Russell L. Moore named interim provost at CU-Boulder[1]

Russell L. Moore

Russell L. Moore, currently interim vice chancellor for research, was named interim provost at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The appointment begins July 1.

"I am pleased to announce that we have a seasoned and respected campus leader in Russ Moore to serve as interim provost," said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano, who made the announcement Tuesday, May 18. "Russ has a distinguished career as a researcher, teacher and contributor to the CU-Boulder community, and is known for his fair-minded approach to problem solving and management. He will provide steady leadership for our academic enterprise as we evaluate our options in filling the provost position permanently."

Moore has served as interim vice chancellor for research since May of 2009, replacing Stein Sture who agreed to serve as interim provost. Sture will now return to his post as vice chancellor for research at CU-Boulder.

"I am honored by this appointment and by the continued confidence of Chancellor DiStefano," Moore said. "I want to assure our community that we will move ahead on the issues of research, teaching and service, and on the challenges of resources and budgets that face us."

Prior to the interim vice chancellor for research appointment, Moore served as associate vice chancellor for research (2006-09). He also served as chair of kinesiology and applied physiology (now integrative physiology) from 1994 to 2001, and was an assistant professor (1984-86), associate professor (1993-96) and then full professor (1996-present) in that department.

Moore holds an adjunct professorship in medicine (cardiology) at the University of Colorado's Anschutz Medical Campus at the University of Colorado Denver. He also was an assistant and associate professor (1986-91) in the departments of medicine and cellular and molecular physiology at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine in Hershey. He also did postdoctoral work at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas (1981-84).

He earned a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry from the University of California at Davis in 1976, and a master's degree (1978) and doctorate (1982) in physiology from Washington State University in Pullman, Wash.

Higher ed flexibility headed to governor's desk[3]

Having received final approval from the Colorado House on Monday, May 10, the higher education flexibility bill has been passed to Gov. Bill Ritter for his signature. After the House made a minor change to the bill's language on Monday, it was returned to the Senate for its final OK by lawmakers on Tuesday, May 11, just a day before the conclusion of this year's General Assembly session.

Legislators have said SB10-003 was necessary to avoid a potential "funding cliff" in the 2011-2012 fiscal year, when budget issues might force the state to cut support for education by 50 percent or more.

The legislation would allow colleges and universities to make up lost revenue in numerous ways, including raising rates of tuition and fees and allowing the institutions flexibility in issuing contracts and making purchases.

Provisions of SB3 would sunset in the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

College and university presidents, the governor, legislators and members of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education all had a hand in negotiating the bill beginning in the summer of 2009. The bill was revised several times during the legislative session.

University of Colorado President Bruce D. Benson has said provisions of the bill would allow the university to operate more efficiently and effectively by reducing paperwork and getting rid of redundancies and delays.

In part, SB3[4] would:
Allow higher education institutions to increase tuition for residents and out-of-state students by up to 9 percent annually without seeking state approval. Any larger increase must be approved by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE); in those instances, colleges and universities would be required to submit a five-year plan to the CCHE and also show how they would provide increased financial aid to students. Remove international students from the statutorily required limit on nonresident students enrolled in colleges, allowing for a larger population of students from other countries. It also would require that all in-state students who pass requirements be admitted to the higher education system. For CU, at least 55 percent of incoming freshmen must be in-state students, and at least two-thirds of the students on each campus must be in-state students. The total number of foreign students enrolled at each CU campus must not exceed 12 percent of total enrollment at the campus. Give institutions greater flexibility regarding capital construction projects, purchasing contracts and other financial matters. Currently, universities and colleges must funnel most matters through the state for approval. Require institutions to provide detailed plans on how governing boards would ensure accessibility and affordability for low- and middle-income students, how financial aid would be distributed and ways to improve student retention.
The General Assembly session in review will appear in next week's issue of the Faculty and Staff Newsletter.

Bill maintaining health care choices for CU employees moves forward[5]

Legislation clarifying that the University of Colorado may continue to offer existing health plan choices to its classified employees passed its second reading in the Senate on Tuesday, May 11.

House Bill 1427[6] resolves legal questions that had been raised about the university's authority to offer alternatives to health plans offered by the state's Department of Personnel and Administration (DPA). Some 74 percent of CU classified employees take part in CU health plans; nearly all others are in the state's Kaiser plan.

Had CU's authority to offer plans been challenged, nearly 5,000 university employees and dependents might have been prohibited from participating in their current plan of choice. The bill clarifies that institutions of higher education may continue to offer health plans to classified employees, in addition to or in lieu of DPA plans, as long as those plans are comparable to or better than a DPA plan.

Staff Council weighs in on proposed 'intellectual diversity' guideline[7]

Saying an amendment to the University of Colorado's guiding principles that focuses on faculty "intellectual diversity" was too narrow, the University of Colorado Staff Council on Thursday, May 6, unanimously agreed the principle should be rewritten to include all members of the university.

The amendment was introduced during the April meeting of the Board of Regents by Regent Jim Geddes, R-Sedalia, and reads:

"Promote faculty, student, and staff diversity to ensure the rich interchange of ideas in the pursuit of truth and learning, specifically including faculty diversity of political, intellectual and philosophical perspectives."

Geddes wrote in a recent guest column[8] in the Faculty and Staff Newsletter that the principle is "meant for all members of our complex university family, but places with our esteemed faculty the prime responsibility of fostering political, philosophical and intellectual diversity."

Chairs of the student, staff and faculty councils strongly oppose the changes and asked the board for time to discuss the amendments with constituents.

"The free flow of ideas doesn't stop at the door of the classroom," said Lori Krug, chair of the staff council. Others at the meeting at 1800 Grant St., Denver, agreed.

"Students learn from people other than faculty," said Mary Lou Kartis, a Staff Council member from the Colorado Springs campus. "This sets up a class system."

A separate principle also was added during the regents' meeting that reads, "Ensure that the university attracts, develops and supports a diverse faculty, staff and student body."

The Staff Council agreed a better solution would be to combine language of both principles to include all university members.

Their proposed principle would read:

"Attract, develop and support a diverse faculty, staff and student body to promote the rich interchange of ideas in the pursuit of truth and learning, including diversity of political, geographic, cultural, intellectual and philosophical perspectives."

In another matter concerning diversity, the council reaffirmed its request that Article 10 of the regents' nondiscrimination law should be amended to include "gender identity and gender expression."

While the board has said that CU's nondiscrimination law is in line with current state laws prohibiting discrimination, Krug argued that employees shouldn't have to dig through state statutes for the language. Students have strongly advocated for the language, and the council agreed to stand by them.

Council members also discussed the presidential search process, including the makeup of the search committee. As proposed, the committee would consist of one regent; one dean of a school, college or library; four faculty, one representing each campus; one student; two staff; two alumni; and four community members.

Students have asked for two spots on the committee, one for an undergraduate and another for a graduate. The Staff Council agreed to back the student request.

The council also will ask the regents to add clarifying language to the document to ensure one classified staff member and one exempt staff member be appointed to the committee.

The Board of Regents is expected to revisit these issues at its June meeting in Boulder.

In other matters, Staff Council members:
Heard from Ken McConnellogue, associate vice president for university relations, concerning the status of the branding initiative. McConnellogue said university logos are currently being stylized and a set of identity standards has been drafted. Guidelines for use and an implementation plan should be ready within the next 30 days. He also said the university would transition to the new branding program over the course of a year. Heard from E. Jill Pollock, senior associate vice president and chief human resource officer, concerning leave sharing and alternate work arrangements. A draft has been discussed with chancellors and vice presidents and could be approved by June, she said. Pollock

also reported that dependant enrollment verification is 90.6 percent complete.

Five Questions for Connie Graham[9]

[10]
Fundraising always has played an important role at the University of Colorado, but as state funding for higher education declines, donor gifts become even more vital. Connie Graham, a vice president of development at the CU Foundation, has been raising money for CU for 20 years, and has worked closely with the past three university presidents.

While her duties are numerous, her role can be encapsulated into one idea: building good relationships. She serves as a liaison between the foundation and the office of CU President Bruce D. Benson, and collaborates with colleagues to identify funding opportunities. She also works with the president to plan and implement funding strategies.

She arranges numerous large outreach events for alumni in other states to meet with Benson, and meets one-on-one with prospective donors. She helps manage seating at the President's Suite at Folsom Field, and invites guests to monthly dinners at the home of Benson and his wife, Marcy. She also coordinates CU's requests to many of Colorado's largest foundations.

Previously, Graham served as vice president of major gifts and vice president of development for the Denver campus.

— Cynthia Pasquale

1. You have been with the CU Foundation for many years. How has fundraising changed over that time?

The foundation was established in 1967 with the mission of raising, managing and investing private support for CU. When I started in 1989, fundraising was $24 million a year and the endowment was $49 million. Today, the CU Foundation has more than tripled – in fact, it exceeded $100 million annually from 2006 to 2008. Our assets under management have increased even more dramatically, to approximately $1 billion.

During those years, I've seen a lot of growth and increased professionalism in fundraising. Our partnership with the university has grown closer as well.

The beauty of being connected with a place like CU is that donors are so supportive. We graduate thousands of people each year and we hope they become prosperous and remember their alma mater. Every gift and every amount improves CU's ability to serve its students, and the communities and industries served by the university.

2. Is there one surefire method you use to secure donations?

Development is a long-term process. First we identify a donor and build a relationship. We try to match a donor's passion to university priorities, and then we try to steward those gifts, all the while staying in touch with the donor.

The best results come from listening. We ask them, "What would you like to accomplish with your money that would be meaningful to you?" Listening is the key, rather than selling something. People give to people for causes they care about.

I've been here for eight presidents and have been fortunate to have staffed the last three (Betsy Hoffman, Hank Brown and Benson). While they each brought different strengths to the position, they all recognized and understood the importance of their role in external relations and development and worked tirelessly for CU. Brown and Benson are both CU alumni who are well-connected and well-respected.

Bruce Benson is an extraordinary philanthropist and I'm happy CU is at the top of his list. His wife, Marcy, also plays an integral role, and is herself an accomplished fundraiser and community leader. They are definitely a team. I have her on my speed dial and talk with her almost daily.

3. How has the economy affected fundraising and what does it mean to the university?

Clearly it has had an impact in so many ways. The broad equities market is the strongest predictor of individual giving. When the Dow sank to 6,500, everybody saw their portfolio shrink. The second-biggest predictor is personal income, and we know that has declined, too.

We've seen the largest decrease in the "megagifts" category: gifts over $1 million. Fundraising results are down this fiscal year, although we've seen the pace pick up substantially these last few months, and should cross $80 million this year. Gifts and grants from foundations also are down, as their endowments have been impacted by the recession. But we're encouraged to see a bit of a recovery. It's certainly not 14,000, but then it's not 6,500 either.

[11]
4. You were editor of "Créme de Colorado," the Junior League of Denver's second cookbook. What was it like to work on that project and what other community organizations are you involved with?

That was so much fun. It was two years in the making. I oversaw the gathering of recipes and the marketing and production of the book. Since the first printing in 1987, it has sold 565,000 copies and netted almost $4 million for the Junior League of Denver. Lots of women tested recipes chapter by chapter. Businesses helped, too. Coors Brewery underwrote the press kits.

Currently, I'm on the board of the Denver Zoological Foundation. It's an organization I've cared about for a long time. With my development background, I can help, plus I get to hear firsthand about their conservation efforts and myriad projects.

5. What is something about yourself that most people don't know?

I was a can-can dancer at the Long Branch Saloon in Dodge City, Kan. It was a summer job during high school, sort of like working at Disney World. I earned $5 a night, but people would throw money on the stage after the performance and the can-can girls would fight for it. It was a fun summer before heading off to college.

Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[12]

Stressed out? Smile – you're at work[13]

No kidding: Students whose professors or teachers use humor in test instructions score 15 percent higher on those tests than students provided with straight instructions.

That fun fact came courtesy of Mark Augustin and Katherine Skallerud during "Humor in the Workplace," a training presentation given Friday, May 7, at 1800 Grant St. by Organizational and Employee Development[14] from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

People start out life ready to appreciate humor at every turn – the average 5-year-old laughs 400 times a day. But messages from childhood – "Grow up," "Wipe that smile off your face," "Get serious" – carry over into adulthood, resulting in grown-ups who laugh only 14 times a day.

Healthy doses of humor at work can reduce stress, boost mental flexibility and enhance productivity, the presenters

said. Just 10 minutes of laughter throughout the course of a day has the same relaxation effect as two hours of sleep and the same aerobic benefit of completing 100 reps on a rowing machine.

To illustrate the therapeutic effects of humor, Skallerud showed a video clip of a yoga instructor[15] who doesn't need to be told a joke to unleash some healthy belly laughs. The laughter, of course, was contagious.

Benefits of humor at work also included increased creativity, better attitudes for dealing with mistakes and improved relationships among colleagues.

How to up the humor quotient at work? Augustin and Skallerud provided these suggestions:
Embrace change: Don't be afraid to let go of old ways of doing things. If you always do what you always did, you always get what you always got. Plan spontaneity. Organize informal social gatherings outside of work. Encourage a tacky dress/goofy hat/funny T-shirt day. Whatever else you are wearing, remember to wear a smile. Start meetings with people sharing something funny that happened to them in the past week. Create a comedy corner with appropriate books, cartoons, bulletin board displays, tapes, videos, games, toys, etc. Voodoo doll. Put appropriate jokes or cartoons on your memos and reports.
What joke to start with? Skallerud offered up this one[16], which researchers several years ago declared the funniest in the world, given its wide-ranging appeal to people of different nationalities, ages and backgrounds.

New inhalable measles vaccine might lead to treatments for other diseases[17]

A team of researchers led by the University of Colorado at Boulder believe a dry powder, inhalable vaccine developed for measles prevention and slated for human clinical trials later this year in India will lead to other inhalable, inexpensive vaccines for illnesses ranging from tuberculosis to cervical cancer.

The inhalable measles vaccine, developed by a team led by Robert Sievers, professor of chemistry and biochemistry at CU-Boulder, involves mixing "supercritical" carbon dioxide with a weakened form of the measles virus. The process produces microscopic bubbles and droplets that are dried to make the inhalable powder, which is dispensed into the mouths of patients using a small, cylindrical plastic sack with an opening like the neck of a plastic water bottle.

According to the World Health Organization, measles is one of the leading causes of death among young children. In 2008 there were an estimated 164,000 measles deaths in children worldwide – nearly 450 deaths a day – and India accounts for about two-thirds of global measles deaths in infants and children.

"Clinical trials are the next vital step in making this vaccine widely available," Sievers said. "One of our primary goals of this project is to get rid of needles and syringes, because they frighten some people, they hurt, they can transmit diseases and there are issues with needle disposal."

With the new technology, the inhaled powder is sent directly into the lungs, a good target since measles attacks through the respiratory tract, Sievers said. "A person taking a deep breath from the sack is effectively vaccinated."

Sievers will give a presentation on the subject at the Eighth European Conference on Supercritical Fluid Applications this week in Graz, Austria.

The first phase of the clinical trials to test the safety and efficacy of the measles inhalant product is slated to start this summer in Pune, India, and will involve about 180 people, Sievers said. Phase Two of the India clinical trials is

expected to involve a larger number of patients.

Sievers, also a fellow at CU's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), said the measles vaccine development idea grew out of atmospheric chemistry research he and his students were conducting. The team was attempting to determine the chemistry of specific air pollutants in particular regions of the world and how people inhale and process tiny airborne droplets of pollutants.

As part of the measles project, Sievers and his students and colleagues invented and patented a device known as the Carbon Dioxide Assisted Nebulization with a Bubble Dryer, or CAN-BD, in which two mixed streams of fluid are rapidly expanded to atmospheric pressure where the tiny bubbles and droplets are dried by mixing them with warm nitrogen. The resulting, inhalable-sized vaccine bits are embedded in micro-particles of sugars and amino acids, he said.

Aktiv-Dry is a Boulder spinoff company Sievers co-founded in 2002 with John Carpenter, professor at the University of Colorado School of Pharmacy, and Brian Quinn, current president of Aktiv-Dry. The company, which employs about 10 people including former CU-Boulder students, currently is developing CAN-BD for the marketplace.

"This project came out of the University of Colorado, and Aktiv-Dry is partially owned by the university through the University of Colorado Technology Transfer Office," Sievers said. "I've had 40 CU-Boulder students who have earned their doctorates under me through the years, and it was those students and their work that really positioned us at the right time to gain significant funding for this project."

The $20 million Aktiv-Dry research effort is funded by the Grand Challenges in Global Health Initiative, which was created by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through the Foundation for The National Institutes of Health. Sievers' project addresses one of the 14 Grand Challenges – the needle-free administration of vaccines by pulmonary or nasal aerosols.

David H. McAdams, a CU-Boulder doctoral student in the chemistry and biochemistry department working with Sievers, said he switched his academic focus from atmospheric chemistry particle analytics to participate in the measles project. "I saw an opportunity to use the analysis of such particulates to benefit mankind and to help save children by using inhalable vaccines."

The CU team recently tested the durability of the inhalant vaccine by shipping a batch from the Serum Institute of India to CU-Boulder, then shipping the same batch two months later to the East Coast and back to Boulder. The vaccine proved to be stable throughout the shipping process, indicating it likely would be effective under challenging environmental conditions encountered in developing nations, Sievers said.

The cost of an inhalant dose for measles developed by Sievers and his team is about 26 cents – roughly the cost for an injectable form of the dose. As a practical matter, said Sievers, the treatment of patients with novel technologies should not be more expensive than standard treatment costs.

The new technology could potentially be used to deliver tiny antibiotics particles to treat people with multiresistant tuberculosis, Sievers said. While the antibiotic inhalant would likely be combined with oral doses and injections, the use of CAN-BD would direct the antibiotic directly to the lungs where the disease is focused.

Another potential use for the CAN-BD technology is treating human papilloma virus (HPV), a sexually transmitted disease that causes cervical cancer.

"More women in India today die of cervical cancer than from breast cancer, which is a much bigger killer in the United States," Sievers said. Current treatment for papilloma virus is a three-dose injection regimen that costs about $300 – a cost Sievers and his group would like to lower significantly for it to be distributed to women who need it in developing nations.

Collaborators on the measles project include scientists from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, the National Jewish Medical and Research Center in Denver, Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, the University of Kansas, the Serum Institute of India in Pune, BD Technologies in Research Triangle Park, N.C., and Seattle Genetics

in Seattle.

Chancellor's year in review turns attention to future[18]

Dignitaries gather for the August dedication of the Science and Engineering building at UCCS.

While university finances remain a top priority over the next 14 months, the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs should celebrate its progress during the 2009-2010 academic year, Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak told campus deans, directors and department chairs last week.

Speaking at a May 5 breakfast and at a May 6 luncheon, Shockley-Zalabak thanked deans and directors for their efforts before highlighting a series of events ranging from the opening of two buildings to renewed accreditations, record enrollments and fundraising, and third-party accolades.

"These are trying times, to be sure," Shockley-Zalabak said. "But as I look back at the accomplishments of the past few months, ahead to the challenges, and at the people in this room, I know that we will make it because of the hard work of everyone here and many who are not."

Month-by-month, Shockley-Zalabak highlighted accomplishments ranging from record fall and spring enrollments to the hiring of new faculty and staff, rankings by organizations ranging from national news magazines to local weeklies, research grant awards, new programs, community relations efforts and faculty accolades.

Campus members join January's opening festivity for the campus events center.

She also encouraged deans and directors to be aware of competition for students, calling student recruitment and retention "a major piece of the budget we can control." To emphasize her point, she showed a recent advertisement from Adams State College that appeared in the UCCS student newspaper, The Scribe.

Because other higher education institutions will continue to market in Colorado Springs, Shockley-Zalabak said, outreach and service must be improved to ensure excellent students choose UCCS. Strategic Enrollment Management is one of five initiatives where UCCS will focus as the university prepares for budgets without federal stimulus dollars and the potential for reduced state support.

Click the link to see the chancellor's presentation in PDF format[21].

School of Public Affairs launches training for public, nonprofit managers[22]

The School of Public Affairs[23] at the University of Colorado Denver has joined the National Certified Public Managers Consortium and for the first time will offer a training program for certified public managers in Colorado. The certificate program was launched last week.

Some 35 other states offer the program providing continuing education to improve management and leadership in government and nonprofit agencies. The program will focus on three competency areas – leadership, management

and administration. It is designed to elevate the performance of employees and agencies in the public and nonprofit sectors with the goal of improving public service at all levels.

The need for such a program was recognized by the Pew Center on the States in 2008 when it gave Colorado an overall grade of C+ for government performance in the areas of personnel, information, financial management and administrative infrastructure. Among the glaring weaknesses cited in the report were budgeting and managing for performance, and training and development of state employees. The new Certified Public Manager Program is designed to address those weaknesses.

"In these times of fiscal stress we are asking a lot of our public and nonprofit agencies. The CPM gives them the opportunity to improve management and leadership skills," said Allan Wallis, Ph.D., associate professor at the UC Denver School of Public Affairs and co-director of the program.

The program is aimed at local government managers, including those working in cities, counties and the roughly 6,500 special districts in Colorado that provide fire safety, water delivery, parks and recreation, and other vital services. It also is geared toward state and nonprofit managers.

A demonstration class of Certified Public Managers was held in February in Glenwood Springs at the conference of the Colorado City and County Managers Association. That course was taught by Kathie Novak, former mayor of Northglenn and past-president of the National League of Cities. Wallis, Novak and other working professionals and academics will teach other courses, covering topics from budgeting to leadership and ethics.

Novak, who is associate director of the Certified Public Manager Program, has directed the Rocky Mountain Leadership Program at the School of Public Affairs since 2003. She also manages the Municipal Clerks Certificate training program in Colorado.

While new to Colorado, such programs have long histories in other states. A similar program in Kansas has certified more than 1,000 public managers since it began in 1993.

The program, which costs $300 per class, is a nationally recognized certificate program, and all graduates are eligible to join a nationwide alumni association. All graduates are eligible to receive six credit hours toward a Master in Public Administration.

For more information, please visit www.spa.ucdenver.edu/cpm[24].

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Diabetes foundation honors Eisenbarth[26]

Eisenbarth

George Eisenbarth, M.D., Ph.D., executive director of the Barbara Davis Center for Childhood Diabetes and professor of pediatrics, medicine and immunology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, received the Commitment to the Dream Award on May 8 at the 11th annual Dream Gala of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

A graduate of Columbia University, Eisenbarth received his M.D. and Ph.D. from Duke University Medical School. At the Joslin Diabetes Center, where he founded the immunology section, Eisenbarth and his colleagues discovered that type 1 diabetes was a chronic autoimmune disease with multiple stages and that diabetes could be predicted.

Eisenbarth continues his role as an actively practicing clinician treating patients with multiple autoimmune diseases. A founding member and past president of the Clinical Immunology Society, he currently serves on the editorial boards of the Journal Diabetes and the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology Metabolism. He also serves on the steering committees of TrialNet, TEDDY and the Immune Tolerance Network and is a founding member of the Brehm Coalition.

"JDRF gave me my first grant, a career development award, which started me on a lifetime quest," Eisenbarth said. "We can now predict diabetes in man and prevent it in animal models. Trials of prevention in man are currently in progress. For all the families helping in our research, I am very optimistic that therapy will be revolutionized in this

decade and safe prevention of diabetes may shortly follow."

This year's Dream Gala at INVESCO Field at Mile High raised $550,000 dollars for research to find a cure for type 1 diabetes.

Toomre honored with largest CU-Boulder faculty award[28]

Toomre

Juri Toomre, a professor of astrophysical and planetary sciences and a fellow of JILA at the University of Colorado at Boulder, has been selected to receive the Hazel Barnes Prize, the highest faculty recognition for teaching and research awarded by the university.

Toomre will receive an engraved university medal and a $20,000 cash award, the largest single faculty award funded by CU-Boulder. He was recognized at spring commencement on May 7 and will be honored at a reception in the fall.

The prize recognizes Toomre's influential research in solar physics, astrophysical fluid dynamics, supercomputing simulations and helioseismology – the study of solar oscillations to learn more about the sun's interior structure – along with his exceptional teaching record during nearly 40 years at CU-Boulder.

"The Hazel Barnes Prize honors the integration of teaching and research and Professor Toomre certainly embodies the highest of standards evidenced by his research productivity and teaching awards bestowed upon him by students," said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano. "Professor Toomre's service to the university in the name of education has also been unselfish. I can't think of a more deserving recipient for our highest faculty award."

Toomre's prior teaching awards include the title of Professor of Distinction given by the CU-Boulder College of Arts and Sciences in 2009. In 1999, students selected Toomre for the Teaching Recognition Award sponsored by the Student Organization for Alumni Relations. CU-Boulder's Council on Research and Creative Work named him a Distinguished Research Lecturer in 1995.

Toomre's teaching ranges from large undergraduate astronomy courses to specialized graduate courses in astrophysical and planetary sciences, and he has mentored at least 40 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his doctoral degree in applied mathematics as a Marshall Scholar at Trinity College at the University of Cambridge. He came to CU-Boulder in 1971.

The Hazel Barnes Prize was established in 1991 to recognize the enriching relationship between teaching and research. The prize was named in honor of CU-Boulder philosophy Professor Emerita Hazel Barnes, who taught at CU-Boulder from 1943 to 1986 and is noted for her interpretations of the works of French philosopher Jean Paul Sartre. Barnes died in 2008 at the age of 92.

Beth-El dean emeriti recognized with Nightingale award[30]

Schoffstall

Carole Schoffstall, dean emerita, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, is a recipient of the prestigious Nightingale Award for Human Caring for 2010.

The Nightingale Award honors outstanding Colorado registered nurses whose contributions to the profession of nursing reflect the philosophy and passion of Florence Nightingale, the 19th-century nursing pioneer who set the standard for the nursing profession. Schoffstall was honored May 1 at an awards ceremony in Denver.

"I am very honored and humbled to receive this award," she said. "Perhaps because it provides external validation that my career footsteps may have followed in the footsteps of Florence Nightingale in some small way. This nursing profession has been a journey of profound meaning for me with a unique opportunity to advocate for quality health care in a multitude of contexts."

Her accomplishments include orchestrating the successful merger of the Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences with UCCS, developing and expanding the number of academic programs offered by the college, bringing the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program to Beth-El and being involved with other projects and programs to promote violence prevention. She worked with community agencies to develop collaborative models of primary care delivery and made extensive fundraising efforts on behalf of the college.

"Although the tapestry of my life is still being woven, and has many components of the unknown, I hope that these post-retirement years will provide opportunity to serve my profession and my community in ways that may not have been possible when time was such a critical resource," Schoffstall said.

The University of Colorado founded the Nightingale Awards in 1985. Each year between 200 and 300 nurses are nominated from across Colorado but only 15 are selected as finalists. From among those 15, six are selected as recipients.

UCCS Staff Council leaders elected[32]

New members of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs Staff Council executive board have been elected.

Co-presidents-elect for the 2009-2010 term are **Megan Broeren,** program assistant, student success, and **Nikki Coahran,** administrative assistant, public safety.

Michelle Sorensen, program assistant, disabilities services and university testing, and **Jennifer O'Connell,**administrative assistant, student health center are the new co-presidents-elect.

Rachel Gibson, general professional, admissions counseling and student recruitment, was elected executive secretary.

Brad Bailey, accountant, resource management, was elected treasurer.

"Staff Council will continue its mission to foster communication between all staff members and administration about relevant issues, provide opportunities for service and enrichment, and help cultivate a positive and collaborative work environment," Broeren said.

"This past year has been very enlightening," Coahran said. "My hopes for next year are simply to provide the campus

with the same level of professionalism and support the executive board has been and is currently exhibiting."

Irish music research leads to Fulbright ambassadorship[33]

Judith Coe recently was appointed a Fulbright ambassador.

The associate professor and chair of music and entertainment industry studies in the College of Arts and Media at the University of Colorado Denver, her appointment came as a result of her research on Irish traditional music and alternative voices. Her work was based in the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University in Limerick, in County Clare, Ireland.

"I traveled to Washington, D.C., in February for training and to meet the other Fulbright ambassadors – an amazing group of people with incredible stories about their Fulbright experiences across the world – during the Fulbright year in their host country and beyond," Coe said. "My year in Ireland was so wonderful and completely transformative."

The Fulbright ambassador program identifies, trains and engages a select group of Fulbright scholar alumni to serve as representatives for the Fulbright program at campus workshops and academic conferences across the United States. Coe will conduct four formal presentations at conferences and/or on campuses in the next two years.

Open enrollment ends next week[34]

Open enrollment for University of Colorado employees ends at 5 p.m. Friday, May 21. All information needed to enroll for benefits – including final rates, plan descriptions and comparisons, and defaults should you take no action – is available at www.cu.edu/pbs/openenrollment[35].

To enroll online, look for the "Enroll Online Now" button in the upper right hand corner of any page on the open enrollment website.

Dropping names ...[36]

Rens

Kevin Rens, professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado Denver College of Engineering and Applied Science (COE), recently met with professors and engineers at Tongji University in Shanghai, China, and gave several talks as well as an invited presentation "Inspection and Assessment of Denver, Colorado Infrastructure: From Streets to Bridges."

... University of Colorado Denver civil engineering assistant professor **Wesley Marshall** co-authored "Street network types and road safety: A study of 24 California cities" to be published in Urban Design International. See the abstract

online.[38]

... **Alana McCoy** becomes the first Urban Teacher Ed Recruitment director at the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) at the University of Colorado Denver. A Denver native and graduate of Westminster High School and Regis University, McCoy comes from Regis' Ignatian Collaborative for Service and Justice, where she connected students to community organizations to promote service, learning, community building and activism.

Krajicek

... **Marilyn Krajicek,** professor at the University of Colorado Denver's College of Nursing and director of the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education, and **Barbara Hamilton,** assistant director, recently received the 2009 Effective Practice Award from the American Public Health Association (APHA) Maternal and Child Health Section at the Martha May Eliot Luncheon Awards during APHA's annual conference in Philadelphia. Krajicek and Hamilton accepted the award on behalf of their team at the National Center. The center – the first agency to receive the newly established award – was described as consistently having a measurable outcome in the improvement of child health and developing and publishing guidelines for out-of-home child care.

Want to suggest a colleague — or yourself — for People? Please e-mail information to Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[12]

Enrolling children up to age 27[40]

As a result of recent federal healthcare reform legislation, children up to age 27 are eligible for University of Colorado health and dental plan coverage for the 2010-11 plan year. You must elect coverage for your children and verify their eligibility with Payroll & Benefit Services (PBS) during the open enrollment period. Required documents must be submitted by 5 p.m. May 21. Health coverage provided for these children is now generally tax-free, which will eliminate the need to mark them as federal or qualified tax dependents. However, employees and retirees enrolling a same gender domestic partner (SGDP) and SGDP children will need to mark them as tax dependents. If not, they will by default be designated nonfederal/nonqualified tax dependents and be subject to additional taxes (imputed income).

The state of Colorado has not extended eligibility to classified employees' children up to age 27 for its health plans (State Kaiser and the other state plans) and dental plans for the 2010-11 plan year.

Dependent eligibility verification[41]

All dependents – including your spouse, common law spouse or same gender domestic partner (SGDP) – must be verified to continue their coverage starting July 1. If you completed the dependent verification audit via Secova, you will not have to re-verify. If you are adding new dependents for coverage effective July 1, you must verify their eligibility with Payroll & Benefit Services during the open enrollment period and submit required documents by 5 p.m. May 21. There is no guarantee of dependent coverage if required documents are not received by the deadline.

COBRA participants[42]

CU employees who have dependent children currently enrolled in COBRA because they are over 25 years are now eligible to be re-enrolled in the CU medical, dental and/or life insurance plans effective July 1; the employee must verify the COBRA participants' eligibility and enroll them in employee plans by 5 p.m. May 21.

University of Colorado Blue Preferred PPO Plan[43]

The Blue Preferred plan is not offered for the 2010-11 plan year. Current participants must elect another plan or be defaulted into the Anthem Lumenos plan at the current coverage level (employee only, employee plus spouse, family).

University of Colorado HMO Colorado Plan[44]

Only employees and eligible dependents already enrolled in this plan may elect to continue coverage for the 2010-11 plan year. No new enrollment is allowed.

Mandatory enrollment for employees enrolled in a state of Colorado medical or dental plan[45]

If you are a classified employee currently enrolled in a state of Colorado medical plan (including State Kaiser and the other state plans) or dental plan, you must take action during open enrollment. If not, you will not have coverage on July 1.

Cafeteria plans (formerly CU Flex)[46]

You must re-enroll and actively elect your annual contributions for health care and dependent care flexible spending accounts each year at open enrollment.

Optional term life insurance[47]

If you and/or your spouse, common law spouse or SGDP are nontobacco users, meaning that you have not used tobacco products within the past 12 months, you are eligible for a discounted rate in the Optional Term Life/AD&D Insurance Plan. Complete the appropriate section on the Benefits Enrollment/Change Form or online web application to receive the discounted rate. If your status changes from a nontobacco user to a tobacco user, you must notify PBS immediately.

If you have questions about plans, dependents or requirements, e-mail payroll.benefitservices@cu.edu[48]. If you have technical questions about online enrollment, e-mail oesupport@cu.edu[49].

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/russell-l-moore-named-interim-provost-cu-boulder[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/moore.jpg[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/higher-ed-flexibility-headed-governors-desk[4] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/E7D30EB79557E237872576A80026B0CD?Open&file=003_rer.pdf[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/bill-maintaining-health-care-choices-cu-employees-moves-forward[6] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/F1B1DC0427065AA38725770C00741D01?Open&file=1427_ren.pdf[7] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/staff-council-weighs-proposed-intellectual-diversity-guideline[8] https://www.cusys.edu/newsletter/2010/05-05/guest-geddes.html[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-connie-graham[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Connie-Graham-05-12-2010.jpg[11] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Connie_Graham__Bruce_and_Marcy_Benson_05-12-2010-1.jpg[12] mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/stressed-out-smile-%E2%80%93-youre-work[14] http://www.colorado.edu/humres/training/[15] http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXgdSOxaCGI[16] http://www.richardwiseman.com/LaughLab/winner.html[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-inhalable-measles-vaccine-might-lead-treatments-other-diseases[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/chancellors-year-review-turns-attention-future[19] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/uccs1.jpg[20] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/uccs2.jpg[21] http://www.uccs.edu/~chancellor/site/speeches/Year%20in%20Review%202010.pdf[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/school-public-affairs-launches-training-public-nonprofit-managers[23] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/SPA/Pages/index.aspx[24] http://www.spa.ucdenver.edu/cpm[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/school-public-affairs-launches-training-public-nonprofit-managers-0[26] https://connections.cu.edu/people/diabetes-foundation-honors-eisenbarth[27] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_Eisenbarth.jpg[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/toomre-honored-largest-cu-boulder-faculty-award[29] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_toomre.jpg[30] https://connections.cu.edu/people/beth-el-dean-emeriti-recognized-nightingale-award[31] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_schoffstall.jpg[32] https://connections.cu.edu/people/uccs-staff-council-leaders-elected[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/irish-music-research-leads-fulbright-ambassadorship[34] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/open-enrollment-ends-next-week[35] https://www.cu.edu/pbs/openenrollment[36] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-8[37] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_rens.jpg[38] http://www.palgrave-journals.com/udi/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/udi200931a.html[39] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_krajicek.jpg[40] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/enrolling-children-age-27[41] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/dependent-eligibility-verification[42] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cobra-participants[43] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/university-colorado-blue-preferred-ppo-plan[44] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/university-colorado-hmo-colorado-plan[45]

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