UCCS social work programs fulfilling critical need[1]

VanDriel joins James, McNulty, Montera in Board of Regents victories[2]
[3]

In a race too close to call until days after the Nov. 8 election, Mark VanDriel became the first Board of Regents[4] member to represent the state's new 8th Congressional District.

VanDriel joins Wanda L. James and Frank McNulty, who were elected in Districts 1 and 4, respectively, and sitting Regent Ken Montera, who won in District 5, as 2022 victors.

As of Nov. 15, Montera, R-Colorado Springs, had 160,043 votes against 104,708 votes for challenger Ron Casados, D-Colorado Springs. (Vote totals in this story are from the Secretary of State's office[5].)

Montera has represented the 5th Congressional District since being appointed to the board by Gov. Jared Polis in December 2021 after the departure of Regent Chance Hill. Montera now will complete Hill's original term, which ends in January 2025.

Montera earlier this year was elected vice chair of the Board of Regents and also serves as chair of the board's treasury investment group. He is vice chair of the Finance Committee and a member of the University Affairs Committee. A graduate of the CU Boulder Leeds School of Business, Montera spent over 30 years as a senior executive in four Fortune 200 companies leading strategy, multi-billion-dollar budgets and direct responsibility for over 40,000 associates.

Montera previously ran for an at-large seat[6], which current Chair Lesley Smith won in 2018.

"I'm feeling pretty good, because I won this time, which is a little different," Montera said. "The biggest difference was running in my congressional district versus running at the state level. When I ran then, I was hitting 63 counties in the state, meeting a lot of people – urban, rural, farming and ranching communities. The great part was getting to understand the state and how diverse and complex it is. It helped me understand what it would be like to govern."

Montera said he's eager to continue the work he began on the board nearly a year ago, guided largely by CU's Strategic Plan[7].

"I couldn't be more pleased with the way the board works and where the university is going, particularly with our selection of Todd Saliman as president," Montera said. "When you look at the success of a board, especially in the nonprofit world, the value comes from the strength of the entire board, not the individual members. The board has to come together collectively to make decisions that advance the university. I've been pleased with the camaraderie our board has and our ability to make decisions – sometimes not popular ones – collectively."

As of Nov. 15, VanDriel, R-Greeley, had received 117,872 votes, while Yolanda Ortega, D-Westminster, had 110,256 votes.

A Greeley native, VanDriel attended CU Boulder as an undergraduate on his way to becoming an educator. After earning a doctorate in American history at the University of South Carolina, he taught undergraduates there for 10 years. In 2020, he returned to Colorado to establish a business coaching undergraduates.

VanDriel said he's thrilled to have won the election.

"It means a lot to have received so much support from the wonderful community in CD8," VanDriel said. "It was a great campaign. I got to advocate for the university to many thousands of concerned and skeptical Coloradans. It was also wonderful having Yolanda Ortega as my opponent. She was passionate and I felt both of us were committed to

improving CU for all."

VanDriel said his priority now is getting to understand his fellow board members.

"The Board of Regents is democratic, so it's essential to understand other perspectives," he said. "Similarly, the university administration deserves regent support and respect in doing their jobs, so I need to master the ins and outs of everyone's before I can be an effective regent."

As of Nov. 15, the vote total for James, D-Denver, was 201,775, while challenger Amy Naes, R-Denver, had 55,091 votes.

James became a first-generation student and Naval ROTC midshipman at CU Boulder 40 years ago. An entrepreneur in the cannabis industry, James considers herself an advocate for political equity, a social justice fighter and a lifelong learner.

The vote total for McNulty, R-Highlands Ranch, was 215,071 as of Nov. 15, while challenger Jack Barrington, D-Las Animas, had 121,366.

McNulty is a former Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, where he served from 2007 to 2013. A CU Boulder alumnus, he works in a political consulting firm.

Two incumbents chose not to seek re-election in 2022: Regent John "Jack" Kroll, D-Denver, representing the 1st Congressional District; and Regent Heidi Ganahl, R-Lone Tree, serving in a statewide at-large seat that now is assigned to the new 8th Congressional District. Regent Sue Sharkey, R-Castle Rock, has represented the 4th Congressional District since 2011 and is term limited.

Regents are elected to six-year terms, which are staggered. Eight of the nine seats are assigned to Colorado's congressional districts, including the newly established 8th District; the final at-large seat is elected by voters statewide.

Winners of last week's board elections are scheduled to be sworn in Jan. 5, 2023, at 1800 Grant St.

Faculty Council Committee Corner: LGBTQ+[8]
[9]

Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing CU Connections series in which the Faculty Council[10] highlights each of its committees and their efforts. See past installments here.[11]

The Faculty Council LGBTQ+ Committee is charged with considering concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender faculty, including: (1) assessing the cultural climate of the university as it pertains to opportunities for LGBTQ+ faculty for academic advancement, productivity and appropriate compensation; (2) making recommendations for creating an academic environment that fosters the academic success of LGBTQ+ faculty; (3) working to assure fairness in the recruitment and retention of LGBTQ+ faculty; and (4) developing support networks and recommending policy to address the needs of LGBTQ+ faculty.

Over the past several years, the LGBTQ+ Committee has advocated for and achieved inclusion of transgender-health-related services in university insurance coverage, coordinated CU's sponsorship of and representation in Denver's PrideFest, and co-hosted intersectional symposia in collaboration with the Committee for Racial and Ethnic Equity.

The committee would like to announce its upcoming spring symposium on May 22, 2023, at UCCS. Save the date for "Queer Futures and Higher Education in the Rocky Mountain West" and look for a call for proposals next month.

The CU Queer Futures Conference seeks to provide a forum for LGBTQ+ and allied, faculty, staff and students to

network and share their research and creative work through intentional intra-campus collaboration.

In this moment of post-pandemic adaptation and political tension, LGBTQ+ identified people and their allies face daunting challenges in the classroom, in their communities and in their areas of work, advocacy and research.

This one-day conference will empower participants with current best-practices to support LGBTQ+ life in the CU system and showcase the CU system's contributions to art, science, social science, business, education, medicine, performance, athletics and innovation from its LGBTQ+ and allied stakeholders. At the heart of this conference will be an emphasis on building a queer inclusive, supportive and energized future.

The committee also would like to remind everyone of this year's Transgender Awareness Week (Nov. 14-20) and the Transgender Day of Remembrance/Resilience on Sunday, Nov. 20. This day memorializes all transgender and nonbinary individuals killed each year due to violent transphobia and emphasizes the strength of trans and gender-nonconforming communities of color.

Out Boulder County has information regarding Sunday's Transgender Day of Remembrance at https://www.outboulder.org/events/transgender-day-of-remembrance-2022[12]. (More information about the Transgender Day of Resilience is at https://www.tdor.co/[13].)

Committee Members (2022-2023)

Ed Cannon, Co-Chair, CU Denver | edward.cannon@ucdenver.edu[14]
Troyann Gentile, Co-Chair, CU Denver | troyann.gentile@ucdenver.edu[15]
George Bayuga, Secretary, UCCS | gbayuga@uccs.edu[16]

Carey Candrian, CU Anschutz
Larry Eames, UCCS
Sean Iwamoto, CU Anschutz
Sandy Ho, UCCS
Marie Hoerner, UCCS
Robert Hill, CU Boulder
Lisa Flores, CU Boulder
Steven Frost, CU Boulder
Katherine Mohrman, CU Denver
Morgan Seamont, CU Boulder

CU faculty researchers invited to apply for 2023 Boettcher Investigator status[17]

The University of Colorado and the Boettcher Foundation announce the 2023 Boettcher Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards[18] program.

About the program

The Boettcher Foundation has established the Boettcher Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards program, which will provide up to six grants of $235,000 each covering up to three years of research activity with the intent to provide independent research opportunities to promising and talented early career investigators. Awardees will carry the title of Boettcher Investigator in acknowledgement of the prestige of the award.

The biomedical research, supported pursuant to this grant program, will be designed to find ways to prevent disease and improve human health through basic and applied biomedical research. The intent of the program is to fund meritorious research that has the potential for new discoveries or advances a discovery to the proof of its potential value as an application to improve human health. This research will improve the understanding, treatment and

prevention of human disease.

Since the first awards granted in July 2010, the Boettcher Foundation has awarded CU's 59 current Boettcher Investigators[19] more than $13.7 million.

Pre-submission webinar

In an upcoming webinar, potential applicants can get more information about the award program, the application and selection process, application tips, and participate in a Q&A with the chair and vice chair of the 2023 selection panel. The event is set for 3:30-4:30 p.m. Dec. 9. Click here to register.[20]

How to apply

Eligible faculty researchers from all four CU campuses are encouraged to apply. For purposes of this program, an eligible early career investigator (ECI):
An investigator who is four years or fewer from their initial career-track academic appointment as of Jan. 1 of the award/selection year (i.e., whose initial career-track appointments began no earlier than Jan. 1, 2019); Has not previously received a major, independent research award; An investigator who received a terminal degree or completed their initial medical residency within 10 years of Jan. 1 of the award/selection year (i.e., on or after Jan. 1, 2013); and An investigator who is either a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, as of date of application in the award/selection year.
For more details, go to: http://www.cu.edu/bfww/eligibility[21]

Applications must be submitted to your campus Grants office by the deadlines included in the campus-specific instructions. Links to the campus-specific documents are available here[22].

Do not contact the Boettcher Foundation directly.

Tenure list: November 2022[23]

The Board of Regents on Nov. 3 approved three appointments with tenure.

CU Boulder
Effective Jan. 9, 2023
Daniel E. Acuna, Associate Professor, Computer Science, College of Engineering and Applied Science **Aditi S. Bhaskar,** Associate Professor, Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science
CU Denver
Effective Aug. 1, 2022
Turan Kayaoglu, Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Wrap up the 2022 tax year by completing these essential tasks [24]

Make sure your money can weather time and taxes with a Health Savings Account [25]

New AB Nexus grant awards spotlight productive cross-campus collaborations [26]

Karen Possehl Women's Endowment increases award amount [27]

Five takeaways from the IRC Faculty Task Force Roadmap [28]

CU researchers rethink mental illness [29]

Climate summit to convene global experts in Boulder[30]

Shining a light on therapy that might help SAD sufferers [31]

Publication note: No CU Connections on Thanksgiving, Dec. 22 and 29[32]

CU Connections will not publish new issues on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 24), Dec. 22 and 29.

Deadline for submissions for the Thursday, Dec. 1, issue is noon Tuesday, Nov. 22.

The final new issue before the winter holiday break will appear Thursday, Dec. 15; deadline for submissions is noon Friday, Dec. 9.

CU Connections returns after the winter break on Thursday, Jan. 5. Deadline for submissions is noon Thursday, Dec. 22.

During the holiday breaks, the website will be updated with news should events warrant.

Anaya named to National Board of Education Sciences [33]

Gronseth Boyer named UCCS Employee of the Quarter[34]

Strain earns honorable mention in national science writing awards [35]

Five women scientists in Colorado named among best in the world[36]

More studies needed to compare weight loss with morning vs. evening physical activity[37]

Celebrations for Native American Indian Heritage Month offer pathway to honoring Indigenous people year-round[38]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/uccs-social-work-programs-fulfilling-critical-need[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/vandriel-joins-james-mcnulty-montera-board-regents-victories[3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg-winners4_feat.jpg[4] https://regents.cu.edu/[5] https://results.enr.clarityelections.com/CO/115903/web.307039/#/summary[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/once-rivals-now-partners[7] https://www.cu.edu/strategic-plan[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-council-committee-corner-lgbtq-3[9] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/fc_lgbtqcmte_top.png[10] https://www.cu.edu/faculty-council[11] https://connections.cu.edu/tag/faculty-council-committee-corner[12] https://www.outboulder.org/events/transgender-day-of-remembrance-2022[13] https://www.tdor.co/[14] mailto:edward.cannon@ucdenver.edu[15] mailto:troyann.gentile@ucdenver.edu[16] mailto:gbayuga@uccs.edu[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-faculty-researchers-invited-apply-2023-boettcher-investigator-status[18] http://www.cu.edu/bfww[19] https://www.cu.edu/bfww/cu-investigators[20] https://cusystem.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wqJF4yt5R9K2E5LruyT0zQ[21] http://www.cu.edu/bfww/eligibility[22] https://www.cu.edu/bfww/how-apply[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/tenure-list-november-2022[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/wrap-2022-tax-year-completing-these-essential-tasks[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/make-sure-your-money-can-weather-time-and-taxes-health-savings-account[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-ab-nexus-grant-awards-spotlight-productive-cross-campus-collaborations[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/karen-possehl-women-s-endowment-increases-award-amount[28] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-takeaways-irc-faculty-task-force-roadmap[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-researchers-rethink-mental-illness[30] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/climate-summit-convene-global-experts-boulder[31] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/shining-light-therapy-might-help-sad-sufferers[32] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/publication-note-no-cu-connections-thanksgiving-dec-22-and-29[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/anaya-named-national-board-education-sciences[34] https://connections.cu.edu/people/gronseth-boyer-named-uccs-employee-quarter[35] https://connections.cu.edu/people/strain-earns-honorable-mention-national-science-writing-awards[36] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/five-women-scientists-colorado-named-among-best-world[37] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/more-studies-needed-compare-weight-loss-morning-vs-evening-physical-activity[38] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/celebrations-native-american-indian-heritage-month-offer-pathway-honoring-indigenous-people-year