Three regents take their oaths of office[1]

[2]

Three members of the Board of Regents on Tuesday took their oaths of office during a ceremony at CU Denver's Student Commons Building, formally beginning their six-year terms.

Taking part were the victors of three races decided last November: Board of Regents[3] Vice Chair Ken Montera, who was reelected to his seat in District 5; Elliott Hood, elected by voters statewide as the board's at-large member; and Ray Scott, elected in the 3rd Congressional District.

Unexpected circumstances led to only one of the three, Scott, being able to attend in person. Montera's travel from his Colorado Springs home was thwarted by winter weather, while Hood was ill with COVID. Both took their oaths and spoke to the audience remotely via Zoom.

Monica M. Márquez, chief justice of Colorado's Supreme Court, led the swearings-in at the event, which was attended by numerous CU leaders including President Todd Saliman, Board of Regents Chair Callie Rennison and Regents Nolbert Chavez, Wanda James, Frank McNulty, Ilana Spiegel and Mark VanDriel. CU Boulder Chancellor Justin Schwartz, CU Denver Interim Chancellor Ann Schmiesing and CU Anschutz Chancellor Don Elliman also were on hand. Like Montera, UCCS Chancellor Jennifer Sobanet was unable to travel to the event due to weather.

Ken Montera[4], R-Colorado Springs, has represented the 5th Congressional District since being appointed to the board by Gov. Jared Polis in December 2021; voters returned him to the board in 2022.

Since becoming a regent, Montera has been elected vice chair unanimously three times. He also serves as chair of the Investment Advisory Committee and vice chair of the Regents Finance and University Affairs committees. A Pueblo native and graduate of the CU Boulder Leeds School of Business, Montera spent over 30 years as a senior executive in four Fortune 200 companies.

Elliott Hood[5], D-Boulder, is an education attorney who advocates for schools and educators across the state. A CU Boulder alumnus, he previously worked as a teacher, then as an education nonprofit director. Hood also has served on and helped lead public and nonprofit boards.

Ray Scott[6], R-Grand Junction, served in the Colorado legislature from 2011 to 2023. Born in Ohio, he grew up in Rifle, Colorado, where he worked on farms and ranches with his family. He has founded several businesses in the energy sector, land development, logistics, sports, software and construction. He currently serves as president of the Adams County-based Industrial Property Owners Consortium.

Hood succeeds Regent Lesley Smith[7], D-Boulder, who did not run for a second term as regent at large; she is the newly elected representative of Colorado's House District 49. Scott succeeds Regent Glen Gallegos[8], R-Grand Junction, who represented the state's 3rd Congressional District beginning in 2013 and was term limited. In remarks, President Todd Saliman thanked both for their service, and expressed congratulations to the three newly sworn-in members of the board.

Regents are elected to six-year terms, which are staggered. Eight of the nine seats are assigned to Colorado's congressional districts; the final at-large seat is elected by voters statewide.

The board meets today and Friday in Denver for its winter retreat.

[CU announces co-chairs to lead Strategic Plan 2.0][9]

CU President Todd Saliman has announced two co-chairs of the next systemwide strategic planning process.

Chad Marturano, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for the CU system, and Dr. Lynn Vidler, Interim Provost at UCCS, will lead the development of the plan, which President Saliman said "will represent our renewed commitment to strengthening CU's future in ways that enhance our impact, extend our reach and ensure sustainable growth into the future."

From President Saliman's announcement:

"Chad has been instrumental in driving CU's current strategic plan, leveraging his leadership role to ensure the plan's integrity and alignment with CU's long-term goals. With a clear focus on fiscal responsibility and resource optimization, Chad has actively involved the Board of Regents and the campuses by delivering regular, comprehensive updates that have led to informed decisions and engaged strategic discussions. Chad's deep understanding of CU's fiscal landscape has strengthened the four pillars of the current plan[10], making a profound impact on the university's success.

"Lynn, a distinguished academic leader with a deep commitment to student success and inclusive excellence, has demonstrated exceptional leadership at UCCS, both as Interim Provost and throughout their career. Lynn's collaborative approach and strategic mindset have earned them a reputation as a forward-thinking leader who adeptly aligns academic priorities with the broader goals of the CU system. Their ability to engage faculty, students and staff in meaningful dialogue and to drive initiatives that reflect CU's values positions them as an ideal leader to co-chair this strategic process."

The president also announced that Angelique Foster, Assistant Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, will assist Marturano and Vidler by serving as project manager for the initiative.

"Angelique's combination of skills in collaboration and high-level administrative coordination is invaluable in helping to shape and implement CU's long-term goals," Saliman said.

"As we have done previously, I look forward to engaging the entire CU community as Chad and Lynn guide us in shaping a forward-looking strategy that upholds CU's mission of delivering outstanding education, pioneering research and impactful public service to Colorado and beyond. Together, we are poised to create a strategic framework that meets the evolving needs of our students, faculty, staff and the broader Colorado community."

[Regents vote to name Kerry Tipper next Vice President, University Counsel][11]

[Call for nominations: 2025 UCSC Staff Excellence Awards][12]

The [University of Colorado Staff Council][13] (UCSC) invites nominations for the 2025 Staff Excellence Awards, which recognize staff members who have gone above and beyond their job duties, have surpassed expectations and embody what makes CU excellent.

All CU staff members – classified staff, university staff, research professionals and professional research assistants –

from the four campuses and system administration are eligible to be nominated for this prestigious award. Faculty, temporary staff, student workers and medical trainees are not eligible.

Two winners from each campus and system administration will be chosen, totaling 10 winners. Each winner will receive a $250 award at the Staff Excellence Awards event scheduled for April 25.

Deadline for nominations[14] is Jan. 31. Winners will be notified in mid-March.

Nominations can be submitted through this link:

https://forms.office.com/r/nKrhBvgdAx[14]

For more information and questions, please email UCSC@cu.edu[15].

Changes to systemwide administrative policy statements, effective Jan. 1[16]

The Office of Policy and Efficiency (OPE) has announced updates to the following administrative policy statements from the Administrative/General, Finance, and Employee Services areas:
2001-Commencement Exercise Responsibilities[17]
This policy was due for review and minor changes were made. In addition, a link to future commencement schedules was added to the policy.
2003-External Audit Notification and Reporting[18]
This policy was due for periodic review. The revisions were proposed based on the collaborative work by the university's Associate Vice President for Internal Audit and system and campus controllers and other fiscal staff.
5055-HIPAA Hybrid Entity Designation[19]
This policy and the designated health care components for each campus were due for review and have been updated.
5062-Leave[20]
Employee Services made minor additions to the policy sections for Leave Without Pay (Section 9) and Parental Leave (Section 11) for clarification purposes.
Section 9: Leave Without Pay – requiring the exhaustion of all applicable accrued leave before leave without pay is granted. Section 11: Parental Leave – allowing CU Parental Leave to be used to care for birthing parent (six to eight weeks after birth) in addition to bonding with the child.
These revisions took effect Jan. 1, 2025.

For more detailed information, go to https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/latest-changes[21].

For additional information on systemwide APSs, go to: http://www.cu.edu/ope[22].

President Saliman urges Quantum Scholars to think critically and creatively [23]

UCCS secures $40,000 Boettcher Grant to help students across Colorado earn cybersecurity industry certifications [24]

CU Denver to participate in Department of Defense agreement: Address national shortage of STEM professionals [25]

Can an app help improve recovery from a concussion?[26]

Boulder declares Dr. Dick Jessor Day [27]

Ryan boosts Colorado's Early Childhood Higher Education Partnership [28]

Kreisel honored with Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award[29]

Carlee Kreisel, research services specialist in the Department of Family Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, recently was honored with the Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award[30].

The recognition – which also included Denver Mayor Mike Johnston proclaiming Oct. 25, 2024, as Carlee Kreisel Day – celebrated her volunteer work with the nonprofit A Little Help.

Kreisel began volunteering with the nonprofit after moving to Denver and buying her first home. Her first winter, while seeking opportunities to help the elderly with snow shoveling, she discovered A Little Help.

Kreisel has taken her passion for volunteering to assisting the elderly in many ways via A Little Help, to which she donated the $2,000 award she received from the Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award, a program of Spark the Change Colorado.

Rural Colorado communities still lack adequate behavioral health services. A new state-sponsored group will help. [31]

The Marshall fire spared his house. A new study finds dangerous air pollution lingered indoors for weeks[32]

New Year's resolution to save money? CU Boulder study shows personality may drive spending[33]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/three-regents-take-their-oaths-office[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/swearing-in_02_feat.jpg[3] https://regents.cu.edu/[4] https://regents.cu.edu/meet-the-regents/ken-montera[5] https://www.hoodforcolorado.com/[6] https://rayscott.co/[7] https://regents.cu.edu/meet-the-regents/lesley-smith[8] https://regents.cu.edu/meet-the-regents/glen-gallegos[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-announces-co-chairs-lead-strategic-plan-20[10] https://www.cu.edu/strategic-plan[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-vote-name-kerry-tipper-next-vice-president-university-counsel[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/call-nominations-2025-ucsc-staff-excellence-awards[13] https://www.cu.edu/ucsc[14] https://forms.office.com/r/nKrhBvgdAx[15] mailto:UCSC@cu.edu[16] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/changes-systemwide-administrative-policy-statements-effective-jan-1[17] https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/2001[18] https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/2003[19] https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5055[20] https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5062[21] https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/latest-changes[22] http://www.cu.edu/ope[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/president-saliman-urges-quantum-scholars-think-critically-and-creatively[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-secures-40000-boettcher-grant-help-students-across-colorado-earn-cybersecurity-industry[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-denver-participate-department-defense-agreement-address-national-shortage-stem[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/can-app-help-improve-recovery-concussion[27] https://connections.cu.edu/people/boulder-declares-dr-dick-jessor-day[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/ryan-boosts-colorado-s-early-childhood-higher-education-partnership[29] https://connections.cu.edu/people/kreisel-honored-minoru-yasui-community-volunteer-award[30] https://www.sparkthechangecolorado.org/mycva.html[31] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/rural-colorado-communities-still-lack-adequate-behavioral-health-services-new-state-sponsored[32] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/marshall-fire-spared-his-house-new-study-finds-dangerous-air-pollution-lingered-indoors-weeks[33] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/new-years-resolution-save-money-cu-boulder-study-shows-personality-may-drive-spending