Staff Council celebrates exceptional employees[1]
[2]

The University of Colorado Staff Council (UCSC) recently presented the 2022 Staff Excellence Awards[3], honoring 11 exceptional employees across the system.

The Oct. 7 event at the Hilton Denver Inverness honored two staff members from each campus and from system administration (a tie resulted in three award recipients from CU Denver). The annual recognition, presented to employees who go above and beyond their job duties and consistently surpass expectations, includes a plaque and a $250 award, presented by a member of each campus's leadership team.

The 2022 honorees are:

CU Anschutz

Tammy Orton

Orton currently serves as the health care manager for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at CU 5280 OB-GYN. With over 18 years of experience, she is passionate about women's health and proud to be part of an organization that allows?the opportunity to provide diverse, purposeful, compassionate care to patients in the community.?As a leader, she is grateful?to be surrounded by a resilient, authentic, supportive team of colleagues who are?committed to mentoring new generations in?delivering exceptional patient care. She is a lifelong Colorado resident who enjoys hiking, camping and fishing with her family.

Jennifer Hope

Hope was born and raised in Brigham City, Utah, and graduated from Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in family history. She started at CU in February 2005 and joined the School of Pharmacy Distance Degrees and Programs in June 2013. She is in her all-time favorite job as an academic student adviser because she loves helping students. Above all, she is grateful for the mentorship of Sarah King, academic services coordinator, who shared her knowledge on how to be the best adviser. She lives in Brigham City, Utah, with her supportive husband and two children.

CU Boulder

Mike Jones

Jones (he/him) serves as the assistant director of first-generation programs and enrichment within the Center for Inclusion and Social Change (CISC), where he manages the First-Generation Scholars Program and leads the Men of Excellence initiative, a cross-campus collaborative that enhances the men of color experience at CU Boulder through programming geared toward academic support, community building and career readiness.?He prides himself on carrying out his work and building relationships with an intentional mindset and spirit.?Originally from North Carolina, he earned his bachelor's in sociology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and master's in college student personnel from Bowling Green State University.?As a first-generation college student, Jones understands the value of helping students find their sense of belonging on campus and is committed to creating equitable opportunities for success and growth. In his spare time, you can find him working out, playing basketball or watching "RuPaul's Drag Race."

Nikki Hutchinson

Hutchinson (she/her) is a residence hall director in Bear Creek. One of her favorite aspects of the role, in addition to

the eclectic job responsibilities, is supporting her students (residents and staff) and being a part of their journey. She was born and raised in Connecticut and moved to Colorado in August 2016. To help with the transition from family and friends, she adopted a fluff named Luna, an Australian Shepherd Mix, with tons of energy. Hutchinson is a self-proclaimed extroverted introvert who is always seeking the silver lining in any situation. She enjoys listening to music, reading books, journal writing, midnight drives and going to the movies. Her top love languages are quality time and words of affirmation and her top five strengths are adaptability, harmony, empathy, positivity and restorative. She values vulnerability, consistency, creativity, humor and spontaneity.

UCCS

Ellen Burkart

Burkart is the director for First Year Experience and Family Connections at UCCS. Driven by helping students to find their place and reach their goals, she takes pride in developing, coordinating and implementing initiatives to help students and their families navigate the college journey. In her 15 years at UCCS, she founded the Parent and Family Programs (now Family Connections) sub-unit; implemented and maintains the Starfish system; established a peer coaching program; and designs and coordinates a variety of enrollment and persistence outreach campaigns for the Division of Student Affairs, among many other initiatives. She currently serves on numerous committees including, but not limited to, Retention and Graduation, CRM Governance, Enrollment Marketing, Salesforce Student Support Network, and Learning Communities committees. Outside of work, you can find Burkart spending time with her family, spending time outdoors, co-leading a Girl Scouts troop or crafting. She holds a master's in student affairs in higher education and a bachelor's in forestry with a business concentration from Colorado State University.

Syndee Garland

Garland is a senior academic adviser and co-chair of the Winter Giving Project at UCCS. She has enjoyed advising and supporting students in higher?education for 16 years, with the past seven years spent at UCCS. Garland enjoys supporting students through the challenges and successes of their educational journeys, as well as watching them grow into emerging professionals during their time on campus. When she is not on campus, she can be found adventuring around Colorado or traveling with her children and granddaughters.

CU Denver

Liz Evans

Evans is the undergraduate research adviser and program coordinator for the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities at CU Denver. She assists students in their research journeys from finding a mentor or research opportunity to developing and succeeding in independent inquiry. She holds a bachelor's in international studies from Colorado State University and earned her master's in social sciences from CU Denver in May 2022. Her research focuses on the communication dynamics of multicultural populations. As an interdisciplinary researcher, Evans is passionate about expanding access to undergraduate research across disciplines and draws from her background in intercultural communication training to provide individualized student advising.

Samantha Kelly

Kelly joined CU Denver in 2014, beginning by working in the Lynx Center and New Student Orientation.? In 2018, she joined the registrar's office as an associate registrar.?Kelly enjoys being able to work face-to-face with students to assist them in their academic journey and being able to work on the back end of things to make students' journeys as seamless as possible.?She is a native Coloradan and first-generation college student who grew up in southwest Denver.?She earned a bachelor's from Colorado State University and master's in leadership for educational organizations in higher education from CU Denver. Kelly shares life with her husband, two little girls and her dog.

Kelsi Miles

Miles (she/her/hers) serves as the Peer Advocate Leaders program coordinator and will begin her new role as assistant director of student engagement at CU Denver on Nov. 1. An alumna of CU Denver and the University of Northern Colorado, Miles' career focus is developing student leaders and supporting students through transitions. She is currently back in the classroom pursuing a master's degree focusing on educational geography in urban environments.

CU system

Emily Osan

Osan (she/her) joined CU system administration in fall 2020. In her role as a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) specialist, she works collaboratively with administrative and campus partners to develop and implement initiatives designed to enhance the success, personal development and retention of CU's community and to further CU's commitment to developing a just, inclusive, equitable and supportive environment. Throughout her career, Osan has worked in a variety of settings focused on social justice, DEI, empowerment, education, community building and prevention. She previously led crisis response and advocacy services at a nonprofit focused on interpersonal violence. Her previous experience also includes teaching youth and adults as well as working in the post-secondary educational access space. She holds a bachelor's from the University of Texas at Austin, a master's in social work in management, policy and evaluation with a professional certificate of DEI from the University of Michigan, and a certificate in human resources management from Cornell University.

RyAnne Scott

Scott serves as a director of communications and outreach for Employee Services and University Information Services at CU system administration. Since joining CU in 2013, she has worked to develop strategies, tools and events to ensure CU's faculty and staff take full advantage of the excellent benefits and resources available to them. She and her team are working to roll out a new, easy-to-use resource soon, and are very excited to share it with the CU community. In her free time, she enjoys traveling with her husband, attending concerts and standup comedy shows, weightlifting and cycling – and a long list of podcasts that make those last two items infinitely more enjoyable.

Call for proposals: Coleman Institute's Technology Translational Research and Development Awards[4]

The Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities[5] is now accepting proposals from CU faculty members for the Technology Translational Research and Development (TTRD) Awards. Projects must be authored by full or part-time faculty members with the rank of assistant, associate or full professor.

The Coleman Institute works to catalyze and integrate advances in technology that promote the quality of life of people with cognitive disabilities and their caregivers. The TTRD Award advances the Institute's support of translational science resulting in products or services reaching the hands of consumers. The award will fund researchers and developers from the four CU campuses to develop and disseminate technology products that directly aid persons living with cognitive disabilities.

A total of four proposals will be funded. Two $50,000 grants will be awarded for Phase I (early stage development) and two $100,000 grants will be awarded for Phase II (late-stage development) projects.

The intended outcome of both phases is to progress the development of tangible tools, resources, hardware or

software, and/or other technology strategies for improving quality of life for persons living with cognitive disabilities across their lifespan. Proposals that are driven by user-inspired research and have a clear path of translation to the marketplace will be funded. Recipients will have 12 months to use the funding.

The proposal submission template and full guidelines and requirements are available online at https://www.cu.edu/coleman/funding-opportunities/coleman-institute-funding[6].

Deadline for proposal submissions is 5 p.m. Dec. 15, 2022.

Questions regarding the proposal can be sent to cathy.bodine@cu.edu[7].

Accessing Higher Ground Conference: CU community receives 5% discount[8]

The 2022 Accessing Higher Ground: Accessible, Media, Web and Technology Conference[9] is set for Nov. 14-18 at the Hilton Denver City Center.

The conference also will offer a virtual option[10].

Accessing Higher Ground focuses on the implementation and benefits of accessible media and information resources, including websites, PDFs and other documents. Accessible curricula and legal issues around accessibility and higher education also are key elements of the conference.

Members of the CU community receive a 5% discount on registration fees (must use CU email address). Because CU Boulder is a member of the Association on Higher Education and Disability, the campus community receives a 10% discount.

Keynote speaker is Elsa Sjunneson[11], a DeafBlind author and editor living in Seattle. Her fiction and nonfiction writing has been praised as “eloquence and activism in lockstep” and has been published in dozens of venues around the world. She has been a Hugo Award finalist seven times, and has won Hugo, Aurora and BFA awards for her editorial work. Watch a PBS video about her here[12].

Highlights from this year’s agenda:

Pre-Conference
1-Day Accessibility Testing Workshop (2022 update)[13], Karl Groves, Accessibility Specialist, Level Access (1-day workshop) Create accessible documents in Office 365: Word and PowerPoint[14], George Joeckel, WebAIM (1-day Certificate)
Main Conference
WAI-ARIA Fundamentals[15], Christina Adams, CPWA, Siteimprove Authoring Stylish and Accessible Courses in Canvas[16], Sonya Woods & Matt Farley, Penn State How to Integrate Accessibility in the Procurement Cycle[17], Andrew Drummond, State of Maryland CSS Pitfalls for Screen Readers[18], John Northup, WebAIM Getting started with EPUB[19], Richard Orme, DAISY Consortium OCR’s Year In Review[20], Mary Lou Mobley, U.S. Dept. of Education Digital Accessibility: Six Core Skills[21], Michele Michele Betancourt, Wharton County Junior College
View the complete agenda[22] or register now.[23]

For more information, contact Howard Kramer, 720-351-8668 or hkramer@ahead.org[24].

Newest research institute tackles mental health, wellness through integration of science, community [25]

T. Rowe Price Career and Innovation Center celebrates one-year anniversary [26]

Attend the Conservative Scholar Luncheon Nov. 2 in Colorado Springs [27]

A 10,000-year-old infant burial provides insights into the use of baby carriers and family heirlooms in prehistory [28]

State of the Campus 2022 shines spotlight on our people[29]

Hutton joins CU Foundation as vice president of people and culture[30]

Lynnea Greene Hutton recently joined the CU Foundation as the new vice president of people and culture.

Hutton arrives from the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal Systems at the University of Denver as senior director of operations. Previously, she served for over five years as director of operations at the Boettcher Foundation.

Hutton earned her master's degree in business administration from the University of Denver's Emerging Leaders MBA Program and her bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University. She also serves on several boards, including the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Leadership Foundation, the University of Denver Alumni Council and the Newman Center for the Performing Arts.

Hutton is joined by her husband, David, and son Miles, who attends Morehouse College.

Murnane wins 2022 Isaac Newton Medal and Prize [31]

DiGregorio named new chair of physiology and biophysics [32]

Colorado's COVID hospitalizations remain relatively flat, but East Coast offers warning[33]

New districts for 2022 midterms, in part thanks to math[34]

'We're still here': Potawatomi chief justice speaks during annual CU Boulder law school lecture[35]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/staff-council-celebrates-exceptional-employees[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/winners_staff_awards_spotlight_fea_crop_10-27-2022.jpg[3] https://www.cu.edu/ucsc/ucsc-staff-excellence-award[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/call-proposals-coleman-institute-s-technology-translational-research-and-development-awards[5] https://www.cu.edu/coleman[6] https://www.cu.edu/coleman/funding-opportunities/coleman-institute-funding[7] mailto:cathy.bodine@cu.edu[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/accessing-higher-ground-conference-cu-community-receives-5-discount[9] https://accessinghigherground.org/[10] https://accessinghigherground.org/virtual-2022/[11] https://www.snarkbat.com/about[12] https://www.pbs.org/video/elsa-sjunneson-deafblind-author-audio-description-asl-ce0ald/[13] https://accessinghigherground.org/1-day-accessibility-testing-workshop-2022-update/[14] https://accessinghigherground.org/create-accessible-documents-in-office-365-word-and-powerpoint/[15] https://accessinghigherground.org/wai-aria-fundamentals/[16] https://accessinghigherground.org/authoring-stylish-and-accessible-courses-in-canvas/[17] https://accessinghigherground.org/how-to-integrate-accessibility-in-the-procurement-cycle-2/[18] https://accessinghigherground.org/css-pitfalls-for-screen-readers-2/[19] https://accessinghigherground.org/getting-started-with-epub/[20] https://accessinghigherground.org/ocrs-2022-year-in-review/[21] https://accessinghigherground.org/digital-accessibility-six-core-skills/[22] https://accessinghigherground.org/schedule-2022/[23] https://cvent.me/b8lx1l[24] mailto:hkramer@ahead.org[25] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/newest-research-institute-tackles-mental-health-wellness-through-integration-science[26] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/t-rowe-price-career-and-innovation-center-celebrates-one-year-anniversary[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/attend-conservative-scholar-luncheon-nov-2-colorado-springs[28] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/10000-year-old-infant-burial-provides-insights-use-baby-carriers-and-family-heirlooms[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/state-campus-2022-shines-spotlight-our-people[30] https://connections.cu.edu/people/hutton-joins-cu-foundation-vice-president-people-and-culture[31] https://connections.cu.edu/people/murnane-wins-2022-isaac-newton-medal-and-prize[32] https://connections.cu.edu/people/digregorio-named-new-chair-physiology-and-biophysics[33] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/colorado-s-covid-hospitalizations-remain-relatively-flat-east-coast-offers-warning[34] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/new-districts-2022-midterms-part-thanks-math[35] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/we-re-still-here-potawatomi-chief-justice-speaks-during-annual-cu-boulder-law-school-lecture