Five CU researchers named to 2021 class of Boettcher Investigators[1]
[2]

Five leading biomedical researchers from the University of Colorado are among the latest class of Boettcher Investigators, announced earlier this week by the Boettcher Foundation.

The 2021 Boettcher Investigators are the newest recipients of grant funding through the Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards Program, which supports promising, early career scientific researchers by helping them to advance their independent research and compete for major federal and private awards in the future.

Each researcher receives $235,000 in grant funding to support up to three years of biomedical research.

CU's new Boettcher Investigators and their research topics are:

CU Anschutz Medical Campus

[3]

Joshua Bear, M.D., M.A., Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neurology; Studying cortical networks in medication-refractory epilepsy

[4]

Sarah Clark, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Otolaryngology; Host-pathogen interactions in the airway

[5]

Craig Forester, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and BMT; Determinants of nascent gene expression in hematopoiesis

[6]

Mia J. Smith, D.V.M., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; B-cells in the pathogenesis of T1D

CU Boulder
[7]

Nausica Arnoult, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology; DNA repair and genome stability

The 2021 class of Boettcher Investigators also includes a researcher from Colorado State University. Read more here.**[8]**

This year's $1.41 million in biomedical research grant funds facilitate the Boettcher Foundation's goal to retain top scientific talent in Colorado.

"The 2021 class of Boettcher Investigators represents some of Colorado's most dynamic and promising researchers," said Katie Kramer, president and CEO of the Boettcher Foundation. "These leaders are committed to developing treatments and cures that will improve health and change lives, as we've seen the biomedical research sector demonstrate this past year. The Boettcher Foundation is proud to support these researchers at a pivotal time in their careers and to contribute to the incredible advancements in health innovation underway in our state."

This 12th class of Boettcher Investigators brings the total number of CU-based awardees**[9] to 54, representing research awards of over $12.5 million.**

Since its inception in 2010, the Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards program has advanced the work of 82 Boettcher Investigators, including the 2021 class. These researchers have attracted a collective $100 million in additional independent research funding from federal, state and private sources. Among all award recipients, 96% remain at Colorado research institutions, advancing the foundation's mission of keeping Colorado's top scientific minds in the state.

"Colorado BioScience Association thanks Boettcher Foundation for its enduring commitment to science and scientific research in Colorado," said Jennifer Jones Paton, president and CEO of Colorado BioScience Association**[10]. "COVID-19 demonstrates the critical importance of science to our health, well-being and economic stability. The Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards program invests in up-and-coming researchers, giving them support to continue their promising work in Colorado. I'm pleased to congratulate the Boettcher Investigators on this incredible honor."**

The Boettcher Foundation has been a leading philanthropic supporter of biomedical research in Colorado for many years. For more information about the Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards, visit the Boettcher Foundation website.**[11]**

Regents active in presidential transition discussions[12]

The University of Colorado Board of Regents this week met to continue its work on the presidential transition. Additionally, the board's Governance Committee discussed the issue on Wednesday.

After the full board met Monday in executive session, Board Chair Glen Gallegos said the regents had a productive conversation about next steps and that the board is making progress.

“The board has a sharp focus on ensuring a smooth transition. It’s our top priority,” Gallegos said. “Selecting a president is one of the board’s most important tasks, and we are giving it the time and attention it deserves.”

The board discussed potential interim presidents from inside and outside the institution, as well as the qualities they would like to see in that person and the timeline for naming a permanent president, Gallegos said.

Last week, the board approved a transition agreement[13] with President Mark Kennedy that set his departure date as July 1.

At Wednesday’s Governance Committee meeting, the regents also discussed the board’s current search policy and refinements it may need to make. Committee members discussed which issues related to the search they will consider at the board’s retreat in July, including examining the process of the most recent presidential search.

Additionally, a small group is examining CU policies related to searches for executive positions, including the president, said Jeremy Hueth, vice president, university counsel and secretary of the Board of Regents. The group will propose any changes after a notice of motion at the board’s June 17 meeting.

Hueth said a number of constituents in the university community will likely have opinions on search policies that will be considered. The Board of Regents will have adequate time to consider and adopt changes, he said.

“This is a slightly unusual time with a lot of uncertainty in the air, so transparency is important,” Hueth said.

Transformation and Innovation Program in transition as projects move forward[14]
[15]

As CU’s Transformation and Innovation Program approaches the start of its third year, several projects are moving forward while the Program Management Office enters a state of transition.

The Transformation and Innovation Program (TIP), a collaboration among the four campuses and system administration, aims to better position CU to efficiently and effectively deliver technology services to students, faculty, researchers and staff, and better leverage technology’s role in advancing the university’s mission.

While efforts launched from TIP will continue, project management ownership for the TIP initiatives currently underway will transition from being under the TIP Program Management Office (PMO) to University Information Services (UIS). The IT Procurement project will continue to be driven from the Purchasing Service Center (PSC) with support from the UIS PMO.

“Using CU’s IT Governance Committee[16], campus and system leadership will be working closely in the coming months to prioritize where to put our efforts to best enable the campuses to serve our students, faculty and staff,” said Scott Munson, Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer of UIS, CU system. “We are approaching this next phase together in a thoughtful, sustainable manner, ensuring the mission of each campus is served.”

As part of the project ownership transition, Harper Johnson will return to his full-time position as the Assistant Vice Chancellor for IT and Chief Information Officer (CIO) at UCCS, effective July 1.

"I appreciate all that Harper has achieved in advancing this critical program," said CU President Mark Kennedy. "I have

great confidence in the ability of Scott and the rest of the team to keep moving forward with these projects."

Joanna Iturbe, Enterprise Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) Director, and Kristen Quintana, Senior Project Manager, will move to UIS and continue their respective roles in the CRM program and IT Procurement project.

Projects moving forward are the development of a CU-wide CRM strategy for the most common use cases, the development of standards and processes to support more effective and efficient IT procurement, and defining a CU-wide data strategy to improve access to data and to standardize reporting.

“I look forward to continuing to collaborate on these and future projects with the other three campuses, UIS and Advancement,” Johnson said.

To determine priorities for the coming fiscal year, Organizational Change Management (OCM) resources are conducting stakeholder interviews with the campus chancellors, provosts, CFOs and other key leaders through mid-June to understand their perspectives on TIP and CU Online[17]. The interviews will help to identify where system-level initiatives fit in terms of scope, commitment, resource availability and risk. Key themes from the interviews will be provided to the IT Governance Committee in mid-June for action planning.

The hiring process for the new Chief Technology Transformation Officer role is on hold pending outcomes of the stakeholder interviews and prioritization work.

Healthy gut and healthy heart: AB Nexus funds second round of grants [18]

CU-sponsored National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education set for June[19]
[20]

CU is among the sponsors of this year’s National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education[21] (NCORE), a leading forum on issues of race and ethnicity in higher education.

Based at the University of Oklahoma, the virtual conference[22] is set for June 7-11.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) leaders from the four CU campuses and system administration attending the conference are:
Theodosia Cook, System Chief Diversity Officer Regina Richards, Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Engagement, CU Anschutz Dominic Martinez, Assistant Vice Chancellor for the Office of Inclusion and Outreach and Undocumented Student Services, CU Anschutz Dyonne Bergeron, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Inclusion and Student Achievement, CU Boulder Antonio Farias, Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, CU Denver Nelia Viveiros, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Operations, CU Denver
Launched in 1988 by the Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies, the conference aims “to provide a national forum to discuss issues, promote solutions and share best practices regarding diversity, inclusion, equity and social justice in higher education.”

Keynotes for this year’s event include Kimberlé Crenshaw, lawyer, civil rights advocate and acclaimed scholar; Kim TallBear, associate professor, Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta, and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Peoples, Technoscience and Environment; and Bamby Salcedo, president and CEO of the TransLatin@ Coalition, a national organization that focuses on addressing the issues of transgender Latin@s in the United States.

CU Boulder announces Center for African and African American Studies [23]

One year later: How George Floyd's death changed us[24]

Donations from 10th annual Move-Out event have surprising second lives [25]

June 'soft return' questions answered at info session[26]

With a treasure trove of data, CU Anschutz gears up to strike gold [27]

Yu receives NSF CAREER award to support research in active polymers[28]

Guyer named associate vice chancellor for student affairs [29]

Miller awarded for research on COVID-19 transmission via singing [30]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/five-cu-researchers-named-2021-class-boettcher-investigators[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bfww_top_1.jpg[3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bfww_bear.jpg[4] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bfww_clark.jpg[5] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bfww_forrester.jpg[6] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bfww_smith.jpg[7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bfww_arnoult.jpg[8] https://boettcherfoundation.org/2021-boettcher-investigators/[9] https://www.cu.edu/bfww/cu-investigators[10] https://cobioscience.com/[11] https://boettcherfoundation.org/webb-waring-biomedical-research/[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-active-

presidential-transition-discussions[13] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/board-regents-president-kennedy-agree-terms-transition[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/transformation-and-innovation-program-transition-projects-move-forward[15] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/tip_top.png[16] https://www.cu.edu/it-gov/members[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/signing-services-agreements-term-sheets-advances-cu-online[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/healthy-gut-and-healthy-heart-ab-nexus-funds-second-round-grants[19] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-sponsored-national-conference-race-and-ethnicity-american-higher-education-set-june[20] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/ncore_top.png[21] https://www.ncore.ou.edu/en/about/[22] https://www.ncore.ou.edu/en/ncore-2021/[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-boulder-announces-center-african-and-african-american-studies[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/one-year-later-how-george-floyd-s-death-changed-us[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/donations-10th-annual-move-out-event-have-surprising-second-lives[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/june-soft-return-questions-answered-info-session[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/treasure-trove-data-cu-anschutz-gears-strike-gold[28] https://connections.cu.edu/people/yu-receives-nsf-career-award-support-research-active-polymers[29] https://connections.cu.edu/people/guyer-named-associate-vice-chancellor-student-affairs[30] https://connections.cu.edu/people/miller-awarded-research-covid-19-transmission-singing