

[DiStefano announces changes to key administrative posts](#)[1]

Kelly Fox

University of Colorado Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano today announced new steps in filling two key administrative posts on the Boulder campus: senior vice chancellor for budget and finance and chief financial officer, and chief of staff for the Office of the Chancellor.

DiStefano said that next week he intends to name Kelly Fox, currently serving as vice president for budget and finance and chief financial officer for the University of Colorado system administration, as senior vice chancellor for budget and finance and chief financial officer for CU-Boulder. The appointment would be effective July 1, pending approval of the Board of Regents to waive the requirement for a search for this position.

Fox would replace current Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer Ric Porreca, who retired last year but agreed to return to campus until a successor could be identified.

DiStefano said the plan to appoint Fox "has been in the works since last year with the support of President Benson." Fox's effective date of July 1 allows President Benson to plan for the transition.

"We are excited to have Kelly, who brings vast and vital experience to her new post," DiStefano said. "Ric Porreca has also graciously agreed to stay on temporarily to work with Kelly in transitioning to her role."

Fox currently serves as vice president and chief financial officer in the Office of the President and university system administration overseeing capital and operating budgets, as well as the controller's office, treasurer's office, risk management and the CU Procurement Service Center.

She has been at CU since 2006, although she also worked at the university as system budget director from 2001 to 2004. Previously, she was director of policy, planning and analysis at the Colorado School of Mines, and held budget, policy and planning posts with the Colorado Office of State Planning and Budgeting and the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Fox earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Nebraska and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Colorado Denver.

"Kelly has distinguished herself with her skill, diplomacy, and candor with constituents that include CU faculty, staff and students, the regents, elected officials and finance experts in the Legislature and the governor's office," said DiStefano. "She will be a marvelous addition to my cabinet and to the leadership of the CU-Boulder campus."

DiStefano also announced that he intends within the next few weeks to begin the process for filling by July 1 an administrative position now held by Chief of Staff Joey White.

The position would manage the flow of work that comes to the Office of the Chancellor from both the Boulder campus and from the president's office and the Board of Regents.

White and Porreca have a combined 61 years of service to the Boulder campus and have, together, served five CU-Boulder chancellors.

"Ric and Joey have been vital to the success, expansion and current reputation of the CU-Boulder campus," DiStefano said. "Their caliber and tenure of service have helped a succession of leaders over the last three decades build CU-Boulder into a world-class research university that serves Colorado and is engaged in the world. I thank them for their assistance to me and to generations of students, faculty, staff, administrators and CU stakeholders."

[Sterling honored for social impact in technology](#)[3]

Sterling

S. Revi Sterling, director of ICTD Graduate Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder, was one of the winners of the Anita Borg Women of Vision Awards, which honors accomplishments and contributions of women in technology in three categories: innovation, leadership and social impact.

Candidates for the awards are considered based on their records of (1) consistent, significant contributions to technology invention and application; (2) effecting positive changes in the ways in which technology impacts society; and (3) demonstrated leadership in the technology industry that extends beyond their place of work.

Sterling won the award in the social impact category. She was recognized for conceiving, implementing and leading programs that have had a direct, positive and lasting impact on the lives of women. She pioneered the development of a new participatory community radio technology that enables women to create content for broadcasting, even if they are far from the station. Variants of this have been deployed worldwide. Today, she is creating a new generation of "academic practitioners" who can create innovative technologies while solving difficult community development problems that continue to stymie the international development field. Revi realized the need for these practitioners based on her own research and fieldwork in Africa, India and South and Central America, where she has created and deployed appropriate and sustainable education, health and livelihood programs based upon a variety of innovative networking technologies.

Revi and the other award winners will be honored at the Anita Borg Institute's seventh annual Women of Vision Awards Banquet at Santa Clara, Calif., on May 10.

[On serving presidents and communities](#)[5]

Marcy Benson delivers a keynote speech at CU Women Succeeding. (Photo: Casey A. Cass/University of Colorado)

Marcy Benson has met seven United States presidents and worked for two, but perhaps the best insight she received in more than two decades working in Washington, D. C., came not from a chief executive, but from the head of the Federal Judicial Center.

Judge Alfred Murrah, her one-time boss and the namesake of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in her hometown of Oklahoma City, told Benson to "identify yourself with every good thing in the community. You cannot expect to live off of a community without putting something into it."

CU's First Lady shared the advice, as well as a wide range of anecdotes from her experiences in politics and community service with the record crowd of more than 300 at the 10th annual CU Faculty Council Women Succeeding Symposium, held in the Glenn Miller Ballroom at CU-Boulder.

Benson took the call to volunteerism to heart, particularly since coming to Colorado in the early 1990s. In an introduction to the talk, in which he called her "my partner in everything I do," CU President Bruce Benson related some of her volunteer activities.

She served on the Board of Directors of The Children's Hospital (now Children's Hospital Colorado) for more than a decade and was co-chair of the campaign that built the new hospital at CU's Anschutz Medical Campus. She also served as chair of The Children's Hospital Foundation for three years and has been a member of that board since 1998. Marcy Benson has been engaged with a number of civic and cultural organizations, including the Denver Public Library Commission and the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

At CU, she and her husband chair the university's \$1.5 billion Creating Futures fundraising campaign, and she also serves as honorary chair of Be Colorado, CU's wellness initiative.

In her Women Succeeding Symposium talk, she shared stories about her time working for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, both of whom she called down-to-Earth men who treated staff as well as they treated dignitaries. While working for Murrah at the Federal Judicial Center, she lived for a couple of weeks and commuted with a family friend, former Supreme Court Justice and CU alumnus Byron White, whom she called unpretentious and witty.

Her first experience with a president came at age 12, when she met President John F. Kennedy at the U.S. Naval Museum, attired in a navy blue sailor suit, which the president admired. "He shook our hands and touched me on the shoulder and just like every other woman in America, I fell in love," Benson said.

Later, while working at the Federal Judicial Center, she said she had to fight through a "thick glass ceiling" in the male-dominated office culture. After graduate school and considering a career as an FBI agent, she decided instead to volunteer for then-candidate George H.W. Bush, knocking on doors in New Hampshire.

Bush didn't win the nomination, but Benson ended up with a position on the committee planning Ronald Reagan's inauguration. Her work led to a number of White House positions during the Reagan and Bush presidencies, including in the Political Office and the Advance Office. From 1987-92, she directed the President's Commission on White House Fellowships, a leadership program in which outstanding young people from the private sector, state government and the military are selected to spend a year working as an assistant to a senior White House staff member or a member of the Cabinet. Its alumni include Colin Powell, Tim Wirth and Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Benson said she and her husband are "very fortunate and proud to be part of CU." And as she applies Murrah's advice on volunteerism in her role as CU's First Lady, she said her time in politics has given her a unique perspective that applies to the world of higher education.

"Over the past 50 years I have met seven U.S. presidents, and being the unbiased and objective person that I am, I can assure you that the best president I ever met is Bruce Benson."

[Cover your Facebook: Library limits distraction with ban of social media](#)^[7]

Photo by Jeff Foster, University Advancement

Two pods of computers in the Kraemer Family Library are now designated Quiet Internet Zones where students may study free from social media noise.

As of Friday, two of the circles of 11 computers, known as pods, began offering Internet access and other features students need to use, but not Twitter, Facebook, Google+ or other social media with potential to be distracting.

Rory Lewis, assistant professor, Computer Science Department, serves as chair of the UCCS Faculty Assembly Library Committee. Lewis noticed lines of students waiting to use library computers at exam time. Forced to wait 20-30 minutes to use a computer, the waiting students were angry so many computers were being frivolously tied up on social media sites.

Creation of social media-free zones seemed to be a solution. Lewis said the time students spend on the computers in the pods will be tracked and compared to their use a year ago. He is convinced, however, that the need for the zones is quite real.

Before today's extensive technology, a student could study at a library table and only be interrupted if someone physically approached the table. This is no longer the case.

"With the new technology, you are in constant contact with all your friends," Lewis said.

A student may attend college anywhere in the world but stays connected to high school pals through email and texting. Friends from clubs, dance class or camp remain in touch as well, joined by a host of new acquaintances in person and online. The student is inclined by social convention to acknowledge them.

"It's like all 4,000 of your friends are surrounding your library table," Lewis said.

And the problem is not just distraction, but addiction.

It isn't unusual for a student, professor, businessman or anyone to spend time checking emails and messages, then responding. Scheduling a specific block of time for this activity keeps it under control, he said, but students have confided in Lewis that they may spend hours doing this, taking time originally intended for study.

Lewis said some of these engineering and computer students are among the most self-disciplined individuals he ever encountered. If the temptation affects this group, it's an even bigger problem for less-disciplined students. He cited research that compares extensive use of electronic technology to narcotic dependency and made the argument for treating the social media phenomenon as an addiction for some.

Lewis even plans using the tracking data as research to be included in neuroscience papers and library science papers. This may prove useful to other institutions, he said. If the problem exists at UCCS, other schools face it with their own students.

He said he expects complaints from students for and against the pods. Some will argue the library needs to offer more computers without the distracting sites, while others will say all computers should feature access to all the Internet. Yet 80 percent of the library computers will still offer full access, so the quiet zones will remain for the foreseeable future.

Students attempting to access social media sites from the pods will reach a site outlining the purpose of the social media-free zone. The site may be viewed at <http://www.uccs.edu/~socialmediafree/>[9].

[Campus wins national competition to promote energy-efficient buildings](#)[10]

Students from the University of Colorado Denver are among the winners of a national competition that challenges college students to develop and present real-world solutions to boost the energy efficiency of buildings across the country.

Energy Secretary Steven Chu recognized the winners of the Better Buildings Case Competition, part of the Energy Department's Better Buildings Challenge, at an event at the White House Monday afternoon. He congratulated the students for their efforts in tackling some of the most common and stubborn barriers to improving energy efficiency.

The winners included CU Denver, Carnegie Mellon University, Columbia University, The George Washington University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of California at Berkeley, and University of Southern California.

Six students from CU Denver's College of Engineering and Applied Science, College of Architecture and Planning and the Business School were part of CU the team. They were challenged to make a hotel more energy efficient without a significant capital investment.

Engineering student Tyler Huggins, the leader of the CU Denver team, said the project was a true collaboration and the biggest challenge was making a hotel more efficient with no money. Huggins said, "We were able to get creative and find some low-hanging fruit. There were some behavioral changes and minor operation changes that amounted to significant savings for the hotel."

Nineteen university teams—led by their respective energy clubs—analyzed case studies focusing on a range of challenges faced by private-sector organizations and state and local governments, who are looking to improve the energy efficiency of their operations. The case studies consisted of real scenarios, background information, and data provided primarily by Partners in the Better Buildings Challenge program, a broad public-private partnership working to achieve President Obama's goal of making America's commercial and industrial buildings 20 percent more efficient by 2020.

This competition provides the next generation of engineers, entrepreneurs and policymakers with skills and experience to start careers in clean energy and generates creative solutions to real-world problems to be used as models by businesses and other organizations across the marketplace.

"Through the Better Buildings Case Competition, the Energy Department is inspiring the clean energy workforce of tomorrow to find innovative solutions that will save energy and money for American families and businesses," said Secretary Chu. "We hope that the high-impact ideas presented by these talented students today will help the companies, cities, universities and other partners participating in the President's Better Buildings Challenge to identify cost-effective, energy-saving improvements they can make in their own buildings."

The student teams competed to find the best solutions to the energy efficiency challenges presented in real-world case studies for the City of Houston, the District of Columbia, HEI Hotels and Resorts, and Cassidy Turley, a major commercial real estate firm.

[Symposium to focus on public media, education](#) [11]

Experts will focus on the growing influence of public radio and television media in the digital age at a University of Colorado Boulder symposium, which is free and open to the public, March 13-14.

Journalism and Mass Communication at CU-Boulder is sponsoring "The Content and Context of Digital Culture." The symposium will be held at various sites across campus and a complete schedule is available at <http://icjmtsymposium.org/schedule>[12].

"Public media have become leaders, both locally and nationally, in the convergence of multiple platforms for delivering news and opinion in the digital age," said symposium organizer Andrew Calabrese, a professor of journalism and mass communication.

In some cases, that expansion includes reaching out to the community both as an audience and as content creators, said Calabrese.

Among the speakers will be Jessica Clark, a scholar in residence at the American University's School of Communication and a Knight Fellow in media policy. She is spearheading a Washington, D.C. experiment called "The Public Media Corps," which places young people into schools, media outlets and community centers to collaborate on media projects. Wick Rowland, Colorado Public Television CEO, and Michael Tracey, an author and CU-Boulder

professor of journalism and mass communication, will join Clark from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. March 13 in room 150 of the Eaton Humanities Building.

From 11 a.m. to noon March 14 in the Old Main Chapel, public media expert Barbara Cochran will offer her view of how public media can become more local and interactive with their communities. Cochran is a professor and the Curtis B. Hurley chair in public affairs reporting at the University of Missouri.

A portion of the symposium will focus on the creative industries' influence on university research and teaching. Speaker Terry Flew is a professor of media and communication at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia, and an expert on innovations in digital media. Also scheduled to speak on the subject of creativity and "design thinking" across all disciplines is Warren Berger, author of the influential book, "Glimmer: How Design Can Transform Your Life, and Maybe Even the World."

The symposium runs in conjunction with an effort to create a new interdisciplinary school or college at CU-Boulder that may include studies in communication, technology, multimedia journalism, commercial design and the digital arts and humanities. The effort is called the Information, Communication, Journalism, Media and Technology, or ICJMT, initiative.

CU Journalism and Mass Communication is sponsoring the symposium in support of the ICJMT initiative, with additional support from the Advertising A2B certificate program.

For more information including speakers and event locations visit <http://www.icjmtsymposium.org>[13].

[Center for Women's Health Research receives funding from Anschutz Foundation for faculty development](#)[14]

The Center for Women's Health Research is pleased to announce it has received funding from The Anschutz Foundation to continue the growth of its Faculty Development and Mentoring Program.

Two seed grants will be given to early career and mid-career investigators. These seed grants are critical to allow for the collection of pilot data, which then may be used to get bigger grants. The funding also includes salary support for two senior faculty members (Wendy Kohrt and Jane Reusch), who will add greatly to the research bandwidth and mentoring capacity, and for the hiring of a programming and communications professional.

The growth of the CWHR directly addresses its three-part mission to support innovative research in women's health and sex differences in the areas of cardiovascular disease and diabetes; recruit and train excellent scientists to comprise a pipeline of future researchers in women's health; and educate citizens and health care providers about women's health findings.

In the CWHR's eight years, it has sponsored 20 junior researchers working in an interdisciplinary way to expand knowledge about cardiovascular disease and diabetes across the lifespan. Studies undertaken range from fetal origins of adult disease to the effects of diabetes on women's cardiovascular systems. CWHR researchers have been highly successful in generating federal support, even amid this difficult research-funding landscape. For each private dollar donated, the CWHR and its researchers have been awarded more than \$10 in grants.

The \$450,000 gift from The Anschutz Foundation will support the strategic growth of the CWHR and its mission to transform women's health. It adds to the more than \$100 million in gifts made to the University of Colorado over the years by The Anschutz Foundation, including the series of gifts for which the Anschutz Medical Campus is named.

[Postdocs share research, get feedback at Research Day](#)[15]

[16]

Eunyoung Tak, a postdoctoral fellow doing research on acute liver injury, is a native of South Korea and still working on her English. That didn't stop her from enthusiastically explaining her research to passersby at the third annual University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus [Postdoctoral Research Day](#)[17].

Eighty-one postdoc fellows from the Denver Campus, Anschutz Medical Campus and National Jewish Health presented their research projects in Trivisible in Research 2 on Friday.

"I'm learning lots of things here," said Tak, who came to Anschutz Medical Campus after completing her doctoral degree in Seoul, Korea. "I'm learning how to become an independent young scientist."

She credited her principal investigator on the "Hypoxia Inducible Factors in Acute Liver Injury" project, [Holger Eltzschig, MD, PhD](#)[18], for being an excellent mentor. "I'm trying to learn good things from other scientists. It's a nice environment here for that."

Kristina McFadden, a postdoctoral fellow in the [Department of Psychiatry](#)[19] and chair of Postdoctoral Research Day, said there are about 300 postdocs at Anschutz Medical Campus and the Denver Campus.

The annual event is "meant as a nice venue for postdocs to get out of the lab and to see research that their peers are doing," McFadden said. "Let them kind of see what's going on around campus and to have a venue in which to present their research and get feedback from their peers and faculty."

The Postdoc Day also featured career development workshops, national speakers and an abstract competition. A group of nine postdoc fellows as well as faculty and staff judged the abstracts of all of 81 posters, selecting three for special recognition. The fellows who worked on those three projects -- Dana Higbee, MS, MD; Brendan Giles, PhD; and Sandra Christoph, MD, PhD -- gave 15-minute presentations about their research.

Speakers included keynote [Lawrence Tabak, DDS, PhD](#)[20], who is the principal deputy director of the [National Institutes of Health](#)[21], and Jorge Cham, MS, PhD, the creator of "Piled Higher and Deeper (PhD)," the popular comic strip about life (or lack thereof) in academia.

While many of the postdocs are headed toward a career as a tenured faculty member leading their own labs -- they are in different stages of research, from first year to several years logged -- Tabak encouraged the fellows to consider alternate scientific careers. Besides performing research that could have potential therapeutic benefits to disease, researchers could go into health care delivery, industry based research, science administration and policy making positions, Tabak said.

"All of this stuff that has exploded about H5N1, all the work that exploded related to stem cell use -- it was policy people with scientific backgrounds that carried the day," he said. "Goodness knows, we need more people teaching K through 12 about science."

Research is hard work, and it will never get easier, Tabak added. The key is "to make sure whatever it is you're studying is something that you are really passionate about."

The university Postdoctoral Association has several upcoming events. For information check for the latest on the [Postdoctoral Office](#)[22] site or call Coordinator Valerie Saltou at 303-724-2930.

[Tech conference seeks dynamic session proposals](#)[23]

COLTT, the Colorado Learning and Teaching With Technology Conference, is seeking expertise and enthusiasm for this year's COLTT Conference, slated for Aug. 1 and 2 on the CU-Boulder campus. Organizers are looking for dynamic sessions that explore innovative and effective uses of technologies in teaching and learning settings.

In recent years, COLTT has expanded in size and reach, and now draws participants from as far away as Canada and both coasts of the U.S. This is your opportunity to be involved in an exciting conference with a growing reach. Explore the full call for proposals on the COLTT wiki (<http://coltt2012.pbworks.com>)[24].

Information about registration and scholarships will be announced in the coming weeks. COLTT proposal submission link: <http://www.conconnect.net/rfp.aspx?yr=2012&id=009>[25]

Please contact Jill Lester with any questions or suggestions, 303-492-8426, jill.lester@colorado.edu[26].

[Social networking the safe way](#)[27]

Social Networking sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn and others are powerful tools that allow you to connect and share information with family, friends, colleagues and people all around the world.

However, these amazing capabilities present information security risks that you should be aware of. Be careful of what you post on these websites.

For more, please read the March 2012 [Office of Information Security Cyber Security newsletter](#)[28] to understand how to use social networks safely.

[Advocates get educated on challenges to state funding for higher education](#)[29]

[30]

About 40 CU Advocates attended an educational forum on Friday, hearing details on a study about Colorado's economic future that was commissioned by the State Legislature and conducted by the DU Center for Colorado's Economic Future.

Among the attendees at 1800 Grant St.: Sen. **Gail Schwartz**, a former CU regent; current Regent **Irene Griego**; the CU Foundation's **Wayne Hutchens** (outgoing president) and **Rick Lawrence** (incoming president), plus members of the board of directors of the CU Foundation.

"Belonging to the CU Advocates is a better way for me to know what's going on at the university, and it helps me advocate to outside entities," said **David Pierce**, System Staff Council co-chair.

David Marberry, a board member of a new metro Denver-based chapter of CU-Boulder alumni, said he's part of CU Advocates to learn about issues and "put in my 2 cents."

"It's an exciting time," Marberry said. "There are challenges, but there's also a fair amount of interest. The potential is untapped – we have 40,000 alumni in the Denver area."

For more information, visit the [CU Advocates website](#)[31].

[Five questions for Angela Buchanan](#)[32]

Angela Buchanan, right, and her husband, Harrison, with chef Sarah Moulton at a Good Housekeeping event in New York City.

There are times in everyone's life when they need a little support to succeed. At the University of Colorado Boulder, Angela Buchanan is a senior instructor specializing in writing and rhetoric through the Student Academic Services Center, a multicultural learning community that helps develop the skills needed in college and beyond.

Buchanan's courses emphasize research skills, discursive versatility and critical thinking. As part of the McNeill academic team, she also works on issues related to academic success, retention, academic transitions and student development. She also works individually with students. Before working with SASC, Buchanan was a faculty member of Boulder's Program for Writing and Rhetoric and CU Denver's laptop classroom.

In her personal life, she melds a passion for the written word and food in a blog that features her own recipes – usually seasonal and vegetarian -- including many that are contest winners. Each year, Buchanan and her husband, Harrison Carpenter, purchase a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) share and she enjoys coming up with new recipes for whatever shows up in the box.

Angela Buchanan is escorted by Pillsbury security to the judge's table during a Pillsbury Bake-off in Los Angeles.

"Some things are more challenging than others," she says. "Last year I grew really tired of daikon radish, for instance, and pretty much hit a creative wall. I have a huge spice collection and my current favorite is Aleppo pepper, which is mildly fruity with a low level of heat."

She has learned photography, in part so that she can illustrate her dishes, but also because she loves learning. "My primary life goal is to not get too complacent and to be sure I am continually learning new things. My most pressing short-term goal is to have some pet chickens. We are working on the coop."

1. Why did you choose writing/teaching as a career?

My undergraduate degree was in political science, and my first real post-undergraduate job was with a political consulting firm specializing in pay equity issues and the Americans With Disabilities Act. My research interests have always focused on social justice and language, so shifting to graduate studies in rhetoric felt natural. As a graduate student I discovered a love for teaching and for dealing with difficult subject matter, and my interest in teaching has only grown deeper over the years. The classroom is a place of great potential for growth and change, and ultimately I began to see that as the most integral space for civic action. My work with SASC combines my interests in diversity and social justice with my love for teaching and the written word, so it all comes together.

2. How do students become part of SASC and why is the program important for the university and the community in general?

Students may be admitted by the McNeill program via our coordinated efforts with admissions, or they may self-select and apply to the program. Many students "find" us as they seek out a multicultural campus community and academic support system.

It would be difficult to overemphasize the importance of the program. CU has a stated commitment to diversity that is

often not visible on campus, and for first-generation college students coming in without cultural knowledge of how college “works,” it is essential to provide information and community. Since I was a first-generation college student, I have a deep personal understanding of how much an experienced voice can help you negotiate on unfamiliar terrain. Similarly, for all under-represented students on campus, is it essential to have a place to call home, and we provide that space and those resources.

3. What are some of the lessons you teach to your students about writing?

Writing is really about a process of thinking, so it is important to recognize that if you are thinking in a complex way, which is always desirable, you will end up with some really messy stages on the page. Getting people to turn off their internal editor during early stages is really important, which often means disabusing students of some early notions of what “good writing” looks like in process. Really beautiful writing looks easy, but it is a rare individual who produces that kind of writing without multiple drafts.

4. You write a food blog titled [Seasonal and Savory](#)^[35]. Why do you write about food and why a blog?

I started blogging in part because I was questioning some of my own teaching assumptions about audience and writing, and I am a fan of practicing what you advocate. The nature of writing and publication has changed dramatically over the last decade, and blogging and e-publishing have redefined the ways we have to think about audience. Intellectually, that was a large part of my motivation. Emotionally, I was looking for an outlet that felt purely creative, and food blogging really met that need. I had been involved in [competitive cooking](#)^[36] for a few years and I knew I had a particular perspective to offer on foodways and recipe development, and the challenge of learning to translate ideas visually was really appealing. Photography has been a real learning curve, and has become a new passion. Learning new things is always fun, as well as frequently frustrating, and it makes me a better teacher when I am in touch with those experiences.

Personally, blogging has provided opportunities to meet lots of interesting people, typically in non-academic fields, so it helps provide some life balance. Blogging and competitive cooking have taken me all over the country. I have attended cook-offs, conferences and foodie events in San Francisco, New York City, Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta and Orlando. San Francisco is by far my favorite food city, but I love discovering regional cuisines wherever we go. Fellow food bloggers are wonderful at letting you know about must-try places, so we typically enjoy the food in any city, large or small.

5. What is a favorite memory from your CU experience?

Every year we hold a graduation ceremony for McNeill students who are completing degrees. Our former director, Susan Smith, is an amazing speaker and a powerful influence on so many of our students, and the ceremony has always been a reflection of her vision of the program. It is always a profoundly moving experience to be able to see one of your former students graduate and move on to do great things, and the ceremony is an expression of what we do together as a community, as well as a celebration of our students. It is beautiful.

[Four CU-Boulder faculty members elected American Geophysical Union Fellows](#)^[37]

[\[38\]](#)

Four University of Colorado Boulder faculty members have been elected American Geophysical Union Fellows for 2012, the most from any institution in the world.

The newly elected AGU Fellows are professor **William Emery** of the aerospace engineering sciences department, professor **Bruce Jakosky** of the astrophysical and planetary sciences department, professor **Cora Randall** of the atmospheric and oceanic sciences department, and professor **Mark Williams** of the geography department. The CU-

Boulder faculty members join 57 other AGU Fellows elected from around the world in 2012, including 41 from U.S. institutions.

One other Coloradan, **Daniel Murphy** of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, was elected an AGU Fellow for 2012.

The Fellows are honored for their exceptional scientific contributions in the fields of earth and space sciences.

Emery, of the Center for Astrodynamics Research in the aerospace engineering sciences department, was cited for advances in the remote sensing of ocean surface phenomena, including sea surface temperature variations and ocean surface currents. He also helped develop processing hardware for weather satellites and studies high-resolution satellite imagery for detecting urban change and mapping disaster effects. Emery also has applied high and moderate resolution satellite imagery to the study of terrestrial vegetation.

Jakosky, associate director for science at the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, was cited for his illuminating studies of the climate of Mars, and of life in the solar system. Jakosky is the principal investigator on NASA's \$670 million Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution mission, or MAVEN, the first mission devoted to understanding the upper atmosphere of Mars and which is slated to launch next year. His studies include the geology of planetary surfaces, the evolution of the Martian atmosphere and climate and the potential for life beyond Earth.

Randall, who also is affiliated with LASP, was cited for her contributions to our understanding of the impact of energetic particles on the atmosphere. Randall is principal investigator for the Cloud Imaging and Particle Size experiment on NASA's Aeronomy of Ice in the Mesosphere satellite, or AIM, which is studying long-term changes in ice crystal clouds in the mesosphere and their relationship to global climate change. LASP designed and built two of the three instruments for AIM, which is controlled by a team, primarily undergraduates, from CU-Boulder.

Williams, who is affiliated with CU's Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, was cited for outstanding research that has made fundamental advances in mountain hydrology and biogeochemistry. He has worked in the Rocky Mountains, Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Himalayas, the Andes and the Alps and is the principal investigator on a \$5.9 million grant to CU from the National Science Foundation to continue intensive studies of long-term ecological changes in Colorado's high mountains, both natural and human-caused, over decades and centuries.

Established in 1919 to further advance the science of geophysics both on Earth and on other planets, the AGU is an international, nonprofit organization with more than 60,000 members worldwide. AGU Fellows make up no more than 0.1 percent of members in any given year.

Trailing CU-Boulder in the number of AGU Fellows elected for 2012 were eight universities with two each: the University of California, Los Angeles, the University of California, Irvine, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Michigan, Penn State, Texas A&M University, the University of Tokyo and the University of Durham in England.

"This is a great honor for the University of Colorado Boulder and shows once again our faculty are working and teaching at the frontiers of science," said CU-Boulder Vice Chancellor for Research Stein Sture. "To lead the world in the number of fellows elected by the American Geophysical Union in 2012 is indicative of the quality and depth of CU-Boulder's research and education in both earth sciences and space sciences."

[University 'disappointed' in Supreme Court's gun ruling](#)[39]

Editor's note: This story first appeared as a breaking news item on CU Connections on Monday, March 5.

[40]

Concealed weapons are allowed on University of Colorado campuses, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled Monday,

rejecting a CU appeal.

"We are disappointed the Colorado Supreme Court determined that the Board of Regents does not, in this instance, have the constitutional and statutory authority to determine what policies will best promote the health and welfare of the university's students, faculty, staff, and visitors, whose safety is our top priority," said CU President Bruce D. Benson. "The Board of Regents is in the best position to determine how we meet that imperative. We will abide by the ruling and determine how it affects our campuses."

[In its decision](#)[41] released Monday, the court summarized that "The Concealed Carry Act's comprehensive statewide purpose, broad language, and narrow exclusions show that the General Assembly intended to divest the Board of Regents of its authority to regulate concealed handgun possession on campus."

The decision had been pending since June 2011, when CU argued that the Board of Regents should retain the authority to govern CU campuses, including setting campus policies on weapons, despite a state law that allows authorized citizens to carry concealed firearms. An attorney representing Students for Concealed Carry countered that the state law allowing concealed carry statewide clearly applied to CU campuses.

The university won a 2009 ruling when the case was first brought in El Paso County Court. That decision was overturned by the Colorado Court of Appeals in April 2010. The Board of Regents voted 5-4 to appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court.

CU's policy, in place since 1970, prohibits weapons, including guns, on the university's four campuses. Campus law enforcement groups, including the police chiefs on all CU campuses, oppose concealed carry on campuses.

[CU-Boulder to host Transforming Gender Symposium](#)[42]

The University of Colorado Boulder's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (GLBTQ) Resource Center is proud to announce the sixth annual Transforming Gender Symposium on campus March 9-11. Organizers and co-sponsors are committed to addressing issues pertaining to transgender and gender nonconforming people both on and off campus.

In the previous five years, the symposium has consistently drawn around 200 attendees and hosted a diverse, dynamic group of speakers and performers. This year's keynote speakers include Judith Halberstam, professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of Southern California; Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center on Transgender Equality; members of the folk-rock band Girlyman; and Emi Koyama, a multi-issue activist.

All symposium sessions are free and open to the public and will be held on the CU-Boulder campus in the Center for Community building and the adjacent Koelbel Business Building. The symposium will kick off at 4 p.m. Friday with Halberstam's keynote address and continue from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

In addition to keynote speakers and workshops, the symposium will host a film track of four transgender-related films, and a provider track with information for transgender people, mental health providers, and medical providers. Two of the four films feature trans people from Colorado, including "Photos of Angie," which documents the life of Angie Zapata.

CU-Boulder included protection of gender identity and expression in its anti-discrimination policy in August 2011. The symposium will help educate the surrounding community about the unique issues transgender and gender-queer people face.

"We're really excited about the breadth and depth of topics this year," said Scarlet Bowen, director of the GLBTQ Resource Center. "Issues to be addressed range from Gaga feminism and civil rights to the intersections of Muslim and transgender identity."

Previous symposium speakers have included professors Susan Stryker and Dean Spade, Denver authors Matt Kailey and Dylan Scholinski, and performers including Katastrophe and Ryka Aoki de la Cruz.

Co-sponsors of the Sixth Annual Transforming Gender Symposium include the CU President's Fund for the Humanities, the Open Door Fund, Out Boulder, Department of Ethnic Studies, Department of Anthropology, Women and Gender Studies, Community Health, the LGBT Studies Certificate program, and the Women's Resource Center.

[Click here](#)^[43] for a full conference schedule and more information.

[Spice named Employee of the Quarter at UCCS](#)^[44]

Spice

Jim Spice, director of the Department of Public Safety at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, has been named the March-May Employee of the Quarter. Spice supervises 66 employees in eight units within his department. How he does so earned him his nomination.

"He is a supportive and caring supervisor," said Claudia Ryan, operations manager, Department of Public Safety. "He listens to his employees and supervisors alike. He works closely with each unit and brings them together with command, management, compliance, and one-on-one meetings. He gets us through the good times and the bad times. We look up to him, he is our leader, and he is a team leader."

The units Spice manages under the Public Safety Department umbrella include Police, Police Communications, Parking, Transportation, Motor Pool, Emergency Management, Environmental Health & Safety, and Administration. He works with budgets, procurements, grants, emergency exercises, media and issues specific to each unit.

In addition to campus and department issues, Spice deals with Colorado Springs city offices, schools and businesses, as well as city, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

A familiar face on campus, Spice has served UCCS since August 1998 in the roles of police officer, police sergeant, police chief and executive director of Public Safety. Prior to that, he was a student and student employee.

"Jim serves our community in an exemplary manner," said Ryan. "He is a model steward with our budgets. He is involved with campus master planning, auxiliary meetings, campus construction projects and sustainability issues. You will see him frequently walking the campus property by himself or with others looking for safety issues and betterment of safety projects. He sits on many compliance and committee services, student response teams, attends all graduations and is always available to sit down and talk with our students."

Praised for his enthusiasm, knowledge and experience, Spice's efforts make a significant contribution to Public Safety, UCCS, the CU system and the Colorado Springs community.

"I am humbled by the nomination," Spice said. "However, the only credit I feel I deserve is that I have empowered Public Safety employees to act. With so many different divisions within the Department of Public Safety, we stay extremely busy. I simply could not do this job alone. It takes a team and teamwork. It would be an impossible task to run the department without our dedicated employees. So, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every employee within Public Safety. We truly have an outstanding department!"

UCCS Employee of the Quarter recipients are classified or professional exempt employees who are recognized for exceptional service to the university. Award winners receive a certificate of recognition, a \$100 stipend, three months

free campus parking, and a day of administrative leave.

[Canyon climb distinguishes 2012 course for Buffalo Bicycle Classic](#)^[46]

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The 10th Annual Buffalo Bicycle Classic will climb up Boulder Canyon on Sept. 9. The new route will follow the most mountainous section of the Boulder stage of the 2012 USA Pro Cycling Challenge.

“This is a terrific course,” said Todd Gleeson, one of the event’s founders and dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder. “It’s rare for an organized cycling event to ascend all of Boulder Canyon. It is exciting that our citizens’ charity ride and a professional race stage will share much of the same route in the same year.”

Registration is now open. The newly dubbed Boulder Canyon “Buff Epic” is limited to 1,000 riders. Boulder Canyon’s westbound lane will be closed to traffic while riders ascend.

The epic “century” ride will start on campus, ascend the Boulder Canyon to Nederland, follow the Peak to Peak Highway past Ward, descend St. Vrain Canyon to Lyons and then head east to Erie and back to Boulder. While the Pro Cycling Challenge’s Aug. 25 stage is longer (it starts in Golden and finishes on Flagstaff Mountain), it shares the demanding stretch between Boulder, Nederland and Lyons.

But the Buffalo Bicycle Classic still will include all of its five signature events: the classic 100-mile ride, now called the Foothills Century, plus its 70-mile, 50-mile, 35-mile and 14-mile Little Buff family-friendly community ride.

The 2012 Little Buff will be co-sponsored by the Center for People With Disabilities. The center expects 150 participants — including blind riders — from its organization, according to Ian Engle, the center’s executive director.

“This year, more than ever, the Buffalo Bicycle Classic will accommodate riders of every ability,” Gleeson said. “We are thrilled to share the joy of riding, particularly for such a good cause.”

Since 2003, the Buffalo Bicycle Classic has raised more than \$1.6 million for scholarships and has funded 650 scholarships. The event is the single largest source of scholarships for the College of Arts and Sciences, which is the oldest and largest college at the university.

Scholarship recipients are selected based on grade-point average and financial need. They cannot apply for the scholarship and don’t know they are being considered until they learn they have won.

All net proceeds go toward scholarships, and a portion of the registration fee is tax-deductible.

For more info: www.buffalobicycleclassic.com^[49] | [Facebook](#)^[50] | [Twitter](#)^[51]

Links

[\[1\] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/distefano-announces-changes-key-administrative-posts](https://connections.cu.edu/stories/distefano-announces-changes-key-administrative-posts)^[2]

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