Commitment to health care for vulnerable communities earns CU educator Chase Faculty Community Service Award

Kathryn D. Boyd-Trull, M.D., faculty member at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, is the recipient of the 2023 Chase Faculty Community Service Award, which recognizes her yearslong commitment to helping vulnerable community members overcome transportation, financial and cultural barriers to accessing vital health care.

Boyd-Trull is an assistant professor in the CU School of Medicine’s Department of Family Medicine, where she also is director of inpatient family medicine. Her spirit of caring and generosity have earned her numerous awards and recognition as a health care leader deeply committed to serving the community.

The Chase Faculty Community Service Award is presented annually to a full-time CU faculty member who, in addition to his or her university responsibilities, has, pro bono, provided exceptional educational, humanitarian, civic or other service in the community. An advisory council submits a recommendation to CU President Todd Saliman, who bestows the honor, which includes a $10,000 grant sponsored by an endowment from JPMorgan Chase through the CU Foundation. Boyd-Trull was honored at a May 1 reception.

Boyd-Trull is the founder and CEO of the Yahweh Health Clinic (YHC), a nonprofit that provides free medical services at food banks and community resource fairs, and directly to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the street. Since launching YHC in 2014, Boyd-Trull has volunteered at hundreds of events and helped provide access to health care and free medical supplies for thousands of high-risk individuals.

“We’re just skimming the surface,” Boyd-Trull said. “There are so many people who have food insecurity, housing insecurity and health care insecurity. The spirit of YHC is to try to get them one step closer to better tomorrows in their health.”

Boyd-Trull also is co-faculty adviser for the CU Street Medicine (CUSM) program, which provides homeless health education to medical students, and refers them to volunteering opportunities such as the YHC. CU Anschutz students – including students from the Physician Assistant Program, the School of Medicine and the College of Nursing – last year provided about 1,000 hours of community service.

Under Boyd-Trull’s direction, CUSM also is working closely with the homeless inpatient consult service to optimize discharge resources for unhoused people upon their discharge from the hospital.

Boyd-Trull’s community contributions extend to her serving as a lead member of Community Partners, a group of Colorado nonprofits that meets monthly to advocate for housing, education and health care for those living at or below the poverty level. She also has completed many medical mission trips across the U.S. and to Mexico, Honduras and Rwanda.

“Receiving the Chase Faculty Community Service Award is so impactful and means so much to me, I can barely talk about it without getting teary,” Boyd-Trull said. “I tell my volunteers, don’t do this work because you want to be recognized. Doing work like this has a lot of great parts, but it can be emotionally draining. When someone you don’t know recognizes you, it’s so humbling and flattering.”

Boyd-Trull’s education and career in medicine are rooted at CU. She earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Colorado Denver and her M.D. at CU Anschutz; she also completed her family medicine residency and hospitalist fellowship training at the campus’s University of Colorado Hospital. In 2013, she joined the faculty as director of family medicine inpatient services. She leads clinical and education activities and serves as a core faculty member in the residency, where she evaluates, advises and mentors medical students, residents and fellows, as well as young faculty.

“Through her volunteerism, Dr. Boyd-Trull makes a remarkable contribution to communities in need by meeting at-risk patients where they are,” said Joseph Coleman, Business Banking Market Manager for Chase in Colorado. “She also is helping to instill that spirit of service in today’s medical students, whose impact will only continue to grow. We’re
very pleased to recognize Dr. Boyd-Trull with the Chase Faculty Community Service Award.”

The Chase Faculty Community Service Award – established in 1991 with a $100,000 donation – is funded annually by an endowment from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation through the CU Foundation. The endowment provides an annual award of $10,000 to a full-time faculty member at the University of Colorado who has rendered exceptional service in his or her community.

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Tuition, compensation recommendations approved by Board of Regents[5]

The CU Board of Regents on Friday voted to approve proposed rates[6] of student tuition and fees and employee compensation for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The figures will be used in building CU’s annual budget, which the board will vote on in June.

During the board’s regular meeting April 27-28[7] at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, CU President Todd Saliman and Chad Marturano, vice president and chief financial officer, thanked state leadership for recently approving a significant increase in funding for higher education – 11.5%, or $118.6 million. CU will see $32 million of that, representing an operating increase of 11.2%. The state also is increasing statewide financial aid by $27.3 million, or 11.5%.

At CU, undergraduate resident tuition rates for students will increase either 4% or 5%, varying by campus. Continuing CU Boulder undergraduate students won’t see an increase over last year, based on the four-year tuition and fee guarantee. Fees also vary by campus.

Compensation for classified staff across the system will increase 5%, adhering to the state requirement. Merit pools between 3% and 4% will apply to all other faculty and staff, varying by campus, with additional pools for salary compression, retention and equity at some campuses ranging from 0% to 4%. All campuses also will increase minimum wage rates for staff and students.

“With these changes, we’re trying to do right by students, faculty and staff with compensation increases while keeping tuition in check, which is made possible by increased state support,” Marturano said.

Regents voted unanimously to approve recommended fee increases, many of which were spearheaded by students. They voted 8-1 in favor of proposed tuition and compensation rates, with Regent Mark VanDriel voting no.

The board also unanimously approved new Associates of General Studies degree programs at CU Denver and UCCS. The action follows the lead of the state’s CORE initiative[8], which enables four-year institutions to award earned associate degrees to eligible former students who have earned at least 70 credits but left college in good academic standing before completing a four-year degree.

A meeting highlight was the board formally recognizing five of the nine most recent CU Distinguished Professors. Ron Sokol of CU Anschutz; Kira Hall, Karolin Luger and Leysia Palen of CU Boulder; and Carlos Paz de Araujo of UCCS attended the April 27 meeting to be honored and receive their awards. The other four from this year’s cohort will be recognized at a future Board of Regents meeting. Read more on the Distinguished Professors here[9] and here[10].

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CU President Saliman visits CU Denver campus [12]
CU Ascend, a new fundraising technology platform, debuts May 30[13]

CU Advancement and the CU Foundation this month will launch a new technology platform that will enhance the university’s relationships with its donors and alumni, increase philanthropic support and protect donor data, among other improvements.

The new technology, called CU Ascend, is a constituent relationship management platform, or CRM, that gives Advancement staff better insight into donors' philanthropic interests through modernized databases and tools. It will debut May 30.

“CU Ascend is a foundation for how we will inspire our donors to support what they’re passionate about across our campuses,” said Annie Baccary, CU’s vice president for Advancement Administration. “We built this platform with them in mind. Their generosity and engagement advances CU’s mission, so it’s crucial we improve their experiences with us. Better donor experiences directly translate to student success, life-changing discoveries and access to world-class health care.”

The launch marks several years of planning and technical work during the NextGen project, a collaborative initiative among each campus’s Advancement office, the CU Foundation, System Advancement and other teams. It’s built using Salesforce and represents a shift to scalable technology that connects more fluidly with relevant CU systems and databases.

CU’s ability to engage donors, thank them for their philanthropy and process their gifts are among the improvements coming. Donors mostly won’t notice any changes when CU Ascend debuts, as most work will happen behind the scenes.

But this month’s launch is just the start, and Advancement and Foundation staff will shift focus in the coming months and years to improving alumni engagement and CU’s giving website as well as email, events and other tools.

“We’re excited to roll out more enhancements, particularly those that improve donors’ and alumni’s more outward experiences with CU — like a new giving website and better connections through email, social media and events,” said Brie Aguila, chairperson for the CU Ascend project and assistant vice chancellor for external relations at CU Anschutz. “But for now, we’re focused on our launch platform. Like all major technology debuts, we expect to find bugs and address other issues. We’ll work on those and then focus on exciting features that are coming up.”

Some CU philanthropic fund managers who handle the distribution of gift funds may notice changes to how they interact with Advancement and the Foundation. Staff who use Foundation reports to access fund information are encouraged to read this primer[14] that details changes to funds.

CU staff with questions about CU Ascend can email cuascend@cu.edu[15].

Updates to systemwide administrative policy statements announced[16]

The Office of Policy and Efficiency (OPE) has announced updates to the following administrative policy statements from the academic affairs area:

Approved Revisions (effective on May 1, 2023)
APS 1020-Review of the Tenure Process (formerly Tenure Accountability)

APS 1020 is about ensuring the integrity and transparency of the tenure process (including related policies) through various accountability measures. The last policy review occurred in 2012 and it was due for substantive review.

These changes were reviewed by the campus chancellors and approved by President Todd Saliman on April 20, 2023.
Administrative Cleanup (effective April 20, 2023)
APS 8004-Procedures for Assessing Student Applicant Criminal/Disciplinary History (formerly Admission Procedures for Assessing Student Applicant Criminal History)

The current update to APS 8004 is an administrative clean-up to ensure that APS 8004 is consistent with statutory changes required by SB19-170[17].

For more detailed information, go to https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/latest-changes[18]. For additional information on systemwide APSs, go to: http://www.cu.edu/ope[19].

Tenure list: April 2023[20]

The CU Board of Regents on April 28 approved 16 tenure awards and appointments.

CU Boulder
Effective Aug. 21, 2023

Awards of tenure:
Torin K. Clark, Assistant Professor, Aerospace Engineering Sciences, College of Engineering and Applied Science
Adam P. Holewinski, Assistant Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science
Daniel Benjamin Larremore, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, College of Engineering and Applied Science
Natasha Shrikant, Assistant Professor, Communication, College of Media, Communication and Information

CU Denver
Effective April 28, 2023, unless otherwise noted

Awards of tenure:
Jennifer Boylan, Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Chloe East, Economics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
John Fisk, Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Adam Lippert, Sociology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Julia Mahfouz, School of Education and Human Development
Geoffrey Propheter, School of Public Affairs
Manish Shirmaokar, Urban and Regional Planning, College of Architecture and Planning
Alireza Vahid, Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering, Design and Computing
Andrea Velásquez Guijo, Economics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Appointments with tenure:
Michael Kocet, School of Education and Human Development
Kristyn Masters, Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering, Design and Computing (Effective June 1, 2023)
Andrey Mikhailitchenko, Business School (Effective July 1, 2023)

Step right up: Tuition Assistance applications are open for Summer 2023[21]

Higher education presents a chance to develop and advance personally and professionally, which is why the University of Colorado provides all benefits-eligible employees and their dependents the Tuition Assistance Benefit (TAB)[22] to lower the overall costs of pursuing higher education. The Summer 2023 application window is now open for all CU campuses.

CU faculty and staff can claim up to nine credits per academic year (fall through summer) on any CU campus. Dependent assistance options[23] vary based on the employee’s home campus and the campus which the dependent attends.

Employees who have claimed the benefit for themselves or designated it to a dependent already this academic year should remember that once the TAB is applied to one individual’s course selections, it can only be used or designated
to that person for the rest of the academic year.

**Tips to remember before claiming TAB**

There are a few usage rules to remember before using the benefit.

TAB-eligible employees can register for undergraduate and graduate courses up to seven days in advance. Reference your campus semester calendar or first day of class start date to ensure you register in time, before you enroll in courses. Verify registration dates by visiting the Tuition Assistance benefit webpage[22]. Under How to apply, select the campus you’re attending and click Register for your courses to view the campus registration dates.

Dependents claiming the TAB can follow the normal designated campus registration dates.

Review campus-specific policies and deadlines on the Tuition Assistance Benefit webpage[22] and the Tuitions Assistance FAQ[24] for benefit usage rules and Summer 2023 deadlines by individual campus.

**Accessing the application**

Log into your employee portal[25]. Open the CU Resources drop-down menu and select Forms. Click the Benefits tile, then click the Tuition Assistance Application tile.

**Deadlines**

Submit your application prior to the campus deadlines listed below.

CU Boulder — June 15 UCCS — June 19 CU Denver I CU Anschutz — June 13

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**Open Enrollment ends at 5 p.m. Friday[26]**

University of Colorado benefits-eligible faculty and staff’s opportunity to have the final word on their benefits selections for the 2023-2024 plan year is 5 p.m. (MDT) Friday. All Open Enrollment selections for the 2023-2024 plan year must be submitted by this time in the employee portal.[25]

There’s no need to act for your current plan if you are satisfied with your health care coverage. However, if you are enrolled in a Health Care Flexible Spending Account or a Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account, you must re-enroll for plan year 2023-24.

Use these resources to evaluate your health care needs and to determine the coverage that best meets your needs. Research plan information, watch informational videos and courses, and find answers to your questions on the Open Enrollment homepage[27]. For a detailed outline of changes for the next plan year, review the What’s New webpage[28]. A few changes include lower cost prescription copayments or coinsurance when you opt for generic drugs, changes to maintenance and specialty medication mail order pharmacies, as well as expanded fertility treatment offerings and increased vision plan annual allowances for eyeglass frames or contact lenses. Watch the two on-demand digital courses, Open Enrollment Overview[29] and the Basics of CU’s Health Plans and Pretax Savings[29], available in English and Spanish. Once you’ve gathered all the necessary information to determine your plan choices, visit the How To Enroll[30] guide to navigate the enrollment process.

**Questions?**

If these resources didn’t provide the answers you’re seeking, reach out to an Employee Services benefits professional by calling 303-860-4200, option 3, or emailing at benefits@cu.edu[31]

**Enroll in digital delivery**

With Open Enrollment tasks complete, consider opting for digital delivery of plan ID cards and legally required notices:
Digital plan ID cards: CU Health Plan members can access medical, dental and pharmacy plan ID cards online or through provider apps.

Forms and notices: Each year, the university is legally required to mail a large packet of benefits notices to all CU Health Plan enrollees. However, you can opt to receive these notices electronically via email. We’ll deliver them to your email inbox and store them conveniently in the portal where you can access them any time – saving time, paper and mailing costs.

New Emirates Mars Mission observations hint at the origins of Mars’ mysterious moon

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Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock to speak at CU Denver's Spring Commencement

How are chemical harm risks established after an industrial spill?

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Sobanet honored for dedicated service, leadership

Peace Corps director Spahn visits CU Boulder

Why viral reservoirs are a prime suspect for long COVID sleuths

Why Nature-Based Therapy Is Gaining Traction Among Veterans
CU Denver uses translation technology for Spanish-speaking students and parents[43]

Links