Regents approve $5.21 billion systemwide budget[1]
[2]

The Board of Regents last week approved a $5.21 billion budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

The systemwide total, voted on during the June 17 board meeting, reflects an 8% increase over the pre-pandemic (2019-20) budget of $4.82 billion.

The coming year's budget breakdown by campus:
CU Anschutz, $2.5 billion CU Boulder, $2.0 billion CU Denver, $361.8 million UCCS, $336.7 million System administration, $212.4 million
The budget includes a state funding increase of $19.1 million, or 7.9% up from 2019-20 levels.

At its April meeting, the board voted to approve[3] recommendations on tuition, compensation and fees for the 2021-22 fiscal year. This included an effective 0% tuition rate change for continuing undergraduate students after a one-time tuition buydown in the upcoming year.

A summary of the budget proposal was presented[4] by Todd Saliman, senior vice president for strategy, government relations and chief financial officer in system administration at CU. He will begin serving as interim president[5] July 1.

Regents last week also took action in anticipation of expected revenue gaps beginning in FY 2022-23.

The board approved a four-tiered undergraduate tuition structure at CU Boulder[6], aimed at more closely aligning tuition rates with the associated costs of instruction within majors. The board also authorized a plan to raise CU Boulder resident tuition and mandatory fees for incoming cohorts by $500 each year for the next three years, beginning in fall 2022. Once a student begins at any given tuition rate, CU Boulder's four-year tuition guarantee will mean no increases beyond the initial $500.

These and other changes as approved – including the consolidation of mandatory fees with tuition at CU Denver and UCCS to increase transparency in cost, and increased flexibility on funding for the CU Denver Engineering Building and UCCS Engineering Building renovation – ultimately will require the approval next year of Colorado's Legislature. CU always will balance its budget. These actions paired with other strategies will ensure CU is successful in fulfilling the university's mission and meeting the needs of its students, families, faculty, staff and community.

In other business at last week's board meeting, held remotely (a video recording is available here[7]):
The board chose its leadership for the coming year. Regent Jack Kroll[8], D-Denver, will serve as board chair, while Regent Sue Sharkey[9], R-Castle Rock, will be vice chair. President Mark Kennedy presented the systemwide strategic plan. Read more here.[10] President Kennedy was honored with a resolution of appreciation[11] from the Board of Regents, which also bestowed upon him the title President Emeritus. "It has been a true honor and privilege to serve as president of this remarkable institution," said Kennedy, who is transitioning out of the presidency effective July 1.
The board voted against a resolution that would have reversed CU's requirement that all faculty, staff and students be vaccinated against COVID-19 before the fall semester. The measure failed 6-3, with votes of support from Regent Chance Hill, who introduced the resolution, and Regents Heidi Ganahl and Sue Sharkey.
Read more on the meeting in CU Boulder Today[12] and in CU Denver Today[13].

Completed strategic plan sets direction for future of CU[10]
[14]

CU's strategic plan, work on which was launched nearly two years ago[15] by CU President Mark Kennedy, received its official unveiling before the Board of Regents last week.

Kennedy presented details on the plan[16] during the board's June 17 meeting, held remotely. The process to develop

the plan, titled Innovating for the Future, engaged at least 600 stakeholders, and was guided by input from the Board of Regents, faculty, students, staff, chancellors, trustees and the broader CU community.

Established early in the process, the plan's four strategic pillars – Affordability and Student Access; Discovery and Impact; Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Access; and Fiscal Strength – each have focus areas where quantifiable goals and initiatives are grouped.

The strategic plan will:
Detail actionable, measurable steps that will allow CU to continue to meet its mission and serve its students and the state. Provide a roadmap that will guide the university as it emerges from the pandemic and confronts the challenges of the coming five years. Complement campus strategic planning efforts and actions. Be a bridge that will offer continuity among the current administration, interim administration and next administration.
Todd Saliman, who begins as CU's interim president next week, helped steer the strategic planning process as a co-chair, with Sharon Matusik, dean of the Leeds School of Business at CU Boulder. Saliman said administration leadership plans to update the board annually on goal progress, with possible deep-dive discussions into specific areas of the plan throughout the year. Regents are expected to begin those discussions at their July retreat.

"This was a primary goal over the last couple of years," said Board Chair Glen Gallegos. "The hard part really begins now in terms of how it begins to be fulfilled on campus. (The plan is) very thorough and really points us in the right direction."

The board is expected to vote on the strategic plan's approval at a future meeting.

CU Denver Chancellor Michelle Marks also introduced a complementary strategic plan for her campus[17], called Making Higher Education Work for All. Read more in CU Denver Today[18].

UCHealth, CU Athletics strengthen partnership to inspire health and wellness [19]

AI may soon predict how electronics fail[20]

Department of Labor recognizes UCCS Cybersecurity Analyst Program as a Registered Apprenticeship Program[21]

Knapsack Institute celebrates 20 years of critical conversations [22]

'Work for All': How CU Denver will become a leading public urban research university by 2030[23]

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences presenting series of conversations about COVID[24]

CU Cancer Center receives highly competitive SPORE grant for head and neck cancer [25]

For LGBTQ community, ending the silence could enhance their lives – and deaths [26]

Farias talks Pride Month, supporting CU Denver's affinity groups[27]

Washington's innovative approach to healing hands and eyes is changing lives [28]

Employee of the Quarter Sanderson is 'UCCS' carbon monoxide detector' [29]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/regents-approve-521-billion-systemwide-budget[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg-budget_feat.png[3] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/regents-set-tuition-rates-2021-22[4] https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/C43T7D720B1E/$file/FY%202021-22%20Budget%20Presentation%20(final).pdf[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-regents-name-todd-saliman-interim-president[6] https://www.colorado.edu/today/2021/06/17/board-regents-approves-tuition-proposals-cu-boulder-starting-fall-2022[7] https://cu.new.swagit.com/videos/123042[8] https://regents.cu.edu/meet-the-regents/john-jack-kroll[9] https://regents.cu.edu/meet-the-regents/sue-sharkey[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/completed-strategic-plan-sets-direction-future-cu[11] https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/C3VTGV775B8F/$file/MRK%20resolution.pdf[12] https://www.colorado.edu/today/2021/06/17/board-regents-approves-2021-22-budget-tuition-changes-board-also-elects-new-chair[13] https://news.ucdenver.edu/june-17-board-of-regents-meeting-roundup/[14] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/strat-plan_top.jpg[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/pre-planning-strategic-planning-process-underway[16] https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/C43LTD581622/$file/StratPlan_1.7.pdf[17] https://www.ucdenver.edu/strategicplan[18] https://news.ucdenver.edu/work-for-all-how-cu-denver-will-become-a-leading-public-urban-research-university-by-2030/[19] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uchealth-cu-athletics-strengthen-partnership-inspire-health-and-wellness[20] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/ai-may-soon-predict-how-electronics-fail[21] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/department-labor-recognizes-uccs-cybersecurity-analyst-program-registered-apprenticeship[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/knapsack-institute-celebrates-20-years-critical-conversations[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/work-all-how-cu-denver-will-become-leading-public-urban-research-university-2030[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/college-liberal-arts-and-sciences-presenting-series-conversations-about-covid[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-cancer-center-receives-highly-competitive-spore-

grant-head-and-neck-cancer[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/lgbtq-community-ending-silence-could-enhance-their-lives-and-deaths[27] https://connections.cu.edu/people/farias-talks-pride-month-supporting-cu-denver-s-affinity-groups[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/washington-s-innovative-approach-healing-hands-and-eyes-changing-lives[29] https://connections.cu.edu/people/employee-quarter-sanderson-uccs-carbon-monoxide-detector