

[In highly anticipated Shakespeare exhibit, the book's the thing](#)[1]

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When a Shakespeare First Folio is put on display at CU-Boulder in 2016, it will be surrounded by all the hoopla and excitement that one of the most valuable books in English literature commands.

First Folios, which are collections of 36 of William Shakespeare's plays, were printed in 1623. Eighty-two of the volumes are in the possession of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and a few of those will tour the United States next year in recognition of the 400th anniversary of the Bard's death.

At CU-Boulder, 10 colleagues spent months preparing an application to host the traveling exhibit, "First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare." Only one location in each state won the honor to display a First Folio. One of the conditions of participation was that the monthlong event would engage the larger community, a task that CU has happily embraced.

"It was really just a matter of gathering colleagues together to sit down and the ideas just kept coming and coming. It's a great group and we were all on the same wavelength," says Deborah Hollis, associate professor and the associate faculty director of Special Collections, who is a member of the committee that prepared the winning application.

It is believed that about 750 First Folios were printed, and just over 230 copies are believed to be in existence. (One recently was discovered in a small library in France where it had been mistaken for an 18th century edition.) That's one of the reasons why a First Folio – on the off chance that it is up for sale – can go for \$6 million and more.

While the rarity of the volume causes hearts to race, it is the magic and mystery of Shakespeare that has kept him alive throughout the centuries.

"Shakespeare tells important and timeless stories. They weren't original stories; he got them from English history or some other prior works," says Katherine Eggert, associate professor of English and the director of the Center for British and Irish Studies, who also served on the application committee. "What makes Shakespeare's work great is the language that creates character. We remember his characters because they are so complex, and the reason they are so complex is because of the way they talk."

It's a complexity that other writers throughout history have tried to match. Eggert says Shakespeare paved the way for today's novels.

Shakespeare was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, likely on or near April 23. He wrote his first play between 1589 and 1591, and his last around 1613. When he died on April 23, 1616, at the age of 52, only a few of his works had been printed in small editions called quartos.

Seven years after his death, friends and colleagues from his theater company – Kings Men – compiled nearly all of his plays into a collection that became the First Folio. Without the publication of the book, says Eggert, it is likely that 18 of his plays would never have been known to the modern world. The First Folio "cemented Shakespeare's reputation as not just a good playwright, but as a great author."

Through the years, Shakespeare has survived a variety of attacks. Critics questioned whether his pedigree was adequate enough to actually have produced the works, some of which are considered the finest ever written in English. Later editors removed what they considered to be the "naughty" parts of the plays, says Hollis, and others have re-crafted pieces of the works to reflect the scholarship of the time.

Sometimes, changes to the plays were simply a matter of interpretation. In one instance, says Eggert, one section of a play is written in iambic pentameter – clearly indicating that it was poetry – but the volume shows the language as prose, printed in paragraph form. Editors along the way also have added stage instructions and lists of characters.

Individual First Folios also show variations because some books were proofed while others were being printed. Later

editions, specifically the Third and Fourth folios, also contain plays that likely were not written by Shakespeare.

While the First Folio will be the star of the show at CU-Boulder, the university has planned numerous companion exhibits and events to “offer the public a lot of great opportunities to discover Shakespeare,” says Hollis.

The First Folio will be displayed at the CU Art Museum. Alongside the tome will be other rare books, including a Shakespeare Fourth Folio (published in 1685), which the university acquired in 1982 from a Denver bookseller. In order to give visitors a sense of Shakespeare’s world, a Mercator atlas from the 1600s and a Holinshed’s Chronicles (a history of Britain) – both from the university’s collection – also will be part of the display. Shakespeare likely used Holinshed’s writing as source material for “Macbeth.”

The university has requested that it be allowed to host the First Folio exhibit in August, to coincide with the season’s final performances of the annual Colorado Shakespeare Festival. Plans also include other Shakespeare performances around campus, numerous lectures, and outreach programs geared toward K-12 students. CU also hopes to set up a letter press outside Norlin Library to give the public a look at how the First Folio was printed then bound.

CU also has partnered with other organizations along the Front Range to plan concurrent activities. Denver Botanic Gardens will conduct botanic illustration classes, focusing on the plants in Shakespeare’s plays; Denver Art Museum will host a satellite exhibit of The Berger Collection, which features many artists from the period; and Colorado State University will concentrate on textiles of the time.

Hollis said committee members still are considering other ways to share the campus’s love of Shakespeare with the broader community. Because they want to focus on young students, organizers are seeking funding that would allow CU students to design and develop educational materials, including lesson plans, for teachers. Another idea is to get students to perform Shakespeare via Twitter.

The Folger plans to announce exhibit dates in April and CU will begin firming up events soon afterward.

“What I personally love about looking at a book like the First Folio or any important first edition of Renaissance literature is that it’s a way of touching the past,” Eggert says. “We’re looking at a book that has survived for 400 years and has had hands on it for 400 years and that somebody bought and had bound and gave to their descendants or sold to somebody who cared for it.”

[Ludwig, Faculty Council discuss future of online education at CU](#)[3]

In an appearance before the Faculty Council at its meeting last week, Regent Stephen Ludwig said he’s “discouraged” with the evolution of online education at CU, but he has faith that faculty ultimately will play a vital role in growing an accessible, high-quality venture.

The talk on March 12 at 1800 Grant St., Denver, came a few weeks after the four campus chancellors – collaborating on the systemwide online course and degree initiative – [updated the Board of Regents](#)[4] at its February meeting at CU-Boulder. The chancellors said 25 new online degrees are planned systemwide, and that initially there will be some overlap of programs between campuses, which will retain some individual marketing strategy.

That approach was pursued after Ludwig and other university leaders had considered and proposed alternative visions for the future of online education at CU.

“I’m incredibly discouraged,” Ludwig told the council. “I think a lot of great time and effort went into some really interesting proposals that went ignored.” He called “revenue and the power of self-determination” driving forces in academia that influenced the choice of the current initiative.

“I’ve described our current process as status quo on half a can of Red Bull.”

Still, he said he remains bullish on CU’s online prospects. He praised Kathleen Bollard, vice president for academic affairs, and Deborah Keyek-Franssen, associate vice president for digital education and engagement, for having done “a lot of heavy lifting to get the campuses working together.” And he said his confidence in the contributions of faculty and staff gives him hope for a desirable outcome.

“I have a reputation for being cranky, which is fine,” Ludwig said. “The reason is because I have so much faith in our faculty and staff, so when someone says we can’t do something, (what they mean is) ‘no, we don’t want to.’”

“Our people are brilliant. It’s a matter of, how do we find the will and the time?”

Ludwig said his passion for promoting online education stems from the knowledge that demand for higher education in Colorado will continue to grow in the years ahead, and a belief that relying on doing things the way they’ve always been done won’t be able to meet that demand.

“It’s not realistic to think we can build our way out of it, hire enough faculty and do what we’ve done traditionally to meet growing demand – and also to serve a nontraditional demographic,” he said. “And we should no longer let geography dictate destiny. If you have a family situation in Lamar and you can’t leave, you should still have access to an education at the University of Colorado. ... We must provide more access to more students. I have legitimate concerns about, how do we ensure that’s done properly?”

One approach Ludwig has promoted is similar to, but not the same, as the CSU-Global Campus model, with the goal of setting up a separate campus to provide online education exclusively. Also at the meeting, Pat O’Rourke, vice president, University Counsel and secretary of the Board of Regents, said the statutory authority of the Legislature and the Colorado Department of Higher Education would pose significant challenges to the establishment of a new campus, and that cost and logistics also would be daunting.

Bollard noted that Colorado State University managed to overcome those issues, but said it has entailed reliance on adjunct faculty who are paid significantly less than university faculty. Council member Peggy Jobe said that such an approach also would conflict with the concept that faculty sets the curriculum and makes the decisions.

Council member Catherine Kunce said the value of traditional classroom instruction and the campus experience shouldn’t be ignored in discussions of the university’s future. “You can go ahead and throw rocks at me, but there is no substitution for human contact.”

Ludwig said he doesn’t disagree, but “the challenge is, we have people with different learning styles and circumstances. We can’t let our love of tradition interfere with what our mission is. How do we create a learning environment that is as dynamic as it can be? We’re going to make mistakes and get some things wrong, but this train has already left the station. ... If we don’t get it now, that’s all right – we’ll play catch-up. We’ll figure it out.”

In other business at last week’s meeting:

Ken McConnellogue, vice president of communication, briefed the council on the CU system’s enterprise Constituent Relationship Management initiative (eCRM), a new system relying on a single database to manage interactions with all constituents – including faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, parents and corporations – across CU. The common platform is slated to go live this summer, with two projects leading the way: advising at CU-Boulder and the systemwide eComm program. Others will follow. Determinations of the system’s governance structure and communication about the platform rollout will continue in the months to come. Dan Montez, director of the Office of Policy and Efficiency, provided a list of policy changes under review for April 9 (off-cycle) implementation, as well as a tentative list of those under review for implementation July 1. Details on those may be [found here](#)[5]. The council approved two motions: Recommended changes to Administrative Policy Statement 1017, Procedures for Implementing Regent Actions on Distinguished Professorships, as advanced by the council’s Educational Policy and University Standards (EPUS) Committee; and appointments of Gita Alaghband and Omar Schwartz to the Privilege and Tenure Committee. Chair Laura Borgelt encouraged faculty to attend the April 23 meeting, which is the full Faculty Senate, and where annual awards will be presented. She also requested nominations and self-nominations for next year’s Faculty Council

officers.

[Research on small cellular changes may lead to big cancer solutions](#)^[6]

Many scientists have spent their entire research careers looking for cellular similarities that may lead to a single cure for many cancers — the rare chance to have a single answer to a multifaceted problem. In 1997, scientists discovered a gene that they believed was the key to cellular immortality. Telomerase Reverse Transcriptase, or TERT, is a catalytic piece of telomerase, and while cellular immortality sounds like a good idea, it is actually how cancerous tumors grow and proliferate in cancer patients.

In the late '90s, the unanswered question was whether TERT was a cancer-causing gene. Scientists spent the next decade hunting for the mutations that activate it but no one was able to find mutations in TERT. Two years ago, two groups of researchers discovered that TERT didn't have any mutations at all. Instead, the mutations were occurring in the regulatory region that controls the expression of the gene. These mutations showed up in melanoma, and in many cancers found in the brain, liver and bladder.

"It was at that point that I realized we had all the tools and expertise in our lab to understand the mechanisms of these mutations. What my lab did with our collaborators at CU's Anschutz Medical Campus was to trace the effect of the mutation from the DNA to the increased RNA levels, to the increased protein levels, to the increased telomerase levels," says BioFrontiers Director Tom Cech, who recently published his team's findings in the journal *Science*. "We were able to show this effect in 23 bladder cancer cell lines by comparing those with mutations to those without mutations."

Bladder cancer cell lines were available at CU Anschutz, where Cech's research team worked with colleagues including Dan Theodorescu, director of the CU Cancer Center. They used the bladder cancer cell lines because their cellular workings could be applied to a variety of different cancers.

Bladder cancer itself is no small threat. The National Institutes of Health report that this cancer caused more than 15,000 deaths in 2014 alone, and nearly 75,000 new cases were diagnosed in the same year. Treatment for this type of cancer is not easy either, involving some combination of chemotherapy, biological therapy with bacteria or completely removing the bladder.

One of the most valuable parts of the study was the team of collaborators doing the research, including Staff Scientist, Art Zaug; Postdoctoral Researcher, Sumit Borah; Graduate Student Linghe Xi, and an undergraduate with a triple major in biology, biochemistry and neuroscience, Natasha Powell. This team worked across the two CU campuses to gain access to unique bladder cancer cell lines available at the Anschutz Medical Campus. The team in the Cech lab also had a process for measuring the number of TERT protein molecules and the very small changes in enzyme activity within cells.

Using these tools the research team pushed beyond the current limitations of technology in measuring molecular changes within cells. Computer analysis of the data further confirmed that a finding of high telomerase levels could predict whether a patient's bladder cancer was fatal or survivable. At some point in the future, doctors may be able to measure telomerase activity in cancer patients and prescribe a treatment schedule according to the severity of the cancer. Using this technique, telomerase could be a biomarker for certain cancers and Cech hopes his research will give medical diagnostic companies the knowledge they need to develop a test that could be used easily in a doctor's office.

"We hope that this research will stimulate drug companies to find telomerase inhibitors to slow and change cancer to a more treatable version," Cech says. "We're also interested in seeing if this research applies to other types of cancers, which would create an opportunity where a single drug could impact many different kinds of cancers."

[Retirement transition workshops draw hundreds of employees, questions](#)[7]

Hundreds of CU employees are taking to campus workshops to ask why the university's retirement plans are changing, how their investments will be affected and where their money will be invested come July.

Last month, [the university announced that it will streamline its 401\(a\) and 403\(b\) retirement plans](#)[8] by switching to a best-in-class set of investment options, such as funds from Vanguard, BlackRock, Voya, Wells Fargo and other top investment companies. To provide Plan administration, education and customer service, CU has contracted with TIAA-CREF. Plan changes are scheduled to go into effect in mid-July 2015. (Learn more by visiting www.cu.edu/nestegg[9].)

[The Retirement Transition Workshops, running through April 17](#)[10], have provided employees a platform for learning about the various steps of the changeover as well as an outlet for airing questions and concerns. In the first week of workshops, more than 600 employees attended the campus sessions to learn about the environment that prompted these changes, the committee that undertook an extensive review of the Plans, and the resulting recommendations and transition process already underway.

While employees may access the [Retirement Transition website](#)[9] for information, including [frequently](#)[11] [asked questions](#)[11], the following are some of the most common questions posed during these workshops.

Question: I already have my CU retirement Plan(s) through TIAA-CREF. Do I really need to do anything?

That depends on your unique situation and the funds in which you invest. Some things to note:

While many TIAA-CREF funds will automatically transfer to their like counterparts in the new investment menu, some—such as annuities—will not transfer without your meeting with a TIAA-CREF representative in person or by phone.

In June, TIAA-CREF will assign all Plan participants new accounts—even existing TIAA-CREF members. If you have an existing online account with TIAA-CREF, you can log in to www.tiaa-cref.org/cu in[12] June and will see both your current account(s) and your new one(s). Once you have your new account(s), log in to review and/or update your beneficiary information.

Question: Will my designated Plan beneficiary/beneficiaries stay intact during this transition? Current TIAA-CREF participants: TIAA-CREF will automatically transfer your beneficiary information into your new TIAA-CREF account. In June, you may log in to your account to verify or update your beneficiary information. Fidelity and Vanguard participants: Your beneficiary information will not automatically transfer into your new TIAA-CREF account. Instead, it will default to "estate" until you log in to your account in June to update it. The beneficiaries you've designated on your current Fidelity and Vanguard accounts will remain in effect until the date in July when your assets transfer into the TIAA-CREF platform. On that date, the beneficiary listed in your TIAA-CREF account will become effective.

Note: While you are encouraged to update your beneficiary information, CU's Plan agreement, which has specified who will receive your assets in the event of death, will supersede your designations in the TIAA-CREF system. The succession line is as follows:

Surviving spouse
Surviving child(ren)
Surviving parent(s)
Personal representative of your estate

Participants of all other vendors: Information will be forthcoming and available at www.cu.edu/nestegg[9].

Question: Are there fees or penalties associated with transferring my funds into the new investment lineup? There are no fees or penalties for the transfer of any Fidelity and Vanguard account balances. There are no fees or penalties for TIAA-CREF mutual funds that automatically transfer. If you have investments that will not automatically transfer into the new lineup such as individual contracts (e.g., annuities), you may incur transfer fees, penalties or liquidity constraints if you decide to move these investments out of your old account. Check with your vendor directly or ask a TIAA-CREF financial consultant for help in finding this information before you decide to move these balances.

Question: I heard that if I'm age 59 ½ or older, I don't have to transfer my CU retirement plan funds. Is this true?

If you're age 59 ½ or older, new contributions made to your account after the July transition will automatically flow into the new fund lineup. However, you have a few options for what you can do with your existing balances:

Before the transition, you can roll your balances out of the CU Plan(s) and into an IRA with the vendor of your choosing. Before you decide to roll over these funds, consider meeting with your financial planner and/or a TIAA-CREF financial consultant to: Compare the retail fees that you'll be paying in an IRA to the institutional fund fees that you'll have access to in CU's Plans. Understand how well protected your assets are within a qualified retirement plans such as CU's versus through an IRA.

Note that any Plan contributions made after the date of your rollover will be placed into your CU Plan(s) account(s). You can take no action, and any balances you have that can be transferred into the new plan automatically will be. Those that cannot be automatically transferred will remain with your current vendor until you take action to move them, either into the CU Plan(s) or into an external IRA.

Question: I am currently investing in funds that my vendor has closed to new investors. After the transition, will I still be able to invest in such closed funds that are available through the new self-directed brokerage option?

The retirement transition team is investigating this issue to see if affected Plan participants may access these closed funds in the new menu or, for those age 59 ½ and older, by rolling their Plan funds into a personal IRA.

If neither of these options is available, however, many vendors who have closed funds may have opened new, comparable funds, which may be available through the CU Plans' new self-directed brokerage option.

CU will provide an update on this issue online at www.cu.edu/nestegg[9], or you may call an Employee Services benefits professional at 303-860-4200, option 3, in the coming weeks to check for information.

Question: I'm interested in increasing my contributions to my 403(b) Plan. Should I wait to do so until after the transition? You can make changes to your 403(b) contributions at any time. Please submit your salary reduction agreement to Employee Services by the 10th of each month to ensure your new contribution amount will be reflected in that month's pay.

Question: Will I have access to my account(s) with my current vendor(s) after the transition?

This depends on your specific situation:

Many vendors do allow participants to access their accounts for a certain period of time after balances have been transferred out of the account. This allows participants to download transaction and balance history for reference. Please check with your vendor for specific details. If your current investments include annuities or other individual contracts, then those balances will not be automatically transferred, and your account access will not be impacted by the transition. You will receive a new account with TIAA-CREF, in which your new contributions will flow after the transition. Please note that you may still contact TIAA-CREF to move these funds into your new account at any time.

Question: Can I move funds from other accounts I have into CU's new investment menu?

In most cases, yes: You can roll your personal, tax-qualified IRAs and retirement accounts from former employers into either or both of the university's 401(a) and 403(b) plans. This allows you to take advantage of the best-in-class lineup and consolidate your retirement savings. Speak with a TIAA-CREF financial consultant to learn whether your retirement accounts outside the university's Plans are eligible for rollover, and to have them transferred in (if applicable).

Guidelines for rolling funds into the university's Plans:

The funds being rolled are from a qualified retirement plan or a tax-qualified IRA. The employee is participating in the university Plan receiving the rollover. Someone who is not already participating in the 401(a) Plan is not allowed to roll funds into the 401(a) Plan; Someone who is not already participating in the 403(b) Plan would need to complete the salary deferral agreement to enroll in the Plan and start contributing, and then could roll over funds.

AND There are no after-tax funds being rolled in. (Neither Plan accepts rollovers of after-tax funds.)

Question: How long is CU's contract with TIAA-CREF?

CU has contracted with TIAA-CREF as service provider of its retirement plans for three years. Going forward, the university will evaluate this contract every three years.

If for any reason, TIAA-CREF does not satisfy the terms of its contract during this three-year period, the university may terminate the contract with 90 days' notice.

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[Limerick to review nearly 40 years as University Fool on April 1](#)[13]

[Student Success Center renamed, reorganization finalized](#)[14]

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[Postdoc Research Day is about meeting people, starting collaborations and getting feedback](#)[16]

[Donors in spotlight for helping 'faculty, staff and students push the boundaries of the possible'](#)[17]
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The annual Donor Recognition Dinner highlighted stories of risk-taking entrepreneurs, benefactors who have touched the learning pursuits of CU Denver and the clinical activities of CU Anschutz, and a physician who served the university for over 50 years.

About 500 people attended the eighth annual event in the Seawall Ballroom in the Denver Performing Arts Complex on March 12. Booths displaying current research and education projects being conducted by CU Denver and CU Anschutz students and faculty lined the edges of the ballroom.

The donor generosity that fuels those projects and many more like them, as well as the endowments that enrich students' educational experience and the new facilities that enhance our campuses and help push the boundaries of scientific discovery, was put in the spotlight — at the podium and on the screen. The special contributions of each donor recognized — entrepreneur Jake Jabs, the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation and Guillermo "Bill" Aragon, M.D., and his late wife, Maria de Lourdes Aragon — were shown in compelling video stories.

The video about Dr. Aragon's contributions included his amusing tale of racing through downtown Denver streets one night to get to then-Denver General Hospital in time to perform surgery on a police officer who'd been shot. When Dr. Aragon got pulled over for speeding en route, he sternly told the officer, "If you detain me for as much as a few minutes, your fellow officer is going to die."

Speakers at the gala included CU Anschutz Chancellor Don Elliman, CU Denver Chancellor Jerry Wartgow and CU President Bruce Benson and his wife, CU first lady Marcy Benson. CU Denver jazz piano student Jon Griesinger provided musical entertainment.

Elliman summed up the importance of donors to the university and the transformational results of their generosity by

saying, "While tonight's gathering recognizes the support you've provided in the past, this is really about the future—and I can tell you in no uncertain terms that the University of Colorado Denver and the Anschutz Medical Campus are the future of Denver, Aurora and Colorado ... and for our world."

President Benson told the audience that CU Denver and CU Anschutz deliver exemplary educational and clinical services, all while being extremely efficient in operations. "We're constantly working on generating more funding, and private-public partnerships are one way," he said. "We've got them all over these campuses."

He thanked faculty and staff for their above-and-beyond performance, adding, "I'm just really proud of all of these people for all that they do." Marcy Benson highlighted the dedication and hard work of the the university's fundraising staff.

In his remarks about CU Denver, Wartgow said, "CU Denver is Denver's research university downtown, creating life-changing opportunities in education, research and community outreach."

Elliman highlighted the clinical and educational excellence that abounds at CU Anschutz. "It is directly related to the strength of faculty, physicians and researchers who fuse their expertise to create the leading-edge treatments that produce some of the best clinical outcomes anywhere," he said. "As Coloradans, we're fortunate to have world-class comprehensive care right in our own backyard."

Elliman said that over the last 10 years, the university has seen private gifts and commitments more than triple. "We've broken fundraising records for two years running and we're on track to do it again in 2015," he said.

Jabs was recognized for his gifts to the CU Denver Business School which created the Jake Jabs Center for Entrepreneurship, which will help the university nurture the next generation of entrepreneurs and deepen its connections with the Denver business community. Jabs told the audience, "The thing about education is it gives you confidence. It gives you confidence to take risks. And taking risks is the reason I'm standing here today."

The contributions of the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, represented by Executive Director Susan Steele and President Daniel Ritchie, span both the comprehensive teaching and learning pursuits of CU Denver and the health and clinical activities of CU Anschutz. "With support for a range of vital initiatives, from excellence in early childhood education to innovation in biomanufacturing, the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation is making it possible for the university to advance its important work in so many fields and to create a bright future for the people of Colorado," Elliman said.

Dr. Aragon has served the university in many ways over the years, starting with a medical residency in 1951 and later teaching surgery to medical students while practicing as a surgeon at Denver General. With a generous gift of an endowed chair in surgery, Dr. Aragon and his late wife, Maria, allow the university to advance the field of surgery and recognize top faculty.

Aragon summed up the giving-back theme of the evening by saying, "Every single one of us who goes to a medical school, or anywhere else, owes a tremendous debt to the institution. It's terribly important that we all help this great institution."

[Comstock recognized for advocacy in youth sports safety](#)[19]

Dawn Comstock, associate professor of epidemiology at the Colorado School of Public Health, recently was honored as a Youth Sports Safety Ambassador. The award was presented during the sixth annual Youth Sports Safety Summit in Dallas, where she also delivered new research findings.

This inaugural award from the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) was presented to three recipients. The honor recognizes individuals or groups that have made a significant contribution to advancing athletic safety based on

providing exemplary youth sport safety protocols and care that sets a precedent and/or model; and by providing appropriate medical care, research policy change or resource allocation.

Comstock's award citation notes her work in the field: "As one of the country's leading high school injury surveillance published researchers whose studies have influenced policy change and best practices, your dedication and tireless voice to improving the health and safety of young athletes is significant."

For the past decade, Comstock has been studying surveillance data to better understand youth sports injuries and offers evidence-based analysis rather than "emotion-based" opinions as have previously been the practice in connection to organized youth sports.

"The overall goal of this work is to provide information to all participants – high school athletes, coaches, parents, and even the media – to support decision making," Comstock explained.

Comstock shared findings that show, among high school athletes, girls have longer recovery rates than boys but that gender differences narrowed at the collegiate level. Also, collegiate athletes in soccer and baseball/softball had longer recovery times than high school athletes; but in basketball, there was no significant difference in recovery time across age groups. She also looked at concussion rates and severities in states that already had implemented guidelines on restricting number of days of full contact practice compared to states that had not.

According to Comstock, understanding injury patterns such as differences in recovery times or the effect of policy recommendations as well as other research supports helping policy makers fine tune risk minimization and injury prevention recommendations.

Last spring, Comstock was one of five experts invited by the White House to meet President Obama and to speak at the Healthy Kids and Safe Sports Concussion Summit to address the growing risk of concussions in adolescent sports.

[Eleven CU-Boulder faculty members honored with NSF CAREER Awards](#)[20]

Eleven University of Colorado Boulder researchers, including an unprecedented number of engineers, have received the National Science Foundation's prestigious Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Awards.

The recently announced winners include seven so far this year—all from the College of Engineering and Applied Science—and four from 2014.

The research awards, which usually amount to about \$500,000 over five years, "support junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research," according to NSF.

"We are excited to have such a large number of award winners," said Stein Sture, CU-Boulder vice chancellor for research. "These honors reflect the outstanding quality of the young faculty we attract to our campus."

The award winners so far in 2015 are Aaron Clauset and Tom Yeh, both of the Department of Computer Science; Greg Rieker of the Department of Mechanical Engineering; Shideh Dashti and Fernando Rosario-Ortiz, both of the Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering; Alireeza Doostan of the Department of Aerospace Engineering Sciences; and Joel Kaar of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering.

The 2014 winners are Alaa Ahmed of the Department of Integrative Physiology; Kendi Davies of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; Robin Dowell of the Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology; and Jason Marden of the Department of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering.

[Click here](#)[21] to see photos of the winners and read brief descriptions of the research projects being funded by these

NSF CAREER Awards.

[Carroll presents in Washington, D.C., on biomedical innovation](#)[22]

John Carroll, professor in the Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, was an invited speaker at a briefing last month in Washington, D.C. The event was sponsored by “Health Affairs,” the leading journal of health policy and research.

At the briefing, Carroll discussed an article he authored for the journal’s special February 2015 issue on biomedical innovation. In the article he described the development and accomplishments of the Transcatheter Valve Therapy Registry that is a national registry containing information on all patients in the U.S. undergoing recently FDA-approved heart valve replacements and repairs done in a less invasive way than open-heart surgery.

Carroll is a member of the registry’s national steering committee. The registry involves a unique partnership between cardiology and cardiac surgery professional societies as well as the FDA, Medicare, hospitals, patients, and the medical device industry.

About 200 government officials, congressional staff, academics, other health care policy professionals and members of the news media participated in the briefing. Carroll emphasized how the registry is a major component of an enhanced learning health care system with specific goals of improving the surveillance of this unique class of medical devices. The registry collects and analyzes data from more than 30,000 patients to date who have received these therapies in 354 United States sites. Rapid improvements in patient care have already resulted from registry activities.

The University of Colorado Hospital has been the regional leader in clinical trials that have led to FDA approval of these therapies. A multidisciplinary team performs these high-tech procedures using advanced 3-D medical imaging. Patients often go home 48 hours after having their heart valve replaced or repaired.

Carroll is active in clinical research, medical education and training, and clinical care including interventional cardiology procedures to treat valvular, coronary, congenital, and other disorders of the heart. He has several hundred peer-reviewed medical journal publications, books, and has given lectures nationally and internationally.

[Fields co-edits book on sports and law](#)[23]

Sarah K. Fields, associate professor of communication at CU Denver and author of “Female Gladiators: Gender, Law, and Contact Sport in America,” has co-edited a book titled “Sport and the Law: Historical and Cultural Intersections.”

The book examines how athletes have used the nation’s judicial system to solve conflicts and how their cases have transformed the interpretation of laws. The essays look at a vast array of social and legal controversies including *Haywood v. NBA* (1971), which allowed any player to enter the draft; *Flood v. Kuhn* (1972), which considered baseball’s antitrust status; Danny Gardella’s 1948 case regarding free agency and baseball; Muhammad Ali’s celebrated stance against the U.S. draft; Renée Richards’s 1976 lawsuit against the United States Tennis Association and its due process ramifications; and the recruitment of underage Latin baseball players in the Caribbean region considered as human rights violations of international law.

“Sport and the Law” links these cases to others, giving the reader the opportunity to see the threads weaving law and sport together in American society.

Fields' co-editor is Samuel O. Regalado, professor of history at California State University, Stanislaus, and is the author or editor of four books, including "Baseball in Nikkei America: From the Meiji to the Majors."

The book is part of a Sport, Culture, and Society series from the University of Arkansas Press that recognizes sport's powerful influence and ability to change people's lives in significant ways. The series includes both monographs and anthologies that are characterized by scholarship, accessibility for a wide audience, and interesting and thoughtful design and interpretations.

[Dropping names ...](#)[24]

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Geeta Verma, associate professor in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education in the CU Denver School of Education & Human Development, presented a paper last month at the Korean Association of Science Education in Busan, South Korea. In her presentation, "Enacting Acts of Authentications in an Informal Learning Environment: Opportunities for Creative Engagement," she discussed a National Science Foundation-funded project, "Dinosaurs, Denver and Climate Change (D2C2)." The project created opportunities to promote STEM education to elementary-aged under-represented students. Students worked closely with scientists (geologists and soil scientists) and science and mathematics educators. ... The School of Medicine's **Allison Kempe**, professor of pediatrics, and **Sean O'Leary**, assistant professor of pediatrics, were in high demand last week by the media after releasing a [study](#)[28] regarding parental pressure on physicians to spread out vaccinations. The study, published in the journal "Pediatrics," found that nearly all pediatricians and providers surveyed had been asked to delay some vaccinations and that a majority of those said they complied with the requests even if they thought it was not in the child's best interest. Kempe told [The New York Times](#)[29] that vaccine counselling needs to be improved to dispel inaccurate information that is causing some parents to ask for the delays. ... **Rick Silva**, director of the CU [Technology Transfer Office](#)[30], has left his position for an opportunity at another academic research institution. To replace him, a search committee will identify finalists for campus visits in April. **Kate Tallman**, associate vice president for technology transfer, is stepping in as director of the office during the transition. ... **Gordon Stringer**, senior instructor, College of Business at UCCS, and **Cathy Thompson**, visiting professor at Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences, recently Quality Matters Certification for their online courses. Stringer's course is FNCE 3050: Fundamentals of Finance, and Thompson's is NURS 4015: Nursing Research. Quality Matters is a nationally recognized faculty-centered, peer-review process designed to highlight the quality of online courses and components. The Quality Matters rubric is the most widely used set of standards for the design of online and blended courses at the college level. At UCCS, Quality Matters certification is coordinated by the Faculty Resource Center.

[Obituary: Robert Wayne Heath Jr.](#)[31]

Robert Wayne Heath Jr., a longtime lecturer in mechanical engineering at CU Denver, died March 10, 2015, in Denver. He was 61.

He was born Jan. 30, 1954, in Colorado Springs to Robert Wayne and Wanda Irene Heath. He loved learning and being able to teach others anything and everything that he had learned. That is the reason he taught thermodynamics and air conditioning at the University of Colorado Denver for over 20 years. He also loved putting together and taking apart things so much that he got his master's degree in mechanical engineering.

He enjoyed learning about science, space and was an avid sci-fi enthusiast as well as a history buff. Bob loved to spend his spare time completing Sudoku puzzles and watching shows like “Stargate” and “How It’s Made” with his spoiled puppy, Rowdy.

He was involved with the masonic lodge for over 30 years and was a brother to those in Denver No. 5, Nevadaville No. 4 and Central City No. 6. He held many positions within masonry including worshipful master. Although he enjoyed all aspects of his life, you could really see the passion in his eyes when he spoke of the masons. This is also evident by the large masonic tattoo he got when he turned 50. Bob loved riding motorcycles and looked forward to going to Sturgis most years. It always made his family nervous because he was so klutzy but you could see how happy it made him!

He had two daughters, Jenette (35) and Erica (31). He would do anything possible to put a smile on their faces and they had him wrapped around their little fingers. They were such daddy’s girls and although they could do no wrong, he could do no wrong in their eyes either. What brought him great joy recently was spending time with his grandchildren, Austin (8), and Danica (5). They absolutely loved how silly Papa Heath was and how he wrote so funny with his left hand!

Bob was preceded by his parents and younger brother, Richard Heath, and survived by his younger sisters, Sharon Blasdel and Karen Johnson and the mother of his children, Sharron Heath. He was a beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews who thought the world of him. He was an amazing father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend and Broncos fan. Bob was a very kind, understanding and loving man who cared for everyone to the best of his abilities and was always willing to help others. He battled with Type 1 diabetes most of his life but never let it bring him down. If you ever needed a pick me up, you could give him a call and were assured to feel better by the end of the conversation with his contagious laugh and positive outlook on life. He tried to act tough but never fooled anyone with his sweet demeanor. He touched so many hearts and souls during his time on earth. If you were blessed enough to have met Bob, we hope you cherish every memory of him in your heart. He will truly be missed by all who knew him.

- Provided by the family

[Up to \\$10,000 in STEM awards available](#)[32]

The Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in STEM Education at CU-Boulder were established in 2009 to support faculty and graduate student engagement in innovative research on student learning and implementation of research-based STEM education programs and initiatives. The Center for STEM Learning invites you to submit your proposal by the April 15 deadline.

Up to \$10,000 faculty/staff awards and graduate student awards (part-time, 25 percent during the academic year, 50 percent during the summer) of up to one year are available. Applications may propose support for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education projects in the early stages, for the coordination of existing projects, or to seed efforts that can continue beyond the funding period. In addition to regular submissions for science education research, we encourage faculty members interested in course transformation to submit individually, or as a group.

To see a list of past and current fellows and view their proposals, visit <http://www.colorado.edu/csl/scholars.html>[33]

Please visit <http://www.colorado.edu/csl/facultyfund.html>[34] to find out more about the faculty/staff awards. Please visit <http://www.colorado.edu/csl/gradfunding.html>[35] to find out more about the graduate student awards.

Questions may be directed to csl@colorado.edu[36].

To apply, please click on the links below.

Faculty/Staff Award Proposals: https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5zglb35A9PBWIKh[37]

Graduate Student Award Proposals: [https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=\[38\]SV_cZ0GLTRqHGNg9Tv](https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=[38]SV_cZ0GLTRqHGNg9Tv)[38]

Links

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