Five questions for Roberta Capp[1]

[2]

In many ways, health insurance determines a person's access to care, and no one knows this better than Dr. Roberta Capp, assistant professor of emergency medicine.

Originally from Brazil, Capp came to Boulder from Florida after high school with her mother and sister. She earned an undergraduate degree in molecular, cellular and developmental biology at CU-Boulder. After earning her medical degree at Harvard University, she intended to become a neurosurgeon until she began surgery rotations and realized the impact that insurance can have on care.

"I realized that people were being turned away because of the insurance they had and their inability to pay for care," she said. "I thought that was pretty messed up, especially given that, growing up, I was pretty poor and we were uninsured at some point. I really wanted to be able to help anyone who walked in the door."

After Capp finished a fellowship, she reconnected with a Harvard mentor who had become chair of the emergency department at CU. He recruited her to the School of Medicine, where she has been since August 2013. She splits her time between her emergency medicine practice at the University of Colorado Hospital and her research, which focuses in part on emergency access and avoidable emergency department visits.

This summer, she developed the Hot Spotters Student Program to teach students in a variety of disciplines about the needs of underserved populations and ways to improve the access and quality of care for patients who visit the emergency department frequently.

Her No. 1 hobby, she says, is traveling, and no matter how much she likes a place, she won't return because there are so many new places to visit. In September, she plans to travel to Spain and northern Europe. Her wish list includes trips to New Zealand, Australia and Africa.

1. Personal experiences seem to have influenced your career choices a great deal. What were some of those events?

I wanted to do research because I was always the kind of person who liked to ask questions and problem-solve with objective data. I also really like to know a little bit about everything and be able to do it well and I couldn't do that with a specialty other than emergency medicine, where we really do get to see everything. It's a pretty chaotic environment, but at the same time, patients are at some of their most vulnerable states and you get to be there to help them get through it. You can make a pretty special connection with patients.

My research interests also involve personal experiences. When I started medical school, my mom came out to visit, and while there, she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She had no insurance, and we struggled to get her enrolled in Medicaid. Back in Colorado, my sister helped her get through the system, but we struggled to get her the care she needed. As I went through my residency and fellowship, I learned about community-based research. You learn about the struggles people with very little resources have and, because they have no other options, they end up turning to more expensive hospital care rather than primary care. All of my research focuses on helping the underserved population get more coordinated care and the right care at the right time at the right place. There will always be emergencies, but you want to provide other avenues for people who turn up at the emergency department (ED) because they couldn't see a primary care doctor or didn't have transportation.

I also want to educate people as they come through the ED about available resources and how to break down the barriers that are associated with getting the right care at the right time at the right place. When patients don't know whether they'll have food or a roof to sleep under at night, it's very difficult for them to think about making a doctor's appointment that will happen two weeks in the future or getting a prescription filled. All of their worries are about today.

2. Recently you published research on health insurance and reasons for emergency department use. What did you find?

You would think that by having an insurance card that you would be able to see a doctor at any time at any place, but that's not necessarily the case because of the differences in the payment system attached to care. Private insurance reimburses a hospital or provider at the highest rate, followed by Medicare, and finally, Medicaid has the lowest reimbursement rate. Primary care providers will not always accept new Medicaid patients because of the low pay. And that affects their health. Patients with Medicaid are at the highest risk for using the ED frequently, compared with others with different types of insurance because they have access issues. For instance, they may not be able to get to a doctor soon enough.

3. Did this research help you develop the idea for the Hot Spotters program?

The idea came about during my fellowship, when I started a patient navigation program using members of the community. The program helped Medicaid patients who frequented the ED more than four times a year by helping them make appointments or reminding them of appointments or figuring out transportation or other needs. If they were homeless, we tried to figure out a housing situation. I thought it would be great to get students who will be future leaders in health care to learn about these barriers and how they impact care. It's what I think medical education should be like, multidisciplinary and patient-centered.

What I want to do with the Hot Spotters program is educate the students about the social determinants of health. Caring for patients is not separate, but part of your life, and the work you do is meaningless unless you truly understand that component of help and also provide a service that will help break down the barriers. I also want to evaluate some patient-related factors that could be associated with future frequent ED use beyond health care issues, so it is a multi-fold program.

4. The program began June 1 and is just over halfway through. What does it entail, how is it going so far, and will you repeat the program?

The program is very ambitious. We wanted to involve students from multiple disciplines because we work in teams in health care, but our education is all done solo. We have three med students, one nursing student, four pharmacy students and three undergraduates. It's more helpful to have perspectives from medicine and nursing and pharmacy. The students are giving us real-time feedback and we get a chance to see what works and what doesn't.

The students are conducting surveys in the ED to determine a patient's insurance and the barriers to access to health care. We have weekly lectures and site visits where we go to different areas in the community to learn what resources are available. That helps us provide resources to high-risk patients who have been emitted multiple times or receive a new, bad diagnosis. We help them navigate through the health care system. We also contact the Aurora Fire Department to have a crew go to a patient's home to see if the person was able to fill a needed prescription or if they have other barriers.

I'm not sure if we'll do it again. Right now, it's volunteer-based and I supplied the little funding we have to pay for uniforms and field trips. To sustain the program, we would need outside funding or support from the school.

It's been so eye-opening for the students, patients and me. Some students feel intimidated to ask whether a person has recently eaten or is homeless. I had them write a reflection piece about it and one student said he was shocked to learn that a patient was going without food for most days in a month.

5. Are there any events you've experienced during your time at CU that have stuck with you?

Sadly, there are many of those. When you connect with people, you want to help everyone but you can't. When I started my job here, I saw a patient in her 40s with a diagnosis of bladder cancer. She came into the emergency department with pain, but because she had no insurance and her Medicaid wasn't approved, she could only be treated for the pain. At the time, I thought, 'Oh, my goodness, this person could benefit from surgery soon.' But to do that she would have had to have Medicaid approval right away. It was bureaucracy, because I knew she met the criteria. We tried to make calls to clinics but they wouldn't take her. Then, three or four weeks later, she came in again. We re-checked her blood work and found that the tumor was growing fast and her kidneys had shut down. The woman had to be admitted in much worse shape all because she couldn't get surgery.

It breaks my heart that health care can change people's lives depending on whether they have an insurance card. But there are a lot of people – physicians as well as administrators – who are looking at the issue of health care access and how we can improve it and that is exciting.

CU sets new benchmark for private support[3]

Private contributions to the University of Colorado have set a new annual record for the institution, which benefited from $298.4 million in support from individuals, foundations and corporations for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2014.

The preliminary figures indicate a 15.3 percent increase over the previous record, set in 2013. It's the fourth consecutive year in which CU has exceeded the previous record total.

Thanks to gifts from more than 46,000 individuals, foundations and corporations, CU's four campuses benefit from critical support for groundbreaking research, the establishment of new scholarships, the forging of economy-boosting connections with business and industry, and much more.

"We're extremely grateful to the many donors whose generous contributions continue to add value to people, programs and places at the University of Colorado," said CU President Bruce Benson. "The success is indicative of a great team effort across CU by people who have embraced our new advancement model of campus-based accountability coupled with some centralized support services."

Benson stressed that because more than 98 percent of donors earmark their gifts for specific purposes, philanthropy does not alleviate the need for operational funds squeezed in recent years by declines in state funding, despite a funding increase in FY 15.

Of the past year's total, about $154.1 million was donated through the University of Colorado Foundation. That total broken down by campus:
CU Anschutz Medical Campus: $69.5 million **University of Colorado Boulder:** $67.1 million **University of Colorado Colorado Springs:** $7.4 million **University of Colorado Denver:** $4.7 million **CU system:** $5.3 million
Roughly $144.3 million in private support was given directly to the university and the CU Real Estate Foundation. The total, which is in the process of final accounting, typically increases by closing.

Another strong indicator of ongoing future support for CU is the amount of recorded estate commitments, which are not counted in the previously noted fundraising totals. About $26.3 million in such commitments were recorded this past year.

Some examples of the impact of private support benefiting people, programs and places on CU's four campuses over the past year:
CU Anschutz Medical Campus: A patient's positive experience at the CU Eye Center inspired his $2 million pledge to the expanding facility. Another $1 million gift from the donor will bolster an endowed chair in the CU School of Medicine Department of Endocrinology. **CU-Boulder:** A $500,000 gift from Phillips 66 to the Office of Career Development at the Leeds School of Business, one of more than a dozen CU programs supported by the company, represents powerful belief in the potential of CU undergraduates. The office provides students with career exploration and preparation, industry experiences and access to employer and alumni connections. **UCCS:** More than $4.5 million in gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations are invigorating a Visual and Performing Arts Center slated for completion in the coming years. The complex will unify the Department of Visual and Performing Arts under one roof and enable inspired collaboration with local cultural groups. Private funding will leverage $18 million in state construction dollars received by CU over the past two years. **CU Denver:** CU alumnus Dr. David Lacey ('76) and his wife, Nancy, donated $650,000 to establish the Nancy M. Lacey Disability Resources and Services Suite, which incorporates the first assistive technology lab in the Office of Disability Resources and Services. The funding provides

for a testing center, equipment and some additional staffing. The Laceys' giving creates more opportunity for students with disabilities so they may seamlessly complete their college education.
The recently ended fiscal year was the first since Benson called for the formal integration of advancement and some fundraising support operations into the university. Previously, these staff members were employed under the auspices of a separate nonprofit, the CU Foundation, which continues to manage and account for existing gift funds and thousands of endowment accounts and other investments for the university.

"These record-breaking figures are a reflection of how individuals and corporations see the University of Colorado as a good investment," said Johnnie Ray, vice president of advancement. "CU's reputation is strengthened by many factors, including the life-changing research taking place across our campuses. That inspires confidence throughout the philanthropic community."

The past fiscal year also saw the conclusion of the highly successful Creating Futures campaign, which raised more than $1.521 billion in private contributions to CU. The effort entailed more than 158,000 donors making more than 403,000 gifts to CU from the official July 1, 2006, campaign start through Sept. 30, 2013, when campaign counting ended.

Changes to 15 system policies take effect this month[4]

The Office of Policy and Efficiency (OPE) has announced changes to 15 administrative policy statements (APS) from the areas of academic affairs, administration and general, fiscal, information technology and human resources – including three policy rescissions, nine policy revisions and three new policies.

These changes, approved by President Bruce Benson, became effective July 1, 2014. For more detailed information, go to http://www.cu.edu/policies/aps-changes.html[5].

Rescinded
APS 1003[6] – Post Tenure Review APS 1004[7] – Guidelines for the Separation of Multi-Campus Schools and Colleges APS 1011[8] – Professional Plan for Faculty
Revised
APS 1006[9] – Differentiated Annual Workloads for Faculty APS 1025[10] – Uniform Grading Policy APS 2022[11] – Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) APS 7001[12] – Insurance and Indemnification Requirements for Use of Facilities by Non-University Groups APS 2003[13] – External Audit Notification and Reporting (Formerly Coordination of Audits) APS 5016[14] – Faculty Retirement Agreements APS 5024[15] – Tuition Assistance Benefit APS 2008[16] – Electronic Signatures and Transactions (Formerly Electronic Signatures and Records) APS 6002[17] – Electronic Communication (Formerly Use of Electronic Mail)
New
APS 4058[18] – Budget and Net Position Internal Reporting APS 4060[19] – Crowdfunding APS 5055[20] – HIPAA Hybrid Entity Designation
Additional APS Revision Expected to be Approved

Following discussion at the June 20, 2014, TEAM Meeting, the Office of Policy and Efficiency was asked to work with Academic Affairs and the campuses to review some additional revisions proposed to Appendix B in APS1022 - Standards, Processes and Procedures for Comprehensive Review, Tenure, Post-Tenure Review and Promotion. The final decision and action on this policy, including the changes to Appendix B, will be announced soon.

For more information on system policies, go to: http://www.cu.edu/ope[21].

If you would like to receive periodic policy updates from the Office of Policy and Efficiency, please send an email to ope@cu.edu[22] and request to be added to the OPE Distribution List.

BioFrontiers Institute launches inaugural Sie Post-doctoral Fellowship Program[23]

The BioFrontiers Institute[24] at CU has launched its inaugural Sie Post-doctoral Fellowship Program in affiliation with theLinda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome[25] on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. The program will fund three post-doctoral researchers, Sie Fellows, who will focus on research that will improve the lives of individuals with Down syndrome.

The Sie Fellows research is co-funded by the BioFrontiers Institute and the Anna and John J. Sie Foundation[26]. Every two years, three Sie Fellows will be selected from a competitive grant process and will receive between $71,000 and $85,000 a year for two years.

Nobel Laureate and head of the BioFrontiers Institute Thomas Cech[27], BioFrontiers Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) Leslie Leinwand[28], and Executive Director of the Crnic Institute Tom Blumenthal[29] were key in assessing the 44 applicants before deciding on the inaugural three recipients: Mary Allen[30] of CU-Boulder's Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology (MCDB), Geertruida Josien Levenga[31] of CU-Boulder's Institute of Behavioral Genetics, and Alfonso Garrido-Lecca[32] of MCDB.

"The projects being carried out by the Sie Fellows are key to significantly improving the lives of people with Down syndrome and to eradicating the medical and cognitive ill effects associated with the condition," Leinwand said. "The support of early stage post-doctoral fellows is crucial in any research operation, and these awards make it possible for faculty to increase their commitment to this important cause."

The BioFrontiers Institute was formed in 2011 to bring together faculty members from the life sciences, physical sciences, computer science and engineering with the passion and skills needed to research across traditional disciplines and tackle difficult medical issues, under the leadership of Cech, the institute's director.

"The research embodies the kind of cutting-edge interdisciplinary approach to biomedical problems that BioFrontiers is all about," Cech said.

"The fact that there were 44 applicants for three awards underscores how exciting research for Down syndrome is, and the potential for real scientific contribution," Blumenthal said. "With our Supergroup of 60 scientists working on Down syndrome and meeting monthly from different disciplines and different schools, we are truly making a difference for this special population and their families."

"The Global Down Syndrome Foundation is pleased to add these outstanding researchers to our future portfolio of research we aim to fund and advocate for. Their research is already so relevant," said Michelle Sie Whitten, executive director of the Global Down Syndrome Foundation, the fundraising and advocacy arm of the Crnic Institute.

Allen's research involves genetic sequencing data from people with Down syndrome and their parents to understand how an extra copy of chromosome 21 puts people with Down syndrome at higher risk for health issues such as heart defects, thyroid conditions, leukemia, Alzheimer's disease, and respiratory and hearing problems, but at lower risk for heart attack, stroke and solid-tumor cancers.

Levenga, who is a neuroscientist, is conducting research into ameliorating the seizures that afflict many people with Down syndrome.

Garrido-Lecca will test the hypothesis that alteration of microRNA levels in people with Down syndrome contributes to some of their health challenges.

Down syndrome is the most commonly occurring chromosomal condition, affecting one out of every 691 live births in

the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Because of the end of widespread institutionalization, better medical care, improved access to education and greater societal inclusion, people with Down syndrome are living longer and more productive lives, with the average life span increasing from 25 years in 1983 to 60 years today.

Boulder Campus Staff Council takes stock of year's accomplishments[33]

[34]

Each committee of Boulder Campus Staff Council was asked to submit an annual summary of activity and accomplishments to the full council for review to assess how effectively the committees worked to further the council's mission: "Staff Council represents, informs and educates staff employees by serving as a liaison between employees and Boulder campus, university system and state administration. We also recommend proposals to the administration that are designed to improve morale and advocate for the rights of staff employees."

Awards & Staff Recognition (ASR):
[35]
Hosted the Years of Service/Recent Retiree Recognition Event for the 38th consecutive year. Some 109 staff members were recognized for their 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service with a gift certificate, a CU pin designating their years of service and an invitation (plus three) to this event. Past calendar year retirees with 20+ years of service were also invited. A total of 140 staff and guests attended. Worked with the chancellor's office and the athletics department to add an additional recognition event for this year's five Chancellor's Employees of the Year. Athletics provided 10 court-side seats and a halftime ceremony during the Women's Basketball Pac-12 opener in January. Improved logistics are planned for next year. ASR also nominated the awardees for recognition by the Governor's Office for Public Employee Recognition Week. Honorees were given certificates signed by Gov. John Hickenlooper thanking them for their outstanding service. ASR created a third banner this year highlighting staff recognized by the University of Colorado Staff Council for their service to the community and university since 2001. ASR wrote three articles for CU-Boulder Today and CU Connections highlighting staff achievements. [36]
ASR worked on two staff recognition submissions and a diversity grant for a recognition event targeting shift staff who cannot attend other outreach events.
Blood Drive:
Hosted five blood drives that collected 1,008 units of blood representing 3,024 transfusions during 18 days.
Communications:
Coordinated brown-bag lunch meetings within the eight geographic areas that staff council members represent. The goal of the meetings was to improve two-way communication between staff and their representatives. Although attendance was lower than expected, the results were positive. Updated the staff survey, created a Spanish translation version, ran the survey using both digital and print versions for staff that do not have ready access to a computer and analyzed the results.
Elections:

[37]

Updated staff council's elections code. Recruited staff to run for office and promoted the election, which resulted in more multi-candidate races. Supervised the 2014 Officer and Area Representative Elections, which also had more multi-candidate races than in past years. Currently, the council is updating the elections code to be more in line with the digital age. Working on redistricting to regain proximity and proportionality within areas of about 800 staff, as departments have moved to new locations around campus as new buildings are brought online.
Outreach & Events:
[38]

Hosted the Fall Ice Cream Social in the C4C courtyard on Sept. 5, the 137th anniversary of CU's first semester. Invited more than 15 vendors and five campus departments promoting staff benefits and approximately 350 staff attended. Hosted the December Staff Appreciation Breakfast. Several senior campus administrators assisted in serving 735 staff. Hosted the Spring Luncheon, selling out the 500-person capacity of Glenn Miller Ballroom.

Payroll, Benefits, Legislation & Retirement (PBRL):

Tuition benefits have been an ongoing issue since at least 1962, per staff council minutes. This year, PBRL formed an ad hoc committee of staff and faculty directly involved in the tuition benefit issue. This committee thoroughly researched the cost, registration logistics and sustainability of the available tuition benefit options. It brought its final recommendations to the Boulder Faculty Assembly and to Staff Council for approval before sending them to Senior Vice Chancellor Kelly Fox for review. Ongoing monitoring of the classified-to-university staff personnel transition taking place across campus. Working with Human Resources as needed. Worked on staff council response options to the University Benefits Advisory Board dissolution by President Benson. Reviewed new oversight role by UCSC to determine if it was adequate. Upon review, the council decided against any action. Reviewed the new university policy regarding the rehiring of staff retirees. Worked with the system's policy staff to present to the full Boulder Staff Council so that feedback would be received in time to be considered within the final policy version. Coordinated Boulder Staff Council Day at the state capitol. Worked with the CU Government Relations Team to plan educational presentations by representatives and see the legislative process in action.

Other Full Council Activity:

Hosted the following presenters at our monthly meetings: Chancellor Phil DiStefano (twice); Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer Kelly Fox; Vice Chancellor for Administration Steve Thweatt; Assistant Vice Chancellor of Human Resources Candice Bowen, and Lead HR Project Consultant Mike Murray; Vice President of Government Relations Tanya Kelly-Bowry; Office of Policy & Efficiency Director Dan Montez; and Organizational & Employee Development Director Brett Rodgers. Supported the ongoing effort to promote a healthy workplace by the ad hoc Respectful Workplace Committee by providing three delegates and limited budgetary assistance. Special thanks to Merlyn Holmes from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for taking over the chairperson role. Staffed 10 ongoing delegate roles for the following standing committees: Chancellor's Executive Cabinet, Chancellor's Accessibility Committee, Boulder Campus Planning Commission, Campus Use of University Facilities, Parking Management Advisory Committee, Parking & Transportation Rate Review Committee, University of Colorado Staff Council, Statewide Liaison Council, Boulder Faculty Assembly and Be Colorado.

Not all of the goals were met, but many were. The council's primary goal is to represent all staff on Boulder campus and the best way to accomplish that goal is to stay in touch with you. If you would like to contact the council, and you do not know your representative, call 303-492-5473 or email scouncil@colorado.edu[39]. Program assistant Lori Jackson will forward your message to your representative.

You do not have to be a member of staff council to serve on any of many committees. For more information or to contact us, visit www.colorado.edu/staffcouncil[40]

Submitted by Boulder Campus Staff Council

Students, CoPR design ways to realize Rocky Mountain Land Library[41]

[42]

The skies cleared, the birds chirped and the mountain air over Buffalo Peaks Ranch settled into a hushed reverie.

Just minutes earlier, a late-spring squall of sleet, hail and dark clouds roared through the valley. But now, as Jeff Lee spoke to a gathering of 50 people about the concept of a "land library," a powerful calm fell over the 150-year-old homestead. It seemed as if the weathered ranch, which already had a few shelves of books resting on the front porch, was welcoming the words of this man of literature, nature and vision.

"The Rocky Mountain Land Library's (RMLL)[43] hope has always been to create a place where people can slow down

to nature's rhythms and appreciate their ties to the land," Lee said. "We can all do that just looking around at what we see here."

CU Denver's College of Architecture and Planning[44] and the Center of Preservation Research (CoPR)[45] has been a key player in bringing the land library—a nature study center that combines a large collection of books with residential facilities—to this pristine piece of Colorado history. The RMLL will be a slice of outdoors heaven, offering naturalists, book-lovers and scientists a place to study and stay for a period of days, weeks or possibly longer.

'Inspiring designs'

In his words of thanks to the many people and entities involved in the RMLL, Lee extolled the "great good fortune" that he and his wife, Ann Martin (couple at right), enjoyed in working with Kat Vlahos[46], associate professor and CoPR director, and her students. Their relationship with CU Denver has spanned many years and countless restoration concepts.

"As many of you know, Kat's students have produced inspiring designs for Buffalo Peaks Ranch's future," Lee said. "The common trait the students shared was they honored the past while looking forward to the future. They not only respected the ranch buildings, but they also fell in love with the landscape."

By next summer, the 1,840-acre ranch, just a few miles southeast of Fairplay, will take greater shape as a natural history library and residential study center. Lee and Martin, who met while working at the Tattered Cover Bookstore in Denver, have collected more than 30,000 books on nature and history over 25 years. "Those books and several outreach programs have been in place for years now, but the site search (for the land library) took longer," Lee said. "That search finally led to South Park."

In addition to CU Denver, project partners include Park County and land-owner Aurora. Aurora bought the property in 1985 to help replace the loss of South Platte River access when Spinney Mountain Reservoir was built. Vlahos's Senior Studio classes have studied the history of the ranch, working to restore the main house and outbuildings. Her Home on the Range class created program plans for the library. Documentation students used state-of-the-art Leica LiDar 3D scanning technology to document the various ranch structures.

More recently, CoPR produced a historical assessment which details the rehabilitation projects needed by the buildings and their cost. Meanwhile, Abigail Christman[47], CoPR's survey coordinator, is working on an application to get Buffalo Peaks Ranch on the National Park Service's National Registry of Historic Places. The designation will make the property eligible for grants from the state historical fund.

One-of-a-kind attraction

When it opens, the RMLL will be a one-of-a-kind attraction within an even larger national resource. In 2009 Congress approved a bill designating the South Park National Heritage Area. It's one of 49 areas in the country representing the history of the nation.

Linda Balough, director of Park City Heritage, Tourism and Business Development, and executive director of the South Park National Heritage Area, said the Rocky Mountain Land Library will be an international draw where people can "drink in" the history and scenery of the Rockies. "The fascination with the West is huge—everybody is interested in the history of the West," she said. "The ranch is only an hour and a half from Denver, and it's 100 years from Denver. The draw will be huge, and people will get an opportunity to see and feel the struggle of establishing the civilization of ranching, and what it still is."

During the recent lease-signing luncheon—RMLL will lease the ranch from the city of Aurora—the CU Denver student-produced designs of possible reuses for the ranch's buildings were displayed in the main ranch house. "Kat is too young to have a library named after her, but her work and the students she has inspired will be a part of this old ranch for a very long time," Lee said. "... They are inspirational."

Historic preservation

The Center of Preservation Research will be developing a multi-phase education and training program for those affiliated with historic preservation, seeking specific preservation technical training. The training will range from project-specific place-based models to workshops aimed at a wider audience, or intensive training with specific organizations. The training will be appropriate, comprehensive and effective for the specific stakeholders and communities that participate in the training. The development of the program will include faculty, staff and graduate students in the Center. Information: Kat Vlahos, 303-315-0573 or kat.vlahos@ucdenver.edu[48]

While the involvement of CU Denver's students and professor have been a "dream come true for us," Lee said, the experience students get from working at Buffalo Peaks Ranch and other historic sites around the state typifies the hands-on learning students receive at the university.

"You want to bring some meaning to your teaching by helping students learn through direct experience," Vlahos said. "Buffalo Peaks Ranch is a tangible place that lets students engage beyond the classroom and think about the world beyond CU Denver."

'Let it evolve'

Vlahos is passionate about the relationship between architecture and the land, especially the way ranches have adapted to the landscape over time. "You just have to let it evolve," she said of places like Buffalo Peaks. "It's about developing these relationships with communities, people and students, so that it's sustainable and long term."

The project includes a children's library and an urban-homestead collection to be located in Denver. Vlahos has been helping Lee and Martin scout for potential inner-city sites.

Balough said she doesn't know of a place in the United States that "has the depth and breadth of this project." She noted that Buffalo Peaks Ranch's residents far precede French immigrants Adolphe and Marie Guiraud, the 1863 homesteaders. The scenic valley, bookended by snowcapped Silverheels Peak to the northwest and the South Platte's headwaters to the southeast, is home to arrowheads and other Native American tools dating to more than 12,000 years ago.

"We're not going to have Disney World here," Balough said. "We're going to have a place people can come and spend some time letting this place speak to them. It will probably take three days before it really sinks in, and then you'll see the change in the way people look at the landscape here and the way they look at their studies."

Later this summer, the ranch will host a Plein Air Arts Celebration. Next summer, teams from Historicorps, a volunteer group that works to rehabilitate historic sites nationwide, will be at the ranch refurbishing the buildings, in accordance with the CoPR-produced historical assessment, in the final push to get them ready for books.

"So, books will come, programs will begin," Lee told the festive gathering as puffy clouds interrupted the celestial blue above him. "Good changes for this historic ranch. Buffalo Peaks Ranch will have many more important stories to tell."

In this exciting new chapter for a treasure of the American West, CU Denver researchers will have left a lasting mark.

High school lacrosse players risk concussions and other injuries[49]

[50]

With more than 170,000 students now playing high school lacrosse, more and more are being exposed to injuries

during practice and competition, according to a new study from the Colorado School of Public Health[51] and the Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

The study, published by The American Journal of Sports Medicine, found high school lacrosse players experienced 1,406 injuries during the four academic years from 2008 through 2012. The overall injury rate was 20 per 10,000 lacrosse competitions and practices.

More than 22 percent of those were concussions, making it the second most common injury diagnosis behind sprains and strains (38 percent).

Dawn Comstock, PhD, an author of the study and an associate professor of Epidemiology for the Pediatric Injury Prevention, Education and Research (PIPER) program at the Colorado School of Public Health[51], said the findings contribute to evidence-based discussions of how to prevent injury – including the current debate over whether girls' lacrosse players should wear helmets as boys are required to do.

"Concern over concussions in both boys' and girls' lacrosse underscores the need to learn more about these injuries," Comstock said. "Further study will help those working to develop and implement effective injury prevention programs."

Researchers also found that while the rules for girls' lacrosse largely prohibit person-to-person contact, almost 25 percent of concussions were a result of such contact. Another 63 percent of concussions resulted from being struck by lacrosse sticks or balls. Most girls' lacrosse players are only required to use protective eye-wear and mouth guards, and not the helmets and additional padding required for boys' lacrosse.

"Lacrosse is becoming more and more popular across the United States, and it's a great way for high school students to be active," said Lara B. McKenzie, PhD, an author of the study, principal investigator in the Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's. "Still, we see injuries in the sport every day during the season. Our research shows that we need to do more and can do more to prevent those injuries."

Boys' and girls' high school lacrosse have different rules regarding person-to-person contact, and the study found the number and type of injuries differed between genders. Boys sustained 67 percent of the total injuries, and had a higher overall injury rate than girls. About 36 percent of their injuries were sprains and strains, and some 22 percent were concussions. Person-to-person contact, which is allowed in boys' lacrosse, caused 74 percent of concussions and 41 percent of injuries overall.

Almost 44 percent of injuries to girls were sprains and strains while concussions made up another 23 percent. The most common causes of injuries were no contact – a foot pivot leading to a pulled muscle -- and contact with playing equipment. For both genders, injury rates were higher during competition than practice.

Players, coaches, officials, athletic trainers and parents can help make lacrosse a safer game by following these tips from researchers and lacrosse organizations:

Strictly enforce all rules, especially those limiting player-to-player contact.

Learn the symptoms of concussion. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion should stop play immediately and be evaluated by a certified athletic trainer or other medical professional.

Warm up properly, drink plenty of water, and rest after practice or competition.

Wear well-fitting protective equipment.

Be prepared for injuries before they happen by making sure procedures, such as emergency action plans, are in place to handle them.

The study is the first to use a large national sample of United States high schools to compare lacrosse injuries by type

of athletic activity and gender. Data was collected from the National High School Sports-Related Injury Surveillance System, High School RIO (Reporting Information Online), which uses reports from certified athletic trainers throughout the country.

Leeds School: At midyear, Colorado poised for continued growth[52]
[53]
The Colorado economy continues to outperform the U.S. economy and grow at a magnitude that slightly exceeds previous expectations, according to the midyear economic outlook released by CU-Boulder's Leeds School of Business.
Colorado's employment is up by 3 percent year-over-year from May 2013 to May 2014. A total gain of 68,000 jobs in Colorado is expected for 2014 -- an upward revision to a December estimate of 61,300 jobs for the year.

The midyear outlook projects growth in all of the state's sectors except for information, which includes publishing and telecommunications.

"The growth for Colorado that we are forecasting for 2014 would make it the fourth fastest growing state in the country," said economist Richard Wobbekind, executive director of the Business Research Division[54], which conducts the midyear outlook. "Colorado is growing at roughly twice the pace of the national economy in terms of job growth. It continues to be a shining star in the grand scheme of things, as it was in 2013."

Wobbekind, senior associate dean for academic programs at the Leeds School, presents the Colorado Business Economic Outlook each December -- an outlook that's updated each summer. He recently met with steering committee members who represent the state's major economic sectors for the 2014 midyear update.

Agriculture: Winter wheat production is forecast at 84.2 million bushels in 2014, dramatically up from 2013's drought-ridden output of 44.3 million bushels. Topsoil and subsoil moisture levels are adequate on about 50 percent of Colorado farm acres, an improvement from below 20 percent adequacy in 2013. Cattle and calves inventory as of May 1 is estimated at 960,000.

However, dry conditions particularly in the southeast corner of the state continue to cause concerns that have made ranchers hesitant to increase herd sizes.

Natural resources and mining: While employment in natural resources and mining is only 1.4 percent of Colorado's total employment, the sector has been integral to the state's post-recession economy and its concentration is more than two times the national concentration. Oil and natural gas currently are the most significant products of the sector in Colorado. Last December, natural resources and mining employment was forecast to increase to 31,100 jobs. It currently sits at 33,200 jobs. Employment in the sector has grown about 10 percent year-over-year.

Construction: Construction employment has grown in the state by 8 percent since May of 2013 and totals 135,500 jobs. However, this is 20.3 percent below the peak levels in 2007. Demand currently is high for homes for sale and inventory is low.

Manufacturing: Manufacturing has grown faster than expected in the first half of 2014, exceeding committee expectations particularly for durable goods. This marks the third straight year of employment gains in the sector following 10 straight years of losses. Employment in the sector currently is at 136,100 jobs -- a 2.8 percent increase from a year ago. Though nondurable goods are growing more slowly than expected, demand for craft beer and spirits has buoyed this part of the sector.

Trade, transportation and utilities: Colorado's trade, transportation and utilities sector increased just 1.2 percent from May 2013 to May 2014. This growth can be attributed to slight increases in employment in the wholesale and retail trade segments. A decrease of about 1,500 jobs occurred year-over-year in the transportation and warehousing segment of the sector. Regarding utilities, the Environmental Protection Agency has set a 35 percent reduction in

carbon emissions by 2030, but Colorado's energy providers appear to be far ahead in reaching the goal, according to the committee.

Financial activities: While overall employment in the financial activities sector was nearly flat year-over-year, the subcategory of real estate, rental and leasing grew by 1.4 percent. Home prices in Colorado are up 7.6 percent with a median sale price of $251,750 -- growth that's expected to slow in 2015 to an estimated 1.5 percent.

Professional and business services: Within the professional and business services sector, which added 17,500 jobs year-over-year, the professional, scientific and technical services subsector accounts for half of the sector's employment. Colorado remains a hub of activity in industries that require highly skilled labor and are high-paying, such as aerospace and clean energy, as well as consulting and legal services, according to Wobbekind.

Education and health services: Health care and social assistance, which makes up a majority of the education and health services sector, added 4,900 jobs year-to-date and grew 4.5 percent year-over-year. The long-term economic impacts of the Affordable Care Act remain to be seen, but the health care exchange and pent-up demand for health care is credited for a 10 percent jump in national health care spending that added $43.3 billion in national consumer spending, according to the report.

Leisure and hospitality: The leisure and hospitality sector is showing strong growth with a year-over-year increase in employment of 4.9 percent.

The Denver International Airport is the fifth-busiest airport in the nation with increasing service from low-cost carriers and new flight destinations such as the recently added United Airlines flight to Panama City. Colorado's ski industry experienced a record-breaking year in 2013-14 with the help of an early start to the season and a late finish. Colorado will again be on the world stage when the fourth annual USA Pro Cycling Challenge takes place in August.

Government: State government employment has grown by 1.7 percent year-over-year and local government employment has grown by 2.1 percent year-over year. However, federal employment is down due primarily to the consolidation of government programs.

International trade: In international trade, Colorado exports declined by 4.3 percent year-over-year in April 2014. The state's top-three import markets are Canada ($4 billion), China ($1.9 billion) and Mexico ($1.3 billion).

For the complete Colorado 2014 midyear economic update visit http://leeds.colorado.edu/brd#coloradobusinessreview [55].

Grants to UCCS Aging Center support elder care and caregivers[56]

[57]
The UCCS Aging Center recently received three grant awards, totaling more than $500,000, from the Colorado Health Foundation, Caring for Colorado Foundation and the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments' Area Agency on Aging.

A two-year $372,708 Colorado Health Foundation grant and a $75,000 Caring for Colorado grant will support the center's integrated care programs for seniors and caregivers. The Aging Center offers behavioral health services integrated within medical settings at Peak Vista Community Health Centers' Senior Health Centers and Rocky Mountain's Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. The goal of these collaborations is to improve the quality of care and quality of life for older adults through coordinated mental health, medical and social services.

A $86,031 grant from the Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging will help fund the Aging Center's Aging Family and Caregiver Services Program. The program provides counseling for distressed caregiver families, referrals for supportive community services, outreach through educational seminars and community presentations and Coping with

Caregiver classes.

“We could not provide the critical mental health services and specialized training we offer without the continued support of our valued partners,” Michael Kenny, director, UCCS Aging Center, said. “These generous gifts demonstrate the commitment of these organizations to improving both the mental and physical health of older Coloradans.”

“The Colorado Health Foundation believes that interdisciplinary care teams are critical to ensuring that individuals receive high-quality care and achieve better health. The UCCS Aging Center has a proven track record of partnering with others as a part of an interdisciplinary care team to enhance its high-quality mental health services for seniors, and we are proud to support this program,” Kelly Dunkin, vice president of philanthropy, Colorado Health Foundation, said.

“Caring for Colorado has a long history of support for the Aging Center’s work to integrate mental health screening and follow-up into primary care settings for older adults,” Chris Wiant, president and chief executive officer, Caring for Colorado, said. “This new grant adds an important component: chronic pain management. We believe this work will help many seniors with chronic pain issues.”

APPACG affirmed the value of the two agencies’ relationship. “The partnership between the UCCS Aging Center and the Area Agency on Aging at PPACG continues to be one of the most innovative and valuable programs available to caregivers in Colorado and the nation,” Guy Dutra-Silveira, director, Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging, said. “Now that the program has moved to the Lane Center, we are looking forward to new synergies and an increased awareness of the program.”

The Colorado Health Foundation works to make Colorado the healthiest state in the nation by ensuring that all Colorado kids are fit and healthy and that all Coloradans achieve stable, affordable and adequate health coverage to improve their health with support from a network of primary health care and community services. To advance its mission, the foundation engages the community through grant making, public policy, investing in evaluation, private sector partnerships and strategic communications. For more information, please visit www.ColoradoHealth.org[58].

Caring for Colorado is a grant making foundation dedicated to improving the health and health care of the people of Colorado. The foundation works with its partners to build local health care capacity, strengthen health care systems, link people to care and promote prevention throughout Colorado. For more information, visit http://www.caringforcolorado.org/[59].

PPACG serves as the Area Agency on Aging for El Paso, Park and Teller counties and provides programs and services for older adults and their caregivers. No-fee services are funded through the federal Older Americans Act and the State of Colorado for eligible adults 60 years of age or older. For more information, visit http://www.ppacg.org/programs/area-agency-on-aging[60].

Recently relocated to 4863 N. Nevada, the UCCS Aging Center is the only senior mental health center in El Paso County offering its services on a low-fee sliding scale or at no cost to adults age 55 and older. The center also functions as the primary training site for students in the UCCS geropsychology Ph.D. program, one of very few such programs in the country. In February, the Aging Center became part of the UCCS HealthCircle in the Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences. Other HealthCircle members include the Peak Nutrition Clinic, the Center for Active Living, a new nurse-managed Primary Care Clinic and the Veterans Health and Trauma Clinic. For more information, visit www.uccs.edu/healthcircle[61].

Gibbes selected for Fulbright research program[62]

[63]
Cerian Gibbes, assistant professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at UCCS, recently was selected to participate in a Fulbright Regional Network for Applied Research Program, NEXUS.

The NEXUS program brings together a network of junior scholars, professionals and mid-career applied researchers from the U.S., Brazil and other Western Hemisphere nations for a series of three seminar meetings and a Fulbright exchange experience. Twenty scholars and practitioners were selected for the program that began in June and will continue through May 2016.

Gibbes is one of four who will focus on measuring climate change and its impact. As a NEXUS scholar, she will receive a $35,000 allowance to support travel, research materials and related expenses.

Gibbes joined the UCCS faculty in 2011 from the University of Florida where she earned bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. in geography with a concentration in land change science. Her research interests are human-environment interactions and the dynamics of socio-ecological systems, land-use land-cover change, natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

Dassanowsky receives grant[64]

[65]
Robert von Dassanowsky, professor in the Department of Languages and Cultures, and Visual and Performing Arts at UCCS, recently received a 2014-15 Dietrich W. Botstiber Foundation's Institute for Austrian-American Studies grant.

The Botstiber Foundation supports projects that implement the foundation's mission "to promote an understanding of the historic relationship between the United States and Austria." It annually funds original projects in the fields of history, politics, economics, law, literature, music and translation.

Dassanowsky will receive $10,000 to support the completion of research for his book, "Screening Transcendence: Film Under Austrofascism and the Hollywood Hope 1933-1938," to be published by the University of Indiana Press. The text will examine and the national and transnational film created under Austria's clerico-authoritarian regime, and the unique cultural-political relationship between Hollywood and Vienna before the country's annexation to Nazi Germany.

In memoriam[66]

Names of University of Colorado faculty and staff who have died in recent weeks. List compiled by Employee Services.

CU-Boulder
James E. Faulkner, 69, classified staff retiree. June 14, 2014. **Carol S. Mills,** 79, classified staff retiree. July 4, 2014.
CU Anschutz Medical Campus
Mary C. Abeyta, 55, classified staff retiree. June 24, 2014. **Daniel Gregory Ern,** 47, classified staff. July 2, 2014.
Shaun Duwayne Owen, 43, classified staff. June 18, 2014.

Tech challenges, opportunities come into focus at COLTT Conference[67]

Technology has the potential to transform teaching, creating new models for collaborative learning and increasing access to educational opportunities locally and globally. The CU community is invited to take part in the dialogue on technology's transformative power and its role in higher education at the Colorado Learning and Teaching with Technology (COLTT) conference, one of the University of Colorado's signature professional development events.

The conference will be Wednesday, Aug. 6, and Thursday, Aug. 7, in the Wolf Law Building on the CU-Boulder campus.

Faculty, graduate students and staff will have the opportunity to network with regional colleagues and engage in vital conversations about technology-empowered approaches – both new and tested – to teaching and learning.

The conference will feature sessions, workshops and discussions on topics such as open educational resources, “hackathons,” digital content, social media, and flipping and unflipping the classroom. Several campus units offer funded registrations for faculty, students and staff who would like to take part.

CU-Boulder Professor of Physics and 2014 U.S. Carnegie Professor of the Year Steven Pollock will deliver the keynote address for the conference.

The tentative schedule can be found online:
Wednesday[68]Thursday[69]
Attendees can expect an inspiring COLTT conference, collectively addressing the challenges and opportunities facing higher education.

For more information about scholarships, registration and the conference, visit www.cu.edu/coltt[70].

For questions about COLTT 2014, contact Deborah Keyek-Franssen, conference director and associate vice president for digital education and engagement (deblkf@cu.edu[71]), or Jill Lester, COLTT conference coordinator (jill.lester@cu.edu[72]).

Experts to address health benefits of sleep in free community talk, clinical workshop[73]

For people with doubts about the benefits of sleep, experts from the University of Colorado Boulder and the University of California Berkeley aim to put those to rest.

The public is invited to the free community talk, “Cultivating Nourishing Sleep,” from 6-8 p.m. Monday, July 28, in the Wolf Law Building, Room 204, at CU-Boulder.

The conversation will include brief presentations by sleep experts Allison Harvey, professor of psychology at UC Berkeley, and Monique LeBourgeois and Kenneth Wright, CU-Boulder professors of integrative physiology. Each professor will share scientific research on healthy sleep across lifecycles.

The researchers will address sleep for infants and toddlers; sleep during adolescence, adulthood and aging; and proven strategies for cultivating and sustaining healthy sleep patterns and resources for attaining help when needed.

After the presentation, Sona Dimidjian, CU-Boulder associate professor of psychology and neuroscience, will moderate a question-and-answer session and community experts are invited to share local resources for supporting healthy sleep.

“Scientific research has yielded important knowledge about the nature of sleep, the causes of problems with sleep and effective treatments for problems with sleep,” Dimidjian said. “We are fortunate to have three leading experts join us for a community conversation addressing healthy sleep.”

The event is free but registration at http://www.regonline.com/sleeptalk2014[74] is encouraged.

Before the community talk, Harvey will lead an in-depth workshop and training for clinicians and students interested in

enhancing their clinical practice with research-supported, cognitive behavioral approaches for treating sleep disturbances.

The workshop, “Effectively Treating Sleep Problems: Basics and Beyond,” will be from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the University Memorial Center. The workshop registration fee is $135 for professionals and $95 for students, and continuing education credits are available. Register at http://www.regonline.com/sleeptraining2014[75]. Students should email crest@colorado.edu[76] for the discount code.

Both events are part of a lecture series organized and moderated by Dimidjian and funded by a grant from the CU-Boulder Outreach Committee.

For more information about the talk, workshop or other upcoming events, email crest@colorado.edu[76] or call 303-492-7378.

Two-step authorization protects employee information[77]

[78]

The University of Colorado Office of Employee Services debuted multi-factor authentication in the CU Resources section of the portal[79] on July 18 to improve protection of stored personal faculty and staff information. With the upgrade, the ability to access W-2 and update direct deposit information was re-enabled.

It now takes a password and a phone number to access sensitive information. Requiring two forms of authentication decreases the likelihood that others can access a CU employee’s data.

Colleges and universities are increasingly targeted by cybercriminals using fake “.edu” email addresses. After phishing attacks in late 2013, CU began working to implement an authentication system that protects employee information while minimally disrupting use of the employee portal.

CU Resources items now requiring authentication:
Direct deposit W-2 W-4 Phone numbers – only if you click “Change phone number”

How does multi-factor authentication work?

This 1-minute video outlines the authentication process.

It takes two: How to use the University of Colorado's multi-factor authentication system[80] from Employee Services [81] on Vimeo[82].

Need help?

If you are having difficulty using the authentication system because you think your phone number may be incorrect or you need to add a different phone number, contact your department’s payroll liaison for assistance.

For other issues, email Employee Services at pbs.datachange@cu.edu[83]. Include your name, employee ID, contact information and a description of the problem.

Visit the multi-factor authentication page[84] for more details about using the system and frequently asked questions.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-roberta-capp[2] https://connections.cu.edu/file/5qcapppng[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-sets-new-benchmark-private-support[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/changes-15-system-policies-take-effect-month[5] http://www.cu.edu/policies/aps-changes.html[6] http://www.cu.edu/sites/default/files/1003Justification.pdf[7] http://www.cu.edu/sites/default/files/1004Justification.pdf[8] http://www.cu.edu/sites/default/files/1011Justification.pdf[9] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/1006[10] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/1025[11] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/2022[12] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/7001[13] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/2003[14] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5016[15] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5024[16] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/2008[17] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/6002[18] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/4058[19] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/4060[20] http://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5055[21] http://www.cu.edu/ope[22] mailto:ope@cu.edu[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/biofrontiers-institute-launches-inaugural-sie-post-doctoral-fellowship-program[24] http://biofrontiers.colorado.edu/[25] http://www.crnicinstitute.org/[26] http://www.globaldownsyndrome.org/our-story/about-gdsf/?page_id=1047[27] http://biofrontiers.colorado.edu/about/directory/cech[28] http://biofrontiers.colorado.edu/about/directory/leinwand[29] http://globaldownsyndrome.org/our-story/linda-crnic-institute/?page_id=1003[30] http://mcdb.colorado.edu/directory/allen_m.html[31] http://www.colorado.edu/ibg/people/477[32] http://mcdb.colorado.edu/directory/garrido-lecca_a.html[33] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/boulder-campus-staff-council-takes-stock-year%E2%80%99s-accomplishments[34] https://connections.cu.edu/news/boulder-campus-staff-council-takes-stock-of-years-accomplishments/ucb-staffcncl_top[35] https://connections.cu.edu/news/boulder-campus-staff-council-takes-stock-of-years-accomplishments/ucb-staffcncl_03[36] 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