

[Taking on stereotype threat in the classroom](#)[1]

Photo by Tom Hutton

Claude Steele, Ph.D., provided the keynote address at last week's CU Diversity Summit.

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Which sounds more daunting: completing an IQ test, or solving a puzzle? Most would say it's the former. And it's that kind of thinking that, indeed, causes more people to struggle with the IQ test rather than the puzzle – even if the test question and puzzle are identical problems.

That piece of research was among many illustrations shared by Claude Steele, Ph.D., during the University of Colorado's 2011 Diversity Summit. Titled "Elevating Learning Through Inclusive Teaching," the Feb. 4 event at Berger Hall on the University of Colorado Colorado Springs campus drew about 150 people from throughout the system, and featured a keynote address by Steele, provost of Columbia University and author of "Whistling Vivaldi: And Other Clues to How Stereotypes Affect Us" (2010, W.W. Norton and Co.).

A social psychologist, Steele's research has included examinations of why stereotype threat – when a negative stereotype about one's social identity is applicable to a situation – has an effect on academic performance, and how it can be changed.

For instance, he compared test scores in math for men and women; in one case, the women's scores ranked lower than the men's, apparently reflecting the stereotype about women being less capable than men at math and science. But when women about to take the same test were told, "This is a test where men and women perform equally," women's scores were virtually identical to men's. Similar research also showed leveling of otherwise disparate test scores between groups of ethnic minorities and whites.

There are ways to achieve similar results in everyday educating, Steele said. For instance, when giving feedback to members of groups affected by negative stereotypes of intellectual performance, "Make things challenging, but affirm their ability to meet these challenges." Constant, unconditional praise doesn't help, but telling someone that the work is difficult – and doable – does help.

Critical mass of ethnic minorities and women in an academic setting is crucial, too, Steele said. He spoke of Sandra Day O'Connor's great relief upon the arrival of Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the U.S. Supreme Court.

"A setting needs to have some sense of diversity, a sense that it's not bound to a single identity or minority group," Steele said.

He also stressed the need for role models and existence proofs – the highest profile example being President Obama. The more that minority students hear from others who succeeded in higher education, the more likely they are to succeed, too.

"Our students also need to hear that intellectual ability is something that's incremental," Steele said. "The brain can expand."

The summit – organized by Kee Warner, associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusiveness at UCCS – opened with welcoming remarks from CU President Bruce D. Benson and UCCS Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak. Presentations on diversity-related efforts were provided by representatives of all four campuses: Alphonse Keasley, CU-Boulder; Paritosh Kaul, Anschutz Medical Campus; Philip Joseph and Janet Lopez, CU Denver; and Abby Ferber, UCCS.

Ferber described how she's using distance-teaching technology – real-time, high-definition video feeds – to partner with an African-American instructor in Rhode Island to team-teach a course on race and ethnicity. This helps the classroom move toward the critical mass that Steele spoke of.

"We really need to start thinking of the new opportunities that technology provides us," Ferber said.

[Leaders in public affairs, social advocacy receive high honor from CU](#)[3]

David Braddock and Terry Schwartz

The University of Colorado has named two faculty members winners of the 2011 Thomas Jefferson Award, one of the highest honors given at the institution. The award recognizes faculty, staff and students who advance the ideals of the third U.S. president and a Founding Father whose legacy extends to the arts, sciences, education and public affairs.

This year's honorees are:

David Braddock, Ph.D., executive director of CU's Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities and psychiatry professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, whose work and service help people with disabilities.

Terry Schwartz, Ph.D., an associate dean and professor, whose commitment to public affairs led to the expansion of a school at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

To be considered for the award, nominees must demonstrate: a broad interest in literature, arts and sciences and public affairs; a strong concern for the advancement of higher education; a deeply seated sense of individual civic responsibility; and a profound commitment to the welfare and rights of the individual. Honorees must combine excellence in the performance of regular academic or work responsibilities with outstanding service to the broader community.

"The Thomas Jefferson Award winners are great ambassadors for our university. Their excellence in academics extends into communities throughout our state, where they partner with public and private entities to improve quality of life," said CU President Bruce D. Benson. "We have many high-quality people providing great service to Colorado, and these deserving honorees are great examples of that."

Braddock holds the Coleman-Turner Endowed Chair in Cognitive Disability as professor of psychiatry at the University of Colorado School of Medicine on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. He has been executive director of the Coleman Institute since 2001, when the institute was established by a gift from founding donors Bill and Claudia Coleman. The institute's mission is to catalyze and integrate advances in science, engineering and technology to improve the quality of life and independent living for people with cognitive disabilities.

"David is a freedom fighter, much like Jefferson was, in establishing the rights of people with cognitive disabilities," wrote Enid M. Ablowitz, associate director of the Coleman Institute, in her nominating letter. "For over 40 years, David has contributed to cognitive disability research in public health and social policy."

For decades, Braddock's reports on "The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities" have been used by every state in the nation, forming the basis for understanding public financing of services to people with developmental disabilities and their families. He hosts the nationally acclaimed Coleman Institute's Annual Conferences on Cognitive Disabilities and Technology, and also serves on the executive committee of the International Special Olympics.

As associate dean at UCCS, Schwartz leads the institution's School of Public Affairs. Strictly a graduate school in the past, its mission expanded once Schwartz accomplished the development and approval of an undergraduate program in criminal justice.

"Throughout this process, Professor Schwartz has continued her zeal and commitment to teaching," wrote James A. Null, Ph.D., professor and chair of the UCCS political science department. "She offers classes and serves as both

professor and adviser to her students."

Schwartz also sponsors an annual leadership training event for the public sector, attracting up to 150 enrollees from the Colorado Springs area, and is active in the arts community. "Even with all of these activities she still finds time to be a scholar and publishes her writing," wrote Null, noting Schwartz's works on science, health in the public sector, public policy and public opinion.

A committee composed of CU faculty, staff and students from all four campuses selects award winners. Recipients receive an engraved plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium, and are recognized formally by the CU Board of Regents. The regents and President Benson are expected to recognize this year's award recipients at the Feb. 22-23 board meeting.

The Thomas Jefferson Award was established at the University of Virginia in 1951 by the Robert Earll McConnell Foundation to honor teaching faculty who exemplified the humanistic ideals associated with Jefferson. By 1962, six other institutions had established a Jefferson Award, including CU. In 1980, the university added a student category; in 1988, the staff category was approved. Funding for the awards is derived from earnings on an endowment provided by the McConnell Foundation and from a bequest by Harrison Blair, a CU alumnus.

[Staff Council hears details on possible changes to tuition benefit](#)[5]

Tuition benefit changes are being examined at the University of Colorado in order to make the program more user-friendly and competitive with other similar institutions around the nation.

Changes currently being considered include increasing the tuition waiver hours or providing discounted tuition to eligible employees and dependants, said E. Jill Pollock, chief human resources officer and senior associate vice president. She spoke to members of the University of Colorado Staff Council at their Feb. 3 meeting.

A report prepared by Aon Hewitt compared university benefits for exempt employees with those offered at 27 other higher education institutions.

The study found the university was not competitive in a number of areas, including tuition benefits. CU currently offers waivers of nine credit hours per year. A two-year pilot program offering dependant benefits recently was completed at the Colorado Springs campus. Another challenge associated with the current program is that participants using waivers are allowed in a class on a space-available basis, severely restricting degree-seeking students.

The university currently is analyzing several models to determine what changes or combination of changes would improve the program. Some suggestions include increasing tuition waiver hours to 12 hours from the current nine, allowing dependants to use the benefits, and offering discounted tuition – as much as 50 percent to eligible employees and their families.

Pollock hopes the university can roll out the revamped benefit by July 1.

"It's the one differentiator a university can have among all the benefits," Pollock said. "When I was at Ford, I got cool car discounts. Makes sense because they want you to drive their product. Similarly, here we are in a learning environment. Shouldn't we have our own employees and family members have a special relationship with the campuses?"

She said overly restrictive state rules prohibited the university from making changes, but the passage last year of the Higher Education Flexibility law now allows a re-examination of policy.

The report also found that life insurance and disability benefits offered by the university were not competitive. Currently,

the university offers a fixed \$50,000 university-paid life insurance benefit while other institutions offer a higher fixed number or a "1x salary" benefit. Disability pay also is less than most surveyed institutions. Pollock said the university is working with Standard, the present vendor, to negotiate better deals in those areas.

Pollock also offered data showing the number of classified and exempt employees on all university campuses. Over the past three years, beginning in 2008, she said, the "relative distribution of classified and exempt employees is virtually the same. Overall the university has fewer employees, but the mix hasn't changed that much."

Staff Council Co-chair Lori Krug had asked for the data because the Board of Regents may soon be discussing budget cuts. Earlier, an across-the-board reduction of pay of 2 percent had been raised as a partial solution to deficits.

A 2 percent cut "may have a much stronger impact than they think it will, so this is one of the tools I was hoping to use to illustrate that. I also want to make sure they understand the staffing level changes," she said. "The university has in fact made its contribution to the budget process. We have reduced a number of positions and in some cases laid off people because we had to."

Some Board of Regents members have implied that "we don't have enough skin in the game" she said. "I would challenge that."

In other matters:

Krug showed members the new staff council [web page](#)[6] and a discussion followed concerning a blog and comments and how those will be used and monitored. Council will call for nominations for the 2011 Service Excellence Awards that will be presented April 15 during the All Staff Council Conference in Denver. Deadline for nominations is March 1. Geoff Barsch, assistant vice president for budget and finance, presented an update on the upcoming budget discussions in the Colorado Legislature. Barsch said revenue forecasts are stable but because of the split leadership, different opinions on how to set the budget have ensued, causing an element of uncertainty. One idea, for instance, would secure a 4 percent reserve, meaning legislators and Gov. John Hickenlooper would be required to trim the budget by an additional \$140 million.

[University's mainframe computer facing retirement](#)[7]

The machine that handled most data for the University of Colorado system office for nearly a half-century is ending its run.

The arrival of CU's mainframe computer in the early '60s signaled the dawn of the information technology age. But as new systems and applications have come into use in recent years, there no longer is justification for the cost of licensing and maintaining the central computer, which is scheduled to be shut down June 30.

"Right now, the mainframe is about the size of a large dorm fridge. At one point, it had grown to the size of about three big refrigerators," said Terry Vaughan, analyst with University Information Systems (UIS) and manager of the mainframe decommissioning project. "The thing probably weighed 1,500 pounds. I can remember helping to move it in the late '80s – it was like moving a small car."

The old Student Information System is the last application to be migrated off the mainframe, which is at the Pearl East Circle facility in Boulder. After June, any data now stored on the mainframe will not be accessible on the mainframe storage device, and processes no longer will be run on the computer.

Anyone who works with processes that depend on UIS, but is unsure which computer platform the processes are run on, should contact Terry.Vaughan@cusys.edu[8]. Vaughan said UIS personnel are especially concerned with determining processes that are run without great frequency – those completed only once or a few times a year – and which employees may not realize are reliant on the mainframe.

Before being completely shut down at the end of June, the mainframe will go dark for part of April as a way of determining unknown effects the eventual shutdown might trigger throughout the system.

[Work of Boulder art faculty showcased at new museum](#)^[9]

Image courtesy of the artist. (c) Melanie Walker

Melanie Walker's "Pieces of the Sky" (2011), a mixed-media installation, is part of the Faculty Art Exhibition at the CU Art Museum on the Boulder campus.

Image courtesy of the artist. (c) Melanie Walker
Melanie Walker's "Pieces of the Sky" (2011), a mixed-media installation, is part of the Faculty Art Exhibition at the CU Art Museum on the Boulder campus.

By Kristen Chapman

The University of Colorado Boulder Art Museum is hosting the largest faculty art exhibition in CU history. Covering more than 6,000 square feet, [the show features 22 works](#)^[11], each by a different member of the departments of art and art history.

"This exhibition allows the campus and broader community an opportunity to experience and enjoy the dynamic artistic accomplishments of a faculty that comprises one of the largest art programs in the West," said Lisa Tamiris Becker, director of the museum. "It highlights the breadth and range of conceptual and aesthetic approaches practiced in our art and art history departments."

The works of art encompass a wide variety of media, making use of digital print, media installations, sculpture, paint and ceramics. The exhibit continues through March 11.

IF YOU GO...CU-Boulder Faculty Art Exhibition

When: Through March 11

Where: CU Art Museum, CU-Boulder, 1085 18th St.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday

Cost: Free; optional suggested donation of \$5

[Website](#)^[12]

This is the first faculty exhibition since 2007. Because two-thirds of exhibit visitors are students, the production is purposely timed for once every four years. The tradition began by displaying pieces of art along hallways in buildings throughout the campus, eventually growing into the current central show.

It's the first faculty show in the new Visual Arts Complex, which opened in September. Another first: Art Director Lisa Becker met individually with artists to oversee the installation of each piece. Becker aimed to highlight the importance of the artists within the community.

"Many of the works in the exhibition were created especially for this exhibition or are premiering in the exhibition," Becker said. "Other works may have been exhibited elsewhere, but did not receive extensive exposure in our area and thus are being presented in the exhibition to a new audience."

Among the highlights is [Albert Chong's "Throne for the Third Millennium."](#)[13] an interactive installation inviting visitors to take a seat; they're surprised by the flapping of large mechanical wings attached to the chair.

Said Becker, "The artist was interested in the idea that there is a human desire for everyone to experience the sense of elevation that, in colonial times, would only be bestowed upon certain groups of people."

[Jeanne Quinn's "A Thousand Tiny Deaths"](#)[14] is a ceramic display in which black porcelain elements are suspended from the ceiling by inflated balloons. Once the balloons are no longer able to support the structure, the ceramic vase falls to the floor and shatters.

"The piece references the fragility of the human experience and the fragility of life itself," Becker said.

The CU Art Museum was founded in 1939 when the university established a permanent collection.

[CU-Boulder names four finalists for Law School dean](#)[15]

Gregory Hicks

Lawrence Mitchell

Margaret Raymond

Philip Weiser

Four finalists have been named for the position of dean at the University of Colorado Boulder Law School, according to Jim Williams, dean of the University Libraries and chair of the search committee.

Finalists for the position are: Gregory Hicks, professor of law and former interim dean, University of Washington School of Law; Lawrence Mitchell, Theodore Rinehart Professor of Business Law and executive director of the Center for Law, Economics and Finance, George Washington University Law School; Margaret Raymond, William G. Hammond Professor of Law, University of Iowa College of Law; and Philip Weiser, senior adviser for technology and innovation to the National Economic Council Director and professor of law, University of Colorado Law School.

Open forums with all four finalists will be in the Wolf Law Building during campus visits in February and March. The post is expected to be filled by July 1.

Weiser is scheduled for on-campus interviews Feb. 13-15 with an open forum at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 14, in the Wittemyer Courtroom. Weiser has been a professor of law and telecommunications at CU-Boulder since 2006. He founded the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology and Entrepreneurship and currently serves as co-chair of the Colorado Innovation Council. He received his law degree from the New York University School of Law and his bachelor's from Swarthmore College.

Hicks will be on campus for a visit Feb. 20-22; an open forum will be at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 21, in the Wittemyer Courtroom. Hicks joined the University of Washington law school faculty in 1984 and teaches courses in property and

water law, and public land and natural resources law. Before going to the University of Washington, he worked for four years with the Seattle firm of Perkins, Coie, Stone, Olsen and Williams. Hicks received his law degree from the University of Texas and his bachelor's from Yale University.

Raymond is visiting Feb. 23-25, with an open forum at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, in the Wittemyer Courtroom. Raymond joined the faculty of the University of Iowa College of Law in 1995 and previously served as a law clerk to the late Justice Thurgood Marshall of the Supreme Court of the United States and Judge James L. Oakes of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She received her law degree from Columbia University School of Law and her bachelor's from Carleton College.

Mitchell will be on campus March 2-4 and an open forum will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 3, in Wolf Law room 207. Mitchell, who has been at George Washington Law School since 1991, is the Theodore Rinehart Professor of Business Law and is interested in corporate law and finance, jurisprudence and history. He is founder and executive director of the Center for Law, Economics and Finance and founding director or co-director of a number of other programs and centers. He received his law degree from Columbia University and his bachelor's from Williams College.

David Getches, current dean of Colorado Law, will complete his eighth year in that position in June. Getches announced his resignation last summer, citing his eagerness to resume teaching and research. He will remain at CU-Boulder as a law professor.

[Five questions for Dennis Roop](#)[20]

Dennis Roop

This year, the School of Medicine created the Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology. The center draws on expertise from a variety of collaborative partners. Dennis Roop, Ph.D., directs the center, along with a staff of 26. He is a professor of dermatology and prior to coming to the University of Colorado School of Medicine was a professor of molecular and cellular biology at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

At the press conference announcing his arrival at CU in August 2006, he says, he stood up and said we want to make this a world-class stem cell center.

"In a way, it was like going into a boxing ring with one arm tied behind you," he says. "We really didn't want to start the program on a negative note by focusing on embryonic stem cells, which are controversial in some quarters."

Instead, Roop tried to focus on adult stem cells. But several things happened that nobody anticipated. One was the ability to reprogram adult somatic cells back into a cell that looks like an embryonic stem cell. That, he says, changed the playing field tremendously, so the center could compete with institutions on the East and West coasts.

There were other challenges. When he walked in the door, he found 10,000 square feet of empty space. No equipment. No personnel. But he felt the potential.

"It's almost like I felt the frontier of science had moved," he says. "It was no longer in Houston, but Colorado."

— Dan Meyers

1. What happened that was unanticipated?

I found there were some unbelievably talented young people here who had cutting-edge technology, which they had

used to accomplish things that investigators at Harvard and Stanford had not. We have one researcher, Yosef Refaeli, who's started a biotech company that just got a grant of about \$1.6 million to work on universal donor blood stem cells. Imagine the implications of being able to generate blood!

2. You're already working with a number of other institutions, including the University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado State University, University of Colorado Hospital, Denver Veterans Administration Medical Center, National Jewish Health, The Children's Hospital and other branches of Anschutz Medical Campus. The program's growing fast. More than 60 new employees since January 2007, about \$50 million in funding received or pending. What's next?

We will have a new fundraising campaign that will help develop a new core facility, maybe two. One of them will reprogram cells for other investigators. This would allow them to do state-of-the-art things without having to develop the expertise themselves. We'll also have funds that members of the center can vie for on a competitive basis. It's a way to build teams that can rapidly be competitive for much larger amounts of (outside) money.

We're also collaborating with Dr. William Hiatt and the CPC (Colorado Prevention Center) on clinical trials. This is a perfect marriage. The criticism when I first came here was that any clinical application of stem cells was still 15 to 20 years away. That's simply not true. Bill Hiatt is already doing stem cell-based clinical trials now for patients who have peripheral artery disease or blocked arteries. And already the clinical practice of treating cancer patients is benefitting from basic research on cancer stem cells.

3. You and Dr. Antonio Jimeno recently announced clinical trials to try to fight various kinds of cancer by going after cancer stem cells. How significant is that?

All you have to do is talk to some of Antonio's patients, who basically were told, "Go home and prepare to meet your Maker." They went to see Antonio and, even though they had metastatic lesions all over, some of those patients a year later are in complete remission. There's always the possibility that the tumors will recur but at least you've added a year of life, maybe many years. And unlike conventional therapies that really kill everything, a scorched-earth policy, we hope the new therapies will just target the cancer stem cells.

4. The Los Angeles Times reported in June that despite \$1 billion spent on stem cell research in California, there have been no big breakthroughs. Has stem cell therapy been oversold?

You want to give patients hope but don't overpromise. It's a fine line. One of the most sobering experiences I had, not being a clinician, was when we first started working on inherited skin-blistering diseases. I went to some of the meetings of the foundations that support this research, where the patients attend. Parents are there with their little kid and saying, "How soon can you fix little Johnny?" I think all scientists should have that experience. You'll never look at your research efforts in the same light again. You'll see the faces of those kids and those parents and you'll be very careful not to overpromise.

5. What draws you to this research?

To see the potential, to see how fast and how far we've come. There's nothing like getting up in the morning and being excited about going to work because you realize we've barely scratched the surface.

Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[22]

[Conference examining how students learn](#)[23]

Learning is set for March 4 on the Anschutz Medical Campus. How students learn and what that means for faculty members will be the topic of the event, planned for all CU faculty.

Educators from throughout the university system will present sessions to advance the discussion of the way students learn in the classroom and how professors may capitalize on those methods.

Examples of sessions include "On Incivility and Digital Distraction: Collaborative Social Contracts for Building a Better Classroom Community," "Student Learning, Neurons and Surprise Reward" and "How to Do the Impossible: Teaching and Learning in a Lecture."

Mary Ann Shea, PTSP director, and Provost Roderick Nairn, University of Colorado Denver, will open the one-day [conference](#)[24] with a welcome.

Established in 1989 as a presidential initiative, [PTSP](#)[25] endorses excellence in teaching by honoring faculty throughout the university who excel in teaching, scholarship and research.

[Registration](#)[26] for the event, scheduled for 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., is free and includes all sessions, refreshments and lunch, at the medical campus, Research 2 Building, P15-2100, Trivisible Room.

Space is limited to 110 attendees. Online registration must be completed by Feb. 25. For the conference program and registration please visit: http://www.colorado.edu/ptsp/announcements/2011_spring_conference.html[27].

[What matters? Conference on World Affairs will talk it over](#)[28]

The 63rd Annual Conference on World Affairs is set for April 4-8 on the University of Colorado Boulder campus.

The theme of this year's conference is "What Matters." Said CWA Director Jim Palmer, "Given the distractions of modern life and the tsunami of information we're bombarded with daily, it is easy to forget to ask the fundamental questions, the questions of value. That is why our theme, 'What Matters,' matters."

That theme also will serve as the title of this year's keynote address, to be delivered by Elizabeth Coleman, president of Bennington College in Vermont. Coleman, one of the country's leading innovators in higher education, guided Bennington College through a successful, major restructuring in 1994. Under her leadership, the college has experienced record fiscal health and launched new pioneering curricular programs including the ambitious Center for the Advancement of Public Action, which encourages students to put the world's most pressing problems at the center of their education. Coleman also serves on the boards of the European College of Liberal Arts, the Neurosciences Institute and the National Association of Independent Schools.

Coleman's talk will open the CWA at 11:30 a.m. April 4 in Macky Auditorium.

The Conference on World Affairs' opening keynote procession and address is a time-honored tradition in Boulder. Past keynote speakers include Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry Kissinger, Arthur Miller, Charles Krauthammer and Richard Rodriguez. Each year on the Monday morning of CWA week, the keynote speaker leads a procession of university administrators, CWA participants, students and volunteers into Macky, along a sidewalk lined by a brilliant display of international flags.

All Conference on World Affairs sessions are free and open to the public, making the CWA the largest, most accessible event of its kind in the country. Last year's attendance was 92,176 at nearly 200 sessions over five days.

A biographical listing of participants confirmed to date is now online at www.colorado.edu/cwa[29]; the full CWA schedule will be posted by the third week of March.

[Chef, dietitian serving nutrition tips at UMC](#)[30]

The University Memorial Center Executive Chef Dean Couchey and the Clinical Translational Research Center's (CTRC) Dietitian Kathleen Farrell are presenting a series of free drop-in workshops on how our food choices affect health and fitness.

CU students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the workshops to learn easy tips about healthy eating and to taste a variety of samples from Couchey that demonstrate how to prepare healthy foods with great taste.

"Eating healthy is easier than ever now," Couchey said. "With so many healthy choices available in restaurants and grocery stores, there is no excuse not to eat healthier."

The workshops will be on the last Tuesday of the month through April, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Alferd Packer Restaurant and Grill, first floor UMC. Lunchtime customers and visitors are encouraged to stop by to learn healthy tips and try some samples.

At the series debut Jan. 26, Farrell discussed ways to include color-rich foods in everyday meals, while Couchey provided colorful samples to taste: brilliant Yellow Pepper Soup, whole wheat pasta with rich red UMC Spicy Marinara Sauce, steamed green beans that retained their fresh color, Blueberry Oatmeal Crisp and Quinoa Salad.

Workshops in February, March and April will include the topics "Are you in need of an oil change?" pointing out the difference between saturated, unsaturated, trans and omega 3 fats; tips for following a gluten-free diet; and a look at popular sports drinks.

Executive Chef Dean Couchey's recipe for colorful Yellow Pepper Soup:

4 Yellow Peppers, cored and seeds removed (can use any type of sweet bell pepper, e.g. red, yellow, orange, purple)
1 Idaho potato, diced (skin removed)
1 can vegetable or low-sodium chicken stock
1 clove garlic
White pepper (Black pepper works, too, just use less)
Salt (if needed)

Simmer peppers and garlic in stock until tender, about 30 minutes. Use blender to puree, return to pot, add in diced potatoes and simmer for another 20 to 30 minutes, or until the potatoes are fork tender. Puree the soup again in the blender until the soup is smooth. Add in white pepper and adjust with stock until you find the right consistency. After you get the soup to the correct consistency, taste and adjust flavors with salt and pepper. If you would like, add 1 tablespoon of cream to the soup.

[Campus posts 3 percent enrollment growth](#)[31]

Spring 2011 student enrollment increased by more than 3 percent from a year ago, according to figures recently released by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Success and Enrollment Management.

Homer Wesley, vice chancellor for Student Success and Enrollment Management, said 8,459 students enrolled for the spring 2011 semester, an increase of 277 students – or 3.4 percent – over the 8,182 spring 2010 enrollment figure.

Student credit hours – the number of students on campus and the courses in which they are enrolled – also increased. For spring 2011, students enrolled in 97,313 credit hours, an increase of 1,757 credit hours or 1.8 percent over spring 2010's record enrollment of 95,556 credit hours.

"These totals reflect the hard work of faculty and staff to spread the word that UCCS offers an excellent educational value to the people of the Pikes Peak Region," Wesley said. "I am appreciative and ask for the continued diligence of the campus to ensure students have an exceptional educational experience when they enroll here."

The colleges of business, engineering, letters, arts and sciences, and public affairs posted enrollment increases this spring. College deans will receive detailed enrollment reports this week, Wesley said.

And while pleased about the results of spring enrollment, Wesley is doubling efforts for fall 2011, launching an initiative that will concentrate on encouraging students admitted to UCCS to take steps to enroll.

"We know many students today apply to several schools," Wesley said. "Now that we have their application, we want to do our best to convince them that this is the right place for them."

In addition to multiple post cards and e-mails, as well as radio, newspaper and television advertising, Wesley said phone calls will be used to contact admitted students to answer questions about UCCS or to arrange for a campus tour.

"The data shows that once we get students to physically visit campus, the chances of them enrolling are dramatically higher," Wesley said. "I'm appreciative of everyone doing what he or she can to make campus tours pleasant experiences."

To assist with student recruitment efforts, including tours or campus experience days, contact the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Success, 719-255-3582.

[Gift from Walmart to help greening of Colorado communities](#)^[32]

Communities across Colorado are going green, thanks to the Colorado Municipal League (CML) and a second generous gift from the Walmart Foundation to the University of Colorado Denver.

The [University of Colorado Denver](#)^[33] [Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Systems](#)^[34] (CSIS) plans to expand its community outreach program to help Colorado's smaller towns and cities understand their energy use and prioritize sustainability actions for their future. The focus is on developing green, efficient and renewable energy infrastructures in communities that bring economic and social benefits. The second \$30,000 Walmart gift will help offset the costs of conducting the sustainable infrastructure reviews in Colorado communities. The CML is assisting in connecting these communities with CU Denver.

"Sustainable energy and infrastructure planning can help save money, protect the environment, and build vibrant communities across Colorado," said Anu Ramaswami, Ph.D., professor of Environmental and Sustainability Engineering at CU Denver and director of CSIS. "It is often difficult for a community to know how to get started on developing a sustainability plan; this grant is helping us to conduct outreach so we can help Colorado communities become leaders in sustainability."

The outreach program offers communitywide energy analysis, carbon footprint measurement and sustainable energy benchmarks for individual communities along with future scenario models and customized sustainable infrastructure action matrixes. The carbon footprint baseline helps measure and benchmark how much energy is consumed in

various essential sectors such as buildings, industry, transportation, waste management, water treatment, food production and infrastructure materials. The benchmarks allow communities to track progress in energy efficiency, conservation, and use of renewables, while the scenario models allow communities to envision their future with and without sustainable actions. The action matrixes give a variety of options for each community to consider, taking into account public participation, cost, long-term monetary savings and long-term energy savings.

"We are pleased to partner across private industry, government and the nonprofit arena to support Colorado's small and rural communities as they work to create more sustainable infrastructures for their citizens," said CU Denver Chancellor Jerry Wartgow.

This work builds upon the university's research and outreach in sustainable urban infrastructure conducted over the past five years in partnership with other Colorado cities including Denver, Broomfield, Arvada, Aurora, Central City and Durango, and the previous round of communities, Golden, Dillon, Fowler, Eagle and Steamboat Springs/Routt County.

The Walmart Foundation is renewing its support for this program, which already received great reviews in its initial offering in 2010. Feedback from six cities participating last year revealed great benefits to communities. A spokesperson for the town of Eagle said, "The project opened the Town Board, staff, and community's eyes. It showed people that it is not hard to make changes, and the payoffs, both environmental and monetary, can be substantial."

"Walmart is very proud to be partnering with the CML, CU Denver, CSIS and these towns," said Joshua Phair, senior manager of Public Affairs and Government Relations for Walmart Stores Inc. "Our hope is that this program brings cutting-edge knowledge to all corners of the state to help make Colorado's communities more sustainable."

Five diverse Colorado communities are scheduled to work with CSIS and the university's sustainable infrastructure program in 2011: Vail, Montrose, Lakewood, Eagle County (represented by Valley Home Store Program), and Ouray and San Miguel counties (represented by the New Community Coalition).

The mission of CSIS is to link innovative technologies and infrastructures of the future with people in communities. CSIS research has been funded by prestigious grants like GAANN and IGERT. Partnering with CML and Walmart brings that knowledge to practical use in Colorado communities.

"This program is an excellent example of how public and private entities can work together towards sustainability," said Sam Mamet, executive director of the CML. "I am amazed at the diversity of the communities involved from rural to urban communities. This program can be used as a model for the nation."

[University of Colorado Hospital getting 'Healthy for Good'\[35\]](#)

If the line of tables and the crowd in a conference room in the AIP late last month was any indication, the hospital and its staff seem to have gotten serious about this get-healthy kick. The occasion was the second annual "Healthy for Good" event, staged Jan. 20. The program launched more than a year ago to give employees more opportunities to maintain or improve their physical and emotional health.

The idea is that healthy employees are more satisfied, engaged and productive. And a healthier work force also could mean lower health care costs for the hospital, which is responsible for paying employees' medical claims.

Departments from around the hospital – including Employee Health and Wellness; the Center for Dependency, Addiction and Rehabilitation (CeDAR); Neurosurgery; Oncology; the Center for Integrative Medicine; Rehabilitation Medicine and many more – provided information and answered questions about a variety of health- and wellness-oriented topics.

The day also featured a talk from James O. Hill, Ph.D., executive director of the University of Colorado's new Health and Wellness Center, which broke ground on the corner of Quentin and Montview last September. The center, devoted to preventing disease through research, clinical programs, education and community outreach, is scheduled to open early in 2012.

"It's not just a building; it's a program," Hill told the audience. He sketched his broad vision for the center, which he described as helping people take control of their own health through a variety of weight-management, exercise and nutrition programs. Hill, who also heads the University of Colorado's Center for Human Nutrition, said it's an idea he's been talking about for 15 or 20 years.

"There is a huge need for something like this at a major medical school," he said. "We want to be the first one to really get serious about lifestyle and keeping people out of the doctor's office."

He noted the importance of emphasizing wellness in the workplace.

"We need to start with our own employees," he said. "Otherwise, what credibility do we have to talk to others nationally (about the importance of wellness)?"

The center, which will include the Center for Integrative Medicine, is a work in progress, Hill said. But he said the four-story building will likely include a therapy pool, fitness center, nutrition labs and clinical space.

Â "But we're open to all good ideas," he added. "We want health and wellness to be the heart and the soul of this campus."

Meanwhile, Employee Health and Wellness quietly unveiled new equipment in the employee exercise room on the first floor of the Critical Care Wing the same day as the Healthy for Good gathering. The refurbished room, which is free to employees and open around the clock, now has two new treadmills and weight-lifting equipment.

[CU-Boulder Parent Leadership Society members raise bar for giving](#)[36]

The University of Colorado Boulder's Parent Leadership Society (PLS), which formed in fall 2010, already is seeing great success, and has far exceeded initial projections for participation.

The group (a subset of the Parent Fund that raises more than \$500,000 annually for CU-Boulder student-focused programs) has become a valuable forum for parents to connect with and advocate for the university, and to gain private support for projects such as an after-hours counseling support line and the new Center for Community that houses numerous student support services. Parents qualify as PLS members with a minimum annual gift of \$2,500 or higher.

The PLS recently appointed its first board chair, Todd Rulon-Miller, a California parent of twin CU-Boulder students.

"Over 70 parents have stepped up to join this generous group of parents â€” our goal was 50 new members by the end of the school year," Rulon-Miller said. "I am encouraged by the positive response, and my goal is to grow this number to at least 150 parents who are as passionate as I am in supporting CU-Boulder."

Less than two-thirds of the way through the fiscal year, Parent Fund contributions have nearly equaled the total for the 2009-10 year. This encouraging parent participation comes at a vital moment for support for the University of Colorado as it aims to enhance value and services in a time of increasing financial need.

For more information on the Parent Fund and the Parent Leadership Society, go to parents.colorado.edu/parentfund[37], call 303-492-3440 or e-mail parents@cufund.org[38].

[CU licensee acquired by Alexion Pharma in buyout](#)[39]

Taligen Therapeutics, a licensee of the University of Colorado, was acquired recently by Cheshire, Conn.-based [Alexion Pharmaceuticals](#)[40] for \$111 million and contingent payments. Taligen, headquartered in Cambridge, Mass., has been focused on the discovery and development of novel protein therapeutics.

Taligen's portfolio includes monoclonal antibodies and recombinant fusion proteins that target key factors in the alternative pathway of the complement system, which Taligen's founders – including CU Professor [V. Michael Holers, M.D.](#)[41], of the University of Colorado School of Medicine – have validated as an important amplification loop in the inflammation process. Former Taligen CEO Abbie Celniker, Ph.D., will head up Alexion's new Translational Medicine Group, which will accelerate development of Taligen's pre-clinical product candidates.

Taligen was founded in March 2004 and was a recipient of CU's first round of proof-of-concept investments in 2005. In 2008, Taligen received the University of Colorado Technology Transfer Office bioscience company of the year award. The company's most recent funding was a Series B funding round lead by Clarus Ventures, Alta Partners, Sanderling Ventures and Colorado-based High Country Venture.

[Pediatrics professor named to head global health effort](#)[42]

Stephen Berman, M.D., professor of pediatrics at The University of Colorado School of Medicine and endowed chair holder in general pediatrics at The Children's Hospital, has been named director of the [Center for Global Health](#)[43] at the [Colorado School of Public Health](#)[44] and medical adviser for the Global Health Institute at The Children's Hospital.

"The Center for Global Health with the Global Health Institute has an opportunity to make a major contribution to improving the health and welfare of the world's poorest populations and become one of the world's leading global health programs," Berman said.

While the center will maintain its current programs, Berman will develop several new initiatives that focus on family and child health. These will include developing and testing new interventions to reduce maternal, neonatal and child mortality rates in some of the poorest areas of the world and promote health and wellness through economic development, nutrition programs and child development interventions. The center is applying to become a World Health Organization Collaborating Center in order to have a greater worldwide impact in these areas.

According to Berman, "having the support of one of the finest children's hospitals in the world will be extremely beneficial to our initiatives."

"By working collaboratively we will address the need to promote sustainable economic development in the poorest areas of the world in ways that will provide opportunities for families to improve their economic conditions, provide educational opportunities to their children, and reduce excessive maternal and child mortality."

The planned Global Health Institute at Children's will complement these programs. The institute will streamline processes by becoming the centralized point of contact at Children's to support international activities. Activities include partnering with one or more organizations to build capacity within identified international communities and deliver ongoing clinical services such as continuing consultative support, training and education. Support also will be given to the evacuation of children in need, either because of a natural disaster or individual need basis.

The center also recruited **Eric Simoes**, M.D., and **Susan Niermeyer**, M.D., who join Berman in developing the new initiative. Berman follows **Calvin Wilson**, M.D., who stepped down as center director in 2010.

Berman is a practicing primary care pediatrician and has held many prestigious positions in the world of pediatrics including consultant to the World Health Organization and Pan American Health Organization on Control of Acute Respiratory Infections; national chairman of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Health Financing; director of health policy and state medically indigent programs at the University of Colorado; and president of Colorado Bright Beginnings. From 2000 to 2001, Berman was president of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

[Professor appointed to national board by President Obama](#)[45]

Kris D. Gutiérrez, a professor of literacy and learning sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder's School of Education, recently was appointed by President Obama to serve on the [National Board for Education Sciences](#)[46]. The NBES approves the research priorities and evaluates the work of the U.S. Department of Education's [Institute of Education Sciences](#)[47].

Gutiérrez's term is through 2012 with the possibility of reappointment.

Gutiérrez, who holds the Inaugural Provost's Chair at CU, also currently is president of the American Educational Research Association and a member of the National Academy of Education. She received her Ph.D. from CU.

[University of Colorado Hospital names winners of Presidents Award](#)[48]

The University of Colorado Hospital's Presidents Award winners for the first trimester of 2011 have been announced in six categories. Winners are:

[flagallery gid=10 name="Gallery"]

Outstanding Service: Nancy Gavi, R.N., BSN

World Class Care: Connie Chambers, R.N., Nurse Informatics Specialist; Carol Ruscin, R.N., Senior Quality Improvement Specialist; Holly Saratella, Database Analyst; Jamie LeLazar, Clinical Data Analyst; Cindy Chichirico, Medical Record Abstractor; Regina Green, Quality Improvement Assistant

Working Together: Cardiac Cath Lab and CVC Pre/Post Unit Team

CVC pre-post 3190 - Sally Glatfelter, Clinical Nurse; Kathy Gregorich, Clinical Nurse; Marjorie Heaman, Clinical Nurse; Ellen Hjort, Clinical Nurse; Addie Johnson, Clinical Nurse; Nina Johnson, Clinical Nurse; Sara Arias, Clinical Nurse; Ava Widicker, Clinical Nurse; Laura Ortiz, Clinical Nurse; Bev Page, Clinical Nurse; Elsa Schroeder, Clinical Nurse; Barb Strain, Clinical Nurse; Caroline Rocker, Clinical Nurse
Cath Lab 3450 - Jessica Kus, Clinical Nurse; Kelly Hrovat, Clinical Nurse; Carl Jukes, Clinical Nurse; Peggy Kuhn, Clinical Nurse; Marie Maguire, Clinical Nurse; Lindsay McDonough, Clinical Nurse; Michael Panagos, Clinical Nurse; Carrie Parkinson, Clinical Nurse; Jennifer Phillips, Clinical Nurse; Donna Prince, Clinical Nurse; Fred Trendler, Clinical Nurse; Kory Foa, Clinical Nurse; Dr. John Messenger, Director, Cath Lab; Dr. Ivan Casserly, Assistant Professor, Cath Lab

Patient and Family Centered Care: Kathy Quintana, R.N., Charge Nurse, 4 Neonatal Care (NICU); Theresa Lubben, R.N., Clinical Nurse II, 4 Neonatal Care (NICU)

Rock Solid Economics: Deb Devine, Director, Patient Services; Mame Fuhrman, Director, Human Resources; Joanne DelMonte, Grad Nurse Residency Coordinator; Chris Hazelton, R.N.-BC, Clinical Nurse Educator; Jamie LeLazar, Clinical Data Analyst; Jennifer Heineman, Human Resources Generalist; Erica Velasquez, Human Resources Recruiter; Community Service: Yvonne Small, R.N., 4 North Neonatal Care (NICU); Louann Stout, R.N., 4 North Neonatal Care (NICU)

To find out more about the award recipients, visit <http://www3.uch.edu/uchinsider/Presidents%20Awards%20Feb2011.pdf>[49]

[CU Denver professor earns award for advancing women in academia](#)[50]

Laura Borgelt, an associate professor at the University of Colorado Denver in the departments of clinical pharmacy and family medicine, is the winner of the 2011 Elizabeth D. Gee Memorial Lectureship Award, which honors teaching, scholarship and interdisciplinary collaboration that advances women in higher education.

Borgelt will receive the award at the 2011 CU Women Succeeding Symposium at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs on Feb. 25. She will receive a \$1,000 honorarium and present her scholarly work during the symposium in a presentation titled "The Key to Academic Success is..."

The CU Faculty Council's Women's Committee confers the award annually in recognition of women faculty members whose records reflect significant, original and interdisciplinary work, teaching excellence, and a strong commitment toward advancing women in the academic community. Begun in 1992, the award honors the late Elizabeth D. Gee, who taught at the CU Denver School of Nursing and was married to former CU President Gordon Gee.

Borgelt's teaching, practice and research focus on women's health pharmacotherapy with an emphasis on reproductive health, including contraception, polycystic ovary syndrome, menopause and osteoporosis.

The Gee Award is the only one in the CU system that specifically recognizes outstanding work on women's issues. Any full-time faculty member from any of the CU campuses may be nominated for the prize. To learn more about the award, go to <https://www.cu.edu/FacultyCouncil/Women/gee.html>[51].

[Dropping names ...](#)[52]

[53]
Choice, the magazine of the American Library Association, recently selected a book written by a University of Colorado Colorado Springs faculty member as an Outstanding Academic Title. "Local Economic Development in the 21st Century: Quality of Life and Sustainability," written by **Daphne Greenwood**, a professor of economics, and Richard P.F. Holt, was selected for the honor given to 10 percent of the 7,000 works reviewed by Choice each year. The titles selected are published in the magazine's January edition

... **Daniel Segal**, professor of psychology, and **Sara Honn Qualls**, the Kraemer Family Professor of Aging at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, along with Michael Smyer, psychology professor at Bucknell University,

recently published the second edition of "Aging and Mental Health." The text's publisher is Wiley-Blackwell, Hoboken, N.J.

... **Maria Buszek**, associate professor of art history in the College of Arts and Media at the University of Colorado Denver, is co-organizer of – and will moderate – a panel on "Sonic and Activism: Exploring the Ties Between Feminist Art and Popular Music" on Sunday, Feb. 13, in New York. The panel will explore renowned women directly tapped into the alternative music and art scenes of feminism's second wave as well as today's most compelling contemporary feminist figures.

... **Bruce Goldstein**, associate professor of planning and design at the University of Colorado Denver, is the author of a new manuscript, "Epistemic Mediation: Aligning Expertise Across Boundaries Within an Endangered Species Habitat Conservation Plan," published in *Planning Theory and Practice* 11(4). The paper argues that planners can be epistemic mediators, creating and stabilizing technical knowledge claims that project authority by showing a responsive face to many audiences.

... **Jeremy Németh**, assistant professor of planning and design and director of the Master of Urban Design program at the University of Colorado Denver, recently was asked to join the editorial board of the [Journal of Urban Design](#)[54]. Németh joins fellow department of planning and design professor **Fahriye Sancar** on the board. He published an article called "The Privatization of Public Space: Modeling and Measuring Publicness" in *Environment and Planning B*, Vol. 38, Issue 1, with Professor Stephan Schmidt of Cornell University. The article can be found in the planning publication binder located at the reception desk in Suite 330, CU Denver Building.

[\[55\]](#)

... The research of **Ken Ortega**, left, professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University of Colorado Denver, was recognized by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the broader impacts of activities in his research grant for highlighting in the molecular and cellular biosciences' (MBC) performance assessment as well as for potentially publicizing on the website of the Directorate of Biological Sciences. Each year the National Science Foundation compiles "highlights" — brief statements describing research from highly successful and important grants.

... **Ping Xu**, University of Colorado Denver professor of architecture, published an article, "[The Mandala as a Cosmic Model Used to Systematically Structure the Tibetan Buddhist Landscape](#)"[56] in the *Journal of Architectural and Planning Research* (27:3, PP. 181-203), one of the most prestigious journals in these fields. Her article examines the spatial and religious meanings of Tibetan temples and their integrative relationship with the surrounding landscape.

[Symposium to consider 'Rhetoric of Race and Achievement Gaps'](#)[57]

The Spring 2011 Symposium of the Racial Initiatives for Students and Educators (RISE), set for Feb. 18 at CU-Boulder, features two panels and a keynote addressing "Equity in Education: Examining the Rhetoric of Race and Achievement Gaps."

The event begins at 9 a.m. in the Wolf Law School Wittemyer Courtroom with a welcome by School of Education Dean Lorrie Shepard and Law School Dean David Getches. The first panel, from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m., addresses "What is the rhetoric framing public discourse surrounding race and achievement gaps in the United States?" The second panel, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., considers "How does racism contribute to the rhetoric of achievement gaps and race in education, policy and law?" From 1 to 2 p.m., keynote speaker David Stovall discusses "Reframing the Gap: Educational Debt and the Responsibility of Socially Conscious Educators in Troubling Times."

Panelists/moderators for the symposium include: David Connor, Rita Kohli, Emma Perez, David Stovall, Michele Moses, Catherine Smith and Elizabeth Dutro.

The event is free and open to the public.

[R.I.S.E.](#)[58] is a student organization established to extend the diversity and social justice goals expressed in the University of Colorado, School of Education's (SOE) mission statement. The group's purpose is to create a safe space for the critical discussion of race.

[Chancellor's Committee on Women seeks award nominations](#)[59]

Know someone at CU-Boulder who is an advocate for other women? Know a department that continually works to improve the climate for women at CU?

Nominations of students, faculty, staff, departments or units are currently being accepted for the annual Chancellor's Committee on Women (CCW) [awards](#)[60]. Award recipients will be honored at the Annual CCW Tea, Monday, March 7, in the Dennis Small Cultural Center in the UMC from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18. Please e-mail nominations to Hannah.Wilks@colorado.edu[61] or Jan.Owens@colorado.edu[62], or drop them off at the Women's Resource Center in the UMC in Room 416.

Nominators are asked to write a letter, including specific details explaining why the person or unit should be recognized. Nominations that include two or three additional letters of support are likely to show breadth and depth of activities. Please also include the name and position of the person or the name and mission of the unit. The committee will consider self-nominations as well.

For more information, contact Jan Owens, 303-492-4078, or Hannah Wilks, 303-492-2703.

Links

[1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/taking-stereotype-threat-classroom>[2]
<https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/div-sum-page.jpg>[3]
<https://connections.cu.edu/stories/leaders-public-affairs-social-advocacy-receive-high-honor-cu>[4]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/1_braddock-schwartz.jpg[5]
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<mailto:Terry.Vaughan@cusys.edu>[9] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/work-boulder-art-faculty-showcased-new-museum>[10] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/boulder-art.jpg>[11]
<http://cuartmuseum.colorado.edu/exhibition/the-2011-faculty-exhibition/>[12]
http://www.colorado.edu/cuartmuseum/cuam_current.html[13] <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBX3ECXJhO0>[14]
http://www.jeannequinnstudio.com/ex_thousand.html[15] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-boulder-names-four-finalists-law-school-dean>[16] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/hi.jpg>[17]
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[42] [https://connections.cu.edu/people/pediatrics-professor-named-head-global-health-effort\[43\]](https://connections.cu.edu/people/pediatrics-professor-named-head-global-health-effort[43])
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