Goodwin named interim dean of College of Arts and Media[1]

Goodwin

University of Colorado Denver Provost Roderick Nairn last week announced that Laura Goodwin will serve as the interim dean of the College of Arts and Media. Goodwin is currently the associate vice chancellor for academic affairs [3], managing the Division of Faculty Affairs and Undergraduate Enrichment and will serve in both roles while a search is conducted.

She and Nairn visited with the college on May 10. Goodwin said it was a short meeting but a wonderful way to meet some of the faculty and staff.

“I’m looking forward to getting to know the faculty and programs better,” Goodwin said. “I was delighted to be asked to serve the university in this way.”

Goodwin has served as an associate dean in the CU Denver School of Education and Human Development and as acting dean of the Graduate School. She has been with the university since 1983 and has taught courses in statistics, research methods, measurement and psychometrics, and dissertation planning and design.

Dean David Dynak announced his retirement as dean earlier this year. Nairn thanked him for his commitment to the university and his success in raising the profile of the college both locally and nationally.

Goodwin steps in as interim dean June 1.

Stunning solar show expected at Folsom Field[4]

[5]

Skywatchers have an uncommon opportunity to watch a solar eclipse from an unusual vantage point this weekend.

The University of Colorado Boulder is hosting host free eclipse watching at Folsom Field from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, May 20. The partial eclipse starts at 6:22 pm; maximum eclipse is at 7:30 and sunset 7:50. Anyone who has purchased eclipse-watching glasses at McGuckin or Fiske will be admitted free. Otherwise you can buy glasses for $2 at the stadium – until supplies run out. Organizers suggest PLANNING AHEAD and picking up glasses from McGuckin or Fiske well in advance. There are no eclipse events planned for Denver.

“The best eclipse of the sun in over 10 years is coming to Colorado,” said Doug Duncan, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder astronomer and Fiske Planetarium director. “Throughout all of Colorado only a sliver of the sun will be left uncovered by the moon. It should be beautiful, occurring as it does just as the sun sets over the Rockies.”

Fiske has provided over 30,000 safe eclipse-watching glasses to area schools and to the public.

"Come to Folsom stadium and join thousands of others to watch," Duncan said.

Admission is free. 9News and Univision will be broadcasting TV coverage. Further information can be found at www.eclipse-watch.com[6]

If you enjoy fun science you might want to visit Fiske Director Duncan’s home page and look at the total eclipse, northern lights, and Dec. 21, 2012 educational trips that he leads. This is at http://casa.colorado.edu/~dduncan[7].

Health and Welfare Trust may gain faculty, staff representation[8]

Members of Faculty Council and system administrators are pursuing the addition of faculty and staff representation on the University of Colorado Health and Welfare Trust.

During its May 10 meeting at 1800 Grant St., the Faculty Council discussed various calls for employee representation on the trust, which oversees the university's self-funding of health insurance. Members of Staff Council earlier in the year called for such representation[9] in light of administrators' questions about the current role of the University Benefits Advisory Board (UBAB).

E. Jill Pollock, vice president of employee and information services, told Faculty Council that she has "no intent of getting rid of UBAB," and that she's "absolutely committed" to having non-voting representation by faculty and staff on the trust.

Because the trust had to be ensured of a good, stable financial environment during its first years, Pollock said, the initial structure and role of the trust focused heavily on financial and legal aspects.

Stuart Schneck, professor emeritus of neurology and the retiree member of UBAB, spoke at the Faculty Council meeting, saying that UBAB recently stressed to President Bruce Benson that because "CU employees participate in funding the trust, they should take part" in trust meetings without voting rights. UBAB members say their board could be a liaison between employees and the trust; he and UBAB Chair Bruce Neumann plan to meet with the president later this month to discuss the issue.

In other business at the May 10 meeting:

- Pollock gave an update on the Integrated Student Information System (ISIS), which was hampered by technical problems during its first year. "We're better than a year ago, but have a long way to go," she told the council. "We have seen a significant drop in the number of issues, the severity of those issues and the duration of an outage or problem." She said the ISIS system is stable, "but the 'plumbing' underneath is not stable. We have a lot of work to go yet."

- Outgoing Chair Mark Malone discussed the Faculty Council Ad Hoc Committee on Salary Issues and Equity, which is embarking on research about the equity of faculty salaries across the system. "This is partly an attempt to be proactive and assess where we are in terms of salary compression," Malone said. The goal is to encourage the university to have a plan in place to reward "uncompensated merit" once economic conditions in the state and at the university improve.

- Pollock said salary competitiveness also is being studied by administrators at the request of the Board of Regents. The university already examines salaries at peer institutions and will continue to do so; it also will look at pay at comparable private sector businesses. A faculty adviser will take part in the study.

Malone and incoming Faculty Council Chair Melinda Piket-May stressed the need for new committee chairs and members of the various Faculty Council committees in the coming year.

CU Denver's Bathje first to 'Shine'[10]

Bathje

Kerrie Bathje delivers. She is customer oriented and innovative as she faces the challenges inherent in her position as manager of parking and transportation at CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus. For her dedication and service, she is the inaugural recipient of the Exempt Professional Assembly's[12]Let Your Light Shine[13] award.

"Kerrie provides amazing customer service. She is beyond flexible and supportive. Someone you can truly depend on. She is a problem solver and go-to person," noted one nominator.

Bathje was nominated by her supervisor, Carol Calkins, director of Facilities Support Services; Cheryl Gibson, director of the Student Assistance Office; and Jacque Montgomery, director of PR and media relations.

Nominators also cited Bathje's outstanding service to her community.

"She is a consistent volunteer at a number of different levels and events at the schools her daughters attend," nominators said. "For two years in a row, she participated in Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. She annually donates to 9Cares Colorado Shares. She is a volunteer volleyball coach for the city of Aurora Parks and Recreation Department."

Said Bathje, "I am extremely honored to have been nominated and selected to receive the first Let Your Light Shine award. At the same time, I am very fortunate to work with so many amazing people throughout the university who are continuously supportive of me and our department. This is very exciting for me, my wonderful family and the long list of remarkable people I work with. I thank you for this honor."

LeeAnn Fields, EPA president, said the Let Your Light Shine honor is the first of many to come.

"Creating and implementing this new program has been one of the main goals of this year's EPA Board based upon data the board received in a survey the year before where exempt professionals expressed a desire to have more recognition in the work environment," she said. "We've also had very strong support from the chancellor's level – first through Jerry Wartgow and now Don Elliman – down the line, including Jeff Parker and Kevin Jacobs, to establish such a program. The EPA Board really appreciates their positive, supportive guidance."

See the CU Connections story on the new program>>[14]

Deadline for Open Enrollment fast approaching[15]

[16]

Open Enrollment (OE), the one time each year when University of Colorado faculty and staff may make changes to benefits plans, ends at 5 p.m. May 25.

The 2012-13 OE is a positive enrollment for all medical and dental benefits-eligible employees, which means you must take action for medical and dental benefits, even if you waived coverage for FY 2011-12. The only exception will be for Medicare-eligible retirees and surviving spouses/same gender domestic partners.

For more information about plans and plan changes, final rates, how to enroll and what happens if you choose to take no action during open enrollment, go to www.cu.edu/openenrollment[17].

Important OE Reminders
Positive Enrollment – This year's OE is a positive enrollment, meaning you must take action. Final rates and plan descriptions are available. Dependent Eligibility Verification – If you are adding new dependents for coverage effective

July 1, 2012, you must verify their eligibility with PBS during the open enrollment period and have required documents submitted by 5 p.m. May 25. There is no guarantee of dependent coverage if required documents are not received by the due date. Cafeteria Plans – You must re-enroll and actively elect your annual contributions for Health Care and Dependent Care flexible spending accounts each year at open enrollment. University Optional Term Life Insurance – If you and/or your spouse, common law spouse or SGDP are non-tobacco 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. Enrollment in the discounted rate is allowed only during the OE period.

Tweeting OE

A live Twitter feed can be found on the OE website. Follow us @CUOE to get the latest information about OE and to ask questions.

Buffs coaches get off-season workout at president's office[18]

The head coaches of the football and men's basketball teams at the University of Colorado Boulder, Jon Embree and Tad Boyle, joined Athletic Director Mike Bohn, mascot Chip and other members of the CU-Boulder Athletics Department in a visit to the Office of the President in Denver on Tuesday. The contingent and President Bruce Benson posed for photos with staff members; coaches also fielded questions from those attending. Boyle and Embree thanked staff for their support, in their office services and when attending games. Boyle presented Benson with a plaque commemorating the basketball team's Pac-12 championship; it included a piece of the net from the championship game. Embree had his eye on a potential future championship: "Hopefully, Bruce, we can give you a piece of the goal post."

Photos by Cathy Beuten

[flagallery gid=1 name="Photo Gallery"]'

CU-Boulder recognizes years of service[19]

The University of Colorado Boulder's annual Years of Service and Retiree Recognition event May 1 drew nearly 140 honorees and guests. The event honors those completing a milestone of continuous service at CU-Boulder, as well as retirees from the previous calendar year.

Congratulations to:

Merelene Stanley of Housing Administration is honored by Chancellor Phil DiStefano for her 40 years of service.

Margaret Isenhart of MCDB-Instruction is honored by Chancellor Phil DiStefano for her 40 years of service.

Not Pictured: William Callahan of the Library (40 Years of Service)
Photos from the event will be sent to recipients; some will soon be posted on the CU-Boulder Staff Council website. Much appreciation to the dedicated service and commitment to making CU Boulder a great place to learn and work.

The Boulder Staff Council thanks the Boulder campus for its support. The council sponsors an annual staff luncheon, breakfast and employee fair special events, as well as many blood drives. Staff members are invited to participate on any of the many committees: Membership in Staff Council is not required to serve. For more information or to contact the council, visit www.colorado.edu/staffcouncil[22]

For a complete list of Years of Service honorees, click here[23].

Five questions for Eric Cornell[24]

[25]
Since its formation 50 years ago, JILA, the joint institute of the University of Colorado Boulder and the National Institute of Standards (NIST), has been the site of groundbreaking research and has produced three Nobel Prize winners, including its current chair, Eric Cornell. He shared the esteemed award in physics in 2001 for discovering the fifth state of matter and producing the first "pure" Bose-Einstein condensate[26].

Cornell is a JILA/NIST fellow and adjoint professor in the Department of Physics. After earning degrees in physics at Stanford and MIT, he came to CU for post-doc work under the supervision of Carl Wieman, who shared the Nobel Prize in 2001[27] with Cornell. After two years as a post-doc, Cornell was offered a staff position, something he said was "too good to pass up." He liked science and math in high school, and physics was a good fit for his strengths.

"Physics is famous for being able to explain a lot of things with a relatively small number of ideas and it suits my tastes of what makes for elegant science," Cornell says.

He has won numerous awards for his research and work in the scientific community. In 2005, he was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. As a Nobel laureate, he could easily crisscross the world, "giving speeches every week of the year. I had to learn to say 'no' so I would have time to do my own work." And while the recognition has complicated his life some, it has also helped him gain funding for his current research.

Despite pop culture depictions of physicists via the TV hit "The Big Bang Theory," Cornell said his colleagues are not like the sitcom characters.

"While I do think it's funny, the average scientists you're going to meet are a lot less inept than Sheldon," he says. "And a certain number rather look more like Penny than Sheldon or Leonard."

While he recognizes bits of himself in the show, he wouldn't recommend it for people who want to try to learn science. Instead, he said, the movie "Apollo 13" accurately illustrates scientists and how they act under pressure.

1. JILA will celebrate its 50th anniversary in July. What are some of the changes that have occurred at the institute over the years?

[28]
It's definitely gotten bigger. I've been here for 22 years and it has almost doubled in size in terms of people. That's a consequence of things going really well: people want to come and be a part of it and learn how to be scientists and we're happy to oblige. The things we focus on have evolved over time. When I first got here, the notion of working at very low temperatures wasn't a big part of our culture, but now a lot of our science deals with how close we can get to absolute zero. Similarly, when I first got here, we did a lot of spectroscopy on atoms and molecules, looking at wavelengths, but now there is an increased focus on the ultra-fast. We use a laser as a strobe light to determine the fastest kind of physics we can observe. So ultra-cold and ultra-fast are very much the frontiers we feel we own at JILA.

2. What other accomplishments by JILA researchers do you consider important and how have they helped humankind?

A third frontier we own is the frontier of the very, very precise. This was around when I got here in 1990, and we're still very big in that. On campus, if someone is measuring a number that has nine digits in it, chances are that's being done at JILA. That's an outgrowth of our predominance in laser technology. We have lasers that are very stable and very precise and allow us to measure very carefully, which is a way of getting at new scientific truths. By measuring

something very carefully, especially if it is something you can compare against very precise theory, and you see tiny differences between those two, that can point the way to new scientific ideas. An entirely different component is that we're also an astrophysics institute. The astrophysicists here are involved in the atmosphere of stars and how galaxies are formed. They're mostly theoretical people and are very active and represent a fourth leg of JILA.

As for how we touch everyday life, just look at where you find lasers. If you make a long-distance call, it doesn't go over copper wire anymore, it goes over glass fibers. Going in and out of those glass fibers are lasers, and that grows out of the technology that we're very good at here. Something else we do is measure time very precisely. If you go up into space, there's a whole constellation of satellites orbiting the Earth and each one contains a very good atomic clock, which is based on atomic physics that has been partially developed at JILA. Those clocks are used to run the GPS system. So, precise clocks connect to precise navigation. Such precise navigation used to be only for airliners, but now many of us have it in our cars. And while this isn't around yet, we're looking at using lasers to detect very small amounts of chemicals that could be markers for diseases or explosives.

3. Why is the recent expansion of JILA so important to researchers?

[29]
Part of it is because we were very crowded. Some of the labs were on the brink of becoming unsafe because we had so many students working with so much equipment all in such closed quarters. We really needed to expand out of those labs. Similarly, we had some offices with 10 students in them with no windows. They were like caves. When you think about how much of the work and creativity comes from students here, that was a crying shame; we needed to do something to show they are a valued part of our community, to get them out of caves.

A lot of our labs were built in the 1960s. At the time they were very high-quality labs. But the labs, the rooms themselves, are sort of technical objects; they need to have a stable temperature and high-quality electrical power, among other things. They were state-of-the-art in the 1960s, but 50 years go by and you can imagine that they are not quite as up-to-date. Most of the labs had been renovated over the years, but it becomes increasingly more expensive to renovate laboratories and bring them up to modern standards. It can actually be less expensive to build new ones than to renovate old ones. That said, we are hanging on to our old labs. Some projects that require the most cutting-edge laboratory standards are moving into the new labs, and projects that are able to tolerate a slightly less good environment are expanding into the space that is opening up in the old part of JILA.

Several professors and technical staff worked closely with the architects, specifying what we needed. Obviously none of us is a professional architect, but we definitely feel we put our own stamp on how this building looks and works. With some updating, we might be able to get another half century out of the labs just as we got a half century out of the old labs.

In the old labs, the floors were built like those in an apartment building, which means they had some shake to them. They vibrated a little bit. The new labs are solidly constructed, and 30 years from now, we're still going to want to have floors that don't vibrate. It's impossible to guess what other features we'll want, but I think this will be a good framework to add to. For instance, you can't see it when you come in, but behind each lab is a service corridor that has plenty of space. If we decide we need hot and cold liquid argon or something like that, we'll have a place where we can put in the pipes.

In the new labs, there's a clock that is so accurate it might not lose even one second in a billion years. And we expect to have a laser that we will use to make X-rays that can look down inside the nucleus of a cell. It can pass right through the water in the cell and take highly detailed pictures of the inside of a cell. We will have the ability to detect a single photon of microwave radiation, and we'll have the world's coldest molecular gas.

4. Are you still researching ultra-cold?

I still work on ultra-cold atoms, but I also have an experiment in progress to measure a very old-timey particle – the electron. It's been around in physics for a century and you'd think by now we'd know everything there is to know about it, but in fact there remains a question about whether the electron is perfectly round or egg-shaped. So far, every time someone has measured it, they find it to be completely round. The answer is important because there are some

who think it's not round. These are the same people who came up with an explanation of what happened in the early part of the Big Bang to explain why people are made out of matter and not anti-matter. We can't go back to the Big Bang, so we look at electrons as little fossils left over from those days. The fossils are less important than answering the questions of why we are made out of matter, but they are things that we have the option of measuring. If it's egg-shaped, it's a tiny little asymmetry in the world that we can see, and if we see it, it will help explain that deep mystery that dates back to 10 billion years.

5. JILA has several public outreach programs. Why do you feel this is so important?

Our primary outreach is Partnerships for Informal Science Education in the Community (PISEC) and it involves middle school students here and in Longmont. Our grad students and post-docs go to middle schools and do fun scientific projects. I like it for a couple of reasons. I think it brings a little view of science to populations that generally are underserved by scientists. It's also really good for our graduates because it gives them a chance to try to explain science to a nonscientist. It gives them a chance to think about what's important about their own research and express it in as condensed a way as possible. I like to tell them that if you can explain your scientific research to a seventh-grader, then with only a tiny bit more simplification, you should be able to explain it to a congressman.

CU impact worth $5.3 billion to Colorado economy[30]

[31]
In the most comprehensive research yet conducted on what the University of Colorado means to the state's economy, analysts show an economic impact of $5.3 billion for Colorado in 2011.

The research, conducted by the Business Research Division of the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado Boulder, provides the most comprehensive data yet compiled on the statewide economic impact from the university and the individual effects on Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) with CU campuses.

"CU is a substantial, stable economic driver for Colorado that not only produces a highly educated workforce, but also creates jobs and companies in our state," said CU President Bruce D. Benson. "Our faculty researchers also bring hundreds of millions to Colorado, which has significant ripple effects in key sectors of Colorado's economy."

The study was conducted by a team of researchers in the Leeds School of Business, led by chief analyst Richard Wobbekind. The team worked with campus business analysts, the Office of Technology Transfer in the University of Colorado system, and the offices of sponsored programs, as well as those from private-sector companies. They examined data compiled from fiscal years (FY) 2009-11, with a strong focus on numbers from FY2011.

"We looked at economic impacts on Colorado based upon examinations of operating expenditures, capital expenditures, employee salaries and benefits, and construction," Wobbekind said. "What we found was a wide and deep economic reach: CU's 57,400 students and 27,483 faculty, staff and student workers were engines of activity both as spenders and as generators of economic activity.

"The snapshot we generated illustrates just how economically productive CU is for the state of Colorado," Wobbekind said, though he added that the study did not quantify the economic impacts of the nearly 200,000 CU alumni living and working in the state, nor did it quantify impacts derived from most visitors (visiting professors and researchers, alumni, sporting event spectators and others).

"Adding in those visitors would result in additional benefits to Colorado's economy, primarily the hospitality sector," Wobbekind said. "These impacts are subjects of future research."

Other studies in recent years had calculated CU's annual economic impact on the state to be as high as $6 billion; this latest CU analysis is intentionally conservative and is based on more accurate methodology.

Among the research group's findings, which are available in a complete report at http://leeds.colorado.edu/brd#universityofcoloradoeconomicimpactstudy[32], are the following:
[32]
The $2.6 billion in direct spending related to the University of Colorado led to $5.3 billion in economic activity in the state of Colorado in FY2011, resulting from the work of 17,860 faculty and staff. Faculty and staff participate in activities ranging from teaching and research to administrative and support, operating one of the largest institutions in the state of Colorado. The majority of economic activity stems from salaries and benefits, directly accounting for $1.2 billion in economic activity. Statewide, student spending was estimated at $500.9 million in FY2011 based on a system-administered survey, with CU-Boulder accounting for 63 percent of the total ($318 million), followed by the University of Colorado Denver and University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (27 percent or $82.9 million) and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (9 percent or $46.8 million). Nearly 38 percent of the spending was identified as housing expenditures, followed by groceries (11 percent) and books (11 percent). In FY2011, the University of Colorado secured more than $793 million in sponsored program awards from federal, state and private sources. Often thought of as "research grants," sponsored program funding more broadly includes consulting agreements, scholarship awards and other funding. Sponsored program spending totaled $877.1 million for the year. Technology emerging from CU research laboratories enabled the founding of 11 new companies in FY2011. CU's job creation typically concentrates on such high-tech industries as biotechnology and clean energy. CU's spending of $246 million on construction projects in FY2011 resulted in an economic benefit of $478 million, bolstering an industry in need as the economy continues to recover. Funding for the projects, some of which are multi-year endeavors, largely came from private donations and bond financing, as state funding for construction has dwindled. The CU Anschutz Medical Campus and CU-Boulder accounted for 94 percent of federal funding expenditures and 93 percent of overall sponsored program expenditures. State awards expended for research totaled $32.3 million in FY2011, concentrated in activity at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and CU Denver. In FY2011, the University of Colorado was the third-largest employer in the state of Colorado, and is among the largest employers in each county of operations. CU employed 27,483 faculty, staff and students in FY2011, with a total payroll of nearly $1.2 billion. Average earnings were $44,828, including student pay. Of the $1.1 billion in resident salaries, nearly $654 million was paid to employees living in the Denver MSA, $348 million to workers residing in the Boulder MSA, and $56 million to employees in the Colorado Springs MSA.

Romatschke receives $750,000 Department of Energy early career award[33]

Romatschke

Assistant Professor **Paul Romatschke** of the University of Colorado Boulder physics department will receive a five-year, $750,000 grant as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Early Career Research Program created to bolster the nation's scientific workforce with top young researchers.

Romatschke was among 68 winners selected nationwide from a pool of 850 applicants from universities and national laboratories. His proposal involves using a recent development in string theory to create a dynamic model for interactions that occur just after the collision of two heavy ion particles during experiments at the Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collider and the Large Hadron Collider. The results will help to eliminate many unknowns in current hydrodynamic models of experimental data from the RHIC and the LHC.

Romatschke also won a 2012 Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship for $50,000 in February to pursue research in relativistic fluid dynamics and its application to high-energy nuclear physics. Assistant Professor Robin Dowell of the molecular, cellular and developmental biology department and the BioFrontiers Institute also received a Sloan Fellowship this year.

"Assistant Professor Romatschke joins 17 other CU-Boulder physics faculty members who have won early career, young investigator and other junior faculty awards since 2000," said physics department Chair Paul Beale. "These

outstanding young faculty members are quickly becoming international leaders in their research fields."

The seven previous DOE Early Career Research Program awardees at CU-Boulder were **Alireza Doostan** of the aerospace engineering sciences department; **Alexis Templeton** of the geological sciences department; **Arthi Jayaraman** of the department of chemical and biological engineering; and **MinhyeaLee**, **Michael Hermele**, **Alysia Marino** and **Tobin Munsat** of the department of physics.

For a complete list of this year's DOE awardees go to http://science.energy.gov/early-career[35].

Gomez to be honored in name of summer youth program[36]

A summer program that brings 20 Denver Public Schools students to the University of Colorado Colorado Springs campus will be renamed in honor of longtime faculty member and university ombuds Nina Gomez.

Kee Warner, associate vice chancellor, Diversity and Inclusiveness, announced the renaming of the 2-year-old Marquez Scholar Program to honor Gomez, who has helped foster diversity efforts at UCCS for more than 30 years. The program will now be known as the UCCS Adelina Gomez Scholars program.

"This was a great opportunity to recognize all that Nina has done as this program comes of age," Warner said. "Her advocacy for students of color, and work to make UCCS an inclusive university is legendary."

Gomez developed and taught an intercultural communication course in the 1980s and taught undergraduate courses for more than 30 years as an assistant and associate professor in the Department of Communication. In 2008, she was named the first university ombuds, utilizing her communication skills to mediate conflicts between faculty, staff and students. Her intercultural communication course encouraged discussion about race, gender and orientation and was a cornerstone of early campus diversity and inclusiveness efforts. Gomez was a key team member in early efforts to give inner-city and minority youth better exposure to college life and the value of higher education.

The Adelina Gomez Scholars program will bring 20 Denver Public School students identified by their high school counselors and principals to campus May 30-June 10. The students will live in campus housing and take a sociology course that counts toward high school graduation requirements and provides college credit. They also will participate in a two-day outdoor leadership program in Florissant and get special attention from UCCS leaders including dinner at Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak's home.

The program offers help in navigating college admission and financial aid processes. In the first two years of the program's operation, 40 students representing 21 different schools participated. The program is supported through a partnership with the Denver Public Schools and the Denver Scholarship Foundation. Start-up program support was provided by the Timothy and Bernadette Marquez Foundation, Denver.

Butcher Seed Grants boost work of bioscience researchers[37]

The recipients of the 2012 Butcher Seed Grant Awards recently were notified of their winning proposals in interdisciplinary bioscience. These grants bring critical funding to many of Colorado's top academic researchers wanting to expand their scientific discoveries, and build new collaborations that span disciplines and academic institutions.

This year's winning proposals are collaborative efforts among researchers at the University of Colorado Boulder, the University of Colorado Denver and National Jewish Health. Winners will receive up to $100,000 to further their research projects.

These proposals offer an exciting look into the biomedical research going on in Colorado, covering everything from therapeutics for heart failure using phenotypic screening, to using live cell imaging to change our understanding of cells. The awardees are:

Investigating phospholipid asymmetry with specific peptide probes
Xue, Ding (PI)
Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, CU-Boulder Yin, Hang (Co-PI)
Biofrontiers Institute, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder
Discovery of novel therapeutics for heart failure by high throughput phenotypic screening
McKinsey, Timothy (PI)
Division of Cardiology/Department of Medicine, CU Denver Reid, Brian (Co-PI)
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, CU Denver
Biological applications of novel shape-persistent, three-dimensional organic molecular cages
Liu, Xuedong (PI)
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder Zhang, Wei (Co-PI)
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder
Structural studies of DUF1220 protein domains
Sikela, James (PI)
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, University of Colorado School of Medicine Pardi, Arthur (Co-PI)
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder
Chemical synthesis and biological characterization of homogeneous human precursor IL-1? glycoforms
Tan, Zhongping (PI)
Biofrontiers Institute, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder Dinarello, Charles (Co-PI)
Department of Medicine and Immunology, University of Colorado School of Medicine
Role of the Sf3a mRNA splicing complex in innate immunity regulation
Alper, Scott (PI)
Integrated Department of Immunology, National Jewish Health Leach, Sonia (Co-PI)
Center for Genes, Environment and Health, National Jewish Health Blumenthal, Thomas (Co-PI)
Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, CU-Boulder
Revolutionizing the way we look at cells: Defining novel organelles by harnessing the power of proteomics and live cell imaging
Ahn, Natalie (PI)
Biofrontiers Institute, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder Palmer, Amy (Co-PI)
Biofrontiers Institute, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CU-Boulder
4-dimensional flow cardiac MRI for diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension
Fenster, Brett (PI)
Division of Cardiology, National Jewish Health Hertzberg, Jean (Co-PI)
Department of Mechanical Engineering, CU-Boulder Schroeder, Joyce (Co-PI)
Department of Radiology, University of Colorado School of Medicine
Cardiac cell mechanobiology
Leinwand, Leslie (PI)
Biofrontiers Institute, Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, CU-Boulder Anseth, Kristi (Co-PI)
Biofrontiers Institute, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, CU-Boulder
The Butcher Symposium began in 2002 as a grassroots effort to bring together scientists from across the CU system to create collaborations and share data. Butcher Seed Grants were awarded in 2002, 2005, 2007 and 2009 to fund potentially transformative new scientific pilot projects that required researchers with different expertise to work together to address critical challenges in the biosciences.

“The 2012 Butcher Seed Grant award winners really represent what we can achieve in the biosciences by using interdisciplinary approaches,” said Leslie Leinwand, Chief Scientific Officer at the Biofrontiers Institute. “By approaching human health challenges with the tools and minds of many types of scientists, we make a deeper impact in developing new solutions.”

In addition to the Butcher Seed Grants, additional funding was provided for one winning proposal under the Elliman

Family Award in Collaborative Stem Cell Research. The awardee for the Elliman Family Award is:

Treatment of Lipoprotein Lipase (LPL) deficiency with induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) technology
Eckel, Robert (PI)
Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes; Division of Cardiology; Department of Medicine; Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Olwin, Bradley (Co-PI)
Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, CU-Boulder Chen, Jiang (Co-PI)
Department of Dermatology, Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology, CU Anschutz Medical Campus Wang, Hong (Co-PI)
Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes, CU Anschutz Medical Campus
In keeping with the tradition of previous Butcher Symposia, recipients of the 2009 Butcher Seed Grants presented the results of their research during the Butcher Symposium in November 2011. From developing new methods to measure the risk of premature birth to discovering the role of genetics in the development of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, their research represented fields as diverse as mechanical engineering, biochemistry and computer science—often in the same presentation—and included collaborators from several Colorado academic institutions.

The Butcher Program was founded through the generosity of long-time CU supporters Charlie and Jane Butcher, who saw the potential for “big picture” scientific thinking and creative cross-discipline research to transform lives. The seed grants were awarded this year thanks to continued support from the Butcher family, CU-Boulder and CU Anschutz Medical Center leaders, and the CU Office of the President.

In addition to supporting the symposium and the seed grants, their support established the Charlie Butcher Award in Biotechnology to recognize scientists from around the world who are using interdisciplinary science to make a significant impact on human welfare and health. The 2011 award went to Nobel Laureate, Rogen Tsien from the University of California, San Diego, who developed fluorescent proteins, which revolutionized imaging live cells.

For additional information on the Butcher Program and on Charlie and Jane Butcher, please visit: http://biofrontiers.colorado.edu/butcher[38]

Dropping names … [39]

Buszek

Yuk Lee, professor of Planning and Design and associate dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver, is first author of “Centripetal and Centrifugal Movement: Shopping Centres in Denver, USA, and Brisbane, Australia,” in Urban Studies 49 (7), 1489-1506, May 2012. Co-author Michael McCracken received his MA in geography in 1980 from University of Colorado Denver under Yuk Lee’s supervision. … An article by **Maria Elena Buszek**, associate professor of art history at CU Denver’s College of Arts and Media, "Labor is my medium: Some perspective(s) on contemporary craft," was just published in the new issue of the twice-yearly Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art Journal. Buszek also was recently a guest speaker as part of the Pacific Northwest College of Art's Craft Perspectives series, where she discussed her ongoing research pertaining to contemporary artists' exploration of craft media and processes.[41] The college has posted her presentation as a podcast on its online magazine “Untitled” at http://untitled.pnca.edu/multimedia/show/5556/[42]

Connections sets summer publication calendar[43]

Even if you’ll be away from your campus for any of this summer, you can stay up to date on happenings across the University of Colorado system by connecting with CU Connections.

The Connections summer schedule begins after next week's issue, when we shift to biweekly issues. No new issues will appear on the following dates (subject to change): May 31, June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26.

Throughout the season, the site will be updated with news should events warrant.

If you're sending postcards from your vacation, be sure to keep us in the loop, too. We always welcome Letters to the Editor on topics of interest to current and retired CU faculty and staff. Please send submissions to newsletter@cu.edu [44]. And if you have a news item or story suggestion you'd like to pass along, please send it to Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[45].

Deadline for submissions is noon Friday prior to the Thursday publication.

Brain circuitry differs between women with anorexia, those with obesity[46]

Why does one person become anorexic and another obese? A study recently published by a University of Colorado School of Medicine researcher shows that reward circuits in the brain are sensitized in anorexic women and desensitized in obese women. The findings also suggest that eating behavior is related to brain dopamine pathways involved in addictions.

Guido Frank, M.D., assistant professor director of the Developmental Brain Research Program[47] at the CU School of Medicine, and his colleagues used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to examine brain activity in 63 women who were either anorexic or obese. Scientists compared them to women considered "normal" weight. The participants were visually conditioned to associate certain shapes with either a sweet or a non-sweet solution and then received the taste solutions expectedly or unexpectedly. This task has been associated with brain dopamine function in the past.

The authors found that during these fMRI sessions, an unexpected sweet-tasting solution resulted in increased neural activation of reward systems in the anorexic patients and diminished activation in obese individuals. In rodents, food restriction and weight loss have been associated with greater dopamine-related reward responses in the brain.

"It is clear that in humans the brain's reward system helps to regulate food intake," Frank said. "The specific role of these networks in eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa and, conversely, obesity, remains unclear."

Scientists agree that more research is needed in this area. The study was published in Neuropsychopharmacology.

Cal Berkeley's Gonzales named associate vice chancellor, dean of students [48]

Gonzales

The University of Colorado Boulder has named Christina Gonzales the new associate vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students effective July 1. Gonzales is currently associate dean of students at the University of California, Berkeley.

“I am extremely pleased that Christina has agreed to join the Division of Student Affairs,” said Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Deb Coffin, to whom Gonzales will report. “She brings a depth and breadth of experience in student affairs that will push our initiatives forward, and she clearly shares our passion for providing excellent student services, advancing efforts around diversity and inclusion, and encouraging student involvement.

“She is already a proven leader and we look forward to the insight and creativity she will add to our team,” Coffin added.

At UC Berkeley, Gonzales established a bystander violence prevention program, created the Students of Concern Committee and led organizations through business process improvements. In partnership with the dean she provided strategic direction and leadership for the public service center, Career Center, Center for Student Leadership (Greek life, student involvement and leadership), Center for Student Conduct, Student Legal Services, the assessment team, and student government auxiliary and business operations. In the last year she also served as the director for student conduct where she led the team through a reorganization that included integrating a new code of conduct and creating a student-centered philosophy.

“I’m honored to be chosen as dean of students and associate vice chancellor at CU-Boulder,” Gonzales said. “CU-Boulder’s unique student culture, dynamic learning environment and dedicated faculty, staff and administration make it an ideal destination. I’m looking forward to getting to know the campus and the Boulder community, and to building on the innovative programs that promote the success of CU students.”

In her new position at CU-Boulder, Gonzales will directly oversee a number of areas including Student Success and Retention, Student Conduct and the Honor Code, Orientation and Assessment, and the assistant dean of students in charge of the Student Organizations Finance Office and the Center for Multicultural Affairs.

Prior to her current position at UC Berkeley, Gonzales was at Arizona State University from March 1999 to August 2009, working her way up from an academic adviser to the associate dean for student affairs.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Western New Mexico University and a master’s degree in educational management and development from New Mexico State University, and has completed coursework toward a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies.

Spring issue of Creating Futures magazine now available[50]

[51]
The CU Foundation’s biannual magazine, Creating Futures, is now available, featuring stories and images that celebrate philanthropy at the University of Colorado. The cover story features Clancy and Linda Herbst, who have given generously to each of CU’s campuses and are the founding donors of the Herbst Program of Humanities for Engineers at CU-Boulder

The magazine debuted last fall as an effort to communicate the impact donors have been making throughout the Creating Futures campaign. So far, $1.15 billion has been contributed toward the $1.5 billion goal for the campaign.

The magazine may be viewed online at http://bit.ly/InDb0b[51]. For print copies, contact maxine.plum@cufund.org[52].

Moon to be interim provost[53]

Moon

David Moon, senior associate vice chancellor of Academic Affairs at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, will serve as interim provost following the July 1 retirement of Provost Peg Bacon. Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak restated Moon's interim appointment following a report from the search committee charged with selecting a permanent provost.

Committee chairs Terry Schwartz, associate dean, School of Public Affairs, and Charles Sweet, executive director, Strategic Initiatives, said time constraints prevented the search from moving forward. The committee, as well as Shockley-Zalabak, did not think it would be possible to bring candidates to campus by May 12 for faculty participation in candidate interviews, which everyone considers a vital component of a successful search. Spring semester ends that day and many faculty members are not on campus during the summer semester.

The provost search committee will continue to solicit applications throughout the summer and will resume its review of candidates in September, Schwartz said.

Moon joined the campus in 1992 as an assistant professor of political science. He was associate professor and chair of the Department of Political Science from 1994 to 1996, interim director of the Graduate School of Public Affairs from 1996 to 1997, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs from 1997 to 2000, and associate vice chancellor for academic affairs from 2000 to 2006. He was named senior associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and professor of political science in 2006. He earned master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Texas, Austin, and a bachelor's degree from Austin College.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/goodwin-named-interim-dean-college-arts-and-media[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/ucd_goodwin.png[3] http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/faculty/faculty-affairs/about/Pages/Associate-Vice-Chancellor.aspx[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/stunning-solar-show-expected-folsom-field[5] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/ucb-eclipse.png[6] http://www.eclipse-watch.com[7] http://casa.colorado.edu/~dduncan[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/health-and-welfare-trust-may-gain-faculty-staff-representation[9] https://connections.cu.edu/news/ubab-other-boiling-issues-inspire-discussion-among-staff-council-members[10] https://connections.cu.edu/people/cu-denver%E2%80%99s-bathje-first-%E2%80%98shine%E2%80%99[11] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/p_bathje1.png[12] http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/employees/EPA/Pages/default.aspx[13] http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/employees/EPA/epaemployeeofthemonth/epaemployeeofthemonth/Pages/form.aspx[14] https://connections.cu.edu/did-you-know/cu-denver-epa-announces-recognition-program[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/deadline-open-enrollment-fast-approaching[16] http://www.cu.edu/pbs/openenrollment/[17] http://www.cu.edu/openenrollment[18] https://connections.cu.edu/people/buffs-coaches-get-season-workout-president%E2%80%99s-office[19] https://connections.cu.edu/people/cu-boulder-recognizes-years-service[20] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/p_ucb-award1.png[21] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/p_ucb-award2.png[22] http://www.colorado.edu/staffcouncil[23] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/FY2011-Years-of-Service1.pdf[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-eric-cornell[25] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/cornell1.png[26] http://www.colorado.edu/physics/2000/bec/what_is_it.html[27] http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/physics/laureates/2001/cornell-autobio.html[28] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/cornell32.png[29] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/cornell2.png[30]

https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-impact-worth-53-billion-colorado-economy[31]
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http://biofrontiers.colorado.edu/butcher[39] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-137[40]
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