Five questions for Cameron Cook[1]

Cameron Cook and his wife, Jessica, at the Marine Corps Ball.

His dream was to save lives as a firefighter. But it was an emotional fire that consumed Cameron Cook and propelled him to become a different type of rescuer.

Just after terrorists attacked New York's World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, Cook picked up the phone and called a United States Marine recruiter. After boot camp, he served as an aviation weapons technician, building bombs for aircraft and rockets for helicopter gun systems while serving in Okinawa, Japan, and in Al Asad, Iraq. When he returned to the United States, he headed for college: He still hoped to become a fireman.

The transition from Marine to student was not easy.

"Once you've been in the military and seen that stuff, you have a certain frame of mind, and it's hard for people who haven't been there to relate," he said. "I was re-integrating back into civilian life and learning how to be a student all over again. I felt alone. I had a close-knit team in the Marine Corps, but school is an individualized experience."

After finishing his studies at a San Diego community college, he moved to Denver and attended Metropolitan State University of Denver. As part of the GI Bill, he was required to work for veterans' organizations.

Initially, Cook saw his work with veterans as a little extra income to get through his school years so that he could finish his degree in fire science.

"But once you start helping veterans, it lights a fire in you," he said. "It's a pretty unique population with a lot of great people."

When he graduated from Metro, the position of Veteran Student Services director opened at the University of Colorado Denver.

"All the cards fell into place and the stars aligned. I jumped on board and it's been pretty awesome ever since. Fate was pointing me in one direction and I was looking in another and didn't see it until this position opened up.

"The Marine Corps is the best thing that's ever happened to me. That's where I met my wife; I have the GI Bill; I have this job. But I got out for a reason. It was not the most pleasant experience in my life," Cook said. "Until I started working with vets, I didn't identify as a vet. I wanted to keep that separate, which is a difficult and confusing line to walk because you're proud of what you did, you loved what you did, but you also hated what you did. Or you didn't like it."

Because he lived it, he understands the ups and downs that most veterans go through. Cook works to help smooth the bumpy road from the military to the classroom through a variety of university services. One of his most high-profile programs, Boots to Suits, helps student vets make yet another transition – from school to the job market.

1. How did you become involved with Boots to Suits?

Cook talks about Boots to Suits at a CU Advocates forum in September at the CU Denver Business School.

Our first priority in veterans' services is to process the GI benefit and facilitate the transition from military to education and to support the vets. So I always keep in mind my experiences – the alone feeling and the difficulty with the transition. But the treasurer in my Veterans Student Organization came up with the Boots to Suits idea, to develop a program that would expand that focus to the next step – career transition. The ultimate goal is employment. Many organizations want to hire veterans and we're trying to produce candidates who meet those needs. It's a huge honor to serve the people that I serve here. I tell the students that this is my office and I work here, but we all help each other

through it and that's very special.

2. What does the program entail?

There are four pieces to the program. First, hire a vet; second, internships; and third, mentor a vet. Mentoring is the unique piece, and we set it up as a precursor to the other two. A lot of the veterans joined the military in their late teens or early 20s and have never really done a job interview. Few have written a professional resume and many haven't done a professional job search. We match the students with mentors who guide them and help them get up to speed with their civilian counterparts. The program also educates the business community. Vets bring a lot of intangibles to jobs: teamwork, mission, focus, a can't-fail attitude and leadership. That brings us to the fourth part: Once the vets complete the mentorship, we buy them a suit so they're ready for the career process.

3. Why is the Boots to Suits program important to CU and the community?

It's a tangible way to support and help out vets. A lot of people support the troops but they haven't known a way to do it. Boots to Suits has given them a tangible way and the response has been overwhelming.

Obviously we want to make sure our vets are employed and can further serve and contribute to society, and build upon what they've done in the military – their service and sacrifice. I believe the community is 100 percent behind the program: Our generation is very lucky that American citizens support us so much, regardless of what they think of the war. People support us and we are honored and blessed and thankful for that.

For the students, it's about opportunity. We're opening doors for them. We're teaching them to fish. I know that's a cliché. We're not asking people to offer them jobs, we're asking them to spend time coaching these student vets on what it takes to get in the workforce and succeed. Time is the most valuable asset there is.

Right now, we have 60 vets involved with the program, but we're looking to expand. There is no other model to follow, so this first year has been a pilot program. Our first partner was the Denver Metro Chamber, and it has been a huge champion of the cause, helping vets seeking business careers. We're looking to expand and open pipelines to different career areas that students are interested in – the public sector, nonprofit, engineering, medicine, law enforcement and entrepreneurship.

4. What other programs for vets do you oversee?

When I was initially hired, I had a desk and a phone. I realized there needed to be more support structures for vets because this is a unique population with unique needs. We developed a Veteran Student Mentor Program where upper-class veterans mentor new student veterans. They speak with the new students and their family members at least three times a semester to find out how it's going and to act as a referral resource. We also want to make sure we're doing everything we can to ease that transition for the vets. For some people, it's seamless, but for some it's really big.

For the retention and support piece, we have the Veteran Student Organization, which began in the fall of 2010. A year later, it was the largest student organization on campus and the largest student vet organization in Colorado with more than 300 registered members. The group's focus is building camaraderie, a team environment and a social network. That's one of the things we veterans miss most when we leave the military. In the services, your team is your family and we work with our family and we're around our family all of the time. When you go to school, it's very individualized and self-motivated. So the student organization is in place to help with that change.

I'm also very proud of the new veteran's student center in Tivoli 124. It's got a computer lab, an office for student employees, a lounge with a TV, and a kitchenette. We launched it at the beginning of this semester and it's been huge for community building. We've had 1,300 visits in past six weeks; it's taken on a life of its own. Vets are starting to do things outside of school together and are really building the environment. Some might say we are putting vets into silos, but our big focus is integration. People have study groups and we had our first flag football tournament on Veteran's Day that involved people from all over the campus.

In the fall 0f 2009, there were approximately 9,000 student vets in Colorado. By the end of fall last year, there were 27,000. (CU Denver) went from about 300 student vets to about 900. And as we continue to build our community, we'll integrate more with the at-large community. I want to set the example for other vet organizations to follow. I want CU Denver to set the standard for serving veterans.

5. Dealing with veteran issues must be a stressful job. How do you relax?

This position does get heavy. Our students are dynamic and have their sets of issues. Home is my sanctuary and my solace. I didn't marry my wife, Jessica, until after I finished my tour but we dated all through my time away. The hardest thing in the military is what the significant other has to go through. She went through 14 months in Okinawa and seven months in Iraq with me and she stuck with me. I have a picture of the two of us at the Marine Corps Ball, and it makes me remember all that we've been through. I was 35 when I had my kids, so I'm a little older and more grounded, and I don't get out much. I have a 5-month-old baby and a 20-month-old baby, so those are my interests right now.

Leeds forecast: Positive, broad-based job growth for Colorado in 2013[4]

Colorado will continue on the road to recovery and add a variety of jobs in 2013 across almost all business sectors following a positive year in 2012, according to economist Richard Wobbekind of the University of Colorado Boulder's Leeds School of Business.

Wobbekind's announcement was part of Monday's 48th annual Colorado Business Economic Outlook Forum presented by the Business Research Division of the Leeds School.

The comprehensive outlook for 2013 features forecasts and trends for 13 business sectors prepared by more than 100 key business, government and industry professionals.

"For the state, we see a very positive environment for 2013," said Wobbekind, executive director of the Business Research Division. "We're seeing a wide array of jobs being added and they're diversifying our state economy."

Overall, the forecast calls for a gain of 42,100 jobs in 2013, compared with a gain of about 47,900 jobs this year. All sectors of the Colorado economy are predicted to grow in 2013 with the exception of the information sector, which includes publishing and telecommunications.

When comparing the Leeds School forecast to employment outlooks for other states, Colorado is expected to be in the top 10 states for job growth in 2013 and perhaps in the top six or seven, according to Wobbekind.

Even with positive job growth projected for the state, Wobbekind said uncertainty from national and international factors will play a role in slowing growth during the first and second quarters of 2013. More momentum will occur in the second half of the year.

"Resolution of the so-called fiscal cliff and the resolution of the European debt crisis will have impacts on the national economy and that will filter down to the state level," Wobbekind said. "Once that uncertainty gets resolved, we then expect business investments to start flowing again and consumers to start making decisions based on a known environment. We think the recovery will be quite a bit smoother after that."

The strongest sector for projected job growth in Colorado in 2013 is the educational and health services sector. The sector is expected to add 7,600 jobs in 2013.

In addition, other leading growth sectors for 2013 include the professional and business services sector with 7,400 jobs added and leisure and hospitality with 5,000 workers added, mostly in the areas of accommodation and food services.

The trade, transportation and utilities sector is the largest provider of jobs in Colorado. It includes everything from wholesale and retail trade to a variety of transportation features such as the Denver International Airport and gas pipelines, as well as utilities. The sector is expected to grow 1.4 percent in 2013 with the addition of 5,600 jobs.

The construction sector is expected to grow by 6,300 jobs in 2013 -- up from a 2,800-job increase this year -- and produce $12.6 billion in total value of construction. While the biggest surprise in the sector is the demand for infrastructure work, the number of new multifamily units built is a contributing factor to the increase, among others.

Commenting on the overall forecast, Wobbekind said, “It’s great to be giving positive news to people year after year. Confidence levels nationally are at their highest levels in five years. We’re really starting to see a lot more optimism on the part of the average person on the street about the future.”

Colorado’s unemployment rate is expected to decrease from 8 percent in 2012 to 7.4 percent in 2013, which is comparatively better than the national unemployment rate.

Colorado’s population grew by 1.4 percent, or 71,000 people, in 2012 and is projected to increase by 1.5 percent, or 77,500 people, in 2013. Roughly half of the increase will derive from net migration, or the increase of people moving to the state.

To view the entire economic outlook for Colorado in 2013, including an overview of each of the state’s major economic sectors, visit http://leeds.colorado.edu/BRD[5] and click on the Colorado Business Economic Outlook 2013 icon.

Engineering Design Expo to showcase creative solutions on Saturday[6]

Student's demonstrate their engineering solution at the 2011 Design Expo.

More than 350 engineering students at the University of Colorado Boulder will demonstrate their innovations and inventions to the community Saturday at the annual fall Engineering Design Expo.

The student-developed projects, ranging from an educational science exhibit that illustrates physics concepts to elementary school children to various devices designed to assist individuals with disabilities, will be presented to the public from noon to 3 p.m. at the Integrated Teaching and Learning Laboratory, on campus at Regent Drive and Colorado Avenue. The event is free and highly educational for children.

A total of 74 team projects will be demonstrated, including those created by students in the First-Year Engineering Projects course and senior projects in a variety of disciplines.

CU-Boulder students have been working in teams throughout the fall semester to develop engineering solutions to an array of challenges. The students have created miniature satellites, day-lighting modelers (heliodons), and water collection and purification systems, to name just a few.

Volunteers from industry, government and the community will serve as judges, rating each project on its originality and craftsmanship, as well as the students’ understanding of engineering principles, presentation and effectiveness.

An awards ceremony will be at 3 p.m. Members of the community can vote for their favorite project to win the People’s Choice award.

Free parking is available across the street from the ITL Laboratory in lot 436. For more information call 303-492-7222.

New partnership benefits CU Denver Food Pantry[8]

[9]
When the Food Pantry[10] on the Auraria Campus opened nearly two years ago, students, faculty and staff of the Auraria Campus were able to take advantage of the service regardless of their situation. The most recent development for the Food Pantry, which is hosted by the CU Denver Experiential Learning Center (ELC[11]), is its partnership with the Food Bank of the Rockies (FBR)[12].

Here's how the partnership works: When individuals in the University of Colorado Denver community volunteer at FBR, that time is turned into credit that the Food Pantry can use to purchase food.

The Food Pantry is located on campus in the Tivoli Student Union.

Nelson Rodriquez, community engagement coordinator for the ELC, said, “We can purchase food from the Food Bank of the Rockies at a low cost. When people volunteer there under our name we get credit to buy food.”

For every three hours donated under the CU Denver name the Food Pantry receives 20 pounds of food.

One way for the CU community to be involved in helping the Food Pantry stock the shelves is to volunteer through this year's universitywide CU in the Community[13]. “It’s a great team-building exercise if groups are looking for a year-end opportunity,” Rodriguez said.

The Food Pantry also accepts walk-in donations of nonperisable food 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The items do not have to be strictly food either. “We also have hygiene products like shampoo, baby products and toothpaste,” Rodriguez said. “Those are things we need as well.”

The Food Pantry serves an average of 20 to 25 people a week – mostly students.

“This is just a great way to remain engaged in the community,” Rodriguez said, “We are very excited about this new partnership.”

If you would like more information on how to volunteer with the Food Bank of the Rockies under the CU Denver name, see the website[14] or call the ELC at 303-556-6656.

Heller Center to host ‘Stitches and Stories: A San Luis Valley Christmas’[15]

Josie Lobato demonstrates the Spanish colonial embroidery technique Colcha. Photo by Carol Dass

The heritage and holiday traditions of Colorado’s San Luis Valley will be celebrated in workshops and presentations Friday and Saturday at Heller Center for the Arts and Humanities.

Beginning at 4:30 p.m. Friday, luminarias will be made and placed around the Heller Center property on the northwest side of the UCCS campus, with a traditional posole supper following. Posole is a corn-based soup or stew from Mexico that is popular in the Southwest. After supper, Rick Manzanares, storyteller and former director of the Fort Garland Museum, Pueblo poets Maria Melendez and Juan Morales and UCCS faculty members Janice Gould and Mary Jane Sullivan will present stories, poetry music and film focused on the culture of southern Colorado and the San Luis Valley.

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Josephine (“Josie”) Lobato, originally from the San Luis Valley, will host a stitching workshop inspired by the Spanish Colonial embroidery techniques, Colcha. Colcha embroidery has been practiced in

the Southwest for more than a century. During the embroidery workshop session, Lobato and her husband, Eugene, will share stories based on local legends, family memories, and cultural observances such as Las Posados and Mis Crismes. Las Posados is a nine-day celebration with origins in Spain that is celebrated in the Southwest Dec. 16-24. Mis Crismes is a tradition where children collect candy from neighbors on Christmas morning.

All events are open to the public and free of charge, though reservations are required. To attend, please call Perrin Cunningham, 719-330-3463 or email arts@uccs.edu[17]. When emailing, please use “stitching resv” in the subject line and include name and contact information in the email body.

This event is sponsored by the President’s Fund for the Humanities, the UCCS Office of the Chancellor, the UCCS Department of Visual and Performing Arts, and the Heller Center for Arts and Humanities.

CU-led team receives $9.2 million DOE grant to engineer E. coli into biofuels[18]

[19]
A team led by the University of Colorado Boulder has been awarded $9.2 million over five years from the U.S. Department of Energy to research modifying E. coli to produce biofuels such as gasoline.

“This is a fantastic opportunity to take what we have worked on for the past decade to the next level,” said team leader Ryan Gill, a fellow of CU-Boulder’s Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI). “In this project, we will develop technologies that are orders of magnitude beyond where we are currently.”

The team is working with a non-pathogenic strain of E. coli. Among the microbe’s more than 4,000 genes, the team is searching for a small set and how it can be manipulated in a combination of on and off states to change the bacteria’s behavior.

“E. coli is not going to want to make your biofuel at all,” said Gill, who’s also a CU-Boulder associate professor of chemical and biological engineering. “It doesn’t do that naturally. It’s programmed with thousands of genes controlling how it replicates. We’re figuring out what control structure we need to rewire in the bug to make it do what we want, not what it wants.”

Included in the team are Rob Knight, CU-Boulder associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry; Pin-Ching Maness, principal scientist at DOE’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL); and Adam Arkin, physical biosciences director at DOE’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

The researchers hope to engineer the production of ethylene and isobutanol in the modified E. coli. The two compounds are widely used commodities that can be converted into gasoline among other chemicals.

The greatest challenge is harnessing an efficient and inexpensive process that competes with abundant and low-cost fossil fuels like oil, according to Gill.

“Microorganisms and their genomes are incredibly complex machines,” said Gill. “The first step alone -- of pinpointing the part of the E. coli genome that can help us make biofuels or other chemicals on a cost-competitive basis -- is a daunting challenge. Then we have to determine if the results we want will take one year or decades, $5 million or $500 million.”

The team will be able to simultaneously identify numerous E. coli genes and the results of turning these genes on or off using advanced technologies. Many of the technologies have been developed by the researchers’ own labs.

The grant is the first of its kind from the DOE’s Office of Biological and Environmental Research and was awarded to only seven other research groups including teams led by MIT, Purdue University and the J. Craig Venter Institute.

In 2011, CU's Technology Transfer Office named Gill an inventor of the year. In 2005, Gill won a National Science Foundation CAREER Award as well as a National Institutes of Health K25 Career Development Award for genomics research and teaching.

[High school students get preview of medical school][20]

[21]
They arrived at the Anschutz Medical Campus when it was still dark on the last day of November -- more than 100 high school students from Douglas County taking a pre-med class. Many of the students entered University of Colorado School of Medicine's Center for Advancing Professional Excellence (CAPE) at the Anschutz Medical Campus not knowing what to expect. Many left CAPE energized at the thought of a career in health care.

The class started five years ago with 40 teens at Chaparral High School in Parker. Now, 111 students from Chaparral, Ponderosa High School and Douglas County High School go to class at 6 a.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to take part in pre-med.

CAPE is an experiential stop on the pre-med journey, it allows students to take part in crisis situations in a safe environment. Students learn how to work as a team and communicate with one another as the simulation using human patient simulators unfolds.

The pre-med class in Douglas County was initiated by Chris Stirrup, a science and math teacher at Chaparral, who says the collaboration with CAPE is invaluable to the students. "CAPE gives kids a preview of the medical profession and gives them an idea of what to expect when they get to medical school. This class also helps the teens figure out if they want to pursue a career in health care," Stirrup said.

Stirrup explained some kids decide they are not interested in a career in medicine, which can be a helpful realization. Those that continue on the path to health care make valuable contacts and gain experience building their careers.

Susan St. Pierre, a standardized physical exam teaching associate at CAPE, likes working with young people. "The kids get excited about different parts of medicine they haven't seen. They learn how to do vitals and feel pulses and you can see their eyes light up," she said.

[President's Teaching and Learning Collaborative seeks research proposals][22]

Faculty from all disciplines are invited to become investigators in the CU President's Teaching and Learning Collaborative (PTLC), now beginning its eighth year and establishing its 2013-14 cohort of Faculty Researchers.

Faculty Researchers design, carry out and publish research on a particular aspect of learning in a specific course. Each investigator is supported by a coach and short seminars in how to do education research.

Central to the work of the President's Teaching and Learning Collaborative is creating and publishing scholarship in teaching and learning that contributes both to theory and effective teaching practice in and across disciplines. To this end, each Faculty Researcher designs and undertakes an investigation aimed at deepening understanding of disciplinary pedagogy and related to an important issue in learning.

All application materials must be submitted electronically in attached Word documents onlyto Suzanne.Eyerman@Colorado.EDU[23] by May 22, 2013.

Complete details are posted at: http://www.colorado.edu/ptsp/ptlc/PTLC_Call.html[24]

Film premiere, fundraiser to launch teaching program at CU Denver[25]

[26]
A film premiere will celebrate teachers who are University of Colorado students and alumni while helping to establish a new global-minded program at CU Denver.

The premiere of “Inspire Me! Africa” is set for 6 p.m. Dec. 14 in Tivoli Turnhalle on the Auraria Campus.

The movie takes audience members on a journey with CU students and alumni who are teachers by profession. They travel through the heart of the Serengeti, with its dramatic biological diversity, to Maasai villages, Tanzanian schools and AIDS orphanages for close interactions with the people and cultures of Africa. The trek leads to the very roof of the African continent on the giant volcano, Mount Kilimanjaro. The film then follows the film’s subjects back into their U.S. classrooms to explore how their extraordinary experiences in Africa translate into inspiration for their students.

“Inspire Me! Africa” was directed by Brad McLain at CU Denver’s Experiential Science Education Research Collaborative (XSci) within the School of Education and Human Development. Anthropologist Jane Goodall makes an appearance in the film to share a story about her most inspirational teacher. It also features a heroic former Evergreen Middle School teacher, Leslie Jankausky, who was killed in a tragic car accident following her trip to Africa.

“This film is both a celebration of the art of teaching and a powerful call-to-action to do it better,” said Teresa Bell McLain, producer of the movie and vice president of marketing and strategy at XSci. “It’s about how inspiration happens through extraordinary experiences.”

This film premiere serves as a fundraiser for the African schools and orphanages visited in the film, as well as the creation of a Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Colorado based program at CU Denver. The Roots and Shoots program will create a venue for Colorado teachers and students to take action through projects that benefit the welfare of people, animals and the environment.

Tickets are $25 for students and teachers. Premium tickets are $100. For more information and tickets, please visit: www.xscifundraiser.org[26].

My New Weigh plans information sessions for January[27]

Losing weight is tough to do in today’s environment. If you are ready to try something different and exciting, then discover My New Weigh, available at the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. It is specifically designed for those who need to lose at least 30 pounds or those who have health issues related to weight.

This effective program:
is medically supervised includes weekly lifestyle modification classes uses a science-based, nutritionally balanced meal plan.
My New Weigh provides you with the tools needed for long-term success.

To learn more, please contact Elizabeth Kealey, Elizabeth.Kealey@ucdenver.edu[28] or 303-724-9088, after Dec. 26 to reserve a spot at an upcoming free information session:
5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10

Cyber-security in the material world[29]

[30]
When it comes to threats faced by your data and our organization, cyber-attacks are the most common. However, danger also exists in the real world. While not as common, physical attacks against our information can have far greater impact.

To understand how to protect our information against physical attacks, see the December 2012 Office of Information Security Cyber Security newsletter at https://www.cu.edu/cybersecuritynewsletter[31].

The IT Security Program APS on the following link provides more information about the responsibilities of users as it relates to using IT Resources and protecting data: https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps/it/6005.pdf[32]

Obituary: Geraldine Bean[33]

Geraldine Bean (Photo courtesy CU-Boulder Alumni Association, CU Heritage Center)

Geraldine Bean, a Colorado native who received three degrees from the University of Colorado, taught at CU and served on the Board of Regents, died Nov. 30, 2012, in Louisville after a brief illness. She was 84.

She was born July 13, 1928, in Fort Morgan. After graduating from Fort Morgan High School in 1946, she married Manley L. Bean, an Air Force first lieutenant. The couple spent years overseas, but in 1958 returned to the United States and moved to Boulder. Geraldine Bean enrolled as a freshman at CU in 1962. She received her bachelor's degree in 1966 and her Ph.D. in 1970. She taught history at CU and also was a research economist in the Department of Economics. She also taught economics at Colorado State University.

In 1972, she became the sixth woman in the history of the university to be elected to the Board of Regents, where she served a six-year term. In 1978, she was recognized by the board for her "emphasis on openness in board deliberations, continuing institutional dedication to the free exchange of ideas and preservation of an atmosphere conducive to learning scholarship and community service."

In response to the recognition, Bean said: " … The really great part of my association with the university has not only been the relationship which I have had with my fellow regents but also with the students, staff and the administration. I am sure that I have gained much more than I have given. I have gained an insight into what a university is really all about, and it is a lesson which I could not have learned under any other circumstances. I am grateful for that, and I am grateful to all of you for the courtesies, kindnesses and instruction which have been afforded me. Thank you very much. Again, it is not goodbye since I will be here. Now, I can write letters to the editor."

She was given the title of Regent Emeritus of the University of Colorado during commencement ceremonies in May 1979.

Bean also wrote "Charles Boettcher: A Study in Pioneer Western Enterprise," a book published in 1976. When she retired from teaching in 2004, she received a Presidential Citation for her service to CU.

Bean was a champion of women's rights, was selected as an American Council on Education Fellow, served as vice chair of the Boulder County Democratic Party and was involved with numerous civic activities.

She is survived by her daughter Susan Alvey of Hotchkiss; son Mark Bean of Salisbury, Mass.; and three siblings, Phyllis Dollerschell of Sterling; Jim Bowles of Piedmont, S.D.; and Richard Bowles of Woodland Park. She has five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Services were Wednesday in Lafayette. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Amesbury for Africa, P.O. Box 263, Amesbury, MA 01913. Donations will be used to buy books in English and Swahili for students at the Esabalu Primary Schools in Esabalu, Kenya.

Wu named founding editor-in-chief of new journal[35]

[36]
Jonathan Wu, a professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado Denver, has been named the founding editor-in-chief of a new journal, Transportation Infrastructure Geotechnology. The journal will be published quarterly by Springer, with whom more than 150 Nobel prize-winners have published their work.

Transportation infrastructure, including bridge abutments, retaining walls, embankments, foundations, roadways, railways, tunnels, culverts, airports, seaports, in many parts of the world are in dire need of repair, rehabilitation and new construction. The need is fast approaching a state of crisis. The impending crisis is in part caused by decades of inadequate investments and poor rehabilitation of the infrastructure.

Transportation Infrastructure Geotechnology aims to provide an up-to-date reference and an expeditious dissemination of new developments in transportation infrastructure geotechnology to researchers and practicing engineers engaged in geotechnical aspects of transportation infrastructure. The theme of this Journal will be on the geotechnical "technology" as applied to transportation infrastructure, and is not limited to the "mechanics" aspects. Articles reporting case histories, with satisfactory or dissatisfactory performance, are welcomed. Practicing professionals in the industry are especially encouraged to share their experiences. The first issue of the Journal will be launched in January 2014.

Olwin named 2012 Senior Scholar in Aging[37]

[38]
Bradley Olwin, a professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology, at the University of Colorado Boulder, was named a 2012 Senior Scholar in Aging by the Ellison Medical Foundation for his work reprogramming muscle stem cells to resist aging.

Olwin and his team are investigating the regeneration of normal, diseased and aged skeletal muscle with a focus on the mechanisms regulating muscle stem cell quiescence, self-renewal and terminal differentiation.

The Ellison Medical Foundation Senior Scholar in Aging program is designed to support established investigators working at institutions in the U.S. to conduct research in the basic biological sciences relevant to understanding lifespan development processes and age-related diseases and disabilities. The award is intended to provide significant support to allow the development of novel, innovative research programs by investigators who are not currently conducting aging research or who wish to develop new research programs in aging. The Foundation particularly aims to stimulate new research that has rigorous scientific foundations but is not funded adequately, either because of its perceived novelty, its high risk, or because it is from an area where traditional research interests absorb most funding. Senior Scholar awards provide funding up to $150,000 per year for a four-year period.

Cambier receives Lifetime Faculty Achievement Award[39]

[40]
John Cambier, Distinguished Professor and Chair, Integrated Department of Immunology, School of Medicine, graduate program in reproductive sciences, recently was recognized with the "Lifetime Faculty Achievement Award" at the National Jewish Health faculty awards dinner.

Cambier is one of nine people who have received the award. Cambier's work involves transduction and integration of regulatory signals in lymphoid cells in part because aberrancies in these mechanisms may lead to autoimmunity and immunodeficiency. He is considered a leading authority on how immune cells interpret environmental queues during immune and inflammatory responses, Cambier has advanced medical science's understanding of how the body's immune system avoids autoimmunity. More on his research focus is detailed online.

He holds the Ida & Cecil Green Professorship of Cell Biology endowed chair.

Three Cancer Center investigators chair DoD Peer Review Panels[41]

Nordeen

Glode

Koul

Three University of Colorado Cancer Center investigators are serving as chairs of Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) Peer Review Panels sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). **Steve Nordeen**, professor of molecular biology and pathology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, is the chair of the Detection, Diagnosis and Prognosis Panel. Though it is his third time serving as chair, he has served more than 15 times as a DoD reviewer.

The Clinical and Experimental Therapeutics Panel 2 is chaired by **Michael Glodé**, a professor of medical oncology at the School of Medicine. He has previously been a reviewer and has served on the DoD Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium External Advisory Panel.

Hari Koul, director of research of the urology and surgery programs at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, is the chair of the Clinical and Experimental Therapeutics Panel 1. This is the sixth time he has served on a panel and the third time he has chaired.

Researchers are recruited each year to be peer reviewers during the grant review process. Alongside the researchers, consumers also are recruited to represent the collective view of survivors, patients, family members and people at-risk of developing prostate cancer.

“The grant program has a very different focus than NIH,” Nordeen said. “This program is very focused on the patient so the panels include three lay people who’ve had prostate cancer. They help keep us focused on the end result: How is this going to make a difference for patients and how soon?”

Together, the reviewers and consumers are tasked with measuring each proposal against a gold standard for innovation and impact, as well as scientific rationale and research strategy. In 2012, the DoD received a congressional appropriation of $80 million to fund prostate cancer research projects.

“It is a distinct pleasure to serve the review panels of the PCRP,” Koul said. “This program is unique and unparalleled and is quintessential for supporting out-of the box ideas and highly innovative research proposals aimed at addressing unmet needs in prostate cancer. The unique mix of reviewers’ basic scientists, clinical and translational researchers and consumer advocates helps identify not only the best science, but also the most relevant and the most impactful proposals.”

Jones at national meeting on health aging research[45]

Jacqueline (Jackie) Jones, associate professor in the College of Nursing’s Division of Informatics, Health Systems & Leadership, recently visited the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta for the annual meeting of the Health Aging Research Network (HAN), which is part of the CDC.

Jones is the only HAN member from the college and is one of only three nurses in the U.S. who participate in HAN.

The Anschutz Medical Campus is a HAN satellite site that is located in the Colorado School of Public Health. HAN partners include AARP, the American Medical Association and other groups. Jones is part of the HAN Mobility Work Group that conducts outcomes-focused research into aging and living arrangements to try to help older people live as independently as possible in the community in which they live.

Davison receives top award for paper[46]

[47]
Erin Davison, a lecturer in the University of Colorado Denver Department of Communication, has received a top paper award from the Communication and Instruction Division of the Western States Communication Association for "An Exploratory Study of Factors Affecting International and Domestic English Language Learner Students' Educational Experiences at a Western States Urban University."

The paper was derived from her master’s thesis, under the direction of Lisa Keränen.

Davison will present her research in Reno, Nev., in February.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-cameron-cook[2] https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-cameron-cook/5q-cook[3] https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-cameron-cook/5q-cook2[4]

https://connections.cu.edu/stories/leeds-forecast-positive-broad-based-job-growth-colorado-2013[5] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Url.aspx?1539443x40628x-1314817[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/engineering-design-expo-showcase-creative-solutions-saturday[7] https://connections.cu.edu/news/engineering-design-expo-to-showcase-creative-solutions-on-saturday/design-expo-f[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-partnership-benefits-cu-denver-food-pantry[9] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ucdpantrypng[10] http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/studentlife/getinvolved/Pages/FoodPantry.aspx[11] http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/ExperientialLearning/Pages/default.aspx[12] http://www.foodbankrockies.org/[13] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/WhoWeAre/Chancellor/ExecutiveTeam/OutreachEvents/CUCommunity/Pages/default.aspx[14] http://www.foodbankrockies.org/take-action/volunteer/[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/heller-center-host-%E2%80%98stitches-and-stories-san-luis-valley-christmas%E2%80%99[16] https://connections.cu.edu/file/uccs-stitchespng[17] mailto:arts@uccs.edu[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-led-team-receives-92-million-doe-grant-engineer-e-coli-biofuels[19] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ucbdoe2png[20] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/high-school-students-get-preview-medical-school[21] https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzhs-studentspng[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/president%E2%80%99s-teaching-and-learning-collaborative-seeks-research-proposals[23] mailto:Suzanne.Eyerman@Colorado.EDU[24] http://www.colorado.edu/ptsp/ptlc/PTLC_Call.html[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/film-premiere-fundraiser-launch-teaching-program-cu-denver[26] http://www.xscifundraiser.org/[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/my-new-weigh-plans-information-sessions-january[28] mailto:Elizabeth.Kealey@ucdenver.edu[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cyber-security-material-world[30] https://connections.cu.edu/file/dyk-securitypng[31] https://www.cu.edu/cybersecuritynewsletter[32] https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps/it/6005.pdf[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/obituary-geraldine-bean[34] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pbeanpng-0[35] https://connections.cu.edu/people/wu-named-founding-editor-chief-new-journal[36] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pwupng[37] https://connections.cu.edu/people/olwin-named-2012-senior-scholar-aging[38] https://connections.cu.edu/file/p-olwinpng[39] https://connections.cu.edu/people/cambier-receives-lifetime-faculty-achievement-award[40] https://connections.cu.edu/file/p-cambierpng[41] https://connections.cu.edu/people/three-cancer-center-investigators-chair-dod-peer-review-panels[42] https://connections.cu.edu/people/three-cancer-center-investigators-chair-dod-peer-review-panels/p_nordeen-2[43] https://connections.cu.edu/people/three-cancer-center-investigators-chair-dod-peer-review-panels/p_glode[44] https://connections.cu.edu/people/three-cancer-center-investigators-chair-dod-peer-review-panels/p_koul[45] https://connections.cu.edu/people/jones-national-meeting-health-aging-research[46] https://connections.cu.edu/people/davison-receives-top-award-paper[47] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdavisonpng