Video: Data advocacy helping students transform information into impact[1]

Through the Data Advocacy for All initiative, CU Boulder and CU Denver are helping students develop skills to use data not just for analysis, but for impact.

Now, thanks to a CU Next Award[2] from the CU system, the project is expanding data humanities education and giving students new opportunities to learn how to ethically interpret, communicate and apply data to real-world challenges.

Using open-source tools and hands-on coursework, students explore how data reveals patterns affecting communities across Colorado. The program examines how climate-driven natural hazards might affect communities facing economic vulnerability, helping students understand how data can inform decisions and raise public awareness.

See the video above to learn how CU students and faculty are using data advocacy to better understand complex challenges and turn information into action.

CollegeInvest savings plans now offer $121 deposit and matching contributions for young children's accounts [3]

Planners rejoice! Conference on World Affairs schedule, registration live [4]

Rep. Crank visits campus for Veterans' Affairs Roundtable [5]

Coming home: CU Denver's W.E.B. Du Bois gathering closes Black History Month with courage and care [6]

CU Anschutz OCD Program's Exposurepalooza a stigma-busting event [7]

CU system solicits submissions for new awards, grants to advance faculty innovation with AI[8]

The CU System Office of Academic Affairs, in partnership with the Office of the President, reminds faculty and staff about three new systemwide awards and grants recognizing and supporting innovative uses of artificial intelligence (AI) in teaching and learning and in scholarly and creative work across all CU campuses. These awards and grants are not specific to any single AI platform or tool.

By championing bold, creative applications of AI that advance compelling learning outcomes and impactful scholarly and creative work, the University of Colorado continues to cultivate a dynamic culture of innovation and excellence across the CU system.

Three AI-focused opportunities

The CU system Office of Academic Affairs continues to solicit nominations and proposals for the following AI recognitions and grant:
CU System AI Recognition Award: AI for Teaching & Learning[9]**CU System AI Recognition Award: AI for Scholarly & Creative Work**[10]**CU System AI Sprint Grant: AI for Teaching & Learning**[11]
Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit nominations and proposals and to share this opportunity with colleagues who are advancing innovative AI work across the CU campuses.

AI Recognition Award: AI for Teaching & Learning
[12]

The CU System AI Recognition Award: AI for Teaching & Learning honors faculty who use AI innovatively in their teaching to achieve demonstrable improvements in student learning aligned with stated course learning goals. In addition, recipients' work should have impact beyond their individual courses. By recognizing and rewarding creative, effective uses of AI in pedagogy that produce meaningful student outcomes, the University of Colorado system aims to foster a culture of innovation and excellence in AI-enhanced teaching.

Eligibility: Tenure or tenure-track faculty and full-time and instructional series faculty are eligible to apply.

Deadline: Nominate by March 30, 2026.

Learn more here.[9]

AI Recognition Award: AI for Scholarly & Creative Work
[13]

The CU System AI Recognition Award: AI for Scholarly & Creative Work honors faculty whose innovative use of artificial intelligence leads to compelling outcomes in their scholarly and creative work and demonstrates meaningful impact on their field. By acknowledging and rewarding impactful applications of AI in scholarship and creative practice, the University of Colorado system aims to cultivate a culture of innovation among its faculty.

Eligibility: Eligible nominees include full-time CU tenured or tenure-track faculty and full-time research professor track faculty.

Deadline: Nominate by March 30, 2026.

Learn more here.[10]

AI Sprint Grant: AI for Teaching & Learning
[14]

The CU System Sprint Grant: AI for Teaching & Learning is focused on improving course outcomes using AI with goals of supporting and accelerating innovative teaching practices that leverage AI to enhance student learning. This grant is designed to provide faculty with the resources and time needed to develop and implement AI-driven pedagogical strategies for the specific purpose of increasing student performance relative to the learning goals/outcomes of a single course. The 'sprint' structure is designed to meet the pace of AI evolution, and in doing so, foster an environment of experimentation and growth with meaningful, of-the-moment outcomes toward improving student learning.

Eligibility: Tenure or tenure-track faculty and full-time and instructional series faculty are eligible to apply.

Deadline: Apply by March 30, 2026.

Learn more here.[11]

Questions: Contact the Office of Academic Affairs.[15]

Federal update: Government funding, NIST international researchers policy, more[16]

From March 13, this update from CU Federal Relations and Counsel includes information on Government Funding, NIST International Researchers Policy, Neguse Letter to NSF on NCAR Restructuring, ED Proposed Pell Grant Reform Rule, CO AG Joins IPEDS Lawsuit, Appeals Court Ends SAVE Plan and California State University Title IX Lawsuit.

Click here to read the post.[17]

For the latest communications and federal memos, please visit the CU System Federal Updates and Actions[18] page.

Garrison?Wade's legacy of care [19]

Bolton a Paralympic gold medalist [20]

Nobel laureate Strickland to speak at CU Boulder [21]

James Beard Award-winning chef spices up CU Denver dining experience[22]

New Colorado Springs play filled with literal, metaphorical ghosts[23]

Pikes Peak Region Job Market Poised for Rebound, UCCS Economist Says[24]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/video-data-advocacy-helping-students-transform-information-impact[2] https://www.cu.edu/oaa/academic-innovation-programs/cu-next-award[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/collegeinvest-savings-plans-now-offer-121-deposit-and-matching-contributions-young-children[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/planners-rejoice-conference-world-affairs-schedule-registration-live[5]

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