Five questions for Kathleen Bollard[1]

[2]
Kathleen Bollard, Ph.D., MBA, typically relies on her knowledge of three or four languages while working on academic projects. Her favorite is Spanish, she says, partly because of its beauty and mainly because so many of her favorite authors employed it.

She'll be immersing herself more in those languages soon, as she begins a new dual role: She'll remain vice president for academic affairs, though part time, and will resume her responsibilities as an associate professor of Spanish at CU Denver, also part time.

Earlier this year, Bollard had intended to return to teaching and research full time. But President Bruce Benson asked her to take on a modified role[3] at system administration, in which she'll be joined by an associate vice president to assist.

Kathleen Bollard, with her husband, David Click, is congratulated by President Benson upon receiving the Faculty Council's Leadership in Public Higher Education Award in April. (Photo: Cathy Beuten)

As the president's liaison between system administration and the campuses' faculty, her skillful communication is among the traits that helped her recently earn the Faculty Council's Leadership in Public Higher Education Award.[5] The governance group also named her administrator of the year in 2009.

Originally from California, she has spent time living in Spain, Mexico and Greece – experiences she remembers for "the constant sense of discovery that comes from living in a different culture and talking with people about their perspectives on global issues."

Now at home in Colorado, she enjoys spending free time with friends and family. "I love hiking in the mountains, throwing dinner parties, and playing with the dog."

1. What is the most satisfying aspect of your work as vice president for academic affairs?

Working with CU's faculty. While we all identify with our campuses, the times we work together as a single university show that we probably can change the world.

2. What's the key to working toward consensus in a university environment?

There are a lot of different stakeholder groups in the CU community, from regents to students and alumni, but all of them care deeply about the university's mission and its students, so that is always a good starting place. If you can bring people together around a specific project or issue, they will invariably figure out a way forward.

3. As someone who has served in administration and on faculty – and soon will be doing both – what do you think people on either side can learn from one another?

The perspectives, at first glance, are so different, that it's sometimes easier to stick with preconceived notions or stereotypes than to take the time to listen and learn how much the two groups actually have in common.

As an administrator, I appreciate how invested the faculty is in all aspects of CU's success, and I now understand that the administration is just as committed. Recognizing and respecting the fact that each group may, at any given time, have information or experience the other lacks, can go a long way toward moving the needle on issues that are critical to all of us.

4. How would you describe your experience working with President Benson as part of his leadership team?

I have enormous respect for him, and for everything he and Marcy have done and continue to do for the university. His

integrity, hard work and belief in service have shaped his life and affected all of us who work for him; he teaches by example.

5. What aspect of your teaching and research are you most looking forward to resuming?

I think everyone wants to do the work that he or she is passionate about and feels will make a difference in the community. For me, that involves teaching and learning, as well as writing.

I've missed working directly with students and seeing their excitement about things ranging from a lyric poem to an internship that is going to change the direction of their lives. I've also missed meeting regularly with colleagues to talk about research; I can't wait to get back to the working group in ancient, medieval, and early modern studies some friends and I formed almost 15 years ago.

I want to finish a book manuscript on 16th century humanist dialogue that I set aside for years, continue working with a colleague at another public university system on an "administrative" book we're writing, learn and incorporate some new pedagogies into my courses, develop some new internship opportunities for Spanish students, get back to some volunteer work, write the great American novel — but I may be getting ahead of myself.

COLTT readies event app for 2014 conference[6]

The Colorado Learning and Teaching With Technology (COLTT) Conference[7] has announced it is teaming with Zerista Meeting Hub to launch a Web and mobile event app for 2014.

The conference is set for Aug. 6 and 7 in the Wolf Law Building at the University of Colorado Boulder.

The Zerista app will give COLTT attendees the ability to build a custom schedule, search and sort directories of attendees and speakers, engage in social media discussions and direct messaging, and much more.

Early registration for COLTT is available until midnight July 23, but spots are filling up quickly. Register for COLTT 2014 by using the registration page: cu.edu/coltt/2014-conference-registration[8].

COLTT 2014 offers attendees an impressive array of engaging and innovative sessions, such as "YouTube and LoveIt," "20 Things You SHOULD be Doing In Your Online Course" and "Crowdsourcing Discovery: Incorporating Citizen-Scholars (MOOC students) in Medieval Historical Research." Find the complete list of sessions on the COLTT wiki: http://coltt2014.pbworks.com[9].

Questions about COLTT 2014 may be directed to Jill Lester, conference coordinator, at jill.lester@cu.edu[10].

Weight Watchers at Work: No judging here[11]

Debbie Case leads Weight Watchers at Work sessions at 1800 Grant St.

Weight Watchers at Work Meetings

Monthly pass + meetings: $17.17 a month

Online subscription (no meetings): $7.57 a month

Weight Watchers at Work Meetings are open to campuses with at least eight monthly pass holders who commit to regularly attending. If attendance drops below this point, the meetings will be closed.

To view your campus's Weight Watchers at Work Meeting schedule, and to enroll in the program, visit http://becolorado.org/programs/weight-watchers/[13].

There's no judgment at CU's Weight Watchers at Work meetings. Take, for instance, a recent Wednesday morning gathering at CU's system administration building, where a woman walked in and admitted to having just eaten a doughnut before hopping on the scale to weigh herself.

Shortly after that, meeting leader Debbie Case weighed another CU Weight Watchers participant before telling her to enjoy the Chinese food she was about to eat instead of attending the upcoming meeting.

"Remember: Nothing shiny is good for you," Case warned, half-jokingly, as the woman left for lunch.

Eating habits are difficult to change, and Case understands this all too well. Before leading Weight Watchers at Work meetings at places such as CU, she walked in these participants' shoes: She spent the first three months of her meeting attendance sitting silently in the back of the room. She listened to the stories of struggle and triumph that fellow participants shared until she, too, gained confidence to speak. Most importantly, she said, she kept coming.

"I encourage people to come in here even if they don't want to weigh in, because it makes a huge difference," Case said. So while each meeting opens with a half-hour weigh-in session — a private moment between leader and participant to track weight fluctuations — participants are welcome to attend only the meeting portion.

As of June 2014, CU employees who participated in the program had collectively lost more than 3,300 pounds since its November 2013 launch on each campus and in the System building. As summer vacations, heavy workloads and warm, daytime walks compete for people's time, Case said the support provided at meetings is crucial to helping participants carry one another through to healthy nutrition and fitness choices.

At CU, Weight Watchers at Work Meetings also offer employees a lighthearted, open forum for dishing about everything from tips for preparing weekly meals to healthy alternatives to greasy favorites. At a recent meeting, the topic of choice was reflection. Wouldn't it be helpful, Case suggested to the group, if you spent just five minutes a day to reflect on your eating choices rather than doing so at the end of the week? This led to a brainstorming session: One woman said this practice would help her drink the right amount of water each day; another said advanced planning would be more helpful for her upcoming trip to Las Vegas.

"You don't want to eat at the trough," warned another participant, referring to Vegas' bountiful buffets. When the Vegas-bound woman floated the idea of eating salads from the buffet, others cautioned her that $39.99 is a hefty price to pay for salad. It's good advice, she said.

The conversation moved to food preparation. The group discussed healthy daytime snacks (a debate about the health benefits of dehydrated fruit) and the benefits of simple refrigerator makeovers, such as placing healthy foods at eye level.

As the meeting wrapped, a participant turned to her colleagues and asked them to help her: She has made a promise to herself to start swimming, and she wants them to hold her to that commitment. Of course, the group said, we're all in this together.

"It's a hard thing," Case said as the meeting adjourned. "Food is a hard thing."

Orientation improvement, professional development among staff goals for coming year[14]

[15]

Boulder Campus Staff Council recently reviewed this past year's accomplishments and set goals for FY2015.

As part of the June 6 retreat, Randi Viola, the outgoing co-chair, acknowledged the accomplishments of council committees and individuals with small trinkets, including little CU megaphones for our outspoken staff advocates. Newly elected co-chair Sarah Douvres and re-elected co-chair John McKee, who planned the retreat as their first assignment of the year, served as moderators for the goal-setting process.

Council members set the following goals for this next fiscal year (July 2014-June 2015):
To assist campus Human Resources (HR) with the onboarding (new employee orientation). We ask for your help in this by sending feedback[16] about your own new employee orientation experience. Please note within your email if you want your responses kept confidential. To assist HR with their staff professional development program. HR has introduced several excellent programs during the last few years, and Staff Council would like to encourage all eligible staff to participate in them whenever possible. We would also like to hear (please email scouncil@colorado.edu[16]) how your own department encourages participation in campus training and staff development programs. Do the campus training programs count toward educational/experience requirements? To continue to strengthen the strategic partnerships which are critical to our campus role. Think of Staff Council as staff's conduit of information (two-way) and avenue for influence about staff-related issues on campus. Staff Council has members on 10 standing committees on campus and is often asked to send a member to represent staff on task forces. If you have a campus committee that can use some staff representation, please contact us[16]. A recent example of how we get involved in issues was our asking the Ombuds Office what we could do to help reduce workplace bullying. The Ombuds Office knew of a nationally acclaimed presenter on this topic. Staff Council and the Ombuds Office pooled their financial resources to hire Dr. Loraleigh Keashly to meet with campus administration and to present three workshops. We then arranged for several other departments to help plan and promote the events. The success of the first series of meetings and workshops led to a second series of workshops and meetings with groups of interested campus leaders including Student Government, Boulder Faculty Assembly and Administration. The focus was on developing ways to promote a positive working and learning environment for everyone on campus. Staff Council has provided some budget support for this group, now called the Respectful Workplace Committee. Staff Council would like to thank Merlyn Holmes from the VCAA's Office for leading the committee. A special note: The Outreach Committee is reimagining how to do the Staff Appreciation Events now that the Glenn Miller Ballroom is closed for renovation. The annual Staff Breakfast and Staff Lunch will happen, but differently. Stay tuned.
2014 Election Results:
Area 1 (Grandview and North Quad) - Kathy Noonan Area 2 (South Quad to Atlas) - Randi Viola (re-elected) Area 3 (Farrand Field to Engineering) - Jason Hopkins Area 4 (Facilities Management) - Joe Branchaw (re-elected) Area 5 (Broadway to C4C) - Aileen Harker Area 6 (Stadium to Parking to Wolf Law) - Brian Drake Area 7 (Housing and Dining Services) - Aljoana Gilmore (re-elected) Area 8 (East Campus) - Tim Morrissey At Large (serving the entire campus) - Vonda Maki (re-elected)
New Officers and Elected Delegates:
Co-Chairs - Sarah Douvres and John McKee Vice Chair - Philip Bradley Secretary - Joanna Itrube Treasurer - Joshua Firestone Delegate - Denise Thomas to the University of Colorado Staff Council (three delegates per campus; John McKee and Erin Foster are the other two for Boulder) Delegate - Randi Viola to the Statewide Liaison Council (all Colorado higher education institutions send representatives)
?**Congratulations to the new members and officers**

You do not have to be a member of Staff Council to serve on any of our many committees. For more information or to contact us, visit www.colorado.edu/staffcouncil[17].

- Submitted by Boulder Campus Staff Council

Board approves $3.28 billion operating budget[18]

The CU Board of Regents on June 27 approved a $3.28 billion operating budget for the 2014-15 fiscal year (FY); CU's operating budget for the 2013-14 FY was $3.04 billion. The vote was 8-0, with Regent James Geddes not in attendance.

The FY 2014-15 operating budget reflects an overall increase of $147.5 million, 4.7 percent more than the current-year June estimate. Resident tuition revenue is projected to increase by $8.3 million or 2.1 percent and nonresident tuition by $30.2 million or 8.1 percent. Direct state funding is increasing by $16.1 million or 9.8 percent.

Other areas of increased revenue include clinical services ($49.0 million) and auxiliary operating revenues ($16.8 million). State tobacco funding is an area with decreasing revenue ($468,452).

"One of the areas where CU's spending has increased dramatically the past 10 years is financial aid," said Todd Saliman, vice president and chief financial officer. "The campuses have really increased their financial aid, in part because the state has not been keeping up over time."

CU's contribution to financial aid is greater than the state's collective financial aid contributions to all higher education institutions, he said.

"The state of Colorado does not put as much money into financial aid as CU does alone," Saliman explained. "Since FY 2004-05, CU has invested an additional $90.3 million in financial aid, a 180 percent increase. "

In the last legislative session – in addition to the 11 percent operating increase for higher education – the state approved its largest increase in financial aid.

"I would love to see those kinds of increases in the future," Saliman said. "I think it's unlikely. So this is probably the largest increase in financial aid that we'll see in a while."

CU-Boulder will receive about 5 percent of its general fund budget from the state; UCCS's allocation is about 10 percent, CU Denver's is near 10 percent and CU Anschutz Medical Campus' is about 5 percent. CU Anschutz will receive $70.3 million, or 31 percent of its operating budget, from the state to support the infrastructure.

"Thirty percent of the budget sounds like a big number," said Lilly Marks, vice president for health affairs and executive vice chancellor at the Anschutz Medical Campus. "But it's not 30 percent of our budget; it's 30 percent of the unrestricted budget, and that's hard money to replace."

Other than Colorado School of Mines, which approved a 3 percent tuition increase, CU kept tuition rate increases at the lowest in the state – between 3.2 percent and 3.5 percent.

With the $100 million in additional higher education funding approved earlier this year by the Legislature, institutions were to put a cap on tuition at 6 percent for the next two years. Tonya Kelly-Bowry, vice president for government relations, told the regents that legislators appreciated the low increase in tuition.

"Both sides of the aisle said that they were appreciative of the regents and the setting of tuition that you chose," she said.

Chair Michael Carrigan emphasized the board's appreciation for the increase in funding.

"It was a historic investment in higher education and it is appreciated," he said. "There is a direct line between the amount of state appropriations we get and the amount of tuition we must charge students. We hope that this small correction will be a change in course for the state of Colorado to get serious about investing in higher education."

Social Climate Survey shows many positives, some room for improvement[19]

The University of Colorado has a tolerant, respectful social climate, according to a recent systemwide survey requested by the Board of Regents, though some areas present opportunities for improvement.

The board was presented with the Social Climate Survey results on Thursday, June 26, during the first day of a two-day meeting at CU Denver on the Auraria Campus.

McLaughlin & Associates conducted the survey in April and May, and provided a summary presentation of results at the meeting. John McLaughlin provided an overview.

“In looking at this environment of respect you’re creating, you’re doing pretty well across the board, but you have some areas with room for improvement,” McLaughlin told the board.

The report’s executive summary[20] indicated that the survey was successful, with 9,301 total respondents, representing more than 12 percent of the CU community (1,984 faculty, or 13 percent; 2,247 staff, or 28 percent; and 5,070 students, or 10 percent).

Across the campuses, the majority believe CU promotes on-campus environments that respect students, faculty members and staff. Students were most in agreement, with 82 percent indicating that belief, followed by faculty (75 percent) and staff (74 percent).

Among the key positive findings:

Respect on campus: Most students, faculty and staff that reported that CU promotes an environment of respect regardless of social identity.

Respect within units: The majority of students, faculty and staff reported that their particular academic or work unit promotes an environment of respect regardless of social identity.

Diversity of population: Survey results demonstrated broad ranges of diversity across many social identities, including race and ethnicity, age, religious affiliation, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation and political philosophy.

Among the findings that identify areas with room for improvement:

Perceived prejudice and discrimination: The overwhelming majority of the CU community reported that they have not been subject to prejudice or discrimination, though “significant numbers of respondents reported that they have experienced prejudice or discrimination ‘sometimes’ or ‘frequently.’”

Bases of prejudice and discrimination: Among those who reported they had experienced some time of prejudice or discrimination, the types of discrimination varied. Students indicated gender (34 percent) and religion (32 percent) most; faculty responded gender (48 percent) and age (33 percent) most; staff responded age (44 percent) and gender (41 percent) most.

Political affiliation and political philosophy: CU is unique in recognizing political affiliation and political philosophy as protected characteristics under the Laws of the Regents, McLaughlin said.

“Although in the minority, significant numbers of students, faculty, and staff, particularly students on the Boulder campus, disagreed with the premise that they are respected regardless of their political affiliations and political philosophies,” the summary reports.

Knowledge of complaint mechanisms: On average, 61 percent of students across all campuses indicated they would not know how to make a complaint of discrimination.

McLaughlin said this first survey of its kind establishes valuable benchmarks that can be used for comparison in the future. Potential follow-up questions might address who engages in prejudicial or discriminatory conduct, where the conduct occurs and what constitutes such conduct.

“This provides us a baseline – that’s what’s really important,” said Regent Irene Griego, D-Lakewood. “This survey gives a message to our entire community that we care about these areas.”

The board is recommending that CU conduct a Social Climate Survey every two years to track progress over time.

Said Regent James Geddes, R-Sedalia, “I’m glad to see how responsible our faculty has been with their conduct in the classroom and with their students. That’s a real feather in the cap of this university.”

Geddes asked for figures on the political affiliation reported by faculty; across the system, McLaughlin said, 42 percent of faculty self-identified as Democrats, 9 percent as Republicans.

With the survey complete, the board now is asking the campuses and system administration to analyze the data and report on any efforts being made to address findings of concern. In the executive summary, the Board of Regents encourages the campuses to share the data with campus constituents and to invite discussion on how to improve the campus culture and how to increase diversity in all forms.

The summary also lists several points of contact for the reporting of instances of discrimination and prejudice. “The Board of Regents encourages any member of the University of Colorado community who has experienced prejudice or discrimination in an educational or employment setting to report their experience to the officials charged with investigating these allegations. There are also counseling services and other resources available to members of the University of Colorado community.”

The Social Climate Survey originated last September with a regent resolution, which passed unanimously. While surveys have been conducted previously on campuses, this was the first to measure progress on a systemwide basis.

Title IX compliance, efforts to reduce sexual harassment and assault outlined[21]

The University of Colorado Board of Regents on June 26 reinforced its commitment to Title IX compliance, including ending sexual harassment and sexual assault on its campuses and working with victims to ensure speedy and fair investigations into allegations of misconduct.

“There’s no greater priority for the university than the safety of our students; to make sure there's a safe learning environment,” said Michael Carrigan, board chair, at the board’s meeting at CU Denver. “There's an increasing concern nationally about sexual assault in particular, but also student safety generally.”

At its April meeting, the board asked for chancellors to report on steps being taken by each campus to ensure the safety of its students. Two days later, the Department of Justice announced that CU-Boulder and CU Denver were included on a list of 55 campuses under investigation for potential Title IX violations.

CU-Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano outlined processes underway to improve Title IX compliance, victim support and prevention.

“CU-Boulder began a review of its responsibilities a year ago,” he said, noting the university underwent an external review of its efforts. “The reviewers liked our processes and, as we asked them to do, identified areas where we further could strengthen our processes.”

The first step was the hiring of Valerie Simons[22], director of institutional equity and compliance. Simons will serve as Title IX officer. But the process will continue to evolve, he said.

“Prevention training must happen many places at many times,” DiStefano said. While much of the training is focused on incoming freshmen during orientation, all the chancellors acknowledged that the information needs to be reinforced throughout the campus communities the year.

“We're committed to creating and maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment for our campus community,” DiStefano said.

UCCS Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak said she ultimately is responsible for prevention and support.

“I hold myself responsible for the environment on the campus and accountability,” she said, adding all faculty staff and students are also responsible for student safety and support. “It is important that we talk about this very, very seriously. “

CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman said Title IX requirements are evolving, and it’s imperative that campuses keep on top of what is expected of them.

“We’re looking at a moving target. I don’t know if any of us know where that line is going to be in the months and years ahead,” Elliman said. “Where this is going to line up in the future, heaven alone knows. We need to be prepared.”

Steps being taken across the campuses include ongoing training of students, including behavior and access to resources, changing the culture on the campuses and bystander training so that people can recognize incidents and react responsibly.

Regent Kyle Hybl stressed the need to consistently remind the campus communities that programs and processes are in place and encourage them to seek assistance and support, suggesting text messages or other means of communication periodically to reinforce the available resources.

Sue Sharkey, board vice chair, asked campuses to make an effort to examine ways to shorten the investigative processes to find a resolution for the victims and the accused.

Board encouraged by diversity strides at CU[23]

The University of Colorado Denver reported to the CU Board of Regents at its June meeting that more than half of its new resident freshmen are a racial/ethnic minority: CU Denver is at 51 percent, UCCS 36 percent and CU-Boulder 29 percent.

The board commended diversity officers from each campus for overall increased enrollment and graduation percentages of minorities. Some regents, however, voiced concern over the low number of African-American students attending CU, especially at CU-Boulder.

Each campus reported increases in the percentage of minority students, with the combined CU-Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus having the highest percentage of undergraduate minority students at 35 percent. UCCS’s

undergraduate minority population is 28 percent, up 8 percent from four years ago and CU-Boulder's undergraduate minority population is at 20 percent. The campuses also reported:

CU-Boulder
The 20 percent undergraduate enrollment of diverse students is an all-time high. The freshmen class was 23 percent ethnic minority in fall 2013, including 29 percent in the resident freshmen class. A total of 5,192 degree-seeking undergraduates self-identified as an ethnic minority. The graduate enrollment of diverse students increased to 13 percent in fall 2013, also an all-time high, for a total of 705 who self-identified as American Indian, Latino, African-American, Asian-American, and more than one race.

UCCS
The proportion of minority undergraduates has gone up 2 percentage points each year for the past four years, increasing from 20 percent to 28 percent. The diversity of resident freshmen is at 36 percent for the incoming class in fall 2013. A "success coaching" staff complements the advising done by professional staff and by faculty by systematically engaging with students throughout their freshman year. Students who were "coached" last year were retained at a rate 20 percent to 30 percent higher than those who were not coached. Freshman minority retention improved in fall 2013, from 67 percent to 69 percent. The graduate student population is at 18 percent minority and is growing faster than overall graduate enrollment.

CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus
The proportion of undergraduate students of color at the combined Denver Campus and Anschutz Medical Campus has increased each year since 2005, reaching 35 percent for fall 2013. The numbers and proportions of graduate students of color have consistently increased the last several years, peaking at 913 and 16 percent in fall 2013. In the fall semesters of 2007 through 2009, the percentage of health professional students of color at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus remained steady at 21 percent. The percentage of bachelor's degrees awarded to students of color at the combined Denver Campus and Anschutz Medical Campus reached 28 percent in 2013. More than one-fourth of the bachelor's degrees were earned by students of color. Although only 12 percent of the master's degrees were awarded to students of color, of the 669 degrees awarded at the doctoral level, more than 20 percent were conferred to students of color.

Bob Boswell, vice chancellor in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement at CU-Boulder, said that since 2007 the percentage of African-American students at CU-Boulder has decreased by 9 percent and American Indian students have decreased by 19 percent. He said some of the shift is because of a restructuring in how students' ethnicity is classified in the admissions process.

"Clearly we have a challenge," Boswell said. "The climate in Boulder – the city itself – there's a perception that we're not a welcoming climate."

Michael Carrigan, D-Denver, chair of the board, said he consistently hears from his constituents about the lack of diversity at CU-Boulder. He said he's often been told African-American students face an unwelcoming culture with fewer amenities than other students.

"I'm frustrated that there has not been a meaningful change in the 10 years I've been on this board," Carrigan said. "It is a blemish on what is an otherwise outstanding institution."

Boswell outlined current and proposed programs geared toward determining and eliminating barriers that keep minority students from enrolling at CU-Boulder and from earning their degree within six years.

CU-Boulder plans to conduct a student survey "to identify factors that impact students in the classroom; to address factors that impact their persistence, retention and graduations," Boswell said.

The overall increase in the percentage of minority students was encouraging, he said.

"In 2007, our entering class was 356 Latino students and currently it's 634, so that's a 78 percent increase. In Colorado high schools, there's only been a 28 percent increase of (graduating) Latino students in that same time period," Boswell said.

Tenure list: June 2014[24]

At its June meeting at CU Denver on the Auraria Campus, the Board of Regents approved tenure for 105 faculty members. Unless otherwise noted, all are effective Aug. 18, 2014.

University of Colorado Boulder
Tania Barham, Economics William Boyd, School of Law Maxwell Boykoff, Environmental Studies Program Esther Brown, Spanish and Portuguese Yifu Ding, Mechanical Engineering Francoise Duresse-Stimilli, Art and Art History Nabil Echchaibi, Journalism and Mass Communication Program Virginia Ferguson, Mechanical Engineering Rebecca Flowers, Geological Sciences Sanjay Gautam, History Alvin Gregorio, Art and Art History Matthew Hallowell, Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering Victoria Hand, School of Education Michael Hermele, Physics Mahmoud Hussein, Aerospace Engineering Sciences Arthi Jayaraman, Chemical and Biological Engineering Matthew Keller, Psychology and Neuroscience Kathryn Lage, University Libraries (Effective July 1, 2014) Se-Hee Lee, Mechanical Engineering Stefan Leyk, Geography Jill Litt, Environmental Studies Program Qin Lv, Computer Science Jack Maness, University Libraries (Effective July 1, 2014) Christy McCain, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Charles Persons, Theatre and Dance Erika Randall, Theatre and Dance Isaac Reed, Sociology Fernando Riosmena, Geography Jose Rivas Rodriguez, Spanish and Portuguese L. Kaifa Roland, Anthropology Rebecca Safran, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Richard Saxton, Art and Art History Andrew Schwartz, School of Law Cosetta Seno, French & Italian Ivan Smalyukh, Physics Katharine Suding, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Harry Surden, School of Law Franck Vernerey, Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering Rainer Volkamer, Chemistry and Biochemistry Beverly Weber, Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures John Willis, History Wei Zhang, Chemistry and Biochemistry
University of Colorado Colorado Springs (Effective June 28, 2014)

Matthew Barton, Visual and Performing Arts Sonja Braun Sand, Chemistry and Biochemistry Corey Drieth, Visual and Performing Arts Leilani Feliciano, Psychology Carol Finnegan, College of Business Lisa Hines, Biology K. Alex Ilyasova, English Deborah Kenny, Graduate Nursing Sylvia Martinez, Leadership, Research and Foundations Kimbra Smith, Anthropology Hoyoung (Heather) Song, Electrical and Computer Engineering Blaise Sonnier, College of Business Carmen Stavrositu, Communication Rebecca Webb, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus (Effective June 28, 2014)

Aviva Abosch, Neurosurgery Brian Barker, English Ullrich Bayer, Pharmacology Hamilton Bean, Communication Edward Bedrick, Biostatistics and Infomatics Teague von Bohlen, English Margaret Brown-Sica, Auraria Library Maria Buszek, Visual Arts Eduardo da Cruz, Pediatrics Vinit Desai, Business School Anthony Elias, Medicine Manuel Luis Espinoza, School of Education and Human Development Melissa Furness, Visual Arts Stephen Gedney, Electrical Engineering Lia Gore, Pediatrics Douglas Graham, Pediatrics Sarah Horton, Anthropology Sara Horton-Deutsch, College of Nursing Antonio Jimeno, Medicine Craig Jordan, Medicine Laurence Kaptain, Music and Entertainment Industry Studies Arunprakash Karunanithi, Civil Engineering Kristin Kilbourn, Psychology Yail Jimmy Kim, Civil Engineering Dwight Klemm, Medicine Tim Lei, Electrical Engineering Bryan Leister, Visual Arts Andres Lema-Hincapie, Modern Languages Jill Litt, Environmental and Occupational Health Paul MacLean, Medicine Mary Malina, Business School Fernando Mancilla-David, Electrical Engineering Sean McGowan, Music and Entertainment Industry Studies Paul Musso, Music and Entertainment Industry Studies Madalyn Neu, College of Nursing Jennifer Reich, Sociology Ronica Rooks, Health and Behavioral Sciences Angela Sauaia, Health Systems, Management and Policy Jeffrey Schrader, Visual Arts Kent Seidel, School of Education and Human Development Karen Sobel, Auraria Library Nathan Thompson, Theatre, Film and Video Danielle Varda, School of Public Affairs Amy Vidali, English Haobin Wang, Chemistry Bryan Wee, Geography and Environmental Sciences Diana White, Mathematical and Statistical Sciences Duncan Wilcox, Surgery Michael Wunder, Integrative Biology

Regents roundup[25]

News and notes from the June 26-27 meeting of the CU Board of Regents at CU Denver on the Auraria Campus:

New CU-Boulder College of Media, Communication and Information approved: The vote marks the first creation of a new college at CU-Boulder in more than 50 years. It moves forward the reorganization of the Department of Communication and the Program in Journalism and Mass Communication into one college. See full story here.[26]

Capital construction projects advance: The board gave unanimous approval (8-0; Regent James Geddes absent) to a slate of capital construction projects[27], including CU-Boulder's underground parking garage near Folsom Field and a new dining and community commons center at Williams Village, taking the place of the 48-year-old Darley Dining Hall. Before voting, Regents Kyle Hybl and Joe Neguse said they had concerns about new construction possibly taking precedence over deferred maintenance for older buildings in need or repairs or renovation. However, they said their concerns were alleviated by CU-Boulder's intention of aggressively pursuing deferred maintenance in a slate of proposed projects expected to be presented to the board at its September meeting.

Vice president of advancement named: The board voted to give President Bruce Benson permission to deviate from the standard search process and name Johnnie Ray the university's vice president of advancement, effective July 14. The vote was 6-2 (Regent Geddes absent). Regents Neguse and Michael Carrigan said the voted no not as a reflection on Ray, but because they were ill at ease with repeated requests for waivers from the standard search process. Ray has been with CU since last fall and began serving as acting vice president of advancement after the departure of Kelly Cronin[28].

New board chair and vice chair elected: Regent Kyle Hybl, R-Colorado Springs, was elected chair in a 6-1 secret ballot vote. Regent Geddes was absent and Regent Stephen Ludwig had left the meeting shortly before the vote. Ludwig, D-Denver, had received four votes for chair on the one round of balloting prior to the deciding tally. Hybl, who previously served as chair from 2010 to 2012, also received four votes during the first ballot. Regent Irene Griego, D-Lakewood, was elected vice chair by acclamation.

Carrigan and Sharkey honored: Outgoing Chair Carrigan, D-Denver, was presented with a gavel from the rest of the board in recognition of his two years as chair; outgoing Vice Chair Sue Sharkey, R-Castle Rock, also was honored for her two years in the role. Carrigan briefly spoke of a recent trip to Beijing, where the 20th anniversary of CU's connection to the International College of Beijing was being observed. He said he was delighted to see a sign at the college with the famous Norlin Charge[29]. "You can imagine how much it made my heart stir to see that," Carrigan said. "It was a reminder that our reach is not only across the state, it is truly across the world."

Change to presidential succession process: The board voted 8-0 (Regent Geddes absent) to change the process for appointing an interim university president in the event the current president is unable to perform the office's duties. In such instances, the board chair now will choose a temporary president from among current vice presidents and chancellors, to be followed by the full board convening to choose an interim president. Previously, the vice president of academic affairs was immediately named the interim president until the board could convene to choose an interim president.

Brian Burnett resolution: "We are in an entirely different place than when he came to us – and it's a good place," said UCCS Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak in recognizing Brian Burnett, senior executive vice chancellor, Administration and Finance. Next month, he'll begin his new role as vice president for finance and chief financial officer for the University of Missouri System. He received a resolution of appreciation and was wished well by regents and university leaders at the meeting. "It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve this university for the past 11 years," said Burnett, who added, "There is a piece of my heart being left here."

Summer enrollment up 6 percent[30]

[31]
UCCS summer enrollment increased by 211 students, an almost 6 percent increase from a year ago, according to a

June 16 report.

The Office of Institutional Research provided enrollment data following the official census date for summer enrollment. There were 3,793 students enrolled for the summer 2014 semester compared to 3,582 students last summer, a 211 student or 5.9 percent increase.

Students enrolled in 22,099 credit hours in summer 2014 compared to 20,909 last summer, an 1,190 hour or 5.7 percent increase.

“UCCS continues to be a popular choice for students seeking high-quality academics, a vibrant campus life and affordable tuition,” said Homer Wesley, vice chancellor, Student Success and Enrollment Management. “The Student Success Division appreciates the support of many on campus who provide such a positive educational experience.”

The largest increases in summer enrollment were in continuing students (5.9 percent), graduate students (4 percent) and transfer students (22 percent).

Wesley attributed the increases to more students who are focused on efficiently completing their education and the attention of academic units to ensuring more class spaces are available to meet student demand. Adding a third semester to the traditional academic year allows students to either finish more quickly or to take a lighter course load during the fall semester, often an important factor for those students who balance job or family responsibilities.

Applications for fall semester remain strong, Wesley said. He encouraged faculty and staff to continue to support orientation sessions throughout the summer and to be vigilant in encouraging students to enroll.

Drones 101: Course in Unmanned Aerial Systems looks to the future[32]

[33]
Take a look at the current CU Denver catalog[34] and you will see a course titled Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS).

Housed in the Geomatics Engineering and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Program[35] of the College of Engineering and Applied Science[36], this course might, at first glance, look like Drones 101—the study of the unmanned aircraft often associated with hobbyists or international conflict.

In fact, the course is an initiative to teach a new generation of scientists about applications and research opportunities afforded by unmanned aircraft.

“The university is looking to the future,” said Jeff Cozart, who is teaching the course for the first time in fall 2014. “I believe this is a skillset that a variety of people in different industries will need to know. CU Denver[37] is helping train the workforce in technologies that will be available to them.”

The Regulations

How many people will need these skills and how they will be used remains a topic for discussion and some controversy. With an eye on safety, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) prohibits routine operation of UAS over densely-populated areas but does authorize limited use of UAS for important missions in the public interest.

Today, drones perform border and port surveillance by the Department of Homeland Security, help with scientific research and environmental monitoring by NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), support public safety by law enforcement agencies, help state universities conduct research and support various other missions for government entities.

The FAA is under congressional orders to develop comprehensive regulations for drones to share the skies with

commercial airliners by September 2015. “The FAA is being responsible and diligent,” Cozart said. “It may seem slow, but they have to keep the public safe.”

The Economic Impact

When they are announced, the new regulations could transform the industry and change how we live and work.

The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) estimates that integrating UAS into the National Airspace System (NAS) will create more than 100,000 new jobs by 2025.

AUVSI also estimates that the economic impact of the integration of UAS into the NAS will total more than $13.6 billion in the first three years and will grow sustainably in the foreseeable future.

Even if those estimates err on the side of optimism, Cozart believes that future jobs and income will go to professionals who have been trained in the kind of evidence-based applications for UAS he is teaching. “The curriculum of this course looks at UAS as a scientific and economic discipline,” he said. “UAS have been available throughout the history of aviation. What has changed is the amount of data you can collect, store and analyze from every flight.”

The Applications

[38]
Cozart started his career building maps for National Geographic by hiking deep into the jungle to find Mayan ruin sites in Mexico and Guatemala. His tool at the time was a GPS receiver. The next step was using satellites to create maps. “Now we are going beyond GPS, beyond satellites and looking at the future, seeing UAS doing similar tasks,” he said.

Cozart envisions a time when UAS will be more widely applied to solve real-life problems.

The Mine Explosion Application: Today, after an explosion in a mine, a rescue crew searching for trapped miners would have to map a post-explosive environment with newly created hazards. The process can be slow and dangerous.

Cozart describes the alternative—a drone flies into an underground mine after an explosion. The aircraft could be programmed to navigate the mine, avoiding hazards, mapping with a 3D scanner and even collecting data about concentrations of lethal gas. The maps and data could lead rescuers directly and safely to lost miners. In this way, Cozart says, Geomatics, the science that allows us to know exactly where things are, “really does relate to life and death."

The Lost Hikers Application: Traditionally, a search-and-rescue crew will try to find lost hikers, often having to travel vast amounts of terrain in challenging weather.

UAS can fly over a very large area rapidly and, with infrared sensors and thermal imaging, identify people on the ground. “We have a strong sense in the UAS community that drones can be used in search and rescue to save lives,” Cozart said.

The Agriculture Application: Today, farmers do random inspections of their land, collecting soil samples to evaluate soil quality prior to planting. That may mean a farmer with 500,000 acres under cultivation bases farming decisions on only 15 soil samples.

Cozart says drones with sensors could fly over farmland and collect data on the soil, telling a farmer to the square centimeter where the soil needs water or fertilizer. A drone could also tell a farmer which plants are under attack by pests and could then fly over an entire crop, spraying pesticides accurately and specifically on just those plants. In Japan, where drones have been used for this type of “precision agriculture” for the past 15 years, there has been a 10 percent increase in crop yield.

The Future

Cozartwho says he is “overwhelmed” by the drone-based research opportunities, believes his course will train the experts the industry is demanding. Watch the video of him in action on an approved drones test site, and you might think the class is more fun than work. But students are required to learn mission planning, UAS operations, field data collection procedures, data processing and data analysis. They also will study the legal, ethical and economic implications of using drones.

Most important, they will learn from a leader in the field who sees a future where drones are used responsibly and safely in the United States. “Let’s not just put aircraft in the sky,” Cozart said. “Let’s find real applications that have real value.”

CU-Boulder-led team identifies fossils of tiny, unknown hedgehog[39]

A new study led by CU-Boulder describes the fossils of a tiny hedgehog previously unknown to science living in a British Columbia rainforest some 50 million years ago near the height of a global warming stretch during the early Eocene Epoch. Also found: fossils of an ancient relative of modern tapirs known as Heptodon, which resembles a small rhino with no horn and a short trunk. (Artwork: Julius Csotonyi)

Meet perhaps the tiniest hedgehog species ever: Silvacola acares. Its roughly 52-million-year-old fossil remains were recently identified by a University of Colorado Boulder-led team working in British Columbia.

The hedgehog’s scientific name means “tiny forest dweller,” said CU-Boulder Associate Professor Jaelyn Eberle of the geological sciences department, lead author on the study. The creature -- a new genus and species to science -- was only about 2 inches long, roughly the length of an adult thumb.

“It is quite tiny and comparable in size to some of today’s shrews,” Eberle said. She speculated Silvacola may have fed on insects, plants and perhaps seeds. Did it have quills like contemporary hedgehogs? “We can’t say for sure,” Eberle said. “But there are ancestral hedgehogs living in Europe about the same time that had bristly hair covering them, so it is plausible Silvacola did too.”

Hedgehogs have become quite the rage as pets in North America in the past several years. The most common hedgehog pet today is the African pygmy hedgehog, which is up to four times the length of the diminutive Silvacola.

The fossils of the hedgehog, along with fossils of a tapir-like mammal about the size of a medium-sized dog, were found in north-central British Columbia at a site known as Driftwood Canyon Provincial Park that likely was a rainforest environment during the Early Eocene Epoch about 52 million years ago, she said.

While the Earth has experienced many dramatic changes in climate since the dinosaurs died out 66 million years ago, the Early Eocene was one of the warmest periods on Earth since the extinction. During this interval -- about 53 million to 50 million years ago -- North American mammal communities were quite distinct from those of today, said Eberle.

A paper on the discovery of the ancient hedgehog and tapir is being published today in the Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology. Study co-authors include Research Scientist Natalia Rybczynski of the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Ontario, and Professor David Greenwood of Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba. The fieldwork was supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

“Within Canada, the only other fossil localities yielding mammals of similar age are from the Arctic, so these fossils from British Columbia help fill a significant geographic gap,” said Rybczynski. Other fossils of the same age have previously been discovered in Wyoming and Colorado, she said.

Instead of being removed from the surrounding rock, the delicate upper dentition of the tiny hedgehog was scanned

with an industrial, high-resolution CT scanner at Penn State University so it could be studied without risking damage to its tiny teeth. Modern hedgehogs and their relatives are restricted to Europe, Asia and Africa.

The other mammal discovered at the site, Heptodon, is an ancient relative of modern tapirs, which resemble small rhinos with no horns and a short, mobile trunk or proboscis, said Eberle, also curator for vertebrate paleontology at the University of Colorado Museum of Nature and Science.

“Heptodon was about half the size of today’s tapirs, and it lacked the short trunk that occurs on later species and their living cousins,” said Eberle. “Based upon its teeth, it was probably a leaf-eater, which fits nicely with the rainforest environment indicated by the fossil plants at the site.”

Most of the fossil-bearing rocks at Driftwood Canyon were formed on the bottom of an ancient lake and are well-known for their exceptionally well-preserved leaves, insects, and fishes. But no fossils of mammals had ever before been identified at the site.

“The discovery in northern British Columbia of an early cousin to tapirs is intriguing because today’s tapirs live in the tropics,” said Eberle. “Its occurrence, alongside a diversity of fossil plants that indicates a rainforest, supports an idea put forward by others that tapirs and their extinct kin are good indicators of dense forests and high precipitation.”

Fossil plants from the site indicate the area seldom experienced freezing temperatures and probably had a climate similar to that of contemporary Portland, Ore., roughly 700 miles to the south.

“Driftwood Canyon is a window into a lost world, an evolutionary experiment where palms grew beneath spruce trees and the insects included a mixture of Canadian and Australian species. Discovering mammals allows us to paint a more complete picture of this lost world,” said Greenwood.

“The early Eocene is a time in the geological past that helps us understand how present-day Canada came to have the temperate plants and animals it has today,” Greenwood said. “However, it can also help us understand how the world may change as the global climate continues to warm.”

State leaders visit bioscience labs[41]

[42]
On June 6, Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet and Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan were joined by more than 45 state leaders getting a firsthand look at Colorado’s bioscience industry and the vital research being carried out at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.

Organized by Bennet and hosted by the university, the Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority, Terumo BCT and the Colorado BioScience Association, the event brought together attendees from academia, local governments and businesses, economic development groups and the bioscience industry.

“A major economic engine”

During initial introductions in the Fulginiti Pavilion for Bioethics and Humanities[43], Lilly Marks, CU’s vice president for health affairs and executive vice chancellor of the Anschutz Medical Campus, spoke of the groundbreaking discoveries that have emerged from the laboratories of the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Describing the campus as “a major economic engine for Colorado,” Marks described the impact the campus has “not only improving our lives, but improving the health of our state’s economy.” The importance of the campus to the state was highlighted by Marks’ revelation that the one square mile of the Anschutz Medical Campus generates more money for Colorado’s economy than the state’s ski industry.

Marks stressed the importance of bioscience to the university, stating that “biotechnology is an emerging priority for the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. We are a leading provider of health professional education, clinical care and basic and clinical research. So becoming a leader in biotechnology innovation and transfer fits right in with our mission. Sen. Bennet has provided tremendous interest in, and support of, biomedical research and technology, and his stalwart backing of the work on our campus helps us reach our goals.”

“An unbelievable champion of bioscience”

During his welcome speech, Bennet highlighted bioscience as one of the fastest-growing areas in the United States for job creation and spoke of Colorado’s “thriving bioscience community,” which is critical to Colorado’s economy. The sector employs 27,000 Coloradans, resulting in over 122,000 direct and indirect jobs and translating into over $10 billion in payroll. In 2011, there were 400 bioscience firms in the state paying an average annual salary of $76,000; now there are more than 600 companies paying an average salary of $84,000.

Bennet, described by Marks as “an unbelievable champion of bioscience,” has been an advocate for the bioscience industry throughout his time in the Senate. While addressing the assembled audience, Bennet spoke of the Advancing Breakthrough Therapies for Patients Act that he successfully wrote and passed in 2012.

“In the last two years, nearly 50 drugs have received “breakthrough therapy” designation to expedite the approval of promising drugs in the USA,” Bennet said, “and a number of them have been approved by the FDA, including drugs for leukemia, cystic fibrosis and lung cancer. The work on breakthrough therapies began right here on this campus.”

“The computer is not always right”

Throughout the day attendees were able to tour research laboratories at Anschutz Medical Campus, Children’s Hospital Colorado and Terumo BCT, a multi-national firm in Lakewood specializing in the collection, storage and transfusion of blood.

While at CU’s Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences[44], visitors, joined by Ralph J. Altiere, Ph.D., dean of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy, gained insight into the vital research being carried out in drug development. Specifically, they visited the synthetic chemistry facility and the computational chemistry facility.

In the computational chemistry research lab, Donald Backos, Ph.D., highlighted the research into targeted therapies—drugs that treat disease without having an effect on healthy cells. To do this, researchers investigate which proteins are involved in helping the diseased cells grow and survive, but are not involved with the function of the healthy cells. “If we can design drugs that block the function of the proteins that aid the growth of the diseased cells, it will help to treat the disease,” explained Backos, “but without toxic events to the health surrounding tissue.”

Explaining computational chemistry to the group, Backos said “Biology, at its core, is really just chemistry; it’s the sum of all the chemical reactions that are occurring in the cells. When you study chemistry, you find out it's really just physics; it's the interactions of the atoms at the sub-atomic level. When you study physics, you realize that physics is really just math; the behavior of the sub-atomic particles can be described by equations.”

“So, if everything just comes down to math, we can have a computer do it. And that's what computational chemistry and biology seeks to do. We use the computer to solve the equations that describe the physics that govern the behavior of the chemical and biological systems."

Despite the importance of computers in the process of drug development, Backos was quick to stress the important role that humans play. “The computer is not always right,” he explained. “It takes a trained computational chemist to analyze the computer data correctly and come up with a right answer.”

The event was rounded off with a networking reception, ensuring that Colorado’s bioscience industry continues to flourish and benefit the state’s economy.

Kennedy named a Pew Scholar[45]

[46]
Matthew J. Kennedy, assistant professor of pharmacology in the School of Medicine, has been named a Pew Scholar in the Biomedical Sciences. He is one of 22 early-career researchers to receive the honor this year from the Pew Charitable Trusts.

The scholars will receive flexible funding to investigate some of the world's most pressing problems and they join a community of more than 500 Pew scholars whose ranks include multiple recipients of Nobel Prizes, Lasker Awards and MacArthur Fellowships. Kennedy is one of 11 CU Pew Scholars.

Kennedy's lab is investigating the molecular events that "strengthen" the connections between neurons during learning and memory. Strengthening neural connections is thought to involve the recruitment of molecules that enhance neural activity, including proteins that recognize and react to incoming neural signals.

Kennedy is combining techniques in cell and molecular biology with a novel approach he designed to control the movement of specific proteins in selected nerve cells to address whether recruitment of a particular protein to the site of signaling between activated nerve cells actually promotes learning and examine which cells are involved in memory storage.

Pew Scholars are selected based on proven creativity by a national advisory committee composed of eminent scientists, including Chairman Craig C. Mello, a 1995 Pew scholar and a 2006 Nobel laureate in physiology or medicine.

"Scientific breakthroughs often come from seemingly unlikely origins, which is why it's so important to give young scientists the freedom and the support they need to pursue their most creative ideas," said Mello. "It is our privilege to help these outstanding investigators pursue new research paths and work with peers across disciplines in order to advance biomedical science and ultimately benefit human health."

Gatlin chosen as interim director for Chancellor's Leadership Class[47]

[48]
Garrett Gatlin – a UCCS lecturer, research intern at the Center for Creative Leadership, and assistant director of a local nonprofit – has been named the interim director of the Chancellor's Leadership Class. Gatlin will lead the student scholarship and leadership development program for the 2014-15 academic year.

Since January, Gatlin has worked as a research, design and delivery intern for the Center for Creative Leadership. He has also worked as the coordinator for communication across the curriculum in the Center for Excellence for Communication and as an academic lecturer. He is an assistant director of operations for Pure Rebellion Ministries, a local nonprofit, and previously worked as both a marketing manager for an insurance company and as a restaurant trainer.

Gatlin earned a bachelor's degree in communication from UCCS in 2012 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in communication.

CLC is a scholarship program designed to improve leadership skills, personal effectiveness and to prepare students to make meaningful community contributions.

Gatlin replaces Kristi Kremers, director of the program since 2012, who recently announced plans to return to the University of Minnesota where she hopes to complete her doctoral degree dissertation.

Thweatt named CU-Boulder vice chancellor for administration[49]

[50]
Steve Thweatt has been named vice chancellor for administration at CU-Boulder, effective July 1. Thweatt has been serving as interim vice chancellor for administration since March 15.

The vice chancellor for administration supervises a division of almost 700 employees and oversees an annual operating budget of $112 million. Areas of responsibility include campus construction, facilities management, public safety, environmental health and safety, human resources, risk management, environmental sustainability, printing and the campus bookstore.

Thweatt has worked for CU-Boulder at two different periods during his career. Prior to serving as interim vice chancellor for administration, Thweatt served as assistant vice chancellor for facilities management from July 2012 to March of this year, providing strategic leadership and administrative oversight for capital planning, design and construction, sustainability, engineering, physical plant operations, campus utilities and campus logistics.

Prior to returning to CU-Boulder in 2012, he was associate vice president of planning, design and construction at Emory University in Atlanta. From 1994 to 2007, Thweatt served as the CU-Boulder campus architect and director of planning, design and construction.

“I am honored by this appointment and continue to enjoy the privilege of serving the leadership of one of the finest universities in the nation, and easily the most beautiful,” Thweatt said.

Thweatt said his priorities include working to complete a study of how campus space is used, managing the growth and development of CU-Boulder’s East Campus to serve the university’s research mission, and collaborating closely with campus facility users “so that we can continue to make innovations in how our vital infrastructure is designed and utilized, while constantly gauging how it serves our community.”

Szpyrka, Reynolds, Scott and Moore in new roles at UCCS[51]
[52]
[53]
[54]
[55]
Szpyrka Scott Reynolds Moore
Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak announced several administrative organizational changes, including the assignment of duties following the resignation of Brian Burnett, senior executive vice chancellor, Administration and Finance.

Burnett’s last day at UCCS is Aug. 1. He will become vice president for finance and chief financial officer for the University of Missouri System. (See Communique for details on the farewell reception for Burnett[56].)

The position of senior executive vice chancellor will be eliminated, Shockley-Zalabak said. The majority of responsibilities previously assigned to the position will be handled by **Susan Szpyrka**, vice chancellor, Administration and Finance. Under the new administrative alignment, the directors of the departments of Institutional Research, Facilities Services, and Property, Space and Lease will report to Szpyrka. Intercollegiate Athletics will report through Szpyrka to Shockley-Zalabak as the chancellor will assume athletic department responsibilities associated with the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and the NCAA.

Reporting to Szpyrka will be **Gary Reynolds**, executive director, Department of Facilities Services; and **Gayanne**

Scott, senior executive director of human and financial resources, Department of Resource Management. The two will be promoted to positions of assistant vice chancellors in the Division of Administration and Finance. Also within the Division of Administration and Finance, **Tamara Moore,** executive director, Auxiliary Services, will be assigned additional responsibilities with auxiliary units.

Reynolds will continue to be responsible for the Department of Facilities Services and assume responsibility for the Office of Sustainability and the Auxiliary Facilities Department. Scott will continue to be responsible for human and financial resource management and assume responsibility for policy development as well as finance-related special projects.

Moore will initially assume responsibility for the bookstore and copy center and will assist Szpyrka with project management in a variety of auxiliary operations.

“I am appreciative of the willingness of Susan, as well as Gary, Gayanne and Tamara, to take on additional responsibilities,” Shockley-Zalabak said. “I ask that the campus community support the Administration and Finance Division during this period of transition.”

Potter named interim dean of Graduate School at CU Denver[57]

Terry Potter, professor of immunology, has been named interim dean of the Graduate School at CU Denver.

Potter replaces Barry Shur, who recently retired.

Potter has been a member of the Department of Immunology at National Jewish Health and the School of Medicine since 1988.

Workshop, community discussion to consider healthy sleep[58]

Two upcoming events at CU-Boulder will focus on treating sleep problems and healthy sleep.

“Effectively Treating Sleep Problems: Basics and Beyond” is a daylong, continuing education workshop for clinicians and features Dr. Allison Harvey from the University of California, Berkeley, a widely acclaimed expert on the treatment of sleep problems, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. July 28 in the University Memorial Center’s Room 247. Light breakfast is provided. Registration is required: $135 for professionals, $95 for students. Register online at: www.regonline.com/sleeptraining2014[59].

A free event, “Cultivating Nourishing Sleep” is a community conversation with Dr. Harvey as well as Drs. Monique LeBourgeois and Kenneth P. Wright, both of CU-Boulder’s Department of Integrative Physiology. The event also is 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. July 28 in Room 204 of the Wolf Law Building. Attendees will learn about healthy sleep across the lifecycle. The lectures will be followed by Q&A sessions and sharing of local resources for supporting healthy sleep. To register for this free event, go to www.regonline.com/sleeptalk2014[60].

The events, hosted by Sona Dimidjian, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, are part of a series called Taking Action! that is dedicated to sharing the latest scientific research and inspiring community conversation about psychological science related to health and wellness. It also focuses on training healthcare professionals to use evidence-based clinical strategies to improve care for important mental health problems.

In memoriam: Donald Schwartz[61]
[62]

Former UCCS Chancellor and faculty emeritus Donald Schwartz died July 4, 2014, in Colorado Springs. He was 86. He was named the second chancellor of UCCS in January 1978 and resigned as chancellor Dec. 31, 1982. He was a professor of chemistry until his retirement in January 1993.

During his time as chancellor, campus enrollment increased from 2,850 students to 3,150. He was also credited with helping set high undergraduate admission standards, securing state funding for construction of the Engineering Building, and for expanding the university's mission to include more graduate and doctoral degree programs.

"Don Schwartz was integral to the early growth of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs," said Pam Shockley-Zalabak, chancellor. "He provided a foundation upon which we have continued to grow and expand."

Prior to coming to UCCS, Schwartz was chancellor of the Indiana University-Purdue University campus in Fort Wayne, Ind.; acting president and vice president of academic affairs at the State University College, Buffalo, N.Y.; dean for advanced studies at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Fla.; and associate dean of the graduate school and director of research at Memphis State University. His teaching career included positions at North Dakota State University, Fargo, Moorehead State College and Villanova University. He also worked as a research chemist for Esso Research Laboratories and as a science adviser for Central America under a program sponsored by the U.S. State Department, the American Chemical Society and the National Science Foundation.

He earned his doctorate from the Pennsylvania State University, master's from Montana State University and bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri.

According to a notice published in the Colorado Springs Gazette, Schwartz is survived by his wife, Lois; three sons, Mark, Scott and Brad; and a daughter, Leanne. Services have already taken place.

National computing leaders to keynote High Performance Computing Symposium[63]

Two of the nation's leaders in state-of-the-art cyberinfrastructure research and development will be the keynote speakers at the Rocky Mountain Advanced Computing Consortium's fourth annual High Performance Computing Symposium in August.

Irene M. Qualters, division director of Advanced Cyberinfrastrucre (ACI) at the National Science Foundation (NSF), and Rajeeb Hazra, vice president of the Intel Data Center Group and general manager for Intel's Technical Computing Group, will speak at the Aug. 12-13 event, set for the Wolf Law Building on the main campus of the University of Colorado Boulder.

The symposium, which brings together faculty, researchers, industry leaders and students, is an outgrowth of past symposiums sponsored by the Front Range Consortium for Research Computing. The Consortium was expanded in 2013-14 to include academic and research institutions in Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, New Mexico, Montana and Utah. It is home-based at CU.

This year's symposium will feature sessions designed specifically for students at member institutions. Students will have the opportunity to learn about careers in the field of high performance computing, interview and resume skills, and learn strong presentation skills. The symposium will also feature special beginner level tutorials for students who wish to learn how to use a variety of advanced computing skills in their research. More advanced users and professionals will also have the opportunity to participate in panel discussions and exciting tutorial presentations.

To learn more about the symposium or to register, visit the symposium website at www.rmacc.org/hpsymposium[64] or call 303-735-3838. More about RMACC and its member institutions is available at www.rmacc.org/about[65].

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