Cech honored with membership in prestigious committee [1]

[2]

Thomas R. Cech, director of the Biofrontiers Institute, a Distinguished Professor at the University of Colorado Boulder, a 1989 Nobel Laureate in chemistry and former president the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, has been named a member of the Honorary Centennial Observance Committee of the Research Corporation for Science Advancement, the oldest foundation in the United States devoted to science.

The committee, which will help celebrate the foundation's 100th Anniversary in 2012, is composed of some of the most renowned leaders in science, scientific research, and science policy and advocacy in America. Centennial activities scheduled for 2012 will kick off with a celebration in February in Tucson, Ariz., where the foundation is based, and continue with a Gala in Washington, D.C., in March, at which science leaders and policymakers from across the country will gather. Centennial events will continue with additional activities across the country in the yearlong celebration.

Five system policy changes take effect this month[3]

The Office of Policy and Efficiency (OPE) announces changes to five administrative policy statements (APS) from the areas of fiscal, human resources, and risk management - including two rescinded policies that have been rolled into fiscal procedures and three policy revisions.

The changes, approved by President Bruce Benson, became effective Jan. 1, 2012. Overall, these actions will reduce the total number of system APSs from 92 to 90. For more detailed information, go to https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps-changes.html[4].

Rolled Into New Fiscal Procedures
4002[5]-Cash Control 4010[6]-Complimentary Tickets and Related Expenses
Revisions
4004[7]-Bank Accounts and Investments 5022[8]-Exemptions from State Personnel System 7002[9]-Operation of University Vehicles
Also, four policies from academic and administrative/general are awaiting the president's final approval and will be announced once final action has been determined. We expect final action by March. These include possible revisions to:
1008[10]-Procedures for the Establishment of Centers, Institutes, Laboratories & Bureaus 1017[10]-Procedures for Implementing Regent Actions on Distinguished Professorships 1023[10]-Restricted, Proprietary and Classified Research 2006[10]-Retention of University Records
For more information on these and additional policies under review for 2012, go to: https://www.cusys.edu/policies/aps-under-review.html[10].

If you would like to receive periodic policy updates from the Office of Policy and Efficiency, please send an email to ope@cu.edu[11] and request to be added to the OPE Distribution List.

Study: Nap-deprived toddlers may be missing more than sleep [12]

Toddlers who miss naps show decreases in joy, interest and understanding when asked to work picture puzzles. Photo courtesy University of Colorado

A new study on naps by the University of Colorado Boulder could be a wake-up call for parents of toddlers.

The study shows toddlers between ages 2½ and 3 who miss only a single daily nap show more anxiety, less joy and interest and a poorer understanding of how to solve problems, said CU-Boulder Assistant Professor Monique LeBourgeois, who led the study. The results indicate insufficient sleep alters the facial expressions of toddlers -- exciting events are responded to less positively and frustrating events are responded to more negatively, she said.

“Many young children today are not getting enough sleep, and for toddlers, daytime naps are one way of making sure their ‘sleep tanks’ are set to full each day,” she said. “This study shows insufficient sleep in the form of missing a nap taxes the way toddlers express different feelings, and, over time, may shape their developing emotional brains and put them at risk for lifelong, mood-related problems.”

LeBourgeois and her colleagues assessed the emotional expressions of healthy, nap-deprived toddlers one hour after their normal nap time, and tested them again on another day following their normal nap. The study, believed to be the first to look at the experimental effects of missing sleep on the emotional responses of young children, indicates the loss of a nap -- in this case in just 90 minutes -- may make toddlers unable to take full advantage of exciting and interesting experiences and to adapt to new frustrations, she said.

“Just like good nutrition, adequate sleep is a basic need that gives children the best chance of getting what is most important from the people and things they experience each day,” said LeBourgeois of the integrative physiology department.

In the study, the toddlers’ faces were videotaped while they pieced together “kid-friendly” picture puzzles, including those of farm animals, sea creatures and insects. One puzzle each child worked had all of the correct pieces, which gave him or her the opportunity to experience and express positive emotion, she said. A second puzzle had a “wrong” piece and therefore was frustrating to the toddlers in the study because it was unsolvable.

Facial expressions of the toddlers were coded on a second-by-second basis for emotions like joy, interest, excitement, sadness, anger, anxiety, disgust, shame and confusion.

The study showed nap-deprived toddlers completing the solvable puzzles had a 34 percent decrease in positive emotional responses compared to the same children completing similar puzzles after their usual midday naps. The study also showed a 31 percent increase in negative emotional responses of nap-deprived toddlers when they attempted to complete unsolvable puzzles when compared with puzzle-solving attempts after they had napped.

In addition, the study found a 39 percent decrease in the expression of “confusion” when nap-deprived toddlers attempted to put together unsolvable puzzles. “Confusion is not bad -- it’s a complex emotion showing a child knows something does not add up,” said LeBourgeois. “When well-slept toddlers experience confusion, they are more likely to elicit help from others, which is a positive, adaptive response indicating they are cognitively engaged with their world.”

A paper on the subject recently appeared online and will be published in an upcoming issue of the Journal of Sleep Research. Co-authors included Rebecca Berger and Ronald Seifer of Bradley Hospital in East Providence, R.I., Alison Miller of the University of Michigan School of Public Health and Stephanie Cares of Boston College. The study was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. The study participants were from Providence, R.I.

“The non-adaptive emotional effects we saw in toddlers who missed a single nap make us wonder how young kids who consistently don’t get enough sleep deal with their complicated social worlds,” said LeBourgeois, who undertook the study with colleagues while at Brown University.

The toddlers were kept on a strict sleep schedule of at least 12½ hours of nighttime and daytime sleep for at least five days before the emotion-testing sessions. Having children follow a set sleep schedule before testing is important because it synchronizes their circadian cycles and makes sure the participants are well-slept prior to the nap and no-nap emotional assessments.

“A sleepy child in a classroom or daycare environment may not be able to engage with others and benefit from positive interactions,” she said. “Their coping skills decrease and they may be more prone to tantrums or frustration, which would affect how other children and adults interact with them. This study shows that missing even a single nap causes them to be less positive, more negative and have decreased cognitive engagement.”

Similar interactions in the home setting could affect parent-child relationships and a child’s quality of life, LeBourgeois said.

The toddlers in the study all wore devices on their wrists that measured their sleep patterns. The parents also kept daily diaries documenting their toddlers’ sleep.

“The goal of our study was to understand how losing sleep affects the way young kids respond emotionally to their world,” said LeBourgeois. “This is important because toddlerhood is a sensitive period for developing strategies to cope with emotions and a time children naturally lose some sleep as they begin giving up their daytime naps.”

Le Bourgeois and her colleagues are now recruiting 40 families with 2-year-olds from the Boulder area for a toddler sleep study that involves how sleep restriction may affect not only emotion, but also higher levels of cognition known as executive function, which includes working memory and inhibitory control. “These are the building blocks for lifelong learning,” she said.

LeBourgeois currently has eight undergraduates working in her CU-Boulder lab. “My students are incredible,” she said. “The work we do here gives them a hands-on opportunity to learn about research with children and families, to think critically, and to analyze and present their findings at scientific meetings. They are very important to me, and their insight and passion keep me young.”

Burnett to serve downtown organization[14]

Brian Burnett

Brian Burnett, vice chancellor, Administration and Finance, was recently selected to serve as vice president of the Colorado Springs Downtown Partnership.

The Downtown Partnership is the lead organization for planning, advocating and promoting a vibrant downtown Colorado Springs. The organization was created in 1997. Several associated entities work with the Downtown Partnership including the Greater Downtown Colorado Springs Business Improvement District, Community Ventures Inc., and the Downtown Development Authority.

Sam Eppley, owner of Sparrow Hawk Gourmet Cookware, will serve as president. Retired pastor Gay Hatler will serve as secretary/treasurer.

Business School moves into ‘phenomenal new home’[16]

[17]

The new University of Colorado Denver Business School[18] building was christened Jan. 9 with its first class -- the start of the new term for the 11-month MBA program[19].

It was a fitting opening for the Business School, since the 11-month MBA program, when it started in 1998, was one of the first accelerated MBA programs in the nation. The first two floors of the building on Lawrence Street open with the spring semester, while the remainder of the building -- a $14 million renovation -- is scheduled to open in August 2012.

Business School Dean Sueann Ambron spoke briefly to the students in Associate Professor Gary Colbert's accounting class.

"This is a phenomenal building," Ambron said. "It feels like you're in the center of business in downtown Denver."

Colbert said the CU Denver 11-month MBA program is modeled after programs in Europe, where a cohort of full-time students practically live together for the entire time. They complete a two-year course in just 11 months.

"They're here all day," said Colbert, director of the program. "They do a lot of team-based work together."

At the end of this eight-week term -- there are five, eight-week terms in the program -- the cohort will travel to Europe to study international business for two weeks.

Ambron said the state-of-the-art new building is all about giving students the best-possible learning environment and creating a place to engage the business community.

"It's like the first day of school," she said. "We have a new building, new desks, new chairs. It's an environment built to support learning. It's all right here."

The 11-month MBA program is housed on the second floor of the new building. Previously, it was located at the Bard Center for Entrepreneurship[20] at 16th and Welton streets in Denver. The Bard Center for Entrepreneurship will now also be housed in the new Business School.

Students in the class were each given a CU Denver pin to commemorate the historic occasion.

"It is an amazing class," Ambron said of the 11-month MBA program, "and we look forward to welcoming all of our students to the new building when we open to all classes in fall 2012."

Regents weighing tuition options[21]

The CU Board of Regents heard tuition proposals from all campuses during Wednesday’s meeting at system administration offices at 1800 Grant St., Denver, but asked for alternatives to compare with the proposal for the University of Colorado Boulder.

Following the successful implementation of linear tuition structure at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, CU-Boulder and CU Denver proposed similar change to tuition structure over the next three years.

Linear tuition for undergraduates reflects a pay-per-credit-hour rate, rather than a single-price method. For instance, undergraduates at Boulder currently pay the same tuition rate for any number of credits above 11.25 hours. With a linear tuition structure, an increased load of credit hours carries a corresponding tuition cost.

The regents have asked administrative staff to develop a comparison of three possibilities: the linear model presented for Boulder at Wednesday’s meeting, a guaranteed rate model, and a hybrid of the two. The board will meet to discuss the options either later this month or early next month.

Last summer, the regents had considered pursuing a guaranteed rate of tuition, which would lock a rate for a student's four years. Because such a change would include a steep increase at the beginning of the four years, some board members had indicated they weren't interested. But at Wednesday's meeting, figures showed that a guaranteed rate might be comparable to the linear model, in terms of percentage increase.

Proposed changes to tuition as presented to regents:

UCCS: A base resident undergraduate tuition increase of $16 per hour is proposed to keep pace with inflation and to mitigate reduced state funding.

CU Denver: The campus looks to implement a linear tuition structure over the next three years. In the 2012-13 fiscal year, tuition would increase $11 per hour, and a full-time student taking under 19 credit hours would be charged for 14 credit hours. The following year, a full-time student would be charged for up to 16 credit hours; in fiscal year 2014-15, a full-time student would be charged for all credit hours taken.

CU-Boulder: The campus proposed a $14 per credit hour increase in the coming fiscal year, to reflect the inflation rate. It, too, would implement linear tuition over the next three years, with full-time students being charged for 12.5 hours next year. In fiscal year 2013-14, a full-time student would be charged for 13.75 credit hours; 15 credit hours in 2014-15.

Anschutz Medical Campus: The resident undergraduate nursing rate of tuition would increase by $25 per credit hour in fiscal year 2012-13.

Merck grant enables creation of national model for experiential learning[22]

From left, Bob Stowe, of the Michigan Science Center Association, Bill Thielke, a secondary science education student at the University of Colorado Denver, and Sara Kroneberger, an elementary school teacher in Aurora, look over a map of Tanzania as a group of 15 educators meets to discuss this summer's trip to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa. A Merck grant will fund the development of a model for experiential learning that positively impacts science teacher identity.

Maps showing the Tanzania National Parks[24]. Discussions of a three-week trip to a far-off continent. Chatter about gear needed to climb a 19,336-foot peak.

Elementary and secondary school teachers gathered in a room at Lawrence Street Center, but this was no ordinary staff meeting. With the maps, boxes of pizza and even a simulated campfire in a darkened classroom, teachers beamed as they got their first taste of this out-of-the-box approach to education.

XSci[25], the Experiential Science Education Research Collaborative in the School of Education & Human Development[26], rolled out its Africa 2012 kickoff meeting last month. And while XSci has taken teachers to Africa, including a hike up Mount Kilimanjaro, four other times, the summer 2012 trip marks a milestone for the experiential learning program.

"We're providing extraordinary experiences for teachers in scientific learning," said Brad McLain, co-director of XSci. "This time is different because the Merck Company Foundation[27] is funding teachers to go from Colorado who would not normally be able to afford this experience."

Merck awarded a grant of $900,000 to the University of Colorado Foundation Inc.[28] to support the XSci Extraordinary Educator Experiences for the next three years as well as other initiatives.

The Merck grant funds the development of a model for experiential learning that positively impacts teacher identity. The grant includes a national website for dissemination and interaction on experiential learning, a national conference on experiential learning in Denver in 2014 and development of XSci satellites in other states, the first of which is in Michigan. Also, one portion of the grant supports 15 Colorado teachers to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and go on safari in summer 2012 and 15 Michigan teachers to go on a similar African trip in 2013.

The Michigan XSci satellite is working with the Michigan Science Center Association, a collaboration of 25 centers in Michigan.

"They're financing the research program behind (the Extraordinary Educator Experiences), so we can actually grow the XSci team quite a bit," McLain said of the Merck grant. "We'll be able to expand our theoretical base from the research, articulate our model for how these learning experiences are best run, export our model to a satellite location in another state and, hopefully, we'll be able to continue that trend so we can export the XSci model to other universities nationwide."

The idea is to give teachers such unparalleled experiences in the scientific world that they transfer that excitement to their students. The enthusiasm is already gushing from Melissa Lewis, one of 15 teachers selected out of 405 who applied during a 10-day window.

"Africa has always been my dream trip," said Lewis, who teaches earth science, biology and anatomy at Dakota Ridge High School[29]. "I talk about Kilimanjaro every year. I talk about Olduvai Gorge every year. I expect to take away even more passion and excitement about it."

Lewis, a teacher for eight years, said experiential learning translates into making science more fun for students.

"I think it breaks the mold that a scientist must be a person who works in a lab coat in a cell somewhere," she said. "You can do science and still have fun."

Around the simulated campfire, McLain told the teachers they were selected because they met specific criteria, including the goal to select some teachers who don't have much science background.

"Many of you haven't traveled much. Many of you are out of your comfort zone in science," McLain said. "All of you will be out of your comfort zone in Africa. We're really hoping that this can be a transformative experience for you, but we want you to start thinking about stories and how important they are to learning."

Bill Thielke, who will graduate from CU Denver in May with a secondary science education degree, said he looks forward to bringing back experiences and stories to share with his students.

"There's a lot of different subject areas I can go into with this -- biology, plant life, energy flows and ecosystems," he said. "For every unit I teach, I can think of something I can use from this trip."

The XSci collaborative works on several strands of research related to confident teacher practice and student science literacy, according to Mike Marlow, XSci co-director.

"This particular strand (the experiential trips) is dealing with the development of science identity, impacting these teachers' sense of who they are and their ability to then bring science back to the classroom," Marlow said. "The idea is to excite their kids, engage the kids, because the teachers have done these kind of things."

This summer's Africa trip, with the help of Merck's funding, sets XSci up for longer-term funding and expansion of its programs.

All Thielke knows is that next summer's trip will not only inspire him about science, but serve as a platform to inspire

students for years to come.

"It serves as a motivational thing for students," he said. "I can tell them, 'Hey, if an old guy like me can climb Kilimanjaro, you can do anything.'"

Mini Med School expansion aims to teach people what doctoring is all about[30]

Dennis Boyle, M.D., speaks Wednesday at Mini Med School Part 2 on the Anschutz Medical Campus. Attendees learned about the doctor-patient relationship. (Photo courtesy of Helen Macfarlane)

Everyone visits a doctor now and then, but some still feel intimidated or even frustrated by the process and the health care system. Educating people on what doctoring is all about is one of the missions of Mini Med School Part 2: The Clinical Years. The pilot program is an offshoot of the popular Mini Med School that was founded in 1989 by J. John Cohen, M.D., Ph.D., a University of Colorado medical school professor of immunology and medicine.

While the original Mini Med School sessions were based on the science taught during the first two years of medical school, Mini Med 2 focuses on the final two years of education, when med school students spend their time in wards and clinics seeing patients, said Stephen Wolf, M.D., who with Dennis Boyle, M.D., leads the program. Both are faculty at CU's School of Medicine.

Wolf said the intent of the program is to demystify the health care system for the community and empower people to interact with it.

"We thought it would be interesting to try to educate people about what's more familiar to them, more doctoring with a stethoscope, more like (television shows) 'ER' and 'House,'" said Boyle, a rheumatologist at Denver Health who also specializes in medical communications. "We want to help people be healthier and more proactive in their own health care."

Said Wolf, an emergency physician at Denver Health, "We've all had family members that don't understand what's going on, so we want to show the audience how to look at the system and the process through the eyes of a medical student."

Doctors who try to understand a disease from the viewpoint of the patient become better at meeting their patients' expectations, needs and wants, he said. Similarly, patients who understand the health care system and the disease process are more likely to understand what a physician is looking for, which can lead to a more productive and effective relationship between the two.

Boyle led the first session of Mini Med 2 at the Anschutz Medical Campus on Wednesday night; it dealt with the doctor-patient relationship. Other topics that will be explored during the eight-week program include some of the most common ailments such as heart disease, pneumonia and smoking, and diabetes and obesity. Additional classes will examine the areas of trauma and injury prevention, childhood development, mental health, and pregnancy and childbirth. All of the people leading the sessions are experts in their fields and experts at educating others, said Wolf.

While an original Mini Med School lecture might discuss how a heart works, the pilot program's aim is to detail how the heart works in a certain patient, how the heart ails, and how the patient can be treated now and in the long term to improve the situation, said Wolf.

The classes also will be more interactive, said Wolf, using real-world patient case studies and more audio-visual cues. During the heart session, for instance, "we'll talk about what it means when someone has to have a catheter inserted

in a groin blood vessel and show the actual video of the dye being injected into the bloodstream."

Boyle thinks the last session will be the most "fun" as doctors discuss pregnancy and will "deliver" a baby using Noelle, an advanced technology mannequin that is programmed to simulate a real woman, including "vocalizing" the discomfort she "feels."

About 18,000 people have participated in the original Mini Med School programs. Both founder Cohen and Helen Macfarlane, who Boyle calls "the person behind the scenes who makes everything work," have been supportive of the Part 2 program.

The sequel already seems to be popular. Reservations were capped and a waiting list established well before the first session. Priority was given to those people who had graduated from one of the original programs.

"At the core we're educators and gain immense satisfaction from delivering knowledge to people who have a thirst for it," said Wolf.

Sessions for Mini Med School Part 2 are: The doctor-patient relationship, led by Boyle; Heart disease and risk modification, Lawrence Hergott, M.D.; Trauma and injury prevention, Wolf; Childhood development, Jennifer Soep, M.D.; Mental health, ?David Wahl, M.D.; Pneumonia and smoking, Robert Winn, M.D.; Diabetes and obesity, ?Daniel Bessesen, M.D.; and Pregnancy, delivery and prenatal care, Gerald Zarlengo, M.D.

For more information, visit http://medschool.ucdenver.edu/minimed[32].

Obituary: John Stewart[33]

John Stewart, a professor emeritus at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, died Dec. 29, 2011, at age 87. He was an international leader in the field of peptide chemistry and had authored more than 400 works. He also received numerous awards and held more than 20 patents.

"John was a wonderful scientist and a thoughtful and rigorous observer of us as a School of Medicine and a health sciences campus. He loved his work and the place, and supported the school immeasurably," said Richard D. Krugman, M.D., vice chancellor for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine.

Stewart retired four years ago after spending 40 years with the university. His wife, Laima Taraseviciene-Stewart, is an assistant professor of medicine in the Pulmonary Division.

He received an undergraduate degree at Davidson College in North Carolina and his master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He moved to Denver in 1968 to join the CU School of Medicine faculty.

Stewart served in the Army in World War II, was an active member of his church, and cultivated and collected orchids from around the world.

Donations may be made to the John M. Stewart Chair for Peptide Research, which he personally endowed more than a decade ago, through the University of Colorado Foundation, Building 500, Mail Stop A065, Aurora, CO 80045, Attention: Karen Aarestad.

Using email safely[34]

Email is one of the fastest, simplest ways to communicate around the world, but also has become a primary method used by cybercriminals to attack others on the Internet. It's very important to be vigilant when opening attachments or responding to emails from unknown senders.

To understand how to protect yourself from email attacks and use email safely, see the January newsletter from the Office of Information Security Cyber Security[35].

Obituary: Fred Campbell[36]

University of Colorado Colorado Springs former adjunct faculty member **Frederick "Fred" Campbell**, 88, died Dec. 27, 2011, following a long illness.

He taught history and political science courses at UCCS from 1986 to 1999. His obituary, as published by family members, follows:

"Frederick Hollister Campbell, known to friends as Fred and as Shred to young relatives who could not pronounce the "F" in his name, was born in Somerville, Mass., on Flag Day, June 14, 1923, and left this world for Heaven on Dec. 27, 2011 ,at age 88 after a long illness. Throughout his three careers as a U.S. Marine Corps officer, a Colorado Springs attorney and adjunct professor of American history and pre-law at Colorado College and University of Colorado Colorado Springs, Fred performed his duties and responsibilities with professionalism and kindness. He was a true gentleman."

The complete obituary is available at http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Frederick-Campbell&lc=2325&pid=155223603&mid=4934241[37].

Murnane tapped for chair of presidential committee[38]

[39]
Margaret Murnane, a University of Colorado Distinguished Professor, has been chosen by President Obama to be chairwoman of the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science.

A CU-Boulder physics professor and fellow of JILA, Murnane's work focuses on laser physics. She recently was honored with Ireland's top scientific award, the 2011 Royal Dublin Society Irish Times Boyle Medal for Scientific Excellence, which is that country's version of America's National Medal of Science. The Medal of Science is awarded to scientists and engineers who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. Murnane also is a fellow of the American Physical Society, the Optical Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2006 and the National Academy of Sciences in 2004.

In recognition of her work, she also has been awarded the 2010 R.W. Wood Prize of the Optical Society of America, the 2010 Schawlow Prize of the American Physical Society, the 2009 Ahmed Zewail Award of the American Chemical Society, and a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship in 2000. She was first appointed to the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science in 2010. Murnane received her B.S and M.S. from University College Cork, Ireland, and her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley.

President Obama said, "These fine public servants bring both a depth of experience and tremendous dedication to their new roles. Our nation will be well-served by these individuals, and I look forward to working with them in the months and years to come."

Another appointee to the committee, Judith Kimble, who is the Vilas Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, received her Ph.D. from University of Colorado Boulder.

Suthers: Lobato outcome could pose threat to higher ed[40]

Colorado Attorney General John Suthers speaks at the regents meeting Wednesday at 1800 Grant St. in Denver. Photo by Cathy Beuten/University of Colorado

If a lawsuit claiming that Colorado is constitutionally underfunding K-12 education were to succeed, the impact on state funding for higher education would likely be devastating, the state's attorney general told the University of Colorado Board of Regents on Wednesday.

During the winter budget retreat at 1800 Grant St. in Denver, Attorney General John Suthers described the history of the Lobato v. Colorado case, which began in 2005 when a group of San Luis Valley residents and others sued the state, claiming that, by underfunding schools, the state was ignoring the Colorado Constitution's promise of "thorough, uniform" education for all students.

A Denver district judge ruled in favor of the plaintiffs late last year, and the state is expected to appeal the decision.

"It's not unusual for these things to bat around for 10 or 12 years, between courts, the Legislature and the Supreme Court," Suthers told the regents. "My gut reaction is that no court could order a tax increase (to fund schools)."

Should funding be deemed insufficient for K-12 schools, CU and other higher education institutions would face deeper cuts to already threatened funding, to the point of no state funding being available for higher education.

As for how the case might ultimately be resolved, Suthers said, "Either it peters out, or at the end of the day the court says, 'Gee whiz, (lawmakers) came up with another several hundred million dollars (for K-12) and we find that OK. … But historically speakinig, these things can bat around for a long time."

Clark takes on expanded role[42]

[43]
Leanna Clark's title has been changed to vice chancellor, Marketing and Community Engagement, said University of Colorado Denver Chancellor Jerry Wartgow, to more appropriately reflect her duties and her role in the larger community.

Since the departure of Vice Chancellor Andy Jhanji, Clark has taken on greater responsibility and now oversees all marketing functions for the university in addition to continuing to provide her positive and aggressive leadership role in community engagement efforts. With the departure of Janet Lopez, Clark also will assume responsibility for extensive and growing P-20 initiatives.

"Leanna has accomplished much in her time with us thus far, including prominent new advertising initiatives, creating partnership opportunities with the city, state and leading business organizations, and leveraging her relationships for the benefit of our consolidated university," Wartgow said.

Hill named to diabetes board[44]

[45]
James O. Hill, professor of pediatrics and medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and executive director of the Anschutz Medical Campus Health and Wellness Center, has been named to the board of directors for the American Diabetes Association, the nation's largest and leading voluntary health organization leading the fight to stop diabetes.

The association, founded in 1940, funds research to prevent, cure and manage diabetes; delivers services to hundreds of communities; provides objective and credible information; and gives voice to those denied their rights because of diabetes.

Report: Without structural changes, state's revenue forecast is bleak[46]

Phyllis Resnick of the Center for Colorado's Economic Future presents a University of Denver study on government funding at Wednesday's Board of Regents meeting. Photo by Cathy Beuten/University of Colorado

A study by the University of Denver presented Wednesday to the CU Board of Regents contends the revenue structure in Colorado is broken. Phyllis Resnick, Center for Colorado's Economic Future at DU, said that even if Colorado were not entrenched in its worst recession in 70 years, the future of the state's revenue stream and the funding of programs such as higher education would still look bleak.

"We have a long-term problem; we think the problem is structural," Resnick said.

The report explored forces that will drive revenue productivity and state government to 2025 and after, reflecting the growing imbalance between projected General Fund revenues and the projected cost of programs. "Even if we have robust recovery, we still have a problem in year 2025," Resnick said.

Estimated growth in Medicaid – because of the aging baby boomer population – and an increased dependence on state funding for K-12 education will continue to absorb a larger percentage of the state's General Fund. By 2025, health care costs are expected to increase 213. 9 percent and education increases are anticipated at 120.3 percent. Comparatively, revenue growth projections were only 82.5 percent – and that's optimistic, Resnick said. A silver lining is that corrections, the third component of the "Big Three" programs the state is federally required to fund, is expected to remain stable.

Previously, K-12 was 65 percent funded by local governments and 35 percent by the state. That has flip-flopped, Resnick said.

"What the state contributes to K-12 is the largest share, and the largest share far outweighs projected revenue," she said.

The rate of growth of Medicaid is trending away from natural revenue growth as Colorado's baby boomers begin to retire.

"We have had an influx of the baby boomer generation that is two and a half to three times the national average," Resnick said. "In addition, baby boomers are moving their parents here" to assist in their care.

In 2024, revenues to the state will only be able to cover the Big Three. In 2025, general funds will not be able to cover even those programs. "Things we've passed in the early 1990s have left us with a system that is failing us

economically."

The study recommends structural changes to balance the revenue disparity:
Add personal services to the sales tax base. Levy property taxes for schools with a statewide mill levy. Restore graduated income tax brackets.
Resnick stressed the gains from implementing the structural changes would stabilize the budget and would not restore cuts to programs such as higher education.

Dropping names ...[48]

Wong

Allen

Finger

Cynthia Wong, associate professor of English at the University of Colorado Denver, delivered the keynote address at the 19th METU British Novelist Conference on Dec. 13, in Ankara, Turkey. The conference's focus this year was on Kazuo Ishiguro and his work. … **Brenda J. Allen**, professor and associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Science at the University of Colorado Denver, recently delivered the 2011 Carroll C. Arnold Distinguished Lecture during the National Communication Association's 97th Annual Convention in New Orleans. Her lecture, titled "Voice Lessons for Social Change," explored how communication scholarship about voice can inform efforts to effect social change and create a more humane discipline. During her speech, Allen invited, "all members of the discipline of communication to work toward social change by examining power dynamics related to how we communicate with one another in academia." … **Sarah Horton**, an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Colorado Denver, recently was awarded the Steven Polgar Prize by the Society for Medical Anthropology at the annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association in Montreal. The prize is for the best article published in the Medical Anthropology Quarterly in 2010. Horton and co-author Judith Barker, Ph.D., a professor at the University of California-San Francisco, were honored for their article, "Stigmatized Biologies: Examining the Cumulative Effects of Oral Health Disparities for Mexican American Farmworker Children." … **Tom Finger**, professor of the School of Medicine's Department of Cell and Developmental Biology and the Rocky Mountain Taste and Smell Center, recently hosted four hours of live lab interaction as students connected via the web while at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science as well as from their classrooms in Montana, Texas, New Jersey, New York and across Colorado. In part, Finger explained how the brain and body work together to taste and smell. Finger worked with museum curator Nicole Garneau, Ph.D., on the distance learning program, which aims to make science come alive for young people. The museum regularly hosts these programs, but it was the first time the hourlong sessions originated from the labs on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Five questions for Tillie Bishop[52]

Regent Tilman "Tillie" Bishop at last spring's CU-Boulder commencement with his wife, Pat. The couple have been married 59 years. (Photo by Casey A. Cass/University of Colorado)

Tilman “Tillie” Bishop is looking through the rear-view mirror at 38 years of being an elected public servant.

His journey in state politics began with a poker game, led to decades of leadership under the gold dome and concludes with his current term as a University of Colorado regent.

In 2006, voters elected the Grand Junction Republican to represent the 3rd Congressional District on the board. Though he could have run for re-election this November, he announced last week that he’ll step down when his term ends a year from now, because a two-year battle with cancer has made it difficult for him to travel across the state for board meetings.

“It was an agonizing decision for me,” he says. “In fairness to my colleagues, the president, the administration, students and myself, it’s in my best interest at this time, knowing the uncertainty of my health.”

His time on the board is just one of many contributions to education in Colorado: He taught in public schools for seven years and served as an administrator at Mesa State College for 31 years. He also advocated for education during his years in the General Assembly, serving in the House for four years beginning in 1971, and in the Senate from 1975 to 1999.

Does he look forward to taking it easy?

“I’ve never taken it easy,” he says with a laugh. “I have great respect for nonprofit organizations. I will be trying to spend a little more time trying to identify nonprofits here in the northwest region that are needing financial help, and I will still remain active in my community.”

1. Before serving on the Board of Regents, you served 28 years in the Colorado General Assembly. What first inspired you to run for office?

You’re not going to believe this. We had a group of guys, pretty prominent people in the community, who played poker once a month. We had a vacant House seat in our district, and we went around the table – everybody had a reason why they couldn’t run for election or didn’t want to run. Mine was the weakest.

I worked at Mesa State College and said, “I don’t even know if the Board of Trustees would be receptive to that.” One of the players was a trustee, and he said, “I can talk to the others.” I said, “I don’t know if the college president will be receptive to it.” One of the others said, “I will talk to the president.” I said, “I don’t even know if the law permits it.” A couple of lawyers said, “We’ll look into it.” The next thing I know, I was running.

I remember campaigning in Palisade, knocking on doors, and a lady chewed me out for walking on her lawn. So I stayed on the sidewalks. Then the lady’s little poodle ran out when I opened the gate. She’s yelling and sobbing while I’m chasing that little dog all over, close to downtown. I finally caught him and took him back to her house. She said, “You’re running for something?” I said, “Yes, I’m running for the Colorado House of Representatives.” She said, “You really ought to run for dog catcher.”

I was completing a four-year term as a Mesa County Commissioner when the regent seat came open for the 3rd Congressional District. I asked my wife if that was something she thought would be a good place for me to serve. We decided to run. Although my wife didn’t know it was a six-year term, not a four-year term.

At the end of my six years as a regent, I will have a total of 38 years as an elected public servant.

2. Of the work you’ve done as a regent, what stands out in your mind as the most significant?

When I came on board as a regent, we were coming out of some problems with athletics. At the same time, there was a search for a new president -- hiring Hank Brown was one of the highlights. He was able to come in and stabilize and get the university back on track to being the great university that it is.

Following Hank Brown's resignation came the selection of Bruce Benson as president. He has more than proven himself with the faculty, administration, students and stakeholders. He and his wife, Marcy, working together as a team have a great love for the university system, all four campuses. Through his leadership the CU Foundation has had its best fundraising years ever, which is what the university needs to retain its world-class status. When we look at what's happening in the reduction of state funding, we have undergone some very difficult decisions as to where cuts could be made, and President Benson has been a real leader in that area, with his administration, in identifying where reductions had to take place.

We have a good team, overall, running the University of Colorado system. We want to remain not just competitive, but on the very top. In order for that to happen, you've got to have leadership, and that also needs to come from the regents. We have to know when not to get bogged down in micromanagement or criticizing really minor matters.

There are so many things the university is doing that are just head and shoulders above academic activities and research at other universities. There's our aerospace and medical activities, and a new University of Colorado Biofrontiers Institute, headed up by Tom Cech. It will bring in world-class research professors and private sector support that basically will be unmatched. I am deeply proud of the University of Colorado as the flagship university of the state of Colorado.

3. Since your first election to office in 1970, what changes have you seen to state politics? Are things better or worse?

Worse. The people of Colorado did themselves a great disservice by passing term limits. It limited the institutional memory of elected officials.

I carried a few unneeded bills myself. But on almost every bill's second or third reading, I would ask myself, "Is this really good public policy?" If I could say yes without having to struggle, then I would vote for it. If not, I wouldn't. I don't think you see much of that happening today.

Budget problems today for the university and state are very difficult. Higher education has been the one area that has been hurt the most. And at the university, in order to be competitive, whether we like it or not, we've got to change with times, update equipment and technology so that we're competitive with peers across the country and globally.

You've got to continually look for efficiency, good management and cost savings. We have been able to do that. How much more we can do without impacting the quality of the university is a question that future regents are going to have to address.

4. As a Colorado native and someone who earned degrees and worked in education here, what do you think it would take to change the Colorado paradox, how the state ranks high in the number of adults who have post-secondary degrees, but low as far as high school students who go on to graduate from college?

That is such a good question. I've struggled with that. Young people today don't really have the opportunity to be young. It's such a fast-moving society and world. There are a lot of single moms and dads, so you don't have the cohesiveness of family. If you don't have a good family life at home, it's going to be difficult for students at school. A lot of students are holding down part-time jobs to help pay expenses for Mom at home, just to maintain a place to live and food on the table and the clothing on their backs.

We could increase the number of high school students who go on to graduate from college by capitalizing on the benefits of a community college. They tend to be very student-oriented with a very compassionate faculty who work with the students at a much different level than at the university level. And once the students get their feet on the ground, there's a pretty good chance they'll finish their baccalaureate degree.

So it isn't just recruiting young people to colleges, but how do we keep them there once we get them? How we deal with retaining students is a commitment that every faculty member needs to make. I'd like to see us make a stronger commitment toward keeping students in school once we get them there.

5. A year from now, what will you miss about serving on the Board of Regents?

Being around and associated with the university. Knowing there are an awful lot of faculty and staff I never came in contact with – I wish I'd had more time for that. I will miss being updated on the exciting things happening on the campuses on a day-by-day basis. There has been some good camaraderie – I'll certainly miss that, as well as being part of the decision making of one of Colorado's largest enterprises. It's been a great experience.

Garrison Roots lived, taught at full throttle[54]

Garrison Roots

Garrison Roots likened great artto a "near accident" in a car: You are driving, attention drifting, when something darts in front of the car; you hit the brakes and are "snapped back" to consciousness.

"There is a rush of adrenaline, the heart races, the imagination is piqued, and then soberness sets in completely and thankfully," Roots wrote. "Just for a moment after the incident, one feels fully alive again, shaking with life and thankful for 'only' the reminder."

Great art, Roots argued, can produce a similar experience—"a kind of 'snapping back' without, of course, the actual 'near miss.'"

Roots, professor of art and art history at the University of Colorado Boulder, helped to snap people back to a fuller appreciation of life both with his art and his magnanimity, friends and colleagues say.

Roots, who chaired the Department of Art and Art History from 2005 to 2011, died Dec. 21, 2011, more than five years after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He was 59.

Graham Oddie, CU professor of philosophy and former associate dean for arts and humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences, began working closely with Roots in 2005, when Roots became chair of art and art history and also was diagnosed with cancer.

Garrison Roots' most recent public-art commission was for the Denver Justice Center, where he produced "Acumen," an epoxy resin terrazzo art floor for the public lobby.

"He was one of the most generous, warmest people I've ever known," said Oddie, who also spoke on behalf of Roots in November at the CU Excellence in Leadership Luncheon and Lecture at Denver's Brown Palace Hotel, where Roots was honored with the 2011 Excellence in Leadership Award. Roots was unable to attend because of his illness.

"He chaired the department for six years, and he didn't do it for money or power, but for love," Oddie said at the event. "And not just love of CU, but love of the idea of the university."

Even while battling disease, Roots oversaw the design, construction and occupation of the Visual Arts Complex at the gateway to the CU-Boulder campus.

As associate dean and department chair, Oddie and Roots traveled often to raise funds for the Visual Arts Complex. Along the way, they swapped anecdotes and insights.

“I’m a philosopher, and he’s an artist,” Oddie said. “He helped me to understand an artist’s view of the world from the inside, and I guess I helped him think more systematically about his own views about what he was up to.

“He liked my desire for clarity and rigor, I suppose, but I liked to hear what it was like to be artistically inspired, and how to implement an artistic vision.”

In recognition of the ELP Award, Roots also was paid tribute at the event by Todd Gleeson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at CU-Boulder, and Yumi Roth, associate professor and interim chair of Art and Art History.

“He once said, ‘The last thing I want to be called is a competent artist’ because it implies a kind of dullness,” Roth said. “He has never been ‘just competent,’ but has been an inspiration to the department. He brought cohesion to a department that was sometimes divided.”

Roots was born in Abilene, Texas, in 1952. As a child in Texas, Roots and his father watched a television program about Jackson Pollock, the abstract expressionist painter.

Roots’ dad was riveted, exclaiming, “I have no idea what this is about, but I know it’s extremely important!” At that moment, Roots decided to become an artist, he later said.

But his path to artistry was indirect. Roots left school in the eighth grade, then worked for General Motors and at other jobs. He joined the Navy in 1971.

Upon his honorable discharge, Roots hit the Dallas airport with just enough money for a pack of cigarettes and a one-way ticket to Boston. He traveled to see his friend Doug, a fellow enlisted man, and stayed with Doug’s family.

After the friend returned to active duty, Roots found a job in Keene, N.H. Over breakfast one morning, Roots told his friend’s mother that, someday, he wanted to go to college.

Frank Easton, longtime friend of Roots, recounts the mother’s dry reply: “Garrison, either go to school or stop talking about it.”

Roots rose from the table, borrowed her car and drove to Worcester Museum of Art. There, he enrolled in art classes.

“He was a natural artist,” Easton writes. “After a few courses, they told him he was wasting his time. He needed a real college-level art program, so he applied to Keene State College, where I met him.”

There, too, one of Roots’ professors suggested that the young artist could more fully hone his skills elsewhere.

With financial support from the G.I. Bill, Roots transferred to the Massachusetts College of Arts, from which he graduated with distinction in 1979. He earned a master of fine arts from Washington University in St. Louis in 1981 and joined the CU-Boulder faculty as an assistant professor of fine arts in 1982.

Described as a brilliant and prolific visual artist, Roots’ work was exhibited around the world. He was a founding member of ARTNAUTS, a visual-artist collective dedicated to exhibitions that address global issues, especially border disputes and immigration.

Roots was noted for his large-scale, site-specific sculptural installations and collaborative public works that are “often allegorical and meant to be walked through rather than around,” a colleague observed.

Roots received two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, a visiting professorship at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts at Washington University, and a CU Arts and Sciences College Scholar Award for the spring of 2012, which, had he lived, would have enabled him to complete a number of ambitious sculptural projects.

He was a highly successful public artist, securing commissions in Miami, Lisbon, Portugal and Texas. His most recent

public-art commission was for the Denver Justice Center, where he produced “Acumen,” an epoxy resin terrazzo art floor for the public lobby. “Acumen” features “images from nature that are rich in color and provide a sense of peace,” a Denver website states.

Easton said Roots “saw art in everything.” More precisely, Oddie observed, Roots “had this ability to see the potential for aesthetic experience in lots of things that would never have struck me as aesthetically interesting.”

Generations of graduate and undergraduate students admired Roots. His Facebook “wall” features scores of tributes from friends and former students.

On the day of his death, for example, one of them posted this:

“I have no doubt that many, if not hundreds, of those who were touched by Garrison are doing what I am doing now—sobbing. … He was a constant inspiration to me (even though we disagreed a lot when I was his student). He taught me how to love teaching and learning, how to embrace and celebrate conflict as an opportunity for growth, and how to drink this life in and never let what other people think change your vision.”

Many of his students have themselves become successful artists and teachers.

Another friend called Roots “a remarkable man who against many odds was able to live a true life where his gifts and talents could take center stage. Most people aren’t that fortunate.”

Roots is survived by his son, Tyler Roots, by his first marriage, and by his wife, Veronica Munive Alvarado, of Longmont (and originally from Mexico City). She married him in 2004 and was by his side at the end.

Friends noted Roots’ devotion to his family and his love of motorcycles, which symbolized the artist’s core passions.

Once, when Oddie was driving Roots to a hospital, Roots asked to stop at a local Harley-Davidson shop. They spent two hours analyzing and admiring the machines. “He loved those motorcycles, because he saw them as amazing sculptures in their own right,” Oddie said.

And when old friend Easton rides one of his motorcycles, “I’ll remember how he loved to ride … wringing everything out of that machine that she had to give.”

Easton adds, “Garrison lived life like the old biker adage: Ride it like you stole it.”

To view some of Garrison Roots’ work, see http://garrisonroots.com[57]. A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Jan. 21 in the Visual Arts Complex Auditorium at CU-Boulder. It will be followed by a reception in the British Studies Room on the fifth floor of Norlin Library. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Garrison Roots Memorial Fund to support graduate scholarships in sculpture at the Department of Art and Art History. Checks should be made payable to the University of Colorado Foundation, College of Arts and Sciences, 1305 University Ave., Boulder, CO 80302. For more information about the Department of Art and Art History, see http://cuart.colorado.edu[58].

UCH proposal for Memorial Hospital earns council’s OK[59]

The Colorado Springs City Council on Tuesday voted 9-0 to proceed with negotiations with the University of Colorado Hospital on the lease negotiations with Memorial Hospital.

“We’re honored and excited by the city council’s vote,” said Bruce Schroffel, president and CEO of University of Colorado Hospital, which led a group composed of Poudre Valley Health System, Children’s Hospital Colorado and

the University of Colorado in bidding to assume responsibility for Memorial. "I believe we share our very strong values with Southern Colorado, and we're now looking forward to continuing our conversation with the people of Colorado Springs."

The proposal to lease and operate Memorial was made by UCH and northern Colorado's Poudre Valley Health System, which are nearing the formation of a new hospital system. They were joined by Children's Hospital Colorado, which would operate a specialty "hospital within a hospital" at Memorial, and the University of Colorado.

Cigna, Kaiser chosen for Health and Welfare Trust's group contracts[60]

Pending approval of the trustees of the University of Colorado Health and Welfare Trust, group medical benefit contracts will be awarded to Cigna and Kaiser Permanente, effective July 1, 2012.

CU's Payroll & Benefit Services (PBS), plan administrator for the trust, seeks competitive bids for its group medical benefits every three to five years. In August 2011, PBS issued a request for proposals (RFP) to solicit administrative services for the comprehensive medical benefits provided for the University of Colorado Health and Welfare Plan community. A selection committee, composed of University of Colorado, University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) and University Physicians Inc. (UPI), trust employer members and PBS staff evaluated the proposals.

The RFP covered employees' and retirees' primary needs – provider networks, access to care, convenience, innovation and flexibility, types of plans and cost. The selection committee recommended Cigna and Kaiser, because their proposals best addressed those criteria.

Cigna has over 66 million customer relationships around the world and is active in 29 countries. It offers nationwide provider networks, a strong local presence and a commitment to serving its customers. Cigna is the only national carrier to provide access to live customer service 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year. Cigna also achieved the top ranking in Colorado for consumer satisfaction, according to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Kaiser serves approximately 5,800 CU Health and Welfare Trust members and more than 480,000 members in the Denver/Boulder and Colorado Springs areas. Kaiser physicians and care teams focus on prevention as well as managing health issues.

PBS is working with both Cigna and Kaiser to finalize the new plans, and will continue to provide updates on the transition.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/people/cech-honored-membership-prestigious-committee-%C2%A0-%C2%A0-%C2%A0-%C2%A0-%C2%A0-%C2%A0[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/people_cech.png[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-system-policy-changes-take-effect-month-0[4] https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps-changes.html[5] https://www.cu.edu/controller/documents/FPS-Cash_Control.pdf[6] https://www.cu.edu/psc/procedures/PPS/PPS_Complimentary_Tickets.pdf[7] https://www.cusys.edu/policies/aps/finance/4004.pdf[8] https://www.cusys.edu/policies/aps/hr/5022.pdf[9] https://www.cusys.edu/policies/aps/risk/7002.pdf[10] https://www.cusys.edu/policies/aps-under-review.html[11]

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http://www.merckresponsibility.com/[28] http://www.cufund.org/[29] http://dakota-hs.jeffco.k12.co.us/dakota/html/index.htm[30] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/mini-med-school-expansion-aims-teach-people-what-doctoring-all-about[31] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/amc_minimed.png[32] http://medschool.ucdenver.edu/minimed[33]
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https://www.cu.edu/content/oismonthlycybersecuritynewsletter[36] https://connections.cu.edu/people/obituary-fred-campbell[37] http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Frederick-Campbell&lc=2325&pid=155223603&mid=4934241[38] https://connections.cu.edu/people/murnane-tapped-chair-presidential-committee[39] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/people_murnane.png[40] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/suthers-lobato-outcome-could-pose-threat-higher-ed[41] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/lobato-suit_suthers11.png[42] https://connections.cu.edu/people/clark-takes-expanded-role[43]
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