Creating Futures exceeds $1.5 billion goal[1]

Marcy Benson, who chaired the Creating Futures campaign with husband Bruce Benson, speaks during a Thursday news conference at the Denver Art Museum. Carl “Spike” A. Eklund, chair of the CU Foundation Board of Directors, center, and Richard W. Lawrence, CU Foundation president and CEO, listen. (Photo: Cathy Beuten/University of Colorado)

University of Colorado President Bruce Benson today announced the completion of Creating Futures, the fourth fundraising campaign in CU history, with more than $1.521 billion in private contributions raised to support people, places and programs on CU’s four campuses.

Propelling CU to campaign success were more than 158,000 donors who made more than 403,000 gifts to CU from the official July 1, 2006, start of Creating Futures through Sept. 30, 2013, when campaign counting concluded.

Creating Futures has generated more private support for CU than any other campaign in the university’s 137-year history.

“Donors have made CU a better place for students, faculty, alumni and friends,” said Bruce Benson (’64), who with his wife, Marcy, served as chair of the campaign. “Today, we celebrate the success of the Creating Futures campaign and say ‘thank you’ to all the donors who have fueled that success.”

CU has benefited from transformative support during the campaign from donors including:
More than $57 million in gifts since 2006 (and more than $130 million lifetime) from the Anschutz Foundation — the campaign’s largest donor — that fueled substantial growth of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. These Anschutz Foundation gifts comprised a healthy proportion of more than $132 million given toward land and buildings during Creating Futures. A $10 million commitment from Jake Jabs that enables the Jake Jabs Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado Denver Business School to vastly increase the scope of its Business Plan competition and related entrepreneurship programs. Jabs’ gift was a portion of more than $364 million in support from individuals during Creating Futures. More than $45 million in gifts toward biotechnology research and building support at the University of Colorado Boulder, whose new BioFrontiers Institute harnesses an interdisciplinary academic dream team to tackle big challenges in areas such as human health. $5.5 million from an anonymous donor to support scholarships at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, the largest cash gift in that campus’s history, and part of more than $101 million in gifts toward scholarships and financial aid during the campaign.
Also during the Creating Futures campaign period, more than $240 million was given toward endowments that support CU with perpetual funding streams for generations to come. As of Sept. 30, CU held $937.4 million in endowments — a 57 percent increase since the start of the campaign.

“Throughout Creating Futures, it has been an honor to work with my volunteer peers who have worked to serve this great university and inspire donor support,” said Carl (“Spike”) Eklund (’71), chair of the board of directors. “The University of Colorado is an integral contributor to the health and welfare of citizens throughout and beyond this state. Today, we celebrate its fundamental role as a core Colorado institution.”

In addition to the campaign leadership of Marcy and Bruce Benson, CU’s four campuses each benefited from outstanding volunteer campaign leadership on each campus, including Jean (’64) and Jack (’64, ’70) Thompson at CU-Boulder, Nancy “Nan” (’87) and Carl “Spike” Eklund (’71) on the Anschutz Medical Campus, Laura (’94) and Dave (’82) Baker on the Denver campus, and Mary and Ed Osborne on the UCCS campus. Additionally, many volunteers served on campus campaign committees.

Gifts came from all 50 states and 79 countries.

The strong private support seen during Creating Futures, though it coincided with the worst economic downturn in 75 years, represents a formidable vote of confidence by alumni, friends, corporations and foundations toward the University of Colorado.

But with continuing threats to state funding for the university and escalating needs in areas ranging from financial aid to physical infrastructure, increased fundraising will be a critical and continuing imperative for CU. To this end, the university recently revamped its advancement operations to more directly align its fundraising structure with the university.

“As long as society has burning questions that remain to be answered, new frontiers that remain to be explored, we must continue to push hard for greater capacity in everything we do,” said CU’s Vice President of Advancement Kelly Cronin, who came to the university in September. “Today we celebrate the passions of our donors and the efforts of our faculty and staff, and look ahead to a future in which generous donors continue to better equip CU to educate, innovate, and foster positive change.”

MAVEN successfully launches from Florida[3]

The United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket with NASA’s Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutioN (MAVEN) spacecraft launches Monday from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Space Launch Complex 41. The CU-Boulder-led mission is the first spacecraft devoted to exploring and understanding the Martian upper atmosphere. (Photo: NASA/Bill Ingalls)

K-12 Boulder Valley and Aurora Public Schools students participate in educational activities during the MAVEN launch party, held in the UMC Ballroom on the CU-Boulder campus. (Photo: Patrick Campbell/University of Colorado)

A $671 million NASA mission to Mars led by the University of Colorado Boulder thundered into the sky Monday from Cape Canaveral, Fla., at 11:28 p.m. MST, the first step on its 10-month journey to the red planet.

Known as the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutioN mission, the MAVEN spacecraft was launched aboard an Atlas V rocket provided by United Launch Alliance of Centennial, Colo. The mission will target the role the loss of atmospheric gases played in changing Mars from a warm, wet and possibly habitable planet for life to the cold, dry and inhospitable planet it appears to be today.

“Our team is incredibly excited,” said Bruce Jakosky, MAVEN’s principal investigator who is at CU-Boulder’s Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP). “Everything went absolutely perfectly, exactly as we had planned when we accepted the challenge to develop this mission five years ago. Now it’s on to Mars.”

The spacecraft is carrying three instrument suites. LASP’s Remote Sensing Package will determine global characteristics of the upper atmosphere and ionosphere, while the Neutral Gas and Ion Mass Spectrometer, provided by the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., will measure the composition of neutral gases and ions.

The Particles and Fields Package, built by the University of California, Berkeley, with some instrument elements from LASP and NASA Goddard, contains six instruments to characterize the solar wind and the ionosphere of Mars.

NASA selected the MAVEN mission for flight in 2008. Scientists think Mars was much more Earth-like roughly 4 billion years ago, and want to know how the climate changed, where the water went and what happened to the atmosphere, said Jakosky, also a professor in CU-Boulder’s geological sciences department.

CU-Boulder also is providing science operations and directing education and public outreach efforts. NASA Goddard provided two of the science instruments and manages the project. In addition to building the spacecraft, Lockheed Martin will perform mission operations. NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., is providing program management via the Mars Program Office, as well as navigation support, the Deep Space Network and the Electra telecommunications relay hardware and operations.

MAVEN is slated to begin orbiting Mars in September 2014. For more information about MAVEN visit

http://lasp.colorado.edu/home/maven/[6] and http://www.nasa.gov/maven[7].

Five questions for Robert Roach[8]

Robert Roach climbing Denali – aka Mount McKinley – in Alaska.

[10]
Being able to predict who will and who won't get altitude sickness can make a Sunday morning 14er climb easier and more enjoyable, but the knowledge also will help with efforts to understand and treat heart and lung disease and other medical conditions.

At high altitudes, the amount of oxygen available to breathe diminishes, depriving brains and bodies of a necessary ingredient needed to function at optimal levels. The lack of oxygen (hypoxia) can lead to altitude sickness, with symptoms that can include headaches, nausea and shortness of breath, as well as more severe issues such as seizures, coma and even death.

Robert Roach, director of the Altitude Research Center, part of the University of Colorado School of Medicine, has been researching how hypoxia affects health and performance all around the world for many years.

Roach says he has met some "incredible people" during his research at altitude. And the settings haven't been so bad, either. "Sharing a cup of coffee or hot cocoa on a cold clear morning before walking across the glacier to the lab for 'work' is an awfully good way to start the day."

1. What was your pathway to CU and how did you become interested in high-altitude research?

I came to CU 10 years ago from New Mexico where I was working at a small nonprofit research institute in the rich biomedical research community in Albuquerque.

I first became interested in high-altitude research as a mountaineer when I was an undergraduate at the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash. One of our professors was the climbing partner of one of the most famous physician scientists in this field, and I finagled an introduction that led to meeting a group of wonderful people at the University of Washington. A small group of my climbing friends and I came up with an idea to do a study on Mount Rainier. We got an SOS (student originated study) grant from the National Science Foundation to do the study. We had a terrific time leading human guinea pigs up Mount Rainier. We learned that oral antacids, a local folk remedy, were ineffective for preventing mountain sickness, and that Diamox, a prescription drug, was very effective.

That led to several more studies, a paper in JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association), and then I was off to grad school. At Cornell I did less mountaineering but learned an enormous amount about biomedical research, and specifically about iron and exercise at high altitude. Observing firsthand how the impact of iron deficiency anemia diminishes exercise capacity was impressive, but 25 years later I am surprised and delighted to learn that new discoveries are being made about the role iron plays in hypoxia sensing. We have recently written a research proposal to study iron as a strategy to prevent acute mountain sickness.

A call in the spring of 1982 changed everything: I was invited to join a research expedition to Mount McKinley. Ten years later, I had lived in Alaska for most of a decade, and was driving from Anchorage to Albuquerque to start a job as a research assistant at Lovelace Research, and to start grad school to finish my Ph.D. Several years later we had been back and forth to Denmark for a research fellowship, and we had a major U.S. Department of Defense grant to study women at high altitude. We also got a new National Institutes of Health grant to study the brain at high altitude. Ben Honigman, then the head of the Division of Emergency Medicine**,** in the Department of Surgery at CU School of

Medicine,and I had been talking about starting a research center dedicated to the problems encountered at high altitude. One thing led to another and in 2003 we had put together a start-up package, moved by NIH grant to CU, and we found a Ninth Avenue campus in flux and a ghost town at Fitzsimons. That was 10 years ago this month, but now the Altitude Research Center -- thanks to the hard work of a lot of people along the way -- is flourishing.

2. What are some of the things that happen to our bodies as we climb in altitude? Are the changes only due to lack of adequate oxygen or are there other factors that contribute to changes?

As we climb or drive to high altitude, we start to breathe more because of the low oxygen, also known as hypoxia. That is our first line of defense. But in addition to causing us to breathe more, the low oxygen triggers an enormous cascade of responses that end up over days to weeks making us pretty resistant to the challenge of high altitude.

We are just beginning our research to unravel a lot of the mechanisms that control these responses. The main challenge at high altitude is the low oxygen in the environment, but the low pressure may have some effects, as do the high ultraviolet exposure and cold temperatures. Discovering the mechanisms that control how people adjust to high altitudes is one of our main research missions. As we begin to unlock some of these mysteries, the hope is that we will begin to understand new ways to protect against low oxygen that might help anyone suffering from hypoxia, whether by climbing at high altitude or from heart, lung or blood diseases at low altitudes.

3. You helped start the Denali Medical Research Project. How long were you associated with the project, and what did your research find?

Peter Hackett and I ran the Denali Medical Research project, beginning in 1982, for nine years. Alaska is an amazing place to live. And Denali is an incredible mountain to live on. It was a great adventure, sleeping outside when the nighttime temperature was often minus 30 degrees to minus 40 degrees F. Our lab was totally self-sufficient. If we did not have everything we needed when the last Chinook helicopter took off in early May, we were out of luck. But we had the largest stash of frozen food outside of Anchorage! I learned how to build igloos to store food and lab equipment, how to start a generator when it was minus 40 outside, and the power of acclimatization. After a month or two of living at 14,000 feet, we could climb to the summit and back in hours instead of taking a week or longer, which was the time needed by most climbers who were not as well acclimatized as we were. That kind of logistic planning still influences how we plan experiments in our lab today.

4. It’s been reported that you are working on a test that can predict who will get altitude sickness and who will not. What does the test entail?

We are still in the process of developing the test so I can’t talk about the details. What I can tell you is that we are evaluating a sea-level blood test for the prediction of who might develop acute mountain sickness in Colorado. So far the results are very encouraging. If the current tests confirm those early findings, this will be the first test of its kind that will allow anyone to know their risk of getting mountain sickness when traveling to high altitude.

5. Do you still have a chance to climb mountains for pleasure?

For several decades, climbing took a back seat to research. For example, I spent four months leading a research expedition to Bolivia in 2012 and I had no spare time to climb. I have had some great opportunities and met some wonderful people in isolated, beautiful parts of the world, but to enjoy the sport of mountaineering I have learned I have to leave the lab at home. My kids have helped me remember the pure joy of climbing so hopefully we will get out more just for the sport of it. Our recent combined work and family exploratory trip to Ethiopia and Ladakh opened up a whole new world for us of relatively unexplored moderate height mountains that will be fun to explore in the future.

Staff Council discusses UBAB dissolution[11]

The University of Colorado Staff Council conducted short discussions on the recent dissolution of the University Benefits Advisory Board (UBAB) and the nomination criteria for the annual Staff Excellence Award, and also heard from Mark Stanker, assistant vice president of Employee Services and plan administer for the CU Health Trust, and Brian Burnett, senior executive vice chancellor for administration and finance for the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, during the council's Nov. 14 meeting on the UCCS campus.

Council members from each of the campuses said some staff members have expressed concern over the discontinuance of UBAB. President Bruce D. Benson, on the recommendation of E. Jill Pollock, vice president of employee and information services, made the decision to disband the board earlier this month.

UBAB was founded in 1999 to represent the interests of university benefit participants and provide advice to administrators about benefit issues.

"President Benson believes the voice of faculty and staff is heard through their Regent-designated governance groups," Pollock wrote in an email to UBAB members. She also said that employees can offer suggestions about benefits via governance groups, including the Staff Council.

Council members said feedback on the dissolution included concern over who would act as a watchdog and as an interpreter concerning benefits issues. Others were concerned over the precedent President Benson has set by eliminating the board, and, previously, The Silver and Gold Record, the former faculty and staff newspaper which staff members felt challenged the administration.

Council members also said they were unsure about what their future role regarding benefits issues would entail and said they would seek more direction from chancellors on their campuses.

The council also discussed modifying the nomination method and criteria for the annual Service Excellence Award, which honors one staff member from each campus and system administration. Council members are concerned about the dwindling number of nominations for the award, which includes a $1,000 prize. In addition, in previous years, some nominees did not meet the qualifications. The process requires letters and documentation of nominees' service to campus, community and the university.

The council hopes to streamline the process, including using an online nomination form, as well as clarify the criteria to make it easier for people to nominate deserving staff members. The nomination process usually begins early in the new year and awards are handed out at the annual All Staff Conference in April.

Council members also heard health plan and wellness program updates from Stanker, who said that employees were asked to offer input on health benefit plans and 165 suggestions were received. The ideas will be funneled to employers where they will be evaluated for merit and cost benefits during the next few months.

New wellness programs offered by the university include a smoking cessation program and the Weight Watchers at Work program. The stop-smoking program is offered at no cost through health plans while the Weight Watchers program offers employees a 50 percent discount. If 15 people or more sign up at a single location, a Weight Watchers representative will conduct meetings on site. In addition, the Be Colorado Move program continues to attract participants. He said more than 4,700 people are enrolled in the program, which offers a cash incentive for those who meet monthly exercise goals.

Stanker said the university also will be creating a children's wellness program in 2014 to help employee dependents ages 5-11 learn important behavioral, nutritional and activity lessons. Children can earn points for following the program guidelines and counseling and other support will be offered.

In other matters, he said a policy directing how final payments are calculated for someone leaving the university is being written. Another policy that addresses hand-drawn checks – used when a pay error has occurred – is being drafted. The policy is intended to reduce the number of hand-written checks – about 900 each month – that are issued.

Guest speaker Burnett discussed the growth of UCCS, which currently has 10,598 students on campus. That number is expected to increase next year and will surpass enrollment at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

Burnett also answered questions about a Board of Regents-directed initiative to prioritize campus programs. The directive is meant to help regents consider resource allocation during a time of declining state financing for education and increased tuition rates.

Faculty may apply for Boettcher Investigator status[12]

The University of Colorado and the Boettcher Foundation have announced the 2014 Boettcher Foundation Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards Program.

The program supports early career investigators whose research has a direct impact on human health. The grants are intended to fund translational research that advances a discovery closer to clinical applications and which will improve the understanding, treatment and prevention of human disease. Awardees will carry the prestigious title of Boettcher Investigator.

The 2014 awardees will be early career investigators who are within four years of appointment in a career-track academic position and who have not previously received a major independent award. Four CU faculty researchers will receive $225,000 each for research conducted over a one- to three-year period.

Eligible faculty researchers from all four CU campuses are encouraged to apply.

The Boettcher Foundation has awarded CU's 13 current Boettcher Investigators a total of $2.1 million through the 2010, 2011 and 2012 programs. They are: Zhe Chen, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder; Robert C. Doebele, M.D., Ph.D., CU Anschutz Medical Campus; Robin Dowell, D.Sc., CU-Boulder; Gidon Felsen, Ph.D., Anschutz Medical Campus; Paul Jedlicka, M.D., Ph.D., Anschutz Medical Campus; Jing H. Wang, M.D., Ph.D., Anschutz Medical Campus; Harald Junge, Ph.D., CU-Boulder; Matthew Kennedy, Ph.D., Anschutz Medical Campus; Chad Pearson, Ph.D. , Anschutz Medical Campus; Amrut V. Ambardekar, M.D., Anschutz Medical Campus; Joseph A. Brzezinski, Ph.D., Anschutz Medical Campus; Soyeon Park, Ph.D., CU-Boulder; and Abigail L. Person, Ph.D., Anschutz Medical Campus.

Full details about the program, eligibility, CU's application construction and submission procedures, CU deadlines, the review process and criteria, the application components, and extensive instructions about how to apply are all available at www.cu.edu/boettcher[13]. Please do not contact the Boettcher Foundation directly.

Please note: The deadline for initial campus submissions for pre-award review is Feb. 7, 2014.

The Office of the President manages this competitive peer-reviewed program for CU grant applications. Please refer to the award program website for additional information at www.cu.edu/boettcher[13]. Inquires may be sent to webb-waring@cu.edu[14].

Expanded budget reviews begin program prioritization process[15]

Academic and programs that support the academic mission of UCCS began the first phase of a program prioritization

process this week as part of budget reviews.

On Nov. 13, vice chancellors, deans and department directors presented details of their budgets, enrollment, sponsored research efforts, number of faculty and staff, as well as program highlights and concerns to members of the campus leadership team and budget office staff.

Biannual budget reviews are regularly scheduled events where deans and department directors review financials with an eye toward preventing year-end shortfalls or other financial problems. Wednesday's reviews were expanded to include subjects including enrollment, staffing and both unit highlights and challenges. The data are being collected in preparation for an April 2014 presentation to the CU Board of Regents. That presentation will focus on the efficiency and effectiveness of UCCS efforts by placing programs in quartiles.

The program prioritization processes was shared with the University Budget Advisory Committee on Thursday and drafts of the regents reports will be shared with UBAC and campus governance groups in January and February 2014.

Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak told presenters this week that the goal of the prioritization process is to look at opportunities and challenges and to plan future investments. She does not anticipate any programs to be eliminated as a result of the process.

Related articles

Program prioritization raises concerns for faculty[16] (CU Connections)

Chancellors report on program prioritization progress[17] (CU Connections)

Campus responding to hospital demand for baccalaureate-prepared nurses[18]

[19]
Kristen Califano already has a career. She has worked as a registered nurse for five years — but now she's working toward her bachelor's degree in nursing at CU Anschutz[20].

"Having a bachelor's degree in nursing will help open up more opportunities in nursing and help me maintain a marketable status in the current job market," said Califano, who is an RN to BS in nursing student at the CU College of Nursing[21] (CON) on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Research has shown the impact of nurse education levels on patient care outcomes — better-educated nurses lead to better health care. For this reason, CON offers — in addition to its master's degrees, doctorates and Ph.D.s — four options for a bachelor's degree in nursing[22].

"Baccalaureate nurses are prepared to be generalists, practicing across varied populations and settings," said Gayle Preheim, RN, EdD, CENP, CNE, director of CON's Baccalaureate Nursing Program.
Unprecedented momentum
Historically, most nurses had about the same level of training and education. But things are changing, and now, to attract clients in today's competitive health care market, hospitals and clinics are increasingly looking for RNs with bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees.

"We now see unprecedented momentum," said Preheim, who has been a nurse for 40 years. "There are more incentives and opportunities for nurses to complete the BS in nursing through dual admission, seamless progression and support from both education and practice entities."

Califano, one of 425 students in CON's baccalaureate program, feels motivated by the challenge of expanding her knowledge.

"After five years of nursing, I am comfortable with the technical aspects of the job," she said, "but I really appreciated the big-picture perspective I have gained from the theoretical, professional and research curriculum in (CON's) bachelor's program."
80 percent by 2020
A growing body of research studies provide evidence of the impact on patient care outcomes when staffing ratios include more baccalaureate prepared nurses, Preheim said.

"Tremendous opportunity exists as employers seek to enhance the quality of care by hiring more baccalaureate-prepared nurses," she said.
Evidence
In response to recent research, there is an increasing need for baccalaureate prepared nurses.
The Institute of Medicine[23] (PDF) has charged leaders in the field of nursing to increase the proportion of nurses with baccalaureate degrees from less than 50 percent to 80 percent by the year 2020. Many health care organizations have received or are working toward "Magnet Recognition" from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, which requires that 80 percent of RNs have a baccalaureate or master's degree in nursing by 2020 In a survey of nursing programs from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 77 percent of employers expressed a strong preference for baccalaureate graduates. Colorado needs more nurses
The future looks very bright for CU Anschutz nursing students. That's because, according to a report from the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence[24]:
Baby boomer nurses—32 percent of all Colorado nurses—are beginning to retire. The state population is continuing to grow steadily. The state's older population, which has greater health care needs, is also growing.
That means Colorado needs more nurses, a lot more. Chris Serna will be one of them soon. With a bachelor's degree in nutrition and chemistry, he's working toward his bachelor's in nursing and wants to work in an intensive care unit.

"Due to this top-tier education, I feel confident that, following graduation, I will be able to find a position in the ICU," he said.
One clear choice
What makes CON so great?

"The Anschutz Medical Campus and the CU College of Nursing are recognized leaders in interprofessional education," said Candace Berardinelli, RN, Ph.D., associate professor of nursing. "Nursing students learn and apply evidence based concepts within facilitated contexts of ethical, professional practice."

Berardinelli also listed, among the college's unique strength, its emphases on patient-centered care, nursing informatics and clinical experience. As part of Serna's clinical experience, he's working as an advanced care partner at the University of Colorado Hospital.

"(I work and learn) alongside the top nurses in one of the best hospitals in the nation," Serna said. "This is an opportunity that I am very grateful for."

For Califano, the appeal of the program is its flexibility and accessibility, as many courses are offered online.

"The CU Anschutz RN-BSN online program[25] was a good fit for me, because it has allowed me to pursue a degree while working full time and having a family," she said. "I chose the CU College of Nursing, because it has a good reputation and is associated with many resources."

CON offers both traditional and accelerated options for nursing degrees. Beginning in January 2014, students can earn a University of Colorado Accelerated Nursing (UCAN) degree through an intensive yearlong program.

"When I was exploring my options in terms of my education," Serna said, "there was only one clear choice: the University of Colorado College of Nursing."

Business School Career Fair draws huge crowd[26]

A huge crowd turns out for the Career Fair held by the CU Denver Business School. (Photos: Tyghe Boone-Worthman, marketing coordinator)

Bryant Burciaga, dressed in a crisp suit and carrying his resume, shook hands with many potential employers at the hugely successful Career Fair hosted by the University of Colorado Denver Business School[28].

"There's a lot of good opportunities here for internships and for people who are close to graduating," he said. An undergraduate studying marketing and management, Burciaga was mostly looking for internships -- and he found plenty.

About 200 students and 35 employers participated in the Nov. 14 Career Fair in the First Floor Lobby of the Business School.

The four-part Finance, Risk Management and Insurance Career Series was developed to include a 90-minute Career Boot Camp on resume and LinkedIn profile development, business networking, Career Fair strategies and professional etiquette; one-on-one sessions with each participant to polish and complete resumes and LinkedIn profiles; an invitation-only leadership dinner; and the Career Fair.

All CU Denver Business School students were invited to attend the Career Fair, but the 58 Career Series participants had an advantage. They received training on how to maximize their Career Fair experience, had their resumes packaged and presented to the Career Fair companies before the event in an electronic resume book and at the event in a hard copy resume book.

Sue Wyman, director of the Business School's Graduate Career Connections[29], said, "Our students represent our brand, so how they show to employers is important."

They showed very well, according to the employers who lined the lobby with booths and recruiters.

"This is great. We've gotten some great candidates," said Emily Copeland, who works in human resources for CoBank. CoBank offered both internship and credit analyst training programs for students.

"CoBank already has a lot of strong ties here (to the Business School), and we want to deepen our roots and let students know about our opportunities," Copeland said.

Copeland, who earned her MBA from CU Denver in 2000, said the Business School mirrors real-world work environments. "The huge advantage was being able to integrate everything I was learning into my work," she said.

Likewise impressed by the quality of CU Denver candidates was Lisa Roberts, banking officer with FirstBank. She said FirstBank offers a management training program and is looking for students with all varieties of business degrees. "This is a great opportunity to meet the students and tell them about FirstBank," Roberts said. "Lately, we've had large hiring classes, and we offer internships, too."

The success of the Career Fair, and the Finance, Risk Management and Insurance Career Series that led up to it, means that both graduate and undergraduate students can expect the Business School to host similar fairs and series -- in other business specialty areas -- in the future.

That's good news to Burciaga. "I definitely hope that the Business School does more of these Career Fairs," he said.

Partnering employers who participated in the Career Fair also included: Arrow, DaVita, JBS S.A., Hull and Company,

CenturyLink, Aleutian Consulting, Fidelity Investments, Five Rings Financial, FTI Consulting, Oppenheimer Funds, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Perella Weinberg Partners, U.S. Bank, Wells Fargo Advisors, Wells Fargo Bank, Auto Owners Insurance, Cherry Creek Insurance Group, Chubb Group, Flood and Peterson, HUB International, IMA Financial Group, ISU, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Lockton Insurance, MassMutual Colorado, Moody's Insurance, Nationwide Insurance, Northwestern Mutual, Philadelphia Insurance, Wave Financial Partners and Willis. The fair and series was sponsored by MassMutual Colorado, while the Career Dinner was co-sponsored by Cherry Creek Insurance and CNA.

Economic Outlook Forum to be presented Dec. 9 by CU-Boulder's Leeds School of Business[30]

The University of Colorado Boulder Leeds School of Business will present its 49th annual Colorado Business Economic Outlook Forum at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, at the Denver Marriott City Center.

The event at 1701 California St. is free and open to the public but reservations are required for those planning to attend. To make reservations visit http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2014-colorado-business-economic-outlook-forum-registration-8721912475[31].

Leeds School economist Richard Wobbekind will present the forecast and Doug Suttles, president and CEO of Encana, will deliver the keynote address.

This year's concurrent sessions will include Fires, Floods and Drought: Assessing the Impacts; From the Great Recession to a Great Real Estate Boom; and NAFTA 20 Years Out.

Compiled by the Leeds School's Business Research Division, the comprehensive state economic outlook for 2014 features forecasts and trends for 13 business sectors prepared by more than 100 key business, government and industry professionals.

Economic snapshots from specific counties and regions around the state, as well as updates on international trade, population, labor force, personal income growth and the national economy are included in the outlook.

The forum also will include a networking reception sponsored by the Colorado Brewers Guild and the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board.

For more information about the Leeds School's Business Research Division including the forum visit http://leeds.colorado.edu/brd[32].

Sharkey receives award for political leadership[33]

[34]
Sue Sharkey, vice chair of the CU Board of Regents, was honored Friday with the Annie Taylor Award from the David Horowitz Freedom Center during its Restoration Weekend in Palm Beach, Fla.

The conservative think tank presents the awards annually in recognition of demonstrations of political courage. In receiving the award, Sharkey, a Castle Rock Republican, talked about the board's vote in September[35] to revise the regents' anti-discrimination policy to add protection for diverse expression of political philosophy, as well as gender identity and gender expression.

"The Laws of the Regents now protect members of the university community from discrimination based on political philosophy or affiliation. This is a significant milestone for a public university," Sharkey told the audience. "The measure isn't about Republicans or Democrats, conservatives or liberals, rather it's about freedom — the freedom for

the university community to embrace broad scholarly principles, to create an environment where the marketplace of ideas will flourish, and to prepare our students to fully engage in a society that cherishes its differences as much as its similarities."

Sharkey has been active in leadership and business in Colorado for many years, and is a proud CU parent. She has represented Colorado's 4th Congressional District since being elected to the Board of Regents in 2010.

Simon awarded Center for Faculty Development grant for project[36]

[37]
Gregory Simon, assistant professor in Geography and Environmental Sciences at CU Denver, has teamed up with Stanford University to research the root causes of fire vulnerability. Given the increased prevalence of devastating wildfires in the American West, research on the subject is valuable and urgent, Simon said.

With grant support from the Center of Faculty Development and resources from Stanford's Spatial History Lab, Simon and his team of research are telling the story of a 1991 wildfire that devastated a large residential area in Oakland, Calif., burning 3,500 homes, killing 25 people and injuring 150 others, using an innovative mix of historical and spatial analysis techniques.

"The collaborative nature of this project is great," Simon said. "Because CU Denver and Stanford students are trained in different ways and bring different skill-sets, both parties are able to uniquely contribute to the research process and learn from one another."

Simon's research revolves around post-wildfire government recommendations, which until now, never have been fully assessed. "We often assume that once recommendations are made, we follow them, and they are successful. However, that isn't always the case," Simon said. This project examines whether the recommendations, including road-widening, vegetation clearing, water infrastructure improvement, and fire-safe home construction, were followed and whether they were successful in reducing social vulnerability.

"We are using the Oakland fire as a baseline," Simon explained. "After examining the effects of the Oakland fire, we can apply our findings and spatial-historical analytic techniques to other instances like several recent Colorado fires."

Simon plans to implement his research in Colorado and eventually create something similar to Stanford's Spatial History Lab at CU Denver. "Only after we understand the extent to which these post-fire policies are successful can we begin to make future policy improvements and protect ourselves from future fires," he said.

Stoecklein selected to academy[38]

[39]
Tim Stoecklein, program director, Emergency Management, at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, recenty was notified of his selection to the 2014 Colorado Emergency Management Academy.

The program begins in December and will continue through May 2014. The academy includes several courses designed to provide skills and knowledge required for new emergency managers to effectively manage serious incidents in their jurisdiction. The courses are taught by the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency

Management in Centennial.

Walsh's theater troupe performs at national conference [40]

Political science instructor **Jim Walsh's** Romero Theater Troupe, together with several CU Denver students and other community partners, produced a featured theatrical performance at the recent national American Federation of State and County Municipal Employees (AFSCME) conference in Denver.

The AFSCME performance highlighted the April 1968 Memphis garbage workers strike that coincided with the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. The performance received a standing ovation from the 900-person audience, one of the largest for the Romero Troupe to date. Many students in Walsh's innovative university courses on social movements, people's history, and labor issues work in this theater company with Walsh.

Andrews named Mentor of the Year by architecture colleagues [41]

[42]
Ken Andrews, instructor of architecture at CU Denver, was named Mentor of the Year at the AIA Colorado North 2013 Design and Honor Awards during a Nov. 1 presentation at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. The award recognizes a firm or licensed architect member for exceptional efforts to promote the professional growth and development of an emerging design professional, or group of emerging professionals, who is/are in the process of acquiring a license.

Andrews also is a principal at Arch11 Inc., which won the Citation Award for Residential in the "Large" category for the project "303."

Troy presents ecological research for Baltimore Ecosystem[43]

[44]
Austin Troy, associate professor of planning at CU Denver, gave two invited presentations related to the research for his book "The Very Hungry City."

For the Baltimore Ecosystem Study's (BES) annual meeting, Troy's keynote address was titled, "What urban energy metabolism means for sustainability and competitiveness." BES is one of two urban long-term ecological research projects from the National Science Foundation. At the meeting, Austin's book was tagged "BES Book of the Year."

His other presentation was "Urban Energy Metabolism, Sustainable Communities, and Economic Competitiveness," presented for TEDx MidAtlantic in Washington, D.C

Dropping names … [45]

Taisto Mäkelä

Taisto Mäkelä, associate professor of architecture at CU Denver and director of Finnish Initiatives, published the article, “Why the Classical? Two Decades of Teaching at the University of Colorado Denver: A Retrospective Glance” in “The Classicist,” No. 10, Sept. 16, 2013. “The Classicist” is an award-winning scholarly journal of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art (ICAA) and is the only journal of its kind in North America that reaches a broad readership that includes design professionals, academics, students, and the design and architecture enthusiasts. … **Rob Leeret,** director of emergency/trauma services at University of Colorado Hospital, and **Richard Zane**, professor and chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine, recently received the President’s Award for Partners in Leadership at a ceremony. The award recognizes the transition to the new emergency room in April. … **Sara Yeatman**, assistant professor in health and behavioral sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, had a paper published in the most recent “Journal of Demography” titled "Young women's dynamic family size preferences in the context of transitioning fertility,” which focuses on the family-size preferences of Mawalian women in order to address the preference changes that occur for women as fertility changes. The paper was co-authored with Christie Sennott, postdoc with the Institute of Behavioral Science at CU-Boulder, and Steven Culpepper, former faculty member in CU Denver's mathematical and statistical sciences department.

2-for-1 ticket offer for faculty and staff: CU vs. USC football[47]

[48]

Colorado Athletics is offering discounted tickets to Saturday’s final home game of the year for all CU faculty and staff.

Because students will be on fall break, the department would like to invite you to join us at the last home game with a special 2-for-1 ticket offer[49], a savings of $60. Make your way to Folsom Field and help send off a wonderful group of seniors as they play their final game in Boulder.

CU Football vs. USC
Saturday, Nov. 23
7:30 p.m. – Folsom Field

To take advantage of the special ticket offer:

1) Simply stop by the Athletic Ticket Office located at Gate 5 of Folsom Field between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. with your valid Buff OneCard or
2) Go online to http://www.cubuffs.com/promo[50] and enter: FACSTAFF
3) Click on “CU Football vs. USC Trojans” at the right side to select your tickets

There are limited quantities available and this offer is good while supplies last.

Limited enrollment ends at 5 p.m. Friday[51]

University of Colorado employees have until 5 p.m. Friday to enroll in a CU Health Plan.

Limited Enrollment is open to employees who waived university medical plans and do not have health insurance. Those who waived CU Plans, but have health care coverage, are not eligible.

Enrolling is simple
Visit the Employee Services' benefits area at http://www.cusys.edu/benefits/index.html[52] Review the Frequently Asked Questions[53] section to see if you qualify. Choose from one of three medical plans: CU Health Plan – Exclusive CU Health Plan – Kaiser CU Health Plan - High Deductible Use the Plan Comparison Tool[54] to determine the best plan for you. Download and complete the Limited Enrollment Form[55]. Submit the Limited Enrollment Form to Employee Services[56] by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22.
Important dates
Nov. 22: Turn in Limited Enrollment Forms by 5 p.m. **Dec. 15**: Plan selection information will display in the employee portal under Payroll and Compensation - Benefits Summary. **Jan. 1, 2014**: Medical coverage begins.
Questions?
Benefit professionals are available to help employees via phone, 303-860-4200, option 3, toll-free at 855-216-7740, option 3, or by email at benefits@cu.edu[57].

CU Connections holiday publication schedule: No new issues Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 2 [58]

CU Connections will not publish new issues on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 28), Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Deadline for submissions to the Dec. 5 issue is noon Wednesday, Nov. 27.

The final new issue before the winter holiday break will appear Thursday, Dec. 19; deadline for submissions is noon Friday, Dec. 13.

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

Hacking requires quick response[59]

Using computers on the Internet is like driving a car on the road: You take steps to protect yourself but sooner or later an accident may happen. With computers and the Internet it is the same. You take steps to protect yourself but sometimes your computer or personal information may be compromised. However, you can take steps to respond quickly and save yourself a lot of trouble.

Please read the November 2013 Office of Information Security Cyber Security newsletter (https://www.cu.edu/content/oismonthlycybersecuritynewsletter[60]) to identify and respond to hacking.

The IT Security Program APS on the following link provides more information about the responsibilities of users as it relates to using IT Resources and protecting data: https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps/it/6005.pdf[61]

Today's Great American Smokeout a good time to quit[62]

The idea for theAmerican Cancer Society Great American Smokeout began in 1970, when Arthur P. Mullaney, a guidance counselor at Randolph High School in Randolph, Mass., organized an event where he asked the smoking population of his community to give up cigarettes for 24 hours.

Today, the event is a nationwide success, commemorated every year on the third Thursday of November, when thousands of smokers join together in their quest to quit. For many smokers, Nov. 21, 2013, will mark the day that they choose to quit. For others, this day will be used to commit to a future plan for smoking cessation.

Thinking About Quitting?

Finding a time to quit is a difficult task. For many smokers, the best way to begin the process to smoking cessation is to pick a day — often a special day that means something to the individual such as a birthday, holiday or anniversary — and choose to quit on that day. CU Health Plan is urging smokers to make today that day.
According to the American Cancer Society, smokers are most successful in their cessation efforts when they engage at least two of the following elements in their plan to quit: telephone smoking cessation hotlines, encouragement and support from friends and family members, guidebooks, nicotine replacement products, counseling and online quit groups.
CU Health Plan – BREATHE withQuitline offers participants the majority of these elements and covers individuals' efforts to quit smoking with free, personalized coaching, nicotine replacement therapy, helpful tools and trusted resources. Highlights of the program include:
Free for CU Health Plan participants and their covered dependents, age 14 and older Personalized support through five free coaching sessions—via the Web or by phone—with a professional Quitline coach Effective quitting tools (for participants 18 and older only): Commit to quit smoking and you'll receive a free, eight-week supply of nicotine replacement therapy (lozenges, nicotine gum or patches). Receive clinical guides and medically-supported tips from the country's leading respiratory experts.
Help is here.

The CU Health Plan reminds all relevant participants to take full advantage oftoday's landmark event by considering their own reasons to quit—specific health concerns, taking back control, making a family member or friend proud—and start the path to cessation along with thousands of others nationwide. When an individual is instilled with the confidence, knowledge and willingness to take the first step, they can choose any day to be their quit day. With nationwide efforts such as the Great American Smokeout and support from programs like CU Health Plan - BREATHE with Quitline, they have the motivation and the support to make today that day.

For details about CU Health Plan - BREATHE with Quitline, visit cuhealthplan.quitlogix.org[63]

Enroll today by calling 1-855-313-0014.

Source: American Cancer Society[64]

-30-

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/creating-futures-exceeds-15-billion-goal[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Creating-Futures-press-conference-056-crop.jpg[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/maven-successfully-launches-florida[4] https://connections.cu.edu/file/maventoppng[5] https://connections.cu.edu/file/maven01png[6] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Tracking.aspx?Data=HHL%3d%3e1%3a5%3b%26JDG%3c95%3a473%3b%26SDG%3c90%3a.&RE=MC&RI=4100720&Preview=False&DistributionActionID=8695&Action=Follow+Link[7] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Tracking.aspx?Data=HHL%3d%3e1%3a5%3b%26JDG%3c95%3a473%3b%26SDG%3c90%3a.&RE=MC&RI=4100720&Preview=False&DistributionActionID=8694&Action=Follow+Link[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-robert-roach[9] https://connections.cu.edu/file/5qs-roachtoppng[10] https://connections.cu.edu/file/5qs-roach01png[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/staff-council-discusses-ubab-dissolution[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-may-apply-boettcher-investigator-status[13] http://www.cu.edu/boettcher[14] mailto:webb-waring@cu.edu[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/expanded-budget-reviews-begin-program-prioritization-process[16] https://connections.cu.edu/news/program-prioritization-raises-concerns-for-faculty[17] https://connections.cu.edu/news/chancellors-report-on-program-prioritization-progress[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/campus-responding-hospital-demand-baccalaureate-prepared-nurses[19] https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzconpng[20] http://www.ucdenver.edu/anschutz/Pages/landing.aspx[21] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/nursing/Pages/default.aspx[22] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/nursing/programs-admissions/bachelors-programs/Pages/bachelors-programs.aspx[23] http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Report%20Files/2010/The-Future-of-Nursing/Future%20of%20Nursing%202010%20Recommendations.pdf[24] http://www.coloradonursingcenter.org/colorados-nursing-shortage[25] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/nursing/programs-admissions/bachelors-programs/rn-to-nursing-bs/Pages/rn-to-nursing-bs.aspx[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/business-school-career-fair-draws-huge-crowd[27] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ucdbusinesspng[28] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/business/Pages/business-school.aspx[29] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/business/about/gcc/Pages/GCC.aspx[30] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/economic-outlook-forum-be-presented-dec-9-cu-boulder%E2%80%99s-leeds-school-business[31] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Tracking.aspx?Data=HHL%3d%3e1%3a5%40%26JDG%3c95%3a473%3b%26SDG%3c90%3a.&RE=MC&RI=4100720&Preview=False&DistributionActionID=8699&Action=Follow+Link[32] http://ucolorado.pr-optout.com/Tracking.aspx?Data=HHL%3d%3e1%3a5%40%26JDG%3c95%3a473%3b%26SDG%3c90%3a.&RE=MC&RI=4100720&Preview=False&DistributionActionID=8698&Action=Follow+Link[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/sharkey-receives-award-political-leadership[34] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/people_sharkey.jpg[35] https://connections.cu.edu/news/regents-vote-to-expand-anti-discrimination-policy[36] https://connections.cu.edu/people/simon-awarded-center-faculty-development-grant-project[37] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/people_simon.jpg[38] https://connections.cu.edu/people/stoecklein-selected-academy[39] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/people_stoecklein.jpg[40] https://connections.cu.edu/people/walshs-theater-troupe-performs-national-conference[41] https://connections.cu.edu/people/andrews-named-mentor-year-architecture-colleagues[42] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/people_andrews.jpg[43] https://connections.cu.edu/people/troy-presents-ecological-research-baltimore-ecosystem[44] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/people_troy.jpg[45] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-164[46] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/people_makela.jpg[47] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/2-1-ticket-offer-faculty-and-staff-cu-vs-usc-football[48] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/did-you-know_tix.jpg[49] http://ev12.evenue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetGroupList?prc=FACSTAFF&caller=PR&linkID=colorado&utm_source=harris&utm_medium=email&utm_content=facstaff&utm_campaign=uscsingles[50] http://www.cubuffs.com/promo[51] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/limited-enrollment-ends-5-pm-friday[52] https://www.cusys.edu/benefits/index.html[53] https://www.cusys.edu/benefits/faqs.html[54] https://www.cusys.edu/benefits/univ-compare.html[55] https://www.cusys.edu/benefits/documents/2013-14%20Limited%20Enrollment%20Form.pdf[56] http://(https:/www.cusys.edu/benefits/how-to-enroll-limited%20enrollment.html[57] mailto:benefits@cu.edu[58]

https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-connections-holiday-publication-schedule-no-new-issues-nov-28-dec-26-jan-2-0
[59] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/hacking-requires-quick-response[60]
https://www.cu.edu/content/oismonthlycybersecuritynewsletter[61] https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps/it/6005.pdf[62]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/today%E2%80%99s-great-american-smokeout-good-time-quit[63]
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