

[Five questions for Regent Jack Kroll](#)^[1]

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John “Jack” Kroll has served on the CU Board of Regents for over four years, but he’ll lead the governing body as newly elected board chair when members gather next week for their annual summer retreat. The multi-day meeting in Tabernash will be the board’s first in-person event since before the coronavirus pandemic.

Among those joining him for the retreat is another longtime CU leader who also is in a new role: President Todd Saliman, whose interim stint began last week.

“I’m looking forward to reengaging in person with my board colleagues, as well as with Todd Saliman and his team,” Kroll said. “There are a lot of important issues to address, but there is also a lot of collective energy from the board and administration to address them.”

Kroll noted that Saliman was elected the 24th president of the University of Colorado on a 9-0 vote by the Board of Regents.

“So this next year is going to be a lot of fun as the board and he, the chancellors and their teams work together,” Kroll said. “Todd brings a tremendous amount of acumen with respect to the budget, internal operations and our external relations with lawmakers. He bleeds black and gold. He’ll be a champion for CU and all who care about it without question. The Board of Regents and Todd will help us find common ground as we emerge from the pandemic, navigate a return to campus for many, run a presidential search, and tackle yet unknown challenges.

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“Having known Todd for some time, I know he’s a leader who knows how to work with people, find common ground and move an organization forward. He’s the right person for this time in CU’s history.”

Voters in Colorado’s 1st Congressional District elected Kroll, a Denver Democrat, to the board in 2016. His CU ties run much deeper, though, as he is a CU Denver alumnus (bachelor’s and master’s degrees), former student governance leader and current associate director of admissions at CU Boulder. At 33, he also is one of the youngest chairs in board history. Now he looks ahead to the search for CU’s next systemwide leader with a new level of energy and enthusiasm as chair.

1. What progress has the Board of Regents made on the presidential search and what are your immediate next steps?

We’ve made very good progress on the search so far. We’ve begun our review of policy 3.C., which governs how we conduct searches. We determined the search will be national in scope while understanding that there are talented and capable people in Colorado. In conjunction with the President’s Office, we are planning a series of outreach trips statewide and across our campuses to solicit feedback on the state of the university, the presidential search process and take input on what the community expects to see in our next president.

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While the board has been at work since May setting the stage for the search, much of the public phase of the work will start in earnest at the outset of the fall term. Our updated search policies will be finalized and we can then move deliberately to name a search committee. From there, we expect the search committee to be collaborative, efficient and successful in producing a well-vetted slate of candidates for the board to review. We are committed to regular communication with the university community and to transparency, understanding there will be moments during the search when we will have to balance that with confidentiality for candidates. We believe we can strike that balance.

2. What are the primary issues the Board of Regents will address at its retreat next week and what are the board’s priorities as we head toward fall?

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Regent Lesley Smith and the Governance Committee from 2020-2021 planned a great retreat. Front and center on our

agenda will be the presidential search and an update on the strategic plan and particularly its focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

It will also be very important for board members to get to spend time together. Like nearly everyone else at CU, we've been predominately remote since March of last year. Add to that the fact that three new regents started with us in January. Given this, it's my hope we spend a lot of time getting to know one another and reacquainting ourselves with how to do our work in-person.

Speaking of in-person, the university has got to get back to being in-person in a way that is safe, productive and enjoyable. But we just can't simply go back to the way things were. We've learned a lot over the last year about what remote work/teaching/learning/researching can do and cannot do. Let's keep the good from remote world, while returning to what we know works best in-person.

We've also got to make advancements in ensuring CU is a welcoming place for all. The pandemic disproportionately affected our most disadvantaged students, and before the pandemic we had much work to do in that space. That work has only gotten more challenging. We must redouble our efforts moving forward to ensure CU lives up to its ideals and potential with respect to diversity, equity and inclusion.

We've also got to plan for a future that is sustainable. Higher education, like most enterprises, has received significant support from one-time stimulus dollars, but our underlying budget realities show little sign of changing. While we are grateful for the increase in state funding this year, long-term trends are not in our favor; and despite the work of the Legislature and governor, higher education in Colorado is still ranked 47th nationally in state support. State funding per resident student at CU is about 50% below what it was in 2000, when adjusted for inflation. Before COVID, the university had not recovered the state support, in inflation-adjusted terms, it received before the Great Recession and financial crisis of 2008-2009. And while state budgets and university budgets are buoyed by one-time federal dollars, those will run out sooner rather than later and we'll need to have a plan.

3. The Board of Regents has a Democrat majority for the first time in decades. What will the implications be for how it works together and for the university?

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While much has been made about the board's political makeup, I think it's important to note we agree much more than we disagree on what's best for the university and we vote accordingly. Likely, the most important vote the board will hold during my time as chair will be the vote to name our 25th president. It's my obligation as chair to get enough of my colleagues to see that the board, and therefore, the public, will be best served by having a president that a significant majority of the board supports. It doesn't need to be 9-0, like with Todd, but it should be close to that. Every regent I have served with, and those I have talked with who served before us, wants to make the university better than when we found it. So, I have hope we can move forward on this not as Democrats and Republicans, but as champions for CU. I have seen this happen on many issues and I am confident that will be the case here.

Early in my career, I nearly left CU for a master's program at the University of Texas Austin. That famed university is home to LBJ's presidential library. Just inside the lobby there is a large granite stone engraved with a quote from America's 36th president that offers advice to all of us in elected office at every level of our democracy – advice I hope we as regents can adopt moving forward. That quote is, "I have followed the personal philosophy that I am a free man, an American, a public servant, and a member of my party, in that order always and only."

4. You have a multifaceted perspective as a regent, chair of the board, alumnus of CU and university employee (one of three on the board). Does that combination provide you any particular perspective in your board work?

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I have been fortunate to learn many things since starting my CU journey as an 18-year-old undergraduate student in the fall of 2006. In the 15 years since, I have traveled the state, nation and parts of the world promoting CU as a student leader, admissions recruiter and regent. There is so much potential at CU in our students, our staff and our faculty. What we do here makes the world a better place and we do our work one student at a time, one research

project at a time, one patient at a time. The cumulative effect of it all is mind-boggling and beautiful.

And while there are so many life-changing and wonderful things that happen at CU and because of CU, it's also important to note it's a huge, far-flung and complicated enterprise. Because of its size and complexity, some want to believe the worst and see conspiracy at every turn. But in a place where responsibility is usually shared but authority isn't always clear cut, it's important to figure out how to work with other people and build consensus. It's also important to remember all universities exist in large measure to challenge conventional thinking. You must get folks on board through persistence and the clarity of your idea.

5. You are a noted baseball aficionado. Does that passion translate to your university life at all and what are we going to do with the state of the Colorado Rockies?

[8]

In my personal life, I am a huge sports fan, mostly baseball. I've been lucky to see major-league games at 27 of the 30 major-league cities. I just have Atlanta, Tampa and Toronto to see games at before I can say I've done all 30 stadiums.

Baseball is a game where failure is ever-present. Even the most successful players are often unsuccessful 60%-70% of the time. The former Rockies manager Clint Hurdle adopted the saying that there are two types of players in baseball, "those who are humble and those who are about to be humbled." You can easily expand that idea to life at a university and life in general.

Many research projects fail to reach any novel conclusions or are simply unrepeatable/inconsistent. Even the best high school graduates, transfer students and graduate students who come to CU are humbled by the challenges they face on our campuses. Our top physicians are constantly confounded by new diseases. But through all of those challenges, the university continues to persist and push forward. We have our fair share of strikeouts, but we also hit a lot of home runs interspersed among solid singles and several extra-base hits. And we are constantly refining our skills and talents to be ready for our next opportunity, our next at-bat, to make an impact.

As for the Rockies ... there's always next year and hope springs eternal.

[More CU community members notified of cyberattack](#)[9]

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Additional members of the CU community – students, employees and alumni – whose personal information may have been compromised in the [cyberattack on university vendor Accellion](#)[11] are being notified of the potential exposure.

CU recently identified an additional set of files that were not included in the [initial data review](#)[12]. Following a thorough review of the data, CU now is providing notice (via mail or email) of the incident to those community members whose information was in the additional files.

CU again will provide credit monitoring, identity monitoring, fraud consultation and identity theft restoration to those affected.

The data was not reviewed during the initial CU review because the Accellion system automatically destroys data after two weeks. There were files on the system that were stolen by the cyberattackers and then automatically purged before CU was informed by Accellion of the attack. When CU reviewed the Accellion files, some files already had been deleted and were inaccessible.

CU discovered the additional data when CLOP, the criminal organization tied to the cyberattack on Accellion, posted CU files on the dark web after not receiving a ransom payment. In March, CLOP posted a small amount of CU's data on the dark web and threatened to post more stolen data if CU did not pay a ransom. Based on guidance from the FBI,

CU did not pay the cybercriminals.

In mid-April, CLOP posted additional CU data on the dark web. CU downloaded and preliminarily reviewed these files and identified the additional data that had been deleted from the Accellion system.

The data in these additional files is related to the CU Boulder campus only; there was no additional data from CU Denver, CU Anschutz or UCCS.

A recently updated [web page](#)[11] provides more detail and an FAQ section.

[CU community celebrates Denver Pride via in-person, virtual events](#)[13]

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For the sixth consecutive year, CU sponsored [Denver Pride](#)[19], an annual celebration of the LGBTQ+ community.

The June 24-27 festival featured a hybrid virtual/in-person format. Among the in-person events was a [5K race](#)[20] at Denver's Cheesman Park, providing an opportunity for members of the CU community to [show off their "One Goal: Inclusivity" T-shirts](#)[21] provided by CU system. The system Faculty Council office assisted in distributing the T-shirts across the four campuses and provided mail options for those unable to pick them up on campus.

"Pride and 5K was a lot of fun and it was great to be outside with a group of people again," said Steven Burton of the LGBTQ+ Hub at CU Anschutz; he organized the CU team for the in-person 5K. "We got to interact and have fun with individuals from other CU campuses. The weather was surprisingly really great for a 5K and wasn't too hot or too rainy."

Thanks go to Theodosia Cook, Chief Diversity Officer of the CU system, and Tony Salazar, assistant vice president for engagement, for helping with this year's sponsorship.

Meanwhile, the UCCS community is looking ahead to [Colorado Springs Pride](#)[22], set for July 13-18. The campus' [MOSAIC](#)[23] is featuring "Faces of Pride" on its social media accounts, including [Facebook](#)[24]. See more in [Communique](#)[25].

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[Tenure list: June 2021](#)[27]

The CU Board of Regents on June 17 approved 77 tenure awards and appointments.

CU Boulder

Effective Aug. 16, 2021

Awards of tenure:

Nisar Ahmed, Aerospace Engineering Sciences, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Leilani Arthurs**, Geological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences **Allison Atteberry**, School of Education **Taylor Barton**, Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering (ECEE), College of Engineering and Applied Science **Stephen Becker**, Applied Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences **Benjamin Brown**, Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences (APS), College of

Arts and Sciences **Shaun Davies**, Leeds School of Business **Kevin France**, Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences (APS), College of Arts and Sciences **Sangtae Ha**, Computer Science, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Jennifer Hayghe**, College of Music **Charles Hoeffler**, Integrative Physiology, College of Arts and Sciences **Alexandra Jahn Hall**, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (ATOC), College of Arts and Sciences **Taylor Jaworski**, Economics, College of Arts and Sciences **Rong Long**, Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Ryan Masters**, Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences **Jay McMahon**, Aerospace Engineering Sciences, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Peter Newton**, Environmental Studies Program, College of Arts and Sciences **Silvia Nogueron-Liu**, School of Education **Sean O'Rourke**, Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences **Jillian Porter**, Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences **Honor Sachs**, History, College of Arts and Sciences **William Sampson**, University Libraries **Kelly Sears**, Cinema Studies and Moving Image Arts, College of Arts and Sciences **Graeme Smith**, Physics, College of Arts and Sciences **Jeong-Hoon Song**, Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Sabrina Spencer**, Biochemistry, College of Arts and Sciences **Nicolo Spera**, College of Music **Julia Staffel**, Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences **Juleah Swanson**, University Libraries **Benjamin Teitelbaum**, College of Music **Keith Ulmer**, Physics, College of Arts and Sciences **Terrenda White**, School of Education **Gregory Whiting**, Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Terri Wilson**, School of Education **Maria Windell**, English, College of Arts and Sciences

Appointment with tenure:

Tomas Laurenzo Coronel, Associate Professor, Critical Media Practices, College of Media, Communication and Information

UCCS

Effective June 19, 2021

Awards of tenure:

Thomas Aicher, College of Business **Laith Al-Shawaf**, Psychology, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Ann Amicucci**, English, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Katie Anderson-Pence**, Teaching and Learning, College of Education **Andrea Bingham**, Leadership, Research and Foundations, College of Education **Grant Clayton**, Teaching and Learning, College of Education **Scott Kupferman**, Teaching and Learning, College of Education **Meghan Lybecker**, Biology, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Emily Mooney**, Biology, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **James Pearson**, Human Physiology and Nutrition, Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences **Darshika Perera**, Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Katie Sullivan**, Communication, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Mark Tomforde**, Mathematics, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Joel Tonyan**, Kraemer Family Library **James Van Scotter**, College of Business **Colin Wren**, Anthropology, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Appointment with tenure:

Seth Porter, Associate Professor, Kraemer Family Library

CU Denver I Anschutz Medical Campus

Effective June 18, 2021, unless otherwise noted

Awards of tenure:

Robert Allan, School of Education and Human Development **Farnoush Banaei-Kashani**, Computer Science and Engineering, College of Engineering, Design and Computing **Laura Borgelt**, Clinical Pharmacy, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences **Sasha Breger Bush**, Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Ashley Brooks-Russell**, Community and Behavioral Health, Colorado School of Public Health **Brian Buma**, Integrative Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Kyle Ehrhardt**, Business School **Amy Ferrell**, School of Education and Human Development **Mia Fischer**, Communication, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Jamie Hodgkins**, Anthropology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Jeremiah Kalir**, School of Education and Human Development **Achim Klug**, Physiology and Biophysics, School of Medicine **Marcelo Coca Perrailon**, Health Systems, Management and Policy, Colorado School of Public Health **Gregory Ragland**, Integrative Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Paul Rozance**, Pediatrics-Neonatology, School of Medicine **Esther Sullivan**, Sociology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Mary Weiser-Evans**, Medicine-Renal Med Disease/Hypertension, School of Medicine **Jennifer Wiler**, Emergency Medicine, School of Medicine **Fan Yang**, Biostatistics and Informatics, Colorado School of Public Health

Appointments with tenure:

Alison Abraham, Epidemiology, Colorado School of Public Health **Cheryl Ackert-Bicknell**, Orthopedics, School of Medicine **Tianjing Li**, Ophthalmology, School of Medicine **Constancio Nakuma**, Modern Languages, College of

Liberal Arts and Sciences (effective July 1, 2021) **Darleen Sandoval**, Pediatrics-Nutrition, School of Medicine

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