

[Griego re-elected; Carson, Shoemaker set to join Board of Regents](#) [1]

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Griego

Carson

Shoemaker

Voters in three of Colorado's congressional districts on Tuesday chose their representatives to the University of Colorado Board of Regents.

Regent Irene Griego, D-Lakewood, will retain her seat on the nine-member board, as she won election to her first full, six-year term. She will be sworn in on a date to be determined in January, as will two new board members who won seats being vacated.

John Carson, R-Highlands Ranch, won the seat now held by Regent James Geddes, R-Sedalia.

Linda Shoemaker, D-Boulder, won the seat now held by Regent Joe Neguse, D-Broomfield.

(Note: Vote totals and percentages are according to the Secretary of State's [election website](#) [5] as of noon Wednesday.)

In the 7th Congressional District, Griego won with 59 percent, or 116,398 votes. Libertarian challenger Steve E. Golter had 41 percent, or 80,590 votes.

Griego came to the board in 2011 as an appointment of Gov. John Hickenlooper after the resignation of Regent Monisha Merchant. Griego then won the 2012 election that determined who would serve the remaining two years of Merchant's term. In January, she and the two new regents will begin six-year terms.

Griego has 38 years of experience in education, from pre-K to university level, as a teacher, principal, administrator and university instructor. She earned her bachelor's degree at CU-Boulder and doctorate at CU Denver, with a master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado in between. She is the recipient of numerous school and community awards.

"What's important for me is the ability to continue my support for all students in the state of Colorado and beyond," Griego said Wednesday. "I truly believe in collaboration, and the need to be accessible and visible in our community."

Griego said she'll continue to emphasize the importance of collaboration across the university, and the need to support the state and nation's diverse populations.

"We also need to ensure that attending CU is affordable for students," she said. "We need to do whatever is possible to see that we retain our students and see that every one of them becomes a graduate of the university."

Griego also pledged her full support to CU faculty and staff. "As regents, it's important not only that we work together, but that we support the people who serve and support our students."

In the 6th Congressional District, Carson won the seat with 57 percent, or 128,521 votes, defeating Democrat Naquetta Ricks, who earned 43 percent, or 98,831 votes.

Carson was president of the Douglas County Board of Education from 2009 to 2013, and served on that board beginning with his election in 2005. He earned bachelor's and law degrees at CU-Boulder and a tax law degree from Georgetown. The Greenwood Village attorney also served in the Marines and has extensive experience working on

Washington's Capitol Hill.

"It's exciting to be getting back involved with the university after being a 1987 law school graduate and a 1983 political science graduate," Carson said Wednesday. "It's exciting to be a part of the institution. I plan to support the continued great work of faculty and staff on behalf of our students, and the people of Colorado, as we continue to build a great university. It's a critical part of our state and I look forward to being a small part of it."

Carson said affordability was the main issue that came up while he campaigned, especially among in-state students.

"I think we really need to address the affordability issue, and make sure we're doing the best job we can to keep tuition under control and affordable," Carson said. "I also want to make sure we're offering students a wide range of diversity in viewpoints and dialogue on campus. And I want to make sure we're doing everything we can to improve the university and build on the legacy of all the work done in the past to make CU a great university."

In the 2nd Congressional District, Shoemaker took 50 percent of the vote, or 150,456. Republican Kim McGahey had 43 percent, or 128,109 votes; Libertarian Daniel Ong received 7 percent, or 21,333 votes.

Shoemaker is a former journalist and attorney who devoted the past 20 years to advancing quality public education in the state. A CU-Boulder alumna, she was elected and served as president of the Boulder Valley School District Board of Education, was founding board chair of the Bell Policy Center, and currently serves as president of the Brett Family Foundation, which she co-founded with her husband, Steve Brett.

"I'm thrilled. It's a dream come true for me," Shoemaker said Wednesday of her election. "It's a perfect place for me to serve, to try to maintain that excellent reputation that CU has despite this incredibly difficult funding environment. I'm looking forward very much to getting to know the other regents and figuring out ways we can work together to make CU better and more affordable at the same time."

Shoemaker said she was inspired by her experience as a citizen adviser during the creation of CU-Boulder's new College of Media, Communication and Information; she hopes CU can identify more interdisciplinary academic opportunities across the university.

"I really think the faculty and staff at CU are outstanding," Shoemaker said. "Virtually everyone who works for the university is doing an excellent job, and my role on the board is to support the faculty and staff on the campuses to get their work done. I look forward to learning more about how I can do that."

Shoemaker said she wants to work to boost funding for scholarships, especially at CU Denver and UCCS. Her perspective as a woman – she'll be the third on the current board – informs her interest in issues of discrimination, harassment, sexual assault and student safety, she said.

Because the two major parties retained their seats – with new electees – the board will continue with a Republican majority (5-4).

"It's important for all of us as CU regents to be able to work together on behalf of the university," Griego said. "It doesn't matter if you're a Democrat or Republican; what matters is what you can do for this university. We're going to leave politics at the door."

Shoemaker said she has seen that philosophy at work among board members.

"I've observed a lot of board meetings, and I believe there's great cross-partisan cooperation," Shoemaker said. "It's not nearly as contentious a place to serve in the minority as some other examples that we see nationally."

Carson said he looks forward to working with colleagues on the board, as well as with the administration and faculty. While it's important for the board to share a unified voice, he said, "I also think it's important to realize we have a unique system in Colorado of elected regents, who are elected by party, and that gives the voters an important voice in the operations of the university."

[Five questions for Lon Abbott](#)[6]

Lon Abbott and his son Logan atop Mount Elbert.

The mountains have always held special meaning for Lon Abbott. Growing up in Boulder, he took advantage of the rock climbing, kayaking and backpacking that was so accessible, and like many, fell in love with the landscape.

When it was time for him to go to college, he thought about being a chemist or a physicist or maybe a philosopher.

"I've always had this very deep and emotional attachment to the mountains – it feels like I'm at home when I'm in the mountains – and I was curious about why these places that I love so much look the way they do and why do they move me emotionally," he said. Geology seemed like a natural thing to try.

What happened next is what happens to some of the students whom Abbott now teaches and advises at CU-Boulder. "You walk into the geology intro class and you listen to the lectures and you say, 'Wow, I had no idea geology was so fascinating.'" He was hooked and never looked back.

"Not many freshmen declare geology as a major. You either go to the intro class and say, 'This is the dullerest thing I could imagine,' or you say, 'Wow, this is totally cool and I can't get enough,'" Abbott said. "You either are born a geologist or not. Geology is the most amazing story we have to tell because it is the science of our planet. It's intrinsically fascinating, but in the wrong hands, it can be deathly boring."

Abbott went to the University of Utah for his undergraduate work and the University of California, Santa Cruz for his Ph.D. He spent 10 years in Arizona at a small liberal arts school, Prescott College. He had always wanted to move back to Boulder, and when a position opened at Red Rocks Community College, he took the job. Then an opportunity arose at CU-Boulder in 2008. Along with teaching, Abbott is an academic adviser for geology students.

He spreads his passion for his chosen field through teaching, as an author of books and in speaking at community lectures.

**1. You've been around the world, studying mountains. Which range do you find most fascinating and why?**

I am sort of a mountain geek. I love all mountains; it doesn't matter where they are. I went to the University of Utah for three years then I took a year off and traveled around the world with two buddies. The place I had to go – the closest thing I had to a religious pilgrimage – was the Himalayas. They are very near and dear to my heart. There are so many mountain ranges and each one is different and beautiful in its own way. The Tatra Mountains, a little pocket-size range in Eastern Europe, are another favorite. But from a scientific standpoint, the most fascinating range is right here where I grew up – the Colorado Rockies. I fell in love with them when I was in high school: They were so beautiful and I loved to recreate in them. Now, years later, I look back as a geologist and understand theories of how mountain ranges form, and know that the Colorado Rockies break a lot of the rules. They are kind of a weird range; we don't really understand why they are here.

**2. What do we know about the evolution of the Colorado Rockies?**

The Rockies are a long way from the edge of the continent and they are equally far away from the nearest plate boundary. Most mountain ranges are formed at the boundary of a tectonic plate. The nearest plate boundary to us is in California: the San Andreas Fault. It's a strike-slip fault and those aren't the types that generally build big mountains. So we're a long way from a plate boundary and we're not near the kind of fault that typically forms that kind of mountain, and that's what makes the Rockies odd.

It's one reason why we don't actually know when the Rockies – the mountains we see today – were formed. We do know the base Rockies were formed about 65 million years ago in the Laramide orogeny. Orogeny is just a fancy word for mountain building. Most geologists are convinced that the mountains we see today are not the Rocky Mountains that were made in the Laramide orogeny. There is ample evidence that those mountains eroded and were buried. Basically, the sediment produced from erosion buried them. There also was a giant volcanic episode. Colorado today is not a volcanically active place, but in the comparatively recent geologic past – 25 million to 40 million years ago – we were volcanically active. A lot of volcanic ash accumulated and buried those Laramide Rocky Mountains. Once they were buried, they just sort of sat there and nothing happened to them, but in the past 5 million years or so, they have been excavated. They are being re-exposed but the reason is somewhat controversial. Some geologists believe they are actively being uplifted right now and others think climate change switched us to an erosion mode and that is what caused the exhumation of the mountains.

So we know the basic structure of the mountains comes from the Laramide orogeny. The oddball thing is that the faults that bound the Rockies aren't the thrust faults that you'd find in the Himalayas or the Alps. The Rockies are marked by reverse faults, which speak of an unusual origin.

Boulder sits in an important part of the Rockies, called the Colorado Mineral Belt. The belt runs from Boulder to Durango diagonally across the state, passing through mining areas like Central City, Idaho Springs, Breckenridge and Aspen. All of these places played an important role in the history of the state, which became a state because of the Pikes Peak Gold Rush in 1859. The Laramide orogeny delivered fluids that were rich in minerals and those became embedded in the rocks. The first gold discovered in Colorado was found by miners panning in the river in Idaho Springs. A week after that, what is called lode gold – gold embedded in the bedrock – was found at Gold Hill. Boulder is one of the oldest cities in Colorado because it was a service town for Gold Hill. Miners looked at rock and mineral associations that were similar to those where they had discovered gold before and surmised that if they found similar associations, they would have a chance of finding gold again. So they fanned out over the hills, looking for those associations. One of the things they looked for is what miners call “color” – stained rocks in reds or oranges – which usually indicates oxidized forms of iron. They recognized that if you had color, you had a good chance of finding gold. They would create a shaft called an adit, and if they found anything, they kept digging. If they didn't find anything, they wasted a lot of time and effort building those shafts. All over our mountains, you'll see places where they found gold and kept digging, but there are also adits and places where they were picking and went 10 feet and stopped because it didn't pay off for them.

### **3. You've written a book, “Geology Underfoot Along Colorado's Front Range,” for lay people about the evolution of our area. What was your intent behind the book?**

[\[8\]](#)

My wife (Terri Cook) and I co-authored three popular geology books and I've written a rock climbing guide to Arizona and a couple of geology textbooks that are used here in classes.

I wrote the popular geology books because I have a passion for geology. I love it and I love teaching. My dad was a high school teacher in Adams County and I grew up saying, “I don't know what I want to do, but I know I don't want to be a teacher.” When I was in grad school, I became a rock climbing instructor and I was a teaching assistant and I learned that I actually loved teaching. The books marry my passions for geology and sharing the most amazing story that can be told – the story of Earth. I want to make the story as accessible as I can to people who are interested and one way to do that is by teaching classes at CU and another way is by writing books. I also go on the road and present talks based on the books. (For more information on the books, see [www.down2earthscience.com](http://www.down2earthscience.com)[9].)

### **4. Do you still rock climb?**

I was a rock climber for 28 years but the year I was hired at CU, I turned in my grades at the end of spring semester and went rock climbing. I had a serious fall – about 100 feet – and was flown by helicopter to St. Anthony Hospital in Denver. Because of the accident, I have a two-week gap in my memory. I woke up one day and I was in the Boulder hospital. I recovered after five months in a wheelchair. CU showed a lot of patience: I taught field geology from a wheelchair. I would have loved to have gotten back to the rock but I have two young kids. I had a traumatic brain injury and a broken back. I had no memory of it but my wife and kids did and they asked me not to climb again.

Now I love to travel. I can't run because of the accident but I'm a road biker and skier.

### **5. Do you have an item or artifact that holds special meaning for you?**

One of my favorite things is hanging on my bedroom wall. My mom was a watercolor artist – she passed away a number of years ago – and our home is adorned with her paintings. When I graduated with my Ph.D., she came to the ceremony and gave me a painting she called “Coming Home.” It's a view of Boulder from Davidson Mesa and she called it “Coming Home” to remind me of my youth growing up in Boulder. For me, to come full circle and be back in Boulder and teaching at CU, which was the big college when I was a kid, is pretty special. The painting is on the front cover of the geology of the Front Range book. She actually did a painting of Arizona for our Arizona geology book as well.

A couple of years ago, during the Flagstaff fire, my neighborhood was under voluntary evacuation, so I was thinking about what would be the first possession I would grab. It would be that painting.

The second thing I have is a souvenir from when I did the deepest ever dive – 4,500 meters – in the Alvin research vessel off Costa Rica. When people go down in the Alvin, they take Styrofoam cups with them and tie them outside of the submarine. Styrofoam compresses uniformly. So I've got that little cup and a normal one that I keep in my office and I often take it to class when I discuss pressure.

### [CU South Denver aims for collaboration among four campuses](#)<sup>[10]</sup>

Leadership at the new CU South Denver is working with faculty at the four CU campuses to determine academic programming that best serves the surrounding community.

Faculty Council learned that and other progress about the new location during the council's Oct. 30 meeting at 1800 Grant St. Lisa M. Douglas, vice chancellor for CU South Denver, provided an update report.

Douglas said she is forming a collaboration committee that will include faculty and/or staff representatives from all four CU campuses. She said she hopes for the group to meet monthly.

She said that she and administrators at CU South Denver are “not trying to control programming,” but rather want to facilitate brainstorming and develop academic offerings that are a good fit for the location, given both the nature of the facility and its location.

“I think we've had a really good, positive reception,” Douglas said. “People are excited that CU is down here. We've just had trouble converting that to actual attendance to certain courses. Some of that is that we're still new. And maybe we haven't hit the nail on exactly what they need, so we'll keep working on these issues.”

Douglas said she is working with business and industry in the south metro area to ascertain what academic offerings will best lend themselves to workforce development.

CU is in the process of interviewing and hiring staff from The Wildlife Experience, the Douglas County wildlife museum and multi-use facility where CU South Denver is based. In January, they will officially become CU employees and will continue to maintain ongoing programming, while the building will become known as the Liniger Building at the University of Colorado South Denver. The property valued at \$40 million is a gift to CU from Dave and Gail Liniger and their family.

Douglas said a second-phase renovation of the facility is set to begin soon. “We feel we can do quite a bit of expansion and still not compromise the museum. The building is now 150,000 square feet, and we could potentially add 100,000 square feet.”

Faculty Council members expressed interest in touring the facility to get a sense of the space and its potential for future academic offerings; the council is considering holding a spring retreat there.

In other business at last week's Faculty Council meeting:

- CU President Bruce Benson updated the council on current priorities and challenges across the university, and answered questions from council members. He said he's determined to "find a really first-class chancellor" for CU Denver, that he thinks there is room for growth across the university in research and service providers in mental health, and that he and other leaders continue to study the potential for a possible ballot issue "in a year or two" that would address funding for CU and higher education. "In general, I'm pretty happy with the way things are going," Benson said. "The budget's going to be a problem, but we'll figure it out."
- Regents Steve Bosley and Glen Gallegos spoke to the council and answered questions. Both said they relish the opportunity to engage people across the state and tell them of the good work going on across the CU system.
- Faculty Council Chair Laura Borgelt said progress on changes to the tuition benefit policy continues, but that details will be presented to Faculty Assemblies at the campuses soon for further review. "It's going to be a year of continued discussion, because some of the data that is needed to determine costs is still being determined," she said.

#### [Governor's proposed budget includes good news for higher education](#)<sup>[11]</sup>

Gov. John Hickenlooper on Monday delivered to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) the FY 2015-16 proposed budget, which includes continued strong support for higher education.

The proposed budget is \$26.8 billion, of which \$10.3 billion is from the General Fund. Relative to the expected FY 2014-15 appropriation, the amounts represent increases of \$1.746 billion (7 percent) in total funds and \$908.4 million (9.6 percent) in the General Fund.

The budget includes \$107.1 million, or 14.1 percent, in additional funding for higher education, including \$30 million for the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative.

CU President Bruce Benson commended the governor for the budget proposal.

"Gov. Hickenlooper's budget request of more than \$100 million for higher education demonstrates a deep commitment to Colorado students and families, as well to the importance of higher education as an economic driver for our state. We appreciate and share that commitment," Benson said. "The governor, lieutenant governor and Legislature stood up for higher education last year and the governor is now laying the groundwork toward restoring cuts higher education took during the recession."

Benson noted that CU's portion of the additional funding is not yet known because of the new funding distribution formula being developed as stipulated by HB 1319. "But that allocation will have a significant impact on CU's tuition rates next year," Benson said.

"The request also includes critical funding to complete construction projects on our Colorado Springs and Boulder campuses that will enhance educational opportunities through state-of-the-art facilities and help our students be more competitive in today's job market," Benson said.

Selected details of Gov. Hickenlooper's budget request:

A 10 percent operating increase for higher education totaling \$60.6 million; An additional \$15 million to help offset the impact of implementation of HB 1319 (for a total operating increase of \$75.6 million); \$30 million for the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Fund, a fund created last year. Institutions must apply to access funds, which are awarded



based on the quality of the proposals submitted by institutions. Continuation construction costs for the Jennie Smoly Caruthers Biotechnology Building in Boulder (\$20.2 million) and the Visual and Performing Arts building in Colorado Springs (\$9.6 million).

Said Benson, "While the long-term outlook for state funding for higher education in Colorado remains challenging, today we are grateful for the governor's commitment."

Hickenlooper won re-election on Tuesday, the day after the announcement of the proposed budget, which is required by state law. The budget also allocates substantially increased funding for K-12 education (some on a one-time basis) and secures funding to complete construction projects already underway.

In FY 2015-16, for the first time since FY 2007-08, the General Fund will provide additional funding for transportation per the provisions of SB 09-228. The budget allocates \$102.6 million under the statute's formulas.

"Colorado's economic activity continues to outperform the national expansion," Hickenlooper said. "Total employment and personal income have steadily increased for several years running. The state's unemployment rate stands at 4.7 percent, the lowest since 2008. Looking ahead, the most likely scenario is for the momentum to continue at a steady pace."

The proposed budget also accounts for two rebates required by the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) of \$167.2 million, assuming current law and the September forecast by the Office of State Planning and Budget. These include \$30.5 million in the current fiscal year for new marijuana taxes. Total state revenue is higher than projected in the election blue book for 2013's Proposition AA. Because the estimate was low, under TABOR, the state must refund the money being collected or ask voters again to keep it. Meanwhile, current revenue projections indicate a \$136.6 million refund for revenue above the Referendum C cap in FY 2015-16. If they materialize, these rebates would go out under existing formulas via tax credits or sales tax refunds when people file their 2016 taxes.

As it relates to the marijuana rebate, Hickenlooper said, "It will be important to engage the legislature when session begins on the issue of marijuana rebates, and at this time, it would be unwise for the state to plan to spend any of those funds in advance of that discussion."

#### [Philanthropy at Work: Jones and Federico](#)[12]

Doug Jones, M.D.

When M. Douglas Jones Jr., M.D, his daughter Monica Federico, M.D., and son-in-law Steven Federico, M.D., made the decision to give \$20,000 for a current-use diversity scholarship for a medical student, you might think their decision stemmed from their love of medicine. Though doctors do tend to run in this family, the Jones/Federico Medical Scholarship can be traced to one particular San Antonio judge and family patriarch.

"My grandfather was one of the only Spanish-speaking judges in San Antonio at a time when this was quite rare. He was very involved in the Latino community," Monica Federico says, adding that it similarly influenced her father.

Jones says that because of his father's influence while growing up in San Antonio in the 1940s and '50s, "I always felt an affinity to the Spanish-speaking community."

Federico adds, "My dad encouraged me to learn to speak Spanish, to travel. Though he encouraged me to practice medicine, this scholarship, which is designed to serve a Spanish-speaking population, is more about what his dad had done for the community."

Monica Federico, M.D., and Steven Federico, M.D., with their children.

Today, this family trio of doctors, each of whom teaches at the CU School of Medicine, keenly understands how prohibitively expensive a medical education can be, and the importance of a diverse physician workforce. Jones is a neonatologist at Children's Hospital Colorado and is senior associate dean for clinical affairs at CU Anschutz. Monica Federico sees patients and helps direct the Asthma Program at Children's Hospital Colorado. Steven Federico is a pediatrician at Denver Health.

"From a professional point of view, it is terribly important that patients have the opportunity to pair with physicians who share a similar cultural background. So much of medicine involves communicating with patients and understanding the circumstances in which health care challenges occur," Jones says. "Care is improved when physicians and patients understand one another. That is facilitated by a match in culture and background, not just in language."

The Jones/Federico Medical Scholarship, which provides support during all four years of medical school, was awarded to Aurora resident Julio Montejano, scheduled to graduate in 2017. "Julio is a spectacular young man and we are honored to participate in his medical education," Jones says.

"He has goals to change the world," says Federico. "Also, he is a really impressive person ... If I applied now, if I were competing with him, I don't think I would have gotten into medical school!" she says, laughing.

Jones and Federico noted that a one-to-one match from the Office of the President made the gift particularly appealing to them. President Benson has pledged to continue this match through 2015. For information on this giving opportunity, contact Karen Aarestad at [karen.aarestad@ucdenver.edu](mailto:karen.aarestad@ucdenver.edu)[15].

"People make philanthropic decisions on their own, and their decisions have to fit their own particular circumstances," Jones says. "I support CU because in supporting the university, I support the citizens of a state that is my home and that I love."

#### [CU Denver advertising campaign soars through DIA](#)[16]

The large scale of CU Denver's 'Learn with Purpose' installation at Denver International Airport, including wall and 50-yard-long floor signage, is a first for the airport.

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CU Denver's "[Learn with Purpose](#)"[18] campaign is lifting off to new heights.

Beginning this month, big and bold signage emblazoned with "CU Denver" and "Learn With Purpose" as well as the faces of students and faculty from our campus, will greet passengers at Denver International Airport as they stroll through the Concourse C train station.

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Travelers will see something that's groundbreaking for DIA. The immense scale of the CU Denver installation, including eye-catching panels on the station walls as well as a floor graphic that extends 50 yards from escalator to escalator, is a first for the airport, one of the busiest in the nation.

The advertising push, launched in fall 2013, wrapped up a successful first year with a survey asking the university community as well as business and community leaders what they thought about Learn With Purpose, [CU Denver's](#)



[most comprehensive advertising campaign](#)[20].

"The feedback was extremely positive. People not only wanted us to continue the campaign but expand on it," said Karen Klimczak, the university's director of marketing. "This large-scale presence in DIA is an extension of the first year of the campaign. We're excited to be in the airport over the high-traffic holiday months of November and December."

The campaign, which involved Denver advertising agency Karsh/Hagan, is part of a long-term effort to raise CU Denver's profile and strengthen its brand as a leading research university in a vibrant urban environment. The campaign is targeted toward community and business leaders and other influencers in the Denver metropolitan market. The DIA installation will be among the most high-profile components yet, reaching a high volume of travelers from our region as well as those who come from afar to visit Colorado.

"The visuals in the DIA panels are representative of the Learn With Purpose campaign and continue to use our actual students and faculty," Klimczak said. "This is an opportunity for us to showcase not only our students and faculty but our campus and urban setting as well."

The upcoming year of the campaign will feature a new TV commercial; a continued [presence on Larimer Square](#)[21]; [print](#)[22] radio and digital advertising; and an encore of the [popular and interactive Learn With Purpose button wall](#)[23] in front of North Classroom.

The campaign includes an updated microsite—[learnwithpurpose.org](http://learnwithpurpose.org)[18]—and more storytelling. "According to our survey feedback, the Learn With Purpose tagline resonated quite well, and people wanted further definition of learn with purpose and more real-life stories about our campus — a showcase of both of the student experience as well as how our faculty bring learning with purpose to life," Klimczak said.

In addition to deeper storytelling on the microsite, the campaign this year features regular Learn With Purpose perspectives in the CU Denver Today newsletter and focused delivery of Learn With Purpose messages in public outreach.

Anyone who sees the compelling installation in the Concourse C train station is encouraged to get a photo of themselves in front of the CU Denver signage and disperse it on social media— **#LearnWithPurpose**.

[Dean's State of the School address: 'Don't think it hasn't been fun'](#)[24]

[\[25\]](#)

The University of Colorado School of Medicine has excelled at its primary missions during the past year, Dean Richard D. Krugman, MD, reported last week in his annual State of the School Address.

The school stands on a solid financial base, offers a national example for community service, is investing in its research program and provides a comprehensive learning environment, Krugman said in a review that covered the past year and reflected on his more than 24-year tenure as Dean.

In a speech titled "Don't Think It Hasn't Been Fun!," Krugman called it "a really good year for our school" and he thanked faculty, staff, hospital partners and executive leadership for their contributions to the successful year.

### **Financial Base Solid**

The financial footing of the School of Medicine continued to strengthen thanks to the robust clinical practice of faculty,

stronger charitable contributions from donors and unprecedented unrestricted support from the University of Colorado Health.

“As far as revenues go, we have maintained a fair amount of success,” Krugman said. “We have surpassed \$1 billion in revenue.”

The growth of support from University Physicians Inc., (UPI) has been crucial to the school since 1990, when Krugman became interim dean. He noted that the school was a “research-intensive institution” at that time, but that two things happened that changed the face of the school. Colorado General Hospital became University of Colorado Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics moved to Children’s Hospital Colorado, which was known as The Children’s Hospital at the time.

“Since that time, the clinical revenue has grown,” Krugman said. “And when we got to this campus, things have taken off. As you are aware, we significantly subsidize our academic mission with clinical dollars. And UPI, which generates the clinical dollars resulting from the work of our clinical faculty, now represents more than half of the revenues in the school of medicine.”

Contributions from private donors provided more than \$63 million for School of Medicine programs last year and are on track to match that level support again this year.

The dean also noted that the newly established annual academic funding support from the University of Colorado Health totaled \$10 million last year and is set to provide about \$12.4 million to the school this year.

“That gift was a milestone because we had not previously received unrestricted support from our affiliated hospitals for our work,” he said.

### **Community Service a National Model**

Krugman commended the community engagement core of the Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI) for offering an example for others to emulate.

“This particular part of the CCTSI is looked to as a national model,” Krugman said. “I can’t tell you how many institutions that have CCTSIs, which require community engagement, actually don’t quite know what community engagement means.”

The recently established Community-Campus Partnership and the soon-to-open student faculty primary health care clinic will strengthen the ties with neighbors of the Anschutz Medical Campus.

### **Research Funding Growing Again**

“In the research area, it was a very, very good year,” Krugman said, noting that research funding was rebounding after cutbacks in federal support. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 briefly boosted funding.

In fiscal year 2014, the School of Medicine’s research funding grant awards totaled \$358.7 million and represented the second largest source of funding to the school.

“We are back up,” he said. “And there are figures in (the 2014 Facts and Figures) book that show we’re on a path to continue to increase our research funding as a School.”

Krugman discussed investments in two key research initiatives that will continue to boost the school.

The first is the Center for Personalized Medicine and Bioinformatics, which includes COMPASS (Clinical Operational Molecular Predictive Analytic Shared Services). With significant contributions from UPI, the University of Colorado Health and Children’s Hospital, the school is establishing a data warehouse that will have widespread impact.

"COMPASS is the data warehouse for the campus that is going to be absolutely critical to the future of our basic research, our translational research and the move toward personalized medicine, as well its importance in health outcomes and health care effectiveness."

The second was the planning to invest in infrastructure for cryoelectron microscopy (Cryo-EM), a move that involves at least eight departments in the planning process.

The Dean also recognized the significant contributions of Chip Ridgway, M.D., senior associate dean for academic affairs, who died in July.

"Chip's loss has been enormous for us and we all feel it," Krugman said.

### **Strong Partnerships with Hospitals**

Krugman lauded the efforts senior leadership at the school and UPI for building solid relationships with the school's hospital partners. With improved communication between hospital administration and a united focus on service excellence, the partnership is growing stronger.

"The connection between the hospitals and the clinical vice chairs in the school is better now than it's ever been before and that is enormously important," Krugman said. "There was a time when many of us in the school didn't particularly care about what went on in the hospital and occasionally over the years, we've had a hospital that didn't particularly care what went on with us either. Those days are gone. The relationship with both hospitals is as good as it's been."

He specifically noted the efforts of Doug Jones, M.D., senior associate dean of clinical affairs; Jane Schumaker, executive director of UPI; Stefannie Emerson, UPI's senior director of business development and planning, Christina Finlayson, M.D., associate medical director at UPI; and Michael Narkewicz, M.D., associate medical director at UPI.

### **Establishing Office of Professionalism**

In the Office of Academic Affairs, Krugman said, establishing the Office of Professionalism has been a significant achievement.

"I know there's been a lot of conversation around this and I've had a lot of people say, what are we doing with this and why are we even doing it," he said. "We started this effort because we've recognized since only 1985 that our students have reported mistreatment by faculty, residents and staff. It's not unique to us, every medical school in the country and I suspect lots of professional schools as well deal with us. It clearly has had an impact as I have talked to graduates from our classes in the 70s and 80s about why they are or are not contributing to the alumni association. Many of them had adverse experience here."

The goal is to create a better way than the anonymous-reporting programs that failed to curb unprofessional behavior and to include better communication with the hospitals, where some of the behavior occurred.

"Because we're a place where each of our hospitals has separate governance, we actually have discovered recently that awful encounters that hospital staff or others have had with some of our faculty never came to our attention for a year or more," Krugman said. "And they never came to our attention because the staff member was employed by the hospital. It was reported to HR at the hospital and the person who was in charge of the faculty member – that is the chair of the department, who is a university employee and works for me – never hears about the problem. One of the reasons that we put this group together was so that we could identify problems early and address them soon."

Eliminating unprofessional behavior is critical to the mission of the school and the hospitals he said because "there are clear data to show it has adverse effects on patient care, quality and learning."

### **Education Improvements**

The school provides a better curriculum and offers better support to students now than it did when Krugman became interim dean in 1990.

The program now is centralized to avoid duplicative content, requires mentored scholarly activity, provides problem-based learning and offers a supportive learning environment.

"I just want to say this about students," he said. "I was told early on in my career and most of you have heard this, most faculty's view of education can be described this way: We talk about my fellow, our residents, your students. And if you think about it, medical students are the only people in the school of medicine who are not linked into or attached to a department."

As a result, some MD students didn't get the attention they needed. The updated system ensures that those students now "feel there is someone actively looking after them."

### **Personal Notes**

Krugman concluded his report with a Top 10 list of the reasons for his longevity as Dean. He is now the longest-serving dean in the history of the School of Medicine and is currently the dean of deans among medical school leaders in the U.S.

Krugman announced in January that he would step down as dean when a successor is hired to return to some research that he would like to pursue. He noted in his speech the names of retired faculty, saying "What was a little scary for me was that one of them was my intern when I was on the faculty."

He said he had the temperament and training that served him well, but it hadn't been a lifelong ambition to become a dean.

"Unlike some of you who are really focused on getting answers, I've got a pretty big tolerance for ambiguity and a presumption that most things will get better on their own, in time, with a little anticipatory guidance."

His personal remarks gave credit to family and friends, mentors and colleagues. He said Lilly Marks, executive vice chancellor of the Anschutz Medical Campus and the university's vice president of health affairs, "is an extraordinary colleague who in my view really is most responsible for the success of this school and campus."

And, finally, he thanked "wonderfully supportive and loving wife," Mary for more than 51 years of partnership, his immediate family and everyone at the school "for letting me have this job. It really has been fun!"

### [November forum to highlight research](#)[26]

Klebe

Coussons-Read

Mary Coussons-Read, provost, and Kelli Klebe, associate vice chancellor for research and faculty development, will lead a discussion about university research at UCCS during the November Chancellor's All-Campus Forum.

The forum is scheduled for 3 p.m. Nov. 11 in the University Center Theater.

Coussons-Read and Klebe will highlight current faculty successes in research and elaborate on future plans.

All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend forums. For those unable to attend, a summary of the forum will be posted in [Communique](#)[29], usually within 24 hours of the event.

[Top teens to track potential 'killer asteroids' during Summer Science Program](#)[30]

CU-Boulder's Sommers-Bausch Observatory has a four telescopes: a 16-inch, 18-inch, 24-inch and a heliostat, or solar telescope. (Photo courtesy CU-Boulder)

CU-Boulder's Sommers-Bausch Observatory has a four telescopes: a 16-inch, 18-inch, 24-inch and a heliostat, or solar telescope. (Photo courtesy CU-Boulder)

University of Colorado Boulder administrators have signed a memorandum of agreement to host 36 of the nation's top high school students beginning next summer to image, measure and track near-Earth asteroids.

The asteroid research is the keystone project for students participating in the international Summer Science Program (SSP), established in 1959 to allow some of the best and brightest high school students to experience college-level education and do cutting-edge celestial mechanics research.

During the six-week program, the students will attend daytime lectures on astronomy, physics, calculus and software development. In addition, each team of three students will choose an asteroid, precisely measure its size and position, and write software to predict its future orbit around the sun, including its potential for colliding with Earth, said SSP Executive Director Richard Bowdon.

SSP will select and enroll the students, hire faculty and select guest lecturers for the program, while CU-Boulder will provide furnished housing, meals, classroom access and training and support services for use of the 16-inch and 18-inch telescopes at Sommers-Bausch Observatory and for computer labs.

"We're very excited to come to Boulder," said Bowdon, also an SSP alumnus and software engineer. "Everybody has been extremely supportive, and the facilities are perfect for our program, especially the telescopes right on campus."

The program admits high-achieving students readying for their senior years in high school. One group of 36 students will be doing hands-on astronomy at the Sommers-Bausch Observatory on the CU-Boulder campus while a second group of 36 students will be at New Mexico Tech in Socorro.

"We see this as a tremendous opportunity to share the expertise of CU-Boulder's faculty and students and our telescope facilities with some of the best and brightest high school students anywhere," said CU-Boulder Provost Russell Moore. "The Summer Science Program has been shown to be a life-changing experience for past students from around the world, and we hope the activities these students undertake at CU-Boulder will inspire them to go on in college to study science or engineering."

CU-Boulder Senior Instructor Douglas Duncan, director of Fiske Planetarium and a former SSP student and instructor, said the program was created shortly after the Russians launched Sputnik and was the only U.S. summer science program at the time targeting very successful high school students. "It's like a Junior Olympic training camp, but in academics," said Duncan, who also is on the SSP Board of Trustees.

In addition to CU-Boulder and New Mexico Tech, the SSP is operated in cooperation with both Caltech and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which help in areas of student recruitment, guest speakers and alumni support. About half of the SSP students currently go on to enroll at MIT, Caltech, Harvard University and other Ivy League schools.

The program, which regularly features top scientists and engineers as lecturers and guest speakers, including Nobel Prize winners, is the only summer enrichment program managed and largely funded by its own alumni, said Bowdon. Last year there were 754 applicants for the 72 student slots available. More than 100 professional astronomers or

physicists have been associated with SSP, either as faculty, students or both.

CU-Boulder's extensive experience in space science research and education makes it a good fit for SSP, said Moore. CU-Boulder has built and launched instruments to every planet in the solar system, designed a \$70 million instrument now flying on the Hubble Space Telescope, is leading NASA's \$671 million MAVEN mission to Mars and hosts the Colorado Space Grant Consortium, which has given hundreds of undergraduates experience in designing, building and flying space instruments.

For more information on SSP, including fees and financial aid opportunities, visit [www.summerscience.org](http://www.summerscience.org)[32]. For more information on CU-Boulder's Sommers-Bausch Observatory visit <http://lyra.colorado.edu/sbo/>[33].

[Coussons-Read, Kaukinen, Webb honored for research achievements](#)[34]

[35]

**Mary Coussons-Read****Catherine Kaukinen****Rebecca Webb**

Three UCCS researchers recently were inducted into the Million Dollar Club at the 10th annual Celebration of Sponsored Research and Scholarship Oct. 22. Provost **Mary Coussons-Read**; **Catherine Kaukinen**, associate professor, School of Public Affairs; and **Rebecca Webb**, assistant professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science, were each recognized for receiving \$1 million in sponsored programs awards during their time at UCCS.

Along with the Million Dollar Club members, faculty and staff were recognized for submitting their first sponsored project proposals, as well as for being awarded their first sponsored projects. "This is our chance to celebrate or honor all the people who help us in the research enterprise, including people serving on research committees and staff throughout the university who provide support for sponsored programs," said Kelli Klebe, dean, Graduate School.

Those researchers receiving awards were:

First time sponsored project proposals

**Robert Block**, assistant dean, College of Engineering and Applied Science; **Jay Dawes**, assistant professor, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Craig Elder**, associate professor, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Russell Elsberry**, senior research associate, Trauma, Health and Hazards Center; **Laura Engleman**, project director, UCCS Aging Center; **Ke Jiang**, research associate, Biofrontiers Center; **Anna Kosloski**, assistant professor, School of Public Affairs; **Karin Larkin**, curator, Department of Anthropology; **Roger Martinez**, assistant professor, Department of History; **Kerry Peterson**, assistant professor, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Kotaro Shoji**, postdoctoral fellow, Trauma, Health and Hazards Center; **Henriikka Weir**, assistant professor, School of Public Affairs; **Bret Windom**, assistant professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science; **Michele Okun**, clinical researcher, Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences and HealthCircle Clinics; and **Stephanie Ryon**, assistant professor, School of Public Affairs.

First time sponsored project recipients

**Anna Kosloski**, assistant professor, School of Public Affairs; **Henriikka Weir**, assistant professor, School of Public Affairs; **Mary Coussons-Read**, provost; **Russell Elsberry**, senior research associate, Trauma, Health and Hazards Center; **Brandon Gavett**, assistant professor, Department of Psychology; **Deborah Kenny**, associate professor and associate dean, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Roger Martinez**, assistant professor, Department of History; **Brian McPike**, executive director, Department of Public Safety; **Leann Morgan**, assistant professor, College of Education; **Janel Owens**, assistant professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry; **Kerry Peterson**, assistant professor, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Jia Rao**, assistant professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science; **Kristen Walcott-Justice**, assistant professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science; **Bret Windom**, assistant professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science; and **Chuan Yue**, assistant professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science.



[Dassanowsky production wins at film fest](#)[36]

Dassanowsky

"Felix Austria!" – a feature documentary produced by **Robert Dassanowsky**, professor in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and Department of Languages and Cultures at UCCS – was awarded the Colorado Spotlight Award at the seventh annual Indie Spirit Film Festival at the event's finale Oct. 19.

The film, directed by Christine Beebe and co-produced by Beebe's company La Turista Films and Dassanowsky's Belvedere Film, celebrated its world premiere at the Hot Docs Festival in Toronto, and its U.S. premiere was the winning screening in Colorado Springs. For the first time, the Indie Spirit Film Festival held its awards ceremony on campus.

The film was shot over a period of several years in California, New York, Florida, Vienna, Munich and Sarajevo, and with original music composed by Mark Orton.

[UCCS arts earn awards](#)[38]

Janet Johnson, Ormao Dance Company, Mollie Wolf, choreographer, Glen Whitehead, assistant professor, Department of Visual and Performing Arts, and Daisy McConnell, director, Galleries of Contemporary Art.

Photo by Jeff Cloutier

Janet Johnson, Ormao Dance Company, Mollie Wolf, choreographer, Glen Whitehead, assistant professor, Department of Visual and Performing Arts, and Daisy McConnell, director, Galleries of Contemporary Art. Photo by Jeff Cloutier

The Pikes Peak Arts Council honored four UCCS-related productions and exhibitions during the organization's 14th annual awards ceremony Oct. 15 at Library 21c. Those recognized were:

Outstanding performance by an actor: **Michael Lee** for Silvio in "Servant of Two Masters," THEATREWORKS; outstanding performance by an actress: **Sue Bachman** for Linda Loman in "Death of a Salesman," THEATREWORKS; outstanding production: **Murray Ross** for "Venus in Fur," THEATREWORKS; and outstanding choreography: "Protest!" by Ormao Dance Company, UCCS Peak FreQuency Creative Arts Collective and UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art.

Twenty-three PPAC awards were handed out in categories including classical music, popular music, poetry, theater and visual art.

[Yeatman publishes research on health, families in Malawi](#)[40]

[41]

**Sara Yeatman**, assistant professor of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, has recently published two articles regarding research in Malawi.

Published last month, the first paper, "Popular moralities and institutional rationalities in Malawi's struggle against AIDS," appears in "Population and Development Review." Yeatman and colleagues compare the discourse about

AIDS as presented in Malawian newspapers to its representation in local conversations from 1999-2008.

During this time period, coverage in the media turned towards moral injunctions regarding HIV testing and treatment that required individuals to interact with authoritative institutions. Rural Malawians, however, received these injunctions with great skepticism and continued to advise each other to reduce risky sexual behavior.

The second paper, "The relationship between partners' family-size preferences in southern Malawi," was published in "Studies in Family Planning," and co-authored with Christie Sennott, a former CU-Boulder graduate student. The authors use three years of data from Yeatman's study, "Tsogolo la Thanzi" (<http://sites.psu.edu/tltc/>[42]), to show that both men and women in Malawi influence their partner's family-size preferences.

#### [Cook celebrates multiple awards for film](#)[43]

##### [\[44\]](#)

A short film produced by 14 College of Arts and Media (CAM) students in the Senior Production capstone studio classes last year at the CU Denver Digital Animation Center (DAC) has become a big hit on the awards circuit.

**Howard Cook**, DAC director, reports that so far, the film, "I Need My Monster," has been selected for 50 national and international film festivals, including events in Mexico, Canada, England, India, Pakistan, Spain, Brazil and Ukraine. Cook served as the film's executive producer and was in charge of story development and the screenplay.

Awards announced to date:

Best Animation at the Big Mini Media Festival, Brooklyn, N.Y. Award of Excellence at the Best Shorts Competition  
Award of Excellence at the Accolade Global Film Competition First place at BigPictureCon at Clayton University in Georgia

Guiding production of this award-winning film was a team effort by CAM colleagues. **Stephen Baker** was the director, and **Paul Conner** and **Tripp Vroman** served as faculty technical directors.

What the students created is an animated short-film adaptation of Flashlight Press and Amanda Noll's children's book by the same name. It's a story of a young boy who can only go to sleep to the imagined snoring monster under his bed. One night he finds the monster has "gone fishing." The boy auditions substitute monsters until the original scary creature returns. See more at "Monsters Come to Life."

#### [Dropping names...](#)[45]

**Hamilton Bean**, associate professor in Communication, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, delivered invited remarks at the "Dialogue on International Educational Exchange and the Promotion of Peace, Development, and Intercultural Understanding" conference at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, on Sept 26.

The conference was hosted by the Turkish Fulbright Commission, the Hollings Center for International Dialogue, and the Ihsan Dogramaci Peace Foundation Center for Foreign Policy & Peace Research. It brought together more than a dozen international experts on educational exchange and public diplomacy. Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan delivered the keynote address.

Bean's presentation, "Strategic Communication and the Marketization of Educational Exchange," examined the discourse of educational exchange evaluation to highlight how there may be a missed opportunity to develop deeper mutual understanding.

**Brian Kavanagh**, professor of radiation oncology, School of Medicine, and interim chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology, recently edited two high-profile publications that have attracted a lot of attention in the field.

First, as part of the 50th Anniversary of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the "Journal of Clinical Oncology" created special issues devoted to major areas within oncology. For the special issue on radiation oncology, published last month, Kavanagh was invited to be the guest editor responsible for selecting and editing the dozen most important current topics in radiation oncology and engaging the leading experts around the country who could construct the narrative of where the field has been and where it is going. Kavanagh said the eclectic mix of papers in the issue includes discussions of high-tech treatments, cutting-edge bench research, and the health economics approach to defining the value proposition of radiation oncology, among others.

Another recent editorial achievement for Kavanagh is a new textbook from CRC Press entitled "Stereotactic Radiosurgery and Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy," which he co-edited with three colleagues from other leading cancer centers. The 400-plus pages include more than 250 illustrations.

In addition, Kavanagh recently was named a fellow of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) in San Francisco. The ASTRO Fellows Program honors radiation oncology leaders who have made substantial contributions to the field. ...

UCCS welcomed 14 new community members in September. They are:

**Adam Alexander**, shuttle driver, Police Department; **Cynthia Allen**, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, Student Health Center; **Billie Jo Baptiste**, nurse practitioner, Student Health Center; **Gregory Gray**, cook, Dining and Food Services; **Crista Hill**, student services specialist, School of Public Affairs; **Gregory Hoye**, director university wide marketing, Advancement; **David Lanford**, police officer, Police Department;

**Jean-Marc Richel**, cook, Dining and Food Services; **Melanie Strescino**, administrative assistant, Police Department; **Chelsea Trottier**, cook, Dining and Food Services; **Mary Ann Turner**, site coordinator Lamar Community College, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences; **Myra Valdez**, art registrar, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences; **Wenwen Wang**, professional research assistant, College of Engineering and Applied Science; and **Tammy Young**, shuttle driver, Police Department.

[Naturalist Weber to be honored for lifetime achievements](#)[46]

[47]

William A. Weber, who began his work as a biologist and naturalist 68 years ago and published authoritative works on Colorado flora, will be honored in a special event and exhibition at Norlin Library at the University of Colorado Boulder.

The event honoring Weber's life and work is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, on the Norlin Library fifth floor.

His colleagues say Weber holds the unofficial title of CU-Boulder's "oldest active professor with the longest tenure."

Weber, 96, is a retired CU-Boulder professor of botany and curator emeritus of the CU Museum of Natural History. He began his career at the university in 1946 as a biology instructor. In 1962, he became a professor of natural history.

Read more in the [College of Arts and Sciences Magazine](#)[48].

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**Links**

[1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/griego-re-elected-carson-shoemaker-set-join-board-regents>[2]  
[https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/reg-elect\\_griego.png](https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/reg-elect_griego.png)[3]  
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