

[Five questions for Joanne Addison](#)[1]

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While in graduate school at Purdue University, Joanne Addison's research and teaching focused on improving the literacy abilities of underrepresented students and students for whom English is not a first language.

"And by literacy abilities, I mean not just the basic ability to read and write, but the ability to be literate actors in the world," Addison said.

Her interest in continuing such work led her in 1995 to the University of Colorado Denver, where she's a professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"This was my first job out of graduate school," she said. "I'm still grateful to be here."

[3]

Her work continues to focus on improving the literacy abilities of underrepresented students, but also has taken a strong turn toward digital studies.

"For example, I recently taught a class on the technologies of writing," she said. "My students and I explored the history of writing as a technology and its effects on human development as far back as 3000 BCE up to the present time. The course concluded with a consideration of the ways that technologies of writing structure our daily lives. I was amazed by my students' insights and engagement with the course material. I can't wait to teach it again."

Besides teaching and research, Addison is deeply involved with shared governance at CU. She has served as chair of the CU Denver Faculty Assembly and vice chair of the systemwide [Faculty Council](#)[4]. The latter's first meeting of the semester, noon to 3 p.m. today at 1800 Grant St., will mark her official debut as chair.

1. How did you first become involved with Faculty Council?

My first experience with system-level shared governance work was as a member of Faculty Council's GLBT committee about 20 years ago when we were working to include sexual orientation in CU's nondiscrimination policy and to obtain domestic partner benefits. I believe it was 2001 that sexual orientation was added to our policy. And, after many years of work and at least two failed votes, a majority of both Democrats and Republicans voted to offer domestic partnership benefits out of a sense of fairness because the university should offer health care to all of its employees and their families.

2. You received a Distinguished Service Award last year from Faculty Council, which praised you for, among other things, an ability to build consensus with faculty and administration. What are the keys to doing that?

In university settings, we often operate by consensus. Even if, in the end, we take an up or down vote, there's often a process preceding that vote meant to build consensus. I always try to find out not just what the positions are that people hold but also why they hold those positions.

If you know what everyone's needs and interests are, you have a much better chance of negotiating a position of strong agreement – not total, but strong – by all involved.

3. How do you define shared governance?

For me, shared governance means that we all share in the rights and responsibilities of making CU the best university system it can be. And that requires us to take the time to involve as many different voices at as many different levels as possible in the decision-making process, even when it's not easy or convenient.

A culture of shared governance needs to be nurtured, respected and periodically assessed for effectiveness. Perhaps

the hiring of a new president marks a significant opportunity for us to assess the health of our shared-governance practices.

4. How do you expect the Faculty Council to be involved in the search for the next CU president?

Faculty Council doesn't have an official role in the search process, although I certainly hope that we will be one of the central voices in this process. To this end, we are working to bring two regents to one of our first meetings to talk about the search and what we'd like to see in our next president.

I do hope that faculty members from all four campuses, nominated by their respective Faculty Assemblies, have a seat on the search committee. While we are all part of the same system, our campuses are distinctive enough in mission and vision that having representatives from each campus is important to the process.

If we have a search committee composed of many different stakeholders who are willing to engage in a consensus-building process to identify the top candidates to send to the regents, we have a much better chance of picking the right person.

5. I read that, as chair of the CU Denver Faculty Assembly, you once invited Milo the Lynx to one of your meetings. How did that come about?

[5]

I'm a little biased here, but Milo is clearly the best of all of the CU mascots!

Milo is the result of an initiative by our students to build community and identity for the Denver campus. They put so much work into this effort that I wanted our faculty to meet Milo.

Since then, our students have continued to impress us with their drive to build community and identity on our campus — most recently with the building of the Lola and Rob Salazar Wellness Center, which is another student-led initiative. Go Lynx!

[Employee Services now accepting Tuition Assistance Benefit forms for Fall 2018](#)[6]

[7]

With the University of Colorado's fall semester underway, you or your dependent may be taking classes at a CU campus. CU helps you save on tuition rates with the Tuition Assistance Benefit.

What is the Tuition Assistance Benefit?

This benefit provides employees and their dependents tuition at a discounted rate for most CU credit-bearing courses, in an effort to provide accessible educational opportunities.

In order to receive the Tuition Assistance Benefit, eligible employees must meet each individual step-by-step deadline [listed on our website](#)[8] for their campus of registration, as well as follow [all policies](#)[9].

PLEASE NOTE: The benefit only applies to the cost of tuition. Employees are responsible for any remaining costs and campus student fees, in addition to [applicable taxes per IRS guidelines](#)[10].

How much of a discount can I receive?

Employees may waive up to nine credits per academic year for undergraduate and graduate classes on any CU campus, regardless of campus of employment.

Dependents can choose between two tuition benefit options: **Option A – Home Campus** or **Option B – Other Campus**.

Option A applies to a dependent attending class on the employee's campus. CU Boulder employees can receive a 30 percent tuition discount for their dependents, while other campuses can waive up to nine credits per academic year.

Option B allows dependents to attend undergraduate classes at other CU campuses. Eligible employees will receive around \$270 per credit hour for up to nine credits, adding up to \$2,430 per academic year.

What classes can I take with the benefit?

Employees can take eligible undergraduate and graduate classes on any campus.

Dependent classes depend on the option they choose. If a dependent uses Option A – Home Campus, they may take eligible undergraduate and graduate classes. Under Option B – Other Campus, dependents may only take eligible undergraduate classes.

Do I have to be pursuing a degree to use this benefit?

You do not have to be a degree-seeking student to enjoy this benefit. Apply before the semester begins by completing a non-degree application to take classes informally. You must be enrolled as a student on the campus you are attending and taking a credit-bearing course to use the benefit.

How do I apply?

Visit the [Tuition Assistance website](#)[8] to fully understand how the benefit works before you apply.

Log in to your [campus portal](#). [11] Select the **NavBar** icon in the top right hand corner. Select **CU Resources** Select **Forms** Select **Tuition Assistance Benefit Form** under the Career Advancement tab.

If a dependent is using this benefit, the employee must waive their benefit for the academic year and submit the Tuition Assistance Benefit form on the dependent's behalf.

If your dependent is not listed on your CU medical, dental or life insurance, complete the [Dependent Eligibility Verification Form](#)[12] and attach it to your Tuition Assistance Benefit form in the portal.

When is the Fall 2018 deadline to apply?

Campus of Attendance Tuition Assistance Benefit Form submission deadline CU Denver/Anschutz Sept. 5
UCCS Sept. 6 CU Boulder Sept. 14
[Start saving](#)[8]

[CU scientists testing world's fastest blade runner](#)[13]

[College collaborates to present CU Bernstein at 100](#)[14]

[Reddy meets with alumni, advocates in Denver luncheon](#)[15]

[Mountain Lion Fieldhouse ribbon-cutting set for Sept. 5](#)^[16]

[International commodities symposium focuses on real-world application](#)^[17]

[LGBTQ faculty, staff, allies team for Something Queer 2018](#)^[18]
^[19]

Submitted by Edward Cannon, clinical associate professor, CU Denver School of Education and Human Development

Some 80 members of the CU Denver|Anschutz Medical Campus community convened at the Fulginiti Pavilion for Bioethics and Humanities for Something Queer, the third annual back-to-school gathering of LGBTQ faculty, staff and allies.

The Aug. 16 event offered a networking opportunity, critical information and social support for new and seasoned faculty and staff to connect, to engage and to learn about cross-campus and cross-city happenings.

Daniel Ramos – executive director of One Colorado, an LGBTQ advocacy organization – delivered the keynote.

Participants were greeted by representatives from local LGBTQ organizations, who shared with them all the important things happening in and around Denver and across Colorado that relate to the community.

Sponsored by the CU Denver Office of Diversity and Inclusion – and funded by the President’s Diversity Fund for Development and Support, as well as the CU School of Medicine ODI and the School of Dental Medicine – the event also is a time to reflect on the successes of the past year, as well as to look to the challenges yet to come.

Following an introduction by Shanta Zimmer, associate dean for diversity and inclusion at the School of Medicine, Brenda Allen, vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion, spoke about the important role that LGBTQ faculty, staff and allies play in the university. Allen also described how this event is an embodiment of many elements of the university’s strategic plan.

The event’s organizer, Edward Cannon, clinical associate professor in counseling at CU Denver’s School of Education and Human Development, recognized committee members Stephanie Flores, Alicia Hinshaw and Mimi Munroe. He introduced One Colorado’s Daniel Ramos, who gave remarks.

The crowd convened in front of the Fulginiti Pavilion for a group photo with a 30-by-50-foot rainbow flag made available by US Bank. There also was time for eating, drinking and mingling as new and seasoned CU Denver|Anschutz Medical Campus community members shared stories, milestones and goals for the upcoming academic year.

Testimonial from a participant:

I want to thank you and all the people who were involved in putting together the “Something Queer” event. It was very informative and well-organized. As I shared on my social media, I am so lucky for the opportunity to work for an institution that allows me to be myself and be proud of it.

The former first lady Michele Obama once stated, “When they go low, we go high.” Words that will always stay with me, this type of event means a lot for our community. They are so relevant as people around the world continue to face

violence and inequality — and sometimes torture, even execution — because of who they love, how they look or who they are. It is up to all of us to “Rise Up” and work towards a world where all people can enjoy their rights fully. Thank you so much again for creating something very special.

[Sarcoma team delivers 'best-in-world' care](#)^[20]

[CU Anschutz expands health care education through MOOCs](#)^[21]

[Provencio-Vasquez to lead College of Nursing](#)^[22]

[Jokerst named CU Boulder police chief](#)^[23]

[Bailey named SCWCC Business Leader of the Year](#)^[24]

Links

[\[1\] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/five-questions-joanne-addison](#)^[2]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/5q_addison_01.jpg^[3]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/5q_addison_02.jpg^[4] <https://www.cu.edu/faculty-council>^[5]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/5q_addison_03.jpg^[6] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/employee-services-now-accepting-tuition-assistance-benefit-forms-fall-2018>^[7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/tuition-assistance_top.jpg^[8] <https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance>^[9]
<https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5024>^[10] <https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance/taxes>^[11] <https://my.cu.edu/>^[12]
<https://www.cu.edu/docs/dependent-eligibility-verification>^[13] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-scientists-testing-world-s-fastest-blade-runner>^[14] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/college-collaborates-present-cu-bernstein-100>^[15]
<https://connections.cu.edu/stories/reddy-meets-alumni-advocates-denver-luncheon>^[16]
<https://connections.cu.edu/stories/mountain-lion-fieldhouse-ribbon-cutting-set-sept-5>^[17]
<https://connections.cu.edu/stories/international-commodities-symposium-focuses-real-world-application>^[18]
<https://connections.cu.edu/stories/lgbtq-faculty-staff-allies-team-something-queer-2018>^[19]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/something-queer_top.jpg^[20] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/sarcoma-team-delivers-best-world-care>^[21] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-anschutz-expands-health-care-education-through-moocs>^[22] <https://connections.cu.edu/people/provencio-vasquez-lead-college-nursing>^[23]
<https://connections.cu.edu/people/jokerst-named-cu-boulder-police-chief>^[24] <https://connections.cu.edu/people/bailey-named-scwcc-business-leader-year>