Limb restoration gives amputees bold way to move forward[1]

Faculty Council delving into diversity, inclusion with Brenda Allen[2]
[3]

In an effort to boost knowledge and gain expertise in best practices as related to diversity and inclusion, Faculty Council has partnered with Professor Emerita Brenda J. Allen.

Allen, professor of communication and former vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion at CU Denver, spoke at the Dec. 5 Faculty Council meeting at 1800 Grant St., where she began sharing plans for the remainder of the academic year.

Allen said she intends to attend council meetings regularly beginning in February, and will facilitate a half-day workshop at the council's retreat in March.

"Inclusion is a highly complex concept," said Allen, who has been at work creating a Massive Open Online Course on inclusive leadership. "Our definition of inclusion is that everyone feels respected and valued. Inclusion refers to both a process and a feeling, where everyone can say, 'I feel included, respected and valued.'"

Allen was one of several guests at last week's wide-ranging meeting, which also included a discussion of divestment, which Faculty Council Chair Joanne Addison said was prompted by the University of California System's recent partial divestment of fossil fuels.

CU Treasurer Dan Wilson said he and others in management are working on advancing the topic, but noted the complexity of university assets requires more direction from the council. He described four main pools of assets, including CU's endowment, which is overseen by the CU Foundation Board and not by the CU Board of Regents. The treasury pool is the university's operational assets, while the university's non-PERA retirement assets currently provide investors with the ability to choose where their funds are invested. Non-pool money completes the set of assets.

"We are working with our investment advisers in legal to see what is possible," Wilson said. "But when it comes to divestment, which pot of money do you want to talk about? That's the question for this group."

Addison said the council will seek further clarification of the goals of the campus-based Faculty Assemblies and have the council's Budget Committee report back to the group.

In other business at last week's Faculty Council meeting:
President Mark Kennedy and Todd Saliman, system vice president for finance and chief financial officer, presented an update on the strategic planning process. Saliman, co-chair of the strategic planning committee, said a summary report derived from the reports of the working groups, will be posted to the strategic planning website[4] this week. The working groups must next deliver metrics on how to measure progress in their areas of work, followed by action steps for implementation. Feedback on those should be shared by Dec. 31, Saliman said. Kennedy continues to emphasize that the strategic plan is a system plan and not campus-specific.

Patrick O'Rourke, vice president, general counsel and secretary to the Board of Regents, introduced three team members from EY-Parthenon[5], recently awarded a contract[6] to provide advice and guidance to the university in its efforts to advance online education across the CU system. Addison said the council will provide names of individuals and groups that it recommends EY-Parthenon engage with during its internal assessment, which continues through March.

Ilana Spiegel[7], candidate for the Board of Regents in the 6th District, introduced herself to the council and took questions. The Englewood Democrat is running for the seat held by John Carson, R-Highlands Ranch, who is not seeking reelection. Addison said the council aims to invite all candidates for regent to appear at a council meeting, noting the group prohibits fundraising at meetings. The council does not endorse candidates for regent.

Impact report: UIS supports technology to advance CU[8]
[9]

The University Information Services (UIS) Impact Report[9] details the ways the team works to empower the University of Colorado through technology.

UIS provides technical services and enterprise applications to all CU campuses and system administration. From student technology services to research and grant systems to human resources, UIS supports CU daily, in collaboration with its technology partners throughout CU.

During the past fiscal year, UIS has completed major projects and initiatives that affect the CU community, and the department is excited to share these accomplishments.

Did you know?
The Student IT Services team supported the processing of over 290,000 online payments and more than 52,000 Federal Applications for Student Aid. The Research and Grants IT Services team supported over 11,000 active projects, and made 30 improvements to improve the efficiency of grants management. The HR IT Service team's work enabled nearly 12,000 benefits updates during Open Enrollment. Electronic Research Administration (eRA) routed 4,900 proposals for approval. Enterprise Content Services supported over 3,000 OnBase users from all CU campuses. The Identity and Access Management (IAM) team resolved over 5,900 service requests. The Project, Portfolio and Service Management team completed 22 projects totally over 25,000 execution hours.
See how UIS works for the university by reading the full UIS Annual Impact Report[9]. This page also features interactive versions of the report's charts and infographics.

CMCI developing new student media enterprise for next fall [10]

Giving Tuesday 2019 raises $83K+ for student scholarships and programs [11]

Home away from home: Construction begins on new first-year student housing[12]

Nurses bring 'sunshine' to dying man's journey [13]

Fox to join Georgia Tech in February [14]

Jiménez's "Making an Urban Public" selected as Outstanding Academic Title by ALA[15]

Bell to receive CU Distinguished Service Award at commencement [16]

University staff member Powers retires after 22 years[17]
[18]

Longtime university staff member Sharon Powers (CU Boulder Comms '92) retires at the end of this month, wrapping up a 22½-year career at CU Boulder.

Beginning in 1997 as an assignment coordinator for family housing, she became executive assistant to the dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science in 2000. Over the next 17 years, she worked under four deans, doing double-duty for seven years as program assistant to the Balsells Fellowship Program[19], a pipeline that brings outstanding engineering students from Catalonia, Spain, to study at CU Boulder.

Since September 2017, Powers has served as senior assistant for programs and engagement with the ATLAS Institute, where she has made herself invaluable to the graduate program in the areas of outreach and program coordination.

Friendly and good-humored, Powers connects with colleagues and co-workers with warmth and kindness. At ATLAS, she meticulously coordinates numerous social gatherings and meetings, welcoming guests with a warm smile, setting a friendly and informal tone. She supports the graduate program in numerous practical ways, solving administrative problems and serving as a nexus for information. At the same time, she is a cheerleader and a community-builder, organizing social gatherings for students and showing interest in their projects.

"Sharon is a friend to all, lending a kind and generous ear to students, faculty and staff in need," said Jill Dupré, associate director for ATLAS. "We will miss her tremendously."

Former colleagues tell a similar tale: "In many ways, Sharon was the friendly face and social organizer for the dean's office, greeting visitors with a smile or a friendly voice on the phone," said Rob Davis, dean of the college 2002-2017. The effect was to put visitors at ease, said JoAnn Zelasko, an assistant dean who worked next door to Powers for 14 years: "Many guests were nervous about seeing the dean. Sharon helped each of them feel more comfortable."

Associate Dean for Faculty Advancement JoAnn Silverstein recalled, "I always looked forward to stopping by Sharon's office; it was a guaranteed lift to my day, and many other people as well." ATLAS Director Mark Gross remarked, "I wish every organization on campus could have someone who is at once as capable and cheerful as Sharon; but Sharons simply don't grow on trees."

True enough, but it wouldn't be too surprising to find Powers in a tree — if a scalable rock wall isn't close at hand. An avid climber, Powers has been seen on more than one occasion climbing the walls of the Engineering Center after work. "I truly drove her up the wall," joked Ross Corotis, the first dean Powers worked for in 2000.

Powers looks forward to spending more time climbing and pursuing other hobbies and interests: skiing, hiking, biking, gardening and yoga. And while she won't be showing up every day on campus, the many connections she has made on campus mean her presence will be felt throughout the CU Boulder community for years to come.

A reception celebrating Sharon Powers' retirement is set for 2:30-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, in the ATLAS Byyny-Schnabel Lobby, followed by happy hour at 4:30 p.m. at The Med (cash bar). Friends, colleagues past and present, and students are invited to attend.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/limb-restoration-gives-amputees-bold-way-move-forward[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-council-delving-diversity-inclusion-brenda-allen[3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/div_summit_brenda.jpg[4] https://www.cu.edu/strategic-planning/[5] https://www.ey.com/po/en/expertise/higher-education-and-workforce-development[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/rfps-conclude-future-technology-and-online-education-cu-begins-take-shape[7] https://www.ilana4regent.com/[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/impact-report-uis-supports-technology-advance-cu[9] https://www.cu.edu/uis-annual-impact-report[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cmci-developing-new-student-media-enterprise-next-fall[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/giving-tuesday-2019-raises-83k-student-scholarships-and-programs[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/home-away-home-construction-begins-new-first-year-student-housing[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/nurses-bring-sunshine-dying-man-s-journey[14] https://connections.cu.edu/people/fox-join-georgia-tech-february[15] https://connections.cu.edu/people/jim-nez-s-making-urban-public-selected-outstanding-academic-title-ala[16] https://connections.cu.edu/people/bell-receive-cu-distinguished-service-award-commencement[17] https://connections.cu.edu/people/university-staff-member-powers-retires-after-22-years[18] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/p_powers.jpg[19] https://www.colorado.edu/engineering-international/balsells