DeGregori appointed co-leader of Cancer Center molecular oncology program[1]

DeGregori

James DeGregori has been appointed co-leader of the molecular oncology program at the University of Colorado Cancer Center (UCCC).

A full member of the center since 1997, he replaces Jessica Tyler, who has moved to the University of Texas/MD Anderson Cancer Center. DeGregori will lead UCCC's most basic program with Joaquin Espinosa, associate professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

DeGregori's research focuses on how leukemias and lymphomas are initiated and new treatments for these common blood cancers. He earned his Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is professor of biochemistry and molecular genetics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Warm welcome[3]

The CU Boulder Coaches Tour made a stop at 1800 Grant St., where coaches including Dan Hawkins (football), Tad Boyle (men's basketball) and Linda Lappe (women's basketball) and Athletic Director Mike Bohn chatted with staff members. The statewide bus tour continues through Friday, May 21, with upcoming stops in Fort Morgan, Greeley, Loveland, Longmont and Broomfield; see the schedule here[4].

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Warm Welcome[5]

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Flexibility legislation topped full CU agenda at 2010 Legislature[6]

The Colorado General Assembly's 2010 session opened in January with leadership at the University of Colorado eager to advance legislation designed to give the university and other institutions of higher education greater flexibility within state oversight. After taking all session to advance through several meetings, the bill aimed at boosting efficiency and cutting costs earned approval of lawmakers before the end of the session on May 12. The bill is scheduled to be signed by the governor on June 9.

Flexibility legislation was the top priority of CU leaders and lobbyists, but was far from the only potential law that merited interest from the university community. Budget-related issues especially drew attention, given diminished state

revenue and the threat of deeper cuts to higher education institutions' budgets. CU lobbyists successfully staved off disproportionate cuts to the university.

"Special thanks to our state legislators on both sides of the political aisle and the governor's office for working with us to have an extremely successful legislative session for the University of Colorado," said Tanya Kelly-Bowry, vice president of Government Relations. "I would also like to recognize and thank President Bruce Benson, and Chancellors Shockley-Zalabak, DiStefano and Wilson for their very persistent efforts down at the Capitol. We look forward to the new challenges that lie ahead for higher education in the coming years."

Here's a look back at some highlights of the recently ended legislative session at the Capitol:

Senate Bill 3[7], higher education flexibility: The long journey for flexibility legislation began during the 2009 session, which ended before the bill could be passed. The delay enabled leadership from CU to work out details with lawmakers, resulting in more thorough legislation. It's expected to be signed by the governor in the coming days.

The legislation is designed to:
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.
Senate Bill 1[8], eliminating PERA's unfunded liability. Under the new law, signed by the governor on Feb. 23, more than 90,000 retirees who take part in the Public Employees Retirement Association pension fund will receive no cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) this year. In upcoming years, retirees will receive no more than a 2 percent increase, depending on inflation and the funding of the plan. In a related move, Gov. Bill Ritter signed Senate Bill 146[9] into law as part of the effort to balance the state budget. The law decreases the employer contribution rate in the state and judicial divisions of PERA by 2.5 percent and increases the member contribution rate by 2.5 percent for one year.

Senate Bill 58[10], eligibility for nursing teacher loan forgiveness: The program provides up to $20,000 in loan reimbursement for someone who teaches nursing in a higher-education institution for a minimum of five years. The new law, signed by Gov. Ritter on April 20, only requires that a nursing faculty member be teaching half-time, rather than the old requirement of full-time, in order to take advantage of the loan forgiveness. Nursing programs at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and the Anschutz Medical Campus may promote such an incentive as a recruiting tool when hiring new faculty.

House Bill 1427[11], continued health plan coverage for higher education employees. The bill, awaiting the governor's signature, 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.

House Bill 1181[12], Department of Personnel and Administration cleanup: As first proposed, a bill designed as simple cleanup for the state's Department of Personnel and Administration included provisions that would have conflicted with the aims of flexibility legislation. CU lobbyists campaigned successfully for amendments to the legislation that protected

SB 3. It's awaiting the governor's signature.

House Bill 1376[13], Long Appropriations Bill. CU lobbyists worked to eliminate an amendment to the state's primary budget document that would have cut $400,000 in funding to CU and Colorado State University. It was signed by the governor on April 29.

House Bill 1208[14], higher ed statewide transfer agreements. Awaiting the governor's signature, it requires the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and institutions to complete at least 14 transfer agreements for degrees.

For more details, see the Office of Government Relations website[15].

Faculty Council tries to reach compromise with regents on guiding principle[16]

The Faculty Council recommended new wording for items in the Board of Regents' Guiding Principles, a policy that has garnered extensive debate from regents and governing groups over the past several months.

Council members acted in response to the latest draft of the guidelines that the regents put forth at their April meeting, including emphasis on promoting political, intellectual and philosophical diversity among faculty.
Representing the Educational Policy and Uniform Standards (EPUS) committee, Nancy Ciccone presented a revised item that instead borrows language from the Board of Regents' laws and policies. Besides language regarding nondiscrimination, the council suggested adding "diversity of political, intellectual and philosophical perspectives among faculty and other members of the university community" as a way of meeting the regents halfway.

"We're looking at trying to come up with a compromise that's palatable," said Mark Malone, whose term as chair of the council begins July 1. "It's not ideal."

The suggested language will be considered by the regents at their June meeting.

Ciccone also presented a report on an EPUS study of severance pay for faculty dismissed for cause, which stirred debate among council members. The report noted concerns over public perception of the practice, but said eliminating such a practice would serve to further demoralize faculty faced with economic constraints.

Joe Rosse emphasized the public perception issue, saying that supporting such a policy makes faculty "look really, really bad."

"This will make us look as if we're completely self-serving and it's going to hurt our credibility," he said.

Roxanne Byrne recommended tabling the issue, which the council did. "This is a very complex issue, and we're not ready to make a statement," she said.

Also at Thursday's meeting, the council presented its annual awards. Leonard Dinegar, vice president for administration and chief of staff, was named administrator of the year (see related story). Byrne, math professor at the University of Colorado Denver, received the distinguished service award. Council Chair John McDowell, School of Dental Medicine, whose term ends next month, received a plaque recognizing his years of service, including the past two terms as chair.

Five Questions for Leonard Dinegar[17]
At his award presentation, Leonard Dinegar is joined by his wife, Christina, right, and Wynn Pericak, special assistant to the senior vice president and chief of staff. [Photo/Leonid Balaban]
At his award presentation, Leonard Dinegar is joined by his wife, Christina, right, and Wynn Pericak,special assistant to the senior vice president and chief of staff. [Photo/Leonid Balaban]

As chief of staff, Leonard Dinegar lends assistance to President Bruce D. Benson whenever it's needed, whether it's a personnel issue, in negotiations, or working with the Board of Regents. As a senior vice president of the university, he oversees numerous departments: University Information Systems (UIS), System Human Resources, University Relations, Information Security and the Office of Policy and Efficiency (OPE).

Then there's that little matter of the university's budget. And you think your job is difficult.

Yes, he has lots of help from a team of managers who he says make his work easier, and it helps that he loves working with people and clearly loves the university. But there must be days when he reflects fondly on some earlier employment gigs, when he was a busboy in an Italian restaurant in New York or when he was a bouncer in an Irish bar in Washington, D.C.

The passage of Senate Bill 10-003 helped by providing the university with some much-needed flexibility concerning how it operates, but Dinegar doesn't think the university will "grow out of" budget problems as it has in past years. He believes there will have to be a new agreement with the state and its citizens as to how higher education is funded, and that is what Benson spends much of his time trying to figure out.

Dinegar grew up in Queens, N.Y., and spent many years working in Washington, D.C. Two of his brothers live in New York and three live in Washington, D.C. While he misses family and the history and culture of the cities where he lived for many years, he's become a Colorado convert. "There is no place I'd rather live and raise a family than Colorado," he says. "It offers so many more opportunities for our family than the East Coast. Just don't tell my brothers that."

At its meeting last week, the systemwide Faculty Council honored Dinegar as Administrator of the Year.

— Cynthia Pasquale

1. You have served in several positions at the university, and before then, in the White House, and in several public affairs roles. How did you choose this career path and what attracted you to the university?

I didn't exactly choose my career path. It was a combination of having outstanding mentors and taking advantage of opportunities as they presented themselves that got me to where I am today. In Washington, D.C., I worked for the same woman for eight years and four jobs, starting out as her secretary/scheduler and ending as her chief of staff in the White House Drug Policy Office. During those years I developed a set of skills that served me well in my career and they happened to be a good fit for working in government relations, my first job at CU. I started out on a six-month contract at CU and that turned into a full-time position. After working at CU just a short time, I realized how lucky I was. It's a tremendous place to work and the people are terrific.

2. You received the Faculty Council Administrator of the Year award partly because you were adamant about obtaining input from the faculty concerning ways to make CU more efficient. How do you feel about receiving this award and how does it reflect your philosophy of leadership?

I joke that being selected as the Administrator of the Year by Faculty Council is a lot like asking my children to select their favorite vegetable; there aren't many good ones, but once in a while you need to pick one. Seriously though, I am humbled by the recognition and I hope it shows that this president and his team are serious about wanting to help solve the problems of our faculty and staff and he knows that to do so, we have to listen to them and then make sure they play a key part in formulating the solutions to those problems. That is why he created the Task Force on Efficiency and why he was so adamant that we include faculty and the end-users as we try to solve the problems that cause

headaches for the faculty and staff.

3. During your tenure at the university, what was one of the hardest decisions you had to make or a setback you faced? What decisions or accomplishments gave you the most gratification?

Without a doubt, the hardest decisions I've had to make have to do with personnel, especially laying off staff. Any decisions that impact people's lives and their families should be taken most seriously. Recommending to the president that we eliminate the Silver & Gold Record was extremely difficult, not only because of the paper's history at CU, but because I was longtime friends with many of the staff members.

The decisions or accomplishments that are most gratifying are when I have the opportunity to hire great staff members. I always aim to hire folks who are smarter than me and I work hard to support them. I also enjoy the opportunity to support the president and help him achieve his goals on behalf of CU. That is very satisfying.

[19]
4. Last year, you were given "bystander CPR" by Lindsey Phelps, who will be honored at the end of this month. How has the event changed you and what kind of a relationship do you have with Lindsey?

Clearly, Lindsey saved my life after I collapsed at the airport and she gave me CPR. I look back now and am more confident than before that I have a great life with wonderful friends, family and colleagues. Following the event, the outpouring of support for my family is what I will remember most. I don't take that for granted.

I've spoken with Lindsey on the phone, but will meet her for the first time when she and her mother visit Colorado later this month to receive an award at the Anschutz Medical Campus commencement. Lindsey was the only one who stepped forward at the airport to do the right thing during a frightening moment. That type of action should be recognized, we believe, and my family was very happy when President Benson nominated her for the award.

5. How do you spend your time away from the office?

I enjoy running, hiking, skiing and other outdoor sports with my family. On weekends I'm very content to stay home and do work around the house, whether it be painting a room or cleaning the yard. After working all week at the office, it's nice to complete a project at home that has tangible results and doesn't involve meetings or paperwork or e-mail.

My goal each day is to simply improve myself in some small way as a father, husband, friend and employee. Some days I'm more successful than others, though. In my office, I have framed birth announcements of my three children. They are individual drawings by my sister showing each of our children – daughter Sarah and sons Charles and Sandy – doing all the activities we hoped they would do as children: reading, skiing, fishing, etc. It's a daily reminder for my wife, Christina, and me about why we do what we do each day.

Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[20]

Northwestern health director headed to CU-Boulder[21]

Donald Misch, M.D.

The University of Colorado at Boulder on Tuesday, May 18, named Donald Misch, M.D., as assistant vice chancellor for health and wellness and director of the campus's Wardenburg Health Center effective July 1. Misch currently serves as executive director of Northwestern University Health Service in Evanston, Ill., a post he has held since 2003.

The assistant vice chancellor for health and wellness reports to Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Julie Wong. Gary Chadwick, who is retiring July 1, is the current assistant vice chancellor for health and wellness.

Misch also will direct campus activities concerning alcohol and other drugs and will be the key liaison within the campus and to the city on these issues. A key component of coordinating health and wellness efforts on campus is the recent creation of the CU Impact Coalition – an action-oriented task force to examine student wellness, health promotion, and alcohol and other drug issues on campus – which Misch will chair.

The coalition includes members from Wardenburg Health Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, the Office of Victim Assistance, Recreation Services, the Office of the Dean of Students, Judicial Affairs, Residence Life and student government. In addition, the responsibilities for coordinating programs concerning alcohol and other drugs have been assigned to the assistant vice chancellor for health and wellness.

"By consolidating campus efforts on health, wellness and alcohol, and elevating this role to a position of leadership, CU-Boulder will be able to deliver a comprehensive, new approach to health promotion," Wong said. "With his experience in both internal medicine and psychiatry and his successful track record of addressing these issues on a college campus, Dr. Misch is the right person to help us continue to move in this new direction.

"We will be taking a more environmental approach to issues related to alcohol and other drugs. We will have a coordinated coalition of campus stakeholders working to address this important public health issue."

Besides serving as director of Wardenburg Health Center and chairing the Impact Coalition, Misch will directly oversee the departments of counseling and psychological services, the Recreation Center and the Office of Victim Assistance. He will be responsible for a $20 million budget, 200 professional and classified staff and approximately 300 student staff.

He also will co-chair the CU/Community Alcohol Coalition, be a member of the CU/City Oversight Committee, attend a yearly city council study session and meet with the liquor licensing board or other relevant community boards as needed.

"I have a longstanding interest in, and I'm personally committed to, addressing the issues faced at CU, which are issues on college campuses across the country," Misch said. "Alcohol is the No. 1 public health hazard on a college campus."

Prior to serving at Northwestern, Misch was the medical student education director, psychiatry residency training director and, ultimately, director of education for the department of psychiatry and health behavior at the Medical College of Georgia (1992-2002). Besides co-directing the Governor's Teaching Fellows Program at the University of Georgia (2001-03), he also was selected to be a Carnegie Fellow for the 2001-02 class of the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. From 1981 to 1992, Misch practiced internal medicine and psychiatry in private practice and hospital settings in Chicago.

"The students at CU-Boulder are very active in making decisions about what health and recreation services they want and which services should be funded – that's a great opportunity," Misch said. "I'm very excited about working with the students."

Misch earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Harvard and a doctor of medicine degree from Rush Medical College.

Three CU-built payloads aboard for last Atlantis launch[23]
Photo by Patrick Campbell/University of Colorado

Christine Fanchiang, an aerospace engineering sciences graduate who be will going to Cape Kennedy, Fla., for the launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis
Photo by Patrick Campbell/University of ColoradoChristine Fanchiang, an aerospace engineering sciences graduate who be will going to Cape Kennedy, Fla., for the launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis

The final flight of NASA's space shuttle Atlantis launched on Friday, May 14, carrying three University of Colorado at Boulder-built biomedical payload devices, including one to help scientists understand how and why slimy and troublesome clumps of microorganisms flourish in the low-gravity conditions of space.

The experiments on biofilms – clusters of microorganisms that adhere to one another or to various surfaces – are of high interest to space scientists because of their potential effects on astronaut and spacecraft health, said CU-Boulder's Louis Stodieck, director of BioServe Space Technologies[25] in the aerospace engineering sciences department. Their growth, for example, occurred in water purification and environmental controls systems on Russia's Mir Space Station and was of regular concern.

Led by Professor Cynthia Collins of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., and managed by NASA's Ames Research Center[26] in Moffet Field, Calif., the experiments will target the growth, physiology and cell-to-cell interactions in microbial biofilms. The team will examine how the formation of the three-dimensional structure of biofilms formed by microbes differs in spaceflight versus normal gravity.

Because astronauts show decreases in their immune systems during spaceflight, researchers would like to know more about how bacteria behave in space, including their apparent increase in virulence and resistance to antibiotics, said Stodieck. Such experiments have implications for astronauts on long-term space travel flight to places like the moon, Mars and beyond.

The experiments carried aboard Atlantis are in sets of specially designed fluid-processing apparatuses known as GAPs designed and built by BioServe, Stodieck said. Atlantis astronauts will control the individual GAP experiments using hand cranks to trigger and then later terminate cell growth via fluid mixing. The samples will be returned to Earth at the end of the mission for further study.

The GAPs ride inside BioServe's Commercial Generic Bioprocessing Apparatus, an automated, suitcase-size device developed at CU-Boulder. The device has been launched on more than a dozen NASA space shuttle missions, with two of the CGBA devices now on the International Space Station. BioServe is providing the hardware, integration and operations support for all Atlantis GAP experiments.

A second experiment using BioServe hardware, sponsored by Astrogenetix Inc. headquartered in Austin, Texas, and designed by researchers at the Durham VA Medical Center in North Carolina will analyze changes in virulence of two particularly nasty strains of bacteria in the low gravity of space. One, Salmonella, can cause illness and death to humans by tainting food or water. The second, Staphylococcus, can cause a variety of infections, including Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus or MRSA – a growing problem in hospitals and health clinics – because of its ability to resist antibiotics in the penicillin class of drugs.

"Water quality, food safety and disease are age-old problems on Earth," Stodieck said. Not only do these experiments have applications for keeping crew members safe by helping scientists better understand gene and protein changes in pathogens, they also could help researchers find new ways to prevent and control infectious disease."

A third experiment designed by the University of Florida will use BioServe hardware to study cell cultivation in a tropical plant known as Jatropha that produces energy-rich nuts, a popular new renewable crop for biofuels. The researchers will be looking for genes that help or hinder growth in tropical plant species to see if it could be commercially grown in "warm-temperate" areas like the southern United States.

After the launch of Atlantis, the shuttle program has two scheduled flights remaining – Discovery in September and Endeavour in November – before the fleet is retired. Stodieck said hardware and experiments built by BioServe are manifested on both missions as well as on future resupply vehicles traveling to the International Space Station from

other countries. BioServe also has plans to fly hardware and experiments in microgravity on existing commercial rockets and on space vehicles now under development, Stodieck said.

"It's been quite an era for the space shuttle program," Stodieck said. "But I fully expect we will continue to do research on the International Space Station – it will just require an adjustment in space vehicles."

BioServe is a nonprofit, NASA-funded center founded in 1987 at CU-Boulder to develop new or improved products through space life science research in partnership with industry, academia and government. Since 1991 BioServe has flown payloads on 35 space shuttle microgravity missions.

MBAs say green energy a good return on investment[27]

A group of University of Colorado at Colorado Springs MBA students believe current tax credits and rebates can make wind power profitable for the Pikes Peak region.

A class of 35 master's-level business students conducted a study of regional alternative energy issues and released their findings at a public meeting Friday, May 14, on the UCCS campus.

Among the key findings:
Renewable energy jobs are likely to pay more than $50,000 annually. The greatest job growth will come from a manufacturing plant. A wind farm in El Paso County has the potential to generate a 17 percent annualized rate of return for investors.
"The results of the study are significant because they provide real answers to critical questions about the region's growth prospects," said Fred Crowley, senior instructor in the College of Business. "We do not have to wonder about 'what if' situations. We have solutions. What these students have learned can help our entire community focus its efforts to move us into the era of renewable energy."

The students gathered comprehensive data through interviews with utilities, windmill manufacturers and other organizations. They scrutinized federal, state and local laws, examined environmental issues and analyzed the financial impact.

Columnist Brooks talks politics at School of Public Affairs dinner[28]
Photo courtesy of Armes Photography
New York Times columnist David Brooks speaks at a School of Public Affairs
event on Wednesday, May 12.
Photo courtesy of Armes PhotographyNew York Times columnist David Brooks speaks at a School of Public Affairsevent on Wednesday, May 12.

New York Times columnist David Brooks wowed a packed house at the Seawell Ballroom on Wednesday, May 12, for the School of Public Affairs (SPA) Investment in Excellence dinner. But before he launched into his 45-minute presentation of political insights, sharp observations and rich humorous asides, he expressed genuine admiration for the SPA students he met that afternoon.

"The students were really, truly impressive. Really, really impressive," he said. "They are clearly going to go on to great

things."

About 40 students met in an informal question-and-answer session with Brooks that offered a preview of some of the comments he made later in his formal remarks.

At the dinner – attended by 450 SPA supporters including former U.S. Sen. Tim Wirth, Gov. Bill Ritter, Mayor John Hickenlooper, University of Colorado President Bruce D. Benson, Chancellor M. Roy Wilson and other state and local leaders – Brooks commented on his impressions of the Obama White House, education reform, the Tea Party movement, global economy and the politics of Washington, D.C.

Brooks said he has known President Barack Obama for many years and "personally I've never been disappointed with the way he's conducted himself." He called him "a very perceptive guy" and a "genuinely nice person" with a "calmness" about him. He complimented the culture of debate he has cultivated in the White House and the range of opinions Obama considers as part of his decision-making process. "I have trouble thinking of any other elected official I'd like to see as president right now."

That being said, he offered his view that the president is "trying to do too much too soon" and is "spending too much money."

The president has "an addiction to the home run," Brooks said. "He always wants to swing for the home run." As a self-described Mets fan, Brooks said, "I'm big for hitting singles."

He also cited the flip side of Obama's "intellectual self-confidence. He has a lack of emotional connection to where the country is," he said. "They came into office thinking the country was ready for a new deal, but this was a country ... that was extremely anxious about insecurity and disorder and the recession, and they added to that anxiety and insecurity by piling on a whole nother set of changes. They've created a backlash against them."

As a result, Brooks predicted, Democrats will lose the majority of the House of Representatives and probably eight Senate seats.

Brooks joked about politicians, saying they are "emotional freaks" and "talk so much they drive themselves insane." Still, he said, after years of covering campaigns and congressional sessions and watching various administrations closely, "I'm convinced that the people who go into this line of work do it because they really care."

The message was warmly received by a crowd that was dominated by civic leaders and political hopefuls.

Chancellor M. Roy Wilson closed the evening saying, "The School of Public Affairs is a gift to the entire state of Colorado."

Major estate gift will bolster Alzheimer's research at School of Medicine[30]

Edith von Kaulla

A bequest of more than $1.1 million from a former University of Colorado professor of medicine and his wife, a laboratory staff member, will help the School of Medicine's department of neurology greatly enhance its research related to Alzheimer's disease – a disease that's on the rise in Colorado.

This gift from Kurt von Kaulla, M.D., and his wife, Edith, is the largest gift ever received by the School of Medicine for Alzheimer's research. It will enable the hiring of a faculty researcher whose focus will be to translate basic research

into clinical applications, such as new pharmaceutical or therapeutic approaches, that could slow Alzheimer's disease or treat its symptoms, said Kenneth Tyler, M.D., the Reuler-Lewin Family Professor and chair of the department of neurology.

"Alzheimer's disease has been one of the most exciting basic research areas in medicine," Tyler said "There's been a disconnect between the basic research and the clinical applications for this science. We'd like to get this piece of the puzzle in place and recruit someone who can help us translate basic science breakthroughs into new clinical treatments."

Von Kaulla was a School of Medicine professor from 1951 through the mid-1970s, and undertook blood research in the hematology lab, where Edith also worked. According to the School of Medicine's "
"Centennial History 1883-1983," he developed comprehensive "von Kaullagrams" that elucidated a patient's clotting status.

His work yielded eight books and more than 300 publications, with Edith's work resulting in 80 publications. Upon retiring to their native Germany, Kurt continued to publish and lecture on hematological subjects until his death in 1986; Edith died in 2008.

The bequest, facilitated by the University of Colorado Foundation, has to date yielded
$1.1 million, with further cash distributions expected as soon as the estate's affairs are completed.

The von Kaulla gift will improve CU's ability to pursue solutions to Alzheimer's, a progressive and fatal brain disease that is America's most common form of dementia and the seventh-leading cause of death, affecting more than 5.3 million Americans. As the population ages and baby boomers become senior citizens, the disease's incidence is expected to increase rapidly, especially in Colorado: The state's 47 percent increase in the disease since 2000 is greater than any state's except Alaska. Alzheimer's disease currently has no cure.

Engineering professor establishes endowment[32]

Nien-Yin Chang

When Nien-Yin Chang, professor at the University of Colorado Denver College of Engineering, was asked why he entered his field, the answer came quickly and easily.

"You're always involved with designing solutions – you don't just talk about it," he said. "You produce things, you produce good, to benefit the people, to benefit society."

For 35 years at the College of Engineering, Chang has pursued solutions to problems in the area of geotechnical engineering – educating students and conducting research that leads to insights on soil and rock behavior, and buildings that better withstand earthquakes.

More recently as interim dean, he also has been making the case for the increased private support the college will need to launch a new department in sustainable construction engineering and management, and improve the college's national reputation.

And on the fundraising front, he's not just talking about it.

With a $30,000 gift, Chang has established an endowment that will, in perpetuity, pay an annual faculty award for outstanding research.

"Research was an area within the college where support seemed to be lacking," he said. "If we're going to reach the next level, we need to encourage faculty to better themselves."

By spurring more and better ideas, gifts to support faculty research may have the added benefit of generating federal grants that enhance the college. Chang hopes his gift, too, can have a multiplier effect by encouraging more people to consider donating to the college.

"These are difficult economic times, and there are a lot of challenges," Chang said. "But engineering is an economic driver. We must do our best to promote it."

Boulder Staff Council elects officers, new members[34]

The University of Colorado at Boulder Staff Council[35] elected officers at its April 14 meeting; their one-year terms begin July 1. New members also were elected; they generally serve for three years.
Officers Sarah Douvres Program Assistant, Housing IT co-chair Greggory Lundgren IT Professional, Housing IT co-chair Philip Bradley Accounting Technician, Arts and Sciences vice-chair Stephanie Weber FSC Manager, Arts and Sciences treasurer Dana Drummond Program Assistant, Bursar's Office secretary **Deligate Positions** Larry Hill Civil engineer/Project Manager-Facilities Management UCSC Lisa Gould Monographic Unit Head, Norlin Library Acquisitions UCSC Dana Drummond Program Assistant, Bursar's Office UCSC Bradley Albus Grounds and Nursery, Housing Statewide Liaison Council **New Elected Members** Greg Roers Accountant, Accounting and Business Support Area VIII Sheri Kalina Registrar, CU Conference Services Area VII Lauren Willner Customer Service Manager, Parking and Transportation Area VI Dennis Russell Director of Operations and Financial Management, School of Law Area V John McKee Electronics Specialist, Facilities Management Area VI Joe Branchaw Pro Engineer, Facilities Management Area IV Boroka Bo Medical Records Tech, Wardenburg Area III Tatevik Madoyan Associate Director of Human Resources and Payroll, Wardenburg Area III Sean Myers IT Technician, Messaging Service Escalation, ITS Area II Stephanie Weber FSC Manager, Arts and Sciences Area I Lisa Gould Monographic Unit Head, Norlin Library Acquisitions Elected At-Large Robert Axmacher Sergeant, Community Safety Operations Elected At-Large Stephen Wendzel Engr/Phys Sci Tech I - Engr, Facilities Management Appointed At-Large

Denver CLAS faculty, staff honored[36]

Howard

University of Colorado Denver College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) faculty and staff were honored April 23 during the dean's reception. Dean Dan Howard said it was only "fitting that near the end of the merit season we publicly recognize some of the truly outstanding faculty, staff and students in the college."

Those honored, along with brief comments from nominators:

Teaching Excellence Awards

Mitchell M. Handlesman, psychology. Allison Bashe wrote, "Being in class with Dr. Handelsman feels like magic. He has no magic wand, but he has magic phrases – phrases like active learning and interactive assessment: phrases that at first might seem like mysteries to his students. Then, suddenly, you realize that you know something that you did not

know before. You realize that you are learning how to learn."

Chad Kautzer, philosophy. A former student wrote, "It is because of professors like him that students get motivated to continue their education and hopefully have a positive influence in the world."

Rafael Moreno, geography and environmental sciences. Department Chair Brian Page wrote, "Rafael has excelled at developing new courses and brought experiences, knowledge, technologies, and approaches previously unavailable on our campus. He has developed new courses and expanded the technological capabilities of the interdisciplinary FAST GIS lab."

Teaching Excellence Awards, Nontenure-Track Faculty

Russell S. Kellogg, instructor, economics. Student Katie Dolara wrote, "Not only does Russell have an effortless ability to cohesively and articulately present the subject matter, but he does so in a way that holds the attention and catalyzes the curiosity of his students ... (and is) a testament to his knowledge base, teaching style and investment in the classroom."

Gary A. Olson, instructor, mathematics and statistical science. Chair Mike Jacobson wrote, "I have witnessed the passion and enthusiasm that he brings to his work with the Graduate TAs ... Gary has a deep and extensive knowledge of the material he is presenting, displays incredible patience and preparation to make clear the mathematical message at all levels."

Faculty Service Award

Leo P. Bruederle, associate professor, integrative biology. Associate Chair Timberley Roane wrote, "Evident in his outside service activities, Leo clearly believes that the influence of higher education should be felt beyond its campus walls. Consequently, Leo's service to professional organizations and the community are equally outstanding. In addition to serving as reviewer for scholarly manuscripts and grant proposals, Leo serves on the Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative Committee; volunteers at the Denver Botanic Gardens; is an active participant in, organizing several workshops for, the Colorado Native Plant Society and the Colorado STEM Network; and is the editor for Aquilegia, Newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society."

Research and Creative Activities Awards

Jan Mandel, professor, mathematical and statistical sciences. His influence in his field is noted by Jeffrey Anderson of NCAR: "Dr. Mandel has become a recognized researcher in this field during the last few years. He has brought new mathematical insight to the field that has led to a series of important papers."

Steven G. Medema, professor, economics. In his tribute to Medema's efforts in transforming the Journal of the History of Economic Thought during his tenure as its editor, Bradley Bateman wrote, "Steve is respected as a scholar, an editor and an elder statesman of the discipline despite being a young man.... Steve has become someone who has the reach and ability to look across the whole of the history of economic thinking."

Barbara J. Walkosz, associate professor, communication. Communication Chair Stephen Hartnett wrote, "Dr. Walkosz has developed a systematic research program that focuses on health communication, public health and the behavioral sciences. Her research speaks to questions of enhancing the public good, thus supporting UCD's mission to become a first-rate research institution and a good community partner."

Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award

Robert Damrauer, professor, chemistry; special assistant to the provost; dean of the graduate school, UC Denver Downtown Campus. Sally Pusede, Berkeley Graduate Student, wrote, "If Dr. Damrauer were a merely superb professor, steering me to academic success in a field in which I had no prior interest would be exemplary enough. Yet, in all sincerity, he additionally caused me to imagine that I might attach my ambitions to helping others. He showed me that being a chemist could also mean being many other things."

Provost's Award for Excellence in Practices Related to Nontenure-Track Faculty

The department of psychology, chaired by **Peter Kaplan,** received this "best practices" honor. Three nontenure-track faculty work in the department; Kaplan commented on each of the educators:

Allison Bashe: "Allison has played a central role in the conceptualization, approval and implementation of the Ph.D. program in clinical health psychology. She has gone above and beyond the call of duty in mentoring students and serving UCD and the community."

Kevin Everhart: "Kevin is the hardest working psychology instructor in Denver; he can and will teach any course, anytime. He has also been instrumental in providing top quality clinical training and supervision to our Ph.D. students."

Joan Bihun: "Joan is passionate about education. Her courses in research methods/statistics and human development are in high demand, even though they are among the most rigorous in the department."

Outstanding Staff Award

Beverly Andes, course and curriculum coordinator. Tammy Stone wrote, "The respect and high regard with which Beverly is held in this college is demonstrated by the 12 letters of support from the departments that were received for her nomination. Without exception, these letters praise her for her hard work, dedication and her grace and charm. CLAS is a better place because of her presence."

UCCS College of Education has new interim dean[38]

Fenell

The chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Services at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and a retired U.S. Army colonel will be the interim dean of the university's College of Education.

David Fenell, a faculty member since 1984, will serve as dean beginning July 1 and continuing until June 30, 2011. A national search for the permanent dean will be conducted in 2010-11.

"David has provided outstanding leadership and service to the College of Education and the campus for many years," Provost Peg Bacon said. "I appreciate his willingness to serve the college through this transition."

Fenell replaces La Vonne Neal, who recently accepted a position at the University of Northern Illinois.

Fenell teaches courses in individual, group and marriage, and family therapy. He is currently revising his family therapy textbook, "Counseling Families: An Introduction to Marriage and Family Therapy." His most recent publications and national presentations focus on effective counseling interventions for combat veterans and their families. He developed and directs a one-year intensive master's degree program taught primarily by College of Education faculty to prepare Air Force officers to assume command of cadet squadrons at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

A behavioral sciences officer in the Army Reserve, Fenell was mobilized in October 2001, serving as the deputy and later director of the Psychological Applications Directorate, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C. In 2002, he was deployed to Afghanistan and served as the command psychologist with the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan. He returned to the UCCS faculty in 2003. He was mobilized in 2006 and served with 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Carson, as command psychologist with the Combined Joint Special

Operations Task Force-Arabian Peninsula in Iraq. He was awarded the Bronze Star medal for each of his combat tours. Fenell returned to the university and retired from the Army in January 2007.

Fenell joined the UCCS faculty in 1984 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1987 and professor in 1994. He earned a Ph.D. in counselor education from Purdue University, a master's in education from the University of Southern California, and a bachelor's in physiology from Oklahoma State University. He completed a post-doctoral internship in counseling psychology at Texas A&M University.

Director of Center for Homeland Security strengthens partnership between UCCS, Croatia[40]

Kurt Johnson, interim director of the Center for Homeland Security (CHS) at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, will meet with Croatia President Ivo Josipovic on Friday, May 21, to discuss potential collaboration between the university and the southeast European nation.

Croatian officials recently contacted the center for assistance in building a homeland security education program and laying the groundwork for a regional center of excellence in homeland security. Johnson will meet with Josipovic to discuss the next steps in the UCCS-Croatia partnership. He also will meet with the mayor of Split, Zeljko Kerum, and the rector of the University of Split, Ivan Pavic, to discuss locating the proposed homeland security education program and center of excellence in Split, the largest coastal city in Croatia. Johnson also will meet with the Veterans Committee of the Croatian Parliament and the committee working on national security and search and rescue.

The UCCS-Croatia partnership began in May 2009, when Johnson was invited to Croatia to meet with the Mayor of Zagreb, leadership of the University of Zagreb, and senior emergency management officials. In August 2009, a senior Croatian delegation visited UCCS leadership and area senior emergency management and defense officials.

CHS, which is one of four centers within the National Institute for Science, Space and Security Centers, conducts educational services and research in the homeland security area of study.

Dropping names ...[41]

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs patrol officers Mike Bianco and Larry Darnall will receive commendations from the Colorado Springs Police Department for their role in catching two suspects in an attempted robbery of a local convenience store. The officers' quick reaction led to the arrest of two UCCS students who were charged in the May 11 incident at a Fillmore Avenue store. Colorado Springs Police Chief Richard Myers talked about the cooperation between UCCS and Colorado Springs Police in an interview with KRDO radio.

... Sharon Araji, interim chair in the department of sociology at the University of Colorado Denver, contributed a chapter in the recently published "Domestic Violence, Abuse and Child Custody: Legal Strategies and Policy Issues." She and more than 30 others contributed to the resource for advocates.

... Students at the University of Colorado School of Medicine have selected **Philip Boyer,**M.D., Ph.D., as this year's Outstanding Basic Science Teacher and **Leigh Anne Bakel,**M.D., as Outstanding Clinical Teacher.

Erika Randall

... Assistant professor **Erika Randall's** new film "Leading Ladies" has won the Showcase Award at the Sonoma International Film Fesitval. It's the first project from Randall (writer, director, co-producer, choreographer) along with Daniel Beahm (producer/director). A choreographer, performer and professor in the department of theater and dance at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Randall co-wrote the screenplay with her friend Jennifer Bechtel. View the trailer here.[43]

Rennie Harris

... **Rennie Harris,**guest artist in residence in the University of Colorado department of theater and dance, and the founder and artistic director of Rennie Harris Pure movement, has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for 2010. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of achievement and exceptional promise. The Guggenheim Fellowship will allow Harris to further document the historical content of urban dance, highlight and articulate the voice of youth culture, and challenge the possibilities of hip-hop dance theater.

... **Terry Lee** has been named the assistant vice president for risk management at CU system administration. Lee has served in the position in an interim role for the past four months. The mission of University Risk Management is to reduce and mitigate the potential for loss to the university. It also promotes an environment in which each member of the university community is responsible for protecting and enhancing the reputation and assets of the university.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/people/degregori-appointed-co-leader-cancer-center-molecular-oncology-program[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/people_degregori.jpg[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/warm-welcome-0[4] http://www.cubuffs.com/ViewArticle.dbml?DB_OEM_ID=600&ATCLID=204937896[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/warm-welcome[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/flexibility-legislation-topped-full-cu-agenda-2010-legislature[7] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/E7D30EB79557E237872576A80026B0CD?Open&file=003_rer.pdf[8] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/DD3F57C1B220E34A872576A80029E75E?Open&file=001_enr.pdf[9] http://www.statebillinfo.com/bills/bills/10/146_enr.pdf[10] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/C2621242DBAC26F9872576A80027B33F?Open&file=058_enr.pdf[11] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/F1B1DC0427065AA38725770C00741D01?Open&file=1427_rer.pdf[12] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/50B0A8ECF8E03598872576AA007CBC3E?Open&file=1181_rer.pdf[13] http://www.leg.state.co.us/Clics/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/BillFoldersHouse?openFrameset[14] http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2010A/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/63784B94CCDAAD9A872576AC007ED905?Open&file=1208_enr.pdf[15] https://www.cu.edu/governmentrelations[16] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-council-tries-reach-compromise-regents-guiding-principle[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-leonard-dinegar[18] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Wynn_-Leonard_-Christina-05-19-2010.jpg[19] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Leonard_Dinegar_award_Faculty_Council_John_McDowell_horizontal_05-19-2010-1.jpg[20] mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu[21] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/northwestern-health-director-headed-cu-boulder[22] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/misch.jpg[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/three-cu-built-payloads-aboard-last-atlantis-launch[24] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/ucb.jpg[25] http://www.colorado.edu/engineering/BioServe/index.html[26] http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/home/index.html[27]

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