

[Five questions for Jeanie Youngwerth](#)[1]

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Jeanie Youngwerth grew up thinking she was a doctor, and always thought she would be a surgeon.

"I don't know how that idea came into my head, but I always enjoyed watching surgeries that they used to show in detail on PBS back when I was a kid," says Jeanie Youngwerth, M.D., explaining her interest in medicine. "That's how I grew up and that's how I directed my life."

Her first connection to the University of Colorado began in 1996 with a residency in internal medicine. She then worked for a local hospitalist group, returning to CU in 2004.

Youngwerth is an assistant professor of medicine and is director of the Palliative Care Consult Service at University of Colorado Hospital. The mission of the service is to improve the quality of life for patients and families by providing exceptional palliative care clinical services while advancing the field of palliative medicine through a commitment to education and research. The program began informally in 2000, but in 2005, it received dedicated hospital support and funding, and the interdisciplinary team was developed.

As director, Youngwerth oversees all of the functions of the service, from day-to-day operations to achieving the service's vision to research and fundraising. Currently, the program only involves patients in the hospital, but Youngwerth says she hopes to expand the program to the outpatient arena within the next year.

1. How has palliative care changed over the years?

Palliative care originated with the hospice tradition and was delivered at the end of life. Modern-day palliative care has expanded and focuses on providing care early in the disease trajectory alongside of and complementing disease-directed medical therapy. Now, palliative care is used to provide a better quality of life earlier during an illness and is not dependent on prognosis or stage of illness.

2. The program recently was awarded \$10,000 by LIVESTRONG to help earn an "advanced certification in palliative care." What does this certification provide and how does it enhance the existing program?

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The Joint Commission accredits and certifies health care organizations across the United States, so having a certificate gets you national recognition as a hospital. It's a symbol of quality and indicates that the inpatient palliative care program is able to demonstrate exceptional patient/family care and optimizes quality of life for patients with serious illness and their loved ones. There are only 33 hospitals in the nation that have been awarded the certificate. Working toward certification has enabled us to examine the care we are providing to see how we might need to improve that with quality initiatives. It's also allowing us to standardize aspects of quality care and helping us see how we can disseminate that throughout the hospital, even to patients we never reach.

The grant also provides us with national mentorship through CAPC (Center to Advance Palliative Care). There is a long list of different elements that you have to meet or exceed to get certification, focusing on the interdisciplinary team approach, which is one of the things that make palliative care unique. Seeking this certificate has prompted us to begin multiple quality improvement initiatives. You are required to have at least four quality improvement projects and present four months' of data and show how you use the data to improve care. We didn't have a formal quality improvement program, so this has been great motivation to begin these projects.

3. One part of palliative care, and one of your interests, is managing symptoms. Can you give me examples of how this is done?

Patient symptoms are traditionally managed through disease-directed therapy, but sometimes, symptoms may be overlooked or the disease-directed therapy is not effective and symptoms become a primary problem. We are trained in symptom management for the seriously ill patient, knowing that it can greatly improve a patient's quality of life. Symptoms might be pain, fatigue, dyspnea, depression, anxiety, constipation, and they frequently come in clusters. But

symptoms are not just about the physical components; there are psycho, social and spiritual aspects of suffering that we address at the same time to optimize symptom management.

For example, a young man with cancer originally was referred to us because of severe pain that the oncologists and hospitalists were having a hard time managing. Adjusting medication was only part of it. As we dove more into his story, we realized that he had severe existential suffering related to what he was going through with his illness and the way that it had changed his life and will continue to affect his life. We began to explore and sort through the different aspects of his suffering. That's where the entire interdisciplinary team pulls together using different strengths – psychology, social work, spiritual care, advanced practiced nursing care and physicians – to help him. Just addressing the severe physical pain or the existential suffering alone won't cut it for him; all of the components of his suffering needed to be addressed and pieced together.

4. I can imagine that palliative and hospice care would be both rewarding and emotionally trying. How would you describe it?

I get people who say, "Oh, what you do is so sad." But that's not how I see it. It's extremely rewarding and very fulfilling. It's the best job you can have because you can sit down and talk to patients and families and hear their story, and that's something I really enjoy doing. There's nothing better than being able to learn from patients every day. Knowing that you can be there for them during one of their most difficult times in life -- make it not as difficult and even bring in smiles and laughter -- is a great feeling.

Patients have really taught me that when life is tough, it comes down to the simple things. It's about helping them focus on things that are important to them, not necessarily the things that are important to us. There was one patient I took care of in the hospital while she was on palliative care and eventually followed her in her journey to hospice care. When she was in the hospital, she was billed as kind of a grumpy person who was not easy to talk to and was very closed. The team wasn't that fond of her. But as I began to get to know her over a couple of days, I learned more about what she was going through and explored her values and the things that were important to her at this point in her life. She really began to open up and blossom.

When she went to hospice, she suddenly became this outgoing person; she found new meaning and purpose in her life. She had always described herself as a caretaker, but that really wasn't apparent until she became a resident in hospice. There she took on that role of caretaker for other hospice residents. She had a red scooter that she would stroll around on, and she would check on people, take care of them and bring joy to everyone's life. It was wonderful to see the new growth she had even at the end of her life, and what a difference it could make when we started focusing on the things that were most important to her.

5. What types of activities do you enjoy outside of work?

Mountain biking is my passion, especially taking long rides in places like Crested Butte. I started biking when I moved out here as a resident. I couldn't walk fast enough or far enough to explore the land so I got a bike, figuring I could do it faster and see more. It ended up being something I really enjoyed.

[Faculty share scholarship of teaching and learning](#)[4]

[See more photos](#) from event (Photos: Jay Dedrick/University of Colorado)

[See more photos](#) from event (Photos: Jay Dedrick/University of Colorado)

The [President's Teaching and Learning Collaborative](#)[6] (PTLC) – the University of Colorado's Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Program – hosted its latest poster session on Monday, drawing dozens to the CU Anschutz Medical Campus to share research findings across disciplines.

About 35 PTLC members attended the event, where 11 projects were shared over informal explanations and

discussions.

Central to the PTLC's work is creating and publishing scholarship in teaching and learning that contributes to theory and effective teaching practice in and across disciplines. Each faculty researcher designs and undertakes an investigation aimed at deepening understanding of disciplinary pedagogy and related to an important issue in learning.

Faculty researchers design, carry out, and publish research on a particular aspect of learning in a specific course . Each investigator is supported by a coach and short seminars in how to do education research. Faculty researchers receive funding of \$1,550 for their research.

Projects presented at Monday's poster session:

John Basey, CU-Boulder; an analysis of feedback and its influence on student learning in inquiry-oriented biology labs with multiple sections taught by TAs.

Sonja Braun-Sand and Elaine Cheesman, UCCS; teaching domain-specific vocabulary in science and education courses.

Amanda Brown and Deborah Hollis, CU-Boulder; special collections as a learning lab: how effective are we?

Shaun Gleason, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; a methodological and financial evaluation of team- and problem-based learning in an online post-baccalaureate doctor of pharmacy program.

Matthew Hallowell, CU-Boulder; evaluating a combined andragogical and pedagogical approach to hazard recognition education using virtual teams and agent-based simulations.

Amy Javernick-Will, CU-Boulder; teaching and learning for a global engineering environment.

Jessica Kirby, UCCS; walk safe, walk together: a pilot study to promote walkability and increase physical activity for older adults in the community.

Marylou Robinson, College of Nursing; pilot of interprofessional learning of advanced assessment skills.

Ronica Rooks, CU Denver; the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) project: experiential learning for health policy students and policy intervention for the northeast Park Hill community.

Carmen Stavrositu, UCCS; social media tools: friend or foe? Enhancing student engagement and learning in online courses.

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Carmen Stavrositu discusses social media tools.

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Marylou Robinson presents her work during the poster session.

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Suzanne MacAulay of UCCS makes her presentation.

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Deborah Haynes of CU-Boulder discusses teaching mindfulness to college students.

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Jessica Kirby of UCCS is joined by her daughter Avery for the poster session.

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Mary Ann Shea, director of the President's Teaching Scholars Program, addresses members of the collaborative.[caption]

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Carmen Stavrositu's poster.

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Deborah Hollis of CU-Boulder.

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CU-Boulder's John Basey talks about the influence of feedback on students.

[Boulder Campus Staff Council honors retirees, years of service](#)[16]

Toni Smollen of IBG and Laura Border, Graduate Teacher Program, with Chancellor Phil DiStefano. Smollen and Border each celebrated 35 years of service to CU-Boulder. Photos courtesy Boulder Campus Staff Council.

What do 1992, 1987, 1982 and 1977 have in common? These years were the starting points of University of Colorado Boulder careers that have lasted between 20 and 35 years, and were recognized at the annual Staff Council "Years of Service" appreciation event.

Chancellor DiStefano opened the event by expressing his deep appreciation for the staff being acknowledged and for the vital role that staff plays in the everyday operations of the university. Staff Council Vice-Chair Philip Bradley emceed the event, sharing historical tidbits about the milestone years and reading the honorees' names.

Staff Council has hosted this reception for the campus since 1977, honoring recent retirees and staff who have reached significant employment milestones; 118 staff members reached the 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service marks, including six staff members reaching 35 years of commitment to the university.

The 55 staff who retired in 2012 came back to share stories of trips, adventures and life without alarm clocks. In attendance were almost 200 colleagues, family members, friends and honorees celebrating careers dedicated to

making CU-Boulder a great place to learn and work.

[See the full list of 2012 honorees](#)[18], and join us in congratulating our colleagues on their commitment and service to CU-Boulder. Pictures taken at the event will be sent to the recipients, and some will be posted on the Staff Council website.

You do not have to be a member of Staff Council to serve on any of our many committees. For more information or to contact us, visit www.colorado.edu/staffcouncil[19]

Submitted by Boulder Campus Staff Council

[Open Enrollment ends at 5 p.m. Friday](#)[20]

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Open Enrollment ends at 5 p.m. Friday. This is the one time of year when University of Colorado benefits-eligible employees and retirees may make changes to benefits. If you take no action, you will be automatically enrolled into your current plan elections.

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[21].

Reminders

Set your flexible spending: You must re-enroll and select annual contributions for Health Care and Dependent Care flexible spending accounts each year. **Choose your doctor:** This year, Anthem BlueCross BlueShield will replace Cigna as the university's Administrative Services Organization. Due to this change, all CU Health Plan members in the Exclusive or Access Network plan are encouraged to select a primary care physician. **Dependents:** Dependents only need to be verified once; they then remain in the system every year. **ID cards:** Everyone enrolling in a CU Health Plan will receive a new insurance ID card by mid-June.

If you have questions, please call Employee Services at 303-860-4200 and select option 3 or call toll-free at 855-216-7740.

[Navy son, stationed in Japan, surprises mom by appearing at her graduation](#)[22]

Graduate Beth Rozinek, left, with her son, Zac Drake, at CU Denver's Spring Commencement on Saturday.

The bear hug between the mom in a cap and gown and son in Navy fatigues went on for more than a minute. Zac Drake, stationed in Japan, hadn't seen his mother, Beth Rozinek, in 18 months.

He surprised her by flying in for her graduation. Spring Commencement took place Saturday morning under sunny skies on the Auraria Fields. More than 1,900 University of Colorado Denver graduates, many of them non-traditional students like Rozinek, received degrees.

Drake stood at the edge of the crowd and beamed as his mom's name was read over the loudspeaker. "Granted, I was way in the back, but I could still see her on the giant TV up there," he said. "I'm extremely proud."

After the ceremony, Rozinek's other three sons, her husband, mother and other relatives watched as Drake appeared

from behind a row of port-a-pottis. She was speechless. All she could do was embrace him in long hug.

"Overwhelmed. Excited. Happy," she said. "It's overwhelming whenever I see him. I can't even explain it. It just brings everything out. And here with all of his brothers, it's just so important to all of us."

Drake kept his plans a secret, but a snafu at the Chicago airport almost unraveled the plot. Going through security, his computer was inadvertently picked up by another traveler. Upon discovering the mistake, the person contacted the last person Drake had emailed -- his mother. So even though Rozinek learned that Zac was in the States, he covered his tracks by saying he'd been sent to his new station in Virginia a couple weeks early.

Asked if she had any idea that her 26-year-old Navy son was going to show up in Denver, Rozinek said, "There were some clues, but then it was like 'no' and then it was like 'maybe,' then it was like 'no.'"

She said that earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration at age 50 is "pretty surreal." Rozinek, who already had an associate's degree, began her journey toward a bachelor's five years ago. In her first class at CU Denver was a student who had graduated with Drake at Fort Lupton High School.

"You find out in today's day and age that even if you know what you're doing, even if you have experience, they want a piece of paper saying you know what you're doing," Rozinek said. "Working full time, (going back to school) was hard. But it is gratifying that I can now say, 'OK, I have the experience and I have this (degree).'"

Drake said his mother spent all her time raising her family. "I'm so proud of her," he said. "Dealing with kids, school, work -- trying to get it all in. I don't have any words to express how happy I am for her."

Rozinek's mother, Kathy Dorris, said she suspected her grandson might pull off a surprise at commencement. "I wouldn't have been surprised if he'd gone to give her the diploma up there," she said. "I was half expecting him to pull off something like that."

In other graduate news, Denver City Councilman Christopher Herndon, also a nontraditional student, earned a master of public administration degree from CU Denver on Saturday.

Rozinek said she'd like to work in human resources, explaining benefit plans to employees. Her immediate plans are just to spend time with her family.

"It's a journey and a struggle," she said. "Especially as an older student, going back and saying, 'Oh my gosh, I haven't done this in so long.' It's very different than it was (the first time). But it's been a great learning experience."

Three alumni received special awards:

Alumni Mack Easton Award -- Gedeon LaFarge: A 1985 graduate of the University of Colorado Boulder and a 1990 graduate of the University of Colorado Denver's master of architecture program, Gedeon LaFarge has provided outstanding voluntary contributions and service to the Denver Campus, particularly over the past 15 years.

An active and supportive member of the CU Denver Alumni Association, he served two terms on its board from 1998 through 2012, playing a vital role in the organization's success. He worked on several committees and held the chair, vice president and president positions for the association. He served on the University of Colorado Foundation Board of Trustees as alumni liaison from 2010 to 2012, and in 2007 was named outstanding volunteer of the alumni association.

A licensed architect and founder of LaFarge Architects, LLC, LaFarge has lent his professional expertise to CU Denver's College of Architecture and Planning for a number of years. He and his wife established the LaFarge Endowment for Technology and Architectural Education Fund for instruction on building technology in the College of Architecture and Planning.

Alumni Legislative Award -- Crisanta Duran: Since 2011, State Rep. Crisanta Duran has worked to advance higher

education in Colorado, and the Auraria Campus and CU Denver in particular.

Rep. Duran has served on the Judiciary, State Veterans & Military Affairs and Legislative Council committees in the state's General Assembly. She currently serves on the Appropriations and the Joint Budget Committees. As a member of the Joint Budget Committee, Rep. Duran supported the supplemental 2013 budget request to bring additional funding to higher education institutions. Rep. Duran agreed to fund the Auraria Campus' controlled maintenance projects during the 2013 session, including sprinkler installation and Americans with Disabilities Act improvements to the Tenth Street Pedestrian Corridor. She also strongly advocated for \$4 million for the Auraria Library renovation project, which passed successfully, and she sponsored the ASSET legislation, the measure making undocumented students eligible for resident tuition rates at state colleges and universities.

This year, she backed HB 13-1001, the Advanced Industries Acceleration Act, which includes biosciences funding for higher education research institutions. She also supported SB 13-133, Distribution of State Share of Limited Gaming Revenues, which designates another source of funding for innovative research grants at higher education research institutions.

At age 30, Rep. Duran became the youngest Latina ever elected to the Colorado House of Representatives, with more than 76 percent of the votes.

Alumni Recognition Award -- Karen Sugar: Karen Sugar founded the Women's Global Empowerment Fund (WGEF) to open doors for women in northern Uganda. Through microfinance loans and education programs, the fund creates opportunities while strengthening families and communities. It seeks to offer women the leadership skills and empowerment required to lead successful, dignified lives.

A 2008 graduate of CU Denver with an MA in political science, Sugar began creating her nonprofit organization and microfinance model while still in school — developing ideas into projects for her courses, hiring local staff in Uganda, and implementing the pilot project. She crafted her program based on existing research on microfinance and after talking to a number of experts in the field.

Several aspects of WGEF make it stand out from other grassroots microfinance projects. It provides a social and political dimension, focusing on literacy, leadership development and health initiatives. It also includes a peer counseling program that works with borrower groups who are having difficulties.

To repay the support she received from CU Denver, Sugar has also sponsored numerous CU Denver interns working with WGEF, giving them a chance to learn about development, Africa and what it's like to run an international nongovernmental organization. In addition, she continues to come back to lecture and share her experiences with students.

Article submitted by University Communications

[Faculty working to develop Lane Center plan](#)[24]

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As construction crews work to complete the physical structure for the Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences on North Nevada Avenue, faculty members are working to define what will happen inside the space.

Provost Mary Coussons-Read – along with faculty representing nursing, health sciences, biology, psychology, the CU Center on Aging, and the Trauma, Health and Hazards Center – recently began discussing how the various units that will eventually be in the Lane Center will cooperate with one another and with community organizations that will occupy the space.

The goal, Coussons-Read said, is to have UCCS faculty help identify and “flesh out” education and research

opportunities that benefit both students and the community.

“The group is working on how to outline – how to parlay — this great opportunity we have in this building to do something new,” Coussons-Read said. “What we have is unprecedented.”

While the group is far from having the details worked out, Coussons-Read is excited about the potential to increase the research mission of the campus and the potential to affect the lives of people locally and throughout the nation.

In particular, Coussons-Read pointed to the potential of having health care professionals such as gerontologists, mental health experts, nurses, nutritionists, exercise scientists and primary care physicians working together to improve individual wellness and quality of life. In addition to several UCCS departments, the Lane Center will be home to a branch of the CU School of Medicine and a senior health clinic operated by Peak Vista Community Health Center.

“We have an incredible capacity and ability to educate students in a unique integrated care and training facility,” Coussons-Read said.

Integrated health care brings together behavioral health and physical health with primary care, Coussons-Read explained. The potential to transition the current model of health care where patients see specialists who operate independently from each other to one where professionals share information and work cooperatively to benefit the individual is exciting.

As an example, Coussons-Read explained that under current models, a physician treating someone for a sore knee might notice signs of cognitive impairment and refer the patient to a mental health professional located in another part of the city. In many cases, patients simply don't follow up on the referral and the mental health issue is left untreated. In new models, a physician treating a sore knee, and who notices cognitive impairment, would have mental health professionals available as part of a health care team to make assessments and recommend treatment on the spot.

As construction crews continue to work on the building's physical structure, Coussons-Reads expects work to continue on developing the activities that will take place inside. The \$18.5 million building, the first UCCS structure on North Nevada, is expected to open in early 2014.

To hear an interview with Mary Coussons-Read on UCCS Radio, visit <https://soundcloud.com/uccs-radio/in-the-spotlight-with-mary>[26]

[Northern hemisphere losing last dry snow region, says CU study](#)[27]

Last July, something unprecedented in the 34-year satellite record happened: 98 percent of the Greenland Ice Sheet's surface melted, compared to roughly 50 percent during an average summer. Snow that usually stays frozen and dry turned wet with melt water. Research led by the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences now shows last summer's extreme melt could soon be the new normal.

“Greenland is warming rapidly, and such ice-sheet-wide, surface-melt events will occur more frequently over the next couple of decades,” said Dan McGrath, a University of Colorado Boulder doctoral student who works at CIRES. McGrath is lead author of a paper published online Monday in *Geophysical Research Letters* and which reports a significant warming trend on the Greenland Ice Sheet.

McGrath and his coauthors calculate that by 2025 ice-sheet-wide melt events will have a 50 percent chance of occurring each year. That would signal the loss of the last major dry-snow zone -- regions where the snow stays almost perpetually frozen -- in the Northern Hemisphere, McGrath said.

In the study, the researchers used air and snow temperature data from meteorological stations and boreholes to generate a 60-year record of air temperatures at the Summit research station, the highest and coldest station on the

ice sheet.

From 1982 to 2011, near-surface temperatures increased by an average of 0.16 degrees Fahrenheit every year. "This is six times faster than the global average," McGrath said.

The warming at Summit is also accelerating. From 1950 to 2011, the average rate of warming was 0.04 degrees F per year. But from 1992 to 2011, that number jumped to 0.22 degrees F per year.

The warming has had a dramatic effect on the ice sheet's structure, the scientists report. The ice sheet's ablation zone -- the lower parts that lose more snow and ice each year than they accumulate -- is expanding up the ice sheet by about 145 feet per year.

"This increases the area over which the ice sheet sheds mass while shrinking the zone that gains mass," McGrath said. "That will have an obvious impact on the ice sheet's mass balance."

Additionally, the dry-snow line -- above which the snow doesn't melt -- is migrating up the ice sheet by about 115 feet per year. "These zones are indicators of the health of the ice sheet," McGrath said. "And the changes we are observing are an early but important sign that the ice sheet is in transition."

The changes could increase the amount of solar radiation the ice sheet absorbs -- since wet snow reflects less sunlight than dry snow -- increasing the melt rate as well. It also could potentially speed up the ice sheet's flow, though more work needs to be done to untangle these impacts.

These findings are supported by results from other researchers who have found that the ice sheet is losing more than 275 billion tons of ice per year -- equivalent to the weight of 750,000 Empire State Buildings. "This imbalance is making a significant contribution to sea-level rise," McGrath said.

The summit of the Greenland Ice Sheet has experienced surface melt in the past, McGrath says. But the melt events in the past were rare, happening once every century or two -- only eight times in the last 1,500 years -- the exception rather than the norm. Now the norm is shifting toward a new, slushy set point.

"Progressive increases in surface melt have occurred throughout the satellite record, but the last decade has been exceptional," McGrath said. "If each of these events keeps being so far above the average, the average will change to reflect that."

The scientists' findings come at a time when Arctic sea ice extent is also at record lows. "Ice-sheet-wide melting coupled with the loss of Arctic sea ice points to profound changes occurring to the Arctic climate system," McGrath said. "These are not small, insignificant events we're witnessing."

NASA Cryospheric Sciences funded the research, with additional field logistical support provided by the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs. Co-authors include former CIRES Director Konrad Steffen, CIRES adjunct research associate William Colgan, former CIRES doctoral student Atsuhiko Muto, and current CIRES doctoral student Nicolas Bayou.

CIRES is a joint institute of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and CU-Boulder.

[Dual chamber defibrillators pose higher risk of complications](#)[28]

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A device commonly used to treat dangerous heart rhythms may cause more issues for patients than a simpler version of the same device. The implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) prevents sudden cardiac death by detecting irregularities and delivering an electrical jolt to restart the heart.

An analysis led by researchers at University of Colorado School of Medicine and published in the May 15 issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association* focused on people getting ICDs who do not have a clear reason for pacemaker support. The study found more complex and more expensive dual-chamber ICDs do not appear to offer any clinical benefit when compared with single-chamber devices. In fact, dual chamber devices were associated with more complications in the first year after implantation.

“A central decision regarding ICD therapy is whether to use a single-chamber or dual-chamber device,” says the study’s lead author, Pamela Peterson, MD, MSPH, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology at the CU School of Medicine. “More complex dual-chamber devices may offer theoretical benefits but may also have greater risks.”

Peterson and colleagues compared outcomes, including mortality, hospitalizations and longer-term device related complications between single- and dual-chamber devices. The study included admissions in the National Cardiovascular Data Registry’s (NCDR) ICD registry from 2006-2009 that could be linked to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services data.

Among 32,034 patients, 12,246 (38 percent) received a single-chamber device and 19,788 (62 percent) received a dual-chamber device. Rates of complications were lower for single-chamber devices (3.51 percent vs. 4.72 percent), but there was no difference between patients receiving single lead or dual lead devices with respect to 1-year mortality (unadjusted rate, 9.85 percent vs. 9.77 percent), 1-year all-cause hospitalization (unadjusted rate, 43.86 percent vs. 44.83 percent), or hospitalization for heart failure (unadjusted rate, 14.73 percent vs. 15.38 percent).

“Because implanting a dual-chamber ICD is a more complex and time-consuming procedure than implanting a single-chamber device, the possibility of device-related complications such as infection and lead displacement are higher,” Peterson says. “The decision to implant a dual-chamber ICD should be considered carefully.”

Peterson’s work is supported by a grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. This research also was supported by the American College of Cardiology Foundation’s National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR).

[CU-Boulder cheers faculty/staff giving to CU](#)[30]

Jack ('64, '70) and Jeannie ('64) Thompson are volunteer chairs of the Creating Futures campaign for CU-Boulder, and in March made a transformative gift to endow the Jazz Studies program.

Some 200 Boulder campus faculty, staff and fundraisers — most of whom make financial gifts to the University of Colorado — gathered Friday at Chancellor Philip DiStefano’s home for a late afternoon reception to celebrate faculty and staff.

They heard remarks from campus and fundraising leadership, supporters including Pat Furman ('76, JD '80) and Tate Nelson ('92), and Arts & Sciences student Anne Stuller ('14). DiStefano acknowledged Colorado House of Representatives Majority Leader Dickey Lee Hullinghorst, remarking that she helped push through legislation on behalf of CU.

Furman spoke about a student of his—law alumnus Daniel Barash ('02), whose life was tragically cut short in 2004. After working with family members to create the Daniel Barash Scholarship Fund, he made gifts and helped raise money from others. The scholarship fund, which now exceeds \$800,000, benefits CU law students with a career interest in criminal defense for the indigent.

“I give to education because it’s my belief that it’s the single most important institution that makes democracy work,” he said.

Since the Creating Futures campaign began in 2006, more than 1,350 CU-Boulder faculty and staff have given \$42.9 million to the university toward academic programs, capital infrastructure, and other CU-Boulder priorities. The number of faculty donations has increased by 33 percent and the number of staff donations has increased by 13 percent.

In all, \$1.4 billion in private support has been generated toward Creating Future's \$1.5 billion goal.

Tate Nelson, development associate for CU-Boulder Athletics, spoke about the opportunity he has to make the university better every day.

"There is no other part of my life that has had such a great impact as my four years here," he said. "We talk so much about finding our donors' passion—I remember when I made that first \$500 check out to CU."

Nelson introduced scholarship recipient Anne Stuller, a forward on CU women's soccer team and 2012 Pac-12 Academic Honorable Mention honoree. She reflected that the scholarship has given her a renewed sense of discipline and determination while she completes her degree.

DiStefano recognized donors who have made planned gifts such as real estate, which can help CU now and in the future. He also mentioned the Esteemed Scholars Program—a new initiative that awards scholarships to top Colorado high school students who choose to attend the University of Colorado Boulder.

"You don't just give to institutions—you invest in the ideas and people in whom you believe," he said.

To give back to CU via payroll deduction, [visit cufund.org](http://visit.cufund.org)[32]. To learn about ways you can support CU in the future through a planned gift, [visit cufund.giftlegacy.com](http://visit.cufund.giftlegacy.com)[33]

[UCCS celebrates Regent Emeritus Bishop](#)[34]

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CU Regent Emeritus **Tillie Bishop** and his wife, **Pat**, were toasted by current and former members of the Board of Regents, elected officials and University of Colorado Colorado Springs administrators at an event earlier this month. They used words such as statesman, mentor and leader to describe the legendary 78-year-old legislator from Grand Junction.

But it was Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak who recognized Bishop as a hometown hero, noting that both Tillie and Pat Bishop grew up in Colorado Springs and attended Colorado Springs High School – now Palmer – before moving to the Western Slope where they made a lasting impact. For more than 30 years, Tillie Bishop held administrative positions at Colorado Mesa University, dating to a time when it was a two-year college. Pat Bishop spent more than 30 years as a public school educator.

Calling his wife the "speaker of the house" as well as "chair of the budget committee," Tillie Bishop shared credit for his success with Pat and cited their 60-year marriage as a cornerstone of his personal and professional success. He also cited the faculty at each of the CU campuses for building a great university.

Tillie Bishop was first elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1970 and served in both the House and Senate for 24 years, the last six as senate president pro tem. He is the fourth-longest serving member of the Colorado General Assembly in Colorado history and also served as a Mesa County commissioner. His six-year term to the Board of Regents ended in 2012 when, citing health concerns, he did not run for re-election.

As a legislator, Tillie Bishop was known for his support for education as well as for being what CU President Bruce Benson called a "common sense conservative." He introduced 736 bills during his time in the General Assembly; 456 were signed into law. He also sponsored 147 resolutions and 32 memorials, making him one of the most successful

legislators in Colorado history.

[Patel tapped for Dream Team to fight Childhood Epilepsy Syndrome](#)[36]

[37]

Manisha Patel, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, has been selected to lead one of eight “Dream Teams” of research scientists tasked with curing childhood epilepsy at a variety of institutions throughout the country. Funding comes from Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE). Patel’s team includes **Kelly Knupp**, assistant professor of pediatrics-neurology at the School of Medicine, and **Joe Gomez**, a senior professional research assistant in pharmaceutical sciences.

Since announcing the launch of its new Infantile Spasms Research Initiative earlier this year, CURE has awarded eight teams of investigators \$1.3 million in grants to proceed with cutting-edge research to find a cure for infantile spasms, a rare childhood epilepsy syndrome. Infantile spasms (IS) can have profoundly negative long-term developmental and cognitive consequences. Available treatments are often ineffective and frequently associated with substantial adverse effects.

According to CURE, the lead investigators bring a wealth of expertise and perspectives to the overall team that spans adult and pediatric neurology, basic mechanisms of the epilepsies, animal modeling, human genetics and clinical trial design and execution.

"A big part of what we do at CURE is break down the barriers that have impeded progress towards cures," said Susan Axelrod, chair and founding member of the organization. "This dream team is a powerful alliance, and we are proud to have brought them together in pursuit of a cure."

The projects associated with this initiative involve investigators at multiple institutions, emphasizing a novel, team approach to research. This pioneering approach encourages the investigators to function as a united team and remain focused on the common goal of finding a cure for infantile spasms.

[Chadwick is 'Let Your Light Shine' EPA Employee of the Month](#)[38]

[39]

Kelly Chadwick, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Human Resources coordinator, is the recipient of the “Let Your Light Shine” award for April. Chadwick has worked for the university for just over a year and already has had five different supervisors. Even with such change in leadership, she still has been able to excel and should be described as the poster child for adapting to change.

This Employee of the Month award is given by the CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus Exempt Professional Assembly (EPA).

Chadwick’s nominator noted that two supervisors for the department left the same day, and Kelly was able to step up and be the sole Human Resources (HR) coordinator and succeed in the position. She took initiative to develop resources in the central HR office and even developed processes and procedures to address everyday HR/payroll concerns that arose in the college.

The EPA “Let Your Light Shine” Employee of the Month program kicked off in April 2012 to honor University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus employees who deserve special recognition for their outstanding efforts, which benefit the university as a whole and those who come in contact with these individuals in the line of their duties.

[Leinwand honored with Bonfils-Stanton Award](#)[40]

[41]

Leslie Leinwand, chief scientific officer of the University of Colorado Boulder's BioFrontiers Institute, was honored earlier this month as one of three recipients of the annual Bonfils-Stanton Awards, which are given to people who make outstanding contributions to enhance the quality of life for Colorado residents.

Leinwand, who is an expert in on cardiovascular disease, was honored in the science and medicine category. Her research focuses on heart disease in women and on the blood of Burmese pythons, which has the unusual property of greatly increasing the size of the snake's internal organs after a large meal, a feature that could have implications for combating human heart disease.

[Walker performs world premiere in Washington, D.C.](#)[42]

[43]

Gregory T.S. Walker, professor in the University of Colorado Denver College of Arts and Media (CAM) in the string program, performed the world-premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer George Walker's "Bleu" for solo violin at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., on April 20. George Walker is Gregory's father.

The younger Walker performed playing a new computer-scanned "Betts" Stradivarius violin copy, known as the "Oberlin Betts." Walker observed that the premiere "wasn't too bad; it's never easy to get used to a new instrument on short notice."

A compact disc of Gregory Walker's own symphonic electric guitar music, "Electric Vivaldi: Global Solstice," is scheduled for release next month from Centaur Records. It was co-produced by CAM Associate Professor Leslie Gaston. Walker also performed the "Electric Vivaldi Guitar Concerto" (from the CD) with the Northwest Civic Orchestra in Powell, Wyo., on May 4.

[Dropping names ...](#)[44]

Foss

Martinez

Schwartz

Allison Kempe, professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine and director of the Children's Outcomes Research Program at Children's Hospital Colorado, has been appointed to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Her term begins July 1. Last month, Kempe was named "Big Shot of the Year" by the Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition. ... **Sonja K. Foss**, research professor in communication in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, recently completed a lecture tour of four universities in China. She lectured on the topic "Beyond Persuasion: A Proposal for an Invitational Rhetoric" to undergraduates, graduate students and faculty at Shanghai University in Shanghai, Qufu Normal University in Qufu,

Zhengzhou University in Zhengzhou, and Hunan University of Science and Technology in Zhuzhou. ... **Donna Martinez**, professor and chair of ethnic studies at CU Denver, published the article "American Indian Students in Culture Blind Schools" in April's Journal of Modern Education Review. ... **David Schwartz**, chair of the Department of Medicine in the School of Medicine, recently received the American Thoracic Society's Amberson Lecture award at the American Thoracic Society International Conference in Philadelphia. This award is given annually to an individual with a career of major lifetime contributions to clinical or basic pulmonary research and/or clinical practice. The lecture is given in honor of James Burns Amberson, an international authority on chest disease and tuberculosis. ... Two School of Medicine administrators were honored recently for their contributions to the university's diversity efforts. **Regina Richards**, director of diversity and inclusion and program coordinator for the BA/BS-MD Program, received an Outstanding Staff award, and **Terri Blevins**, director of student and career development and instructor in the Department of Family Medicine, was honored with the Outstanding Faculty award at the annual Chancellor's Diversity Recognition and Award Luncheon.

[Shape up for summer at Anschutz Health and Wellness Center](#)[48]

Now is the time to get in shape for summer at the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center (AHWC) on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. With current fitness membership offers, the sooner you start, the more you save:

Become a member before May 31 and pay no dues for May, then enjoy June, July and August – and get September free.

Or become a member during June, enjoy July, August and September, then get October free.

The AHWC features:

The latest innovations in exercise equipment from Technogym
More than 60 group exercises available per week as part of your membership including yoga, Zumba and Pilates
Get started with a unique and individualized Wellness Report, to chart your course towards better health
Indoor running track, fitness pool and whirlpool
Access to our world-class team of trainers
Fee-based massage, acupuncture and other wellness services
Luxurious, full-service locker rooms
Fee-based education on weight management and other nutrition services
Healthy cuisine at Bistro Elaia café
Much more

Contact the AHWC for a free three-day fitness center guest pass or to learn more:

membership@anschutzwellness.com[49].

Links

[1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-jeanie-youngwerth>[2] <https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-jeanie-youngwerth/5q-youngwerth1>[3] <https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-jeanie-youngwerth/5q-youngwerth2>[4] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-share-scholarship-teaching-and-learning>[5] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc-top.png>[6] <http://www.colorado.edu/ptsp/ptlc>[7] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc08%2B.png>[8] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc07%2B.png>[9] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc06%2B.png>[10] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc05%2B.png>[11] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc04%2B.png>[12] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc03%2B.png>[13] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc02%2B.png>[14] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc01%2B.png>[15] <https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ptlc01%2B.png>

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