

[New initiative with LinkedIn aims to boost community connections across CU](#)^[1]

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A new initiative between the University of Colorado system and dominant career social media platform LinkedIn takes its first big steps this week as alumni are being invited to help bolster community connections across CU.

LinkedIn members who have indicated they are alumni from CU-Boulder this week will receive email invitations giving them the opportunity to join the [official LinkedIn group of the CU-Boulder Alumni Association](#)^[3]. The group promises exclusive opportunities for career advancement, mentoring roles and potential establishment of hundreds of new and valuable professional connections.

Similar invitations to alumni from the other three campuses will launch in the days to come. (The [UCCS](#)^[4][CU Denver](#)^[5] and [Anschutz Medical Campus](#)^[6] groups are linked here.)

CU is one of only 12 higher education institutions taking part in the new pilot program initiated by LinkedIn, which boasts more than 200 million members in more than 200 countries and territories around the world. More than 20 million of those members are university students and recent graduates.

By taking part in the pilot project, CU will gain special access to LinkedIn data and the chance to explore how LinkedIn may be used in a higher education environment. Three administrators will oversee the project within CU: Matt Duncan, social media manager at CU-Boulder; Misa Lobato, manager of research services at the CU Foundation; and Sue Wyman, director of graduate career connections at the CU Denver Business School. Each was chosen to represent a particular aspect of the higher education LinkedIn experience. Their research access will allow CU to better understand and engage CU students, alumni and friends. They will field research requests from across the system.

The effort provides CU the opportunity to share and learn with the other institutions that are working with LinkedIn: University of Michigan; Michigan State University; Syracuse University; University of California San Diego; University of Rochester, Wharton; Brigham Young University; Hult International Business School, Rensselaer; and Rochester Institute of Technology.

For more information, contact: Matt Duncan, Matt.duncan@colorado.edu^[7], 303-492-6692; Misa Lobato, milagro.lobato@cufund.org^[8], 303-541-1204; Sue Wyman, sue.wyman@ucdenver.edu^[9], 303-315-8900.

[Gun legislation package includes college campus focus](#)^[10]

Colorado Democrats on Tuesday announced a list of proposed gun-related laws, including a measure to ban the carrying of concealed weapons in buildings on college campuses.

Rep. Claire Levy, D-Boulder, had said she would introduce such legislation this session. She is expected to co-sponsor the bill with Sen. Rollie Heath, D-Boulder.

The proposal follows the Supreme Court's ruling last year that CU could not prohibit concealed-carry permit holders from having guns on campuses.

Because the University of Colorado Board of Regents has not discussed the proposed bill, the university has not taken an official position.

Senate President John Morse, D-Colorado Springs, and House Speaker Mark Ferrandino, D-Denver, announced the package of gun measures at the Capitol. The news conference was attended by family members of shooting victims at Columbine, Aurora and Newtown.

Among the other several measures in the package is the proposed establishment of liability for makers and sellers of military-style guns, mandatory background checks for gun buyers, a ban of high-capacity magazines and a call for mental health professionals to notify the Colorado Bureau of Investigation when judging that a patient poses a serious threat.

[Five questions for Richard Johnson](#)[11]

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“The Fat Switch,” a book by Richard Johnson, M.D., reveals what he and his research team suggest could be the mechanism behind a worldwide obesity and diabetes epidemic.

The University of Colorado medical school professor and chief of the Division of Renal Diseases and Hypertension has investigated health mysteries around the globe, from cobalt poisoning in the Andes to kidney disease in Tibet and Venezuela to lung fluke infections in Indochinese refugees. But it’s his book that may have the most widespread effect.

“‘The Fat Switch’ is a pretty grand story,” he says. “At the heart, it tries to identify the cause of obesity and diabetes, and it also hits a lot of other diseases like celiac disease, Crohn’s disease, attention-deficit disorder and others.”

And he believes it all comes down to eating sugar – fructose, in particular, as well as some other types of foods.

1. Why is your theory different from what we already know?

Historically, most of us think we get fat because Western culture encourages us to eat large portions of food and to exercise less. According to this, we are to blame for poor habits. However, our work shows that obesity is triggered by a “switch” in our metabolism that makes us want to eat more and want to exercise less. I should make clear that none of these discoveries would have been made without major contributions by my colleagues and collaborators.

2. What’s the story behind this team discovery?

Well, I am a kidney doctor, so this is a very good question. In essence, we were studying high blood pressure, in which it is known that the primary problem is a defect in the ability of the kidney to excrete salt. In the process we concluded that this defect in salt excretion resulted from disease of the small blood vessels in the kidney. What caused that?

We discovered that a major contributor was the effects of a high serum uric acid. We then looked for what was driving uric acid levels up, and eventually this took us to fructose. We found that fructose was not only driving high blood pressure, but also other features of metabolic syndrome. When we lowered uric acid in fructose-fed animals, we not only blocked high blood pressure from developing but also other features of the metabolic syndrome. This led us to study fructose in more detail.

3. You studied animals first. The same thing happens in humans?

Yes. Fructose is a major component of the American diet, and is primarily in table sugar (sucrose) and in high fructose corn syrup. Intake of these sugars is associated with increased risk for high blood pressure, and for obesity, diabetes and fatty liver. And those sugars also are associated with higher uric acid levels and the problems that causes.

Our most recent studies suggest that one of the major ways fructose increases fat is by its unique ability to raise uric acid inside the cell. In the liver, for example, we can show that fructose is a major factor driving fatty liver, and that this is driven in part by the uric acid.

The uric acid works on the energy factories in the cell, the mitochondria, and preferentially blocks their ability to degrade fat while at the same time reducing the energy output. When a cell has less energy, it communicates to the brain to eat more. At the same time, the inability to burn fat leads to fat accumulation. Soon you have fatty liver.

Weight is normally tightly regulated among animals. They tend to gain weight to help survive during periods of food shortage or famine. When they do this, they develop fatty liver, they'll increase the fat in their blood and their abdomen, and they even become insulin resistant. So they develop all the features of metabolic syndrome.

It's clear that what people are calling metabolic syndrome is actually a form of fat storage. The difference is that humans continue to store and accumulate fat, whereas an animal gains fat and loses it in a regulated way.

4. So uric acid signals the body to gain weight?

Yes. One of the first clues came from studies of starving animals. Uric acid was the factor that goes up in the starving animal, and we believe it signals to the animal to try to reaccumulate fat. In our society, sugar turns out to be a major way for activating this switch. Soon we realized that the activation of this metabolic switch might be very important in the cause of obesity in humans.

As we looked for what could activate this switch in animals and we realized that fructose was a big way to activate it, we then started looking at humans and saw that this mechanism we had discovered could actually account for a lot of the obesity in humans.

We further linked the susceptibility of humans to fructose to a mutation that occurred 15 million years ago during a period of famine. The mutation resulted in a greater increase in uric acid in response to fruit, and thereby allowed us to increase our fat stores more easily in the setting where fruit availability was decreasing. Thus, this mutation likely acted to protect us during periods of famine in our past.

However, sugar was not available then, and as sugar was gradually introduced into society, suddenly there was much more fructose available than in the past. Then we found that there are other foods that can activate the switch, though not as much as fructose. (For example) umami foods, the type of food that's called savory, such as gravies and shellfish. However, beer is the greatest culprit after sugar. We realized that you can activate the switch a number of ways. Then we looked at what happens when the switch gets activated and how it might play a role into not just diabetes and obesity, but a lot of other diseases, including celiac disease, food allergy and attention deficit.

The book makes the case that the fructose/uric acid switch is probably the underlying major mechanism for the obesity epidemic. It's very controversial. But the data is the data. I use everything, from anthropology and evolution and comparative physiology to biology and molecular biology and history, to put together the total argument.

5. Do you believe this could be the breakthrough to end this health crisis?

I believe the book provides major insights that could lead to not only how to prevent and treat obesity, but also one day to curing obesity.

[Journalist Hedrick Smith announced for keynote at Conference on World Affairs](#)[14]

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Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Hedrick Smith will deliver the keynote address for the 65th Annual Conference on World Affairs (CWA), set for April 8-12 on the University of Colorado Boulder campus.

Smith will speak at 11:30 a.m. April 8 in Macky Auditorium. Last year's CWA attendance was 94,281 at 200 sessions over five days.

In his 26 years with The New York Times, Smith has covered six American presidents and their administrations. In 1971, he was a member of the Pulitzer Prize-winning team that produced the Pentagon Papers series. He covered the Vietnam War from Saigon and the Cold War from both Moscow and Washington. In 1974, he won the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting from Russia and Eastern Europe.

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Smith's No. 1 best-selling book *The Russians* was based on his years as New York Times Moscow bureau chief from 1971 to 1974. His recent book *Who Stole the American Dream?* has been hailed by critics for its brilliant analysis of political, economic and social trends in the U.S. over the past 40 years.

Smith has created 26 prime-time specials for PBS, including two Emmy Award-winning *Frontline* programs. His PBS specials have included topics such as Wall Street, Wal-Mart, Enron, education reform, health care and the environment.

Preceding the opening keynote will be the traditional keynote procession into Macky through the CWA's colorful "avenue of international flags" in Norlin Quad at 11:10 a.m.

The keynote procession and address is a time-honored Boulder tradition. Past keynote speakers include Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry Kissinger, Arthur Miller, Charles Krauthammer and Chuck Hagel.

Another CWA tradition is the annual Tuesday night jazz concert, set for 8 p.m. April 9. As with all conference sessions, the concert will be free and open to the public. However, due to the enormous popularity of the event, advance seat-specific tickets will be allocated through a random lottery drawing. To receive instructions on how to enter the free lottery, write to cwapress@colorado.edu[17].

A biographical listing of participants confirmed to date is now online at www.colorado.edu/cwa[18]. The full CWA schedule will be posted to that site in late March.

[Clinton Foundation highlights work of Anschutz Health and Wellness Center](#)[19]

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The University of Colorado's [Anschutz Health and Wellness Center](#)[21] (AHWC) has been recognized by the Clinton Foundation for its pledge to reduce childhood obesity. The Clinton Foundation was founded with the mission to improve global health, strengthen economies, promote healthier childhoods and health and wellness, and protect the environment by fostering partnerships among businesses, governments, nongovernmental organizations and private citizens.

The [Clinton Health Matters Initiative](#)[22] (CHMI), an initiative of the Clinton Foundation that promotes health and wellness across generations, recognizes organizations across the country investing in disease prevention. AHWC's pledge involves thousands of school children in Colorado.

"We are thrilled to be recognized by the [Clinton Foundation](#)[23]," said James O. Hill, Ph.D., executive director of AHWC and professor of pediatrics and medicine at the [University of Colorado School of Medicine](#)[24]. "We are committed to providing 5th-graders skills they need to make healthy choices through our '5th Gear Kids' partnership."

Rather than telling the kids what to do, '5th Gear Kids' teaches young people about energy balance – which means balancing energy intake with energy expenditure. The program also teaches kids how to be healthy consumers by providing access to healthy food and physical activity choices. Local businesses provide discounts and special promotions for healthy alternatives to participants and their families emphasizing fun, active lifestyles and eating good, healthy food. 5th Gear participants earn points on their special '5th Gear Kids' ID that they can redeem for prizes.

More than 7,200 5th grade students in 75 Aurora Public Schools and Cherry Creek Public Schools have been introduced to the program. Indirectly, an estimated 10,000 parents have also been exposed. It can be translated to many other school districts throughout Colorado and some have already expressed interest. The program may also serve as a national model for fighting childhood obesity.

Four other Colorado-based organizations are recognized by the Clinton Health Matters Initiative. They are Discover Well, The Cycle Effect, Food, Faith and Family and The Kitchen Community. These organizations have been meeting to share ideas and explore ways to work together to promote wellness broadly throughout the state of Colorado.

[CU-Boulder ranked fourth nationally for Peace Corps volunteers](#)[25]

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The University of Colorado Boulder is ranked No. 4 in the nation for graduates serving as Peace Corps volunteers, with 93 alumni currently serving around the world, the Peace Corps announced Tuesday.

Since 2004, CU-Boulder has held a position in the top four among institutions of similar size. CU-Boulder is the fifth-highest volunteer-producing university of all time, with 2,353 undergraduate alumni having served in the program since it was established in 1961.

"CU-Boulder is a consistent top performer for Peace Corps and our team is proud of the university, their leadership and students," said Mike McKay, southwest regional manager for Peace Corps. "This school is always providing highly qualified and competitive applicants who are committed to service and making a difference in their local communities and communities abroad."

CU-Boulder Peace Corps Volunteers

- CU-Boulder is ranked No. 4 in the nation for graduates serving as Peace Corps volunteers in 2013 with 93 undergraduate alumni currently serving. - CU-Boulder is ranked the No. 5 all-time school for volunteers with 2,353 alumni who have served in the Peace Corps since it was established in 1961. - Each year since 2004, CU-Boulder has ranked in the top four schools in the nation for Peace Corps volunteers -- two times as the No. 1 school, three times as the No. 2 school, four times at No. 3 and one time at No. 4. - The Peace Corps is one of 12 campus programs overseen by CU-Boulder's Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement. - The CU-Boulder academic experience stresses rigorous coursework and hands-on research opportunities, enabling undergraduate and graduate students to put their knowledge to use through a variety of critical thinking, leadership development and service learning opportunities. - CU-Boulder is one of a select group of public and private universities nationwide participating in the Peace Corps Master's International program.

The University of Michigan, also with 93 volunteers, ties with CU-Boulder on the Peace Corps' 2013 Top Colleges list. The University of Washington and the University of Florida both ranked No. 1 with 107 volunteers each. The University of Wisconsin-Madison ranked No. 3 with 103 volunteers.

"CU-Boulder students and alumni have a legacy of service," said Chancellor Philip DiStefano. "A national Peace Corps leader year after year, it brings great honor and pride to the CU-Boulder community as our service-oriented students go on to become citizens of the world."

The Peace Corps ranks its top volunteer-producing schools annually according to the size of the student body. Large schools have more than 15,000 undergraduates, medium-sized schools have between 5,000 and 15,000 undergraduates, and small schools have fewer than 5,000 undergraduates.

Western Washington University ranked first among medium-sized schools with 73 undergraduate alumni currently serving and Gonzaga University ranked highest among small schools with 24 undergraduate alumni serving.

“We’re very pleased to have ranked in the top four for Peace Corps for a decade now,” said Peter Simons, director of CU-Boulder’s Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement, which offers numerous service learning programs for students. “It shows our unwavering commitment to service and advancing communities.”

In 2010, CU-Boulder became part of the Peace Corps Master’s International program, which allows volunteers to combine Peace Corps service with a master’s degree program and receive credit for their Peace Corps service abroad.

For more information about the Peace Corps at CU-Boulder, call the campus recruiting office at 303-492-8454 or visit <http://www.colorado.edu/peacecorps/>[27]. For more information about CU-Boulder’s Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement visit <http://www.colorado.edu/iece/>[28].

[Faculty earn grants to enhance teaching](#)[29]

Six faculty members recently received Teaching Enhancement Grants from the Faculty Resource Center (FRC).

The grants were announced by Dave Anderson, faculty director, FRC.

Those receiving grants, the amount and a brief summary of how the money will be used follow.

Sandy Berry-Lowe, associate professor, Department of Biology, \$79 to purchase a copy of Respondus 4.0, a software used to generate exam questions.

Cerian Gibbes, assistant professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, \$425 to purchase high-resolution satellite images of the UCCS campus. The images will be used to train students to analyze high-resolution images and to aid class activities in understanding concepts of scale.

Nicole Huber, instructor, Department of Biology, \$44.95 to purchase a two-year subscription to Flickr Pro, a photo sharing site. The photos will be used to illustrate specific scientific principles as a supplement to classroom lectures.

Andrea Hutchins, associate professor, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences, \$438.97 to purchase three bodybugg calorie management systems. The devices will be used by students in nutrition courses to assess their effectiveness.

Eric Steen, instructor, Visual and Performing Arts, \$450 for mini projectors and iPhone adapters. The projectors connect to iPhones and enlarge images to screen-size for use in classroom discussions.

Kyle Webb, instructor, College of Engineering, \$429 for Camtasia software and a wireless microphone. Webb hopes to use the software and microphone to record lectures and to create a hybrid course model with supplemental classroom material provided through Blackboard.

For more information about the Teaching Enhancement Grant process, please visit <http://www.uccs.edu/facassembly/awards/teaching-enhancement-grants.html>[30]

[Colorado statehouse welcomes CU Denver student veterans](#)[31]

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Crowded into a committee room at the Capitol, a bipartisan group of legislators listened intently as they received an introduction to the University of Colorado Denver's innovative [Boots to Suits](#)[33] program. "Boots to Suits" offers student veterans real-world assistance transitioning from the military to student life to successful career.

The program was originally designed to pair the veterans with mentors in the business world through the [Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce](#)[34], but now it's marching in a new direction, seeking to enlist a new sector of volunteer mentors from public service and government. The new emphasis comes in direct response to the career interests of CU Denver's diverse veteran population.

The room fell silent as Veteran Student Services Director Cameron Cook outlined the major issues confronting student veterans across the country, including post-traumatic stress disorder, transitioning from a structured to unstructured environment, and the challenge of applying military skills and experience to a professional environment.

CU Denver Vice Chancellor of Communications Leanna Clark listed discouraging statistics about veterans in the workforce, telling the legislators that 223,000 total veterans and 30 percent of veterans age 18- 24 are unemployed. "It's because of these startling statistics and issues faced that we created CU Denver Boots to Suits," Clark explained.

Included in the audience was Ashley Metcalf, a sociology major and president of CU Denver's Veterans Student Organization, and his legislative mentor, Sen. Nancy Todd, D-Aurora. Their mentorship relationship is already under way, and she was the first legislator to enlist in the program. Three other lawmakers also have signed on to be Boots to Suits mentors: Sen. David Balmer, R-Centennial; Rep. Leroy Garcia, D-Pueblo; and Rep. Dan Nordberg, R-Colorado Springs.

Todd is the former chair of State Veteran and Military Affairs in the House, and Metcalf first met her during a special session on civil unions.

"I'd never attended a committee hearing before, and her words were inspiring," Metcalf said. "One of my best experiences so far was watching her interact with her constituents at a town hall meeting. For me, the most important part of public office is being accessible and observing her interactions was priceless."

Although it's early in Metcalf's mentorship, Todd already is set to re-enlist. "Working with Ashley, I have developed a better understanding of the varied aspects of transition our veterans make as they explore a 'life after their military service.' The feedback after the presentation from my fellow legislators was very positive. First they asked what the time commitment was and then they asked how they could sign up. If we get five or six to participate, I would consider that a great success."

Clark and the administrators of Boots to Suits agree. "Our student veterans have earned this opportunity," she said. "Our goal with this presentation was to raise our profile with the legislators and to gain their respect."

Izzy Abbaas, Boots to Suits program director, was grateful to see so many legislators attend. "This shows that supporting the men and women who have served our nation so faithfully is not a partisan issue but an issue all Americans and Coloradans can get behind."

Abbaas added that he is optimistic about the new direction the program is taking, describing it as a "flexible, living program" which easily adapts to the individual needs of veteran students.

As CU Denver's Boots to Suits [program approaches its one-year anniversary](#)[35], it continues to expand and evolve. And so do student veterans like Metcalf. He spent nearly a year and a half serving with the Air Force in places like

Qatar, Iraq and Afghanistan. Now, he's ready to continue serving, right here at home. "In five years, I expect to be in elected office," he said. "Someday I plan to be in the legislature. Maybe I'll even be a senator, like Sen. Todd."

CU Denver's veteran student enrollment jumped 300 percent from 2009 to 2012 and is expected to continue growing. The key to keeping pace is retaining current Boots to Suits mentors and recruiting new ones in the legislature, in business and beyond.

[Learn more about the "Boots to Suits" program.](#)[36]

[Cybersecurity and ethics](#)[37]

Ethics is nothing more than knowing the difference between right and wrong, and choosing to do the right thing. If you maintain your own personal integrity, you not only help the university, you build a reputation that will reward you throughout your career.

For more on understanding guidelines for ethical behavior, see the [February issue of the Office of Information Security Cybersecurity newsletter](#)[38].

The [IT Security Program APS](#)[39] provides more information about the responsibilities of users as it relates to using IT Resources and protecting data.

[Health assessment, mission discovery tools available next week](#)[40]

[41]

Understanding your current health state and discovering more about your personal source of motivation are proven ways to more effectively manage your stress, get better sleep, lose weight, quit smoking or attain your 10K personal record. There are no easy solutions for making lasting behavior changes. It takes hard work regardless of the goal.

With the Be Colorado health assessment, learn more about your current health state. And with the mission discovery tool, connect more deeply with your personal motivations.

Look for emails early next week with links to these great tools and visit the Be Colorado website at www.becolorado.org[42] to discover more about all the great wellness opportunities across the university community.

[Braza, Snyder, Arnold take part in Leadership Fort Carson Tour](#)[43]

Dean Mary Snyder, left, and Dean Peter Braza, right, learn first-hand about the life of a soldier. (Photo: Phillip Morris)

Two University of Colorado Colorado Springs deans and a university staff member joined 24 other community leaders in gaining an inside look at a soldier's life during a Jan. 17 Leadership Fort Carson Tour.

Peter Braza, dean, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences; **Mary Snyder**, dean, College of Education; and **Carrie Arnold**, administrative support, Freshman Seminar and Honors program, were invited by Maj. Gen. Joseph Anderson, commanding general, 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, to experience a day at the post. They were accompanied by Phillip Morris, program director, Office of Veteran and Military Student Affairs.

The program's goal was to help build relationships between the community and Fort Carson soldiers. The day included a speech by Colorado Springs Mayor Steve Bach as well as a moderated discussion on leadership and a question-and-answer session about Fort Carson and the Army.

Soldiers in full battle gear provided information about protective clothing and the group received hands-on training on the Equipment Skills Trainer 2000, M4 carbine simulator, improvised explosive device awareness training and observed the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer. They also participated in basic classes on moving a casualty on the battlefield, manning an observation post, loading and clearing a weapon and firing the M240B machine gun.

The leaders visited Survivor Outreach Services where Braza was moved by the sacrifices that soldiers sometimes make for the love of their country.

"I found the Fallen Heroes Family Home to be very sobering; I just could not stop staring at the pictures of the soldiers with their wives and kids," he said. "I am grateful for all of those people who have made that sacrifice in service to their country."

[Chopra receives teacher educator award](#)[45]

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Ritu Chopra, executive director of the PAR2A Center and associate research professor at the University of Colorado Denver's School of Education and Human Development (SEHD), received the 2012 Colorado TED Excellence in Teacher Educator Award at the Courage to Risk Conference in Colorado Springs in January.

The Colorado TED Excellence in Teacher Educator Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated an exemplary commitment to one of the following: (a) teacher education in special education, (b) preparation of future leaders and/or quality educators, and (c) research supporting the preparation of teachers and/or delivery of services to children with disabilities, legislative leadership, and scholarly works.

Chopra received the recognition for being a local and national role model in the field of special education for aspiring educators. She accomplishes a magnitude of work preparing paraprofessionals, teachers and other educators to serve students with special needs. Her impressive scholarship includes funded grants and contracts, book chapters, refereed articles, technical reports, published conference proceedings and a multitude of invited and refereed presentations.

[Montgomery, Maloney to give presentation on compilation of human rights archive](#)[47]

Bruce Montgomery and **Yolanda Maloney** of University Libraries Archives and Special Collections at CU-Boulder will speak on "How the World's Largest El Salvador Human Rights Archive was Built" during an event Friday at the Gates Woodruff Cottage Library. The talk will describe their travels to gain access to the secret archives of the Archdiocese of San Salvador, founded by Oscar Romero before his 1980 assassination.

The event also features Michele Leiby, assistant professor of political science at the College of Wooster, Ohio, whose presentation is "Bad Apples or Bad Leaders: Explaining State Repression and Sexual Violence in El Salvador." Leiby's research is based on a comparison of data collected from two Salvadoran human rights organizations and housed in the UCB Archives. She identified the timing and locations of various forms of state violence and compiled a

demographic profile of the victims. This research, one of only two quantitatively oriented analyses of first-hand accounts of sexual violence during the civil war, demonstrates many of the limitations of data on wartime sexual violence and makes an important contribution to the academic literature on wartime sexual violence as well as to the historical record of violence in El Salvador.

Leiby will speak from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. today in IBS 155 (Institute of Behavioral Science, 1440 15th Street). From noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday in the Gates Woodruff Cottage Library, Leiby will participate in a panel discussion on "Unearthing the El Salvador Human Rights Archive." She will be joined by Asuncion Horno-Delgado of CU-Boulder Spanish and Portuguese, who will address using the archive for class projects. Montgomery and Maloney also will give their presentation.

The University Libraries El Salvador Archive holdings are from five Salvadorian nongovernmental agencies and include photos, films, and case studies of civil war atrocities, such as sexual violence, disappearances and extra-legal executions. The same materials were consulted during the United Nations investigation into the human rights crisis and provided evidence used by the U.N. Truth Commission as part of the El Salvador peace accords.

For more information visit <http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/news/ElSalvador.pdf>[48].

[Lapioli named Employee of the Quarter](#)[49]

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Whether calling pest control to get a raccoon out of the attic of a university-owned home or preparing items for the next CU Board of Regents meeting, **Debbie Lapioli's** attention to detail and gentle approach are traits worth recognizing.

So say Lapioli's co-workers who nominated the 18-year UCCS veteran as Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2013.

As executive assistant to Brian Burnett, vice chancellor, Administration and Finance, Lapioli is used to dealing with details. There are policies to be reviewed, websites to be updated, leases to be executed and details to be sweated before documents are sent to the Board of Regents. But her enthusiasm for tasks that aren't directly related to the higher-ups also drew praise.

"Debbie's organizational skills have proven to be vital during department moves," said Iryse Naro, executive assistant, and Lapioli's suite mate. Naro praised Lapioli's service on numerous staff council committees and volunteer work with various campus events such as commencement and convocation. But Lapioli doesn't quit at 5. She is active in her church and often visits those who are ill. During those visits, she often supplies family members holding hospital vigils with food baskets.

"It is very humbling to receive this award and actually makes me embarrassed to have public recognition," Lapioli said. "There are so many people who go above and beyond to complete extra tasks and serve others and it is truly an honor to be included in the employee of the quarter group."

Naro praised Lapioli's work with student employees. She encourages them to balance work and school and to maintain focus on their goals. Lapioli speaks from experience. In 2010, already a grandmother, Lapioli earned a bachelor's degree in communication, completing a process that began in the early 1970s.

"I've earned a Ph.D. in life," Lapioli said at the time. "But what I wanted was a B.A. in communication."

As a result of her Employee of the Quarter honors, Lapioli will receive one day administrative leave, a \$100 stipend, three months free, reserved campus parking and a certificate of recognition.

[Dropping names...](#)[51]

Thayer

Church

Jeff Thayer, professor, Aerospace Engineering Sciences Department and director of the Colorado Center for Astroynamics Research at CU-Boulder, recently served on a panel -- "Space Technology Policy: Exploring Options" -- in Washington, D.C. Co-hosted by the American Chemical Society's Science and Congress Project and the American Geophysical Union, the panel was moderated by Chris Chyba of Princeton University. The group discussed options geared to maximize economy-driving innovation, exploration, and achievement. ... **Sandy Wurtele**, professor in the Department of Psychology, UCCS, participated in USA Swimming's first Safe Sport Leadership Conference Jan. 27-29 in Colorado Springs. Wurtele presented "Preventing Sexual Exploitation of Minors in Youth-Serving Organizations" and served on a panel of experts discussing sexual abuse in sports. ... **Minette Church**, associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, UCCS, will present "Archaeologies of Parenting and Community on the Plains" at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum. Church's presentation will combine pictures, personal memoirs and artifacts recovered from a family homestead near the Purgatoire River in southeastern Colorado. Church found items such as building foundations and broken toys on the site that was occupied from the 1880s to 1903 by a ranching family with 11 children. Personal memoirs from the children included accounts of an oldest son who was herding cattle at age 6 to those of a younger daughter who described a Victorian-era upbringing. ... **Heather Johnson**, Ph.D., assistant professor for Math and Science at CU Denver's School of Education and Human Development, has been invited by the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction to present her refereed paper, "Designing Covariation Tasks to Support Students' Reasoning about Quantities involved in Rate of Change," at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom, July 22-26. The forum in Oxford is designed to promote reflection, collaboration, exchange and dissemination of ideas on the teaching and learning of mathematics, from primary to university level.

[In memoriam](#)[54]

Names of current and former University of Colorado faculty and staff who have died in recent weeks. List compiled by Payroll & Benefit Services.

CU-Boulder

Lucille Dreith, 94, classified staff retiree. Jan. 12, 2013. Myrle E. Hemenway, 96, emeritus retiree. Jan. 28, 2013. Helen Kohlmeier, 93, retiree. Jan. 28, 2013.

Anschutz Medical Campus

Nilsa Morales, 70, classified staff retiree. Feb. 3, 2013.

Links

[1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-initiative-linkedin-aims-boost-community-connections-across-cu>[2]

[https://connections.cu.edu/file/linkedinpng\[3\]](https://connections.cu.edu/file/linkedinpng[3]) [http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=91692\[4\]](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=91692[4])
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