Faculty Council celebrates year-end awards[1]

Regent Steve Bosley was among the honorees of the Faculty Council at this month's Faculty Senate meeting, where the outgoing board member appeared to offer his thoughts as he nears the end of his 12-year tenure.

In addition to the council's resolution of Appreciation for Service, the governance group also awarded three other distinctions during the Dec. 1 meeting at Denver's Brown Palace Hotel:
Brenda Allen, vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion and communication professor at CU Denver, received the Leadership in Higher Education Award Mark Malone, science education professor at UCCS, received the Distinguished Service Award Isabella Sauve, Faculty Council administrator, received the Administrator of the Year Award
The resolution honoring Bosley noted how he brought his years of business experience – in banking and as founder of the Bolder Boulder – to the board in many roles, including board chair and presidential search committee chair. The council credited him as a "thoughtful bipartisan support of shared governance and faculty issues."

"Whenever you deal with Regent Bosley, he makes you feel good. He's always inviting and welcoming. He is a statesman for CU," said Faculty Council Chair Ravinder Singh. "I really value what you have done."

Bosley told the group, "It has been a great privilege serving this university. I couldn't be prouder that I supported the shared governance principle. … Thank you for letting me be a part of it."

Malone, a past chair of the council, echoed thanks for Bosley's service.

"I want to thank you for your persistent ability to go tell our story," Malone said. "You're a good model for anyone trying to really tell a positive story about this university and help people understand the intricacies."

Malone received his award in recognition of his 30-plus years as a faculty member, as well as leadership on the council, which he served as chair for four years. He has served on virtually every Faculty Council committee, and is currently chair of its communication committee.

Allen was honored for serving with distinction as a faculty member for over 25 years, during which she "has worked tirelessly to promote, sustain and enhance a culture of inclusiveness contributing to the success of all faculty, staff and students." An advocate and ally for underrepresented members of the university community, she is author of the widely cited book "Difference Matters: Communicating Social Identity."

Sauve was recognized for exceptional management of council business, including fostering connections with senior administrators, staff and external stakeholders. Her expertise contributed to the success of faculty, staff and students by coordinating professional development events such as CU Women Succeeding.

President Bruce Benson presented the three awards (Sierra Swearingen of CU Boulder accepted on behalf of Sauve, who recently took on a new role at CU Anschutz) before addressing the Faculty Senate and taking questions from those in attendance. Looking ahead to 2017, he said he is encouraged by Gov. Hickenlooper's proposed budget, with its recommended increase in funding for higher education[2]. He said recruitment and retention of diverse populations of students, faculty and staff will remain a focus.

"We're going to continue to work hard on diversity – and it's all kinds of diversity we have to talk about," Benson said.

Allen said she feels CU can be more strategic and focused in its pursuit of increased diversity. "There really are best and most promising practices … that we haven't had the resources to take on."

Kathy Nesbitt, vice president for employee and information services, and leader of a team working to define the newly created vice president for diversity, inclusion and retention[3], said the university community must work to create an inclusive climate and environment.

“We have to focus on changing the climate to make it a more welcoming environment,” Nesbitt said. “It does take time and we have to work collaboratively to get that done.”

Nesbitt said it’s likely an outside consultant will be employed to assess how CU works across the system in order to best define the new vice president position.

In other business at this month’s meeting:
Recently elected Board of Regents members Heidi Ganahl and Jack Kroll stopped by to make brief introductions. They will be sworn in during a Jan. 5 ceremony at CU Boulder. Anna Hasenfratz, chair of the council’s Privilege and Tenure Committee, said two grievance cases have been investigated this year, one each at CU Denver and CU Boulder. Both investigations are ongoing and under mediation.
The next Faculty Council meeting is set for Jan. 26 at 1800 Grant St.

Resources available for employees using tuition benefit[4]

Taking classes in the spring?

The CU Employee Tuition Waiver Benefit is available to eligible employees and dependents. Get started now for spring 2017:
Check your eligibility[5]. Submit the Tuition Waiver Benefit form[6]. Admissions requirements for your campus also apply. Submit the dependent eligibility form[7], if you are using the benefit for a dependent. Learn about admissions requirements and find further instructions and forms on the Employee Services website[8].

Need relief from finals week stress? Let the dogs out[9]

CU archaeologist makes a case for Neanderthals as advanced species[10]

Alumnus, noted scientific researcher to lead December commencement [11]

Is Dylan's Nobel for him or for us? [12]

Pipeline programs send students into pharmacy[13]

CU Denver | CU Anschutz Office of Grants, Contracts logs milestone[14]

The Office of Grants and Contracts at CU Denver l CU Anschutz Medical Campus recorded several major accomplishments in 2016.

In March, it was announced that CU Denver | CU Anschutz Office of Grants and Contracts (OGC) grant proposals had passed the $1 billion dollar mark[15] following their transition into the InfoEd Global[16] (InfoEd) suite of Electronic Research and Administration (eRA) tools. The OGC[17] team did not stop there, but continued to break submission records.

OGC submits to several grant funding sponsors, including Department of Defense (DOD), Department of Justice (DOJ) and others. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is a primary funding sponsor for CU. February, June and October are critical submission deadline cycles[18] for various mechanisms such as large research and career development grants. These deadlines traditionally bring late nights and weeks of stress worrying about meeting submission deadlines.

In April, UIS, OGC, InfoEd and the campus eRA teams partnered to upgrade the eRA system to version 13.808.01E [19]. This upgrade brought a number of fixes and enhancements to the system, but also many changes to business processes both at OGC and for the vendor.

Zachary Keys, UIS's Director, eRA, said that with the efficiencies the upgrade introduced, grant administrators are now able to spend more time getting work done and less time working in the system. Grant Administrators were able to submit more proposals than ever before and surpassed the $1 billion record one month earlier than the mark was reached in 2015 to $1.194 billion.

In October, OGC submissions had increased by 28 percent over the previous year and 37 percent for the month of October. Even the numbers from the June to October deadline increased significantly, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. OGC proposal submission numbers from June to October.
[20]

Mary Powell and Dung Pham, IT Senior Professionals in the OGC, implemented several business process changes to align with the enhancements. They further aided in efficiencies across the campuses by providing training to their teams and department personnel, helping to ensure timely submission of grant proposals.

"The proposal submission process is streamlined since the eRA system was implemented," Pham said. "The Pre-award team has done well with streamlining their processes to align with the upgrades so there are rarely delays in reviewing a proposal and returning it to the department and Principal Investigator (PI). Grant administrators have also done a good job of getting their applications routed on time and incorporating OGC's edits to get a strong application to the sponsor."

The vendor also continues to provide 24-hour, system-to-system support, which wasn't even needed during this critical deadline given how well the system is now working. UIS and the eRA teams are constantly enhancing the tools and processes for greater efficiencies, including the development of additional ways to route proposals to save time for OGC for maximum efficiencies specific to the type of proposal.

These updates allowed researchers and administrators to work on the research and proposal refinement, rather than focusing on the proposal technology.

Learn more about research administration at CU Anschutz | CU Denver.

Anschutz Medical Campus eRA website[21]

Anschutz Campus Research Home Page[22]

CU Denver Research Home Page[23]

Reminder: Final payday of 2016 is Dec. 30[24]

The holiday season is in full swing and with all of the excitement, it is easy to forget approaching deadlines. To make this time less stressful, please remember the final payday of 2016 for employees paid biweekly and monthly is Friday, Dec. 30.

Keep the holidays jolly and receive your pay in a timely manner: Submit all timecards by the correct deadline required by your department.

For more information on upcoming paydays, visit us here[25].

Burns named to NASA transition team for new administration[26]

Chen appointed to Colorado State Advisory Committee[27]

Theodorescu, Bradley chosen for National Cancer Policy Forum[28]

Faculty at Work: Jugal Kalita[29]

Ramirez-Aguilar wins lab sustainability award[30]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/faculty-council-celebrates-year-end-awards[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/governor-s-budget-proposal-has-good-news-cu-higher-education[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/vice-president-diversity-role-outlined[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/resources-available-employees-using-tuition-benefit[5] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/policies/tuition-benefit-eligibility-chart[6] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/tuition-benefit-application-forms[7] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/policies/dependent-eligibility-verification[8] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/employee-tuition-benefit[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/need-relief-finals-week-stress-let-dogs-out[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-archaeologist-makes-case-neanderthals-advanced-species[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/alumnus-noted-scientific-researcher-lead-december-commencement[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/dylans-nobel-him-or-us[13]

https://connections.cu.edu/stories/pipeline-programs-send-students-pharmacy[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-denver-cu-anschutz-office-grants-contracts-logs-milestone[15] https://www.cu.edu/blog/uis-news/zero-1-billion-cu-denver-cu-anschutz-proposal-development-story[16] http://infoedglobal.com/[17] http://www.ucdenver.edu/research/OGC/Pages/default.aspx[18] http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm[19] https://www.cu.edu/blog/uis-news/era-1380801e-upgrade-project-changes-face-era-application-implementations[20] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/ucd-amc_grants-table.jpg[21]

[22] http://www.ucdenver.edu/anschutz/research/Pages/Research.aspx[23] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/WhoWeAre/Chancellor/ViceChancellors/Research/Pages/default.aspx[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/reminder-final-payday-2016-dec-30[25] http://www.cu.edu/employee-services/paydays[26] https://connections.cu.edu/people/burns-named-nasa-transition-team-new-administration[27] https://connections.cu.edu/people/chen-appointed-colorado-state-advisory-committee[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/theodorescu-bradley-chosen-national-cancer-policy-forum[29] https://connections.cu.edu/people/faculty-work-jugal-kalita[30] https://connections.cu.edu/people/ramirez-aguilar-wins-lab-sustainability-award