

[Five questions for Luella Chavez D'Angelo](#)^[1]

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Having called Colorado home for nearly 20 years, [Luella Chavez D'Angelo](#)^[3] had a resident's familiarity with the University of Colorado. Like many folks, though, she hadn't fully realized the scope and impact of the institution on and beyond its four campuses.

Now she's helping to share that story – and add to it – in a leadership role at the university's newest location, [CU South Denver](#)^[4]. The vice chancellor for enterprise development, she reports to CU Denver Chancellor Dorothy Horrell, but works closely with all four campus chancellors' senior teams.

Chavez D'Angelo is tasked with building the entity's academic offerings and slate of museum events to best serve the area's burgeoning business and community needs. Formerly known as The Wildlife Experience, the Douglas County facility officially came to be part of CU as a \$40 million gift from Dave and Gail Liniger and their family in September 2014.

Chavez D'Angelo's resume includes marketing and other leadership posts at the University of New Mexico's health science system, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, the First Data Foundation and, most recently, as chief communications officer and senior vice president at Western Union.

1. You joined CU in February. What are your impressions so far?

Of course, I knew a bit about CU. But I didn't know what an impressive social imprint the university is leaving not only on the state but on the country. When you think about the fact that we have over 50,000 employees – I'd never realized what a major employer we are, and I've been living and working in the business community for nearly 20 years. You think about the leaders we produce – from astronauts to business leaders to physicians on the cutting edge of medical research and discoveries – it has in some ways blown my mind how impressive we really are. Our alumni are proud and stay connected to each other.

2. How are your past professional experiences, including those at Western Union and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, informing you in your leadership role at CU South Denver?

What's pretty amazing to me is that I couldn't have asked for a better way to use all the tools in my arsenal. I think my background, my experiences and things I've learned from really strong mentors over time are already starting to pay off for the University of Colorado.

I started my career in higher education at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center. I went on to a museum in New Mexico, then eventually Denver, where I was the chief marketing officer of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. I was solely responsible for identifying and choosing exhibition product. I had to think about how to bring appropriate scientific and educational programs to the community – in ways to fulfill our science mission but also get as many people through the door as possible.

I left that post to begin building the First Data Foundation, which did not yet exist. With corporate philanthropy, you think about how you can help communities while you're helping a brand. That's what I did at Western Union, too. Both of those Fortune 500 companies allowed me to think about, how do we really understand the business of these two corporations and how can we align that with philanthropy goals? How do you find the sweet spot of increasing value to the corporation while increasing value to society?

Now I get to apply all of that to build a brand for CU South Denver, to build truly collaborative partnerships with the community and with industry. And I'm working with a fantastically engaged team here, over 40 people who are really engaged in this mission, which is, how do we build a stronger educated community in south Denver by growing their abilities?

3. How have you begun matching the needs and wants of the south metro area's business community with

the academics available across CU?

I have been on the campuses, trying to take a deeper look at various programs with an eye on determining which academic offerings the campuses have that will be valuable for CU South Denver. The most exciting part of the job is working with the provosts and vice chancellors, trying to match up our academic knowledge with the needs of the people, community and corporations in south Denver.

I think that sometimes academic institutions want to just put forth what a professor might be researching or studying and hope it might be valuable. Sometimes it is, sometimes it isn't. We are trying to take a very disciplined approach at CU South Denver to ask our community leaders, what is it you wish you had more of when it comes to your lifelong learning goals? What do you want for your child who might be 6 years old? Is it more history of Colorado? Learning more about anatomy? Or photography? It could be any number of subjects.

The great thing is that we have the content at CU, right? We have very exciting, relevant and accurate content. What content does a corporation need to build its workforce? What are the professional-development programs that they need?

I'm hearing a lot that companies need leadership agility – how to lead in times of change. Change is coming faster than ever with digitization, globalization, diversified populations and more competitors. How do you really help corporations lead more efficiently and with more passion and in a way where they're comfortable with all this change swirling around them?

4. While CU Denver manages the facility on behalf of the system, all four campuses are involved. How do you plan to go about building collaborations with the campuses?

One of the things that is so special about CU South Denver is that it will be the only location where we truly have academic programs from all four campuses happening in one place. That can happen two ways. They can be stand-alone programs that are an extension, if you will, of programs coming in from each of the four campuses. This will meet many of the needs of our community.

However, what's most exciting to me is figuring out where we might be able to have two schools or more from two or more campuses coming together to combine their subject matter experts, their faculty thought leaders, their knowledge and research. Take a topic like cybersecurity: We have knowledge in Denver, Boulder and most exceptionally at the Colorado Springs campus. How do we bring those subject matter experts together and pull their research findings and leaders together into a program that could better serve one of these Fortune 500 companies in our backyard? We want to find ways of using our CU enterprise knowledge, not just CU campus knowledge. Then we will be truly recognized as thought leaders.

We don't yet have any initiatives fully launched that are truly collaborative in terms of an academic offering. We now have a collaboration committee, which consists of two senior leaders from each campus who meet monthly with my senior team and me to explore these possibilities. We want to be offering some collaborative, jointly presented academic programs by next year.

For an example of where we might start, we have some data that just came out from an Arapahoe County-Douglas County workforce group. The data is showing that we need more knowledge in south Denver around the subject of finance and accounting. We also know we need more offerings around health care – allied health, specifically. And we need more knowledge around the engineering area. Those are areas we might need to start with.

5. When you [reported to the Board of Regents at its April meeting](#)[5], you mentioned confusion in the community as far as CU South Denver's identity. How do you go about fixing that?

We've reactivated a strategic marketing plan for CU South Denver. We're sending messages through radio, print, social media and direct mail. It's not a large campaign because we had to be somewhat resourceful with the limited dollars we have. But the goal of the campaign is really to officially introduce ourselves – which we've never done – to people and corporations in south Denver. We're saying the University of Colorado is so honored to be here in your

backyard and more honored to be your education partner.

People say, so all you're doing is marketing? No. What's really exciting about building CU South Denver is that one day I could be working on real estate issues, another day I could be working on hiring people for the cultural side of house in the café or theater, so it's HR issues. Another day, I might be working with deans from all four campuses.

There are a lot of different angles to the job of building a location, even beyond marketing and communication. In my last job, I was on an airplane with Western Union, traveling more than 70 percent of the time. Now I have the chance to basically drive from Castle Rock to Lone Tree to Highlands Ranch to Parker to build something that will have a lasting imprint on the local community for years to come. It's really refreshing.

[Shift of tech transfer to campuses streamlines workflow, leverages expertise](#)[6]

On Friday, the University of Colorado Technology Transfer Office will transition from a CU system office to a campus oversight structure that will leverage campus-specific expertise and maximize efficiency.

Key licensing professionals at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and CU Boulder are already organized so that industry and faculty needs on each campus are addressed. Under the structural change, those professionals will now report to campus-level leadership to align each campus's vision for innovation and industry partnerships with the needs of researchers on those campuses.

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus will build on life sciences research, work with the pharmaceutical and medical device industries and pursue clinical trials that will improve patient care. The Boulder campus is focused on exploring innovation through its world-class physics, biosciences, aerospace and engineering programs.

CU Boulder will serve the tech transfer needs for the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and the CU Anschutz Medical Campus operation will handle requests for CU Denver.

"Because each campus is exploring how it can best advance the efforts of its unique faculty, innovators and business leaders, moving to a campus-based technology transfer operation with shared support services provides greater opportunities for success and collaboration with the private sector," said University Counsel and Secretary of the Board of Regents Patrick O'Rourke.

Established in 2001, the CU Technology Transfer Office has become an integral part of Colorado's innovation ecosystem. As Colorado's Front Range accelerates into one of the top entrepreneurial communities, CU inventors and innovators have a significant impact in health care, science, engineering, education and the environment.

In fiscal 2015, proof-of-concept funding led to the creation of 20 CU startup companies and over \$260 million in follow-on funding. From fiscal year 2006 to 2015, CU Tech Transfer:

Reviewed 2,362 invention disclosures Filed 869 U.S. patent applications Negotiated 579 license agreements

Generated nearly \$124 million in licensing revenue

Vice Chancellor for Research Terri Fiez came to CU Boulder last fall from Oregon State University in Corvallis, where she had become known for creating robust industry partnerships and a framework for collaboration.

"We are excited to have Technology Transfer as part of the CU Boulder Research and Innovation Office," Fiez said. "We are even more committed to making it easy and efficient for our industry licensing partners, and to supporting our faculty in translating innovative discoveries into impact for the broader community."

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus has emerged during the past decade as an engine of economic growth for the state, providing more than \$5.6 billion total economic impact. Since 2002, over 1,900 patent applications and more than 50 start-up companies have been formed based on intellectual property developed on the campus.

"We are confident that the new campus-based CU Anschutz Innovations office will build on the successes of the university's technology transfer efforts while making it easier for researchers and industry to work together," said Steve VanNurden, executive director of biotechnology relationships for CU Anschutz Medical Campus. VanNurden came to Colorado in 2012 from the Mayo Clinic, where he oversaw a technology licensing and commercialization enterprise.

Some technology-transfer support functions, such as legal services and accounting, will continue to be shared systemwide.

CU Associate Vice President Kate Tallman, who formerly led the Technology Transfer Office at the system level, is transitioning to a new role in the private sector where she will continue to assist advanced technology companies and research institutions in the commercialization of their innovations.

"The University of Colorado owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Kate for the technology transfer leadership she provided for more than a decade," O'Rourke said. "Kate has been instrumental in promoting technologies that have generated millions of dollars to advance the university's research mission, working to create dozens of new companies and hundreds of jobs in Colorado, and in bringing university research to the marketplace."

[Regents approve \\$3.82 billion budget](#)[7]

The CU Board of Regents at its June 16 meeting approved a \$3.82 billion budget for fiscal year 2016-17, an increase of \$27 million over FY2015-16's \$3.55 billion. Of the budget, CU Boulder's share is \$1.58 billion, UCCS' is \$228.4 million, CU Denver's is \$278.1 million and the CU Anschutz Medical Campus' budget is \$1.73 billion.

The budget is composed of projected revenue including tuition and fees; health services, auxiliary and operation services; federal/state/local grants and contracts, and private donations and other gifts. The state's contribution to the budget is \$201.9 million, or 5 percent.

[Todd Saliman](#)[8], vice president and chief financial officer, told the regents that about 36 percent of the budget is education and general revenue, allocated for the functions of the university such as faculty, advising, scholarship and technology. The remainder of the budget is restricted funds such as private donations earmarked by the donor, and auxiliary funds for facilities, operations and maintenance.

The budget passed on an 8-1 vote by the board, with Regent John Carson, R-Highlands Ranch, as the dissenting vote.

"The overall budget increase is 5.7 percent, and the 2015 CPI was 1.6 percent," Carson said. "We're looking at three and a half times that. If we are going to continue to grow at three or four times the rate of inflation, where does that all end?"

Saliman explained that the increase in the budget reflected a projected increase in revenue from CU's operations.

"One of the reasons the budget is growing is because we're doing more research and we would hope that research the restricted funds grow faster than the rate of inflation because that means we're getting more grants, we're doing more work," Saliman said.

Clinical revenue also is on the rise.

"UPI ([University Physicians Inc.](#)[9]) is an area that's growing rapidly, much faster than the rate of inflation because our doctors are providing more services to more people," Saliman said.

He also noted that auxiliary is growing faster than the rate of inflation. "That's our business operation, so you would

want them to thrive. We hope people shop in the book store and live in our facilities.”

To launch the budget presentation, Saliman premiered a [video that explains CU's budget](#)[10] in simple terms. The video is available to help CU administration and the regents more easily communicate the budget with their constituents.

[See the full budget presentation here.](#)[11]

[Board of Regents can't decide on next chair](#)[12]

The Board of Regents failed to elect a new chair June 17 at CU Boulder, the second such stalemate since 2013.

The nine board members completed six rounds of secret-ballot voting – none resulting in a majority choice – before current Chair Kyle Hybl adjourned the meeting. The vote was the final agenda item on the board's two-day meeting, which was held in the University Memorial Center.

The final round of voting gave Hybl four votes; current Vice Chair Irene Griego also received four votes, while Glen Gallegos received one vote. In earlier rounds of voting, Hybl tallied three votes; Gallegos, two.

Hybl and Gallegos are Republicans, who hold a 5-4 majority on the board, while Griego is a Democrat.

After the first failed vote, former Chair Michael Carrigan, who emerged as the victor in a vote at a special meeting that followed [2013's failed 14 rounds of voting](#)[13], moved to have the board suspend its requirement of a majority rule. With only a plurality of votes, Griego presumably would have emerged as the chair, based on the first vote. But the motion by Carrigan, a Democrat, failed on a 5-4 party line vote.

Hybl and Griego will remain in their current leadership roles until the board attempts another vote, which could happen at its July retreat or sooner if the board chooses to convene a special meeting.

In other business at the June 16-17 meeting in the University Memorial Center at CU Boulder:

During the Regents Intercollegiate Athletic Committee meeting, CU Boulder Athletic Director Rick George reported on progress in new facility construction and student-athlete academic achievement. He called the past year one of the department's best in terms of academics, with student athletes registering a 2.908 GPA in the spring semester and an 86 percent graduation success rate. In competition, the winning percentage against Division I competition was 69.3 percent. The new indoor practice facility adjacent to Folsom Field will be ready for use in the fall, George said. The Board of Regents approved a three-year extension of George's contract, now running through June 2021. The board voted to approve three new bachelor's degrees at CU Boulder, in elementary education; leadership and community engagement; and atmospheric and oceanic sciences. During public comment, several graduate students from CU Boulder expressed dissatisfaction with their compensation, saying that the current average salary of \$17,909 is woefully below a “self-sufficiency wage.” In Boulder, an MIT calculator places that figure at roughly \$29,000. CU Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano said the new average salary for graduate students will rise to \$19,073 in the coming year, an increase of 6 percent. The board reappointed Peter F. Steinhauer and John W. Bliss to the Board of Directors of the Coleman Colorado Foundation. The board appointed Richard Monfort to the University of Colorado Health Board of Directors. The board approved the name change for the CU Denver Department of Planning and Design to the Department of Urban and Regional Planning in the College of Architecture and Planning. The board approved the [University of Colorado Colorado Springs Cyber Security Center Program Plan](#)[14] and planned use of \$7.9 million in state funding, which becomes available July 1.

The Board of Regents will meet next July 13-15 for its annual retreat at Silverthorne.

Here's the [CU Boulder meeting roundup](#)[15].

[Diversity overview is encouraging, but there's more to be done](#)[16]

[17]

Diversity in its many definitions is making headway at the University of Colorado as each campus approaches inclusion with unique strategies and programs, but there is still a great deal to be done.

Diversity officers from each campus highlighted programs and progress in the area of inclusion among students, faculty and staff, while conceding great challenges remain.

Kathy Nesbitt, vice president for employee and information services, said examples of outreach include CU's recent sponsorship of Denver PrideFest 2016, engagement in the Las Raices Latina Gala and the Latin American Educational Foundation, myriad on-campus trainings, and involvement in the Martin Luther King Junior Awards.

She said the University of Colorado collectively enrolls 32 percent of resident Colorado students who go to a public four year institution. CU's share of state minority students is 33 percent, she said – the highest percentage of each in the state. CU is followed by Metropolitan State University of Denver, which had 19 percent of the state's students overall and 25 percent of minority students, and Colorado State University, with 17 percent and 11 percent respectively.

The regents asked for more solid numbers and formalized strategies that address all areas of inclusion, such as diversity of thought.

Regent Glen Gallegos, R-Grand Junction, also asked the diversity leaders to set a benchmark and to establish a timeframe for when the student and faculty minority population will parallel that of the state.

"Our strategies for diversity on campus are good for all kids. It really doesn't matter what color they are," Gallegos said. "I would like all campuses to determine a timeframe when our campuses parallel the state; mirroring what the state looks like."

Regent Steve Ludwig, at large, asked that leaders further explore community partnerships.

"Why don't we increase the pie of minority students who can actually get into the University of Colorado?" he said. "If we're actually committed to increasing minority students through our doors . . . I think we need to break down mental barriers, we really need to be inspired. Let's really change the game and create these partnerships as far down as we need to go."

Nesbitt said their suggestions will be addressed in the long-range diversity and inclusion plan, which was announced in December 2015 and remains a work in progress.

[View the Diversity Presentation](#)[18]

[Tenure list: June 2016](#)[19]

The CU Board of Regents this month approved 90 awards of tenure and 18 appointments with tenure.

University of Colorado Boulder

Unless noted, all appointments take effect Aug. 15.

Appointments with Tenure (7)

S. James Anaya, School of Law (July 18, 2016) **Stephen Billings**, Leeds School of Business **Diego Garcia**, Leeds School of Business **David Gatten**, Film Studies, College of Arts and Sciences **Jennifer Knight**, College of Arts and Sciences **Dimitri Nakassis**, College of Arts and Sciences **Katherine Schultz**, School of Education (Aug. 1, 2016)

Awards of Tenure (44)

Ryan Bachtell, College of Arts and Sciences **Robin Bernstein**, College of Arts and Sciences **Jennifer Bird-Arvidsson**, College of Music **David Boromisza-Habashi**, College of Media, Communication and Information **Joseph Bryan**, College of Arts and Sciences **Brian Cadena** College of Arts and Sciences **Celine Dauverd**, College of Arts and Sciences **Justin Desautels-Stein**, School of Law **Alireza Doostan**, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Gordana Dukovic**, College of Arts and Sciences **Michael Dulock**, University Libraries (July 1, 2016) **Samuel Flaxman**, College of Arts and Sciences **Mara Goldman**, College of Arts and Sciences **Gerardo Gutierrez**, College of Arts and Sciences **Emily Harrington**, College of Arts and Sciences **Jill Harrison**, College of Arts and Sciences **Juan Herrero-Senes**, Spanish and Portuguese, College of Arts and Sciences **Mark Hoefler**, College of Arts and Sciences **Leigh Holman**, College of Music **Amy Javernick-Will**, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Miriam Kingsberg**, College of Arts and Sciences **Matthew Koschmann**, College of Media, Communication and Information **Kelty Logan**, College of Media, Communication and Information **Julie Lundquist**, College of Arts and Sciences **Kevin Mahan**, College of Arts and Sciences **Jason Marden**, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Brett Melbourne**, College of Arts and Sciences **Tamara Meneghini**, College of Arts and Sciences **Jeffrey Nytch**, College of Music **Cindy Regal**, College of Arts and Sciences **Laurialan Reitzammer**, College of Arts and Sciences **Mark Rentschler**, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Juan Restrepo**, College of Arts and Sciences **Jennifer Shannon**, College of Arts and Sciences **Megan Shannon**, College of Arts and Sciences **Nuria Silleras-Fernandez**, College of Arts and Sciences **Seema Sohi**, College of Arts and Sciences **Seth Spielman**, College of Arts and Sciences **Zoltan Sternovsky**, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Dmitri Uzdensky**, College of Arts and Sciences **Edward Van Wesep**, Leeds School of Business **Xiang Wang**, College of Arts and Sciences **Bianca Williams**, Ethnic Studies, College of Arts and Sciences **Lawrence Williams**, Leeds School of Business **University of Colorado Colorado Springs**

Unless noted, all appointments took effect June 18.

Appointment with Tenure (1)

Jonathan Caudill, School of Public Affairs

Awards of Tenure (11)

Jeremy Bono, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Jill Bradley-Geist**, College of Business **Rory Lewis**, College of Engineering & Applied Sciences **Molly Maxfield**, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Patrick McGuire**, College of Education **Leann Morgan**, College of Education **Janel Owens**, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Brandon Vogt**, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Marcus Winters**, Marcus, College of Education **Carole Woodall**, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences **Mingming Zhou**, College of Business **University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus**

Unless noted, all appointments took effect June 17.

Appointments with Tenure (10)

F. Amos Bailey, School of Medicine **Vikhyat Bebarta**, School of Medicine **Cathy Bradley**, Colorado School of Public Health **Rohan Christie-David**, Business School (Sept. 1, 2016) **Jeffrey Jacot**, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (July 1, 2016) **Thomas Jansson**, School of Medicine **Vesna Jevtovic-Todorovic**, School of Medicine **Kenneth Liechty**, School of Medicine **Richard Strasser**, College of Arts and Media (July 1, 2016) **Slobodan Todorovic**, School of Medicine

Awards of Tenure (35)

Nicole Beer, of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Sondra Bland**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Stacey Bosick**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Lorne Bregitzer**, College of Arts and Media **Jonathan Campbell**, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences **Faye Caronan Chen**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Amanda Charlesworth**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Caroline Clevenger**, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences **Dan Connors**, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences **Ethan Cumbler**, School of Medicine **Yiming Deng**, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences **Elan Eisenmesser**, School of Medicine **Ellen Elias**, School of Medicine **Maria Fernández Martínez**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Glenn Furuta**, School of Medicine **Sarah Hagelin**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Kirk Hansen**, School of Medicine **Rachel Harding**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Bryn Harris**, School of Education and Human Development **Heather Johnson**, School of Education and Human Development **Malik Kahook**, School of Medicine **Jung-In Kim**, School of Education and Human Development **Jennifer Kiser**, Pharmaceutical Science, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences **Patrick Krueger**, Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Yong Liu**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Steven Moulton**, School of Medicine **Jae-Do Park**, College of Engineering and

Applied Sciences **Scott Sagel**, School of Medicine **Lonnie Schaible**, School of Public Affairs **Natalie Serkova**, School of Medicine **Stanley Szeffler**, School of Medicine **Jody Tanabe**, School of Medicine **Alan Vajda**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Travis Vermilye**, College of Arts and Media **Kara Viesca**, School of Education and Human Development

[Szpyrka to spearhead tuition benefit committee](#)[20]

A committee headed by Susan Szpyrka, University of Colorado Colorado Springs senior vice chancellor administration and finance, will take on CU's tuition benefit, an issue that has been a topic of discussion for governance groups and administrators for years, in part because of benefit inconsistencies across the university campuses.

Szpyrka was named to head the effort after financial officers from the campuses failed to find a workable solution for the benefit differences, said University of Colorado Staff Council (UCSC) Chair Denise Thomas during the council's regular meeting June 23. Thomas said the committee will focus on the dependent benefit, specifically dependents who wish to attend classes on a campus where the parent is not employed. The goal is to determine whether there is a feasible way to make such cross-payments equitable. Currently, the tuition rate is calculated differently at each campus, said Thomas. "It's a good step in the right direction because it allows for the conversation to continue."

The committee will comprise chief financial officers, faculty and a staff representative from the Staff Council. Tara Dressler, a council representative from system administration, will represent the Staff Council on the committee.

The committee will consider creative ways to fund the program, including looking at whether scholarships could be used, Thomas said.

Szpyrka also is interested in collaborating with Staff Council on its upcoming benefits survey to ask more questions specifically related to the tuition benefit. The survey, which aims to gather data about staff needs concerning university benefits, is scheduled to be emailed to all staff members in mid-August.

Also at the meeting, Staff Council members discussed a proposal spearheaded by system administration council representatives to institute paid parental leave at the university for staff members.

Nancy Sicalides-Tucker, who is working on the proposal, said the group has been trying to come up with ways to fund the benefit. A presentation on the subject will be given to UCSC members during their next meeting, the annual council retreat in early August in Colorado Springs.

[CU expands access to Lynda.com for faculty, staff](#)[21]

The University of Colorado has expanded access to the video tutorial website [Lynda.com](#)[22] to faculty and staff at UCCS, CU Denver, CU Anschutz and CU system administration as part of a pilot program running through November 2017. CU Boulder began offering Lynda.com access to faculty, staff and students in December 2014.

The move gives all employees unlimited access to nearly 5,000 training videos on technology, creative and business skills and software. Students at UCCS, CU Denver and CU Anschutz will not have access.

"CU's Faculty Council and Staff Council both advocated for expanded access to Lynda.com beyond the CU-Boulder campus," said Vice President Kathy Nesbitt, employee and information services. "We were happy to work with them to bring new professional development opportunities to CU faculty and staff."

The website's online courses and materials include Excel, the Adobe Creative Suite, WordPress, eLearning tools and a multitude of other software programs. The site also provides classes on helpful tools to use in business, leadership, marketing, education, graphic design, IT and other specializations.

Beyond individual classes, Lynda.com delivers learning paths aimed toward career goals, such as becoming a manager, a graphic designer, a project coordinator or a programmer.

"You are getting a powerful service. It will be a great benefit to you professionally," said Joanna Iturbe, a University of Colorado Staff Council representative from CU Boulder. She has used Lynda.com to take a variety of project management courses and is very pleased with the service.

"Once you get started, (Lynda.com) recommends videos based on what you've already watched," she said. "It's like Amazon in that it's looking at your behavior and making recommendations for you."

Courses are segmented so users may watch as little or as much as necessary, and bookmarks and playlists help users keep track of courses they'd like to watch. [A full course library is available on the site.](#) [23]

"SkillSoft will remain the system of record for required compliance training, as it reports into HCM," said Janet Lowe, director of Employee Learning and Development. HCM stands for Human Capital Management, a PeopleSoft program used to manage HR functions such as hiring, payroll, benefits and other employee transactions.

Lynda.com provides [certificates of completion](#)[24] for faculty and staff who want to document their work. When courses or learning paths are completed, course certifications can be displayed on a user's LinkedIn profile as a badge.

"Employee Services will add ongoing Lynda.com resources and tips to its website," Lowe said.

Both SkillSoft and lynda.com can be accessed from your [campus portal](#)[25]. Click on the CU Resources tab, and select Training to find the Lynda.com link. Employees who work at CU Boulder and on another campus will have two Lynda.com accounts and will need to sign into the portal of each specific campus to access their preferred Lynda.com account.

[Chavez to lead community engagement initiatives](#)[26]

The University of Colorado announced June 16 that Nolbert Chavez is joining the CU system as associate vice president of community engagement.

In this newly created role, Chavez will work to expand CU's outreach and engagement with diverse communities across Colorado. He will split his time between the CU system and University of Colorado Denver, where he serves as chief of external initiatives. He began his new role June 14.

"I am looking forward to showcasing CU's outreach efforts and building on our successes," Chavez said. In particular, he aims "to connect the University of Colorado to diverse communities throughout the state in a meaningful way."

Before joining CU, Chavez was a principal in the Capitol Success Group for 13 years, providing government affairs and strategic consulting services to corporate, governmental and nonprofit clients.

Chavez holds a master's degree in political science with an emphasis in politics and public policy from the University of Colorado Denver.

"We are very excited to bring Nolbert Chavez to the CU system to lead our community outreach to diverse communities across Colorado," said Kathy Nesbitt, vice president of employee and information services at CU.

"Nolbert has an accomplished track record of public and community service, which will serve him well in this role."

Chavez served four terms in the Colorado House of Representatives. One of his primary interests was higher education, ultimately passing legislation that created independent governing boards for all state colleges.

His community service includes a mayoral appointment to the Judicial Discipline Commission and a federal appointment to the American Latino Heritage Fund of the National Parks Foundation.

[Dalai Lama draws thousands to Coors Events Center for words of wisdom](#)[27]

[Back to the future: High schoolers get hands-on experience at CU-Boulder](#)[28]

[Governor Hickenlooper signs cyber bill into law at UCCS ceremony](#)[29]

[Staff members earn degrees, too](#)[30]

[Vietnam and honey fuel undergrad research](#)[31]

[DREAM Program Aims to Inspire Physician Scientists](#)[32]

[UCCS officer Swasey recognized in annual Public Safety awards ceremony](#)[33]

[Verner earns top sports information director award](#)[34]

[CU Online wins New Media Consortium Center of Excellence honor](#)[35]

[Regensteiner earns Master of the Society for Vascular Medicine designation](#)[36]

Judy Regensteiner, professor of medicine and director of the Center for Women's Health Research, recently received the Master of the Society for Vascular Medicine (MSVM) designation from the Society for Vascular Medicine. The MSVM designation is conferred upon individuals who have provided extraordinary service to the society and who have been fellows of the society for more than 15 years.

[Dalai Lama regales Coloradans, urges compassion, "global sensibility"](#)[37]

[UCCS program to highlight need and techniques for good sleep](#)[38]

[CU researchers find key to some symptoms of severe West Nile infection](#)[39]

Links

[1] <https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/five-questions-luella-chavez-d-angelo>[2]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/5q-luella_cusd-top.jpg[3]
<http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/WhoWeAre/Chancellor/ViceChancellors/Enterprise-Development/Pages/default.aspx>[4]
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