



Marks, Agaard talk mentoring at CU Women Succeeding^[1]

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Lilly Marks delivers the keynote address.

More than 180 University of Colorado faculty and staff members met last week for CU Women Succeeding, the 12th annual professional development symposium presented by the Faculty Council Women's Committee.

Representing all four campuses and system administration, attendees convened at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus to take advantage of opportunities for professional development, career support and networking with colleagues.

The Feb. 27 evening networking event – which found participants working with artists and creating multimedia displays – included a welcome by Don Elliman, chancellor of CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus, and introductions by Cathy Bodine and Julaine Field, co-chairs of the Faculty Council Women's Committee.

Related story:

Panelists learn from 'PB&J problem' Sometimes, a successful partnership is all about negotiating the most mundane tasks - like how to correctly prepare a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. The "PB&J problem," described by panelist Jean Abbott, M.D., professor emerita of the School of Medicine, was one of the many personal lessons from a panel discussion at the 12th Annual CU Women Succeeding Professional Development Symposium on Feb. 28. [Read more>>](#)^[4]

Friday's daylong slate of presentations and group discussions led off with a welcome by Richard Krugman, dean of the CU School of Medicine, who introduced the event's keynote speaker: Lilly Marks, vice president for health affairs for the University of Colorado and executive vice chancellor of the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Marks shared advice and lessons learned from her groundbreaking career, which took root in business school at CU-Boulder, where she majored in finance.

"This was not my intended path in life," Marks said. "I was really convinced I wanted to go into business. ... I never considered going into higher education administration."

When her husband's pursuit of a law degree led the family to the University of Virginia, she said, "I had no opportunities to pursue the career that I had started." She said taking a job as grants manager at the University of Virginia's medical school "was a giant U-turn in my career." Her time in that role produced an epiphany: Her rare skill set was lacking in her new environment, and the growing field of health care economics would create greater demand for her abilities.

"That's my first lesson, that sometimes life and your career take very unexpected turns," Marks said. "You need to have a vision of how you'll adapt."

Marks said she's committed to the issues of women's professional development, and acknowledged overcoming gender prejudices in her career.

"But gender hasn't been the biggest issue: The hardest accomplishment for me was climbing the leadership ladder in academic medicine," Marks said. "I'm one of only three or four women who lead an academic medical campus around the country, and I'm the only person in that role – man or woman – who is not a physician or scientist."

"Gaining credibility and acceptance when you aren't an exclusive member of that club, by gender or credentials, has been one of my biggest challenges."



Some of the nuggets of advice delivered by Marks:

To cross the gender divide, first understand that there is one. "I'm not gender militant ... but there are some very real, significant differences between men and women. ... I think it's critically important to understand that men and women are wired differently." She said entry-level and mid-career opportunities for women are greater than they were 30 years ago, but women only hold 10 percent to 15 percent of leadership/executive positions. Find the right mentors and champions. "This whole campus is filled with potential mentors." Develop your negotiation skills. She said women often don't ask for pay raises and advancement opportunities because of the "imposter syndrome." "Believe me, I still live with it every day, that fear that someday you're going to show up for work and be exposed as a fraud or an imposter." Avoid groupthink. "Bring the same intellectual rigor to your management and financial decisions as you do to your academic pursuits." Do your homework. "The higher up you go, the more difficult it is to be prepared. I always do my homework and ... over time I think I gained respect and credibility. Pretty soon, people start to count on you to carry the water. ... I'm generally not the smartest person in the room, but you can be the person people most want to talk to."

Laura Borgelt presents to a full room during CU Women Succeeding.

Besides sharing professional advice, Marks also spoke movingly of her family, including her parents, both natives of Poland who survived the Holocaust before coming to America. Her father, who lost his parents and siblings in the Holocaust, died this year at age 98; one of her infant grandsons now bears his name, Samuel.

"I'll always remember this advice from my father – 'Lilly, you can't be a victim. Don't think of yourself as a victim,'" she said. "People face enormous challenges in their lives. ... What defines you are not the challenges that confront you, but how you respond."

Mentoring in focus: A recurring theme throughout the day's presentations and discussions, mentoring provided a focal point for much of the give and take.

Marks credited the dean of the School of Medicine for his role in her career. "I have been extraordinarily blessed to work with Dick Krugman for two decades," she said. "He's been a wonderful mentor."

And Marks, in turn, was mentioned by Eva Aagaard, M.D., FACP, who received the Elizabeth D. Gee Memorial Lectureship Award. It honors an outstanding CU faculty member for efforts to advance women in academia, interdisciplinary scholarly contributions and distinguished teaching.

"I recently asked Lilly Marks to be my mentor," Aagaard said during a breakout session on the mentor-mentee relationship. "We were talking awhile, and she asked me, 'Is this worthwhile for you?' I said, 'Are you kidding? You have no idea how valuable this is.'"

Aagaard defined a mentor as "someone you have a relationship with – it's longitudinal, and often considered to be reciprocal. We both get something from the relationship, including just the joy potentially of seeing someone grow."

Aagaard is assistant dean for Lifelong Learning, director of the Academy of Medical Educators and director of Faculty Development in the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She said, "success is not an individual support," noting she has benefited from the support of numerous mentors and of her husband of 23 years.

"Success is not about luck or being at the right place at the right time," she said. "There's a piece that is true about that, but success is about positioning yourself to be in the right place at the right time."

Her key messages:

There is no perfect path in life. Life is always going to get in your way. If you stay true to your values, goals and passions, you will always be happy. If you want to be a leader, do so – with passion. Because we really need you at the top to change the world. If being a leader is not your goal, that's OK. Do what you're passionate about, but do it really, really well. Because we also need you.



Aagaard helped lead the mentor-mentee session with Judith Regensteiner, Ph.D., who also took part in a later panel discussion on mentoring, co-led by Carol Rumack. Regensteiner, professor of medicine in the Division of Cardiology in the School of Medicine, also is director of the Center for Women's Health Research.

"Seeing these events, having all these women together from all the campuses – staff and faculty together – it's very moving to me," Regensteiner said.

Jefferson Awards celebrate well-rounded excellence^[6]

Five members of the University of Colorado community are recipients of the 2014 Thomas Jefferson Award, among the highest honors given at CU.

This year's award winners – two faculty members, a staff professional and two students – were chosen for embodying and advancing the ideals of Jefferson, the third U.S. president and a Founding Father who greatly influenced American arts, sciences, education and public affairs. The Jefferson Award recognizes CU faculty, staff and students who demonstrate excellence in the performance of regular academic responsibilities while contributing outstanding service to the broader community.

The 2014 honorees are:

Faculty:

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Charles Ferguson, Ph.D., associate professor of biology at the University of Colorado Denver. For years he has inspired students as a teacher, adviser, mentor and advocate. Ferguson is director of the BA-BS/MD Honors Program at CU Denver, and chairs the Health Careers Advisory Committee, which he helped develop. Past honors include Carnegie Foundation Professor of the Year for Colorado, and two College of Liberal Arts and Sciences awards for Excellence in Teaching. He also is a three-time CU alumnus, having earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at CU Denver; his doctorate at the University of Colorado Boulder.

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Therese Jones, Ph.D., associate professor, Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus; interim director of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities; director of Arts and Humanities in Healthcare Program. A leading advocate and practitioner of the use of the humanities in undergraduate and graduate medical education, she has developed educational programs in undergraduate institutions and health professions programs to advance the study of literature, arts and writing as they relate to scientific inquiry and clinical practice. Jones edits the Journal of Medical Humanities and co-leads the disability studies working group across CU. She earned her doctorate from CU-Boulder.

Staff:

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Peter Simons, director of the Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement (IECE) at CU-Boulder. He led the development of the institute, and has served as director since its establishment in 2005. He consistently demonstrates commitment to the belief that educators and students have a civic responsibility to engage with and learn from their communities. The IECE is a hub of civic-minded, service-learning efforts across the campus that has fostered the creation of 13 civic engagement programs. Through them, Simons emphasizes that the university and the community are equal partners, both having much to contribute to addressing community-defined issues. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from CU-Boulder.



Students:

Helen Achol Abyei, recent graduate of the University of Colorado Denver with a bachelor's degree in psychology and theater. Praised for her profound love of writing, the theater, and public speaking, she endured life in war-torn North Sudan while raising six children. After time in a refugee camp in Egypt, she settled in Denver, taught herself English and enrolled in college. As a young mother stressing education to her children, she worked in banking for nearly 30 years. Now she writes plays – some of which have been acted out by CU Denver students – to shed light on atrocities taking place in her home country. She expects to return there someday as a teacher.

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Alexandra Antonioli, M.D./Ph.D. candidate in the Medical Scientist Training Program, CU School of Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. A high school valedictorian in Montana, she went to Yale University, earned a bachelor's degree in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry and worked in a laboratory. Now in the fifth year of the University of Colorado's combined M.D./Ph.D. program, her thesis work focuses on the understanding of certain proteins and their role in autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and age-related macular degeneration. She is an accomplished classical pianist and devotes considerable time to charitable work.

A committee of CU faculty, staff and students selects winners. Recipients receive an engraved plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium, and are recognized by the CU Board of Regents.

The Thomas Jefferson Award was established at the University of Virginia in 1951 by the Robert Earll McConnell Foundation to honor teaching faculty who exemplified the humanistic ideals associated with Jefferson. By 1962, six other institutions – including CU – had established a Jefferson Award. In 1980, the university added a student category; in 1988, the staff category was approved. Funding for the awards is derived from earnings on an endowment provided by the McConnell Foundation and from a bequest by Harrison Blair, a CU alumnus.

CU expands to south metro Denver^[11]

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The University of Colorado and The Wildlife Experience, the largest cultural institution in Douglas County, will collaborate to allow CU to begin offering classes in south metro Denver in fall 2014. CU's Denver and Anschutz campuses will lead the initial effort, which is expected to offer courses and certificates in business, education, engineering, nursing and other health areas. Programs from CU's Boulder and Colorado Springs campuses are expected to join the effort in the future.

CU will renovate a gallery area on the second floor of The Wildlife Experience to create 11,000 square feet of classroom and administrative space.

CU identified the need for offerings after conducting a market study of the south metro Denver area and interviewing leaders from the area's major employers and professional organizations. The south metro area, which includes one-third of the population of metro Denver, is home to a variety of engineering, finance and health care-related companies.

"The University of Colorado is committed to providing undergraduate, graduate and professional programs that align with Colorado's evolving demographics and students' needs," said University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman. "The space provided by The Wildlife Experience in south metro Denver helps us to offer educational opportunities that are clearly desired by students and employers in the area."

The Wildlife Experience was founded in 2002 as a wildlife art and natural history museum designed to serve as a cultural center and community asset for south metro Denver. Formalizing an educational collaboration with CU strengthens The Wildlife Experience's commitment to its community. The 151,000-square-foot facility hosts rotating exhibits in fine art, natural history and interactive science each year.



The first floor of The Wildlife Experience building will remain open to the public, continuing to operate as a wildlife art and natural history museum with opportunities for meeting and convention facility rental. In addition to the classroom space, CU will have access to the building's expansive public spaces, including the theater and the ballroom.

"Our long term vision for The Wildlife Experience is to continue to serve south metro Denver by expanding our educational outreach and use of our facility to include programs aimed toward adult education," said Dave Liniger, chairman emeritus of The Wildlife Experience and co-founder of RE/MAX International Inc. "The educational collaboration with CU and the initial programs that will be offered by CU Denver | Anschutz help us achieve that vision and enhance our service to our community."

Initial programs offered by CU Denver | Anschutz in the south metro Denver classrooms are expected to include: courses and certificates in general business and entrepreneurship that can be applied toward an MBA degree from the Business School; a certificate program and a course in prevention and response to school violence, and a combined certificate/course in addiction counseling from the School of Education & Human Development; certificates in software engineering, computer forensics and computer science teacher education from the College of Engineering and Applied Science; a Bachelor of Science degree and continuing education courses on emerging topics from the College of Nursing; and a graduate mini-certificate in health systems management with a focus on the healthcare industry from the Colorado School of Public Health.

Class schedules and registration deadlines will be announced in the coming weeks; visit ucdenver.edu/southdenver^[13] for more information.

Gift of Holocaust archive will draw scholars from around world^[14]

Some of the more than 500,000 pieces of the Mazal Holocaust Collection being donated to CU-Boulder. (Photo: Glenn Asakawa/University of Colorado)

David Shneer, CU-Boulder professor and Jewish Studies program director, displays some of the more than 500,000 pieces of the Mazal Holocaust Collection. (Photo: Glenn Asakawa/University of Colorado)

The Mazal Holocaust Collection, considered the world's largest privately owned Holocaust archive and the most significant U.S. collection outside of the Holocaust museums in New York and Washington, D.C., has been donated to the University of Colorado Boulder.

The highly regarded collection comprises more than 20,000 books and 500,000 documents, pamphlets, photographs and other materials, including original transcripts of the Nuremberg trials. Five thousand of the volumes are limited editions and rare books.

"This acquisition will transform CU-Boulder into a global center of scholarship on the 20th century Jewish experience," said professor David Shneer, the Louis P. Singer Chair in Jewish History and director of the Program in Jewish Studies. "By anchoring the university's Archive of Post-Holocaust American Judaism with the story of the Holocaust itself and the destruction of much of European Jewish religious and cultural life, CU is now one of the only places in the world to be able to demonstrate how global Jewish life continued and flourished in the United States after World War II."

The archive is the life work of Harry W. Mazal, a retired businessman from Mexico City who made San Antonio, Texas, his home and became an internationally recognized Holocaust collector and researcher. Working with numerous volunteers, Mazal dedicated his life to creating a vast repository committed to defending the voices and memories of



the victims of the Holocaust around the world by promoting scholarly research related to Holocaust studies, Holocaust denial, anti-Semitism and bigotry.

A 1944 aerial surveillance photo of the Birkenau extermination camp. (Photo: Glenn Asakawa/University of Colorado)

Materials from the Mazal Holocaust Collection played an important role in the unsuccessful libel case brought by Holocaust-denier David Irving against Emory University professor Deborah Lipstadt, a noted Holocaust scholar and historian.

“The Mazal Holocaust Collection is a unique collection of materials about the Holocaust,” Lipstadt said. “It will help make the University of Colorado Boulder one of the premier places for research on a myriad of aspects of the Holocaust. It is an amazing collection of documents which will be an asset to students at the university and researchers throughout the world.”

After Mazal’s death in 2011, his family wanted to ensure that his life’s work and legacy would continue to be available to scholars, researchers and educators around the world. A portion of the books from the Mazal Library has been donated to the new Texas A&M University–San Antonio. The rest of the library, including the highly valued archive and limited edition books, has been donated to CU-Boulder.

“The Mazal Holocaust Library was everything to Harry,” said daughter Aimee Mazal Skillin of Lone Tree, Colo. “It was his heart and soul and he made it his mission to debunk Holocaust deniers. His archive material was vast and CU has the capability to maintain, restore and share these valuable resources with the world.”

A military surveillance photo showing damage to a bridge. (Photo: Glenn Asakawa/University of Colorado)

The materials were donated to Archives and Special Collections in CU-Boulder’s University Libraries and the Program in Jewish Studies. The collection will enhance scholarship and support research initiatives in a variety of disciplines and programs, said Steven Leigh, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

“I’ve been very impressed at how actively our faculty scholars have helped with this important collection,” Leigh said. “Professor Shneer reached out broadly across the campus and received tremendous support from so many of our people in all different areas of scholarship. The strong and uniformly positive responses that he received speak to the importance of the collection, as well as to its long-term positive impacts for CU-Boulder. The entire campus is excited by this generous gift.”

The Mazal Holocaust Collection will need a great deal of immediate attention and resources according to Bruce Montgomery, faculty director for Archives and Special Collections.

“The collection includes documents and rare materials that are fragile and require preservation – making this a priority initiative at CU,” Montgomery said. “We anticipate considerable demand and interest and with supplemental funding, we hope to have a large portion of the collection accessible to researchers by the end of 2014.”

The Mazal Holocaust Collection will be housed within the Archive of Post-Holocaust American Judaism. The archive will examine Judaism and the Jewish experience through the lens of religious, cultural and social movements in America, as well as various philosophies of Judaism and Jewish organizations from the late 1940s to the present.

The Archive of Post-Holocaust American Judaism includes the most complete collection of materials documenting the Jewish Renewal movement, including the personal collection from the movement’s founder, Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, as well as Rabbis Arthur Waskow, Leah Novick and Michael Lerner, who also is editor of Tikkun magazine. Together these collections describe the revitalization of Judaism in America since World War II, emphasizing the cultural, ethical and mystical traditions in Judaism and Jewish culture that blossomed in the postwar U.S.

Noted scholar Shaul Magid, professor of religious studies and the Jay and Jeannie Schottenstein Chair in Modern



Judaism at Indiana University Bloomington, champions ideas demonstrated by CU-Boulder's Archive of Post-Holocaust American Judaism in his most recent book on American Post-Judaism. Magid is a visiting scholar at CU-Boulder through Friday, including [a public lecture tonight](#)^[19].

"One of Harry's missions in life was education," Skillin said. "The fact that CU has the resources to make these archives available to students and scholars alike promotes education of the Holocaust. We have no doubt that Harry is smiling from above and are grateful that his collection will live on and continue to educate."

For more information on CU-Boulder's Program in Jewish Studies and the Archive of Post-Holocaust American Judaism visit <http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu>^[20].

Harry Mazal is photographed in 2010 with a part of his private Holocaust library in his San Antonio home. The collection is considered the world's largest privately owned Holocaust archive. (Photo courtesy of the Mazal family)

Panelists learn from 'PB&J problem'^[22]

By Andy Gilmore

Sometimes, a successful partnership is all about negotiating the most mundane tasks - like how to correctly prepare a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

The "PB&J problem," described by panelist Jean Abbott, M.D., professor emerita of the School of Medicine, was one of the many personal lessons from a panel discussion at the 12th Annual CU [Women Succeeding](#)^[23] Professional Development Symposium on Feb. 28.

The "Lean-In" panel took its inspiration from Facebook Chief Operating Officer [Sheryl Sandberg's book](#)^[24] of the same name. The book discusses how women can achieve goals, leadership and a successful career.

Folding or cutting?

The panel from CU – which also included Noelle M. Northcutt, M.D., assistant professor, internal medicine; Comilla Sasson, M.D., MS, assistant professor, emergency medicine; Carol Rumack, M.D., professor, radiology and associate dean for Graduate Medical Education; and Katy J. Brown, DO, a fellow in the Department of Medicine – moved away from the classic panel discussion format by encouraging audience participation.

The thinking behind this, Northcutt explained, was to have participants "to walk away with some personal development."

Abbott, in introductory comments, focused on lessons learned from the "PB&J problem." Her husband, she explained, insists on folding rather than cutting a sandwich.

That "drove me nuts," she said. "It's not the way you make a sandwich."

"Perfection is the enemy"

She said she yearned to "stay in charge." And yet, she knew a successful partnership is an equal partnership. She learned to let it go.



Brown built on Sheryl Sandberg's claims that "perfection is the enemy" and "Superwoman is the adversary of the women's movement" by asking the room to discuss "the myth of doing it all."

The consensus was that, often, just being able to finish a task – even to a lower standard that would usually be expected – is equal to perfection at that moment.

Attendees were encouraged to continue the discussion by going to www.leanin.org^[25]

In other sessions at last week's CU Women Succeeding:

Laura Borgelt, PharmD, FCCP, BCPS, presented "The KEY for a Woman's Success at Work," in which she encouraged participants to identify their "truest self activity" and then consider ways of bringing that passion to work. For Borgelt, a past winner of the Gee Award, the activity is swimming: She shared stories, photos and videos from such achievements as swimming the English Channel, and how lessons from those experiences help her achieve success on the job. Katherine Yelle, state organizer for the [American Association of University Women](#)^[26], discussed the work of the national grassroots group in representing women and women's issues. She highlighted the benefits of membership in the group, but also stressed that anyone interested can sign up to be an advocate and stay informed without formally joining.

- Jay Dedrick

Runyan, Melton to receive professional awards^[27]

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Des Runyan, professor of pediatrics and executive director of The Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect, will receive the Distinguished Contributions to Child Advocacy Award.

The award is presented annually to a non-psychologist by the Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice, which is Division 37 of the American Psychological Association. The society aims to increase awareness for child and family-related problems in areas such as education, employment, and family planning.

Runyan has an extensive background in child abuse, with more than three decades of experience in the field. His research has, "addressed the identification and consequences of child abuse and neglect including specific patterns of abuse such as shaken baby syndrome and Munchausen syndrome by proxy."

Gary Melton, professor of Pediatrics and Community and Behavioral Health and associate director for Community Development and Social Policy at The Kempe Center, is receiving the American Psychological Association's (APA) Senior-Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest.

This is Melton's fourth Distinguished Contributions Award from the APA. He is the first person to be recognized with four such awards.

CU testing leads to approval for new leukemia treatment^[29]

Sen. Michael Bennet speaks with a patient at the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Three very different people gathered recently at University of Colorado Hospital. They were linked by leukemia.



Larry Rosenberg is an 81-year-old leukemia patient at the hospital. Dan Pollyea, M.D., is treating Rosenberg. And Michael Bennet is a U.S. senator from Colorado who helped fast-track a drug that is helping Rosenberg and patients like him.

Rosenberg has chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), a cancer of the blood and bone marrow that is the most common form of leukemia in adults.

Chemo hit hard

Until recently, Rosenberg had been having a rough go of it. His cancer had worsened but chemotherapy hit him so hard that he decided to discontinue it. Then his daughter found a clinical trial of a new drug combination that Pollyea, an assistant professor in the [CU School of Medicine](#)^[31], is leading.

Rosenberg became part of the clinical trial in September. It's not a cure. But it's helping.

Without it, he says, "Who knows if I'd even be here (or) be alive?"

The drug is [ibrutinib](#)^[32]. In technical terms, it is a tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI). In plain terms, a TKI battles cancer at the molecular level by restoring the "on-off switch" the body uses to regulate cell growth.

"Things will never be the same"

Clinical trials such as the one [Pollyea](#)^[33] was leading showed hope with ibrutinib – in combination with another drug called lenalidomide -- with relatively small side effects. Stanford and Ohio State universities are supporting the research.

"This is a game changer," Pollyea says. "Things will never be the same for this disease since the introduction of this drug."

This sort of collaborative endeavor is a hallmark of the University of Colorado [Anschutz Medical Campus](#)^[34], which pulls together research, health care and education on more than 200 acres in Aurora.

The promising clinical trial, however, is only one step. Getting a drug into common use, so all patients can benefit from it, can take a decade or more.

Breakthrough therapy

That's where the federal fast-track, and Bennet, come in.

A Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reform bill two years ago included a "breakthrough therapy" provision that Bennet, a Democrat, helped write, along with Republican Sens. Orrin Hatch of Utah and Richard Burr of North Carolina. The provision created an expedited pathway to approval for certain lifesaving drugs, like ibrutinib, that show dramatically positive results early in development.

Ibrutinib received "breakthrough therapy" designation in April 2013, one of about 40 treatments to win that status since the law passed in 2012.

And this month, just 10 months after receiving that breakthrough status, the FDA approved it for widespread use with patients fighting the type of leukemia Rosenberg has.

Adding time to life

So while Rosenberg had access to the drug through the clinical trial, the fast-track means it now is widely available.

Bennet was happy to meet a patient who is benefitting from the fast-track process.

"Ultimately, what this means is that we're giving more patients around the country, like Larry, faster access to



lifesaving therapies so they can live longer, healthier lives,” Bennet says.

But nobody is happier about this than Larry Rosenberg.

“I don’t know if this is a cure,” he says. “But it’s adding time to my life.”

New food service department gaining steam^[35]

Susan Szpyrka

Positions for the newest UCCS department, Dining and Food Services, are now open for applications.

Susan Szpyrka, vice chancellor, Administration and Finance, encouraged UCCS faculty and staff members to spread the word about job openings to those who may be qualified. The openings are posted at www.jobsatcu.com^[37] and can be found by searching “Colorado Springs.” A hiring fair for as many as 70 student positions is planned for April 14. A time and location will be announced.

“There has been a whirlwind of activity as the campus plans to assume responsibility for food service beginning May 24,” Szpyrka said.

In addition to the position openings and hiring fair, Szpyrka said the following actions are planned.

The meal card plan “Munch Money” has been temporarily halted as part of the transition from Sodexo to campus operations. All remaining balances will be honored. A new program is expected for the fall semester. A steering team of faculty, staff and students developed a vision statement for the new department.

“The vision of UCCS Dining and Food Services is to be a recognized leader in service delivery and food sustainability to cultivate and nurture a healthy campus culture where access to wholesome, seasonal, and local food directly links to wellness, sense of place, and environmental protection. Aligning UCCS Dining and Food Services with campus sustainability efforts allows for the integration of academic programs and community action, thereby providing students invaluable experiential learning opportunities. This includes preparing and serving healthy, flavorful, sustainable, and nutritious food produced through fiscally responsible and mindful practices that nourish and support our community.”

Related articles:

[UCCS hires first-ever food service director](#)^[38]

[Campus to operate food service](#)^[39]

Service blueprinting helps smooth way for students^[40]

CU Denver Career Center staff members meet around a table in the newly renovated center in the Tivoli Student Union. From left, Marco Lopez, front desk staff; Sarah Trzeciak, center interim director; Scott Treas, career counselor; and Jamie Guilford, employer relations and outreach coordinator.



With more than two dozen units across campus creating blueprints of how they deliver services, a larger picture is developing of students' experience at CU Denver. The goal is to smooth the pathway to a degree for each and every student.

Phase One of the service blueprinting process launched in late September and wrapped up in mid-December. The phase involved 11 administrative departments and produced 90 blueprints, said [Carrie John](#)^[42], director of analytics for enrollment and retention. The departments noted everything from how students register for classes, pay tuition, receive academic advising and sign up for financial aid.

"In the blueprints, they broke everything down into pieces and detailed the student experience in all of those areas," John said.

For example, staff members in the [University of Colorado Denver Career Center](#)^[43] determined that the center's front lobby wasn't as inviting as it could be. They have since renovated the area to make it more pleasing to students. Other departments discovered that student forms could be made easier to complete, or that the timing of important notices to students could be improved.

"Why fit in when you were born to stand out!?"

"We painted the walls with a warm tan color and put up several student paintings," said Sarah Trzeciak, MS, interim director of the Career Center. "We also installed ambient lighting and comfortable furniture, and added some inspirational quotes on the wall."

Improving Student Success:

Over the next several months, [Today](#)^[45] will feature a series of stories about ongoing efforts in the Student Affairs Division to improve student success at CU Denver. The initiatives are focal points of [Chancellor Don Elliman's State of the Campus](#)^[46] address.

Phase two of the blueprinting process begins in March with 18 more units volunteering to participate. The phase will conclude in late May.

"We are very committed to better serving our students and ensuring, to the best of our abilities, that we are meeting their needs in their quest to earn a degree from us," said [Raul Cardenas](#)^[47], Ph.D., associate vice chancellor for [Student Affairs](#)^[48]. "Service blueprinting is helping us identify those areas that create unnecessary barriers for our students in pursuit of their diploma."

John said a culture shift is taking place on campus. Different units are commonly reaching out and cooperating with each other to solve issues related to the student experience. "Everything is being talked about through the lens of the student, which is producing more change and benefits for the students," she said.

Some 77 staff members participated in Phase One of service blueprinting, and even more will take part in this semester's second phase. "I'm so proud of all the people who have stepped up to embrace this process," said John, who noted it will be an ongoing process. "It's really a testament to the dedication of our colleagues. They're all doing it voluntarily because they want to help our students."

CU-Boulder closes campus to non-affiliates on April 20 for third straight year^[49]

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



“As we have said for years now, the 4/20 gathering is not welcome on our campus and has caused serious disruptions to our mission of research, teaching and learning,” said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano. “This campus closure continues a multiyear plan to eliminate this gathering.”

The main campus will be closed to non-affiliates from noon to 6 p.m. The Norlin Quad will be closed to everyone throughout the day. Even with the passage of Amendment 64 two years ago, state law does not allow pot smoking in public or possession of marijuana by those under 21.

CU-Boulder began these campus closure actions in April 2012. A Boulder judge upheld the university’s right to take reasonable steps to avoid disruption of the university’s academic mission. In 2012, the closure reduced a traditional 4/20 crowd of about 10,000 to 12,000 people to a gathering of several hundred. April 20, 2013, was a quiet day on campus with no arrests and no one entering the Norlin Quad.

A campus committee, whose members include leaders of the CU Student Government, has met for the past several months to discuss this year’s 4/20 operations. CUSG members have said they want the spontaneous 4/20 gathering to end, but have also expressed concerns and provided input on the planning process. CUSG also wants continued academic dialogue on drug policies and is planning a symposium on those topics for March or early April.

“With the passage of Amendment 64 and now the launch of retail marijuana sales, we believe there is plenty to discuss and debate about drug policies,” said Chris Schaeffbauer, CUSG’s president of student affairs. “But that should take place in a thoughtful, academic setting – not among thousands of disruptive people on the Norlin Quad.”

DiStefano said the CU administration supports the students’ efforts to spur debate on drug policies.

“CU-Boulder is a place where academic debate and the free exchange of ideas have always been welcomed and encouraged,” he said. “I applaud the students for continuing this dialogue.”

This year on Sunday, April 20, the following measures will be in place:

Students, faculty and staff are all welcome on campus and invited to 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 prior years’ protocol, law enforcement officers will politely and professionally engage those wishing to enter the campus to ascertain if 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. Visitors who have official business, meetings or other officially sanctioned activities on the CU-Boulder campus will need to obtain a visitor’s pass. More details on that process will be announced soon.

Funding for the campus security measures comes from insurance rebates to the campus, not from tuition, student fees or taxpayer funds.

Bell headed to India for Fulbright seminar^[50]

^[51]

Larry Bell, executive director of CU-Boulder’s Office of International Education, has been selected for the Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar. He will travel to India in March to visit with the Indian Ministry of Education and other Indian government officials, U.S. consular officials in India and a variety of Indian higher education institutions. Other participants in the program include provosts, vice chancellors and directors of international offices from U.S. colleges and universities.

Bell also received a Fulbright award for a similar seminar on Korean higher education in June 2001. He has worked in international higher educational exchange for more than 30 years and has served the profession in a variety of elected

positions. He has assisted in hosting foreign dignitaries and has been asked to testify before congress in hearings on exchange policy.

Zahniser selected to receive 2014 PhRMA Foundation Award^[52]

^[53]

Nancy Zahniser, professor of pharmacology and the former School of Medicine associate dean for research education, has been selected to receive the 2014 PhRMA Foundation Award in Excellence in Pharmacology/Toxicology at the group's awards ceremony in April. The award is reserved for those who received a foundation grant at the outset of their careers and then go on to a distinguished career.

PhRMA grants awards based on the integration of "information on the mechanism of action of a drug or chemical at the molecular or cellular level with the drug effect observed in a human or laboratory animal."

Zahniser specializes in research on the dopamine transporter, neurotransmitter dopamine, and its role in drug addiction.

Dropping names ...^[54]

Chambers

Winters

Mary Beth Chambers, associate professor, Kraemer Family Library at UCCS, recently was awarded the 2014 Edward Swanson Memorial Best of Library Resources and Technical Services Award. Chambers and Wen-Ying Lu, formerly at CU-Boulder, were recognized for their article "PDA Consortium Style: The CU MyiLibrary Cataloging Experience," which was published in the July 2013 edition of Library Resources & Technical Services. Chambers and Lu will receive \$250 and a citation at the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services annual conference June 28 in Las Vegas. ... **Marcus Winters**, assistant professor in the College of Education at UCCS, recently was chosen as Outstanding Reviewer 2013 by the "American Educational Research Journal: Teaching Learning and Human Development." Winters will be formally recognized at the American Educational Research Association annual meeting scheduled for April 3 in Philadelphia. ... **Anthony Shull**, executive director of the Office of International Affairs at UCCS, recently was selected as a 2013-2014 Neal Presidential Fellow by the Association of International Education Administrators. Shull was one of five people chosen for the program, which provides the opportunity to work closely with a peer at the University of Kentucky. The AIEA is an international professional organization that advocates for international higher education. It has more than 800 members in 40 countries.

Anthony Shull, far right, poses with colleagues selected as Neal Presidential Fellows.

In memoriam^[58]



Names of current and former University of Colorado faculty and staff who have died in recent weeks. List compiled by Employee Services.

CU-Boulder

Jean D. Messimer, 92, classified retiree. Feb. 7, 2014. **Kathryn H.O. White**, 64, research assistant. Feb. 14, 2014.

CU Denver

Francis Hunter Tapp, 63, classified retiree. Feb. 14, 2014. **Vivian A. Vernon**, 92, classified retiree. Feb. 13, 2014.

CU Anschutz Medical Campus

E. Stewart Taylor, 102, faculty emeritus retiree. Feb. 5, 2014.

Video celebrates diversity among CU community^[59]

Video of 1KdSgQFL82k

At CU, we understand that diversity means being inclusive; respecting and learning from one another no matter our ethnicity, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, ability status, religion, nationality, culture or beliefs.

This foundational understanding of inclusivity is woven into every aspect of our university culture, ensuring that all of our faculty, staff, current and prospective students, and friends know that the University of Colorado honors and appreciates diversity, which enriches our entire community.

Recently, the Office of Academic Affairs and Office of University Relations teamed with Brenda J. Allen, associate vice chancellor of diversity and inclusion at CU Denver | Anschutz, and CU Denver's Office of Technology Media Production team to produce a video – [Be You @ CU](#)^[60] – that reflects this philosophy and our commitment to inclusion. We hope you'll enjoy, and share, this short video. [Watch Video](#)>>^[60]

Vale to be honored at retirement reception^[61]

Vale

The CU community is invited to join Kelly Fox, senior vice chancellor and CFO, in congratulating Louise Vale for over 20 years of service to the University of Colorado.

A retirement reception will be from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, in the Koenig Alumni Center, 1202 University Ave., Boulder.

Vale has served as vice chancellor for administration at CU-Boulder since September 2012. Previously, she served as the director of internal audit for the CU system and as the associate vice chancellor for budget and operations at CU Denver. In addition, she participated in the capital budgeting and planning of new buildings at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and served for two years on the Boulder campus beginning in 1998 as an assistant to the dean of budget and planning in the College of Arts and Sciences. She retires on March 14.

Questions: Contact Robin Bryant, 303-492-1972, robin.bryant@colorado.edu^[63].



Smoking default a curious choice^[64]

I have never been a smoker and was not aware I had become a smoker but evidently I am, as HRMS shows that I smoke. I just want to know ... do I smoke tobacco or marijuana?

[From Employee Services:](#)^[65]

Why am I listed as a smoker in Employee Information?

The smoker information is coming from a checkbox in the HRMS. The smoker checkbox is used by one of the payroll processes to determine which rate to use when calculating the deduction amount for an employee's optional life insurance.

The data is not sent anywhere or used for any other purpose. The default value for the field is "yes." The only time the value is changed is if an employee chooses to enroll in optional life insurance during his/her initial enrollment period, or during open enrollment. If during either enrollment period the employee indicates that he or she is a non-tobacco user, the smoker value is changed to "no."

Employees who do not enroll in optional life insurance or are not eligible to participate in the plan will have a value of "yes" in the smoker field.

Irene C. Hillson

Office of Information Technology, CU-Boulder

Letters to the editor always are welcome. Email yours to connections@cu.edu^[66].

Links

- [1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/marks-aagaard-talk-mentoring-cu-women-succeeding>
- [2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/ws_top.png
- [3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/ws_01.png
- [4] <https://connections.cu.edu/news/panelists-learn-from-pbj-problem>
- [5] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/ws03png>
- [6] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/jefferson-awards-celebrate-well-rounded-excellence>
- [7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/tj_Ferguson.png
- [8] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/tj_Jones.png
- [9] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/tj_Simons.png
- [10] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/tjantoniolipng>
- [11] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-expands-south-metro-denver>
- [12] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/wildlife01png>
- [13] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/SouthDenver/Pages/default.aspx>
- [14] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/gift-holocaust-archive-will-draw-scholars-around-world>
- [15] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/mazaltoppng>
- [16] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/mazal_02.png
- [17] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/mazal_01.png
- [18] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/mazal_03.png
- [19] http://events.colorado.edu/EventList.aspx?view=EventDetails&eventidn=19230&information_id=99563&type=&syndicate=syndicate
- [20] <http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu/>
- [21] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/mazal_bottom.png
- [22] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/panelists-learn-%E2%80%98pbj-problem%E2%80%99>



- [23] <https://www.cu.edu/faculty-council/cu-women-succeeding-symposium>
- [24] <http://www.amazon.com/Lean-In-Women-Work-Will/dp/0385349947>
- [25] <http://www.leanin.org/>
- [26] <http://www.aauw.org/>
- [27] <https://connections.cu.edu/people/runyan-melton-receive-professional-awards>
- [28] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/prunyanpng>
- [29] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-testing-leads-approval-new-leukemia-treatment>
- [30] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutztoppng>
- [31] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/Pages/somWelcome.aspx>
- [32] <http://www.cancer.org/treatment/treatmentsandsideeffects/guidetocancerdrugs/ibrutinib>
- [33] <http://www.cudocctors.com/find-a-doctor/?keywords=pollyea>
- [34] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/anschutz/Pages/landing.aspx>
- [35] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-food-service-department-gaining-steam>
- [36] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/uccs_szyrka.png
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- [43] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/careercenter/AboutUs/Pages/aboutus.aspx>
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- [46] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/Chancellor-puts-innovation-and-service-at-forefront-of-address.aspx>
- [47] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/WhoWeAre/Chancellor/ViceChancellors/Provost/executiveteam/StudentAffairs/Pages/RaulCardenasBiography.aspx>
- [48] <http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/WhoWeAre/Chancellor/ViceChancellors/Provost/StudentAffairs/Pages/StudentAffairsDivision.aspx>
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- [51] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/pbellpng-0>
- [52] <https://connections.cu.edu/people/zahniser-selected-receive-2014-phrma-foundation-award>
- [53] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/p_zahniser.png
- [54] <https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-83>
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- [56] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdnwinterspng>
- [57] <https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdnshullpng>
- [58] <https://connections.cu.edu/people/memori-am-15>
- [59] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/video-celebrates-diversity-among-cu-community>
- [60] <http://www.cu.edu/beyou>
- [61] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/vale-be-honored-retirement-reception-0>
- [62] https://connections.cu.edu/people/cu-boulder-vice-chancellor-for-administration-louise-vale-to-retire/p_vale
- [63] <mailto:robin.bryant@colorado.edu>
- [64] <https://connections.cu.edu/letters/smoking-default-curious-choice>
- [65] <https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/faq/why-am-i-listed-smoker-employee-information>
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