More than $861 million awarded to University of Colorado for sponsored research[1]

University of Colorado faculty researchers attracted $861.04 million in research awards in the 2013-14 fiscal year, based on preliminary figures.

That total investment in exploration taking place at CU campuses represents a stunning jump of 11.7 percent over the previous year's total, $770.53 million, which came at an especially competitive time for research institutions given tightening federal budgets. Most sponsored research funding comes from federal agencies.

This year's figure is bested by just one other in CU history, FY2010, when one-time federal stimulus dollars helped fuel research awards of $884.1 million.

Three of the four CU campuses were beneficiaries of research award increases this year, with the University of Colorado Boulder seeing the greatest dollar increase over the previous year – $60.2 million.

Following are the totals in sponsored research funding at CU campuses, along with examples of the life-changing work such awards enable:
University of Colorado Boulder, $412.10 million, including a $5.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for research by Leslie Leinwand, Ph.D., into cardiac myosin genes. She studies genetic mutations that cause severe genetic heart disease, including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy – the leading cause of sudden death in young athletes.
University of Colorado Colorado Springs, $9.40 million, including a two-year, $325,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. The Department of Psychology will use the Graduate Psychology Education grant to prepare doctoral students in the clinical psychology program to deliver mental health services to older adults within integrated medical settings. These settings work to seamlessly combine mental and physical health care. **University of Colorado Denver**, $13.57 million, including a grant of just under $1 million that will boost the number of minority Ph.D. candidates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics – the STEM disciplines – at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus Graduate School. The two-year Bridge to the Doctorate Program is funded by the National Science Foundation under the auspices of the Colorado Alliance for Minority Participation. **University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus**, $425.97 million, including a $2.5 million award from the American Heart/Stroke Association and the Bugher Foundation. It forms the basis of the new University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus ASA/Bugher Foundation Stroke Collaborative Research Center of Excellence. Richard J. Traystman, Ph.D., and his research group are looking for a better understanding of and innovative treatments for stroke in children, who often are left with devastating lifelong consequences.
Sponsored research funding from federal, state and local agencies targets specific projects to advance research in laboratories and in the field. Research funding also helps pay for research-related capital improvements, scientific equipment, travel and salaries for research and support staff and student assistantships. CU cannot divert these dollars to fund non-research-related expenses such as utilities, compensation, student financial aid or grounds maintenance.

Much sponsored research funding is directed to departments and researchers with unique expertise, such as biotechnology and aerospace, which stimulates industry.

Via the CU Technology Transfer Office, CU research commercialization has led to the formation of 141 companies since 1994; nine start-up companies were formed in fiscal year 2013-14.

Research on the runway – fusing science and fashion[2]

[3]
On a whim, Georgia Charkoftaki, Ph.D., a visiting research associate at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences? on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, submitted an application to participate in a national fashion competition that brings together scientific discovery and fashion inspiration in an innovative runway event. The competition, titled Descience, is organized by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and pairs together one scientist and one designer. The scientist provides images and ideas that are the inspiration for a runway look and

culminates in a runway show in September.

With a penchant for fashion and a passion for science, Georgia says, “this seemed like a unique way to convey the research I am working on.”

After obtaining advice from her supervisor Melanie Joy, Ph.D., Georgia uploaded slides and a description of the research she and Dr. Joy’s lab are involved in – drug delivery and discovery for the kidney disease lupus nephritis – then promptly forgot about her submission.
[4]
“Unfortunately there are few medical options for lupus nephritis. So, trying to come up with a drug and delivery mechanism that attacks the disease and keeps healthy tissue healthy is a challenging goal,” says Dr. Joy.
A few months after her submission, Georgia received word that she and her research had been selected. Paired with designer Lilian Kong, they named themselves NanoNephron, and became one of 61 participating teams. “I really didn’t know what to expect, but it’s been fascinating,” says Lilian.
[5]
Working via e-mail and Skype, the two collaborated long-distance to create an entire look including cocktail dress and jewelry that together represent the scientist’s work and the designer’s vision.
“First you have to explain the science, which can be challenging, especially to a non-scientist,” says Georgia.
Impressed by Lilian’s ability to grasp scientific concepts and translate them into something wearable, Georgia “came to the conclusion that both fields require the ability to make leaps in knowledge. In some ways we think very alike, but differently. She thinks in terms of form. I think in formulas.”

The two went back and forth discussing the science and refining the concept and design. The jumping-off point was a slide of the disease, which established the main color and pattern of the dress. Incorporating color and texture into her design, Lilian has been able to show – through her design – how different parts in the kidney are affected by either the disease or drug-induced injury. There are even cutouts that represent the kidneys and gradual color and pattern changes show how current treatments can cause side effects and injury to other cells.

The research that Georgia and her team are conducting focuses on delivering drugs to specific sites in the kidney rather than blasting the disease with medication and exposing all tissue to strong drugs that can damage other cells. The jewelry symbolizes the targeted delivery approach Georgia is working on; the dress represents the disease and affected cells.

With this approach, scientists design a vehicle to contain the drug and move it to the targeted site in the kidney, bypassing all other tissues.

“Our goal is to provide a new perspective and hope to lupus patients,” says Georgia.

With the garment designed and photos submitted in July, the last step in the competition is judgment day and the runway show, where 15 of the looks will be showcased. The judges are two Nobel Prize winners in science, the executive director for Boston Fashion Week and the design director at Tiffany & Co.

Even if NanoNephron does not make it into the final 15, the team still has an opportunity to qualify for the final runway show by being named the “People’s Choice.” Visit www.fashiondescience.com/#1desciencevote/cmk[6] to check out the looks and vote for NanoNephron to compete in the runway show. Voting ends Sept. 14.

Marcy Benson a tireless advocate for Anschutz Medical Campus[7]

[8]
Perhaps the most relentless advocate, and prodigious fundraiser, at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical

Campus is someone who doesn't even work there.

Whenever she hears about a research project taking place at CU Anschutz, her mind goes to work: How can I raise money for this effort? How can I make sure this story gets told? How can I ensure that as many people as possible will benefit from this top-quality health care?

CU first lady Marcy Benson grew up in Oklahoma City and learned the value of hard work and giving back. "I've always thought volunteering and being active in the community is important," she says. "My parents were community oriented, so I learned from them that it's important."

That quality only intensified when she married Bruce Benson, who became CU president in 2008. Marcy notes that her husband, a 1964 CU graduate, is service-oriented in all that he does. "It's a way of life," she says. "Bruce and I think fundraising for the university is always our job."

The Bensons co-chaired the Creating Futures campaign, which wrapped up last fall and surpassed more than $1.521 billion in private support—more support for CU than any other effort in the university's 138-year history. The Anschutz Medical Campus benefited from more than $772.4 million in private support during the campaign, from 26,617 donors.

Marcy Benson and CU President Bruce Benson at a donor recognition dinner in Denver in February 2014.

At CU Anschutz, Marcy sees a constellation of health-care superstars who should constantly be in the limelight. The campus is the best-kept secret in Colorado, she feels, but that's beginning to change. "I feel that's a big part of my job—increasing awareness," she says. "No matter where I am, I want people to know that this fantastic medical campus is in our backyard, and it's one of the best health care centers in the country. You do not have to fly somewhere else for great health care."

Being patients themselves on occasion, she and Bruce have experienced superb care from the campus's physicians and staff. Eight years ago Bruce had a heart condition that was successfully treated by Larry Hergott[10], M.D., at University of Colorado Hospital. Dr. Hergott accurately diagnosed the condition which had eluded doctors at another hospital.

"Anytime I hear a presentation by a doctor on the Anschutz Medical Campus, I wish we had unlimited funds to give to these programs, doctors and researchers," Marcy says. "There are hundreds of stars out there."

Those who know her work say the same thing: Marcy will do everything she possibly can for you. She will brainstorm fundraising strategies. She will work the phones. She and Bruce will host dinners for potential donors. She will serve on boards and committees (she serves on many, including the Anschutz Medical Campus Advancement Committee, the Children's Hospital Colorado Foundation Board, and she chairs the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center Advisory Board).

Cheryl Kisling, former vice chancellor of development at the Anschutz Medical Campus and current principle gift officer for President Benson, says Marcy volunteers "without hesitation" on fundraising efforts. "You can send Marcy out on her own on a fundraising mission, and she gets it done. She knows who to talk to, understands the strategy, and gets it done."

Marcy expanded her health care network and honed her knack for tapping into a donor's passion while serving 10 years on the Children's Hospital Colorado Board (in addition to the hospital's Foundation Board, which she chaired from 2005-07). She also co-chaired the Children's Hospital campaign to build the new Children's Hospital Colorado on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Prior to the Creating Futures campaign, she and Bruce chaired the Beyond Boundaries campaign (1997 to 2003) that raised $1 billion for CU.

"Both Marcy and Bruce listen to what the donor wants, and they don't let any personal or institutional agendas get in

the way," Kisling says. "They let the donor tell them what they care about. Then they say, 'Thank you,' which is very important."

HEALTH AND WELLNESS CHAMPION

For more than 15 years, Marcy has been a strong supporter of the ground-breaking research into human nutrition, obesity and weight management performed by James Hill[11], PhD, executive director of the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center. She served on the Center for Human Nutrition Board many years preceding the construction of the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center. "Like a lot of people," Marcy says, "I got hooked on Jim's enthusiasm for what he was doing."

The center has been spotlighted in the ABC TV series "Extreme Weight Loss"[12] and has received national attention for pioneering wellness programs such as 5th Gear Kids[13].

Hill says that what sets Marcy apart is her selflessness. "She's happy being behind the scenes," he says. "She's just brilliant in figuring out how to get things done. The last thing she's looking for is credit."

She and Bruce have given monetarily to the center in many ways, he says, "but the advice and help Marcy has given us is way beyond the value of the dollars. She knows everybody, she's smart as heck and has incredibly good instincts. She's the best fundraiser I've ever worked with.

"They work incredibly well as a team," Hill says of the Bensons. "We're getting two for one in the President's Office."

'MIND AND HEART IN SAME PLACE'

CU first lady Marcy Benson with Huntington Potter, Ph.D., at Potter's laboratory on the Anschutz Medical Campus. (Photo: Casey Cass/University of Colorado)

Another area of research close to Marcy Benson's heart is Alzheimer's, specifically the work of Huntington Potter[15], PhD, director of the Alzheimer's Disease Research and Clinical Center at the University of Colorado School of Medicine[16].

Marcy watched her mother suffer from Alzheimer's for 12 years. She passed away in May.

"It's an awful disease," she says. "Ever since I heard Hunt speak about his research[17] I've been thinking this guy may be the one who discovers the cure. Bruce and I have donated to him personally every year."

Marcy serves on the Rocky Mountain Alzheimer's Disease Research and Clinical Center Community Advisory Board. The board and CU are working to secure a National Institute of Aging designation as a national Alzheimer's Research Center. There are only 27 of the centers in the country.

Potter says Marcy is a joy to work with. "Through her example, she has encouraged others to be generous as well," he says. "It's that kind of leadership that we all benefit from."

The current cost of Alzheimer's disease to the country is about $200 billion a year. By 2050, Medicare and Medicaid will spend $1 trillion a year on Alzheimer's if a cure to the disease isn't found.

"It's an incredibly draining problem for the country," Potter says. "Marcy's personal experience with the disease magnifies her intellectual realization that this research is something we should be doing. So her mind and her heart are in the same place."

Her energies are focused on a health care city that is increasingly in the national and international spotlight. University of Colorado Hospital was named the No. 1 academic medical center for quality two years in a row, 2011 and 2012. It again leads the state's health institutions honored by U.S. News & World Report in its rankings of America's best

hospitals. Also, the magazine's ranking of UCH's Cancer Center jumped from 44th in the nation last year to 15th this year. These are just a small fraction of the accolades reaped by the Anschutz Medical Campus, which pulls in more than $400 million annually in research grants.

"CU Anschutz is a great place to do fundraising because there have been so many people who have benefited from the campus," Marcy says. "For patients being cared for at the campus, their college loyalties may be with another institution, but their health care loyalty is at the Anschutz Medical Campus."

Hill and other campus leaders say it's high time this quiet champion of their hard work gets some well-deserved recognition. "This woman deserves so much credit for what she's done," Hill says. "I think a lot of people don't realize what an asset Marcy Benson is for the university."

Five questions for Bradley J. Birzer[18]

[19]
Bradley J. Birzer has been appointed the second Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy, the University of Colorado Boulder announced in June.

Birzer, a professor of history and the Russell Amos Kirk Chair in American Studies at Hillsdale College in Michigan[20], begins his one-year appointment beginning in the fall.

In the coming year, Birzer is scheduled to teach four undergraduate courses. In fall, he will teach a freshman course in the Sewall Residential Academic Program and an upper-division course on the Foundations of Western Civilization for the Center of Western Civilization. In spring, he will teach a 2000-level history course and the Western Civilization course again.

Additionally, he will be encouraged to foster discussion by hosting public events in the campus community and perhaps around the state. Steven Hayward, the inaugural visiting scholar, organized more than a dozen guest speakers, debates and other public appearances during 2013-14.

Birzer is enthusiastic about his new post. “To say I’m thrilled about the year appointment would be an understatement,” he said.

Birzer has been teaching at Hillsdale College, a small and traditional liberal arts school, for 15 years and said he has some of the best students and colleagues in the whole of academia. “I’m also very much in line with the core and the mission of the college, color blind and gender neutral since its founding by abolitionists in 1844.”

Birzer recently answered five questions from Clint Talbott, Colorado Arts & Sciences Magazine’s[21] editor:

1. Why did you choose a life in academe?

Two of the finest persons I knew as a child were my maternal grandfather and mother, both teachers. One Saturday, my grandfather decided to take me to the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in his hometown of Hays, Kansas. He was always incredibly dignified. As we drove onto the campus of Fort Hays State, he saw a parking spot reserved for “Professor” somebody. He looked at me with his typical mischievous eye, and said, “Bradley, today, I think I’ll be a professor.” Whatever reason, I knew that a professor was somebody of importance (who, after all, could be wiser than my grandfather?), and the idea stuck with me throughout all of my schooling. I also had the great fortune of having a number of amazing teachers and professors, from grade-school Dominican nuns to some of the best lecturers and thinkers imaginable at the University of Notre Dame and Indiana University.

2. How would you characterize the state of political discourse in the United States today?

Terrible. Absolutely terrible. But, I must admit, I write this as a 46-year old jaded romantic who once would have given much of his life to one of the two major political parties.

Political discourse as of 2014 comes down to two things 1) loudness and 2) meaningless nothings. Oration is a dead art, and the news from CNN, Fox and other outlets is just superficial talking points with some anger and show. Radio is just as bad, if not worse. As one noted journalist, Virginia Postrel, has argued, we probably shouldn't take anything that someone such as Ann Coulter says with any real concern, as she is "a performance artist/comedian, not a serious commentator."

Two examples, I think, help illustrate this. Look at any speech delivered by almost any prominent American from 1774 to 1870 or so. The speeches are rhetorically complicated, the vocabulary immense, and the expectations of a well-informed audience high. To compare the speech of a 1830s member of Congress with one—perhaps even the best—in 2014 is simply gut-wrenchingly embarrassing.

Another example. The authors of the Constitution expected us to discuss the most serious matters with the utmost gravity. Nothing should possess more gravitas in a republic than the issue of war. Yet, as Americans, we have not engaged in a properly constitutional debate on the meaning of war since the close of World War II. We've seen massive protests, some fine songs, and a lot of bumper stickers, but no meaningful dialogue.

As a humanist, I crave answers for this, and I desire a return to true—not ideological—debate and conversation. Academia has much to offer the larger political world in this.

3. If you were asked to summarize what you hope to accomplish during your year as visiting scholar, what would you say?

I have dedicated my own academic career to the study of two things: 1) the human person as a unique manifestation of universal truths in a culturally and temporally specific setting; and 2) the humanities as best understood through the classics of western (and, at times, world) civilization.

CU is already rich in all of this, but I hope to add to that richness and to benefit from the same. No community can survive without a conversation with those of the present, those of the past, and those who are to come.

4. The Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy at CU-Boulder was created because of a perceived imbalance of perspectives among faculty; do you see this as an issue that should be addressed, and, if so, how should it best be addressed?

Though I grew up (in Kansas) vacationing in Boulder and the Boulder area, I have only been a part of the campus community on the day I came for the interviews. Of course, I had a brilliant time. Regardless, I don't really know what the state of discourse is on CU's campus. I plan on being involved in as many discussions as possible, and I also plan on sharing those discussions with non-Coloradans through the website The Imaginative Conservative[22].

And, of course, it's an absolute privilege to be invited to be an additional voice in such a vibrant intellectual community of scholars as that in Boulder. My voice, I hope, though will be that of Brad Birzer who happens to have strong conservative and libertarian leanings rather than as a libertarian or conservative who happens to be named Brad Birzer.

And, as much as I appreciate a relatively recent historical figure such as Barry Goldwater, I still much prefer Cicero and Virgil.

5. How do you view the value of higher education today, particularly given its rising cost and rising student-loan burden?

This is a terribly difficult problem, and, from what little I know of economics, so much has changed over the past 50 years due to strange incentives in funding, etc. But we also continue to specialize and specialize in our professions and disciplines to the point we can no longer talk across the self-imposed barriers. A person might gain from this, but a

society and the persons that make up that society do not.

I'm rather a devoted patriot of and for liberal education. From Socrates forward, the goal of a liberal education has been to "liberate" the human person from the everyday details of this world and the tyranny of the moment. Our citizenship, as liberally educated persons, belongs to the eternal Cosmopolis, not to D.C. or London or. . . .

College-level education must return to the fundamentals of the liberal tradition. Interestingly, this is the least-expensive way to teach and to be educated. The best education involves a professor, a group of students, a primary text and three hours a week in discussion.

Given how readily available the texts of the greats have become through the liberation and decentralization of publishing through the Internet, the complete writings of Plato are within reach of anyone with access to the web.

Real education does not have to be expensive.

This is in no way meant to discount professional education. Training for engineering, law, the sciences, etc. is vital for a functioning and healthy world and happy citizenry.

But, in our own titillation with what we can create, we often forget what came before and what will need to be passed on in terms of ethics and wisdom. The best lawyer, the best engineer, the best chemist, will be a better person for knowing the great ideas of the past: the ethics of Socrates; the sacrifice of Perpetua; and the genius of Augustine.

Bradley J. Birzer is CU-Boulder's second Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy. To subscribe to his CU blog and receive event notices, click here.[23] For more information, see: http://artsandsciences.colorado.edu/ctp/[24]

CU-Boulder leads international unmanned aircraft testing event at Pawnee Grassland[25]

An international team of scientists and students led by CU-Boulder used multiple unmanned aircraft to simultaneously intercept the outflow of a thunderstorm at Colorado's Pawnee National Grasslands earlier this month. Such data should help scientists better understand extreme weather tied to tornado activity. (Photo courtesy of Jack Elston/University of Colorado)

Video of ibLtyMSo2cU
An international research effort organized by the University of Colorado Boulder conducted the first multiple, unmanned aircraft interception of a telltale rush of cold air preceding a thunderstorm known as a "gust front" as it rolled across the Pawnee National Grassland in northeast Colorado on Aug. 14.
Organized by CU-Boulder's Research and Engineering Center for Unmanned Vehicles, or RECUV, the effort also involved the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Texas Tech University, Colorado State University, the University of Tübingen in Germany and the Center for Severe Weather Research based in Boulder. A gust front is a boundary that separates a cold thunderstorm downdraft from warm, humid surface air, which is of interest to scientists because it can generate damaging wind speeds up to 100 miles per hour.

"We believe this was the first time multiple unmanned aircraft systems were flown simultaneously to make coordinated measurements of the outflow from an evolving thunderstorm," said CU-Boulder postdoctoral fellow Jack Elston.

Elston is the principal investigator and organizer of the National Science Foundation-sponsored Multi-sUAS Evaluation of Techniques for Measurement of Atmospheric Properties field experiment, or MET-MAP. RECUV is a university, government and industry partnership headquartered in the aerospace engineering sciences department.

According to RECUV Director Eric Frew, a professor in aerospace engineering, MET-MAP was organized to coincide

with the August deployment of a U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research project known as EA-DDDAS. “The focus of EA-DDDAS is to develop a smart, small unmanned aircraft system that can plan its own flight path to maximize endurance by combining real-time weather-radar and atmospheric-model data with measurements made from the aircraft,” said Frew.

“The challenge is to move this information into high-speed computations that instruct the autopilot where to fly the best path to achieve the mission objectives,” he said.

As the gust front approached from the west Aug. 14 at Pawnee National Grassland, three UAS teams spread out about a quarter of a mile from each other along Weld County Road 69 near Briggsdale and launched three small, unmanned aircraft, including a Datahawk and two Skywalkers, all with wingspans of less than 5 feet.

In addition to the Pawnee National Grassland testing event Aug. 14, a group from CU-Boulder’s Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences led by Associate Professor John Cassano flew four unmanned aircraft Aug. 8 at NOAA’s Boulder Atmospheric Observatory, a tall tower near the town of Erie northeast of Boulder. The flights were conducted to compare the UAS measurements for wind, temperature, pressure and humidity with those made by instruments attached from the top to the bottom of the 1,000-foot-high tower.

On Aug. 11 the RECUV and CIRES teams deployed the four unmanned aircraft at the Pawnee National Grassland for several flights that started at sunrise, believed to be the first multiple unmanned aircraft flights ever to capture profiles of an early morning atmospheric inversion. The four UAS teams were separated by approximately two miles, allowing them to simultaneously sample the atmosphere above different types of terrain, including ravines and surrounding higher terrain.

“The long-term objective for RECUV is to bring engineers together with atmospheric scientists and meteorologists to develop unmanned systems for low-cost, low-risk data collection with high science return,” said Elston. The unmanned aircraft deployments at the Pawnee Grassland concluded Aug. 19.

CU-Boulder may have more experience flying science experiments with UAS than any other research group in the world, said aerospace engineering Professor Brian Argrow, co-founder of RECUV. CU-Boulder UAS projects have included monitoring seal populations in the Arctic and charting sea ice changes near Greenland to intercepting storm cells associated with tornadoes in Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska and measuring holes in Antarctic sea ice known as polynyas associated with offshore winds.

There is a lot of public misinformation floating around about the uses of unmanned aircraft, spurred in part by the use of military drones in the Middle East, said Argrow. “Our UAS are specifically used for science and engineering activities, and our interests lie in tackling some of the biggest science issues today, often in remote places where it is impossible or cost prohibitive to gather data using other methods,” he said. “I am really looking forward to getting back into the field for more supercell storm research with our meteorologist colleagues.”

Frew and Argrow said developing instruments and unmanned aircraft requires multidisciplinary approaches – combining aspects of both aerospace and computer science, for example – which has led to a new model of education in CU-Boulder’s engineering college. While it used to be standard to have a single faculty adviser for multiple students, the breadth of information required for designing, developing and flying UAS with sophisticated sensors now may include multiple faculty advisers from different departments for a single student.

[Third Annual CU Denver Block Party rocks education corridor][27]

Thousands of people enjoyed music, food, games and the vibrant downtown ambience at the Third Annual CU Denver Block Party. (Photos: Trevr Merchant)

[29]
Two new CU Denver faculty members from Fort Collins and Champaign, Ill., respectively, enjoyed slices of New York-style pizza while soaking up the Mile High City sunshine and festive block party vibe.

"Being new faculty, it's nice to come out and see the student spirit here," Caroline Clevenger, Ph.D., said of the CU Denver Block Party[30], held Aug. 21 on Lawrence Street in front of the Business School. "This also highlights how nice Denver weather is — it's a great event to get people outside and enjoying Denver."

Both Clevenger, an assistant professor who previously taught at Colorado State University, and Moatassem Abdallah, a senior research instructor who arrives from the University of Illinois, joined the Civil Engineering Department[31] in the College of Engineering and Applied Science[32] (CEAS). Abdallah, who lived in Cairo before studying at the University of Illinois, gladly traded the Midwest humidity for Denver's dry air and sunshine. "This is a very nice environment," he said of the Block Party, "and I like the variety of food choices."

More vendors. More games. More students. More fun.

CU Denver's signature community event, in its third year, once again delivered good times, great tunes and tasty eats. The Block Party, brainchild of the Division of Student Affairs[33], celebrates the start of a new academic year as well as CU Denver's vibrant "education corridor" that stretches into the heart of the city.

[34]
Raul Cardenas, Ph.D., associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs, said the event gets bigger and better with each passing year. "More importantly, we're seeing more students every year," he said.

"It is the true symbol of who we are at CU Denver," Cardenas added. "We're here in our neighborhood of downtown Denver. We're a welcoming campus of students, faculty and staff surrounded by the business community and interesting shops. It's just everybody. It's just awesome."

Alina Li and Xiang Li, freshmen studying finance in the Business School[35], looked as if they were out for a day at the mall. They carried bags of goodies—students got bags of CU Denver freebies—and bowls of frozen yogurt. "It's amazing," Alina said. "I liked the ball-throwing game," added Xiang.

In addition to games and a Big Baller inflatable obstacle course, the Block Party featured face painting, live music, Milo the Lynx and booths hosted by each of the schools and colleges as well as various departments and centers. After an entertaining set on the main stage by Mix[36] a cappella, of CU Denver's College of Arts & Media[37] (CAM), the CU Denver Cheer and Dance Team[38] performed to AC/DC's "Back in Black" — a nod to the "Back in Black & Gold" theme of this year's Block Party.

Kevin Jacobs, MPA, assistant vice chancellor for Human Resources, and other members of the Human Resources Department[39] enjoyed the annual gathering. "It's really the only event of the year that builds community across every aspect of our campus," Jacobs said of the Block Party. "And it's fun. It's good to have fun in the workplace."

821 by 8-21

By early afternoon on Aug. 21, the "821 by 8-21" effort was nearing its goal of securing 821 scholarship gifts. The several-week push, part of CU Denver's 1000 MORE Scholarship Initiative[40], culminated with the annual CU Denver Block Party. If the 821 gift-plateau was reached, the Chancellor's Office pledged to give $10,000 to the 1000 MORE campaign.

The university hopes to provide financial support for 1,000 more students every year with private funds raised through the 1000 MORE initiative. The goal is to increase financial support for CU students exponentially[41]. Since the initiative covers an array of scholarships—merit, need-based and international—similar short-span campaigns to raise gifts for the different areas are likely.

During the Block Party, Matt Wasserman, vice chancellor for development at CU Denver, encouraged passers-by to

give at the "821 by 8-21" booth. "It's all about getting people to think about giving and giving back," he said.
Other music groups performing included The Epilogues[42] and Chemistry Club[43], the latter an electro-pop band featuring two current CU Denver students and one alumnus. Lead singer and synthesizer player Jeff Wiencrot graduated over a year ago, having studied audio engineering and electrical engineering.

"It's super-cool to be part of this event. This is our third show connected to CU Denver this year," he said. "The university has been awesome—I loved going there."

Wiencrot said he started in the audio engineering program in CAM and that led him to the electrical engineering program in CEAS. "CU Denver's downtown location is great. I love the urban campus," he said. "I came back to school in my mid-20s. It was nice coming back, and I felt like I fit in here."

Ashley Nolan isn't a CU Denver student, but she was walking through downtown, heard the live music and decided to check out what was going on. Nolan, who is in the Air Force and stationed at Buckley in Aurora, studied the array of buttons that were for the taking on the CU Denver Button Wall.

She said she's thinking about going to college after the Air Force, and CU Denver is now on her radar. "I think it's great," Nolan said of the Block Party. "It's super-informative and the energy seems really great. There's lots of good information here, for sure."

GOCA to open We Are You Project as part of National Hispanic Heritage Month[44]

Joe Pena, “First Mexican on Mars.”

The We Are You Project, a new exhibit featuring 30 Latino/a artists, will open Sept. 5 and continue through Oct. 11 at the GOCA1420 gallery, Centennial Hall Room 201.

A series of events are scheduled for Sept. 13.
10 a.m.-3 p.m. Symposium featuring six artists’ presentations organized by Andrea Herrera, professor, Women’s and Ethnic Studies Program. **3 p.m**. Gallery Tour with artists. **4 p.m.-6 p.m**. Public reception. All events are free and open to the public.
As part of the 2014 national celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, GOCA is featuring 30 world-renowned visual artists. Three artists work in Colorado. The unique transcultural project was coordinated by Herrera, Daisy McConnell, director, UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art, and Raúl Villarreal, chair, We Are You Project International exhibition/events committee.

Artists included in this exhibit are: José Acosta, Josephine Barreiro, Hugo X. Bastidas, Monica S. Camin, Jacqui Casale, Pablo Caviedes, Carlos Chavez, Williams Coronado, Laura L. Cuevas, Maritza Davila, EfrenAve, Ricardo Fonseca, Quintin Gonzalez, Roberto Márquez, Elizabeth Jiménez Montelongo, Lisette Morel, Gabriel Navar, Isabel Alvarez Nazario, Julio Nazario, Anthony Ortega, Joe Peña, Duda Penteado, Mel Ramos, Ana Laura Rivera, George Rivera, José Rodeiro, Marta Sanchez-Dallam, Patricio Moreno Toro, Sergio Villamizar, and Raúl Villarreal.

Roberto Márquez, Niño Árbol

The exhibit and symposium are sponsored by UCCS Women’s and Ethnic Studies Program, the UCCS Center for Government and the Individual, and The Matrix Center for the Advancement of Social Equity and Inclusion.

According to We Are You Project International, the artists were motivated to participate in the Colorado exhibition to

highlight inaction on U.S. immigration reform, the plight of 50,000 undocumented Central American child refugees awaiting entry to the U.S. and increasing violence in the U.S. against Latino/as. The dilemmas confronting 21st Century Latino/as are addressed by many of the artists.

Founded in 2005 by Duda Penteado, a Brazilian-American artist and filmmaker; Carlos Hernandez, a Puerto-Rican and former President of New Jersey City University; and Mario Tapia, a Chilean-American, and President of The Latino Center on Aging, the We Are You Project is a comprehensive Latino/a arts initiative. It focuses on current Latino/a socio-cultural, political, and economic conditions; and reflects the triumphs, achievements, risks and challenges affecting all Latino/as within and outside the U.S.

GOCA is a regional hub of contemporary art, culture, and conversation. By featuring world-class artists, hosting artist and expert talks, and offering meaningful events, GOCA engages UCCS students, faculty, staff and Pikes Peak Region community members in contemporary culture and life. GOCA has two galleries, one founded on the UCCS campus in 1981, and a satellite downtown location opened in 2010 in the Plaza of the Rockies building.

CU, Delta Dental of Colorado give student veterans another reason to smile[47]

[48]

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus continues its ongoing commitment to student veterans with the opening of the CU Heroes Clinic[49], thanks to a $1 million gift from Delta Dental of Colorado. The clinic opens Aug. 25.

In collaboration with the CU Denver Office of Veteran Student Services[50], the CU Heroes Clinic will provide free dental care for military veterans enrolled in a degree program at CU Denver or CU Anschutz.

Many student veterans do not qualify for or receive coverage for dental care when they leave military service. The Heroes Clinic will address this gap, providing services which will supplement health care provided through the Veteran's Administration.

"We're working every day to serve our large student veteran population and to be a military-friendly university," said Patrick Browne, director of Veteran Student Services at CU Denver. "The Heroes Clinic is one more way we can ensure our student vets on both campuses have the resources they need to focus on their education."

Staffed by faculty and fourth-year students at CU's School of Dental Medicine, the Heroes Clinic will operate selected weekdays during the fall semester with plans to expand in the spring of 2015. Every dollar donated by Delta Dental of Colorado to the Heroes Clinic will go towards the cost of preventive and restorative dentistry.

"These student veterans have given so much to our country that they truly are heroes, who are deserving of a Heroes Clinic established specifically for them," said Kate Paul, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Colorado. "We are honored to work with CU Denver|Anschutz to provide this much needed service."

The Office of Veteran Student Services (OVSS) at CU Denver|Anschutz supports hundreds of students with military connections. In addition to assisting student vets with the adjustment from military to campus life, OVSS also helps with the transition to civilian careers as the college experience comes to an end. In conjunction with the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, a program called Boots to Suits[51] enlists the support of the business community in metro Denver matching student veterans with mentors, offering internships that provide relevant work experience and offering assistance in the search for permanent jobs.

"Student veterans are an underserved population that we are committed to providing with high-quality dental care," said Denise Kassebaum, DDS, MS, dean of the CU School of Dental Medicine. "Ours is one of the first universities in

the nation to create a clinic specifically for student veterans, and it would not be possible without the incredible generosity of Delta Dental of Colorado."

Make a contribution to the CU School of Dental Medicine and the CU Heroes Clinic[52]**.**

Kaptain named dean of College of Arts and Media[53]

[54]
Laurence Kaptain, an accomplished percussionist and symphonic cimbalom artist and higher education leader, has been named dean of the College of Arts and Media (CAM) at CU Denver.

Kaptain most recently served as the founding director of creative initiatives in the Office of Research and Economic Development at Louisiana State University, and prior to that, he was Dean of the College of Music and Dramatic Arts.

The new dean said the university is uniquely positioned to benefit from a certain agility and flexibility that larger institutions are unable to provide. With that in mind, Kaptain is committed to supporting an arts-focused, interdisciplinary effort to engage the entire university and beyond.

He'll start with CAM, promoting an integrative strategy to generate fresh creative directions through increased collaboration with arts professionals, lectures, demonstrations and workshops across all schools and programs.

Through this approach, Kaptain believes students will gain creative fluency, and develop, shape and strengthen their own identities as citizen artists.

"There has perhaps never been a time or a place so conducive to the realization of this mission and to the cultivation of citizen artists than the present at the College of Arts and Media," Kaptain said. "We must focus on the intersection of art, technology and commerce."

That focus is a perfect fit for CAM, since it's the first college in Colorado devoted exclusively to the arts and the entertainment industries. With courses that capitalize on the synergies between art, technology and economy, CAM programs encourage gifted students to engage with the business side of the industry while maintaining excellence in their chosen major.

Kaptain is a founding partner of the Alliance for the Arts at Research Universities (a2ru), a partnership of 30 institutions committed to transforming research universities to ensure the greatest possible institutional support for interdisciplinary research, curricula, programs and creative practice between the arts, sciences and other disciplines. He currently serves on a2ru's strategic communications committee and plans to continue his involvement with the organization, hoping to bring in CU Denver as a partner institution.

Kaptain recently served as president of the Association for General and Liberal Studies, and is currently the Treasurer of the College Music Society. In 2014 he was named a Fellow in the Royal Society of the Arts. Prior to assuming this post at LSU, he was dean of Shenandoah Conservatory near Washington, D.C., director of the Schwob School of Music in Georgia, and vice-provost for Faculty Programs and Academic Quality at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

He received the first doctorate in percussion instruments at the University of Michigan, where he was a Fulbright Scholar in Mexico, and received the prestigious Rackham Graduate School Pre-Doctoral Fellowship. Kaptain appears regularly with orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, and the Pittsburgh Symphony, and he has recorded with the Chicago Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, Orpheus, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and the Czech National Symphony. He also has appeared, collaborated or recorded with artists such as Elvis Costello, Yo-Yo Ma, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Robert Altman, Rudolf Nureyev, Suzanne Farrell and others.

Krause-Parello receives national award[55]

[56]
Cheryl Krause-Parello, assistant professor at the College of Nursing, recently was honored with the Jessie M. Scott Award by the American Nurse Association.

The award was established in 1979 to honor Scott, former assistant surgeon general and director of the Division of Nursing Health Resources Administration, Public Health Service, of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. It is presented to a registered nurse whose accomplishments in a field of practice, education or research demonstrate the interdependence of these elements and their significance for the improvement of nursing and health care.

This national award recognizes Krause-Parello's efforts as an advocate for interdependent relationships among nursing educators, practitioners and research interests.

Krause-Parello is widely known for improving the health of wounded warriors through animal-assisted interventions. She has built a portfolio of scholarship and advanced research measuring psychobiological outcomes of animal interaction among military veterans, culminating in October 2013 when she founded C-P.A.W.W. — Canines Providing Assistance to Wounded Warriors — a health initiative for veterans at the University of Colorado Denver. Through this program, she has created a network of veterans' organizations and health care facilities to partner in her research and, based on her findings, to implement animal-assisted interaction to improve military health.

Krause-Parello also is co-leading an innovative research initiative, Working Dogs for Wounded Warriors: Effects of Animal-Assisted Therapy on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, which is set to begin soon at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

Her research has been integrated into global nursing practice, published in multiple peer-reviewed journals and published in her first book on pet attachment.

Sweet named vice chancellor and managing senior associate legal counsel[57]

[58]
Charles V. "Charlie" Sweet has been named vice chancellor and managing senior associate university counsel for the CU-Boulder campus, effective Sept. 1.

Sweet has long ties to the University of Colorado system, having served as vice president and university counsel for the CU system from 1994 to 2007. Before that, from 1988 to 1994, he served as associate university counsel and the designated counsel for the CU-Boulder campus. Most recently, he served as executive director of strategic planning and initiatives at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs from 2010 to 2014. From 2008 through 2009, Sweet was a partner in the Denver office of the law firm of Holme Roberts & Owen.

Before coming to Boulder, Sweet served as general counsel for Old Dominion University in Virginia.

The managing senior associate university counsel holds a senior position in the Office of University Counsel. In this position, Sweet will be responsible for the legal functions for CU-Boulder, and will advise the chancellor, the cabinet and CU-Boulder's combined executive leadership on legal and policy matters. The position reports to the vice

president and university counsel and supervises a staff of four attorneys and two support staff in CU-Boulder's legal offices.

As a campus vice chancellor, Sweet will report to the chancellor and serve as an officer of the campus and a member of the chancellor's cabinet. In this role, he will be responsible for the implementation of campus goals and objectives related to the provision of legal services and for the successful implementation of the campus's strategic plans.

"I am honored at the opportunity to return to serve the University of Colorado Boulder as vice chancellor and managing senior associate legal counsel," said Sweet. "I look forward to helping the chancellor and the campus leadership ensure student success, financial and operational integrity, and a great local, national and global reputation."

Sweet earned a bachelor's degree from Duke University and a law degree from the University of Virginia. He is a member of the bar in both Colorado and Virginia.

Levine-Clark, Keränen publish on health humanities[59]

Marjorie Levine-Clark Lisa Keränen

Marjorie Levine-Clark, CU Denver history professor and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences associate dean, and **Lisa Keränen,** associate professor of communication, recently published essays in the "Health Humanities Reader" (2014, Rutgers University Press), edited by Anschutz colleague **Therese Jones,** along with Delease Wear and Lester Friedman.

Levine-Clark's essay is "'I Always Prefer the Scissors': Isaac Baker Brown and Feminist Histories of Medicine." Keränen's work is titled, "'This Weird, Incurable Disease': Competing Diagnoses in the Rhetoric of Morgellons."

The book assembles leading humanities scholars, bioethicists and clinicians, such as Levine-Clark and Keränen, to envision fresh approaches to the health humanities through original essays.

Their work may be useful for students interested in minoring in health humanities (HEHM), which critically analyzes historical and contemporary connections among health, medicine and society.

Dropping names ...[61]

Martinez

Donna Martinez, professor and chair of ethnic studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, recently published "Urban American Indian Identity" in the "International Journal of Social Science," vol. 3 No. 4, 2014. Martinez also presented a conference paper "American Indian Students in Higher Education" at the Humanities Conference, June 11-13, in Madrid, Spain. Her paper "Urban American Identity" was published recently in the Institute of American Indian Arts, Indigenous Intervention Conference Proceedings. Earlier this year, Martinez published another article "School Culture and American Indian Educational Outcomes," in Volume 116 of "Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences." … **Alan Vajda**, assistant professor of environmental endocrinology in the Department of

Integrative Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, presented a paper titled “Infrastructure Investment Improves Ecosystem Health” at the Gordon Research Conference on Environmental Endocrine Disruption in Barga, Italy, in May. Vajda also shared details of this long-term research during a July 8 radio interview on the KGNU award-winning science show, “How on Earth.” He talked about a rare success story: why fish in Boulder Creek are acting and looking more sexually normal. … **Colin Weekes**, CU Cancer Center investigator and assistant professor in the Division of Oncology at the CU School of Medicine, discussed recent research findings this spring at the 50th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO). He described the results of a Phase I clinical trial of the investigational agent DMOT4039A against pancreatic and ovarian cancers. In this early trial with the goal of identifying possible risks and defining likely dosages, the drug was well tolerated and, in some patients, showed initial evidence of anti-cancer activity.

My New Weigh presenting free info sessions[63]

[64]
Have you tried everything to lose weight, only to regain? Are you ready for a new way?

Discover My New Weigh, medically supervised weight management, available at the CU Anschutz Health and Wellness Center. Specifically designed for those needing to lose at least 30 pounds or those with health issues related to their weight, this effective program is:
medically supervised, includes weekly, small group, lifestyle modification classes and uses a science-based, nutritionally balanced meal plan focus is on long-term behavior change
My New Weigh provides you with the tools needed for long term success. Currently classes are held on the Anschutz Medical Campus in the evening and lunch hour. To learn more, click here to register for a free Information Session[65].
Two upcoming time slots are offered:
5-6 p.m. Sept. 16 Noon-1 p.m. Sept. 23
For more information, email wellnessclinic@anschutzwellness.com[66] or call 303-724-9088.

Call for nominations: President’s Employee of the Year[67]

The President’s Employee of the Year Award will be presented to one system administration employee in recognition and appreciation of exceptional job performance. An award of $1,000 (subject to payroll taxes) will be presented to the chosen employee at a recognition reception, on Oct. 28, hosted by System Staff Council.

All system administration classified or university staff employees, who have been employed with the university for a minimum of a year may be nominated for the award. (Temporary employees, student workers, university officers, and staff council nomination committee members are ineligible for this award.) Nominations are accepted from fellow staff, faculty or students who have first-hand knowledge of the nominee's performance. The nominee’s supervisor and department head must provide written approval of the nomination by signing the nomination letter.

Nominations are being accepted through 11:59 p.m. Sept. 12. The award recipient will be announced the first week of October. If no qualified nominations are received by the deadline, no award will be given.

Nomination Information - Please note that there have been significant improvements in the nomination process and requirements, based on constituent feedback. Please pay particular attention to the updated nomination procedures.

Please visit our website at www.cu.edu/ssc/presidents-employee-year-award[68] to view the nomination criteria and procedures.

Supplier Showcases begin next week[69]
[70]
The Procurement Service Center (PSC) is hosting the ninth annual Supplier Showcases, your opportunity to discover potential new suppliers and connect personally with current suppliers. All CU faculty and staff are invited to attend this systemwide series, which is set for September. The first event is Wednesday at CU-Boulder.
First-time exhibitors include Instrument Rental & Calibration, Einstein Bros Catering, Halo Branded Solutions, Macherey-Nagel, Levy Restaurants, Midland Scientific, and Staybridge Suites Air Force Academy.

The showcases present a venue to see new technology and gather free samples of new products. PSC staff will be available to answer questions about fiscal procedures, travel rules, Marketplace and Concur. Stop in to visit with staff from the Controller's Offices, Policy and Efficiency, Internal Audit, Risk Management, Sustainability, FinPro Help Desk, and the PeopleSoft Upgrade Project.

Showcase sponsors Staples, Dell, the Parking Spot, and Xerox will be featured at each event. Representatives from Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) and Christopherson Business Travel also will be in attendance.

The schedule:
CU-Boulder: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday at Coors Event Center Practice Gym (Note this year's new location) **UCCS:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 11 at University Center, Berger Hall **CU Denver l Anschutz Medical Campus:** 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sept. 17 at Research Center 2, second floor Trivisible Room, CU Anschutz Medical Campus
Register now to join the more than 1,200 CU employees who are expected to participate. Registration details and a list of exhibitors is available here: https://www.cu.edu/psc/2014-psc-supplier-showcases[71]

Questions: Contact Penny Davis, penny.davis@cu.edu[72], 303-764-3445

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/more-861-million-awarded-university-colorado-sponsored-research[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/research-runway-%E2%80%93-fusing-science-and-fashion[3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/research-runway01.png[4] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/research-runway03.png[5] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/research-runway02.png[6] http://www.fashiondescience.com/%231desciencevote/cmk[7] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/marcy-benson-tireless-advocate-anschutz-medical-campus[8] https://connections.cu.edu/file/marcy01png[9] https://connections.cu.edu/file/marcy03png[10] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/medicine/Cardiology/FacultyStaff/Pages/Profiles/LawrenceHergott%2cMD.aspx[11] http://anschutzwellness.com/about-us/team[12] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/Extreme-Weight-Loss-begins-at-Anschutz-Health-Wellness-Center.aspx[13] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/5th-Gear-Kids-Kicks-into-High-Gear.aspx[14] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/marcy02.png[15] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/neurology/Faculty/Pages/potter.aspx[16] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/Pages/somWelcome.aspx[17] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/CU-Alzheimer-research-highlighted-at-CU-at-Capitol-day.aspx[18]

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