Buechner Breakfast First Friday[1]

Colorado's New Water Plan: What Comes Next?

Water is an essential policy issue in Colorado and will become even more important as the state continues to attract new residents. Within the next few decades, even assuming aggressive conservation and the completion of dozens of water projects currently being considered, the state could face an annual shortfall of more than 500,000 acre feet.

The state completed its first comprehensive water plan in December 2015. James Eklund, main author of that report, will present highlights of the plan and potential impediments to its realization. Panelists will comment on different aspects of the plan and its implementation challenges.

There also will be ample time for questions from the audience.

Panelists:

James Eklund, Director of Colorado Water Conservation Board, and main author of the new water plan
Russ McDonald, Global Client Director - Integrated Delivery at HDR, Inc., and Intermountain Infrastructure Exchange (IMX) strategic consultant
Other panelist TBD

Moderator: Dr. Tanya Heikkila, CU Denver School of Public Affairs and Buechner Institute for Governance

Admission: Free, but space is limited - be sure to register! Breakfast will be served.

Register Now: https://www.blacktie-colorado.com/online_sales/rsvp_ticket_purchasebt.cfm?rsvpid=13556[2]

If you are unable to attend, tune in remotely! Join us by phone, computer or tablet by clicking this link at the scheduled start time.

This event is open to the public.

Elected officials join with CU Advocates for show of support[3]
[4]

University of Colorado Advocates – including supporters, alumni, students and members of the business community – gathered Tuesday with elected officials at the Capitol for the annual CU Advocacy Day, which showcased student success stories and research achievements while also highlighting state budget challenges and the university's legislative priorities.

Presented by the CU Advocates program in the Office of the President and the Office of Government Relations, the event drew about 100 CU Advocates and others for a program that included remarks from Colorado lawmakers Sen. Rollie Heath, Sen. Matt Jones, Rep. Jovan Melton, Rep. Joe Salazar, Sen. Jack Tate and Sen. Jessie Ulibarri.

U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner, a CU School of Law graduate, made an unexpected appearance and praised the "top-notch, pioneering research and academics of the University of Colorado." He encouraged CU Advocates to continue their engagement with government leaders.

"Policy doesn't happen in a vacuum," Gardner said. "When you take the time to come to an event like this and meet with your legislators, it makes a difference."

Salazar talked about the impact of CU's Pre-Collegiate Development Program on his life while an at-risk student at Thornton High School.

"It changed my world. I couldn't get out of high school fast enough," said Salazar, who went on to become a student leader at CU-Boulder. "CU, that was everything for me – it created everything."

His testimony served as an appropriate precursor to a presentation by Chris Pacheco, director of the CU Pre-Collegiate Programs and CU Pre-College Outreach and Engagement. These efforts at the campuses give first-generation students exposure to higher education and campus life that they might not otherwise experience; more than 90 percent of participants go on to attend college at a CU campus or other higher education institution. Pacheco introduced staff members and alumni of the program to the audience.

CU President Bruce Benson thanked CU Advocates for their work on behalf of the university, and said his aim is to further foster growth of the group that now numbers 3,200 around the world (2,000 in Colorado). The program is led by Michele McKinney, assistant vice president of advocacy and external relations, who introduced the day's guests.

CU leaders attending the event included Regents Kyle Hybl (chair), Michael Carrigan and Sue Sharkey, and new CU Denver Chancellor Dorothy Horrell. Also present were two announced candidates for the Board of Regents race in District 1, Jack Kroll and Zach Rothmier.

Vice Presidents Tanya Kelly-Bowry, government relations, and Todd Saliman, budget and finance, detailed the outlook for state funding and the role of CU Advocates in promoting CU's public good across the state.

With the legislative session underway this month, Saliman noted the proposed $20 million cut to higher education and explained how a proposed shift of the hospital provider fee out of the state's revenue column would alleviate pressure on the budget and lead to fewer cuts. Jones called the change "a simple fix that would help education and roads."

Heath said he and other leaders are hoping that the 2016 ballot will include some measure to change TABOR details that currently prevent the state from retaining all the revenue it collects. Such a ballot issue, Heath said, would not raise taxes.

Before a post-event reception for attendees and other lawmakers at the offices of Benson Mineral Group, David Brain, assistant professor at CU-Boulder, highlighted the newsmaking science of the CU-Boulder-NASA Mars MAVEN mission. Besides generating groundbreaking research, the $680 million project included $300 million spent in Colorado. He introduced three students who are hard at work on learning from and contributing to the mission's science.

Regents tour Fetal Care Center[5]

Deadline extended for Service Excellence Award nominations[6]

The University of Colorado Staff Council (UCSC) is seeking nominations of classified and university staff members for its annual Service Excellence Awards[7], which honor outstanding volunteer service to the university and to community, civic and professional organizations.

The deadline for nominations has been extended to Feb. 12 at 11:59 p.m.

The awards will be presented to one individual from each campus and system administration during the All Staff Council Conference on April 8 in Colorado Springs. Each of the recipients receives the award, a plaque commemorating the event and a $1,000 prize.

Any active classified staff or university staff employee is eligible to receive the award, and nominations will be accepted from any staff, faculty, student or administrator within the university. Active employees of the university at the time of the nomination, excluding the current members of UCSC, are eligible to receive the award.

Nominees will be judged in two, equally weighted areas: service to home campus or the university, including participation in campus programs or committees; and service to community, including participation in a community group or working to address a social issue. Activities that are part of an employee's job description or assigned duties should not be included in the nomination.

The nomination process has been streamlined this year and must be completed electronically. All nominations will be reviewed by UCSC members. Award recipients will be selected based on stated criteria. Any nominations that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered.

For complete nomination procedures and other information, and the electronic nomination form, visit the UCSC website at http://www.cu.edu/ucsc/ucsc-service-excellence-award[7].

CUdoctors.com gets a facelift[8]

All aboard the CU Denver rail car[9]

UCCS provost to become chancellor's special assistant, return to faculty [10]

Hashert to serve as interim director at Auraria Library[11]

Sassower emphasizes student retention [12]

In memoriam: George Born [13]

CU-Boulder sees 10 percent jump in freshman applications[14]

Medical marijuana eases migraine pain[15]

UCCS to house cybersecurity intelligence center[16]

Fallen CU-Boulder astronauts to be honored on campus Jan. 30[17]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/events/buechner-breakfast-first-friday-3[2] https://www.blacktie-colorado.com/online_sales/rsvp_ticket_purchasebt.cfm?rsvpid=13556[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/elected-officials-join-cu-advocates-show-support[4] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/cu-advocates-day_0.jpg[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-tour-fetal-care-center[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/deadline-extended-service-excellence-award-nominations[7] http://www.cu.edu/ucsc/ucsc-service-excellence-award[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cudoctorscom-gets-facelift[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/all-aboard-cu-denver-rail-car[10] https://connections.cu.edu/people/uccs-provost-become-chancellor-s-special-assistant-return-faculty[11] https://connections.cu.edu/people/hashert-serve-interim-director-auraria-library[12] https://connections.cu.edu/people/sassower-emphasizes-student-retention[13] https://connections.cu.edu/people/memoriam-george-born[14] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/cu-boulder-sees-10-percent-jump-freshman-applications[15] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/medical-marijuana-eases-migraine-pain[16] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-house-cybersecurity-intelligence-center[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/fallen-cu-boulder-astronauts-be-honored-campus-jan-30