CU across Colorado CU Denver team fans out to help rural areas with community [1]

CU names new engagement and outreach leader[2]

CU is ramping up its efforts to develop deeper connections with communities around Colorado and beyond with a program to foster sustained relationships that will pay dividends in public perceptions of the value of CU and higher education, legislative relations, student recruitment and a better understanding of state needs.
[3]

The university took a big step in that direction recently by creating the Office of Engagement and hiring Tony Salazar as assistant vice president for engagement. The office was developed within existing budgets.

Salazar, a Colorado native, will lead systemwide activities around the state and nationally, with a particular emphasis on engagement with diverse communities, said Ken McConnellogue, system vice president for university communication.

“While CU does a lot of engagement and outreach activities around the state, they tend to be program specific,” McConnellogue said. “We need a focused effort that ensures we are regular visitors to communities around Colorado, where we can develop ongoing relationships with elected officials, alumni, donors, the K-12 community, and business and community leaders.”

Salazar, who will begin Nov. 4, is now chief affiliate officer for the National Education Association Member Benefits Corporation and previously served as executive director of the Colorado Education Association. He is in his second term on the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees (a position he will resign). He is also president of the Latin American Educational Foundation Board of Directors.

He has experience as a lobbyist, policy analyst and also served in the budget office at CU in the late 1990s and early 2000s. He earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Denver and is a graduate of the University of Denver Latino Leadership Institute.

“Tony has a great combination of skills, experience and connections that will serve him and the university well,” McConnellogue said.

“I’m thrilled to join the team at CU and I look forward to helping to advance this great university,” Salazar said. “CU is one of the most important and respected institutions in Colorado, and we need to ensure that people around our state know what we contribute, what we have to offer and how we serve Coloradans.”

The idea for the program emerged from the Board of Regents summer retreat in July, when the board, CU President Mark Kennedy, chancellors and the executive staff discussed the importance of a concerted effort. The board made outreach a priority for Kennedy, and his executive staff brought forward a recommendation to restructure some current operations and create an Office of Engagement.

Targeted outcomes include consistent, sustained relationships around Colorado and beyond (particularly with diverse communities), improved perceptions of the value and affordability of higher education, enhanced student recruitment, stronger legislative relations and a better understanding of state needs. The Office of Engagement will coordinate efforts with campuses and with other units in system administration.

Kennedy supported adding an Office of Engagement but directed that any new staff come within existing budgets. To accomplish that, some of the activities in the offices of University Relations and Government Relations were restructured and positions were eliminated in each operation. The CU Advocates program moved to Government Relations and will have a more grassroots legislative focus.

CU must do a better job connecting with people across Colorado, said Regent Sue Sharkey, who has long advocated increased outreach.

“The University of Colorado matters to everyone in the state, and everyone in the state matters to the university,” Sharkey said. “CU plays a vital role in the state by educating students, with our economic impact, through sharing our research expertise, and with service.

“It’s important that we connect with all of Colorado and find out how we meet our mission. It’s getting a message out of, ‘what we are doing and what else can we be doing,’” she said.

Sharkey, who represents the sprawling 4th Congressional District that includes the Eastern Plains, said it’s important for CU to connect with rural areas of the state in addition to the Front Range. She also said the university can create deeper connections with military bases and personnel for partnerships and educational opportunities.

The Office of Engagement will also be responsible for establishing a lecture series out of the Office of the President that blends CU faculty with high-profile speakers from around the country. It is expected to begin in the spring.

Chancellor addresses racist incident, student safety and wellness at State of the Campus event[4]

Expert panels, student showcases headline Research and Innovation Week Oct. 14-18 [5]

NSF grant to focus on how bats evolved to dominate the night [6]

Reviving neighborhoods with health-driven design[7]

Finding the cause of a devastating polio-like illness[8]

Harris-Love appointed director of CU School of Medicine Physical Therapy Program [9]
[10]

Michael Harris-Love, PT, MPT, DSc, FGSA, a clinician-investigator with more than 20 years of experience serving federal medical centers and academic programs, was appointed director of the University of Colorado School of Medicine’s Physical Therapy Program and associate dean of Physical Therapy Education, effective Aug. 1, 2019.

In addition to his duties as a professor within the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Harris-Love will continue his role as a Veterans Affairs (VA) investigator through his affiliation with the Eastern Colorado Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center.

“Dr. Harris-Love will build upon the tremendous growth of the Physical Therapy Program under Dr. Margaret Schenkman’s tenure, while exploring new ventures related to education and research,” said Venu Akuthota, M.D., chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Harris-Love comes from the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center (VAMC) and George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health, bringing extensive clinical research experience to the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. His VA scientific leadership roles included serving as the associate director of the Human Performance Research Unit and co-director of the Polytrauma/Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Research Rehabilitation Fellowship Program at the D.C. VAMC Clinical Research Center.

A committed advocate of rehabilitation science training, he helped to establish both the postdoctoral training program and the Skeletal Muscle Laboratory at his VA medical center. Before his faculty appointment at George Washington University, Harris-Love spent time at universities in Virginia, Maryland and Indiana.

“My time working in public and private institutions, federal and university laboratories, and entry-level and post-professional education may help me to address the needs of the program and effectively build partnerships at the Anschutz Medical Campus,” Harris-Love said. “My goals include building our physical therapy residency programs, increasing our efforts to support rural PT practice, and better serving Colorado students by expanding our educational outreach. This may occur through strategic alliances with CU system partners like the University of Colorado South Denver and the Hybl Sports Medicine and Performance Center at UCCS.

“Addressing the dual challenge of college enrollment trends and cost concerns, while also effectively meeting the needs of an increasingly diverse population of students and patients will require us to cross intercampus divides and truly function as one CU.”

Harris-Love is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and a recipient of the Mayo Clinic Physical Therapy Outstanding Alumnus Award. He succeeds Margaret Schenkman, Ph.D., PT, FAPTA, who led the CU Physical Therapy Program for 15 years.

Ragin announces retirement[11]

Tolva to lead smart cities research and education[12]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/cu-across-colorado-cu-denver-team-fans-out-help-rural-areas-community[2] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-names-new-engagement-and-outreach-leader[3] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/outreach_01.jpg[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/chancellor-addresses-racist-incident-student-safety-and-wellness-state-campus-event[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/expert-panels-student-showcases-headline-research-and-innovation-week-oct-14-18[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/nsf-grant-focus-how-bats-evolved-dominate-night[7] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/reviving-neighborhoods-health-driven-design[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/finding-cause-devastating-polio-illness[9] https://connections.cu.edu/people/harris-love-appointed-director-cu-school-medicine-physical-therapy-program[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/p_harris-love01.jpg[11] https://connections.cu.edu/people/ragin-announces-

retirement[12] https://connections.cu.edu/people/tolva-lead-smart-cities-research-and-education