College Measures website a new tool demonstrating value of higher education[1]

[2]
A new state-backed website provides prospective students and their families with a way to learn more about the value of investing in higher education – specifically the earnings that might be expected from a first job out of school.

Colorado is the latest state to launch a website and database via College Measures[3], an organization that uses data to help achieve improvement in higher education outcomes in the United States.

Wednesday's debut of collegemeasures.org/esm/colorado was accompanied by the release of a final report[2], "Higher Education Pays: The Initial Earnings of Graduates From Colorado's Colleges and Universities Working in Colorado."

Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia, who announced the launch Wednesday at Denver's South High School, said giving students a simple way of researching first-year earnings of recent graduates from two-year and four-year institutions in Colorado will boost smart decisions when comparing career paths and the potential accompanying debt load.

College Measures compile earnings information from about 61,800 graduates – 26 percent of all graduates of Colorado higher education institutions between 2006 and 2010 – by institution, degree type and major. The accompanying report notes that Colorado graduates of higher education institutions working in the state earned an average of $20,000 more in the first year of employment than did high school graduates.

"We know (higher education) is not just about earning money," Garcia said. "But we want students and their families to have that information."

Data were provided by the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE). CDHE provided graduate data from the Student Unit Record Data System (SURDS), while earnings data were provided by the CDLE.

The website enables comparisons of earnings among graduates of different institutions, but Garcia said, "This is not about comparing one institution to another." He noted that degree programs vary widely from one college or university to another, and that student populations can skew numbers – for instance, earnings by graduates of the University of Colorado Denver are likely higher because more students there are older with more career experience.

On the website, College Measures notes that the data are incomplete in several ways: The numbers do not represent graduates who enrolled in graduate school or transferred to another college in Colorado and are full-time students. Also left out are graduates who left the state after completing a degree or certificate or who went to work for the federal government in Colorado or who were self-employed.

The one-year snapshot of salaries does not reflect earnings over a lifetime, either.

"What we need to know is what happens five to 10 years out," said Mark Schneider, president of College Measures. "These are short-term wages, and we know we need to push this out to see what happens further down the road."

Garcia encouraged the use of other websites to supplement the information at the College Measures site, including those of individual institutions, such as the University of Colorado Boulder's "After-graduation activity of CU-Boulder alumni" page[4] and the University of Colorado Denver's ESM overview page.[5]

Five questions for John Black[6]

[7]
A love of mathematics and the knowledge that there aren't many jobs that allow someone "to just do math" propelled John Black toward a career in cryptography – the study and practice of secure communications.

“I’ve always loved math; it’s a way to explore nature but is not obscured by subjectivity. It’s very pure,” Black says. “Cryptology is a way that I can do math that’s applied to something that people care about.”

He grew up in Oakland but slowly began “migrating east.” He earned his Ph.D. at the University of California, Davis, and then worked as an assistant professor at the University of Nevada, Reno. He came to the University of Colorado Boulder in 2002 and is an associate professor of computer science. “I can’t go any farther east or I’d run out of mountains. And that’s non-negotiable.”

Teaching and research give him the flexibility to choose his interests and to work with bright, young people. If he could, he’d skip the grade-giving duty. When he’s not in front of a computer, you might find him hiking – “like everyone else in Boulder, it’s probably my favorite thing to do” – reading or rock climbing.

1. There have been a lot of “hacking” incidents in the news lately, including accusations that China hacked into some U.S. sites. First, explain how encryption (encoded messaging) works, and second, are there degrees of “secure”?

There are a lot of options when it comes to how you encrypt things. Most of the world uses the same set of algorithms, although some use bigger numbers to get added security. Cryptography is only one ingredient in the overall formula for security, and usually it is one of the stronger ones so people don’t normally focus on that piece. The analogy that’s often made is: Trying to hack into a secure system is like trying to break into a grass hut that has an iron door. You wouldn’t go through the iron door; you’d go through the grass wall instead. So if you want to break into a computer system and steal information, attacking the cryptography is probably not a good idea. It’s a very difficult way to succeed and there are other, easier ways to get in. The most effective way to defeat a security system is through social engineering, which is where you exploit the human element. We don’t know how to effectively combat those attacks.

One of the most famous social engineering attacks occurred when someone mapped out a company’s organizational chart and figured out the relationships between employees. Then they crafted emails that looked like they came from another person in the company. The human response was to trust the email because it looked legitimate, and someone gave up an internal password. Everything crumbled after that.

Passwords aren’t very effective, but in the commercial sector, companies are motivated by what consumers are willing to adopt. If they make it too onerous, then people won’t use their product or service, so we’re still stuck with passwords, which are a terrible way to authenticate somebody. There are risks with using passwords, so companies have to be able to absorb the resulting costs from fraud and theft. In other words, they pass the costs back to you. Of course, if the problem gets so severe it becomes impractical to continue this way, we’re going to have to do something else for authentication. You can use biometrics, which identifies humans by certain characteristics such as fingerprints, to strengthen security. In high security contexts, they already do these kinds of things.

2. What are some of your current research interests?

We’ve looked at hacking into certain Internet services and at breaking encryption protocols and creating new encryption protocols. Lately, I’ve been looking at how to teach security and cryptology to students using a game-like approach where the whole class is a game. It’s really fun for me and the students and has been very popular. The more motivated and excited you are, the better you learn, so this is an exciting thing to do on the education side.

I’ve also been doing something called quantum computing, which is a way of looking at building a new kind of computer that uses quantum properties to perform computation. These computers don’t really exist yet, but if they did, they would break most of the cryptology that we use. I did a sabbatical last year at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and worked with a team involved in quantum computers. I still have some ongoing work with them.

For example, RSA cryptography is security that is based on the presumed difficulty of factoring a big number into two smaller prime numbers. The best-known algorithms slowly get better every few years and computers get faster every year. So there’s the constant pressure of progress pushing up against this problem. We’ve made the numbers bigger and bigger and that’s worked so far. But quantum computers will blow that out of the water. A lot of money is being

poured into research, mostly by our government. Cryptographers will respond by coming up with new systems that don't succumb to this attack so it's a continuing evolution of technology.

3. You teach a class titled "Ethical Hacking." What is ethical hacking and what do students learn in the class?

Hacking in the mainstream media means breaking into things, but to most computer scientists, it means you're good at playing with computers. You understand them at a deep level; you enjoy tinkering, exploring and experimenting. The class really is about getting down into the details of computers and trying to solve problems in a security context. The main activity of the class is, in fact, breaking into things. Of course we don't do this to real systems. We set up a sandbox environment that deliberately has computer services with weaknesses built in. We let students try to break in using all kinds of tools we provide, or sometimes, we don't provide the tools and they have to figure it out. They have to build a set of skills that helps them penetrate security systems and break into machines.

It's ethical because we only do this to certain machines, and we also talk about when it's appropriate to use these skills. There have been some objections to this class. People ask, "Why are you teaching students to break into computers?" My response is that you can't teach an FBI agent how to defend against terrorism without telling him or her how terrorists operate. So that's sort of the object of the class. If you are going to defend against cyberattacks, you have to understand how cyberattacks are conducted. There also is something called penetration testing, which is a service offered by some companies. They will break into your computer system with an agreement not to do harm so you know where your vulnerabilities lie. It's a very common service provided in the corporate world. So by teaching these attack techniques, we're also preparing students for a career in penetration testing.

4. We rely more and more on cybersystems to run everything from power plants to hospitals, and the Obama administration has called for more efforts to strengthen cybersecurity to repel attacks. Is this the future?

Every day society is moving more toward automation and it's not going to reverse. We're already seeing warfare conducted in cyberspace. We saw Stuxnet, a computer virus that attacked Iran's nuclear program and supposedly was created by the U.S. and Israel. If I wanted to try to predict the future, I would say that a lot of warfare will be converted from a physical modality to online, to computer-based warfare. So you can imagine a future where warfare largely is conducted via cyberattack and cyberdefense.

5. You have won a variety of awards including teaching awards and a National Science Foundation Career Award. You also list on your CV this award: A Check for $2.56 from Don Knuth, 1996.

Don Knuth is one of the most highly regarded computer scientists in history. He published a series of beautiful books that are very well-known in computer science. He's a perfectionist and would offer a monetary reward for anyone who could find an error in his books. The amount of the reward changed over time, but it settled at $2.56 because that's one hexadecimal dollar. He's issued some 2,000 of these checks over the last 30 or 40 years, and apparently almost none of them gets cashed. The check is kind of like a badge of honor because it's really hard to find errors in the books. So people who get these things often frame them, and in fact, I did the same thing. He stopped issuing actual checks in 2008. It's something you can't get anymore, so it's pretty cool. It's a prized thing in computerdom.

Graduate programs earn top national ratings[8]

Graduate programs across the University of Colorado system continue to gain attention for excellence in the latest annual rankings from U.S. News & World Report. Research and teaching contributions by the four campuses in health care, engineering, law, education and business are well-represented in the 2014 edition of Best Graduate Schools[9] (U.S. News Media Group).

CU's 2014 rankings (lists available via U.S. News at USNews.com[10]):

[10]

University of Colorado Boulder
No. 1: CU-Boulder retains top honors for the atomic/molecular/optical physics program, tied with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. **Top 10:** Other CU-Boulder programs ranking in the top 10 nationally are environmental sciences (fifth), environmental law (fifth), quantum physics (fifth) and physical chemistry (eighth). Some 29 other CU-Boulder schools and programs land on the national rankings within their fields: aerospace engineering (14), biochemistry (15), chemical engineering (18), clinical psychology (18), civil engineering (19), education policy (19), physics (19), environmental engineering (22), earth sciences (23), speech-language pathology (25), chemistry (26), audiology (27), School of Education (28), psychology (30), biological sciences (30), mechanical engineering (30), computer engineering (31), College of Engineering and Applied Science (34), electrical engineering (36), Leeds School of Business (38 for part-time MBA schools), computer science (39), Law School (44), political science (45), math (46), sociology (46), English (50), history (50), economics (53) and fine arts (53).
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Top 10: The School of Medicine ranks fifth nationally for primary care, with the specialties of family medicine (third), pediatrics (fifth) and rural medicine (eighth) also ranking high. The school also ranked 35th overall for research. The physician assistant program ranks at 11; physical therapy, 34. Within the nursing program (15th), the pediatric nurse practitioner program ranks fifth; nursing-midwifery, 13th; family nurse practitioner, 16th. The Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is ranked 24th overall.

University of Colorado Denver

The School of Public Affairs, with programs at CU Denver and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, is listed at 29 nationally. Within that program, environmental policy and management is ranked 10; nonprofit management, 14; and public management administration, 24. Within the Business School, health administration and executive heath administration is 32; the part-time MBA program ranks 89. The Department of Integrative Biology (Biological Sciences) is ranked at 68. The School of Education and Human Development is ranked at 81.
University of Colorado Colorado Springs
UCCS shares the School of Public Affairs (29) honor with CU Denver. The part-time MBA program ranks 112 and the online MBA is 36. The nursing program is 99. UCCS's psychology program ranks 132. The engineering program is ranked 143, with electrical engineering listed at 122.
The 2014 Best Graduate Schools includes essential, detailed statistical information on more than 1,200 programs nationwide, with rankings in five of the largest professional graduate school disciplines (business[11], law[12], education[13], engineering[14], and medicine[15]). Highlights of the rankings will be published in the Best Graduate Schools 2014 edition guidebook, available April 9, 2013.

Rankings are based on two types of data: expert opinions about program quality, and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school's faculty, research and students. These data come from surveys of more than 1,200 programs and some 12,400 academics and professionals. The publication aims to provide a tool to students and parents who are comparing college programs at accredited public and private universities in the United States.

For second year, CU-Boulder to restrict access on April 20[16]

The University of Colorado Boulder on Monday announced it will be open to students, faculty and staff on Saturday, April 20, but for the second straight year will be closed to unauthorized non-affiliates.

"We are committed to ending the unwelcome 4/20 gathering on the CU-Boulder campus, and this year's approach represents the continuance of a multi-year plan to achieve that end," said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano. "What's important here is the protection of CU's missions of research, teaching and service. This isn't about marijuana or drug laws. It's about not disrupting the important work of a world-class university."

DiStefano noted that the passage of Amendment 64 by Colorado voters last year does not make marijuana legal on the

CU-Boulder campus. Amendment 64 doesn't legalize pot smoking in public or possession of marijuana by those under 21. Marijuana is still prohibited by campus policy.

Last year, the university's closure to non-affiliates on April 20 resulted in the reduction of a 4/20 crowd of about 10,000 to 12,000 people in 2011 to a crowd of several hundred. A Boulder judge upheld the university's right to take reasonable steps to avoid disruption of the university's missions of teaching, research and service.

This year on Saturday, April 20, CU-Boulder's normal academic and cultural activities will continue as scheduled, but the following measures will be in place:
Students, faculty and staff are all welcome on campus and invited to attend all official university functions and make use of university facilities as they always do. Students, faculty and staff will be asked to present their Buff OneCard IDs at campus entrances and other areas. Consistent with last year's protocol, law enforcement officers will politely and professionally engage those wishing to enter the campus to ascertain whether they are affiliates or approved visitors. This will involve checking Buff OneCards for students, faculty and staff and credentials for registered visitors. Those unaffiliated with CU-Boulder, or who are not approved visitors, will not be permitted on campus. Those who trespass risk citations, which can mean punishment of up to six months in jail and a $750 fine. Law enforcement, including the Colorado State Patrol, will conduct additional enforcement on highways surrounding Boulder, looking for drivers under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. Visitors who have official business, meetings or other officially sanctioned activities on the CU-Boulder campus will need to obtain a visitors' pass by visiting the following link and filling out the form at http://www.colorado.edu/april20/campusaccess[17]. Forms for visitors must be completed and submitted to CU-Boulder **by 10 p.m. Sunday, April 14.**
Affiliates are encouraged to use alternative methods of transportation to get to and from campus. Bus routes that normally travel through core campus on 18th Street and Colorado Avenue – including the HOP and Buff Bus – will be detoured down Regent Drive. Please see http://www.colorado.edu/pts/content/420-traffic-parking-transit-impacts[18] for additional information**.** All campus performances and events are on as scheduled for the evening of April 20 and the campus is expected to be fully open again at 6 p.m.
CU-Boulder officials this year agreed with CU student leaders on several new measures and adaptations in closing the campus:
Officers will carry and distribute information cards explaining the university's security actions and protocols for the day and providing a contact point for reporting concerns about the day's procedures or police conduct. The university will not place any fish fertilizer on the Norlin Quad. The Student Government will not host a concert this year on 4/20 in an effort to save student funds and in response to student feedback.
Funding for the campus security measures comes from insurance rebates to the campus, not from tuition or student fees. As a reminder, per campus policies and the federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act with which the university must comply, marijuana is not permitted on the campus.

Hayward named CU-Boulder's first Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy[19]

[20]
Steven Hayward has been appointed the first Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy, the University of Colorado Boulder announced Wednesday.

Hayward, Thomas W. Smith Distinguished Fellow at the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University in Ohio, will begin his one-year appointment in the fall.

"Dr. Hayward brings an impressive breadth of knowledge to this position, having researched a range of environmental, historical and political issues," said Steven R. Leigh, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at CU-Boulder.

Hayward's recent investigations of environmental issues "bring important dimensions to discussions on campus," Leigh said. "He also shows dedication to our teaching mission, planning a well-defined range of courses. We are pleased that he will join us as a visiting scholar."

Hayward is tentatively scheduled to teach four undergraduate courses, three in political science — Constitutional Law 1 and 2 plus a course in American Political Thought — and one in environmental studies, Free-Market Environmentalism.

Hayward will teach in both fall and spring semesters in 2013-14. He also will be encouraged to foster discussion by hosting public events in the campus community and perhaps around the state.

“This is a bold experiment for the university and me to see whether the ideological spectrum can be broadened in a serious and constructive way,” Hayward said.

Hayward added that the college classroom should not be a forum for ideological advocacy.

“Good teaching should make all students, of whatever disposition, better thinkers,” he said. “In the humanities, this should be done by considering fairly the full range of perspectives on a subject. That’s the way I intend to conduct classes while I am visiting at the university, and I hope that students of every kind of opinion will feel welcome in my classroom.”

Hayward holds a Ph.D. in American Studies from Claremont Graduate School. He has been the F.K. Weyerhaeuser Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, where he was principal author and project director of the AEI’s “Energy and Environment Outlook.”

Hayward has been a visiting lecturer in the Government Department of Georgetown University and is a senior fellow at the Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy. He also has served as a Bradley Fellow at The Heritage Foundation.

Hayward’s essays have been published in The Washington Post, National Review, Weekly Standard and other publications. His most recent book, published in 2010, is “Mere Environmentalism: A Biblical Perspective on Humans and the Natural World.”

Since last summer, an advisory committee has been working to identify candidates for the visiting scholar position. The committee sought a “highly visible” scholar who is “deeply engaged in either the analytical scholarship or practice of conservative thinking and policymaking or both.”

The advisory committee that selected Hayward consists of five faculty members and five community members. Keith Maskus, associate dean of social sciences and professor of economics, chairs the committee but does not vote.

Maskus said committee members worked together extremely well and were committed to the goal of bringing an exceptional scholar to campus.

Non-university committee members are David Pyle, founder and CEO of American Career College; Mike Rosen, long-time radio host on AM 850 KOA and Denver Post columnist and political commentator; Bob Greenlee, former Boulder mayor and City Council member, and current president of Centennial Investment and Management Company Inc.; CU President Emeritus Hank Brown; and Earl Wright, CEO of AMG National Trust Bank.

CU faculty members on the committee are Vanessa Baird, associate professor of political science; David S. Brown, professor and chair of political science; Bradley Monton, associate professor of philosophy; Murat Iyigun, professor of economics; and Susan K. Kent, professor and chair of history.

“I am delighted to welcome Steven Hayward to the faculty of the University of Colorado Boulder as our inaugural Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy,” said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano. “His record of scholarship, commentary and publishing on subjects ranging from energy to the environment to the U.S. Constitution will spark further debate, discourse and critical thinking among our students and contribute to the diversity of our academic community.”

The Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy is a three-year pilot program supported by private funds. More than 20 donors have raised $1 million to support the program.

Capacity crowd sees Step Afrika! highlight cultures[21]

[22]

[23]
Stepping is one of the oldest traditions in the world and CU Denver Live![24] along with The CU Denver Office of Student Life[25] hosted an event at the end of February in the King Center Recital Hall to bring this tradition to the University of Colorado Denver campus.

Step Afrika![26] is the first professional company in the world dedicated to the tradition of stepping. The company was founded in 1994 and has performed worldwide in places such as Europe, Asia, the Caribbean and Africa itself.

The art of stepping and African dance is designed to showcase teamwork, discipline and commitment. It involves various dance movements including clapping, the spoken word and, of course, footsteps. These all are set to complex rhythms.

The performance on the CU Denver stage involved various acts ranging from ancient Africa to the modern day. The free event drew a capacity crowd.

The main goal of stepping is to educate young people on the history of dance as well as be a form of entertainment.

One student attending said, “This was the best use of student funds ever on this campus.” Also overheard were numerous enthusiastic comments about the fun, high-energy performance.

You can take a glimpse of Step Afrika! in action here[27].

Study: Less sleep leads to more eating, more weight[28]

Sleeping just five hours a night over a workweek and having unlimited access to food caused participants in a new study led by the University of Colorado Boulder to gain nearly 2 pounds of weight.

The study, performed in collaboration with the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, suggests that sufficient sleep could help battle the obesity epidemic.

“I don’t think extra sleep by itself is going to lead to weight loss,” said Kenneth Wright, director of CU-Boulder’s Sleep and Chronobiology Laboratory, which led the study. “Problems with weight gain and obesity are much more complex than that. But I think it could help. If we can incorporate healthy sleep into weight-loss and weight-maintenance programs, our findings suggest that it may assist people to obtain a healthier weight.” But further research is needed to test that hypothesis, Wright added.

Previous research has shown that a lack of sleep can lead to weight gain, but the reasons for extra pounds were unclear. In the new study, published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the researchers show that, while staying awake longer requires more energy, the amount of food study participants ate more than offset the extra calories burned.

“Just getting less sleep, by itself, is not going to lead to weight gain,” Wright said. “But when people get insufficient sleep, it leads them to eat more than they actually need.”

For the study, researchers monitored 16 young, lean, healthy adults who lived for about two weeks at the University of Colorado Hospital, which is equipped with a “sleep suite” for controlling sleep opportunities — by providing a quiet environment and by regulating when the lights are on and off — and a sealed room that allows researchers to measure how much energy participants are using based on the amount of oxygen they breathe in and the amount of carbon dioxide they breathe out.

All participants spent the first three days with the opportunity to sleep nine hours a night and eating meals that were controlled to give participants only the calories they needed to maintain their weight in order to establish baseline measurements. But after the first few days, the participants were split into two groups: one that spent five days with only five hours to sleep in and one that spent five days with nine hours of sleep opportunity. In both groups, participants were offered larger meals and had access to snack options throughout the day ranging from fruit and yogurt to ice cream and potato chips. After the five-day period, the groups switched.

On average, the participants who slept for up to five hours a night burned 5 percent more energy than those who slept up to nine hours a night, but they consumed 6 percent more calories. Those getting less sleep also tended to eat smaller breakfasts but binge on after-dinner snacks. In fact, the total amount of calories consumed in evening snacks was larger than the calories that made up any individual meal. The current findings add to the growing body of evidence showing that overeating at night may contribute to weight gain.

“When people are sleep-restricted, our findings show they eat during their biological nighttime when internal physiology is not designed to be taking in food,” said Wright, who is already working on a new study to better determine the implications of when people are eating not just what they’re eating.

Wright and his colleagues also found that men and women responded differently to having access to unrestricted food. Men gained some weight even with adequate sleep when they could eat as much as they wanted, while women simply maintained their weight when they had adequate sleep, regardless of how much food was available. Both men and women gained weight when they were only allowed to sleep for up to five hours.

Other co-authors of the new study include Rachel Markwarld and Mark Smith, who were both postdoctoral researchers in Wright’s lab, as well as School of Medicine faculty members Edward Melanson, Leigh Perreault, Robert Eckel and Janine Higgins from the Anschutz Medical Campus.

The research was funded with grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in collaboration with the Biological Sciences Initiative and CU-Boulder’s Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program.

Plans to celebrate 50th anniversary under way[29]

A 16-member steering committee was recently named to begin the task of commemorating the university’s past and helping launch it toward the future.

The 50th Anniversary Committee recently met and was charged by Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak to begin thinking now about a celebration that will last throughout the calendar year 2015.

“It may seem odd to plan your 50th birthday party at age 48,” Shockley-Zalabak said. “But this needs to be a yearlong celebration that recognizes not only what the university has done but what it will do in the future, telling our community and our alumni that the best is still yet to come.”

UCCS was founded in 1965 with a combination of community and business leader efforts, most notably a push from Hewlett-Packard Corp. co-founder and Colorado native David Packard. From humble roots on the grounds of a bankrupt tuberculosis sanitarium and closely tied to CU-Boulder, UCCS has grown to almost 10,000 students and the ability to grant 36 bachelor’s, 19 master’s and five doctoral degrees.

Several committee members shared recollections of the university's 25th anniversary celebration and copies materials from "UCCS 1965-1990: Celebrating Our Heritage – Shaping Our Future" were distributed to help campus newcomers.

"The speaker at our 25th anniversary celebration made a profound impact on me, personally," Shockley-Zalabak said. "Hearing Shirley Chisholm speak made me think what I thought was impossible was possible."

Shirley Chisholm was the first black woman elected to Congress. She served seven terms representing New York's 12th Congressional District from 1969 to 1983 and became the first black candidate for President in 1972. As a legislator, she was worked to improve opportunities for inner-city residents, opposed the military draft, and supported spending increases for education, health care and other social services, and reductions in military spending. She died in 2005 at age 80.

Shockley-Zalabak encouraged steering committee members to think of speakers who might be invited to celebrate the university's golden anniversary and to solicit ideas from colleagues about both speakers and other ways to commemorate the university's anniversary.

Steering committee members are:
Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak Mary Rupp, instructor, Kraemer Family Library Kelsey Hunt, associate director, Information Technology Anthony Cordova, director, Multicultural Office for Student Access, Inclusiveness and Community Jennifer Hane, director of alumni relations, University Advancement Megan Gallegos, university events and e-communication specialist, University Advancement Susan Szpyrka, vice chancellor, Administration and Finance Andrea Cordova, professional assistant, Office of the Chancellor Megan Fisher, assistant vice president, CU Foundation Martin Wood, vice chancellor, University Advancement Tom Hutton, executive director, University Advancement Karin Larkin, curator, Anthropology Department Christina Jimenez, associate professor, History Department Al Schoffstall, professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Tom Napierkowski, professor, Department of English Mary Coussons-Read, provost

Campus recognized for outstanding savings of electricity, natural gas[30]

[31]
Research 1 on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora is among the 2013 Xcel Energy Efficiency Expo awardees.

At the recent annual Energy Efficiency Expo at Sports Authority Field at Mile High, Xcel recognized 11 Colorado businesses for outstanding efforts to save energy. The awards honor commercial, industrial and small business customers in Colorado for participating in Xcel Energy 2012 energy efficiency programs.

These entities, including the Anschutz Medical Campus, lowered energy costs and reduced the impact on the environment. Collectively, the honorees saved more than 38 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and more than 13 thousand therms of natural gas in a 12-month period. That's the equivalent of taking more than 4,200 cars off the road.

Research 1 earned the Energy Management Systems Achievement award based on 1.4 million kwh saved. CU's energy saving achievement in Research 1 is just one part of the much larger University Climate Action Plan[32] to reduce energy use and the associated greenhouse gas emissions

Xcel Energy offers incentives, such as rebates and funding for energy efficiency studies, to its business and municipal customers to encourage them to make energy-efficient choices. The 11 companies recognized chose more efficient equipment and processes for their facilities

"Businesses are placing efficiency projects higher on the priority list now that they realize how much money can be saved," said Shawn White, Xcel Energy efficiency marketing manager. "These awards are a way for businesses to

share their accomplishments with employees and customers."

The other award recipients for efficiency are:
Leprino Foods, Highest Energy Savings by a single premise: 10 million kwh saved Rocky Mountain Metal Container, Self Direct Achievement award: 7.7 million kwh saved City and County of Denver, Highest Savings for Multiple Program Participation: 5.1 million kwh saved Denver Downtown Embassy Suites, Lighting Efficiency Achievement award: 4.5 million kwh saved ViaWest Inc, Data Center Efficiency Achievement award: 3.1 million kwh saved University of Colorado – Jennie Smoly Caruthers Biotechnology Building, Energy Design Assistance Achievement award: 3.2 million kwh saved Vail Resorts, Process Efficiency Achievement award: 2.2 million kwh saved University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus Research 1, Energy Management Systems Achievement award: 1.4 million kwh saved Pacific Convenience and Fuels, LLC, Highest Energy Savings – Business Solutions Center: more than 815,000 kwh saved Denver Metro Village, Small Business Lighting Efficiency achievement award: more than 762,000 kwh saved Rifle Housing Authority, Heating Efficiency Achievement award: more than 13,000 therms saved

Obituary: Hobart Muir Smith[33]

Hobart Smith, professor emeritus in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at CU-Boulder, died March 4, 2013, at his residence in the Villas at the Atrium in Boulder. He was 100.

He was born Sept. 26, 1912, in Stanwood, Iowa, and adopted at age 4. He earned a Ph.D. in 1936 at the University of Kansas (Lawrence) and became a prominent herpetologist credited with describing more than 100 new species of American reptiles and amphibians. He was honored by having at least five species named after him and having published more than 1,600 manuscripts and 29 books, including the popular Golden Guides to field identification of reptiles and amphibians in the U.S.

In 1938, he married Rozella Pearl Beverly Blood, who became not only the mother of their two children, Bruce and Sally, but a scientist/author in her own right. From 1941 until 1945 he was a zoology professor at the University of Rochester, in New York, after which he returned to the University of Kansas as an associate professor. In 1946 he taught wildlife management at Texas A&M University and wrote checklists and keys to snakes and amphibians of Mexico. From 1947 until 1968, he was a professor of zoology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, after which he retired and moved to Boulder, where he became a professor of biology at the University of Colorado. In 1972, he became chairman of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. In 1983, he became a professor emeritus and continued his personal research with his last publication in September 2012 on his 100th birthday. He has surpassed all contemporaries in number of publications and remains the most published herpetologist of all time.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rozella, and is survived by his son, Bruce Smith of Lakewood, and daughter, Sally Nadvornik of Lawrence, Kan., as well as five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Services were Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church of Boulder. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the TRU Community Care Hospice of Boulder.

Klymkowsky honored for undergraduate science teaching[34]

[35]
Michael Klymkowsky, a University of Colorado Boulder professor of molecular, cellular and development biology, has been awarded the 2013 Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teacher Award from the Society for College Science Teachers.

Among the achievements Klykowsky is being honored for is his work redesigning curricula for an introductory

molecular biology course and an introductory chemistry course. Klymkowsky's redesigns include online labs and graphic-based formative assessments.

Klymkowski's current work includes extending his chemistry curriculum, known as Chemistry, Life, the Universe and Everything, or CLUE, and his molecular biology curriculum, known as Biofundamentals. He is also working on developing more informative test designs and strategies for improving learning outcomes in science courses.

He has devoted time to outreach, addressing student questions through the MadSci network. He is a Fellow of the AAAS, a recipient of a Best Should Teach Award, a Co-Director of the CU Teach Science Teacher Recruitment and Certification program, and on the management team for the new Center For Student STEM learning at CU-Boulder.

Wilkerson assists with campus legal matters[36]

[37]
Dan Wilkerson, former University of Colorado vice president, university counsel and secretary of the CU Board of Regents, will assist the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and the Office of University Counsel by handling campus legal issues on an interim basis.

Wilkerson retired from CU in 2012 after a 23-year career with the university. He joined CU's legal office in 1989 and worked primarily at the CU Health Sciences Campus, now Anschutz Medical Campus. He provided legal counsel during the development of the Anschutz Medical Campus and the consolidation of the Denver and Health Sciences campuses. In 2005, he became the deputy university counsel and, in 2007, was appointed as vice president and university counsel. In September 2007, he assumed the additional role of secretary of the CU Board of Regents.

Before working for CU, Wilkerson was a captain in the United States Army Judge Advocate General Corps. His first duty assignment for the Army was at Fort Carson. Wilkerson earned his undergraduate degree at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., where he was a distinguished military graduate. He earned his law degree from Willamette University in Salem, Ore.

Wilkerson will serve as campus counsel while a search is conducted for a permanent replacement for **Kirk Samelson**, who recently resigned from UCCS and accepted a Fulbright Fellowship to teach business law in New Zealand.

Faculty panelists recall CU Denver history[38]

A panel with deep roots in the University of Colorado Denver recently told the wild and woolly story of the university's "Road to Independence and Beyond" during an event celebrating the institution's 40th anniversary. Panelists and topics included:
Jarett Zuboy, master's student in history and author of a to-be-published book on CU Denver's history: The Early Yeas, pre-1970s. **Richard T. Dillon**, emeritus English professor and former vice chancellor for academic affairs and CLAS associate dean : Building an Identity: Struggle for Resources and Independence. **James B. Wolf**, emeritus professor of history: Legislation that Created CU Denver and its Drivers. **Rex Burns**, emeritus professor of English: Frontier Hotel and Bar: Early Culture and Camaraderie. **Suzanne W. Helburn**, emeritus professor of economics, former associate dean of the social sciences division: Maintaining Independence **Diane Messamore**, alumna, mathematical and statistical sciences: Early Student Experience. **Wesley E. LeMasurier**, emeritus professor of geology: Life of a Faculty Member in the Tramway Building **Jana Everett**, professor of political science: Women and People of Color in the Faculty in the 1970s. **Daniel Fallon**, former CLAS dean: Building the Campus and the Move to Auraria **Joel C. Edelstein**, emeritus professor of political: Pioneering Pedagogy **Gordon Hamby**, president, Student Government Association: Student Experience on the Auraria Campus. **Robert Damrauer**, special assistant to the

provost and professor of chemistry: Becoming a Research University.
Other speakers included Chancellor **Don Elliman** and Provost **Roderick Nairn**. Elliman said the 40th anniversary provides a platform on which to both reflect and look forward. "We have, in my view, a bright future. I think the opportunity this campus has to grow and prosper is extraordinary."

The event, the first in a series to celebrate CU Denver's 40th anniversary, was organized by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and hosted by CLAS Dean **Dan Howard**. Click here to read more.[39]

Jennings, Theobald stump for geography in Washington[40]

James Law, left, a member of the 2012 class, Sen. Michael Bennet, Brenda Barr of National Geographic and Steve Jennings, associate professor, in Sen. Bennet's office. Bennet is holding a picture given to him as part of a National Geographic award.

James Law, left, a member of the 2012 class, Sen. Michael Bennet, Brenda Barr of National Geographic and Steve Jennings, associate professor, in Sen. Bennet's office. Bennet is holding a picture given to him as part of a National Geographic award.

Two UCCS faculty members attended the National Geographic Education Foundation's annual Speak Up For Geography Day Feb. 28 in Washington, D.C.

Steve Jennings, associate professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, and **Rebecca Theobald**, assistant professor adjoint, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, are co-coordinators of the Colorado Geographic Alliance. As part of Speak Up for Geography Day, representatives from geographic alliances from across the country visited Capitol Hill to urge their members of Congress to support geography education in U.S. schools through the Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act.

As part of their visit, Jennings, Theobald and UCCS graduate James Law attended a ceremony recognizing Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo., for his dedication to geography education. Law, a member of the class of 2012, is completing an internship for National Geographic. After the ceremony, Law, Brenda Barr of National Geographic and Jennings had their picture taken with Bennet in his office.

HR, finance teams pitch in at Food Bank of the Rockies[42]

[43]

The University of Colorado Denver's Human Resources Office this year chose to donate its time in the CU in the Community campaign to the Food Bank of the Rockies. Twenty-three volunteers from the office filled almost 500 boxes -- 6.5 tons -- with food for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's food program that targets low-income, pregnant and postpartum women, their infants and children, and seniors.

Brooke Fitzpatrick, a senior human resources consultant, said the four hours of packaging left the group with a unanimous feeling of success and time well spent. "Working toward a common good and touching our community through Food Bank of the Rockies was an amazing experience, and it was an honor to volunteer our time," Fitzpatrick said.

Said Administrative Assistant **Duane Trantham**, "It helped me realize that Food Bank of the Rockies has a rich and long history of individuals from the community volunteering while it gives back to those in need in the community."

Her colleague, **Amy Lowell**, human resources consultant, added: "It was a great way for our HR team to give back to our community, while bonding over such an amazing cause!"

Johnston recognized for work to prevent birth defects[44]

[45]
Richard Johnston Jr., professor of pediatrics and associate dean for research development in the School of Medicine, is being honored with the Godfrey Oakley Award at the annual meeting of the National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN). The award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of birth defects. Since 2001, NBDPN has presented this prestigious award in honor of Godfrey Oakley, M.D.

The award recognizes Johnston for his efforts when he was medical director of the March of Dimes between 1992 and 1998. Johnston pushed for federally-mandated folic acid fortification of the nation's grain supply and led a public education campaign on the benefits of the B vitamin in preventing serious birth defects of the brain and spine.

Dropping names ...[46]

Robert von Dassanowsky, professor, Department of Languages and Cultures and Department of Visual and Performing Arts at UCCS, was a keynote presenter on the reception of the Danube in Austrian and Central European film at "The Black and Blue Danube Symposium" on the campus of Colgate University, Hamilton, N.Y., March 1-2. The interdisciplinary event examined the Danube River as a geographic and historical feature and a guiding cultural metaphor. … Three staff members joined UCCS in February: **Heidi Wardell**, enrollment and student services specialist, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences Department of Extended Studies; **Christine Elder**, head women's volleyball coach, Athletic Department; and **Tiffany Yep**, office assistant, Campus Life.

Transforming Gender Symposium starts Friday at CU-Boulder[47]

[48]
CU-Boulder's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (GLBTQ) Resource Center is proud to announce the seventh annual TRANSforming Gender Symposium, Friday and Saturday.

The free symposium, open to the public, will be at the CU-Boulder Center for Community. Organizers and co-sponsors are committed to addressing equality, support, visibility and scholarship for transgender, gender nonconforming, and intersex people.

This year's keynote speakers include Eli Clare, a poet, scholar and educator on the intersections of transgender identity and disability; JAC Stringer, a performer, dancer, musician and educator on genderqueer identities; and Ryka Aoki, a poet, scholar, transfeminist and performance artist.

"I am delighted to bring so many brilliant artists and writers this year," says Scarlet Bowen, director of the GLBTQ Resource Center. "Clare, Stringer and Aoki are supremely gifted at rendering the beauty and joy of all genders, bodies and gender expressions."

Besides the keynote speakers, session presenters will address topics such as being an ally to transgender people,

transgender identities in cyberspace, gender violence prevention and response, spirituality, medical aspects of gender transition, genderqueer identities, transgender-inclusive sex education, and issues affecting transgender children.

The symposium includes a film track of transgender- and intersex-related films, and a series of caucus opportunities for transgender, genderqueer, allies and families of transgender people.

As highlighted by the recent lawsuit filed in Colorado on behalf of a transgender child's right to choose which restroom facilities she uses at school, forums are needed for learning about the rights of transgender people. Colorado included legal protections for gender identity and expression in 2007, and the University of Colorado Boulder included gender identity and gender expression in its anti-discrimination policy in 2011. The symposium will help educate the university and surrounding community about the unique issues faced by transgender, genderqueer and intersex people, and provide sessions that will address how to forge socially just and inclusive communities.

Co-sponsors of the seventh Annual Transforming Gender Symposium include the GLBTQ Resource Center, the President's Diversity and Excellence Award, the Open Door Fund, the CU-Boulder Chancellor's Committee on GLBT Issues, Residence Hall Association, Office of Victim Assistance, Wardenburg Health Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, Women's Resource Center, the Graduate School, CU-Boulder departments of Anthropology, Sociology, Communication, Women and Gender Studies, LGBT Studies Certificate program, and OutBoulder, Moving to End Sexual Assault, and the First Methodist Church.

Click here to register for the symposium and view the full schedule.[49]

Be Colorado invites you to SUCCEED[50]

Knowledge is health. Be Colorado invites you to take a few important minutes out of your day to learn more about your health by taking the annual online SUCCEED Health Assessment (HA).
If you take the HA by April 1, you will be entered into a drawing to win one of 12 airfare vouchers, each worth $300. If you already have submitted your HA, you have been automatically entered into the drawing. The campus with the highest participation rates will be honored and host a party when we hold a drawing for 12 airfare voucher winners. The systemwide goal is a 30 percent participation rate. Completing the HA is a requirement for the new Be Colorado Move. Campaign, where you can earn $25 a month to meet baseline movement goals.
Click here NOW[51] to learn more about your health, help your campus win the participation competition, and take the first step in earning up to $300 a year to Move. (Note: New users, click "Sign Up"; returning users, click "Log In.")

The HA is free and absolutely confidential – your employer will not have access to any individual health data. It will take about 15-20 minutes to complete, and you will receive a full report detailing where you are doing great and where there is room for improvement.

Talk to your colleagues. Help spread the good word about the HA and Be Colorado Move.

For more information about the HA, Move. and the airfare drawing, visit the Be Colorado website[52].

Trouble logging in? Contact Customer Service 24/7 at 866-433-9284.

Anschutz Health and Wellness Center partners with Broadmoor for women's wellness[53]

Renew mind, body and spirit at the Broadmoor's second annual Women's Weekend of Wellness, in partnership with

the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center, April 12-14.

The comprehensive weekend features numerous seminars and discussions, led by doctors and specialists from the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus along with popular returning speakers from 2012's event.

Seminars delve into a variety of subjects including sleep, fitness, weight loss, ambition and stress, among others, concentrating on women's health and well-being.

FRIDAY, April 12:

Following a welcome ceremony in the afternoon, guests engage with two speakers:
"The Power of Perspective on Mind, Body and Spirit" by Terry Eckmann, Ph.D. "What is Wellness and Why Do You Want It?" by Jim Hill, Ph.D.
SATURDAY, April 13:

Following a variety of morning activities, guests attend two morning seminars focusing on topics:
"Stress and the Mind/Body Syndrome" by Marnie Dominy, M.S. "Finding Your Life's Purpose—A Key to Changing Your Lifestyle" by John Peters, Ph.D
A healthful networking lunch is served on the West Terrace, overlooking Cheyenne Lake.

Afternoon panel discussion topics include:
"Metabolic Fitness" by John Peters, Ph.D. and Jim Hill, Ph.D. "How to Get the Most From Your Exercise" by Inigo San Millan, Ph.D. "How to Lose Weight and Keep It Off Forever" by Holly Wyatt, M.D. "Better Sleep—Better Health"
SUNDAY, April 14:

Following a variety of morning activities, guests attend:
A working breakfast buffet featuring speaker, Kim Gorman, M.S., R.D., highlighting the methods to maximizing nutrition
A seminar lead by Holly Wyatt, M.D., focusing on "The Colorado Mindset: Your Approach to Life Impacts Your Health"
Guests can also receive a Personalized Wellness Evaluation at the culmination of the weekend, to assess the six controllable dimensions of wellness: physical fitness, metabolic fitness, nutrition, sleep, stress and quality and satisfaction with life. The evaluation ties in with the seminar and discussion topics focusing on methods to enhance each dimension for overall improved wellness. Evaluation results are discussed with health experts and personal goals are set.

Additionally, an array of fitness-minded physical and meditative activities, led by the Broadmoor's team of knowledgeable fitness and wellness instructors, are offered throughout the weekend in the hotel's luxurious facilities and on the picturesque grounds of the property. Activities include a guided hike, AquaFit and a blended class of yoga, Pilates and Tai Chi.

Guests are encouraged to dine at one of the restaurants at the Broadmoor during their stay. Also, guests receive a 15 percent discount at the award-winning The Spa at The Broadmoor[54] and the many retail boutiques.

The Broadmoor's two-night Women's Weekend of Wellness package[55] starts at $450 per person, based on double occupancy. The Personalized Wellness Evaluation is an additional $140 and must be booked in advance. Pre-registration is required for fitness activities Saturday and Sunday morning. Reservations for packages may be booked online by visiting The BROADMOOR[56] or by calling 866-634-7711 ext. 5775.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/college-measures-website-new-tool-demonstrating-value-higher-education[2]

http://highered.colorado.gov/publications/reports/wage/20130313-ESM.pdf[3]
http://esm.collegemeasures.org/esm/colorado/[4] http://www.colorado.edu/pba/aftergrad/[5]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/departments/institutionalresearch/esm/pages/default.aspx[6]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-john-black[7] https://connections.cu.edu/file/5q-blackpng[8]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/graduate-programs-earn-top-national-ratings[9] http://www.usnews.com/grad[10]
http://www.usnews.com/[11] http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-business-schools[12] http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-law-schools[13] http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-education-schools[14] http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-engineering-schools[15] http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-medical-schools[16]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/second-year-cu-boulder-restrict-access-april-20[17] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Tracking.aspx?Data=HHL%3d%3e.77%40%26JDG%3c95%3a473%3b%26SDG%3c90%3a.&RE=MC&RI=4100720&Preview=False&DistributionActionID=6214&Action=Follow+Link[18] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Tracking.aspx?Data=HHL%3d%3e.77%40%26JDG%3c95%3a473%3b%26SDG%3c90%3a.&RE=MC&RI=4100720&Preview=False&DistributionActionID=6213&Action=Follow+Link[19] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/hayward-named-cu-boulder%E2%80%99s-first-visiting-scholar-conservative-thought-and-policy[20]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/conservative-scholar-heywardpng[21] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/capacity-crowd-sees-step-afrika-highlight-cultures[22] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/capacity-crowd-sees-step-afrika-highlight-cultures/ucd-step-afrika-logo[23] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/capacity-crowd-sees-step-afrika-highlight-cultures/ucd-step-afrika-p[24] http://www.camarts.org/#events[25] http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/studentlife[26]
http://www.stepafrika.org/home.htm[27] http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3-0zgqkJzY[28]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/study-less-sleep-leads-more-eating-more-weight[29]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/plans-celebrate-50th-anniversary-under-way[30]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/campus-recognized-outstanding-savings-electricity-natural-gas[31]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzgreencampuspng[32]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/departments/FacilitiesManagement/Sustainability/Pages/ClimateActionPlan.aspx[33]
https://connections.cu.edu/people/obituary-hobart-muir-smith[34] https://connections.cu.edu/people/klymkowsky-honored-undergraduate-science-teaching[35] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pklymkowskypng[36]
https://connections.cu.edu/people/wilkerson-assists-campus-legal-matters[37] https://connections.cu.edu/file/p-wilkersonpng[38] https://connections.cu.edu/people/faculty-panelists-recall-cu-denver-history[39] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/Program-celebrates-scrappy-and-spirited-history-of-university.aspx[40]
https://connections.cu.edu/people/jennings-theobald-stump-geography-washington[41] https://connections.cu.edu/file/p-bennet-geographypng[42] https://connections.cu.edu/people/hr-finance-teams-pitch-food-bank-rockies[43]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/p-food-bankpng[44] https://connections.cu.edu/people/johnston-recognized-work-prevent-birth-defects[45] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pjohnstonpng[46] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-63[47] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/transforming-gender-symposium-starts-friday-cu-boulder[48]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/dyktransforming-gender1png[49] http://www.colorado.edu/glbtqrc/tgs.html[50]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/be-colorado-invites-you-succeed[51]
https://my.healthmedia.com/index.html?au=CUAUTHCD[52] http://becolorado.org/[53] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/anschutz-health-and-wellness-center-partners-broadmoor-women%E2%80%99s-wellness[54]
http://www.broadmoor.com/luxury-spa-resorts/[55]
http://www.broadmoor.com/es1322/cat224/womens-wellness-retreat[56] http://www.thebroadmoor.com/