, assistant vice president of strategic initiatives, for her contributions as project manager.

"This is great news for the University of Colorado, our students and the entire state," wrote Saliman of the board's approval of the plan in [a letter to faculty and staff](#)^[4] on Wednesday. "When combined with the campus strategic plans, the system plan serves as a roadmap to help guide CU into the future. It will help us avoid distractions and unnecessary detours and focus on doing what we do best: providing world-class, affordable education with exceptional teaching, learning, research, service and health care."

Added Matusik, "By clearly articulating key strategic areas of focus across the CU system, the plan will be invaluable in guiding the University of Colorado through the changing landscape of higher education that lies ahead. It was very gratifying to work with the deeply dedicated CU community across our four campuses to develop the plan."

According to the document, "The resulting plan establishes bold goals paired with metrics and in some cases initiatives along with aggressive action steps that will advance and elevate CU over the next five years and beyond."

Titled "Innovating for the Future," the [plan as presented](#)^[5] articulates four strategic pillars: Affordability and Student Access; Discovery and Impact; Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Access; and Fiscal Strength. The development process engaged at least 600 stakeholders, and was guided by input from the Board of Regents, faculty, students, staff, chancellors, trustees and the broader CU community.

The recently launched [strategic plan website](#)^[6] provides a detailed look at the plan and also will serve as a way for the CU community to track progress toward the stated goals.

The strategic plan:

Details actionable, measurable steps that will allow CU to continue to meet its mission and serve its students and the state. Provides a roadmap that will guide the university as it emerges from the pandemic and confronts the challenges of the coming five years. Complements campus strategic planning efforts and actions. Provides a bridge offering continuity among the current administration, interim administration and next administration.

Along with annual reports, administration leadership plans to facilitate deep-dive discussions into specific areas of the plan throughout the year. The first such examination, [part of the board's July retreat](#)^[7], focused on the plan's Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Access pillar.

In other business at Friday's Board of Regents meeting:

The board approved the disposition of more than half of the 308-acre CU Boulder South property to the city of Boulder for flood mitigation and preservation of permanent open space. Read more in [CU Boulder Today](#)[8]. The board elected Jeremy Hueth as vice president, University Counsel and secretary of the Board of Regents. The vote was 7-1, with Hill absent and Regent Glen Gallegos voting against. Previously managing associate counsel, Hueth has been with CU for 17 years, and had held his current role since December 2020, when he was [named to the post](#)[9] on an interim basis.

[Regents approve CU Boulder South annexation](#)[10]

[Tenure list: August 2021](#)[11]

The CU Board of Regents on Aug. 13 approved 17 tenure awards and appointments.

CU Boulder

Effective Aug. 16, 2021

Awards of tenure:

Erin Espelie, Cinema Studies and Moving Image Arts, College of Arts and Sciences **Adrianna Gillman**, Applied Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences **Tobias Hopp**, Advertising, Public Relations and Media Design, College of Media, Communication and Information **Hope Michelsen**, Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Christopher Vargo**, Advertising, Public Relations and Media Design, College of Media, Communication and Information **Amy Volda**, Information Science, College of Media, Communication and Information **Sabrina Volpone**, Leeds School of Business

Appointments with tenure:

Lolita Buckner Inniss, Professor, School of Law **Julia Charles**, Associate Professor, English, College of Arts and Sciences **Luca Corradini**, Associate Professor, Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering (ECEE), College of Engineering and Applied Science **Seth Marder**, Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Evava Pietri**, Associate Professor, Psychology and Neuroscience, College of Arts and Sciences **Bryan Semaan**, Associate Professor, Information Science, College of Media, Communication and Information **Douglas Spencer**, Associate Professor, School of Law **Gongguo Tang**, Associate Professor, Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering (ECEE), College of Engineering and Applied Science

CU Anschutz Medical Campus

Effective Aug. 13, 2021

Award of tenure:

Lorna Moore, Obstetrics and Gynecology, School of Medicine

Appointment with tenure:

Kelly Stamp, College of Nursing

[Newly reorganized. President's Teaching Scholars Program calls for nominations](#)[12]

The [President's Teaching Scholars Program](#)[13] (PTSP), which recognizes University of Colorado educators who skillfully integrate teaching and research at an exceptional level, boasts a new look as it begins the process of identifying new members of its ranks.

Program leadership recently amended its [bylaws](#)[14] and elected a new council chair, Raphael Sassower, a philosophy professor at UCCS.

Sassower, who was named a President's Teaching Scholar in 2014, succeeds the program's founding director, Mary

Ann Shea, who [retired last year](#)^[15].

“With much gratitude to Mary Ann Shea’s leadership, the President’s Teaching Scholars have reconstituted the program as a self-governing body,” Sassower said. “We look forward to expand the program with newly selected members from the four campuses.

“Teaching remotely for the past year has reinforced our concern with and commitment to teaching with care and sensitivity, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The PTSP is well-suited to reimagine the future of higher education as an inclusive and diverse undertaking across the disciplines.”

The title of President’s Teaching Scholar recognizes excellence in and commitment to learning and teaching, as well as active, substantial contributions to scholarly work. CU President Todd Saliman solicits annual nominations of faculty across the four campuses for the designation, which is a lifetime appointment.

The 2021-22 [call for nominations](#)^[16] is underway, with applications due by midnight Sept. 17, 2021.

Members join an active society of scholars and teachers who collaborate with faculty colleagues and faculty peers in departments, schools and colleges. Anyone from the CU community may nominate candidates for this designation and commitment; self-nominations are not accepted.

All tenured faculty members who have been employed at CU for at least five consecutive years and who have received a teaching award at CU are eligible to be nominated. Tenure-eligible faculty members at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus who hold the rank of professor or associate professor and who have been employed at CU for at least five consecutive years also are eligible.

Becoming a President’s Teaching Scholar means extending high priority to the program and being engaged in its activities. The Selection Committee evaluates applications based on past achievements and potential engagement in furthering the goals of the PTSP as outlined in its [mission statement](#)^[17].

[Click here](#)^[16] for more information on submitting a nomination.

[Helping high school students bridge to college](#)^[18]

[August Town Hall provides key updates on return to campus, vaccination rates](#)^[19]

[New City Heights Residence Hall and Learning Commons opens](#)^[20]

[Cell and gene therapy manufacturing hub joins growing bioscience community](#)^[21]

[CU Connections resumes weekly publication](#)[22]

With today's issue, CU Connections resumes its regular weekly publication schedule for the 2021-22 academic year.

A new edition appears each Thursday morning throughout the year. For part of the summer, new editions appear every other week.

Connections will not publish new issues on Nov. 25 (Thanksgiving), Dec. 23 and Dec. 30.

Deadline for submissions is noon Friday before each Thursday's publication.

Questions: Contact Connections editor Jay Dedrick, jay.dedrick@cu.edu[23], 303-968-8768.

[Chopra named chair of Department of Medicine](#)[24]

[Samet selected for EPA's Science Advisory Board](#)[25]

[Maeda named CU Boulder dean of undergraduate education and vice provost](#) [26]

Links

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<https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-connections-resumes-weekly-publication-4>[23] <mailto:jay.dedrick@cu.edu>[24]
<https://connections.cu.edu/people/chopra-named-chair-department-medicine>[25]
<https://connections.cu.edu/people/samet-selected-epa-s-science-advisory-board>[26]
<https://connections.cu.edu/people/maeda-named-cu-boulder-dean-undergraduate-education-and-vice-provost>

