Basketball tournament brings with it $100,000 for breast cancer research[1]

[2]
Research on breast cancer after pregnancy at the University of Colorado Cancer Center is reaching a key milestone thanks to a gift from nationally renowned cancer research charities in celebration of Denver being host city for the 2012 NCAA Women's Final Four.

The Kay Yow Cancer Fund and the V Foundation for Cancer Research annually fund cancer research based in the host city of the basketball tournament. This year, the $100,000 grant will fund continuing work at the University of Colorado Cancer Center aimed at preventing young women's breast cancer.

"We're at the point where this money will help us finalize the data we need to support a clinical trial for the prevention of postpartum, pregnancy-associated breast cancers," said grant recipient Virginia Borges, M.D., MMSc, a CU Cancer Center investigator and co-director of the center's Young Women's Breast Cancer Translational Program.

Nick Valvano, chief executive officer of the V Foundation for Cancer Research, and Megan Smith, director of marketing and development for the Kay Yow Cancer Fund, presented Borges with a ceremonial check at a news conference at the Anschutz Cancer Pavilion on Dec. 1, about 100 days ahead of the NCAA Women's Final Four, to be held in Denver on April 1 and 3.

"It is so encouraging to fund research whose target is not only the treatment of breast cancer, but the prevention as well," said Valvano. "We are proud to be associated with this project."

"The women's basketball community has been incredibly supportive of the Fund since its inception, especially during the month of February," said Marsha Sharp, executive director of the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. "With this in mind, it is very fitting for us to fund research on young women's breast cancer in the host city of the 2012 Women's Final Four."

Founded in 2005 by Borges and co-director Pepper Schedin, Ph.D., the Young Women's Breast Cancer Translational Program at the CU Cancer Center specializes in the treatment and prevention of breast cancer in women under age 40, with a special focus on pregnancy-associated breast cancer. The program provides comprehensive breast cancer treatment and survival support to more than 100 women each year. The program also instigates and participates in both basic and clinical research into the causes, treatment and prevention of breast cancer in young women.

Borges and Schedin published a paper in Nature Medicine[3] in July 2011 that showed that non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen reduce the severity of postpartum breast cancers in animal models, and now the research team will move the preclinical results toward humans.

Borges and Schedin's work targets an especially at-risk population.

Recent studies show that women who have children before age 30 increase their risk of pre-menopausal breast cancer by 10 percent and women who wait to have children until after age 35 increase their risk by 30 percent.

Not only is breast cancer more prevalent in young mothers than in women who have not had a child, but cancers diagnosed in the early years postpartum also tend to be more aggressive, with increased risk of spreading to other organs.

Women diagnosed with cancer within two years of giving birth have a 40 percent five-year survival rate, as opposed to a 70 percent five-year survival rate for women diagnosed outside the postpartum window.

The pair's work shows that NSAIDs reduce the wound-like qualities of breasts undergoing the process of involution, during which milk-producing cells are killed and replaced with fat cells. During involution, healthy tissues can be invaded by fibrous collagen, which promotes tumor growth and travel into the lung. NSAIDs decrease production of the enzyme COX-2, which promotes the growth of this fibrous collagen.

"Dr. Schedin and I are the right arm and the left arm of this research organization, and so this grant from the Kay Yow

and Jimmy V Foundations will directly fund research that benefits young women," Borges says.

Borges and Schedin are faculty in the CU medical school, and Borges provides breast cancer care at University of Colorado Hospital.

Newest regent takes oath[4]

With Chief Justice Michael L. Bender administering the oath of office, Irene Griego became the newest member of the CU Board of Regents on Dec. 2. (Photo: Cathy Beuten/University of Colorado)

Irene Griego took her oath of office at the Capitol on Friday, Dec. 2, officially becoming the newest member of the University of Colorado Board of Regents.

The audience at the brief ceremony included family, friends, colleagues from her career in education and leaders at CU, including President Bruce Benson and fellow regents Steve Bosley, Michael Carrigan and Joe Neguse.

"Dr. Griego brings an amazing set of talents to the Board of Regents," Carrigan said during his introduction. "We are tremendously lucky to have you join us."

Chief Justice Michael L. Bender administered the oath. Griego was appointed to the board by Gov. John Hickenlooper[6] after the resignation of Monisha Merchant[7], leaving a vacancy on the board for the representation of the 7th Congressional District.

A longtime administrator at the Jefferson County School District, Griego established the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in 2010, and serves as director. After taking her oath, she recalled how she and other minority students were sent out of the classroom and into the hallway for segregated reading classes.

"I was taught to read at home, but I was afraid to go in the classroom. Every night my mom made me read aloud to my brothers," Griego said. "I finally read aloud in class. My brother was my tutor and helped me learn to write. I remember teachers who went to fight for minorities."

Griego said she is honored to begin work with the Board of Regents.

"It's also an honor to support the outstanding president, Bruce Benson, and his staff in doing the work they do to move the university forward."

More photos from the swearing-in ceremony are posted at the Office of the President's Facebook page[8].

Eco-friendly Williams Village North earns platinum LEED rating [9]

Students in one of the common areas in CU-Boulder's Williams Village North residence hall. (Photo courtesy of John Robledo Foto)

Williams Village North, the University of Colorado Boulder's newest residence hall, has received a LEED platinum rating from the United States Green Building Council. The 500-bed residence hall is the first of its size in the nation to rank platinum – the highest possible designation.

LEED certification is a U.S. benchmark for sustainable building design, construction, operation and maintenance. The $46.5 million Williams Village North, with 131,246 gross square feet, is projected to be nearly 40 percent more energy- and water-efficient than modern code-compliant buildings of the same size.

“Our platinum rating -- a first for the campus -- represents a lot and we’re very proud of what we’ve accomplished through the efforts of many dedicated people,” said Moe Tabrizi, campus sustainability director. “It reflects our commitments to immediate energy, water and resource conservation and our long-term goal of carbon neutrality, as well as the belief that we can provide students interactive learning in every corner of campus.”

CU-Boulder has eight other structures that are LEED gold rated and another with a silver designation. All future new or renovated buildings on campus will be at least LEED gold rated, with the goal of seeking LEED platinum whenever possible, Tabrizi said.

In a building that gets 12.5 percent of its energy from on-site solar panels, Williams Village North residents have a hand in controlling the flow of electricity. They are able to shut off power to nonessential and not-in-use outlets with single switches installed in each room. Residents will be able to monitor electricity using meters and information kiosks in the building, which also are slated for upcoming energy savings competitions.

A free water bottle filling station shows how many plastic containers may have been diverted from landfills as users stock reusable vessels. Since the building opened in mid-August, the estimated savings stands at more than 24,000 bottles.

The building is home to two Residential Academic Programs, or RAPS -- Sustainable by Design and Social Entrepreneurship for Equitable Development and Sustainability. Architecture Assistant Professor Matthew Jelacic serves as faculty in residence for both of the RAPS.

“Williams Village North offers more than a living space, it offers a lifestyle,” said Kambiz Khalili, executive director of Housing and Dining Services. “Our partnership with the campus and resident student leaders provided the opportunity to commit resources that allow CU students to fully explore the impacts of sustainability in a unique living and learning environment.”

The site has low-flow water fixtures installed in sinks, showers and toilets, and native landscaping that requires little or no watering.

Other green features include energy-efficient lighting with daylight harvesting, advanced heat-recovery systems and low-volatile organic compound, or VOC, materials.

“As we began the design process, it became obvious to us that if we stretched our collaborative efforts we had a chance to create the first LEED platinum building on campus,” said Curt Huetson, director of facilities, planning and operations for Housing and Dining Services. “I challenged our project team, which actually signed a pact and committed to make it happen. As a result, each member now points to this facility with tremendous personal pride.”

Team members included Paul Leef, director of planning, design and construction and campus architect; Steve Hecht, manager of design and project management; Heidi Rogé, project manager; Tom Goodhew, campus planner; Richelle Reilly, landscape architect; and Paula Bland, director of Residence Life. Also included were campus engineers Jonathan Akins, Pieter van der Mersch, Pepper Clayton and Joe Branchaw.

Only 1.5 percent of Williams Village North project costs came from the sustainability integration that makes the building LEED platinum rated and will translate into significant utility savings over time.

For more information on CU-Boulder’s green campus initiatives visit http://www.colorado.edu/cusustainability/greeningcu/GreeningCU.html[11]. For more information on Housing and Dining Services visit http://housing.colorado.edu/[12].

All's well at CU Denver as Be Colorado delivers prizes[13]

From left, Provost Rod Nairn, Paula Wilson of Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield and CU's Risa Heywood, health programs manager, draw the names of prize winners during the Be Colorado participation recognition event at CU Denver on Friday, Dec. 2. (Photo: Chris Casey/University of Colorado)

Be Colorado is a hit, especially at the University of Colorado Denver.

Faculty and staff at the Denver campus basked in their commitment to wellness on Dec. 2 when they won the trophy for best participation in this fall's Be Colorado[15] health assessment. About 40 people attended the festive awards presentation, as well as prize drawings, in the Terrace Room in the Lawrence Street Center.

The University of Colorado Denver[16] had nearly 23 percent faculty and staff participation in the screenings provided by Be Colorado, a comprehensive wellness program offered to participants of the University of Colorado Health and Welfare Trust[17]. University leadership agreed to a friendly competition to see which campus could get the largest turnout rate for the screenings, which drew about 1,300 participants systemwide.

"You did great -- that's why we're here today," Risa Heywood, CU health promotion program manager, told the gathering. "You had almost 23 percent participation, which is fantastic."

A trophy for best campus participation went to the Denver Campus.

The Colorado Springs campus had 17 percent participation, Anschutz Medical Campus had 16 percent and the Boulder campus posted nearly 15 percent participation.

Heywood said the goal next year is 50 percent participation. She noted that 60 people at the screenings discovered they had a health problem.

"That's why we're doing this," she said. "This is a very convenient way for people to get those basic preventive tests and see how we're doing."

Provost Rod Nairn said healthful habits make people's lives and work more fulfilling.

"Be Colorado brings out the best in us. Together we're creating a wonderful, outstanding urban campus," Nairn said. "As a university, we've got the opportunity to redefine wellness in collaboration with our colleagues at all of our campuses."

Also presenting at the awards ceremony were E. Jill Pollock, vice president of Employee and Information Services, and Marcy Benson, wife of CU President Bruce Benson and honorary chairwoman of Be Colorado.

"Thanks Marcy and Jill for helping make the University of Colorado a workplace that exemplifies what it means to Be Colorado," Nairn said.

Benson said Be Colorado offers a well-rounded approach to wellness and healthful living.

"One of the great things about the program is it goes beyond our physical health to our financial and intellectual health," she said.

The next leg of the program is a Healthy Through the Holidays[18] campaign, which runs through Jan. 13. Employees are encouraged to register at https://universityhealth.americaonthemove.org[18] to receive daily tips and healthy recipes that promote healthy lifestyles during the stressful holiday season. Registered participants will be eligible for weekly prize drawings of iPod Shuffles and, at the end of the campaign, one iPod Nano winner will be randomly

selected from each campus across the university system, including at the University Physicians, Inc.[19], and the University of Colorado Hospital[20].

Twenty-five randomly drawn Denver campus participants in this fall's Be Colorado assessments received $50 gift cards to REI[21]. Winners are being notified by Human Resources. Five people won stadium blankets in a drawing held by TIAA-CREF[22] representatives. A dozen winners of iPads also were announced, randomly selected among health assessment participants throughout the system:
Jenna Doe, Anschutz Medical Campus Ashley Ehlers, Anschutz Medical Campus Rebecca Safran, CU-Boulder Kimberly Schorr, CU-Boulder Megan Sforzini, CU Denver Denise Sheridan, UCCS Karla Archuleta, University of Colorado Hospital Molly Bethel, University of Colorado Hospital Kelley Duva, University of Colorado Hospital Elaine Lam, University of Colorado Hospital Julie Towne, University of Colorado Hospital Lita Williams, University of Colorado Hospital

Work on blood disorders leads to Scholar Award[23]

Wang

Xiao-Jing Wang, M.D., Ph.D., a professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and director of the head, neck and skin cancer research program, has received a 2012 Scholar Award from the American Society of Hematology. The awards provide monetary support for fellows and junior faculty pursuing research careers to assist them during the critical period in which they must complete their training and achieve status as an independent investigator.

The awards, totaling $100,000 for fellows and $150,000 for junior faculty over a two- to three-year period, are made possible through grants from the corporate community, individual donors, foundations, and funds committed by the society.

"The ASH Scholar Awards demonstrate the society's strong commitment to supporting hematology research despite the challenging current economic climate and threatened funding cuts to the National Institutes of Health," said ASH President J. Evan Sadler, M.D., Ph.D., of the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. "We thank our partners for their support of this program and of the next generation of hematology researchers."

The American Society of Hematology (www.hematology.org[25]) is the world's largest professional society concerned with the causes and treatment of blood disorders. Its mission is to further the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disorders affecting blood, bone marrow, and the immunologic, hemostatic, and vascular systems by promoting research, clinical care, education, training and advocacy in hematology.

PBS: Anthem members using Walgreens need to choose different pharmacy[26]

In September, Payroll & Benefit Services (PBS) learned that the pharmacy benefit vendor, Express Scripts (Anthem's contracted Pharmacy Benefit Manager), was in negotiations with Walgreens to reach an agreement to keep Walgreens as a preferred provider. PBS reached out to Anthem expressing our desire that Express Scripts negotiate a deal that balances costs and allows Walgreens to continue as a network pharmacy. Express Scripts works on behalf of Anthem and its customers to keep prescription costs as affordable and accessible as possible.

Unfortunately at this time, Walgreens continues to indicate it will no longer be an Express Scripts provider effective Jan. 1, 2012. PBS is hopeful that Walgreens and Express Scripts will come to a positive resolution before the end of

the year.

To avoid difficulties in having benefit coverage for prescriptions, members currently using a Walgreens pharmacy should make arrangements to transfer their prescriptions to a network pharmacy. Express Scripts maintains a network of more than 56,000 pharmacy locations nationwide, even without Walgreens. On average, there is another network pharmacy within a half-mile of a Walgreens pharmacy, and most of the other major pharmacies. CU's own University of Colorado Hospital Pharmacies, Wardenburg's pharmacy on the Boulder campus, King Soopers, Safeway, Target and others continue to be part of the Express Scripts network. Members always may check the list of participating pharmacy providers online to see if a particular provider is in-network by visiting www.anthem.com/universityofcolorado [27].

PBS has provided an FAQ with more information here: https://www.cu.edu/pbs/benefits/downloads/2011_10-17_walgreens_faq.pdf[28]. Anthem is sending letters and making phone calls to all members who currently fill prescriptions at Walgreens, and they have provided important information for those members here: http://www.anthem.com/wps/portal/ahpfooter?content_path=shared/noapplication/f0/s0/t0/pw_e178413.htm&label=Walgreens%20Update%20November%202011[29].

Questions: Contact Anthem at 1-800-735-6072 or a PBS benefits counselor at benefits@cu.edu[30].

Leaders highlight student recruitment, retention, marketing efforts[31]

Helping a UCCS student decide to continue to his sophomore year could be as easy as saying "hello" outside of class.

Barbara Gaddis, executive director of Student Retention and First Year Experience, shared student comments about decisions to continue at UCCS during a Thursday, Dec. 1, forum. She was joined by Homer Wesley, vice chancellor of Student Success and Enrollment Management, and Martin Wood, vice chancellor of University Advancement, for an overview of student recruitment, marketing and retention efforts.

"Sometimes it's the little things," Gaddis said. "I had a student tell me that it was the fact that his faculty member said hello to him outside of class that made him feel connected to UCCS. Retention is not the goal but the outcome of an excellent undergraduate experience."

Gaddis complimented those who attended the forum as well as other faculty and staff for helping 71 percent – a record number -- of UCCS students continue from their freshman year to their sophomore year. Some students enter UCCS with the goal of transferring to other colleges. And while Gaddis celebrated the success, she was clear that student decisions to stay at UCCS, transfer, or quit school are complicated.

Gaddis highlighted various programs in place to help students succeed. They include an early warning system where faculty concerned about a student can alert the Office of First Year Experience and Transfer Student Connections, Freshman Seminar as well as the Centers for Academic Excellence and both formal and informal mentoring programs. Gaddis also cited a number of statistics that indicated which students are most likely to succeed. Academic preparation, the number of hours worked, the selection of an academic program, athletic participation, and even housing decisions contribute to student success.

Wesley celebrated the record fall enrollment of 9,321 students and 107,582 credit hours as well as a 1,300-plus student freshman class. A large freshman class, combined with strong retention efforts, should provide stability for UCCS. He also called enrollment a campuswide effort.

"This success is not the result of a single year of efforts," Wesley said. "The work and planning that has taken place

over at least the last three years – and maybe the work and planning that has taken place since 1965 – is what resulted in these positive numbers."

Challenges ahead for UCCS include increasing student-borne costs for education, providing online courses for traditional- and non-traditional-age students, flexible course times, additional out-of-state and international students, and students returning to college after careers in the military or private sectors.

"Our ability to meet the needs of our state and the needs of individual students require a very high level of responsiveness," Wesley said. "It requires that we begin to do work in different ways than we've ever done before."

Wood provided an overview of student recruitment marketing efforts that include radio, television and newspaper advertisements and a student recruitment video[32], as well as direct-mail contacts of students and online advertising. From Nov. 15 through March 31, more than 3,180 television advertisements will be aired on Denver and Colorado Springs television stations.

Five questions for Martin Lockley[33]

[34]
It began with a few tracks in a coal mine near Gunnison. They weren't just any tracks; they were impressions left in the earth by dinosaurs millions of years ago. In the early 1980s, there was very little serious literature written about the subject of ancient tracks. So after Martin Lockley and one of his students documented the site and wrote a short paper on the "discovery," they became "instant experts."

Lockley had been hired to teach geology at the University of Colorado Denver in 1980, but his interests lay in paleontology, specifically in the area of early marine fossils, which he had studied during doctoral and post-doctoral work in Wales. He soon realized he wouldn't be able to continue his work with marine fossils; the nearest sites were in Utah and Nevada. But the student's suggestion to look at dinosaur tracks was fortuitous.

[35]
"People said we were clever to pick this neglected area (of study), to make it my own, but I always tell them that we fell into it. There were other people who studied dinosaur tracks before, but they were few and far between and some of them had been dead for a couple of generations," Lockley said. "I wasn't intending to make (dinosaur tracks) a major area of specialization, but we became instant experts so we took the ball and ran with it."

Lockley's nearly overnight fame has not waned in the ensuing years. He is a world expert in the fields of paleontology, geology and evolution, and is one of only a few dinosaur track specialists in the United States. He is the first and only director of the Dinosaur Tracks Museum at CU Denver and is overseeing the transfer of the collection – some 2,700 specimens from 24 different countries – to the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History at CU-Boulder. The move was necessitated by his announced retirement in 2010. He has written hundreds of books and papers and has traveled the world to research track sites, studying not only dinosaur prints but those of pterosaurs and birds, ancient mammals and even hominids.

1. What would you consider some of the highlights of your career?

After the first paper, somebody told us about a site on the Purgatory River in the Las Animas/La Junta area. There had been very obscure, short references in literature about it in the 1930s. The site was very impressive and hard to get to. We spent three or four autumns and winters there, mapping the site. It really was a kind of purgatory because we had to work in quite difficult conditions in winter because in the summer, the water level was too high and it tended to be very hot – 110 degrees – and there were rattlesnakes. Working and camping in the winter, we literally spent 20 long weekends there, so it was like 40 days and 40 nights in purgatory. It turned out to be one of the largest fossil footprint sites in North America. That really set us on our way to specializing in the study of dinosaur footprints. Coincidentally, a photograph of the site had been published in Life magazine, of all things, in Volume 1. We published a fairly

comprehensive piece with a map of the huge area, with more than 1,300 footprints, in the Geological Society of America Bulletin in 1986, on the 50th anniversary of the first reference to the site.

Another memorable chapter in the history of our Dinosaur Tracks Research Group was in late 1988-89. We began to realize that, near Dinosaur Ridge, you could trace the track-bearing layers a long way north and south, all the way to New Mexico, and we began to call this the Dinosaur Freeway. It represented the ancient Gulf of Mexico, where the sea came into Colorado and Denver was beachfront property 100 million years ago. This was a new phenomenon, to realize that some of the track-bearing rock formations or layers went on for hundreds of miles. We started a nonprofit organization, Friends of Dinosaur Ridge, and since then the area has developed into a major paleontological attraction. More than 100,000 people visit every year. CU Denver has been a partner with Dinosaur Ridge since its inception.

[36]
In the early ’90s, when the collection was starting to grow, we had a lab off campus that we funded ourselves. Because you can’t cut tracks out of rock – you’d end up with slabs that weighed 5-10 tons – we began making molds and replicas. We made up a couple of traveling exhibits; the first people to show an interest were the Japanese. That got the attention of our administration and encouraged them to create the Dinosaur Tracks Museum. From 1991-97, the exhibit went to 27 different locations covering three continents and seven countries. Literally millions of people saw it abroad, compared to a relatively small number of people who saw it in Colorado or on the CU campus.

Another landmark was in the mid-‘90s when we began to broaden our studies to look at tracks of pterosaurs – flying reptiles – and other things, such as mammals from after the age of dinosaurs. And from 2005 to the present, we’ve become quite involved in studying ancient human footprints, so we’ve really covered the whole spectrum.

2. Why is the Dinosaur Tracks Museum collection moving to Boulder from Denver?

I was hired as a geologist when CU Denver had a Geology Department. In the 1980s, the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History wasn’t interested in being the repository for what we were collecting. In the middle of my career, CU Denver decided to create the museum. My job description was changed and I began to wear a second hat as the director of the museum. That meant I spent less time teaching and more time curating. But in 2004, we lost our geology degree program. The writing was on the wall and we had to find a permanent home for the collection. Jump ahead to 2008 when the new director of the museum, Pat Kociolek, came on board. He expressed an interest in taking the collection when I retired. I already had made arrangements with CU Denver to retire in 2010, so we decided the collection would be transferred to the museum in Boulder. The transfer is being facilitated by a substantial grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), which previously funded a significant part of the CU Denver research that helped get the collections started in the 1980s and 1990s.

3. Dinosaur tracks can show migration patterns and population trends. What else can they tell you?

When I started out in the field, people would say that dinosaur tracks were so rare, they were useless because you couldn’t get much information from them. They said tracks weren’t the real thing; bones were the real thing. But people who study tracks have completely turned that on its head because we’ve been finding sites with thousands and thousands of footprints. If you stand on top of one of Denver’s skyscrapers, you can point out dozens of sites along the Front Range. One of my favorite ways to tease my colleagues is to say that people who study bones are studying death and decay, whereas we’re studying vibrant, living, athletic, dynamic animals. There’s a lot you can learn about behavior, for instance.

Thirty years ago, there wasn’t a single dinosaur egg or nest that was found where you could identify who laid the eggs because embryos were so small and the bones were tiny and fragile. But the field of egg research has developed little by little. I’m working on manuscript at the moment concerning findings from Korea where we have tracks of dinosaurs that are 1 centimeter long. That’s less than 1 / 2 -inch long and they probably stood no more than 2 inches at the hip. These animals hatched out of an egg that was no bigger than a sparrow’s egg – no bigger than a chocolate-covered peanut. I don’t think there is any actual egg or bone evidence for dinosaurs that small, but tracks tell us we have hundreds of them running around in the same locality, so it probably was a nesting site. We don’t know how big they got – the size of a crow or the size of an ostrich – but the tracks are useful for population studies.

I tease my friends that we name a new species on the basis of its bones, even though it may be represented by one incomplete skeleton or a few different bones. We find track ways representing hundreds of animals. At some sites, there are 5,000 footprints, so that's a lot of data that tells us about size, direction they were going, the different proportion of herbivores vs. carnivores, and three, four, five or six species represented. You don't get that from digging up half a dinosaur carcass.

4. What's a day at a track site like?

We're in the preservation business, so from the first photograph or the first measurement, we're really starting the process of preserving information. At a typical site, the first thing we do is make a map. Then we make simple tracings of outlines of individual tracks on transparent paper so we can compare them. Then we make rubber molds, which is a minimally invasive technique. We take the rubber molds back to the lab and make hard copies – replicas. And what's happening more these days is a technique where you take a series of overlapping photos of the same footprint with scale bars as your fixed marker points and feed those into software programs for three-dimensional imaging.

Beyond that, apart from writing up results, we have to work with land management agencies to come up with strategies or recommendations to preserve these sites and decide whether to excavate them further or cover them up. When you dig up bones, you leave a hole in the ground and don't have to worry too much about protecting the site. There may still be other stuff in the ground, but it will be safe because it's buried. But the ancient surfaces we map and document – often the top surfaces of rock strata – have to be incorporated into the modern landscape, so every site creates a conservation issue. We've been trying to get some spectacular sites onto the UNESCO World Heritage list or create special areas like state parks or national parks.

5. What will you do when your retirement is official?

I officially retired from my tenure-track position in 2010, but was reappointed for two years to continue coordinating the transfer of collections within the CU system. When that temporary appointment is completed next year, I will still have some funded projects that are ongoing, so I'm in a phased retirement. I have several book projects that are already under way, but have been put on the back burner. I really need to get back to them because they're the other string to my bow. They look at the much broader areas of history and philosophy of science. I want to finish the five or six manuscripts that are between 50 percent and 90 percent done before I get too ancient.

Studying fossil footprints has been a fascinating journey. They've been good to me in so many ways. It's not really work for me. The administrative work and the paperwork gets to be a bit much at times, but once you get rid of that, you say, "Oh, great" – I can get back and do some fun science or get in the field or go somewhere interesting or collaborate with someone on new discoveries.

Regents to consider reverting to previous board office model[37]

The University of Colorado Board of Regents in February will consider amending its laws to change the structure of the board office and the position of secretary to the board and general counsel.

The discussion was precipitated after General Counsel and Secretary to the Board Dan Wilkerson announced he will retire in the summer. Wilkerson has a dual report, to the University of Colorado President and to the board. The regents' discussion centered around whether that model should remain or if it should be split into two positions, and whether those should have dual reports. There is also the potential that the structure of the board office would revert to the pre-2007 model, in which the board secretary reported to board and the general counsel had a dual report.

Amending regent law requires a two-thirds majority, or six regents, to approve a change. Regent Michael Carrigan, D-Denver, said it was important for the board to address the issue quickly so it can be determined if a search will be for one person or two. The board unanimously approved waiving the 60 days typically required for a notice of motion for change. The February meeting will be in 55 days, Feb. 1-2.

Associate dean honored as technology pioneer[38]

Araujo

Carlos Araujo, associate dean for research and development and professor in the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, will be honored as a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Araujo is being recognized as a pioneer in the development of ferroelectric memory technology used in semiconductors that retain information without power. This special technology, first developed by Araujo, is used throughout the world in various applications.

A reception to salute Araujo and a seminar presentation by him on “The Future of the Future” is planned for early 2012. His designation as an IEEE Fellow is effective Jan. 1.

The IEEE Fellow designation is conferred by the IEEE board of directors upon people with an outstanding record of accomplishments. IEEE Fellow is the highest grade of membership and is recognized by the technical community as an important career achievement. There are 321 individuals who will be named IEEE Fellows for 2011.

The IEEE is the world’s leading professional association for advancing technology for humanity. Through its 385,000 members in 160 countries, the association is a leading authority on a wide variety of areas ranging from aerospace systems, computers and telecommunications to biomedical engineering, electric power and consumer electronics.

University of Colorado Hospital bids to run Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs[40]

The University of Colorado Hospital is leading a partnership group that is among five bidders[41] to operate Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs, which is now run by the city.

The UCH partnership includes the CU School of Medicine, Children’s Hospital Colorado and the Poudre Valley Health System, which has been negotiating an affiliation agreement with UCH over the past several months. The partnership’s offer includes some $74 million in funding up front, but a total package of nearly $1.8 billion.

The UCH proposal includes establishing a branch medical campus at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, which School of Medicine officials have been exploring for nearly two years. An alliance would speed that process along, said School of Medicine Dean Dick Krugman. He told a community forum on Wednesday that the branch campus could be operating within two years.

A task force that includes members of the Colorado Springs City Council and community members will make a recommendation to the full city council before the end of December. Voters must approve any change. The other bidders are:
The Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System, which operates the Exempla Healthcare system in the metro

Denver area; HCA/ HealthOne, metro Denver's largest hospital operator; Centura Health, the parent company of Penrose-St. Francis Hospital in Colorado Springs; Memorial Health System, whose current management intends to make the hospital an independent nonprofit.
CU officials made their pitch to the task force last week and presented again Wednesday at a public forum, where community members asked questions.

CU President Bruce Benson told the audience on Wednesday that CU is "completely committed" to the bid and to the community.

UCH President and CEO Bruce Schroffel said Wednesday that the CU group shared the values and vision of Memorial. He also told the crowd the UCH proposal strongly and unequivocally reiterates the hospital's commitment to serving members of the military and the medically underserved. The alliance would also make Memorial the southern Colorado flagship of a system that would span the Front Range, providing a greater breadth and depth of services and financial resources while also focusing on the health care needs of the Pikes Peak region.

Board of Regents Chairman Kyle Hybl, R-Colorado Springs, said the alliance has the potential to be "transformational" for the community and region. He pointed to a previous successful example of CU partnering with the city, when voters in the late 1990s approved the Beth-El College of Nursing becoming part of UCCS.

Associate professor's book looks at crisis recovery[42]

Goldstein

Community collaboration in response to crisis is the focus of a book edited by **Bruce Goldstein**, an associate professor in the Department of Planning and Design at the University of Colorado Denver. The surge of collective energy after a traumatic event, such as a natural disaster, economic collapse or shocking acts of violence, is the narrative thread of "Collaborative Resilience: Moving Through Crisis to Opportunity." As a professor at Virginia Tech in spring 2007, Goldstein got an up-close perspective on the healing process after the infamous campus massacre there.

"Has Virginia Tech recovered? I think the school has recovered, but not just from the passage of time," Goldstein said. "The people had to intentionally unify in order to recover, heal and to function again. They had to face an act that attacked the essence of what the university is and does."

The solidarity with which Blacksburg, Va., responded is representative of how other communities have recovered from stressful events. Drawing on recent work in the fields of planning and natural resource management, the book examines a range of efforts to enhance resilience through collaboration, describing communities that have survived and even thrived by building trust and interdependence.

Through this flexible process, "Collaborative Resilience" examines how transformative social change can and does occur – often outside the bounds of government and private sector efforts. The book has received widespread endorsements from leading scholars in the field of collaboration planning and social-ecological resilience studies.

The book "deals with an important and emergent theme – the contribution of community collaborative to building resilience and, ultimately, transformative social change," Goldstein said.

Sneak preview: Colorado Center for Health and Wellness[44]

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For more information, visit the Colorado Center for Health and Wellness Hard-Hat Tours[45] Facebook page.

Photos: Cynthia Pasquale/University of Colorado

Biostatisticians recognized for research in HIV medicine[46]

Biostatistics and informatics faculty at the Colorado School of Public Health **Samantha MaWhinney**, Sc.D., and **Amanda Allshouse**, M.S., are among the authors recognized by the HIV Medicine Association for publishing one of the year's most critical articles in HIV medicine. Their article "Sex, race and geographic region influence clinical outcomes following primary HIV-1 infection," originally published in the Journal of Infectious Disease, appears in HIV Medicine Association's 2011 Compendium of Clinical Issues in HIV Medicine.

MaWhinney and Allshouse joined lead author **Amie Meditz**, M.D, and senior author **Elizabeth Connick**, M.D., both from the Division of Infectious Disease in the School of Medicine, and colleagues to better understand whether sex and race influence clinical outcomes following primary human immodeficiney virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection. The study used an existing database from the Acute and Early Infection Research Program (AIEDRP), which recruited subjects with acute and early HIV infection. AIEDRP studies were funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. According to the authors, women and minorities have been underrepresented in many studies of HIV and a better understanding of the influence of sex and race could potentially improve their diagnosis and care.

Special issue of journal explores 'craftivism'[47]

University of Colorado Denver's **Maria Buszek**, an associate professor in the College of Arts and Media, co-edited a special issue of Utopian Studies with University of Western Ontario colleague Kirsty Robertson. "Craftivism" (Issue 22.2) takes its title from a phrase coined by artists and collectives in the wake of 9/11. The term "craftivism" relates to creative, traditional handcraft (often, assisted by high-tech means of community-building, skill-sharing and action) directed toward political and social causes.

For this special issue of Utopian Studies, Buszek said, "We have invited practitioners, scholars and curators to submit scholarship, criticism, artists statements and manifestos related to the history and myriad practices of craftivism."

Utopian Studies is a biannual, peer-reviewed journal, published by The Penn State University Press. Utopian Studies publishes scholarly articles on a wide range of subjects related to utopias, utopianism, utopian literature, utopian theory and intentional communities. See The Society for Utopian Studies at http://www.utoronto.ca/utopia/journal[48]. An abstract is available at http://www.springerlink.com/content/5348p450737p0343/[49]

Colorado job growth slow, steady in 2012[50]

Colorado will continue on the road to recovery and add jobs in 2012 following a positive year in 2011, according to economist Richard Wobbekind of the University of Colorado Boulder's Leeds School of Business.

Wobbekind's announcement was part of the 47th annual Colorado Business Economic Outlook Forum presented Monday, Dec. 5, by CU-Boulder's Leeds School of Business.

Compiled by the Leeds School's Business Research Division, the comprehensive outlook for 2012 features forecasts and trends for 13 business sectors prepared by approximately 100 key business, government and industry professionals.

"In 2012, we're predicting slow but steady growth for Colorado, much like the U.S. economy," said Wobbekind, executive director of the Business Research Division. "We'll continue to add jobs in a wide array of sectors, but not at the dramatic rate that is necessary to significantly lower the unemployment rate."

Overall, the forecast calls for a gain of 23,000 jobs in 2012, compared with a gain of 27,500 jobs this year. Most sectors of the Colorado economy are predicted to grow in 2012, including the addition of 2,900 jobs in construction, marking the first positive job growth in that troubled sector in four years.

When comparing the Leeds' forecast to forecasts for other states, Colorado is expected to be in the top 10 states for job growth in 2012.

"The broader story here is Colorado entered the recession later, came out of the recession later and now appears to be accelerating past the rest of the country in terms of job growth and recovery," Wobbekind said.

Even with positive job growth predicted for the state, Wobbekind said uncertainty at numerous levels still clouds the economic picture in the state and nation.

"The theme of almost every national forecast is uncertainty," he said. "Every day there is a new event in Europe or a new event in Washington. So you continue to have all of these elements of uncertainty and they impact consumer confidence and household spending. That is something that is very hard to forecast or predict."

The strongest sector for projected job growth in Colorado in 2012 is the educational and health services sector. The sector is expected to add 7,500 jobs in 2012.

Other leading growth sectors for 2012 include the professional and business services sector with 6,800 jobs added and leisure and hospitality with 3,800 added.

On the agriculture side, Colorado farmers and ranchers are coming off what is expected to be a record-setting year for net farm income. Colorado's agricultural producers benefited from unexpectedly strong market prices for livestock and crops in 2011, leading to an estimated record net farm income in the state of $1.7 billion. Historic drought in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas spared much of Colorado in 2011, leading to increased market prices for Colorado agricultural products.

"Mother Nature played a major part in this, and this year it played in our favor," Wobbekind said, adding that Colorado agriculturalists also are expect to do well in 2012.

The manufacturing sector, after adding jobs in 2011 for the first time since 2003, will return to a long-term downward trend and is forecast to lose 1,900 jobs. Two other sectors expected to lose jobs are information, forecast to shed 500 jobs, and financial activities, losing 1,000 jobs.

In 2011, Colorado consumers spent more on goods and services, with retail sales increasing 6.5 percent for the year. In 2012, retail sales are forecast to remain relatively strong with a gain of 4 percent.

"We view the consumer as coming back to the table," Wobbekind said. "Consumers have deferred a lot, including what we would call more necessary expenditures such as automobiles and other essential products that have been wearing out and need to be replaced."

With 2011 coming to a close, Wobbekind said Colorado's economy is ending the year on a positive note.

“We went into the year a little bit slow and then built up momentum for pretty much the entire year. The last couple of months we’ve passed the national growth rate for jobs and we’ll end the year above the national growth rate for jobs,” he said. “2011 was a decent year in which we added jobs in a fairly wide variety of sectors.”

Colorado’s unemployment rate for 2012 is expected to decrease from 8.7 percent at the end of 2011 to 8.4 percent, compared with a projected national unemployment rate of around 9 percent.

Colorado’s population is projected to grow 1.5 percent, or 75,900 people, in 2012.

To view the entire economic outlook for Colorado in 2012, including an overview of each of the state’s major economic sectors, visit http://leeds.colorado.edu/BRD[51] and click on the Colorado Business Economic Outlook 2012 icon.

Connections holiday publication schedule[52]

CU Connections will not publish new issues on Dec. 29 and Jan. 5.

The final new issue before the break will appear Thursday, Dec. 22; deadline for submissions is noon Friday, Dec. 16.

During the holiday break, the site will be updated with news should events warrant.

The first new issue after the break will appear on Jan. 12. Deadline for submissions is noon Friday, Jan. 6.

Dropping names …[53]

Guy

Glicken

Carrington

Talbot

University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs Professor **Mary Guy** has been named winner of the NASPAA/ASPA Distinguished Research Award for 2012. She will receive this award, considered the top research award in the public administration field, at the ASPA conference in March in Las Vegas. According to SPA Dean Paul Teske, “This is a wonderful award and recognizes the amazing scholarship Mary has produced throughout her career, but also her tremendous recent productivity and the broad impact from her ‘Emotional Labor’ work.” … **Anita Glicken**, associate dean of Physician Assistant (PA) Studies in the School of Medicine, recently received the Research Achievement Award by the Physician Assistant Education Association at its annual forum in New Orleans. The association, which represents the 157 PA programs across the U.S., cited Glicken’s “distinguished record of scholarly contributions over many years.” … As part of the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) "Faces of AMIA" campaign, University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing’s **Jane Carrington** has been recognized for her “exemplary career” and identified as a “Rising Star” within the organization. As part of this honor, she will be profiled on the AMIA website sometime in 2012. When asked about this recognition, Carrington said, “This was a complete

surprise and I am honored. This speaks to the support and mentoring that I have received since coming to the University of Colorado." … **Diana Tomback**, professor and acting chair of integrative biology at the University of Colorado Denver, was appointed to the newly formed Science Advisory Board of the Washington, D.C.-based, nonprofit organization American Forests. When fully formed, the board will include about 20 scientists and resource managers. … **Andy Cowell**, a linguistics professor at the University of Colorado Boulder, who has spent a decade learning and studying the endangered Arapaho language, recently discussed his research at the Bud Werner Memorial Library in Steamboat Springs. Arapaho is only spoken by about 250 people – mostly elders in the tribe. Most of the native speakers live on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming. Cowell's work with the Northern Arapaho tribe has focused on documenting and preserving the language on paper. … **Sangeetha Chandrasekaran**, assistant professor of surgical dentistry at the University of Colorado School of Dentistry, was awarded the Volpe Prize for 2011. Chandrasekaran competed with research submissions from across the country and won this prestigious award for research on periodontitis and resultant inflammation. It is presented at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry for the best clinical research in periodontology by students in dentistry. … **Bud Talbot**, assistant professor at the University of Colorado Denver School of Education and Human Development, gave an invited plenary session on measuring science and mathematics teacher knowledge at the International Conference on Mathematics, Science and Technology Education in Kruger National Park, Limpopo province, South Africa. The conference was sponsored by the University of South Africa (UNISA) Institute for Science and Technology Education (ISTE). … **Brad McLain** and **Mike Marlow**, also of the School of Education and Human Development, recently presented at the joint annual meeting for the American Society for Gravitational and Space Biology and the International Society for Gravitational Physiology in San Jose, Calif. Their presentation, "Science Identity Construction through Narrative" was part of the education strand and featured McLain's past work on Space Shuttle mission STS 107 and Northrop Grumman's Weightless Flights of Discovery program for teachers in Zero G, as well as recent XSci work under both Marlow and McLain for teacher science learning journeys to Africa.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/basketball-tournament-brings-it-100000-breast-cancer-research[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/amc_bball.jpg[3] http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v17/n9/full/nm.2416.html[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/newest-regent-takes-oath[5] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/griego.jpg[6] https://connections.cu.edu/../news/hickenlooper-appoints-griego-to-board-of-regents[7] https://connections.cu.edu/../news/merchant-resigns-from-board-of-regents-2[8] https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.192361380850738.49753.113980768688800&type=1[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/eco-friendly-williams-village-north-earns-platinum-leed-rating[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/ucb-willvill.jpg[11] http://www.colorado.edu/cusustainability/greeningcu/GreeningCU.html[12] http://housing.colorado.edu/[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/all%E2%80%99s-well-cu-denver-be-colorado-delivers-prizes[14] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/ucd_beco.jpg[15] http://www.becolorado.org/[16] http://www.ucdenver.edu/Pages/UCDWelcomePage.aspx[17] https://www.cusys.edu/trust/[18] https://universityhealth.americaonthemove.org/[19] http://www.upicolo.org/[20] http://www.uch.edu/[21] http://www.rei.com/[22] https://www.tiaa-cref.org/public/index.html[23] https://connections.cu.edu/people/work-blood-disorders-leads-scholar-award[24] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/p_wang.jpg[25] http://www.hematology.org/[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/pbs-anthem-members-using-walgreens-need-choose-different-pharmacy[27] http://www.anthem.com/universityofcolorado[28] https://www.cu.edu/pbs/benefits/downloads/2011_10-17_walgreens_faq.pdf[29] http://www.anthem.com/wps/portal/ahpfooter?content_path=shared/noapplication/f0/s0/t0/pw_e178413.htm&label=Walgreens%20Update%20November%202011[30] mailto:benefits@cu.edu[31] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/leaders-highlight-student-recruitment-retention-marketing-efforts[32] http://www.uccs.edu/welcomevideo.html[33] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-martin-lockley[34] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/5q1.jpg[35] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/5q2.jpg[36]

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https://connections.cu.edu/people/special-issue-journal-explores-%E2%80%98craftivism%E2%80%99[48]
http://www.utoronto.ca/utopia/journal[49] http://www.springerlink.com/content/5348p450737p0343/[50]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/colorado-job-growth-slow-steady-2012[51] http://leeds.colorado.edu/BRD[52]
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