CU faculty garner $1.6 billion in sponsored research funding and gifts[1]
[2]

University of Colorado faculty this year garnered $1.6 billion in sponsored research funding and gifts supporting research, a 9% increase over the previous year and the highest such total in CU history.

The investment in research endeavors at CU's four campuses drives wide-ranging discovery and impact across Colorado, the nation and the world. This figure from the 2022-23 fiscal year is the seventh consecutive annual total to top the $1 billion mark.

"The research happening at CU campuses is making a real impact on society. The generous funding we receive reflects the high regard for our dedicated, talented faculty and their research priorities," said CU President Todd Saliman. "Our exceptional faculty and students are committed to tackling the critical challenges our world faces, and year after year, we're thrilled to celebrate the incredible discoveries and innovations that come out of our community."

The overall total is fueled by $1.4 billion in research awards, a 4% increase over the previous year. Most comes from federal agencies, which accounted for $898.7 million. Top federal sponsors of CU research include Health and Human Services (in particular, the National Institutes of Health), NASA, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Defense. Non-federal awards totaled $506.9 million.

Gifts toward research via the CU Foundation totaled $191.6 million, up 65% over the previous year.

Following are the 2022-23 totals in sponsored research funding and gifts supporting research at each of the four CU campuses, as well as examples of the ways the university advances knowledge, inspires innovation, fosters creativity and improves the quality of life for Coloradans:
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus: $867 million. The University of Colorado Cancer Center is on the cutting edge of advancing groundbreaking new therapies to treat cancer. Collectively, CU Anschutz investigators were awarded more than $70 million in grants and gifts supporting cancer research during the 2022-23 fiscal year. This includes $4.1 million in funding from the National Cancer Institute in support of the Cancer Center's comprehensive designation, a prestigious multi-year award that recognizes strengths in basic, translational, clinical and population science research. In addition, a generous $20 million philanthropic gift established the new Katy O. and Paul M. Rady Esophageal and Gastric Center of Excellence to accelerate cancer breakthroughs that will improve health outcomes for patients worldwide.

University of Colorado Boulder: $684.2 million. For the seventh time, NASA has selected the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) at CU Boulder for the management and operations of the Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS[3]) Snow and Ice Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC). Under the $68 million contract, the NSIDC DAAC[4] will continue to provide data management services focused on preserving, documenting, and providing access to cryospheric data and related geophysical data. In addition, quantum science and technology is widely seen as a transformational opportunity – globally, nationally and for Colorado. A $1.2 million grant awarded to CUbit Quantum Initiative[5] by the Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT) is a catalyst for realizing the potential of Colorado's "quantum ecosystem."

University of Colorado Denver: $28.8 million. More than 9 million children attend schools in rural communities, where the national teacher shortage is even more acute. The U.S. Department of Education awarded CU Denver a $6.78 million grant to launch NxtGen Colorado: Grow Your Own Approach to Preparing Teachers for Rural Colorado. The collaboration with rural school districts and community colleges aims to help prep candidates and keep them in their communities. This program builds from the success of the NxtGEN program, which CU Denver and Denver Public Schools designed in 2014. NxtGEN is one of eight teacher-education programs in the nation recognized for its innovative way of addressing the teacher shortage and increasing the number of diverse teachers prepared for today's classrooms.

University of Colorado Colorado Springs: $17.1 million. Jena McCollum, director of the Advanced Manufacturing Lab and associate professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering in the UCCS College of Engineering and Applied Science, received a National Science Foundation CAREER award for her research project "Microstructural

Engineering of Solid Composite Electrolytes through Process Manipulation." The five-year, $500,000 award will support graduate research and expanded undergraduate training and support to facilitate research experiences. McCollum's research focuses on structural batteries, which are batteries that double as structural components. Her research will assist in understanding the mechanisms behind how a structural battery's performance changes when loaded or stressed. The work will have implications for the energy sector and allow new research toward better energy storage options.
Sponsored research funding from federal, state, international and foundation entities targets specific projects to advance research in laboratories and in the field. Research funding also helps pay for research-related capital improvements, scientific equipment, travel and salaries for research and support staff and student assistantships. CU cannot divert this funding to non-research-related expenses.

A significant amount of sponsored research funding is directed to departments and researchers with unique expertise, such as biotechnology and aerospace, which stimulates industry.

Excitement is growing for a big CU Boulder Homecoming weekend[6]

It's homecoming time at CU Boulder and the excitement is growing for a big weekend!

CU Boulder has been the talk of the college football nation, and for both alumni and friends of the university, the visit to Boulder this weekend will be truly special.

"It has been amazing to see how the football program under Coach Prime has not only galvanized our dedicated forever CU supporters, but the Buffs now have brought long-lost fans back and have found a whole group of new fans as well," said CU President Todd Saliman. "What this attention has brought is the opportunity to further showcase all of the fantastic programs and initiatives that make CU Boulder and the University of Colorado System so special. Like I have said, athletics is the front porch of the campus for many people."
[7]

A great way for our supporters to engage includes programs like the Buff Club Flatirons Society. The Flatirons Society is reaching new heights and is involving participants who want to invest in helping the CU Buffs succeed. Former Denver Mayor Wellington Webb and former State Representative Wilma Webb, who attended CU Denver, just recently joined the Flatirons Society, adding to a host of generous alumni and friends of the university.
[8]

The exclusive leadership giving program of the University of Colorado Athletic Department provides substantial financial support, which is essential to a world-class student-athlete experience. Invitation to the Flatirons Society is reserved for those who make annual leadership gifts of $10,000 or more.

Gifts of any size are valuable to the Buff Club Annual Fund[9], which supports athletic scholarships, the academic experience of student-athletes and programmatic sport-specific operational budgets. Though a minimum annual gift of $100 is required to receive select benefits, any gift makes a difference, and every gift matters.

Another way for donors to engage is to help support the Ralphie Program. The program has been 100% funded by the generosity of CU donors and fans. The annual upkeep for Ralphie and the Ralphie Handler program is nearly $100,000 a year. Funding from the program provides our beloved buffalo and her handlers with hay, veterinary care, lead ropes, clothing and leather gloves, while also covering annual transportation and ranch operating expenses.

To check out all that is on tap for Homecoming Weekend at CU Boulder, visit: www.colorado.edu/homecoming/[10]

2023 UIS Impact Report: Delivering Solutions Around the Clock[11]

The 2022-23 UIS Impact Report[12] highlights the past, present and future solutions provided by UIS and its partners to empower CU to adapt, connect and reach its goals.

UIS regularly collaborates with the Office of Information Security, each campus's Office of Information Technology, the Controller's Office, Human Resources, Finance, Student Services, Procurement, Research and Grants, the Office of Advancement and many other departments from every CU campus to offer new solutions, efficiencies, savings or increased security.

Highlights of the report include:
Meet the UIS Customer Success Team and learn how they can help your team reach its goals. Learn how CU manages security risks by increasing alignment across the university and fortifying its overall cybersecurity posture. Understand how UIS prepared for and implemented the Data Center move with contributions from every campus, especially CU Anschutz. Embrace increased equity and access through innovations to CU's portal screen reader and the emergency notification system. Discover the past solutions keeping CU ticking, along with six collaborations saving CU time, money and resources. Look to the future with UIS' top priorities for 2024 and how they're setting a foundation to continue advancing CU's strategic goals.
After reading the report, employees are encouraged to provide feedback and share your experience partnering with UIS.[13] Respond by Dec. 15, when five participants will be selected at random to receive $50 cash.

Visit the UIS Impact Report[12]

President Saliman discusses current priorities with Faculty Senate[14]

A forthcoming CU marketing campaign, state funding and chancellor searches at UCCS and CU Boulder were among the topics CU President Todd Saliman addressed during his appearance at last week's Faculty Senate-Faculty Council [15] meeting.

At the Oct. 26 meeting, held virtually, Saliman said an upcoming CU marketing campaign will draw attention to the good work taking place at all four campuses.

"What we're doing is coordinating our marketing, our outreach and our communications to target specific communities around the state," Saliman said, noting that attempts to ask voters to increase public funding for higher education have failed in the recent past. "This will be a long-term, consistent and persistent effort to change minds in our great state. We need to do more in Colorado to change the conversation."

CU has begun the work of collaborating with other higher education institutions in Colorado to determine how much state funding will be necessary next year – the base amount to maintain the status quo, and any additional amount that would be needed to achieve greater goals.

"There is a direct line between state funding and our ability to adequately compensate our faculty and staff," Saliman said. "As you all are painfully aware, we don't do for our faculty and staff what we should be doing."

Saliman said he is pleased that the campuses are making tough choices this year in order to provide compensation increases for faculty and staff.

Regarding the searches for chancellors at UCCS and CU Boulder, Saliman said the former is making good progress, with a search committee and search firm in place. "My goal is to be able to forward multiple finalists to the UCCS community," he said. "At CU Boulder, we are in the final stages of hiring a search firm and the search committee is going to be established soon."

Following a question-and-answer period, Saliman closed with an expression of gratitude.

“Thank you all,” he said. “It’s a difficult time for you to do what you do, for our staff to do what they do. I’m incredibly grateful for your hard work and dedication.”

The next Faculty Council meeting is scheduled for Nov. 30.

Regents Governance Committee advances proposed changes to policies[16]

The Regents Governance Committee[17] last week advanced recommended changes to some Regent Policies, with the revisions now scheduled to be voted on by the full Board of Regents at next week’s meeting at UCCS.

As approved during the committee’s Oct. 26 hybrid meeting based at 1800 Grant St., recommended changes to Policy 2.N and Article 2.E[18] would allow the secretary of the Board of Regents, with the concurrence and direction of the staff Laws and Policies Coordinating Committee (LPCC), to make nonsubstantive cleanups to the Regent Laws and Policies in a timely manner. The changes would also require the LPCC to keep a record of all changes and report them on an ongoing basis to the Regents Governance Committee and to the full Board of Regents as part of the Governance Committee Report.

The Governance Committee also advanced proposed changes to Policy 13.G[19] for consideration by the full board. The policy and the changes are aimed at maintaining efficiency within the process for doing business with contractors.

Changes to Regent Policy 2.L[20] relate to public comment at Board of Regents meetings and reflect that hybrid and remote meetings take place regularly. The changes would clarify procedures for public comment requests for in-person and remote meetings, and note that committee chairs would determine when public comment takes place during committee meetings.

The committee also discussed plans for the Board of Regents winter retreat, scheduled for January. The Governance Committee will meet remotely on Dec. 14, if necessary, to finish retreat planning. The next regularly scheduled Governance Committee meeting is set for Jan. 25, 2024.

Annual Health & Wellness Summit brings together colleagues from across the system [21]

UCCS continues to serve as Hunger Free and Healthy Mind campus [22]

CU partners to recognize the struggle and contributions of Native Americans during Native American Heritage Month [23]

New school emerges amid youth mental health crisis [24]

Reis wins prestigious NIH Director's Pioneer Award for brain metabolism research [25]

Kwitek named Kraemer Family Library's first Inventor-in-Residence [26]

Mother and son serve together as CU Boulder police officers [27]

How Boulder became a hub for quantum technology[28]

UCHealth celebrates two-year anniversary of Recharge Room at University of Colorado Hospital[29]

5 Sneaky Signs You're Getting Sick[30]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/cu-faculty-garner-16-billion-sponsored-research-funding-and-gifts[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/spons-res_feat_1.jpg[3] https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.earthdata.nasa.gov%2Feosdis&data=05%7C01%7Cdedrick%40cu.edu%7C6e2c135ca1ec4580706108dbd653bcb7%7Ce889e28f74d447f287e853732cbbe7ec%7C0%7C0%7C638339427403644789%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=oZSa%2FALqxjqdWwmWqEAr4zNoCZzZeZJF5G1oGzqPEIo%3D&reserved=0[4] https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnsidc.org%2Fdata%2Fdata-programs%2Fnsidc-daac%2Fabout-daac&data=05%7C01%7Cdedrick%40cu.edu%7C6e2c135ca1ec4580706108dbd653bcb7%7Ce889e28f74d447f287e853732cbbe7ec%7C0%7C0%7C638339427403644789%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iFcz2ErW3LBcPWGzRdxJ4ocEsZzIsXfQNWIN91CRdh0%3D&reserved=0[5] https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.colorado.edu%2Finitiative%2Fcubit%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cdedrick%40cu.edu%7C6e2c135ca1ec4580706108dbd653bcb7%7Ce889e28f74d447f287e853732cbbe7ec%7C0%7C0%7C638339427403801041%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wdEDY5DrbQ60h5PdW2e9Aq3t9isLa8GjMiGdV7LBOt4%3D&reserved=0[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/excitement-growing-big-cu-boulder-homecoming-weekend[7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/webbs_saliman_sanders_seated_11-02-2023.jpg[8] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/webbs_sanders_saliman_standing_11-02-2023.jpg[9]

https://cubuffclub.com/[10] http://www.colorado.edu/homecoming/[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/2023-uis-impact-report-delivering-solutions-around-clock[12] https://www.cu.edu/uis-annual-impact-report[13] https://www.cu.edu/uis/forms/uis-impact-report-feedback[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/president-saliman-discusses-current-priorities-faculty-senate[15] https://www.cu.edu/faculty-senate-faculty-council[16] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-governance-committee-advances-proposed-changes-policies[17] https://regents.cu.edu/committees[18] https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/CWQ2LN02B9EB/$file/C.1_Pol%202.N%20and%20Art%202.E%20Memo2.pdf[19] https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/CWQ2SY03A6E7/$file/C.2_Poolicy%2013.G.pdf[20] https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cu/Board.nsf/files/CWQ33P04ECFC/$file/C.3_Policy%202.L.pdf[21] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/annual-health-wellness-summit-brings-together-colleagues-across-system[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-continues-serve-hunger-free-and-healthy-mind-campus[23] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-partners-recognize-struggle-and-contributions-native-americans-during-native-american[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-school-emerges-amid-youth-mental-health-crisis[25] https://connections.cu.edu/people/reis-wins-prestigious-nih-directors-pioneer-award-brain-metabolism-research[26] https://connections.cu.edu/people/kwitek-named-kraemer-family-library-s-first-inventor-residence[27] https://connections.cu.edu/people/mother-and-son-serve-together-cu-boulder-police-officers[28] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/how-boulder-became-hub-quantum-technology[29] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/uchealth-celebrates-two-year-anniversary-recharge-room-university-colorado-hospital[30] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/5-sneaky-signs-youre-getting-sick