Higher education takes another hit in state budget proposal[1]

Gov. John Hickenlooper's proposed state budget for 2011-2012 includes less funding for higher education than had been recommended by former Gov. Bill Ritter. While the cut had been anticipated, it did not go as deep as many had feared.

Hickenlooper cut Ritter's figure by $36 million, down to $519 million from $555 million. Gloomy economic forecast figures released in December led to the proposed reduction.

"This budget proposal is about tough choices and sustainability. Frankly, it is about living within our means at a difficult time," Hickenlooper said in a news release. "We are taking difficult steps now to ensure that Colorado's budget is on a sustainable path, which is critical as we seek to achieve both short-term and long-term economic growth."

Hickenlooper said the budget is based on the most conservative economic forecast, and also includes cuts to K-12 education, Medicaid and human services. Other cost-saving measures include the closing of a state prison, reducing local grants and reinstating a 4 percent budget reserve, or about 14 days of operating funds for the state.

To see Hickenlooper's letter to the Joint Budget Committee, click here[2].

Meanwhile, lawmakers at the Capitol continue to consider legislation that affects the University of Colorado and other institutions, including House Bill 1057, which would extend some contract protections of tenured faculty members to adjunct professors.

Mark Malone, chair of the CU Faculty Council, spoke in opposition to the bill before the House's education committee Wednesday, Feb. 9.

While adjunct professors make a big contribution to the university, Malone said after his appearance, the proposed bill would make them eligible for appeal processes designed for and only appropriate for faculty who have undergone the tenure process.

"Tenure is not designed for someone who just teaches – it's a very extensive process," Malone said. "A process for adjunct professors could be created, but things like that don't happen without resources and costs."

Community colleges in the state also have spoken against the proposed bill.

SJMC discontinuance continues with release of recommendations[3]

Administrators released on Tuesday, Feb. 15, an action plan that advances the process of discontinuance for the University of Colorado Boulder's School of Journalism and Mass Communications (SJMC). The committee charged with recommending a new entity to replace the school also has released its final report.

The Journalism PLUS Action Plan[4], presented by Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano, outlines procedures necessary should President Bruce D. Benson and the Board of Regents act to discontinue the school. The plan concerns the education and graduation of current and future SJMC students, reaffirms the regulations surrounding employment of faculty, and commits to helping find positions for current staff members.

Provost Russell Moore released the final recommendations[5] of the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Exploratory Committee that include three models focusing on interdisciplinary work across the campus.

The committee's vision, according to the report, would allow CU-Boulder to become "globally known for modulating the

future in ICMT (information, communications, media, technology)." The new entity, said the report, "should educate students who understand not only how to advance the state of the art in information-, communication- and media-related technologies, but also how to comprehend and interpret their aesthetics, history and meanings."

The committee was formed in September 2010 to examine the assets of the university and recommend different organizational structures that would emphasize information, communication and technology research and scholarship.

The first model – Model A – cited by the committee in its final report, would create a School or College of Information, Communication and Media Technology. The new entity, according to the report, would focus on the intersections of technology with information, communication, and media; would create interdisciplinary curricula; and would foster interdisciplinary research and creative work across subdisciplines.

Model A would offer "degrees, concentrations or certificates in such fields as Digital Media and Creative Arts; Transmedia and Cross-Platform Journalism; Scientific and Health Informatics; Information and Media Law and Policy; Information Technology and Computational Literacy; and Media Management."

Students from different degree programs across campus could enroll in the school/college's offerings, and majors from the new school/college would be encouraged to pursue a second major "as a way of acquiring an especially dynamic and well-rounded education."

The advantages of the model, said the committee, would be the enormous potential to interact with local, state and regional entities – businesses and journalistic and artistic communities. The disadvantage, said the report, is that a "traditional School or College is not the most limber of beasts." The school could lose sight of its interdisciplinary mission and not meet the needs of the rapidly changing world.

The second model – Model B – would create an Institute for the Global Digital Future where "research, scholarship and creative work" would be "undertaken by faculty fellows and by Institute faculty," similar to other institutes on campus.

"The Institute will especially focus on the contemporary problems, challenges and opportunities of information, communication, media and technology. This focus will provide a logical and consistent core of inquiry from which many other threads of discourse can spring."

The goal of Institute, said the report, will be "problem-oriented" and allow faculty and fellows to examine public issues such as health care, education, homeland and national security, journalism and digital media and arts. In essence, teams would develop technological prototypes to help solve social issues, and forecast the future of information technology.

Model B's advantage is that it would be adaptable and flexible; its disadvantage is that it would not "reach into the intellectual growth and development of undergraduates," the report said.

Both models would stress interdisciplinary work, something current SJMC faculty members have struggled with for years because of the school's inherent administrative structure.

During its assessment of university assets, the committee "identified more than 150 faculty across approximately 50 units across campus who have research and creative interests intersecting with this area."

A new entity could create the infrastructure to "support and nurture bold scholarship and creative work, to increase the connections among these faculty and, through additional strategic hires, to add to these strengths," the committee said.

The third model, Model C – the one supported by the committee – would establish both a School or College and an Institute. "In the absence of the new School or College, the Institute would lack a solid and continuing intellectual community grounding its work. In the absence of the Institute, the new School or College would be pulled away from innovation and currency. The committee envisions that if both are established, the Institute's innovative research and creative directions would be closely tied to the more grounded and enduring aims of the new School or College. At the same time, Institute research and creative work would flow back into the School or College, keeping its curricula and

ongoing research and creative work vibrant and current."

The committee acknowledged that establishing both a School or College and an Institute would require substantial financial and physical resources, but said "for CU-Boulder to become a national and global leader in creating, using and understanding this new world, the campus needs a matching institutional activity. The proposed School or College and Institute are an appropriate structure to provide both a campus focus and a campus resource so that CU-Boulder can realize its potential as a global voice in information, communication and media technology."

DiStefano said the companion Journalism Plus Action Plan was created "based on the premise that the Board of Regents will vote to discontinue SJMC while continuing journalism education."

That plan promises to meet commitments to students. The SJMC curriculum will be maintained for current students and those admitted in Fall 2011 until May 2013. In Fall 2012, students will be able to pursue a double major in journalism and another subject or pursue a major while earning a certificate/minor in journalism.

Tenured and tenure-track faculty will have several options, including "moving to a unit in the graduate school, joining other units on campus, leaving the university or moving toward retirement."

The plan also says the campus "will make every reasonable effort to find a new position" for SJMC staff members.

The formal process of program discontinuation for the SJMC began Sept. 1. In late August, university officials announced that the institution was considering closing the traditional journalism school and formed an exploratory committee to weigh the possibilities of a new interdisciplinary program of information and communication technology.

DiStefano said the process of discontinuance was necessary "in order to strategically realign our academic strengths and resources" in a way that will "meet the needs of our students, the labor market and our rapidly changing global society."

According to the process timeline, President Benson has less than 60 days to make a discontinuance recommendation to the Board of Regents.

Advisory board seeks new member during 'exciting time of change'[6]

At a time when budget challenges have intensified the focus on employee benefits as a device for rewarding faculty and staff, the role played by the University Benefits Advisory Board (UBAB) is critical, its chair says.

"I think of it as an exciting time of change," said Larry Drees, whose board is looking to seat a new member.

The seven-member board consists of four faculty members, two classified staff members and a professional-exempt staff member. UBAB needs a representative who is classified staff from the University of Colorado Denver, either the downtown campus or Anschutz Medical Campus.

"It's an excellent opportunity for a person to have a voice regarding the benefits that affect all university employees," Drees said. Though UBAB focuses on medical benefits, it also deals with dental and life insurance and tuition waivers.

Expansion of the tuition waiver benefit is an ongoing goal of the board. UBAB recommended that the university expand its offering of six credits per year to nine – which was accomplished – and also pushed for a pilot program at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, which took place over the past two years. In the program, the tuition waiver was transferrable to spouse or dependents; university administration is in the process of determining the feasibility of enacting such a benefit throughout the system by July 1.

"That would be a great opportunity for CU employees, especially if we're able to increase the number of credits," Drees said. "There's real value there for everybody who can take advantage of that."

UBAB is not a decision-making body, but an advisory group that works closely with Payroll & Benefit Services. UBAB provides strategic advice to the president and university administration on benefits-related issues.

University leadership established UBAB in 1999 after the university's self-funding of insurance ended. With CU's return to self-funding of insurance under a new model this past year, UBAB and the Health and Wellness Trust Committee are working on how the two groups will interact.

Anyone interested in learning more about the vacancy on UBAB is asked to e-mail Larry.Drees@Colorado.edu[7].

Discovery's final shuttle mission includes CU-built payloads[8]

Photograph courtesy NASA

Following a more than three-month delay because of technical problems, NASA's space shuttle Discovery will make its final flight Feb. 24 from Kennedy Space Center in Florida carrying two University of Colorado Boulder-built biomedical payload devices.

One of the experiments is designed to help scientists better understand changes in the virulence of bacteria in the low gravity of space as a way to help researchers prevent or control infectious diseases. The second is a cell cultivation experiment in a tropical plant known to produce nuts that could be used to make biofuels, said Louis Stodieck, director of BioServe Space Technologies in CU-Boulder's aerospace engineering sciences department.

Both experiments will be carried aboard Discovery in sets of specially designed fluid-processing cylinders built by BioServe known as GAPs, said Stodieck, The bacteria experiment will target how microgravity affects the growth of bacteria, in this case Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus, also known as MRSA.

The GAPs will ride inside BioServe's Commercial Generic Bioprocessing Apparatus, an automated, suitcase-sized device developed at CU-Boulder that has been launched on more than 20 NASA space shuttle missions, with two of the CGBA devices now on the International Space Station. BioServe is providing the hardware, integration and operations support for all Discovery GAP experiments.

Astronauts will control the individual GAP experiments using hand cranks to trigger and then later terminate cell growth via fluid mixing, Stodieck said. The samples will remain on the space station until the next shuttle mission slated to launch at the end of the month, at which time they will be returned to Earth for further study.

The bacterial experiment is sponsored by Astrogenetix Inc. headquartered in Austin, Texas, and designed by researchers at the Durham VA Medical Center in North Carolina. MRSA is a growing problem in hospitals and health clinics because of its ability to resist antibiotics in the penicillin class of drugs.

"It can cause a variety of infections, some potentially fatal," Stodieck said. "Because astronauts show decreases in their immune systems during spaceflight, we would like to know more about how bacteria behave in space, including their apparent increase in virulence and resistance to antibiotics. The findings may have applications not only for keeping space crew members safe by helping scientists better understand gene and protein changes in pathogens, but also could potentially help to prevent and control infectious diseases on Earth."

A second experiment, designed by the University of Florida, will use BioServe hardware to study cell cultivation in a tropical plant known as Jatropha that produces energy-rich nuts, a popular new renewable crop for biofuels. The researchers will be looking for genes that help or hinder growth in this tropical plant species to see if it could be commercially grown in "warm-temperate" areas like the southern United States.

The Jatropha experiment is sponsored in part by Vecenergy, the energy division of Vecellio Group Inc. headquartered in West Palm Beach, Fla.

"We would be unable to carry out all of our research without the help of CU-Boulder students," Stodieck said. "Both undergraduate and graduate students play an important role in designing, building and testing spaceflight payloads, activities that can give them a significant advantage when they move on to careers in the aerospace industry."

Michael Murry, a junior from Centennial, Colo., who is part of the BioServe team, said he never expected a chance as an undergraduate to conduct hands-on research at CU-Boulder with science payloads being launched into space.

"When I heard about this opportunity, I jumped on it," said the junior aerospace engineering science major who attended Grandview High School in Aurora. "By combining what I'm learning in the classroom with my experience at BioServe, I am developing a solid set of skills for a career in the aerospace industry."

While the Endeavour launch slated for 2011 may be NASA's last space shuttle launch, there is a chance NASA might add an additional shuttle flight by Atlantis before the fleet is retired. BioServe hardware and experiments are manifested on the Endeavour space shuttle as well as on future resupply vehicles traveling to the International Space Station from other countries, Stodieck said.

BioServe also has plans to fly hardware and experiments in microgravity on existing commercial rockets and on space vehicles now under development, Stodieck said.

BioServe also has flown several K-12 educational experiments on the International Space Station, including seed-germination studies, crystal garden growth experiments and the life cycles of butterflies – all of which have provided learning opportunities for middle school and high school students around the world, said Stefanie Countryman. Countryman is BioServe's business manager and coordinator of education outreach.

BioServe is a nonprofit, NASA-funded center founded in 1987 at CU-Boulder to develop new or improved products through space life science research in partnership with industry, academia and government. Since 1991 BioServe has flown payloads on 36 space shuttle microgravity missions.

A fuel leak delayed a planned November 2010 launch, after which cracks were discovered in the shuttle's fuel tank, pushing the launch date into 2011.

For more information on BioServe visit http://www.colorado.edu/engineering/BioServe/index.html[10]. For more information on CU-Boulder's aerospace engineering sciences department visithttp://www.colorado.edu/aerospace/[11].

Colorado Law taking students to India for hands-on clinic[12]

For the first time, the University of Colorado Law School's Juvenile and Family Law Program will take a group of 15 students to India for a hands-on clinical application of the family law curriculum.

The trip, set for March 17-24, will culminate with a capstone research paper comparing one of four specific areas of family and juvenile law: sex trafficking, child abuse, women's rights and domestic violence.

"These are issues that affect countries all over the world," said Colene Robinson, clinical professor at Colorado Law. "However, it brings new meaning to an issue when students can see how global issues such as sex trafficking affects us locally."

Robinson, along with Associate Professor Clare Huntington, designed the class to provide students with an in-depth opportunity to tie together the materials they have studied in various courses and further develop their understanding in a global context. Students have coordinated their efforts with the National Law School in Bangalore, which has a similar curriculum. They also have been involved in all aspects of the course, from the development of classroom materials to participating on a fundraising and logistics committee.

After studying about women's rights, child abuse, sex trafficking and domestic violence in the United States and India, students will spend five working days in India applying what they have learned in a real-world context. Students will visit several nongovernmental offices (similar to nonprofit service providers in the United States), including the Human Rights Law Network (HRLN) and the Alternative Law Forum (ALF).

Students also will travel to the city of Mysore, South India, to visit Odanadi Seva Trust, one of the oldest social organizations working for the rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of trafficked women and children.

Upon their return, students will prepare a research paper comparing an aspect of U.S. and Indian law within the four areas of focus. Students also will do in-country research on their individual topics, writing papers that they could not have written from within the four walls of the Law School.

"It is both fascinating and gratifying to observe the students using the tools they have learned in law school, and the specific knowledge they have gained through the Juvenile and Family Law curriculum, in this entirely new context," Huntington said. "I am confident the comparative experience will make the students better lawyers because they will have a more nuanced understanding of different legal approaches to similar problems."

Sacred spaces will showcase world religions[13]

University of Colorado Colorado Springs students and campus visitors will have the opportunity to experience various religions of the world in a single evening Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the University Center.

Following a keynote address by Mark George, associate professor of Hebrew Bible, Iliff School of Theology, Denver, students and campus visitors will experience world religions first-hand by visiting individual University Center rooms designed to resemble sacred spaces.

George's remarks will begin at 6 p.m. in the University Center Theater, room 302, followed by visits to rooms representing six faiths: Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Shamanism, Buddhism and Hinduism. Leaders of the faiths will briefly explain what constitutes their sacred space and then give a demonstration of a typical ritual. Afterward, they will be available to answer questions. Refreshments will be provided.

"Many of us know what our own place of worship looks like and the history behind it," said Jeff Scholes, instructor, philosophy, and director of the Center for Religious Diversity and Public Life. "But we know little about the sacred spaces of others. This event offers the opportunity to not only learn about world religion but to experience it."

George teaches courses in Hebrew Bible, its history and background, and theories and methods of biblical interpretation. His research interests currently involve the critical analysis of social space in the Hebrew Bible and its material remains.

His publications include "Israel's Tabernacle as Social Space," along with entries in "The Encyclopedia of the Bible and

Its Reception" and "Torah Queeries: Weekly Commentaries on the Hebrew Bible," chapters in edited books, and articles in academic journals. He is an active member of the Society of Biblical Literature.

To see a video of George, visit http://www.iliff.edu/index/learn/your-faculty/mark-george/[14]

Presenters of the individual spaces are:
Judaism: Rabbi Don Levy, Temple Beit Torah, Colorado Springs Buddhism: David Gardiner, assistant professor of religion, Colorado College Sufi: Christina Ahlen, Denver Christian Taize: Frank Shelton, Colorado Springs Shamanism: Roxanne and Jim Roberts, Colorado Springs Hinduism: Jay Patel, Colorado Springs
Scholes recently created the Center for Religious Diversity and Public Life. The center's mission is to foster a healthy relationship between the university and the surrounding community about religious issues. The center does not align itself with any political ideology or religion or promote a certain approach to religion. The center aims to provide a platform for faculty, students, guest speakers, pastors, community leaders, and citizens to engage in scholarly efforts, open dialogue, and future action.

UCCS students who are enrolled in Scholes' courses "Religions Around the World" and "Introduction to Religious Studies" will attend the session. UCCS faculty, staff and Colorado Springs community members may attend the event at no charge. Space will be limited. Parking will be free in Lot 1 and the parking garage. For more information, visithttp://www.uccs.edu/~rdpl/[15]

American Concrete Institute offers solid endorsement to university[16]

The University of Colorado Denver, through the College of Engineering and Applied Science, has been named American Concrete Institute (ACI) Outstanding University for 2010.

The ACI Award for University Student Activities was initiated to recognize universities that have participated in ACI-related activities which include student membership in the American Concrete Institute, participating on ACI committees, and participating in local ACI chapter activities.

More than 40 students from the CU Denver College of Engineering and Applied Science are members of the American Concrete Institute and each semester students are certified by ACI to test concrete.

"We were 1 of 15 universities to receive this award, and I feel this is a true testament to the dedication and quality of our students. This award represents all of their hard work," said Stephan Durham, assistant professor of civil engineering at CU Denver.

"We have created a strong concrete materials program at CU Denver. We are doing research in sustainable concrete materials, performance of concrete mixtures, and pervious concrete. Many of the industries in Colorado have become aware of this," Durham said. "This is a national award and I feel it helps promote the quality of work and quality of undergraduate and graduate students at CU Denver."

CU Denver will be recognized at the ACI's 2011 convention in April in Tampa, Fla., and in an upcoming issue of Concrete International.

School of Medicine wins $3.9 million grant for whole-person health care[17]

A new program designed to create comprehensive, integrated, whole-person health care systems for the people of Colorado has received a $3.9 million grant from the Colorado Health Foundation.

Advancing Care Together (ACT) is a four-year program housed in the department of family medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

It brings together local and national leaders from the mental health, substance use, and primary care communities to tackle the fragmentation of health care – which has led to the separate treatment of the physical and the mental.

This fragmentation, which began 400 years ago, has grown into entirely separate systems of care that rarely communicate with each other.

"The result is a duplication of efforts that undermine comprehensive care and hamstring clinicians with incomplete data," said Larry Green, M.D., director of ACT. "In the end, patients do not get the care they need and deserve."

He said the grant would "produce best practice models of comprehensive, integrated whole-person health care for the people of Colorado."

"ACT will engage people at the front lines of service to offer their best ideas about how to work together in primary health care and mental health care settings," Green said. "There should be no 'wrong door' in a properly constructed system – whether people understand their problems as emotional, behavioral or physical, their needs should be comprehensively addressed."

Anne Warhover, CEO of the Colorado Health Foundation, agreed, saying a more systemic approach is needed.

"The integration of behavioral and physical health services is a key area of focus and investment for us," she said. "There is an overwhelming need for a systemic approach in developing best practices, addressing financial barriers and driving policy solutions that will allow for statewide implementation and sustainability of a better model. That's why the work of ACT is so important to the people of Colorado and why we have invested in its efforts."

ACT, which began in January, will release a call for proposals next month inviting applications from primary care practices and community mental health centers to offer their best ideas about how to redesign their systems of care and offer practical solutions to better integrate the care of their patients and clients. ACT will award as many as 12 three-year demonstration grants of up to $50,000 per year to each participating practice.

Ortiz named to student affairs post[18]

Ortiz

Samantha Ortiz, Ph.D., has been chosen interim associate vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Colorado Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus. Ortiz has been with the university since August 2008 as assistant vice chancellor for university life and dean of students.

"It has been a pleasure working at CU Denver because the students are fantastic, and faculty and staff are dedicated to student learning," she said. "I am looking forward to working in my new role to continue to enhance the student experience across campus."

The University of Colorado Denver has seen great advancement in the areas of student affairs the past five years. The

institution has:
Achieved record enrollments for each of the past four years. Implemented a $3.5 million Title V Cooperative Grant with Community College of Denver (CCD), the Denver Transfer Initiative, and significantly increased transfer and graduation rates of students from CCD. More than doubled the number of high school students participating in dual enrollment courses; now serving nearly 7,000 students across the state. Established student fee funding for a new Veteran Student Service Manager and development of services for veteran students. (CU Denver was designated as a "Veteran Friendly School" by GI Jobs Magazine: Top 15 percent of Schools Nationwide.) Established the university's first Disability Resource Services office supporting students with accommodations and assistive technology on both campuses.
In her new role, Ortiz will oversee enrollment management, student success, university life and the university registrar.

Ortiz's background in higher education and student affairs includes direct experience in academic advising, residence life, judicial affairs, career services, instruction, orientation, and as dean of students with the University of Northern Colorado.

She has been an active member in the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, including serving as the Colorado Membership Coordinator as well as the co-chair for the 2009 NASPA IV-West Regional Conference.

Ortiz attained her bachelor of science degree in psychology from Colorado State University and her master's in secondary/post-secondary school counseling and her Ph.D. in higher education and student affairs leadership from the University of Northern Colorado.

Class of Fellows chosen for Center for Humanities and the Arts[20]

Eight members of the University of Colorado Boulder campus have been named Center for Humanities and the Arts (CHA) Faculty Fellows. Three external reviewers rated the applications from a pool of 41 applicants in the first of what's planned as an annual competition.

"We are very excited about this first class of Fellows," said Helmut Muller-Sievers, director of CHA. "The breadth and quality of these projects show how strong and inventive the humanities and arts are at CU-Boulder. The Center for Humanities and the Arts is proud to support such excellent faculty."

The 2011-12 recipients are:

Lucy Chester, associate professor, department of history and the International Affairs Program

Chester's research project is titled "Networks of Decolonization: Britain's Withdrawal From South Asia and Palestine." She will examine anticolonial and imperial connections between British India and the Palestine Mandate in the decades leading up to Britain's withdrawal.

Elspeth Dusinberre, associate professor, department of classics

Dusinberre will study impressions left by sealstones on the Aramaic tablets of the Persepolis Fortification Archive (ca. 500 BCE) and created drawings of collated images to illuminate the imagery of these ancient artifacts and bring them into scholarly discourse on the tremendous working apparatus of the Achaemenid Persian empire (ca. 550-330 BCE).

Jill Heydt-Stevenson, associate professor, department of English

Heydt-Stevenson will complete the research and writing of a chapter titled "The Media of Archaeology: Romantic Travel to the Middle East" from her book "The Afterlife of Things: Belongings in 18th- and 19th- Century French and

British Literature." Analyzing unpublished and virtually unexamined letters and manuscripts of travel accounts to the Mideast, she will explore the mutual impact on British and Syrian cultures of the earliest Westerners' journeys to Palmyra, an ancient, ruined city in Syria, investigating how their travel accounts transformed this city in the desert into the media sensation of 18th- and early 19th- century Europe.

Janice Ho, assistant professor, department of English

Ho's book project, titled "Liberal Englishness, Alterity, and the Twentieth-Century British Novel," examines how representations of modern English national identity are shaped by principles of liberalism in the works of major 20th-century novelists such as Conrad, Forster, Woolf and Rushdie.

Michael Huemer, associate professor, department of philosophy

Huemer will complete a book project titled "Freedom and Authority." The book argues that there is no philosophically satisfactory account of the basis for political authority, and thus that authority is a moral illusion.

Karen Jacobs, associate professor, department of English

"Trace Atlas: Itineraries of Postmodern Literary Space" investigates a selection of recent theoretical works and post-1980 American novels that imagine post-Cartesian engagements with space, mapping and the atlas form, often against the backdrop of what is imagined to be a shattered or ungraspable global space.

Mithi Mukherjee, associate professor, department of history

India is emerging as one of the most important countries in Asia and the world for the 21st century, yet there has been little work on India's understanding of its place in the world. This project is a historical inquiry into India's quest for its place in the world by way of an exploration into the nature and origin of India's role in the making and evolution of the United Nations, particularly as leader of the nonaligned movement.

John Slater, assistant professor, department of Spanish and Portuguese

Professor Slater's book project, "Momentary Monuments: The Reign of the Hapsburgs and the Vegetable Kingdom," demonstrates how early modern Spanish fascination with natural history developed into a political philosophy that opposed corporal models of the state. He shows how Spanish kings were often represented as rational gardeners of a vegetable kingdom, rather than the heads of a body politic.

Dropping names ...[21]

Hill

Angela Hill is the new nurse manager for the ninth-floor Pulmonary/ Surgical Units at the University of Colorado Hospital. Hill joined UCH in 1999 as nurse in the inpatient surgical unit and was promoted to charge nurse in 2007. She has been the Interim Nurse Manager for the ninth-floor Pulmonary/Surgical Units since November 2010. Hill also serves as Charge RN Leadership Council President, KAIZEN Committee Co-Chair and President Elect of the Colorado Mile High Chapter of the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses.

Medema

... **Steven G. Medema,** professor of economics at the University of Colorado Denver, has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship to support the work on his current book project, "Legal Fiction: An Intellectual History of the Coase Theorem." NEH Fellowships support college and university teachers and independent scholars pursuing advanced research. The NEH awarded 99 Fellowships for 2011-12 from a pool of more than 1,400 applications.

Soifer

... **Alexander Soifer**, professor of interdepartmental studies at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs recently published "Ramsey Theory: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" (Springer Science and Business Media, New York). The research monograph explores the history, recent developments and future directions of Ramsey Theory and contains articles written by prominent mathematics researchers. Soifer served as the monograph's editor and wrote two of its nine articles.

Kempe

... **Allison Kempe**, professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine, has won the 2011 Academic Pediatric Association Research award. Kempe is the 21st winner of the award, given annually to a member or group in the association who has contributed to "advancing pediatric knowledge through excellence in research, characterized by originality, creativity and methodological soundness." She will receive the award in Denver during the Pediatric Academic Societies' 2011 annual meeting in early May.

Foss

... **Sonja Foss**, professor of communication at the University of Colorado Denver, has won the Western States Communication Association's 2011 Distinguished Scholar Award. The award recognizes exceptional accomplishments across a career and is one of the highest research awards in the field of communication. Foss will receive her award at the WSCA convention this month in Monterey, Calif.

... **Benjamin Eiseman**, M.D., professor of surgery and medicine emeritus at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, was given the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award this month by the Society of University Surgeons. His contributions to the school are reflected in an honor awarded by the Medical Student Surgical Society, the Ben Eiseman, M.D., Surgical Faculty Teaching Excellence Award.[27]

... **Marsha Anderson**, M.D., will join the Undergraduate Medical Education at the University of Colorado School of Medicine as assistant dean forLongitudinal Curriculum[28]. She will be responsible for a variety of research and scholarly activities programs. Anderson currently serves as the Disease and Defense Essentials Core Clinical Block Co-Director.

... **Lisa Potter** of University of Colorado Boulder facilities management has received the Certified Educational Facilities Professional (CEFP) credential from APPA, formerly the **Association of Physical Plant Administrators**. The credential is a way to validate the knowledge and competency required of an accomplished professional in the educational facilities field.

Staff Council's honoring of top volunteers includes $1,000 award[29]

University of Colorado Staff Council aims to recognize and reward those who have provided outstanding volunteer service to their campus, community/civic/professional activities, and the university as a whole through involvement in staff issues, committee work, teamwork, professional development of peers, and community relations.

Nominations of classified staff and professional exempt employees for the annual Service Excellence Award are being accepted through March 1.
2011 Service Excellence Award Nomination Form[30]
Any active, certified, classified staff or professional exempt employee of the university is eligible to be nominated to receive this award, excluding the current members of UCSC[31]. One award will be presented to an individual employee from each campus and system administration.

This honor includes recognition at the All Staff Council Conference on April 15 and a $1,000 cash award for each of the four recipients. Nominations will be accepted from any staff, faculty, student or administrator within the university.

For more information on the award criteria, please visit https://www.cu.edu/content/2011serviceexcellenceaward[32]

Faculty Council requests nominations for tops in administration, service[33]

The Faculty Council is seeking nominations for Administrator of the Year and the Distinguished Service Award. More information is available at https://www.cu.edu/FacultyCouncil/awards.html[34]. Nominations should be sent to Mark Malone, mmalone@uccs.edu[35] (cc: facultycouncil@cu.edu[36]), by March 15.

Distinguished Service Award

The Faculty Council Distinguished Service Award recognizes the service of faculty to the University of Colorado. It is designed to recognize contributions through participation in faculty governance, particularly through activities in Faculty Council and its committee structures. The winners of this award receive a plaque honoring their contributions to the university. All people nominated for this award will be recognized in a letter, sent from the Faculty Council Chair to appropriate university administrators, that acknowledges their specific contributions to faculty service during the current academic year. Criteria for decisions will include the significance of the activities undertaken by the nominee in addition to the quantity and quality of the contributions to various service activities.

Eligibility

All members of the Faculty Council and of Faculty Council or Faculty Senate standing and special committees are eligible and comprise the primary source of potential nominees for this award. From time to time, however, a faculty member who is not a member of system-level faculty governance but who has had significant impact systemwide can be considered for this award. Emphasis should be on systemwide contributions to faculty well-being.

In order to ensure that all possible recipients are considered each year, serving or outgoing Faculty Council chairs are ineligible for the award until the year following their service as Faculty Council chair.

Procedure and Timeline

A Faculty Council Distinguished Service Award is ordinarily conferred annually by Faculty Council. Nominations may be made by Faculty Council members. The Faculty Council Executive Committee will determine the recipient of the award.

Administrator of the Year Award

The award for Administrator of the Year is given (though not necessarily on an annual basis) to a CU administrator in recognition of significant contribution(s) to the university, to Faculty Council, and/or to shared and faculty governance. The winner receives a plaque from Faculty Council, presented at a Faculty Council meeting and/or a Board of Regents meeting.

Eligibility

Administrators at the system level, or administrators at the campus level who have contributed in one or more categories listed below at the system level.

Criteria

Considerations for nomination include:
Significant contributions to the university as a whole or to shared governance Significant contributions to Faculty Council or faculty governance Significant contributions to the enhancement of faculty benefits, rights, privileges, cultural or academic environment Effective working relationship with faculty governance leaders Contributions to a collaborative effort on a specific issue or project Other significant system-level contributions

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/higher-education-takes-another-hit-state-budget-proposal[2] http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Document_C&childpagename=GovHickenlooper%2FDocument_C%2FCBONAddLinkView&cid=1251588835956&pagename=CBONWrapper[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/sjmc-discontinuance-continues-release-recommendations[4] http://academicaffairs.colorado.edu/academicreview/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Journalism-PLUS.pdf[5] http://academicaffairs.colorado.edu/academicreview/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Final-ICT-Reportw_Provost-Acceptance.pdf[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/advisory-board-seeks-new-member-during-exciting-time-change[7] mailto:Larry.Drees@Colorado.edu[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/discoverys-final-shuttle-mission-includes-cu-built-payloads[9] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/shuttle-page.png[10] http://www.colorado.edu/engineering/BioServe/index.html[11] http://www.colorado.edu/aerospace/[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/colorado-law-taking-students-india-hands-clinic[13]

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