McCabe recognized for leadership, research on Down syndrome[1]

McCabe

Edward McCabe, executive director of the Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome at the School of Medicine, recently was presented the Theodore D. Tjossem Research Award by the National Down Syndrome Congress at its annual convention in San Antonio.

The prestigious research award is presented to individuals or institutions that contribute to the understanding of Down syndrome or improve the lives of people with Down syndrome and their families. The award is named after Theodore D. Tjossem, who was the chief of the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers branch at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, under the National Institutes of Health (NIH), from 1966 until his retirement in 1987.

“The Linda Crnic Institute for Down syndrome is being recognized by the Down syndrome community for its research and leadership. Dr. McCabe and his team are pioneers in bringing clinical care and research together in one setting,” said David Tolleson, executive director of the National Down Syndrome Congress. “They have not only undertaken important research around medical standards and high-incidence diseases, such as congenital heart defects, they have also been key leaders in advocating for more and better research as witnessed by their organization at the first National Conference on Down syndrome in conjunction with the NIH.”

McCabe accepted the award with colleagues Michelle Livingston, director of operations and government affairs at Global Down Syndrome Foundation – the nonprofit that supports the institute – and DeOndra Dixon, advocate and ambassador for the Global Down Syndrome Foundation.

“On behalf of the Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome, I am humbled and honored to be added to the list of Theodore D. Tjossem Research Award recipients,” McCabe said. “The fact is, people with Down syndrome deserve sound research and fair funding that will provide them the best medical care and health outcome, as well as allow them to reach their true potential. We are committed to delivering what people with Down syndrome deserve.”

The National Down Syndrome Congress annual convention is the only annual, national conference in the United States for people with Down syndrome, their families, and their care providers. To learn more about National Down Syndrome Congress or the Annual Convention, please visit www.ndsccenter.org[3].

Tenure list: June 2011[4]

Editor’s note: Earlier this month, CU Connections published a list of the latest appointments and awards of tenure made by the Board of Regents at its Aug. 10 meeting. Many other faculty members received tenure at the board’s June meeting; those names are presented here. Connections will publish lists of newly tenured faculty as approved by the regents at future meetings.

University of Colorado Boulder:
Stephanie Bryant, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering **Julie Carr,** Department of English **Nicholas Carthy,** College of Music **Donald Cooper,** Department of Psychology and Neuroscience **Niels Damrauer,** Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry **Sona Dimidjian,** Department of Psychology and Neuroscience **Joaquin Espinosa,** Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology **Noah Fierer,** Department of Ecology **Eric Frew,** Department of Aerospace Engineering Sciences **Nils Halverson,** Department of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences **Carla Jones,** Department of Anthropology **Susan Jurow,** School of Education **Daniel Kellogg,** College of Music **Phoebe Kropp,** Department of History **Peter McGraw,** Leeds School of Business **Tobin Munsat**, Department of Physics **Helen Norton**, School of Law **Paul Ohm,** School of Law **Rosalba Perna,** Department of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences **Li Shang**, Department of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering **Dylan Taatjes**,

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry **Thomas Wadsworth,** Department of Sociology **Jennifer Wolak,** Department of Political Science **Ronggui Yang,** Department of Mechanical Engineering
University of Colorado Colorado Springs:
Heather P. Albanesi, Department of Sociology **Timothy K. Behrens,** Department of Health Sciences **Brian M. Duvick**, Department of History **Barbara J. Frye,** Department of Curriculum and Instruction **Andrew D. Ketsdever,** Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering **Brian P. McAllister**, College of Business and Administration **Amy L. Silva-Smith,** Department of Nursing **Andrew W. Subudhi,** Department of Biology
University of Colorado Denver and Anschutz Medical Campus:
Amy Brooks-Kayal, Department of Pediatrics **Sheana Bull,** Department of Community and Behavioral Health **Stephan Durham,** Department of Civil Engineering **Sonia Flores,** Department of Medicine **Andrew Fontenot,** Department of Medicine **Nicholas Foreman**, Department of Pediatrics **Laurent Gapin,** Integrated Department of Immunology **Dorothy Garrison-Wade**, School of Education and Human Development **Anita Glicken**, Department of Pediatrics **Bruce Goldstein,** Department of Planning and Design **Lynn Heasley,** Department of Craniofacial Biology **John Kittelson,** Department of Biostatistics and Informatics **Julien Langou**, Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences **Jenn Leiferman,** Department of Community and Behavioral Health **David Liban**, Department of Film, Theatre and Video Production **Hai Lin,** Department of Chemistry **Edward R.B. McCabe,** Department of Pediatrics **Rafael Moreno-Sanchez**, Department of Geography and Environmental Science **Charles Musiba**, Department of Anthropology **Lee Scott Newman,** Department of Environmental and Occupational Health **Scott Reed,** Department of Chemistry **Callie Rennison,** School of Public Affairs **Michael Roberts**, Business School **Barry Shur,** Department of Integrative Biology **Gillian Silverman,** Department of English **Tod Sloan,** Department of Anesthesiology **Christopher Weible,** School of Public Affairs **Nancy Whitesell**, Department of Community and Behavioral Health **Cara Wilson,** Department of Medicine **Rui Zhao,** Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

State launches first employee engagement survey[5]

[6]
University of Colorado faculty and staff are being asked to take part in the first employee engagement survey of the nearly 100,000 people who work for the state of Colorado.

The survey, led by Gov. John Hickenlooper and the state's Department of Personnel & Administration (DPA), launched Tuesday and will be available online until Sept. 16. The governor invites all employees — faculty, exempt professional and classified staff — to take the survey. It does not supplant any other engagement survey any of our campuses may offer: Such surveys are designed to ask questions and opinions specific to a campus, whereas the statewide survey aims to obtain opinions about work in Colorado.

To take the survey, click here[7] and use the logon password "soco." It can be completed in less than 15 minutes.

For employees without Web access, paper surveys in English and Spanish are available from human resources office on your campus or at system administration.

"Such a survey has never been done here on a statewide level before," wrote Kathy Nesbitt, executive director of the DPA, in a message to human resources leadership across Colorado. "We're giving employees the chance to tell us about their work environment, letting us know what's working well in state government and what isn't. It's a collaboration with the workforce to offer innovative ideas on improvements for Colorado."

Responses will be anonymous. DPA will provide a set of University of Colorado and campus-specific reports on survey results. Those outcomes will be reported, when available, in CU Connections.

"Our intent is to give directors, managers and supervisors direction," Nesbitt wrote. "By late October, based on your feedback our hope is that your manager will develop action plans based on survey results."

The state partnered with OrgVitality, a third-party vendor, to host the website and gather responses. The state only

receives data in aggregate.

Thousands in Buffalo Bicycle Classic gear up for scholarships[8]

Punam Chatterjee (Photo by Noah Larsen)

In 1991, when Punam Chatterjee was 20 months old, a drunk driver careened into her parents' car. Her leg was shattered, as was her father's. Her mother lost an eye. Although she was too young to remember it, she has since learned that while her parents convalesced, nurses volunteered to comfort her and read to her.

"I don't know any of those people … but what they did for me was just incredible," Chatterjee recalled.

She still has multiple screws in her leg, and while she said she's "never going to try out for the Army," she is active. And she is ambitious: "I want to be a doctor and help children who went through what I did."

Throughout her education at the University of Colorado Boulder, Chatterjee has pursued her dream with the help of the Elevations Credit Union Buffalo Bicycle Classic. This year's event is set for Sept. 11 in Boulder.

Chatterjee – who graduated in May with degrees in psychology and neuroscience plus molecular, cellular and developmental biology – is among the hundreds of recipients of $1.4 million in scholarship money raised by CU's Buffalo Bicycle Classic since its founding in 2003.

Elevations Credit Union Buffalo Bicycle Classic (Courtesy photo)

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

Gleeson and Eaton enlisted the help of Frank Banta and Gail Mock of Boulder. Banta, of Banta Construction, is a 1972 alumnus, and Mock, of Mock Realty, is a longtime university supporter. The event is organized and overseen by volunteers.

The event has generated 548 scholarships for good students who need financial support. 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.

The Fourmile Canyon Fire forced the cancellation of last year's race. Because most riders and sponsors did not request refunds, scholarships remained funded.

Scholarship recipients call it a significant windfall.

Said Leslie Fowler, a current scholarship recipient majoring in classics, "I am so grateful to have been selected as a BBC scholar because it makes me feel more confident about paying my student loans after graduation. It makes me feel that much closer to having my dream job as a high school teacher."

Cyclists of all ages and abilities are gearing up for this year's Elevations Credit Union Buffalo Bicycle Classic. Ambitious cyclists can ride the 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.

Riders are encouraged to register early, as the ride will be capped at 2,500 cyclists, a number the ride has attracted in recent years.

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 13.

Those who “Ride the Buffalo” will start and finish on the CU-Boulder campus at Benson Field, across Colorado Avenue 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.

Registration for all rides includes a Ride the Buffalo T-shirt, water bottle, aid-station treats, breakfast and lunch. Jerseys, socks and other merchandise are available for purchase.. An expo featuring sponsors will be at the start/finish, and riders can win raffle prizes and enjoy after-race food, beverages and entertainment.

Riders can register online at www.buffalobicycleclassic.com[11]. Walk-up registration is available the day of the ride and includes a $10 late fee. For information, call 303-735-1569 or email bbc@colorado.edu[12].

Volunteers help students settle into Campus Village Apartments[13]

[14]
Suitcases, shoes, bicycles, boxes and assorted bundles were hauled into Campus Village Apartments last week as students began arriving at the Denver Campus for the fall semester that began Monday.

On hand to welcome and help students with their belongings were more than 50 volunteers organized by the Office of Student Life. “It's amazing to see our students, staff and others step up to welcome the new students,” said Larry Loften, director of Community Standards and Wellness.

Clad in black T-shirts sporting the new CU logo, volunteers were easy to spot. Chancellor Jerry Wartgow (photo at right) and Provost Rod Nairn (photo left) also donned T-shirts and pitched in to greet students and help with the move-in activities. Both noted the excitement that goes with the start of a new year.

The Campus Village move-in support was just one part of a much larger effort introduced this fall. Student Life staff organized **CU Launch** to engage first-year student commuters as well as those living on campus[15]. Other events include hosted trips through downtown Denver, an outing to a Rockies game and a bicycle trip.

Located just west of the Auraria Campus, Campus Village Apartments accommodate more than 650 student residents [16]. Of the Auraria Campus students calling Campus Village “home” this fall are 514 CU Denver students, 112 registered at Metropolitan State College of Denver and 15 attending classes at the Community College of Denver.

Among the ranks of CU Denver students at Campus Village are students from very diverse backgrounds with a broad range of experiences and interests. Some numbers:
CU Denver first-year students: 287 International Chinese Beijing: 76 Denver Bound Program: 45 University Honors and Leaders: 14 BA/MS MD Program: 12
Thank you treats for faculty and staff: The Office of Student Life invites faculty and staff to unwind after a long week of hard work welcoming students back. Enjoy cookies and milk starting at 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26, in the Student Life Office, Tivoli 303.

Dropping names ...[17]

Gould

Verma

Rachel Bercovitz, M.D, a Transfusion Medicine fellow at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, has been named one of 20 hematology and hematology/oncology fellows and junior faculty chosen for the American Society of Hematology Clinical Research Training Institute, a yearlong education and mentoring program designed to prepare participants for careers in patient-oriented research. Participants leave the program with a customized career-development plan and a peer-reviewed research proposal. Bercovitz recently finished a pediatric Hematology/Oncology fellowship at CU. … **Janice Gould**, assistant professor in women's and ethnic studies at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, is the 2012 Writer-in-Residence for the School for Advanced Research, a Santa Fe, N.M., center for the study of the archaeology and ethnology of the American Southwest. While completing the fellowship, Gould will work on a set of gacelas – poetry formed by couplets and repeating rhyme and often around the themes of love and intoxication. She also plans to set her work to musical and photographic accompaniment. … Associate Professor **Geeta Verma**, who teaches at the School of Education and Human Development at the University of Colorado Denver, will receive the 2011 Recent Alumni Award from Kent State University's College of Education, Health and Human Services during the school's homecoming festivities Oct. 14. Verma received her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction with a concentration in science education from Kent State University in 2001. She earned her bachelor's degrees (zoology, botany and chemistry, and education certification) and two master's degrees (zoology and education) from the University of Delhi, India.

Planetarium director honored for astronomy teaching[20]

Duncan

Douglas Duncan, a senior instructor in the Department of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder and director of Fiske Planetarium, has received the prestigious Richard H. Emmons Award for excellence in college astronomy teaching from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

The award is conferred annually to someone demonstrating outstanding achievement in the teaching of college-level introductory astronomy for nonscience majors. Emmons was a pioneer of planetarium astronomy and the award is considered a top recognition in the field.

Duncan was the youngest planetarium speaker hired at the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles and has a long history of planetarium-based teaching. In 1992 he accepted a joint appointment at the University of Chicago and the Adler Planetarium, and in 2002 he joined the University of Colorado Boulder faculty and Fiske Planetarium.

An advocate for pioneering methods of instruction, Duncan was one of the first CU faculty members to use "Learning Assistants," a nationally recognized CU STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program that introduces younger undergraduates to teaching. The program has increased the number of K-12 science teachers in Colorado who have degrees in both science and education.

Duncan is the author of "Clickers in the Classroom," a guide to the interactive technology that provides immediate

feedback on how much students are learning in the classroom. He has served as national education coordinator for the American Astronomical Society, which represents the 7,000 professional astronomers in the United States. In that capacity he led efforts for better teaching and public communication for astronomers throughout the nation.

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific was founded in Northern California in 1889 and today is the world's largest general astronomy society. The organization increases the understanding and appreciation of astronomy by engaging scientists, educators, enthusiasts and the public to advance science and science literacy.

Note: To read our Five Questions feature on Duncan from last year, click here.[22]

CU-Boulder Arts and Sciences dean stepping down[23]

University of Colorado Boulder Provost Russell Moore today announced that he has accepted the resignation of Todd Gleeson as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at CU-Boulder effective June 30, 2012.

Gleeson, who has served nine years in the post, will return as a professor in the Department of Integrative Physiology. He was named dean of Arts and Sciences by then-CU-Boulder Provost Philip P. DiStefano on April 16, 2002, following the nomination of a search committee that had conducted a national search.

"Todd Gleeson has been an effective leader of CU-Boulder's largest college during a time of great transformation and growth," Moore said. "He has overseen the growth of student enrollment in Arts and Sciences programs from 13,850 to over 16,100 students, a 12 percent faculty expansion, and the introduction of a number of innovative new academic programs, all while managing significant budget challenges during his tenure as dean."

Moore said Gleeson also has been a stalwart fundraiser through innovations such as the upcoming Buffalo Bicycle Classic, which has raised $1.4 million for scholarships in Arts and Sciences since its founding in 2003.

"Throughout good times and bad, Todd has remained a good friend and colleague," Moore said. "I am delighted he is staying with us as a member of the faculty."

Moore said a decision will be made on a search sometime later this academic year after consultation with DiStefano, now the chancellor of CU-Boulder, and other CU officials.

Gleeson began his CU-Boulder career in 1981 as an assistant professor and was appointed professor in 1994. He also has served as associate chair of the ecology and evolutionary biology department.

In the College of Arts and Sciences, he served from 1990 to 1995 as acting associate dean for student academic affairs and as associate dean for curricular affairs, before assuming the post of associate vice chancellor for faculty affairs in 1997.

Gleeson has received numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation and was honored as an Elected Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He also is a recipient of the University of Colorado Teaching Recognition Award from the Student Alumni Organization for Alumni Relations. He has a lengthy record of research publication, university and professional service and teaching activities for undergraduate and graduate students.

Gleeson earned his doctorate from the developmental and cell biology department at the University of California, Irvine. He also held a National Institutes of Health postdoctoral fellowship in physiology at the College of Medicine at UC-Irvine.

National magazine honors CU-Boulder cuisine achievements[24]

Operating 13 venues at CU-Boulder, Housing and Dining Services has excelled in the development of facilities, the cultivation of culinary talent and culture, and the broadening of operational efficiencies. Such success has earned it the "Best of Show" honor from Food Management magazine in the publication's 2011 "Best Concept" competition[25].

The national magazine for the noncommercial food service industry also gave CU-Boulder's year-old Center for Community building the "Best New Facility" award. The Center for Community provides patrons not only with food but also with international and cultural experiences in a sustainably built space styled after a street market. The 900-seat dining hall offers freshly prepared fare, including Asian, Italian, halal and kosher-compliant dishes, at nine micro-restaurants.

"Dining Services acknowledges the opportunity we have to connect with our guests through quality service and unique offerings," said Dining Services Director Amy Beckstrom. "We're very proud of these accolades from Food Management, which recognize the commitment of our staff to elevate university food service for our community."

Winners of the "Best Concept" awards are featured in the August issue of Food Management and will be honored at the magazine's annual IDEAS Conference in late September in Grapevine, Texas.

CU-Boulder Dining Services dishes out about 2.5 million meals per year to students, faculty, staff, community members and visitors. It has implemented a number of initiatives in recent years that have garnered praise from Food Management and other publications and organizations.

Dining Services has developed and implemented a nationally recognized labeling program that identifies eight top food allergens – eggs, dairy, fish, shellfish, tree nuts, soy and wheat – and gluten in the menu items served at its venues. The program is called the A9 Allergen Project.

In July 2010, Dining Services was one of eight national recipients and the only university food service program to receive an Achievement of Excellence award from the American Culinary Federation. Reflected in this award is Dining Services' ongoing commitment to culinary development, providing training and support for its chefs to connect with diners through expertly crafted authentic foods, Beckstrom said.

Discovery has implications for beer history – and medicine[26]

It doesn't take a genome sequencer to figure out that lager brewing began in Bavaria in the 15th century. But the origin of the yeast that makes lager beer remained a mystery – until now.

Molecular geneticists knew that lager yeast is a hybrid created by the fusion of an ale yeast and a fairly distant relative – about as distant from ale yeast as human is from chicken. The species that joined with ale yeast was assumed to provide the ability to ferment at cold temperatures, the hallmark of lager production.

But no one could find it. Then a team of scientists on three continents went to work.

"It was fun trying to track down the mystery yeast," says Mark Johnston, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. "But it also was important."

Johnston worked with scientists from the New University of Lisbon in Portugal and the Institute for Biodiversity and Environment Research in Bariloche, Argentina. Their findings were published this week in the Proceedings of the

National Academy of Sciences.

“People have been hunting for this thing for decades,” says Chris Todd Hittinger, a member of the Colorado team, now a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The researchers didn’t set out to find where lager beer came from. But the secret ingredient in the beer popped up in a broader search for new yeasts.

The detective work began in Europe, which seemed logical, but no yeasts there fit the profile. They found what turned out to be the missing piece an ocean away in the Southern beech woodlands of Patagonia.

The new yeast was hustled off to the University of Colorado School of Medicine where Hittinger and Jim Dover in Johnston’s lab sequenced its genome.

They named it Saccharomyces eubayanus. It likes the cold, and its DNA sequence looks like that of the unidentified component of the lager yeast genome.

The Colorado team also identified genetic mutations in the lager yeast hybrid distinctive from the genome of the wild lager yeast. Those changes – which likely took place in a brewing environment where evolution is amped up by the great abundance of yeast – accumulated since those first immigrant yeasts melded with their ale cousins 500 years ago, and refined the lager yeast’s ability to metabolize sugar and malt and to produce sulfites, transforming an organism that evolved on beech trees into a beer-making machine.

How did yeast get from South America to the caves and monasteries of Bavaria where lager beer was born? They don’t know. But lager beer brewing began at about the same time as the rise of trans-Atlantic trade, so the yeast may have hitched a ride on a sailing ship, perhaps on a piece of wood or in the stomach of a fruit fly.

That cold-loving hybrid then evolved into the modern lager yeasts that are used today in breweries throughout the world, acquiring several genetic changes that altered their sugar and sulfur metabolism.

“We pursued this mostly just because we want to figure out how things work and why things are the way they are,” Johnston says. “But there's more to it. What we’ve learned about relatively simple organisms like yeast has helped scientists understand the human genome and how variations in the DNA sequence lead to disease. So, remarkably, our experience working out DNA sequences differences in the genomes of brewing yeasts could help us tackle the more difficult challenge of personalized medicine – using knowledge of an individual’s human genome sequences to improve health care.”

UCCS athletic director to enter hall of honor[27]

Kirkham

University of Colorado Colorado Springs Athletic Director **Stephen Kirkham** will be inducted into the Hall of Honor at Colorado Mesa University (formerly Mesa State College) in a ceremony in Grand Junction on Sept. 30.

Also being inducted during the ceremony, which will be held at Colorado Mesa’s University Center Ballroom, will be the Mavericks’ 1982 football team. Kirkham coached the school’s women’s basketball teams from 1988-2004, amassing a 299-157 record. He retired as the most-winning women’s basketball coach in Mesa State College and Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) history. Including stints at the high school and junior college levels, as well as one season as the interim coach at UCCS, Kirkham’s career record is 438-254.

“It is an amazing honor for a first-generation college graduate who never intended to coach women’s basketball,”

Kirkham said. “I immediately think of all the great ladies who played at Colorado Mesa University during my 16 years there and their dedication, effort and ability.

“I smile a lot thinking also of their personalities and the experiences we shared. It was a terrific journey.”

Kirkham led the Mavericks to four RMAC Championships, seven consecutive RMAC West Division Championships and one RMAC Tournament title. Under his guidance, the team recorded 15 winning seasons, advancing to 10 consecutive RMAC Shootout Tournaments. During Kirkham’s tenure, his teams set a league record for 10 consecutive winning seasons and were the first RMAC team to host an NCAA Regional Tournament (2002). MSC led the nation in field goal percentage defense (33 percent) in 2000 and Rebound Margin (+13.5) in 1999. His teams still hold 28 Mesa State school records.

Kirkham coached 46 RMAC All-Conference players, three All-Americans, one Region Player of the Year and two NAIA District Player of the Year. He coached RMAC and Mesa State Hall of Fame honoree, Tonya Stites.

In his 16 years at the helm he had a 100 percent senior graduation rate and numerous National Academic Top 25 teams. Kirkham was instrumental in increasing female participation in Mesa State Basketball Camps from 800 to more than 2,000.

Tickets for the event will go on sale Sept. 1 and can be purchased at http://www.coloradomesa.edu/[29] or by calling the alumni office at 970-248-1871.

Freshmen arrive on campus with enthusiasm – and boxes[30]

(Photo by Tom Hutton)

The SUVs, vans and pickups of UCCS freshmen and their families were lined up the morning of Aug. 16 as the newest members of the campus community moved into university housing.

Greeted by the Office of Residence Life student resident assistant staff, legions of current students, staff from multiple campus offices, and the occasional faculty member or administrator, more than 500 members of the class of 2015 began the process of transitioning from high school to college, one box at a time.

“I do this every year,” said Bob Durham, psychology professor, while walking briskly to exchange room keys for a new freshman student. “It’s fun.”

(Photo by Tom Hutton)

Most freshmen were greeted by members of student clubs anxious to help and to recruit new members. One group offered free pancakes to students and family members who waited in line while others promoted their clubs by wearing T-shirts with the club’s name and offering to haul televisions or boxes up as many as four flights of stairs. Student staff from the Parking Office kept vehicles on the north and south sides of housing moving, directing new vehicles into place as soon as an SUV was unloaded. Inside Monarch House, students learned about everything from parking regulations to vaccinations.

“I have free meningitis vaccines,” said Stephanie Hanenberg, director of the Student Health Center, before explaining that students who live in campus housing must have the vaccine or sign a waiver saying they understand the disease’s risks.

(Photo by Tom Hutton)

The process was efficient and reflects several years of fine tuning, according to Ralph Giese, director, Office of Residence Life. Music helped set a festive mood and more students and families seemed to pay heed to instructions that although doors opened at 9 a.m., there was no need to arrive early.

About 900 students live on campus. Plans are under way to add space for 200 more students as student housing quickly reached capacity this year, according to Susan Szpyrka, senior associate vice chancellor, Administration and Finance.

This year's freshman class is expected to exceed 1,200 with total UCCS enrollment surpassing 9,000, according to Homer Wesley, vice chancellor, Student Success and Enrollment Management. An official student enrollment census is expected Sept. 8.

Call for submissions: Art from CU Denver community[34]

The Exhibits Committee of the Health Sciences Library will curate a juried exhibition of artwork created by the faculty, staff and students of CU Denver.

Submissions of all types of art created by members of either the Anschutz Medical Campus or the Denver campus are requested. To submit artwork for consideration, visit the library's website to download a submission form[35]. Submission deadline is Sept. 1.

Artwork will be on display Nov. 1 through Jan. 6 in the Gallery of the Health Sciences Library. An opening reception is planned for 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 15.

Concert will mark decade since 9/11[36]

[37]

Faculty from the CU-Boulder College of Music will present a concert in tribute to those killed in the 9/11 attacks 10 years ago.

The event is set for 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in Grusin Music Hall. Faculty from all areas of the college will join together in a celebration of life. A special performance will end the concert that is sure to inspire everyone who attends.

The program includes: Shostakovich, Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 147; Thomas, Race for the Sky for mezzo-soprano, violin and piano; Nytch, Epilogue; Bruns, Ravensbruck Prayer; and more.

This concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call the CU Presents Box Office at 303-492-8008 or visit music.colorado.edu/events/[38].

Staff Council looks to boost participation[39]

During its first meeting of this school year, University of Colorado Staff Council considered ways to promote and raise its visibility; discussed the effects of House Bill 11-1301, including a salary pool for exempt professionals and faculty; and reviewed details of the upcoming fall retreat.

Staff Council members discussed ways in which the group might encourage more people to participate and serve the university community though the development of a culture that promotes and supports service. Members say constituents report that they often don't receive needed support from managers or supervisors to join councils or other service organizations. Some of the recommendations discussed were:
Work to generate more support and commitment from administrators and supervisors for those staff members who wish to participate on governance groups. Underscore the importance of Staff Council by requesting to present updates during President Bruce D. Benson's town hall meetings or other similar events. Use a portion of the council's budget to present staff enrichment or service learning events. Work to promote and increase visibility of the university, the staff and the Staff Council in the local community.
The group will consider these recommendations and prioritize goals for the remainder of the year at its fall retreat, Oct. 2-3 in Estes Park. Some topics for discussion during the event may include tuition benefits and the trend toward classified positions transitioning to exempt positions.

In other business, E. Jill Pollock, chief human resources officer and senior associate vice president, updated council on a variety of programs at the university, including:
The 3 percent salary pool for faculty and exempt professionals. The plan was approved with constraints, including meeting budget and enrollment targets. Any decisions on compensation for faculty and exempt professionals would not occur until October at the earliest. Pollock said the administration also is considering ways to compensate classified staff. New emphasis on wellness will begin the first week in October with the availability of an online health risk assessment tool. The tool allows participants to obtain baseline information about their health and get advice for improvement. The university will only see aggregate results of the assessment and use those to address member needs. Drawings and other promotions will encourage people to participate.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/people/mccabe-recognized-leadership-research-down-syndrome[2] https://connections.cu.edu/people/mccabe-recognized-for-leadership-research-on-down-syndrome/people_mccabe[3] http://www.ndsccenter.org/[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/tenure-list-june-2011[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/state-launches-first-employee-engagement-survey[6] https://connections.cu.edu/news/state-launches-first-employee-engagement-survey/state-survery-2[7] https://co.orgvitality.com/cosurvey/survey/access.aspx[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/thousands-buffalo-bicycle-classic-gear-scholarships[9] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/thousands-in-buffalo-bicycle-classic-gear-up-for-scholarships/ucb1-chatterjee-2[10] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/thousands-in-buffalo-bicycle-classic-gear-up-for-scholarships/ucb1-buff-classic[11] http://www.buffalobicycleclassic.com/[12] mailto:bbc@colorado.edu[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/volunteers-help-students-settle-campus-village-apartments[14] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/volunteers-help-students-settle-into-campus-village-apartments/ucd-volunteers[15] http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/housing/prospective-students/Pages/Orientation-and-Welcome-Week.aspx[16] ht tp://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/housing/prospective-students/1st-year-students/Pages/Living-on-Campus.aspx[17] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-114[18] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-%E2%80%A6-4/people_gould[19] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-%E2%80%A6-4/people_verma[20] https://connections.cu.edu/people/planetarium-director-honored-astronomy-

teaching[21] https://connections.cu.edu/people/planetarium-director-honored-for-astronomy-teaching/people_duncan-2[22] https://www.cusys.edu/newsletter/2010/06-30/5q.html[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-boulder-arts-and-sciences-dean-stepping-down[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/national-magazine-honors-cu-boulder-cuisine-achievements[25] http://food-management.com/news_briefs/best_concepts_colorado0629/index.html[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/discovery-has-implications-beer-history-%E2%80%93-and-medicine[27] https://connections.cu.edu/people/uccs-athletic-director-enter-hall-honor[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/uccs-athletic-director-to-enter-hall-of-honor/people_kirkham[29] http://www.coloradomesa.edu/[30] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/freshmen-arrive-campus-enthusiasm-%E2%80%93-and-boxes[31] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/freshmen-arrive-on-campus-with-enthusiasm-%E2%80%93-and-boxes/uccs1-2[32] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/freshmen-arrive-on-campus-with-enthusiasm-%E2%80%93-and-boxes/uccs2-2[33] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/freshmen-arrive-on-campus-with-enthusiasm-%E2%80%93-and-boxes/uccs3[34] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/call-submissions-art-cu-denver-community[35] http://hsl2.ucdenver.edu/jk/UCDCallentries.doc[36] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/concert-will-mark-decade-911[37] https://connections.cu.edu/news/concert-will-mark-decade-since-911/attachment/911[38] http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=tvt54ebab&et=1106954192419&s=18713&e=0015a3MSlZqU2dnXhf6iB1-X15J5brv1WL6W2ajomUk0prtovyf8YFegW6iIoyesp1Iez_aOeY0BfTu6V3gpFLtoCM1vmy9NQpGFnO7lwZO5mreon4t4ubPs8XoIJypFDk4[39] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/staff-council-looks-boost-participation