Spring 2017 enrollment hits new record, with 6.3 percent growth in credit hours taught[1]

Oncologists seeking ways to help patients challenged by access to clinical trials[2]

As oncologists already know and newly diagnosed lung cancer patients learn, the kind of treatment given to patients is increasingly becoming dependent on the specific gene mutation present in the cancer. But, as lung cancer moves from being one common disease to multiple diseases at the molecular level, learning about and getting access to the right treatment within clinical trials can be challenging for these subpopulations of patients that may be widely dispersed around the globe.

Howard (Jack) West, M.D., medical director of the Thoracic Oncology Program at the Swedish Cancer Institute in Seattle, and Ross Camidge, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Thoracic Oncology Clinical Program at the University of Colorado Hospital, are looking for ways to help patients tackle these geographic barriers using both online patient communities and innovative trial approaches.

Their article “Have Mutation, Will Travel” is published in the March issue of the Journal of Thoracic Oncology (JTO), the journal of the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC). It explains that the first step is to get the appropriate message out to patients wherever they are located.

West leads a free social media community for patients called the Global Resource for Advancing Cancer Education (GRACE). At GRACE, www.cancergrace.org[3], West hosts interactive question-and-answer forums and produces short written summaries and audio/video podcasts relating to multiple different cancers. During one such podcast in February 2010, Camidge explained the promising early results of a clinical trial involving the drug crizotinib that was being given to patients proven to have a specific molecular change in their cancers called an ALK gene rearrangement. The podcast was subsequently viewed more than 1,300 times, and patients traveled to the University of Colorado for participation in the trial from 15 different U.S. states and one from South Africa.

“CU has traditionally done very little advertising, nationally or internationally, to attract patients,” Camidge says. “When we’re talking about relatively rare subtypes of cancer, this approach allowed us to expand our potential patient pool dramatically.”

Says West, “Online patient communities can now be leveraged to partner with clinical researchers to ensure that patients are appropriately informed. Working more directly with highly motivated patients and caregivers can accelerate the rate of clinical research, especially as the patient populations become smaller and harder to find in a single geographic area.”

Besides the importance of informing patients about a trial, the move toward personalized medicine in thoracic oncology has introduced new practical challenges in conducting these trials. Potentially eligible patients are now far more geographically dispersed than in trials conducted in patients without molecular preselection. As a result, clinicians are looking for new ways to structure clinical research.

West and Camidge suggest that a lot more could be done to make trials participation much easier for patients who live a long way from their nearest trial center. Their proposals range from reimbursing patients for aspects of travel and accommodation, to having the sponsor cover the costs of the trials teams for consenting patients remotely and for using local resources for trial procedures whenever possible. In addition, which trials sites are chosen may also have to be reconsidered in the future.

“Realistically, it may be most economically feasible to pursue a model that involves opening molecularly specific trials at a few geographically dispersed centers, like an airline places its hubs at key points over any major landmass, rather than clustering them all in one or two areas,” Camidge says.

Says West, “We’ve entered a new era with molecular oncology, which has created its own new challenges for our

increasingly outdated approach to clinical trials. We need this kind of forward thinking approach to optimally address it in the future."

National organization recognizes librarians Kumar, Beall[4]

Kumar

Beall

Beth Kumar, e-resources and serials librarian at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, has received the 2012 First Step Award-A Wiley Professional Development Grant from the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS).

In addition, the association gave the Outstanding Publication Award to **Jeffrey Beall**, metadata librarian at Auraria Library, University of Colorado Denver, for his article "Academic Library Databases and the Problem of Word-Sense Ambiguity" published in The Journal of Academic Librarianship, vol. 37, (January 2011), p. 64-69.

The awards will be presented June 24 during the 2012 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif.

Kumar was reference, research and government information sources assistant at the University of Illinois Library from August 2009 through mid-2010 and began her current position in August 2010, providing daily management and troubleshooting of subscription databases and individual journals, both print and electronic. She was involved in the Education and Behavior Sciences Section of ACRL in the past. And now, as the sole librarian managing continuing resources in her library, Kumar expressed a strong desire to network with, and learn from, other librarians at ALA conference and become involved similarly in the ALCTS Continuing Resources Section.

Kumar graduated from University of Wisconsin, La Cross, with a bachelor's in history. She earned her master's in library and information science from the University of Illinois in 2006. In addition, she obtained a Certificate of Advanced Study in Library and Information Science at University of Illinois, 2006-2007, and earned a master's in educational organization and leadership in higher education, with a certificate in the foundations of teaching, from the University of Illinois, 2009-2010.

John Wiley & Sons sponsors the $1,500 grant, which offers librarians new to the serials field an opportunity to broaden their perspective by attending an ALA Annual Conference and by encouraging professional growth through participation in ALCTS Continuing Resources Section activities.

The Outstanding Publication Award honors is given to the author or authors of the year's outstanding monograph, article or original paper in the field of technical services, including acquisitions, cataloging, collection management, preservation, continuing resources and related areas in the library field.

Beall, who will receive a citation and $250, said the article emphasizes "the importance of high-quality metadata to efficient information retrieval." The problem created by the inability of search engines to differentiate between multiple meanings of a word or phrase creates a considerable obstacle to the ability of searchers to retrieve relevant materials. Beall's article "brings to light a long-standing problem in information retrieval that remains to be solved — one that librarians and users encounter on a daily basis. The article provides an overview of the problem and brings readers up to date on current practice and progress toward a solution." Beall addresses issues relevant to a range of technical services operations, particularly in the current full-text environment, and presented high-quality scholarly research in an engaging and informative style.

An academic librarian for more than 21 years, Beall has published extensively in the areas of metadata, full-text searching and information retrieval. In the last two years, his research interest has expanded into the field of scholarly open-access publishing.

The Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) is the national association for information providers who work in collections and technical services, such as acquisitions, cataloging, collection development, preservation and continuing resources in digital and print formats.

Kaiser, other health choices shifting from state to CU for some employees[7]

Responding to employee requests and taking advantage of new efficiency improvements at the state level, University of Colorado leadership is making available CU health plans to classified employees who previously were required to enroll in state plans.

The change will take effect July 1. At that time, all classified staff in a 50 percent or greater benefits-eligible position will be offered CU medical, dental, life and short- and long-term disability insurance plans. They will no longer be offered state of Colorado plans, which still will be offered to classified staff in less-than-50-percent positions who meet state eligibility rules.

As part of last year's Colorado Senate Bill 1301, which enabled greater efficiency in operations at higher education institutions, CU and others now may offer their benefit plans to eligible staff. The university's Kaiser medical plan has typically offered greater benefits at a lower cost as compared to the state's offering, which led many classified staff to request access to the CU Kaiser plan.

Besides being able to offer plans that are often at better rates than state offerings, the university also will take advantage of more streamlined administration of employee benefit plans.

In a letter being mailed to employees by Payroll & Benefit Services, Gena Trujillo, director of benefits administration, also notes that the University of Colorado Health and Welfare Trust recently selected CIGNA as its new administrative services organization for non-Kaiser plans. As part of the change, this spring's open enrollment will require all employees to choose benefit plans or waive coverage for 2012-13 – even employees who have waived coverage in the past.

PBS will continue to update employees here in CU Connections and at www.cu.edu/openenrollment[8]. For more information, call 303-860-4200 or email pbs@cu.edu[9].

Faculty Council, Staff Council support expanding tuition waiver benefit[10]

University leadership is moving ahead with plans to expand the tuition waiver benefit now that Staff Council and Faculty Council have given approval.

In separate meetings Feb. 16, the groups voted unanimously in favor of the proposal that allows university employees to transfer use of the current nine-credit tuition waiver benefit to a dependent child, spouse or partner. The expanded benefit is slated to go into effect in April in order to allow for registration in summer courses.

The benefit's inconsistency – at CU-Boulder, full-time students may not use the tuition waiver during the fall and spring semesters – isn't popular, but E. Jill Pollock, vice president of Employee and Information Services, said this initial

expansion provides a “foot in the door,” with hopes for future expansion. During the meeting at 1800 Grant St., Faculty Council Chair Mark Malone echoed the sentiment: “It’s not perfect, but it’s a good start – something to work on and improve as soon as we can.”

The tuition benefit has generated more comments to the Office of Policy and Efficiency than any other, said Lisa Landis, director of Human Resources, during the Staff Council meeting at the CU Denver Building. While employees want a more robust benefit, she said, the down economy has dictated that the university pursues only cost-neutral benefits. In other cases, the university’s hands are tied by IRS rules, which, for instance, prohibit use of tuition benefits for graduate studies or classes considered hobbies, such as physical education classes. Landis said the policy can be revised at any time after final approval and said employees should continue to make suggestions through the OPE website[11].

More information about the benefit is in this fact sheet[12].

Browsing the Internet safely[13]

The Internet has become one of your most powerful tools for many tasks, such as searching for information, communicating with friends and co-workers, shopping online and managing your finances.

In almost all of these cases, the primary tool you use is your browser, such as Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari or Firefox. Your browser is in many ways your gateway to the Internet. It is also the top target for cyber-criminals. By protecting your browser, you protect yourself against many of today’s attacks.

For details on how to browse the Internet safely, see the February 2012 Office of Information Security Cyber Security newsletter[14].

Groundbreaking on new student residence halls set for April[15]

[16]
Construction of two new residence halls begins with a 2 p.m. groundbreaking April 23 and is scheduled for completion in time for an August 2013 opening. Estimated cost of the project is $17.5 million.

According to Susan Szpyrka, associate vice chancellor for administration and finance, residence hall towers named Copper and Echo will join the ski-resort themed buildings that now make up Summit Village at UCCS. Current building names are Monarch, Keystone, Breckenridge, Telluride, Vail, Steamboat, Aspen and the Lodge.

The new buildings will be located south of Aspen House and the pedestrian spine, toward the west and close to the roundabout, Szpyrka said.

Copper and Echo will provide 192 beds to serve an increasing population of resident students. She said Summit Village currently has 597 beds and a conversion of floor lounges this year increases the capacity to 615 beds. A project converting large, single-room configurations to double-occupancy rooms will increase beds available to 630 by August this year.

Although interior designs are still in the working stages, much of the interior of the new halls will mirror existing halls. Rooms will be single occupancy, three-person suites and four-person suites.

Many people will wonder how $17 million worth of construction can be scheduled when state funding is so limited. University administrators, including Szpyrka, want to be clear that state funds are not involved and taxpayers are not

footing the bill.

“These buildings receive no general fund or tax revenues,” she said. “The buildings are bonded and rents paid by student occupants cover the annual bond payment, utilities and other operating expense.”

Photo by Jeff Foster

Role of UBAB under review[17]

Amid an upcoming administrative policy statement review and concerns about efficacy of the University Benefits Advisory Board (UBAB), a member of the board defended its role as an employee representative group during the regular Feb. 16 meeting of the University of Colorado Staff Council.

Staff Council has been asked to provide input on whether the current policy defining UBAB should be revised or whether the board should be disbanded. The current administrative policy statement[18] (APS) that restated the role of UBAB and established term limits of board members is being examined as part of a regular review strategy.

During Staff Council’s December meeting, E. Jill Pollock, vice president of employee and information Services, said UBAB was formed more than 10 years ago to provide an opportunity for employee input as the university transitioned from self-funding of health benefits to third-party insurers. She said the formation of the Health and Welfare Trust in 2010, and the transparency of its reports and financials, make the mission and goals of UBAB less clear. (See trust members and other information here[19].)

But Stuart Schneck, M.D., a retiree member and acting chair of UBAB[20], said the advisory group is essential because it speaks for employees and acts as a link to other university entities, including the trust.

At present, the trust has no elected employee representation and only meets quarterly in public, Schneck said, adding that because employees participate in funding the trust they should also have a voice in determining funding activities.

UBAB’s role, according to its statement of purpose, is to “represent the collective interests and needs of all university benefit participants while providing strategic advice to the President and University Administration on benefits related issues. UBAB members do this by developing recommendations to the President for benefits policy, reviewing the operational and financial status of the benefits programs, and communicating key issues to the University community.”

Schneck says the board’s role should be revised so that it is in a tripartite relationship with Payroll & Benefit Services (PBS) as the administrator and the trust as provider. “Each entity should work collaboratively to ensure that employee needs and goals are achieved,” he said, adding that UBAB wants to be part of benefits discussions and not become involved after decisions have been made, which he said is currently the case.

Pollock has suggested that there may be other organizational ways to provide the link between employees and the trust, for instance, by involving members of other governance groups, including Staff Council.

In a memo to President Bruce D. Benson, the board said: “UBAB operates in the space between the CU administration, PBS, Faculty Council, four Faculty Assemblies, four Staff Councils and the Exempt Professional Assembly. Coordination between these multiple entities would be almost impossible if all, or many, were asked to take up the issues discussed by UBAB. UBAB’s primary value-added benefit to the governance equation is the commitment and expertise that has developed among UBAB’s members with sustained and frequent in-depth involvement in benefits issues. No other governance group can demonstrate such regular attendance and involvement

for more than a decade."

In the memo, the board also asks that two members of UBAB, one faculty and one staff, be appointed to the trust board with full membership rights, expect for voting rights. Schneck says certain legal issues prevent UBAB members from voting.

Pollock said that since the trust was established, she has not received reports or recommendations from UBAB. "This past year, we went to direct solicitation from employees on any ideas on improving or changing the employee health plan because we were not getting that from UBAB. I've received two suggestions (from the board) in the past 2.5 years that were not evidence-based and so costly we couldn't do them."

While Colorado Springs council members said they regularly receive updates from UBAB, other council members said the board does not communicate well their actions as employee representatives.

System Staff Council on Feb. 14 passed a resolution saying that while it supports the idea of staff and faculty involvement on the Health and Welfare Trust, it is not convinced that UBAB's "current structure and function is the most effective for staff and faculty representation at this time.

Five questions for Irina Moreland[21]

Irina Moreland, far left, works with students in the CU Denver Piano Lab.

As coordinator of the Piano Lab at the University of Colorado Denver College of Arts and Media[23], instructor Irina Moreland faced a significant challenge: how to modernize a facility that technology had left behind – and do it without a significant funding source. Working with David Dynak, dean of CAM, and Frank Jermance, then the department chair of Music and Entertainment Industry Studies, she helped lead a transformation last summer that has reinvigorated the lab.

Moreland credits innovative approaches by past and current leadership at the school, including current Department Chair Sam McGuire, with making the reinvented lab a reality.

The process began when the Rockley Foundation, which has long supplied pianos for use on the campus, was asked if it were possible for it to provide higher-end keyboards with USB ports enabling computer interface. Rockley agreed. Next, Jermance learned of a computer lab that was going offline and whose computers would typically be repurposed for faculty or student use. Instead, he secured the used Apple Macs for the Piano Lab. The creative approach enabled a relatively inexpensive makeover that otherwise would have cost tens of thousands of dollars.

"Millennial piano students are typically very adept at using modern technology," Moreland says. "To maintain student interest, modern tools were needed. I observed other universities in the state with better laboratories and was motivated to bring this innovative idea of the lab to a competitive educational level."

A classically trained pianist and mother of two teenagers, Moreland recently released a CD of "crossover classical/rock and electronic, built on a bedrock of classical music treasures." (To hear samples of tracks from her CD and music that student Ruben Garcia created in the Piano Lab, click on the links at the conclusion of this story.)

1. How did you first become interested in music instruction?

My mother, a graduate of Moscow Conservatory, was my main inspiration. Music was the environment into which I was born and has been a lifelong love of mine. Only for a brief time as a teenager did I question that music performance

and instruction was not what I was meant to do. I frequently toured in the early stages of my artistic life, especially when I was in Russia.

While a doctoral student at CU-Boulder, I developed a commitment to teaching, in addition to performance. After earning my doctorate, I gradually switched my focus toward teaching. However, I still perform in the Denver area and internationally on occasion. I love teaching and inspiring my students, who in turn are very informative and helpful concerning my main research at the moment, which is how technology is and will affect the performing arts.

2. As someone who has performed around the world, what's an example of something that Americans can teach the rest of the world about music, and what can we learn from the rest of the world?

Americans bring innovation in music style, performance and the technology of presentation. I believe that the next, transformative wave will be the development of integrated systems of software, hardware and infrastructure allowing performers and audiences to see and react to each other across distances and time zones, in settings creating the intimacy of presence. I'm calling the concept the "Arts Plex."

What the world brings to America is multigenerational, multicultural music traditions – exposure to world and Western music inspire and stimulate music in America. Jazz, the blues, and other recent genres like rap and hip-hop, all have ties to traditions brought from elsewhere.

3. How has technology changed the way music students learn, and the way you teach them?

When I arrived at UCD, my initial assignments were music history and music appreciation. Instruction methodology was text-book based with assigned readings, instructor lecture and, aside from CD-based "listenings," minimal use of audio-visual resources.

I quickly realized that utilization of technology to optimize knowledge transfer and meet student expectations was required. Use of PowerPoint presentations, "Blackboard" posted readings in lieu of textbooks, the Internet, YouTube, digital testing, email, texting, IM and other electronic media swiftly became the norm. Student response was very positive, and sometimes the learning experience was more on my side than the students', as individual students leapt forward to provide suggestions and expertise.

Naturally, when the opportunity arose to similarly assess how to revitalize the Piano Lab, I worked with the department, especially with the singer-songwriting group and recording arts team, to assess the appropriate mix of technology and infrastructure upgrades required to re-establish the Piano Lab as a primary instructional resource of the College of Arts and Media. A primary goal was to ensure those changes excited student interest and involvement. Selections of instruments, firmware and software were critical. The key was selecting instructional and creative software that was user-friendly, relevant and productive for the students, and readily usable by faculty. In addition, I would like not to destroy established traditions of the teaching piano approach, but at the same time to bring innovative and contemporary aspects to it.

4. How have students and faculty reacted to the lab's improvements?

Student response has been extremely positive and inspirational, so much so that the department quickly realized that resources to provide "open hours" were needed. Not only have traditional users used the lab, but there's demand from faculty, singer-songwriter majors and non-performance majors. Success has put a strain on the lab's availability. As an example, in spring 2011, a single section for non-performance students was offered, with seven taking the course. In fall 2011, two sections were filled, with 15 students each. For spring 2012, a single section only is offered, because demand for the lab is exceeding the ability to schedule it. A second section for non-performance students is under discussion, since that demand has not diminished, either.

Faculty reaction has focused on the practical aspects of implementation, training, establishment of curriculum, etc. The Piano Lab is both a tool and a workplace, and its revitalization impacts many aspects of instruction.

5. How do you see technology evolving in music education – and higher education in general – in the coming years?

Instruction and performance in the performing arts are the epitome of traditional, person-to-person knowledge transfer. However, academic instructional methodologies utilizing web-based course tools and the computing "cloud" are enabling distance teaching through e-learning and m-learning, which in turn, imperils the foundations of brick-and-mortar institutions. Equally concerning may be the rise of the "Mega Lecturer." Once technology enables students (consumers) to purchase online, live-lecturer events, competition may swiftly consolidate the body of lecturers presently replicated with widely disparate skill and knowledge levels across the full run of academic institutions, to the acclaimed, relatively few, teacher/performers.

Push-back and survival will mean providing services that big-box institutions cannot provide. Key tools will remain intimacy of instruction, the warmth of collegial halls and human connections, and the creation of an educational experience with room for innovation and experimental thought. The ultimate goal of the student must be the ultimate goal of the institution – to provide an individual with the technical, thinking and performance skills to be successful in a difficult world.

Audio
[24]
[gplayer href="/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/tocatta-fugue_01.mp3"] Tocatta and Fugue - Irina Moreland, Virtual Infinity [/gplayer] [gplayer href="/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Palladio_01.mp3"] Palladio - Irina Moreland, Virtual Infinity[/gplayer] [gplayer href="/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Newest-Mountain-King_01.mp3"] Newest Mountain King - Irina Moreland, Virtual Infinity [/gplayer] [gplayer href="/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Piano3-composition_01.mp3"]Piano Lab Student Ruben Garcia: Piano III Composition[/gplayer]

Finalists announced for College of Arts and Sciences dean [25]

[26]
University of Colorado Boulder Provost Russell L. Moore announced that four finalists have been named for the position of dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The finalists for the position are Paul Beale, CU-Boulder; Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Texas A&M University; Jeffrey Cox, CU-Boulder; and Steven Leigh, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champagne, according to John Stevenson, dean of the Graduate School and chair of the search committee.

"I am grateful to the committee and its chair, Dean John Stevenson, for arriving at four quality candidates to lead CU-Boulder's largest college," Moore said. "I am looking forward to interviewing the candidates at their campus visits, and to hearing their individual visions and ideas for taking our outstanding College of Arts and Sciences to new levels of success."

Stevenson said the committee's task of arriving at four finalists was a challenge, given the size and quality of the pool of applicants for the post.

"The search committee was gratified by the quality of the candidates who applied. Initially, we received over 100 applications, which I believe underscores the desirability of CU-Boulder as a national destination for talented faculty, students and administrators," Stevenson said. "After intensive deliberations the committee came to consensus on the four candidates."

The College of Arts and Sciences is CU-Boulder's largest academic unit, with 19,295 undergraduate and graduate students, 1,982 faculty and staff and a general fund budget of $133.5 million.

The post is expected to be filled by July 1. The finalists will visit the campus for interviews during late February and March at times to be announced soon. UPDATE: Click here[27] to see the schedule of town hall meetings with the finalists, as well as more detailed information on each candidate.

Paul Beale is a professor and chair of the Department of Physics at CU-Boulder. His research field is theoretical condensed matter physics and statistical mechanics. Beale was a postdoctoral research associate in the department of theoretical physics at Oxford University from 1982-1984, and he joined the CU physics faculty in 1984. He earned a bachelor's in physics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1977 and a doctorate in physics from Cornell University in 1982.

Antonio Cepeda-Benito is a professor of psychology and dean of faculties and associate provost at Texas A&M University. His research areas of specialization are in behavioral and cellular neuroscience and clinical psychology. He has been on the faculty at Texas A&M since 1994 and prior to his current position he was associate dean of faculties. He earned a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1988, a master's in psychology from Purdue University in 1991 and a doctorate from Purdue University in 1994.

Jeffrey Cox is a professor of English literature and the associate vice chancellor for faculty affairs at CU-Boulder. Cox specializes in English and European Romantic literature, cultural theory and cultural studies. He joined the faculty at CU-Boulder in 1998 as the director of the Center for the Humanities and the Arts, where he served until 2006. He was on the faculty of Texas A&M from 1981 until 1998. He received a bachelor's from Wesleyan University in 1975 and a doctorate from the University of Virginia in 1981.

Steven Leigh is an associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Leigh is a biological anthropologist and his research focuses on the evolution of primate life histories, with special attention to human life history evolution. He has been on the faculty at the University of Illinois since 1994 and previously held appointments at the State University of New York, Stony Brook, and at Northwestern University. He received his bachelor's in anthropology from Northwestern University in 1980, his master's in anthropology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 1985 and his doctorate from Northwestern University in 1992.

The current dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Todd Gleeson, will complete his 10th year in that position at the end of June. Gleeson announced his resignation last August and he will return to the faculty in the Department of Integrative Physiology.

Elliman: Higher ed is state's 'most important driving force'[28]

[29]
Don Elliman is set to be the next interim chancellor[30] for the University of Colorado Denver l Anschutz Medical Campus. He'll assume the role April 2 after current Chancellor Jerry Wartgow departs.

Faculty and staff gathered in the Terrace Room at 1380 Lawrence St. on the Denver Campus on Monday to meet Elliman, who was introduced by Wartgow. "I've known and admired Don for many years," said Wartgow.

Wartgow also had introduced Elliman Feb. 15 during a town hall meeting at the Anschutz Medical Campus[31].

In acknowledging Wartgow's own achievements during the past two years at the university, Elliman said, "It's an honor to step into Jerry's shoes."

Elliman comes to the job from the Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Prior to CU, he served as the State of Colorado's chief operating officer under former Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter. Before that, he was director of the State of Colorado's Office of Economic Development.

Although Elliman has not previously worked in higher education, he has been involved in work to define the role of

higher education through his work with the Ritter administration's Higher Education Strategic Master Plan. He also serves on the Colorado State University governance board -- a role he noted likely will end shortly.

"There is no economic driving force more important than higher education in the state," Elliman said to the faculty and staff assembled. "We must make sure we're doing everything we can to ensure you can do that (higher education)."

When questioned about higher ed's relationship with business, Elliman responded "economic development and higher education are 'tied at the hip.'"

Elliman also touched on budget matters, "Ultimately, we are going to have to change the funding formula in this state." To that end, "we have to educate the citizens of Colorado on their role" for funding all education.

The task at hand, said Elliman, "is a marathon, not a sprint."

Elliman's office will be on the 14th floor of the Lawrence Street Center.

Election year brings guideline reminder[32]

With a general election scheduled for November, the University of Colorado is reminding employees of guidelines regarding political campaign-related activity and expression. Here is a summary of those guidelines, based on state and federal laws and CU policies.

Campaign-Related Activities – Summary and Guidelines

General prohibitions
The Fair Campaign Practices Act, aka Campaign Reform Act, generally prohibits public entities, including institutions of higher education, from expending any public moneys from any source for contributions to a campaign for elected office, or to urge electors to vote in favor or against any ballot issue or referred measure. The term "public moneys" is broadly construed, and includes in-kind contributions such as services or nonmonetary resources. The secretary of state may investigate any complaint from any person.
Specific guidance for university employees
Employees may not engage in any activity during working hours designed to urge electors to vote for or against any campaign issues, which include campaigns for public office, statewide campaign issues or referred measures, and local campaign issues or levies. Employees wishing to participate in a campaign activity should take personal leave. Employees may not use office supplies or equipment – including computers, telephones, printers or facsimile machines – to create materials urging electors to vote for or against a campaign issue. Employees may not use their university email accounts to urge electors to vote for or against a campaign issue, or to forward materials that urge electors to vote for or against a campaign issue. Employees may not use university websites to urge electors to vote for or against a campaign issue.
Special rules for faculty members
Most faculty members do not have personal leave. Also, many faculty members are not on contract during the summer. Accordingly, faculty members may engage in advocacy activities related to a campaign issue during months in which they are not on contract, or during the school year in accordance with applicable department or campus policies on use of personal time. However, faculty members should avoid the appearance of impropriety by clarifying whenever possible that such activities are being conducted on personal time and not on behalf of or at the request of the university. Faculty members remain subject to other limitations on the use of state resources, including university email, even if using personal time.
Activities allowed

University employees may provide information in response to questions posed in the ordinary course of their duties,

even if the information provided relates to a ballot issue, so long as the question was not solicited by a state employee. The Board of Regents may pass a resolution adopting an advocacy position related to a ballot issue. The resolution may be distributed by any normal and customary means and in response to a question. Policy-makers such as the president and chancellors may adopt an opinion related to a ballot issue and spend up to $50 publicizing that opinion. If such an opinion is adopted, it may be communicated in response to a question. Employees may use personal time to engage in any advocacy activities, provided that they do not use state resources. As a general rule, employees should always make it clear that they are taking personal time and that they are not speaking on behalf of the university. The university may allow access to its meeting facilities for political expression as public forums or limited public forums. So long as access is not restricted based on viewpoint — i.e., so long as there is equal access to advocates on all sides of an issue — the resource is not being used for advocacy. The university may allow a meeting room to be used by an advocacy group, so long as the same or similar space is available to any opposing advocacy group. Forums offered to provide information about a ballot issue should include both sides of the ballot issue. However, student advocacy groups may invite a candidate to speak without inviting opposing candidates, so long as other student advocacy groups are afforded the same opportunities to invite opposing candidates to speak. The university may set additional reasonable time, place and manner restrictions on these activities. Included, the following rules are advisable: Attendance must be open to the public or to all students. A disclaimer must be made on any printed materials and/or at the event that the university does not endorse the candidate, and that any opposing candidate or advocacy group will be offered a similar opportunity to speak.

Two CU-Boulder faculty win National Science Foundation CAREER Awards[33]

Assistant professors **Pieter Johnson** and **Rebecca Safran**, both from the ecology and evolutionary biology department at the University of Colorado Boulder, have received prestigious National Science Foundation Early Career Development, or CAREER, awards.

The awards are made to outstanding faculty in the early stages of their careers who effectively integrate innovative research and educational outreach.

Johnson was awarded $700,000 over five years to study how ecological diversity in natural communities can affect disease risk for amphibians, which are the most threatened class of vertebrates worldwide. One significant reason for the decline of amphibians is their vulnerability to infections by parasitic flatworms called trematodes, which burrow into tadpoles and larval salamanders and cause limb malformations in adults, increasing mortality rates.

Johnson hopes to identify the factors that control disease in natural ecosystems and better understand the role of parasites in ecosystem processes. Adult amphibians that have been affected by trematodes often eaten by predatory birds such as herons, which pass eggs of the trematodes back into the aquatic environment where they hatch and enter snails to repeat the cycle.

Johnson will be collaborating with National Geographic to enhance a “Citizen Science” program that involves members of the public reporting on deformed amphibians they encounter. In addition, he will work with several other organizations to develop a documentary to promote awareness of the issue, and will team up with a biology textbook publisher to design an educational module that is expected to reach tens of thousands of students annually in classrooms and through online learning programs.

Safran was awarded $850,000 over five years to study genetic differences in barn swallow populations to gain a greater understanding of how new species are formed. The goal of the effort is to measure the genetic variation and gene flow related to the adaptive evolutionary changes within swallow populations -- including different combinations of sexual signaling traits -- as well as changes because of geographic isolation among different populations.

Safran and her team will use cutting-edge molecular approaches using genomics and stable isotope analysis in their research efforts. The team hopes to understand how migratory behavior, climate change, sexual selection and geographic distance between swallow populations relate to genetic divergence and speciation, which is the evolutionary process by which new species are created. The study will allow “evolution in action” to be carefully

documented and studied, Safran said.

The research effort will include international collaborators from 35 Northern Hemisphere countries and will provide training for students at various levels of education and involve extensive interdisciplinary research. Her grant also includes a number of public outreach efforts including a “Citizen Science” program and a project in collaboration with EcoArts Connections of Boulder in which people are encouraged to ride Boulder County buses and to chart and report on various bird species seen from the vehicles.

Professor to present during Washington event on wartime archives[34]

Bruce P. Montgomery, professor and faculty director of archives and special materials in the CU-Boulder library, on Friday will present at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., as part of a panel on “Archives in Wartime: From WWII to the Invasion of Iraq.” The event is a roundtable discussion about the seizure or capture of Iraqi records during the 2003 American invasion of Iraq and the subsequent occupation. The question of repatriating more than 100 million seized documents from Saddam Hussein's regime is complicated by human rights concerns given Iraq’s continuing sectarian divisions and the possibility that the records could be misused by the ruling Shiite majority government against its adversaries in the Kurdish and Sunni communities.

Montgomery was invited to participate in this session because of extensive experience with the captured Iraqi secret polices files that were seized in the 1991 Kurdish uprising in Iraqi Kurdistan after the first Gulf War. The documents, which chronicle the Anfal genocide against the Kurds in the middle to late 1980s, were acquired by the University Archives in 1997, as well as the digital database to the 5.5 million-page collection. The original (physical documents) were returned to the State Department in 2005 to be used in the trials of Saddam Hussein and his senior leadership for the Anfal genocide. Montgomery has also written extensively on these subjects. For more information: http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/archives/collections/international.htm[35].

Dropping names ...[36]

Ren

Golkowski

Long

Assistant Professor **Zhiyong (Jason) Ren** of civil engineering and Assistant Professor **Mark Golkowski** of electrical engineering have been selected for the University of Colorado College of Engineering and Applied Sciences’ annual Chang Junior Faculty Research Award. Civil engineering Professor Nien-Yin Chang and his wife, Mae Chang, established the award to encourage junior faculty toward achievement and success during the early stages of their careers, particularly in research productivity in terms of competitive national research funding and first-rate articles in refereed journals. … **Tamarah Long**, architecture studies instructor at the College of Architecture and Planning at CU Denver, is the subject of a new article “Artist Tamarah Long's Architecturally Inspired Drawings” in Bravely Creative, a new online journal about creative people across all fields of study. The article describes how Long became an artist, architect and actress. View some of her sketches on her website[40].

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/spring-2017-enrollment-hits-new-record-63-percent-growth-credit-hours-taught[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/oncologists-seeking-ways-help-patients-challenged-access-clinical-trials[3] http://www.cancergrace.org/[4] https://connections.cu.edu/people/national-organization-recognizes-librarians-kumar-beall[5] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/p_Kumar.png[6] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/p_Beall.png[7] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/kaiser-other-health-choices-shifting-state-cu-some-employees[8] http://www.cu.edu/openenrollment[9] mailto:pbs@cu.edu[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-council-staff-council-support-expanding-tuition-waiver-benefit[11] https://www.cu.edu/policies/[12] https://connections.cu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/5024_TuitionBenefitFacts.pdf[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/browsing-internet-safely[14] https://www.cu.edu/content/oismonthlycybersecuritynewsletter[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/groundbreaking-new-student-residence-halls-set-april[16] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/uccs_new-res-halls.png[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/role-ubab-under-review[18] https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps/hr/5025.pdf[19] https://www.cusys.edu/trust/[20] https://www.cu.edu/pbs/ubab.html[21] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-irina-moreland[22] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/5q-Moreland.png[23] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CAM/Pages/index.aspx[24] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/5q-Moreland_album.png[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/finalists-announced-college-arts-and-sciences-dean[26] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/ucb_as.png[27] http://artsandsciences.colorado.edu/magazine/2012/02/dean-finalist-candidates-public-meetings-announced/[28] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/elliman-higher-ed-state%E2%80%99s-%E2%80%98most-important-driving-force%E2%80%99[29] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/ucd-elliman.png[30] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/Elliman-named-new-chancellor.aspx[31] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/Incoming-Chancellor-Elliman-Town-Mtg.aspx[32] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/election-year-brings-guideline-reminder[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/two-cu-boulder-faculty-win-national-science-foundation-career-awards[34] https://connections.cu.edu/people/professor-present-during-washington-event-wartime-archives[35] http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/archives/collections/international.htm[36] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-130[37] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/p-dn_ZhiyongRen.jpg[38] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/p-dn_golkowski.jpg[39] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/p-dn_Long.png[40] http://tamarahlong.zenfolio.com/