Marcy and Bruce Benson honored for community service[1]

Bruce and Marcy Benson

University of Colorado President Bruce Benson and his wife, Marcy, are the 2011 recipients of the Bonfils-Stanton Award for community service. Each year the private nonprofit recognizes outstanding Coloradans for contributions made to enhance quality of life for state residents.

The Wednesday, May 11, announcement of the awards calls the Bensons "skilled problem solvers, coalition builders and fundraisers who have generously given their time, talent and treasure for the betterment of the citizens of Colorado."

Sometimes referred to as "Colorado's Nobel Prizes," the Bonfils-Stanton Awards have honored prominent Coloradans for excellence in a broad range of pursuits since 1984. This year's recipients also include Dianne Perry Vanderlip, for arts and humanities, and Marion Downs, for science and medicine. All were honored at a lunch on Wednesday at Denver's Four Seasons Hotel.

Born in Chicago, Bruce Benson worked as a roughneck in the oil fields before founding the Benson Mineral Group in Denver. A tireless champion of education, he chaired the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the boards of Metropolitan State College of Denver and the Denver Public Schools Foundation. He also chaired the boards of Boy Scouts of America and the Denver Zoological Foundation and served on numerous corporate boards.

In his political life, he was chairman of the Colorado Republican Party and Republican nominee for governor of Colorado. He received an honorary doctorate from CU and was inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame in 2009. He became the 22nd president of CU in March 2008.

Marcy Benson was born in Oklahoma City and spent 19 years in Washington, D.C., where she directed the White House Fellows program in the Reagan administration and the first Bush administration.

Since coming to Colorado, she has been an ardent advocate for children's health care. As a board member for The Children's Hospital and The Children's Hospital Foundation, she co-chaired the $273 million campaign to support the hospital's move to the Anschutz Medical Campus. She has served on the boards of the University of Northern Colorado, Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) and the Denver Public Library Friends Foundation.

The Bensons also are chairs of Creating Futures[3], CU's historically ambitious $1.5 billion fundraising campaign.

"Colorado is home to some of the country's most accomplished and talented individuals, and it's our privilege to recognize the Centennial State's very best," said Dorothy Horrell, president of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, who added that the Bensons and their fellow award winners "provide inspiration for Coloradans and we are pleased to honor them for their accomplishments."

Downs, a pediatric audiologist whose pioneering work with infants helped create the program that today screens 95 percent of all American newborns, also has CU ties: She is a Distinguished Professor Emerita of the former CU Health Sciences Center.

The first audiologist to venture into the newborn nursery and test whether newborn babies could hear, she developed the first infant hearing screening program and spent 30 years persuading her peers to adopt the test in hospitals. She is founder of the American Auditory Society and has published nearly 100 articles and books, including a seminal textbook for audiologists-in-training. She was inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame in 2006. Still active at 97, she skied until she was 95. In 2007, she published, "Shut Up and Live: A 93-Year-Old's Guide for Living."

Vanderlip is the founding curator of modern and contemporary art at the Denver Art Museum. During her 29-year tenure, she raised the funds and support to build a world-class collection of more than 8,000 pieces including paintings, sculpture and photography. She brought to Denver the works of significant artists such as Andy Warhol and Alexander

Calder, and put Denver on the map as part of the international contemporary art scene.

Her superb curatorial expertise was showcased with the October 2006 opening of the Museum's Frederic C. Hamilton Building, where she oversaw the first permanent installation of modern and contemporary work at the DAM in more than 20 years. She was instrumental in the selection of Denver as the repository for more than 2,000 works by abstract expressionist Clyfford Still. She retired in 2007 and was named Curator Emeritus, a title never before bestowed by the Denver Art Museum.

The annual awards program was established in recognition of Charles Stanton's desire to bring acclaim to their efforts, and motivate others to greater accomplishments. Honorees, each receiving $35,000, represent excellence in such fields as artistic direction, civic engagement, university leadership, historic preservation, biomedical research, chemistry and physics. Several honorees have gone on to receive the Nobel Prize, many have served as mentors to others and most have continued to make significant contributions for years following receipt of the Foundation award.

Stanton established the foundation in 1962 after the death of his wife, Mary Madeline (May) Bonfils Stanton, daughter of Denver Post co-founder Frederick Bonfils. The foundation's mission is to advance excellence in the areas of arts and culture, community service, and science and medicine. Since its founding, the foundation has awarded more than $48 million to nonprofit organizations throughout Colorado.

Efficiency legislation awaits governor's signature[4]

As the Colorado General Assembly today concludes its four-month session, lawmakers are finishing work on several bills affecting the University of Colorado and other institutions of higher education.

On Tuesday, May 10, the House and Senate each gave unanimous approval to House Bill 11-1301, higher education efficiency legislation aimed at reducing red tape for CU and other institutions.

After the success of last year's legislation, which improved efficiency at CU and other institutions, CU President Bruce Benson asked campus leadership to search for other areas where similar provisions could be made.

The legislation keys on four areas:
Capital construction and facilities Student issues Employee issues Operational flexibility
Among the changes to capital construction are a streamlining of the approval process for cash-funded capital construction projects, an increase in flexibility to use surplus revenue for a broader array of items as allowed by current law, and removal of purchases of land and education-related science equipment from the current definition of "capital construction."

For students, changes would include a streamlined process for implementation of a guaranteed tuition program, where students lock in a tuition rate for four years.

Employee issues include a proposed expansion of health plan choices. Institutions would be allowed to offer group benefit plans to classified staff in addition to or in place of state plans.

Proposed changes related to operational flexibility include exempting higher education institutions from the requirement to use the Department of Corrections when disposing of surplus state property, and requirements that goods and services be purchased from Colorado Correctional Industries.

To read the entire bill, which now awaits the governor's signature, click here[5].

Also expected to receive the governor's signature is Senate Bill 11-052, which would make some funding for higher

education dependent on performance. Such performance-based funding only would apply to 25 percent of budgets, and would not be triggered until state support of higher ed reaches $706 million; the 2011-12 budget has state support at $519 million.

Next week's Faculty and Staff Newsletter will include a post-session roundup of new laws affecting CU.

Staff Council keeping eye on compensation for classified staff[6]

The salary pool approved by the Board of Regents at its April 27 meeting continues to be a point of concern for members of the University of Colorado Staff Council because the pool does not apply to classified staff members.

The 3 percent pool is meant to enable merit pay increases to faculty and exempt staff. At the board meeting, Regent Monisha Merchant proposed an amendment stating that campuses should explore opportunities for rewarding classified staff; it failed 5-4.

Compensation for classified staff is set by state rules. Kelly Fox, vice president and chief financial officer, said the university is pursuing other potential ways of rewarding classified staff compensation.

"We are definitely exploring what options are available and that would include looking at some type of incentive pool for classified. ... It probably would not be something across the board, but .... would have a merit-based component," Fox said. She said in the upcoming weeks she will talk with President Bruce Benson and the regents about options.

In the meantime, Krug said she has suggested that a working group that includes staff members be formed to make sure the processes involved with distributing the salary pool funds are equitable and reasonable. She also expressed appreciation for support from some of the regents.

"We need to make it a point to let Regent Merchant and Regent (Joe) Neguse know how much we appreciate the actions they tried to take on our behalf," said Lori Krug, co-chair of the staff council during its May 5 meeting at the Anschutz Medical Campus. "It was Regent Merchant who felt strongly about classified staff so she proposed the amendments to add the language (concerning) classified staff into the resolution for the compensation pool. Regent Neguse seconded that and they ... tried to persuade the others to come along. They really feel strongly that something needs to be done for staff."

Krug said part of the concern is that as salaries remain stagnant, costs are rising, and that could create issues for the university as staff leaves to seek higher salaries in the private sector.

"That will lead to bigger costs for the university to replace them and train them and get them up to speed," Krug said. "It also will lead to a bigger gap in the services we can provide."

She said she remains confident that administrators understand the university cannot function without the staff "as the third leg of the stool," and will attempt to "make something happen" regarding pay for classified staff.

Neguse, who was a special guest at the Staff Council meeting, said the staff deserves a lot of credit for taking on more duties without increased pay.

"We've been asking you to do more and more with less. I know what that means and it's not something that I take lightly," he said. "Although we are a large employer ... we ultimately are a family, the University of Colorado family."

He acknowledged that many people have built their careers at CU or have turned down higher-paying jobs because "they care about our mission and our values."

But, he said, the university and the state still are in a "crisis mode. We are doing everything we can ... to preserve CU's ability to move forward in spite of some of the severe and draconian (state) budget cuts that have happened in the past couple of years." He said he believes the state eventually will step up to the plate and citizens will decide that investing in higher education is worth the cost.

The regents approved a 9 percent increase in tuition, and part of that money, contingent on meeting enrollment goals, will be used for a salary pool. Neguse voted against the tuition increase because he said yearly increases in the cost of tuition are not a long-term solution to budget problems.

"We want to keep education affordable and accessible (and ensure that) we give faculty and staff the resources needed to do their jobs. ... I didn't believe the proposal before us is the way to do that," he said.

Neguse and the other regents, with the exception of James Geddes, voted for the salary pool.

"I would have liked to see the classified amendment pass," Neguse said, because classified staff members have taken a hit, especially with the increased PERA (Public Employees' Retirement Association) contributions they are required to make because of state budget cuts. This fiscal year, PERA members paid 2.5 percent of the university's portion of the retirement contribution; a bill that would extend the contribution for another year is pending in the Legislature and is expected to be passed before today's close of the session.

In other matters of interest, E. Jill Pollock, senior assistant vice president and chief human resources officer, updated council members on numerous issues:

Tuition benefit

Tuition benefit changes still are under consideration, but will likely be modest until the economy improves, Pollock said. The dependent benefit will likely be instituted at or near the present allotment of nine credit hours and registration would still be on a space-available basis. She said she is working with Information Technology to streamline the current administrative process to allow employees to register online.

Pollock also said she has suggested the "test of work-relatedness" and supervisor approval be eliminated. She anticipates any changes will not go into effect until next spring or summer.

Health insurance

Pollock said health plan rates have increased by 5.7 percent, with employees paying most of the additional costs. In normal years, the university – as a state employer – would have picked up 3.5 percent of the cost, but because of the state budget crisis, the state set employer contributions for the increased costs at less than 1 percent.

The good news, said Pollock, is that the university's self-funded plan rate increase is lower than the national, region and higher education average cost increase.

In the upcoming year, the national health reform act requires free, age- and gender-based preventive medical services. Examples of 100 percent coverage offered by all plans include vision tests for children and osteoporosis screening.

The UA NET plan, offered through the School of Medicine and University Hospital and its affiliates, will be expanded to Colorado Springs in partnership with a physician group at Colorado Springs Memorial Hospital.

Legislation

The Higher Ed Institution Efficiency Bill (HB11-1301) follows last year's flexibility legislation. One provision of the bill clarifies the definition of professional positions that can be exempted from classified status. "It clarifies that positions that do not receive state general funds may be exempted from the state classified system," Pollock said.

Dan Montez, director of the Office of Policy and Efficiency, updated members on the next rollout of policy changes scheduled for July 1. The policy changes under review[7] include two rescissions, 11 revisions, and one – concerning the Open Records Act – addition. As of April, Montez said, the number of Administrative Policy Statements has been reduced by more than half to 94 from 210, with the number of pages trimmed to 283 from 650.

The office's updated website – www.cu.edu/policies[8] – has a variety of new features, including templates for those who must draft policies, a consolidated form for questions and suggestions, and better search and function tools.

Montez also said the university's cost savings incentive program, which rewards employees for adopted cost-cutting suggestions, has received four applications. Suggestions must meet a variety of criteria; of the four received, however, three did not meet the basic criteria while the fourth was denied because it was not a true cost-saving measure.

The Higher Education Efficiency Legislation includes an exemption that would allow the university to offer its own incentive program rather than follow state rules. Montez says the university program would use less stringent criteria to access cost-cutting ideas and place more emphasis on recognition.

Staff Council leadership

Staff Council members also offered nominations for officer positions for the upcoming year. Those nominated and their potential positions are: Carla Johnson, chair; Teena Shepperson-Turner, vice-chair; Tina Collins, treasurer; and Dana Drummond, secretary. Before the nominations, council members voted to appoint Johnson to council for the remainder of the fiscal year, a necessary step before she can be considered for the position of chair. All officers serving for the 2011-2012 fiscal year must be sitting members of the current council. Other nominations will be accepted through Friday, May 13; voting will be conducted June 9.

The council also made changes to bylaws language concerning membership. Current language used is incorrect, Krug said. The approved language reads: Time required by classified staff representatives for regular and special meetings during normal working hours may be construed as regular work hours. Previous language had stated: "Time taken ... may be construed as administrative leave."

Campuses showcase current and future architectural gems[9]

A rendering of what the CU Denver Business School will look like once renovation is complete.

Aesthetically and architecturally, the two campuses share little in common.

Buildings on the University of Colorado Boulder campus are famed for their Tuscan-inspired stacks of ruddy sandstone capped by sloping, tiled roofs. For sheer beauty, the structures are upstaged only by the nearby Flatirons.

The University of Colorado Denver, meanwhile, blends into the surrounding urban electricity, a clean grid of brick-and-metal-clad structures.

Uniting the two, though, are the challenges posed by growth. Demand for degrees in recent years has led to facility renovation and new construction, for which the institutions partner with industry professionals. Because of the natural synergy, the Urban Land Institute of Colorado[11] recently led a discussion panel and walking tour aimed at showcasing past, current and future projects for architects, planners, developers and construction companies.
Photo by Casey A. Cass/University of Colorado
The Center for Community at CU-Boulder
Photo by Casey A. Cass/University of ColoradoThe Center for Community at CU-Boulder

The April event began with a panel consisting of leadership from the Auraria Campus, including Roderick Nairn, University of Colorado Denver provost and vice chancellor for academic and student affairs. He discussed the 108,000-square-foot renovation of 1475 Lawrence St., where the business school will move upon completion. When that happens, the school's current home, the CU Denver building, might be renovated for the College of Architecture and Planning.

Future expansion at the campus could include growth of the North Classroom and the creation of a colonnade and clock tower on Lawrence Street – an architectural signal to visitors that they've arrived on campus. Such projects are dependent on future funding and revenue streams.

From Denver, the group of about 30 professionals headed northwest for a tour led by Thomas Goodhew, architect and facilities planner at CU-Boulder.

The day of the tour just happened to coincide with the official dedication of one of the campus's newest jewels, the Center for Community (C4C). Students have flocked to the center's dining hall, where pre-opening expectations had daily meals served at 4,000; instead, it's 6,000. But it's not just students converging here.
Photo by Glenn Asakawa/University of Colorado
CU-Boulder's Visual Arts Center
Photo by Glenn Asakawa/University of ColoradoCU-Boulder's Visual Arts Center

"It really has become a hub of the campus, not only for faculty and staff, but for their families," Goodhew said. "If you come in at 5 or 6 p.m., you'll see little kids in there with their parents."

Curtis Cox of Davis Architects discussed the building's design, including the visual detail chosen to represent the idea of community: cartouches of 24 national flowers from around the world, plus six Colorado flowers on the bell tower.

Rick Petersen of OZ Architecture offered a quick tour of the Visual Arts Complex, which houses the department of art and art history and the CU Art Museum.

Goodhew also pointed out work taking place at Willard Hall, which is being recommissioned as student housing, and the addition to JILA (Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics), a particular challenge because of its small footprint surrounded by other structures. Such projects took root before the current state funding crisis, Goodhew noted.

Five questions for Morris Clark[14]

Morris Clark

Morris Clark, D.D.S., grew up in the small, rural town of Princeton, W.Va., where access to dental health care was not readily available. People turned to all types of home remedies to relieve their pain.

"Watching people suffer and trying to help themselves made me interested in becoming a dentist," he says.

After finishing graduate school at Columbia University and serving as assistant director of an Upward Bound program, Clark was recruited by the University of Colorado in 1981. He loved the campus environment and also was swayed by the School of Dental Medicine's reputation. He currently is a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and director of anesthesia, with research interests that include pain management.

Through a graduate student at the school, he became connected with Apollonia University in Romania, where sedation

alternatives are limited. He recently returned from a visit to the university where he presented a series of lectures on sedation.

— Cynthia Pasquale

1. While you were in Romania in April, a clinic was named in your honor. Did you realize this was going to happen?

I had no idea the clinic was going to be named after me until well after I arrived. The clinic – The Morris S. Clark Clinic of Narcosedation – is within the walls of the University of Apollonia in Iasi, Romania, and has been operating as a general dental clinic. The patients come from all walks of life. The president of the university, Dr. Vasile Burlui, who is a pre-eminent scholar, physician and dentist, presided over the ceremony along with other officials. The ceremony was quite a moving experience. Narcosedation is a term coined to describe a sedation technique that utilized synthetic opiods and barbiturates. Barbiturates are no longer manufactured in the United States. It is used in Romania to control pain and anxiety, but there are better alternatives.

Morris Clark, right, with Vasile Burlui, president of the University of Apollonia in Romania, where a clinic was named after Clark last month.

2. You mentioned that you learned a great deal about how pain care is delivered in an Eastern Bloc country. How does it differ from what we're used to in the United States?

There is a clear difference in technology and equipment available to students and practitioners in Romania as opposed to our abundant availability of technology and equipment. In the past in Romania, there does not seem to have been a lot of emphasis on pain control in the delivery of dental care. Nitrous oxide, for example, was used very little in any part of Romania. In the United States, a majority of dentists and an overwhelming majority of pediatric dentists use nitrous oxide as a necessary and integral part of their treatment plan. I was very impressed at how receptive the Romania faculty and students were to nitrous oxide as a safe and effective dental anesthetic.

3. How did you become interested in pain management?

I became interested in pain management not only from my own early childhood experiences, but later as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon. I saw how drugs were evolving for sedation as well as pain relief. I was one of the original investigators to clinically evaluate midazolam (Versed) and flumazenil (Romazicon) (to replace) valium as an ambulatory sedative agent.

Great changes have taken place in dentistry over the years – from how patients receive their care to insurance benefits to improved techniques such as dental implants to overall integration with medicine. Most important is the fact that dentistry today is or should be virtually pain free.

While in Romania in April, Morris Clark appeared on television to discuss the country's advancement in dental treatment.

4. What types of projects or research are you currently working on?

I am working on a textbook that I think will be of great use to the medical and dental professions. I also am involved in the development of a new delivery system for a local anesthetic that will be absolutely revolutionary. Course and curricula development at the school also is important for keeping our students academically current.

5. What aspect of your work do you enjoy most?

I enjoy teaching, particularly when I can assist in efforts that have a humanitarian aspect. I always tell my students that anyone can be a philanthropist by simply donating time to a worthwhile project. However, our most noble goal as professionals is to eliminate pain in our fellow humans.

Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[18]

Benefit enrollment available online[19]

Online enrollment for open enrollment began at 8 a.m. today. Open enrollment (OE) for the 2011-12 plan year continues through 5 p.m. Friday, May 27.

Go to the OE website – www.cu.edu/pbs/openenrollment[20] – for everything you need to make an educated decision: Plan changes and plan comparisons Final rates Defaults should you choose to not take action Instructions on how to enroll
Click on the "Enroll Now" link at the top right of any page on the OE website to start the online application process.

If you need help or have questions, contact a PBS benefits counselor at benefits@cu.edu[21].

Iconic bighorn sheep protected by law students[22]

Wild bighorn sheep in Idaho's Payette National Forest now have a longer life expectancy thanks to the efforts of students at the University of Colorado Boulder's Natural Resources Law Clinic. The students successfully advocated for, and later defended, a decision by the Payette's supervisor to restrict grazing by domestic sheep because of the risk they may pose to the wild bighorns.

Wild bighorn sheep are an iconic species of the Rocky Mountains and culturally important to Idaho's Nez Perce tribe of Native Americans. Bighorns were once abundant on the Payette and elsewhere in the Rockies, but their numbers have been severely reduced by habitat loss, disease and other factors. A species of bacteria carried by most domestic sheep – and usually harmless to them – is a major threat to the remaining bighorns as it can cause a fatal pneumonia. The bighorns' natural curiosity and social behavior exacerbates the transmission of the disease. Several herds of bighorns have died of pneumonia after coming in contact with their domestic cousins.

Currently, sheep ranchers may graze their domestic sheep on the National Forests only where authorized by permits from the U.S. Forest Service. However, the Forest Service is legally required to limit grazing so as to protect wildlife and other natural resources.

In spring 2010, Natural Resources Law Clinic students Jacey Cerda and Rebecca Rizzuti, on behalf of the Idaho Wildlife Federation (IWF) and the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), prepared a legal and scientific analysis showing that the Forest Service had ample authority, and a legal duty, to terminate domestic sheep grazing on portions of the Payette National Forest where bighorns are likely to come into contact with the domestic sheep.

In summer 2010, the supervisor of the Payette National Forest issued a decision largely following Cerda's and Rizzuti's recommendations. The decision was hailed by wildlife advocates but opposed by sheep ranchers, who filed an administrative appeal of the decision.

Colorado Law students Taber Ward and Matt Samelson worked on behalf of IWF, NWF and the Nez Perce tribe to defend the decision, writing major portions of a brief used to support the supervisor's decision. On April 8, 2011, the chief of the U.S. Forest Service announced the final affirmation of the decision.

"Experiential learning is an integral part of the learning process," said Visiting Professor Joseph Feller, who, along with Adjunct Professor Michael Saul, oversaw and advised the students working on the project. "For them to see the importance of the work they do in such a tangible way is really the best experience one can hope for with their students. We are thrilled for them, for the IWF and NWF and the Nez Perce tribe."

Reports of hacking for data provide reminder of need for security[23]

The recent Sony PlayStation data breach caught the attention of consumers and information security professionals alike. The gaming network – which houses personal information such as player names, email addresses, phone numbers, credit card numbers and other information – was hacked. After a second Sony online service was attacked, the number of users whose personal data was potentially compromised is estimated at 100 million.

The major issue that has angered many is not that the hackers were able to break into a supposedly highly secure network, but Sony's slow response in sharing details on the breach (though computer forensic work requires time).

Other organizations can learn from the blunder, said Chirag Joshi, assistant information security officer for the University of Colorado.

"At CU, the Office of Information Security and all the campus IT professionals have always understood how important it is to secure our systems and data, and maintain a pro-active stance to guard against threats, and we have planned for crisis management should the need arise," Joshi said. "However, this could never be accomplished without the support and contribution of all the CU employees."

The Office of Information Security[24] asks that all colleagues continue to actively participate by reading the security awareness articles, using anti-virus, anti-phishing and other provided resources and – most importantly – never giving out passwords to anyone.

Wording change in mission statement earns lawmakers' OK[25]

The Colorado House of Representatives on Friday, May 6, voted in favor of proposed changes in the roles and missions of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and Colorado State University-Pueblo.

The action by the House follows approval by the Colorado Senate. The bill, SB 11-204 now goes to Gov. John Hicklenlooper for his signature.

SB 11-204 will add "research" to the UCCS statutory mission and allows CSU-Pueblo to add a limited number of graduate programs. CSU-Pueblo seeks to add a doctorate of nursing practice degree, an important component of nursing that will be recommended by 2015 in order to maintain accreditation by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

"The provisions in this bill will allow CSU-Pueblo to continue to address the health care needs of southern Colorado,

specifically the shortage of health care professionals," said CSU-Pueblo Interim President Julio Leon.

Said CU Regent Kyle Hybl: "We are appreciative of the bipartisan and regional support of improving public higher education in southern Colorado."

UCCS Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak said, "This change will assist UCCS in becoming more competitive for federal funds and other grant opportunities."

Graduate students are about 20 percent of the almost 9,000 students enrolled at UCCS. The university has the fourth-largest graduate enrollment in Colorado, trailing CU Denver, CU-Boulder and CSU-Fort Collins. UCCS faculty members generated $10 million in external research funding last year.

Shockley-Zalabak said she and other CU officials supported the role and mission change for CSU-Pueblo to improve health care for southern Colorado residents. The UCCS Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences already offers the doctorate of nursing practice degree in addition to master's and bachelor's degrees.

On March 25, Senate Bill 11-204 was introduced by Sen. John Morse, D-Colorado Springs, and Angela Giron, D-Pueblo. Morse and Giron are the bill's sponsors in the Senate. In the Colorado House of Representatives, the bill is sponsored by Keith Swerdferger, R-Pueblo; Amy Stephens, R-Colorado Springs; Mark Barker, R-Colorado Springs; Bob Gardner, R-Colorado Springs, and Pete Lee, D-Colorado Springs.

A copy of the bill is available at http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2011A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/E6E2DE2839A236C88725783E006F8C69?Open&file=204_01.pdf[26]

Campus community celebrates Cinco de Mayo[27]

[28]
Great weather combined with great entertainment to equal a fun and welcoming 10th annual celebration of Cinco de Mayo on the Auraria Campus on Thursday, May 5.

Representatives from the University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State College and Community College of Denver worked together to organize the festivities staged outside the Tivoli Student Center.

CU Denver student Christian Tello played a key role in finding and coordinating the performers.

"He really took the lead in this effort because he said to me that he wanted performances that could be appreciated by the students," said Angela Marquez, executive director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Educational Opportunity Programs. "With that in mind, he booked not only traditional Mexican music with mariachis, but also other forms of music that celebrated the generations of Latino culture – which included cumbia, folklorico dancers, Latin jazz, Mexican rock and Latin hip-hop with break dancers." The Mexican rock band and the Latin hip-hop performers are all CU Denver students.

Tello and Anthony McCree, both students in the College of Arts and Media audio engineering program, ran the sound equipment and ensured the performances were set up – good hands-on experience tied to their academic program.

Traditional Mexican food also was available for purchase, and there were other student information booths on site.

Treatment shows promise in quelling a type of lung cancer[29]

The words "adenocarcinoma of the lung" required no further explanation. As a physician herself, Gene Burges knew what they meant.

"I told my husband, 'I've had a really wonderful life,'" said Burges, 64, who received her grim diagnosis in April 2009. "I knew it was the end."

But nearly two years later, the dermatologist and associate professor at Medical University of South Carolina has kicked the chronic cough and night sweats, and – according to her grateful sons – has returned to her "energetic self." After watching the glowing orange beacons of cancer disappear from her scans, she went so far as to buy a new house this year.

"I know it sounds crazy, but that's how good this drug makes you feel," said Burges, who travels 1,700 miles from her Charleston home each month to participate in a University of Colorado Cancer Center [30]trial of a new lung cancer drug called Crizotinib.

The oval yellow tablet works by inhibiting a molecular mutation, or "oncogenic driver," called anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK), believed to be responsible for turning healthy cells into cancer cells in a select subset of lung cancer patients.

Only about 4 percent of patients (roughly 10,000 new U.S. lung cancer cases annually) possess the ALK mutation and are eligible for the drug. But while that number might seem small, extraordinary successes in early multicenter trials (shrinking or stabilizing tumors in 90 percent of patients) have become big news for two reasons, cancer specialists say.

One, it's providing another much-needed weapon in the limited arsenal against the world's deadliest cancer. And two, it could ultimately lead to a shift in the way other cancers are treated.

"We now know that what is driving the cancer is different between different cancers. If we can screen people for these oncogenic drivers and give them the right drug to interfere with the one they have, we can have a real impact," said Ross Camidge,[31] director of the Thoracic Oncology Clinical Program at the cancer center and principal investigator for a number of ALK-inhibitor trials. "One-size-fits-all treatments are yesterday's paradigm. This is personalized medicine."

To read more of this story from the Spring issue of CU Medicine Today, published by the University of Colorado School of Medicine, click here[32].

UCCS to name Osborne Center in honor of largest gift in campus history[33]

The University of Colorado Colorado Springs will rename the campus's largest building the Osborne Center for Science and Engineering to honor a landmark estate gift to the campus during a ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 12.

Ed and Mary Osborne

Colorado Springs residents Ed and Mary Osborne will be recognized for their lifetime generosity to UCCS by university leadership including CU President Bruce Benson, UCCS Chancellor Pamela Shockley-Zalabak and members of the

Board of Regents.

A recent major estate commitment by the Osbornes will support an Osborne Scholarship Fund, the department of mechanical and aerospace engineering, the CU Aging Center, the Family Development Center, Theatreworks and general UCCS operating support. When added to previous Osborne gifts to the campus, the couple's total giving will exceed $10 million – making them the most generous benefactors in the 46-year history of UCCS.

The gift provides strong momentum for UCCS on the heels of the April 25 announcement of the University of Colorado's Creating Futures[3] fundraising campaign.

"The Osbornes are special people whose dedication and commitment to UCCS are examples of how donors and the university can transform both today and tomorrow," Shockley-Zalabak said.

The Osbornes were named by Shockley-Zalabak as Creating Futures UCCS campaign chairs not only for their generosity as donors, but also their community influence and leadership.

They have contributed their time, resources and ideas to the university since shortly after they arrived in Colorado Springs in 1969. Ed had been a decorated Air Force fighter pilot who taught engineering at the Air Force Academy and was a successful executive. Mary had a pioneering career in the accounting field, retiring as senior partner at Osborne, Parsons and Rosacker.

Both have received prestigious UCCS honors and have served on boards for nonprofits such as Goodwill Industries (Ed), Pikes Peak Hospice and Palliative Care (Mary) and others. Mary will be the 2011 "Unstoppable Women" honoree at a May 18 lunch benefiting the Karen Possehl Women's Endowment at UCCS. Together, the couple received the Outstanding Individual Donor award from Partners in Philanthropy for lifetime generosity throughout the Pikes Peak Region in 2002.

As co-owner and executive at local aircraft parts manufacturer AMI Industries in the 1980s and '90s, Ed saw community and industry need for advanced mechanical and aerospace engineering education, and helped launch a UCCS program in this field that first admitted students in 1999. It is now the largest program within the College of Engineering and Applied Science, and Ed continues to serve on its advisory board.

The Osbornes first developed their passion for UCCS through their love for theater. In 1997, when Theatreworks Artistic Director Murray Ross sought to provide an open-air venue for Shakespeare and other productions, the couple made what Ed calls a "stretch decision" to donate $25,000 to co-purchase the tent with the late Dusty Loo and his wife, Kathy, whom they consider philanthropic mentors.

"It was a big gift for us at the time, but it introduced us to the joy of giving," Ed said. "One of the reasons we give is to encourage other people to give. Once you start, the joy is just contagious."

The Osbornes' philanthropy connects strongly with the priorities of the Creating Futures campaign, whose $1.5 billion goal is the most ambitious in CU history. Student scholarships are high on the Osbornes' list: They particularly commend UCCS's Bruce and Anne Shepard Reach Your Peak Scholars program, which has supported more than 1,000 students – many of whom would not otherwise have been able to attend college – since it began in 2000.

They also recognize the need for unrestricted support that gives the university latitude to apply funds where needed most. Such unrestricted support is critical as CU aims to keep tuition manageable despite declining state funding for higher education: Colorado ranks 48th in the U.S. in state support per resident student.

As campaign leaders and ambassadors, the Osbornes want to widen the pool of UCCS supporters.

"Even for our young graduates, if they can just give $25 or $50 toward something like the Reach Your Peak program, that gift can be bundled toward a specific gift to a specific student, and they'll be able to see the impact and know they helped somebody," Ed said.

Two Boulder faculty members elected to National Academy of Sciences[35]

Hynes

Ye

Two faculty members from the University of Colorado Boulder have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences, a top honor recognizing scientists and engineers for distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

James Hynes, a professor in the chemistry and biochemistry department, and **Jun Ye**, an adjoint professor in the physics department, are the only Colorado scientists elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2011. Ye also is a fellow of JILA, a joint institute of CU-Boulder and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and a fellow at NIST.

The CU-Boulder professors are among 72 new members and 18 foreign associates from 15 countries elected in 2011. They will be inducted into the National Academy of Sciences during the 149th annual meeting in April 2012 in Washington, D.C.

"The greatness of a university is measured by its faculty," said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano. "This is one of the highest honors for an American scientist or engineer. The fact that we now have 24 active or retired National Academy of Sciences members speaks volumes about our university. This kind of recognition underscores the quality of our faculty and our national reputation."

Hynes is well-known in his field for contributions to the theory of chemical reaction rates and mechanisms, and of vibrational dynamics in solution. He also is known for research on the heterogeneous chemical reactions important in stratospheric ozone depletion. Hynes was honored with the Hirschfelder Prize in Theoretical Chemistry in 2004, the largest award in the field carrying a stipend of $10,000.

Ye's research on the physics of precision measurement based on strontium atoms has improved the potential for accuracy in optical atomic clocks. He also conducted pioneering experiments on the behavior and chemistry of cold and ultracold molecules. Ye and his research group also pioneered the application of frequency combs to spectroscopy, making possible human breath analysis for disease detection.

The National Academy of Sciences has more than 2,000 active members. Since the academy's establishment in 1863, luminaries have included Albert Einstein, Robert Oppenheimer, Thomas Edison, Orville Wright and Alexander Graham Bell.

For more information on the National Academy of Sciences and to view member lists visitwww.nasonline.org/site/PageServer[38].

Colorado School of Public Health has new director of finance[39]

Theresa Fox has been appointed director of finance for the Colorado School of Public Health.

Fox will oversee the school's financial affairs and staff. She holds a master of business administration in accounting and finance and a bachelor of science in business administration-accounting.

Fox's previous experience includes serving as vice president of finance and administration at Clovis Community College in New Mexico, chief financial officer of the Colorado Office of Attorney General, and budget and policy analyst at Colorado State University, among other financial management positions. Fox succeeds interim finance director **Kay Spencer Carpenter** and previous director **Brian Davis.**

Boulder Campus Staff Council elects new representatives[40]

The Boulder Campus Staff Council has elected new area representatives who will serve three-year terms representing constituents from their geographical area of campus. The representatives and the areas they represent:

Aaron Siegel, Area I; **Randi Viola** and **Dana Kusjanovic,** Area II; **Dominique De Vangel** and **Tatevik Madoyan,** Area III; **Kathleen McGovern**, Area IV; **Erin Foster**, Area V; **Tanya Marquart Patzer** and**Lauren Miremont**, Area VI; **Aljoana Gillmore**, Area VII; **Suzanne Haveman**, Area VIII; and **Vonda Maki**and **Alex Acosta**, at-large.

For more information on the Boulder Campus Staff Council or to determine constituent areas, visitwww.colorado.edu/staffcouncil[41]

Director of counseling center named UCCS employee of the quarter[42]

Altayli

Benek Altayli, director of the University Counseling Center at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, has won the Employee of the Quarter award.

Altayli's duties at the counseling center include supervising interns, conducting one-on-one counseling sessions with students and being on call for crisis situations, as well as directing operations. Altayli, the interns, and one part-time counselor take on duties usually performed by seven or more full-time employees at most institutions the size of UCCS, said Stephanie Hanenberg, director of the Student Health Center, in her nomination letter.

Altayli also teaches courses, is a member of the Student Response Team, serves on the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee, and the Committee for Alcohol Awareness. She coordinates counseling center activities with the Student Health Center, Disability Services and Public Safety.

She is a powerful advocate for outreach activities. Altayli speaks on domestic violence, brings individuals from outside agencies to UCCS to educate the campus community on mental health issues and has helped implement a program for counseling firefighters. Through the program, area firefighters get help dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder and coping with their high-risk occupation.

Hanenberg nominated Altayli with high praise for taking initiative, working diligently, and stretching limited resources to

do more than meet minimum requirements.

"I cannot think of another individual who has provided more service to this campus," Hanenberg said. "She is a true role model for what a strong work ethic is, and the campus would not be the same without her."

Altayli attributed her success to teamwork and a community spirit.

"It is a true honor to be selected for this award by people whom I admire and respect," she said. "We, as the UCCS community, are a hard-working, close-knit group of people who have formed an incredible team to do what needs to be done for the best education and training, best research, and best services possible.

"Despite challenges, none of us are willing to sacrifice excellence in whatever we do, and this is a big part of who we are as a team."

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 of free campus parking and a day of administrative leave.

Dropping names ...[44]

Amadei

Dabelea

Bernard Amadei, professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado Boulder and faculty director of the Mortenson Center in Engineering for Developing Communities, recently was awarded an honorary degree from Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y. Amadei is founding president of Engineers Without Borders-USA and co-founder of Engineers Without Borders-International. He was honored for his "remarkable vision and his pioneering approach to educating globally responsible engineers for the future and his passionate commitment to sustainability and steadfast belief in the use of technology to improve and serve humanity; and for his scholarly achievements in the fields of rock mechanics and engineering geology." ... **Dana Dabelea,** associate professor and assistant dean of the Colorado School of Public Health, recently was profiled by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. Dabelea is one of six national principal investigators of the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth study, and also serves as the study's national Co-Chair. The report highlights Dabelea's commitment to gaining new insights into childhood diabetes and the ways in which she translates the SEARCH infrastructure into the study of heart disease among children diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. ... **Andrea Herrera,** professor in the department of women's and ethnic studies at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, recently received a certificate of appreciation from the Colorado Latino Forum in recognition of her contributions to Latino communities in the area of education.

Want to suggest a colleague — or yourself — for People? Please e-mail information to Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[18]

Colon Cancer Alliance to bring conference to Denver[47]

The Colon Cancer Alliance will host its national conference, Family Matters: What Every Family Needs to Know About Colon Cancer, June 23-25 in Denver. The group is sponsor of the annual Undy 5000 race, which benefits the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program at the University of Colorado Cancer Center.

The family-friendly conference will bring together national experts who will cover a wide range of topics including genetic risks, designing a treatment plan, advanced disease treatment options and tips for living with colon cancer.

"We are thrilled to bring our national conference to Denver this year as the city has been incredibly supportive of our efforts to bring greater awareness to colon cancer screening and survivorship," said Andrew Spiegel, CEO of the Colon Cancer Alliance. "Last year, during our Denver Undy 5000 event, we were excited to have Councilwoman Carla Madison, who recently lost her battle with the disease, provide encouraging and heartfelt words to all participants. This year, we will honor her memory during the ceremony and take time to recall her amazing efforts to raise awareness of the disease."

More than 1.2 million people are living with colon cancer. Colon cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in the United States. An estimated 142,000 new cases will be diagnosed this year. Through recommended screenings, the cancer may be caught early when treatment is most effective – or even prevented when pre-cancerous polyps are detected and removed.

The conference kicks off on Thursday, June 23, with a reception and awards presentation. The Friday, June 24, keynote presentation, "You (and Your Family) Have Colon Cancer – You are Not Alone" will be delivered by Tim E. Byers, M.D., M.P.H., from the Colorado School of Public Health. Following will be a series of breakout sessions featuring high-profile guests from the University of Colorado Cancer Center, American Cancer Society, John Hopkins University, the Cancer Legal Resource Center, Fight Colorectal Cancer, Cancer and Careers, EmergingMed, the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and elsewhere.

The conference concludes on Saturday, June 25, with the Third Annual Denver Undy 5000 at Denver's City Park. The race encourages participants to run in their undies, or specially designed boxers, providing a fun way to bring attention to a serious disease. The family-oriented event is open to all ages; besides the 5K run, there will be a 1-mile family fun run.

To register for the conference, visit www.ccalliance.org[48]. To learn more about the Undy 5000, visitwww.undy5000.org[49].

University of Colorado Cancer Center Speakers:
Kristen Leonardi-Warren, R.N., N.D.; Lindsey J. Martinez, "What I Need to Know About My Parent's Cancer" Wells A. Messersmith, M.D., F.A.C.P., "Chemo Advances – New Drugs and Trials" Priscilla A. Ingebrigtsen, L.C.S.W., "Parenting With Colorectal Cancer

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/marcy-and-bruce-benson-honored-community-service[2]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/thebensons.jpg[3] http://www.cufund.org/[4]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/efficiency-legislation-awaits-governors-signature[5] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2011A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/3DF6454C7E1E0EF187257808008011E6?Open&file=1301_01.pdf[6]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/staff-council-keeping-eye-compensation-classified-staff[7]
https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps-under-review.html[8] https://www.cu.edu/policies/[9]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/campuses-showcase-current-and-future-architectural-gems[10]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/uli01.jpg[11] http://colorado.uli.org/[12]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/uli02.jpg[13]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/uli03.jpg[14]

https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-morris-clark[15] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/5q-page-morris-1.jpg[16] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/5q-page-morris1.jpg[17] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/5q-page-morris2.jpg[18] mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[19] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/benefit-enrollment-available-online[20] https://www.cu.edu/pbs/openenrollment[21] mailto:benefits@cu.edu[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/iconic-bighorn-sheep-protected-law-students[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/reports-hacking-data-provide-reminder-need-security[24] https://www.cu.edu/information-privacy-and-security[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/wording-change-mission-statement-earns-lawmakers-ok[26] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2011A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/E6E2DE2839A236C88725783E006F8C69?Open&file=204_01.pdf[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/campus-community-celebrates-cinco-de-mayo[28] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/ucd_5may-1.jpg[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/treatment-shows-promise-quelling-type-lung-cancer[30] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/centers/cancercenter/Pages/CancerCenter.aspx[31] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/medicine/MedicalOncology/faculty/Pages/DRossCamidge,MD.aspx[32] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/administration/alumni/CUMedToday/features/Pages/LungCancerTreatments.aspx[33] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-name-osborne-center-honor-largest-gift-campus-history[34] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/cuf-osbornes.jpg[35] https://connections.cu.edu/people/two-boulder-faculty-members-elected-national-academy-sciences[36] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_Hynes.jpg[37] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_Ye.jpg[38] http://www.nasonline.org/site/PageServer[39] https://connections.cu.edu/people/colorado-school-public-health-has-new-director-finance[40] https://connections.cu.edu/people/boulder-campus-staff-council-elects-new-representatives[41] http://www.colorado.edu/staffcouncil/[42] https://connections.cu.edu/people/director-counseling-center-named-uccs-employee-quarter[43] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_Altayli.jpg[44] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-44[45] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_Amadei.jpg[46] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_Dabelea.jpg[47] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/colon-cancer-alliance-bring-conference-denver[48] http://www.ccalliance.org/[49] http://www.undy5000.org/