CDHE to faculty: 'We're not out to get you'[1]

Matt Gianneschi at the June 2012 CU Board of Regents meeting.

Performance metrics to be included in the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) master plan aren't intended as a threat to educators, according to the deputy director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE).

Matt Gianneschi spoke to the University of Colorado Faculty Council during its Sept. 27 meeting at system administration offices in Denver.

"The purpose (of metrics) is not for us to say, 'We're out to get you,'" Gianneschi said while addressing questions from council members. "It's that we know we can improve certain areas – so how can we do that and present it to legislators in a way that they'll understand this is good for the system?"

The master plan's four general goals[3] call for the state's higher education institutions to increase college completion, improve student success, boost access to better reflect state demographics and work with the CCHE to identify revenue that could reduce the student debt load. How those goals are measured, and the ramifications of measurement, are what concern many faculty members.

Jerry Peterson, chair of the Boulder Faculty Assembly, called the idea of an open-ended requirement to increase the graduation rate "dangerous" because the rate cannot mathematically rise forever. Gianneschi said he agreed that such a measure applied ad infinitum was not attainable, but called the master plan "a five-year contract. We're not talking about 100 years. … We're looking for immediate progress, not for a fixed number."

David Port, chair of the Anschutz Medical Campus Faculty Assembly, said the plan's stipulations "carry the danger of being overly simplistic. When you have metrics that can apply to a broad group, you're in danger of making things too generic." He said metrics should be partitioned for various institutions.

Gianneschi said the commission has attempted just that in the latest version of the plan.

"Not each institution is going to be subject to the same metrics," he said. "I can find differences in your system. UCCS has one of the most successful transfer programs in the state. That's one where we can say, 'Hey, let's give you credit for something done well.' At Boulder, the transfer rate may not be a big issue, but maybe the graduate program is."

Pam Laird of CU Denver said she appreciates the "gentle guidance and encouragement" of the commission's goals.

"My concern is that instead of framing it as encouragement – 'If you do the following, then you will be rewarded' – the framing is more of a punitive nature. … I'm worried that if there's any failure to perform to these standards – which we all want to do – that by setting up these metrics, it creates targets (for cuts)."

Noting that he was raised by parents who were college faculty, Gianneschi said he is sympathetic to such concerns, but that higher education in the state must grapple with public perception and its connection to state funding.

"Let me be pessimistic with you: We would be kidding ourselves if we think the public believes what we are doing is all very positive," he said. "There's a lack of awareness of the black box of the university system: They see money go in, students go in, other students come out. Most voters in Colorado did not go to college here."

While the CCHE is specifying the metrics, Gianneschi said institutions will be allowed to choose a metric of their own in each of the four goals.

Governing boards of higher education institutions across the state last week were sent letters with the metrics outlined. The commission has requested responses by Oct. 26; the finished performance contracts are due in December.

Symposium aims to connect friends, allies of GLBTI community[4]

A new systemwide symposium sponsored by the University of Colorado Faculty Council aims to “check the pulse” of the CU community regarding issues and challenges affecting the gay community.

The council, working through the Committee on GLBTI Affairs, has set Oct. 19 for “Reaching Out to Friends and Allies: Building the GLBTI Community,”[5] a day of workshops and discussions at St. Cajetan’s Church at the University of Colorado Denver on the Auraria Campus. CU faculty, staff, administrators, students and community leaders are invited to register and take part in the event, running from 8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.[6]

The event’s themes: crossing boundaries; challenging assumptions; assessing the campus climate.

Discussion groups will address questions of openness, diversity, safety, and health and wellness in the campus communities of Denver and the Front Range.

Groshek

Sanlo

Two keynote speakers are scheduled: **Mark Groshek,** M.D., physician lead for eHealth at Kaiser Permanente Colorado and assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine; and **Ronni Sanlo , Ed.D.,** author, educator and consultant on LGBT issues across the country. They will help attendees to focus and frame plans for enhanced communication and action to raise consciousness among all CU campus communities.

Nairn

Carrigan

CU Denver Provost Rod Nairn will make introductory remarks at the event, and CU Board of Regents Chair Michael Carrigan will be the lunchtime speaker.

Free continental breakfast and lunch will be provided to attendees, but advance registration[11] is required.

From the event website:

Two generations ago gays were mostly ignored or shunned, if not bashed outright, on most American college campuses. Words like “lesbian,” “queer” and “homosexual” were whispered furtively in dark corners if spoken at all. Trans people were regularly mocked and abused. Over the years since Stonewall, the GLBTQ community has spoken out -- often quite loudly! Modern media, the AIDS pandemic and focused discussions around such issues as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” in the military have done much to bring attention the everyday challenges faced by members of the gay community.

However, many people to this day still feel threatened and harassed on campus by forces of reaction and individual bigotry. Are Queers as a group now merely tolerated and grudgingly accepted or has positive affirmation and celebration of gay identity begun to take hold such that basic safety is no longer an issue? Shouldn't university campuses, supposed to be places of civil civic discourse, welcome and not avoid the diversity we bring? Has the gay community itself fully embraced inclusive values when it comes to issues of race, ethnicity, religious belief and gender identity? All of these subjects are on the table for what the planners hope will be a lively and informative day.

Questions: Tom Riis, thomas.riis@colorado.edu[12], or Elena Cabodevilla, elena.cabodevilla@ucdenver.edu[13].

CU medical school professor Eric Coleman wins MacArthur 'genius' grant[14]

Coleman

Eric Coleman, M.D., a geriatrician at the University of Colorado School of Medicine[16] whose work focuses on helping patients transition from hospital to home, has won a $500,000 MacArthur Foundation "genius" fellowship.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to receive this recognition," says Coleman, a CU professor who practices at University of Colorado Hospital[17]. He added that he's not yet sure what he'll do with the unrestricted, five-year grant.

Coleman's work focuses on an area of health care that has been embraced nationally as part of health care reform – reducing the number of patients released from a hospital only to be readmitted.

About one in five Medicare patients returns to the hospital within 30 days. Those readmissions are costly and, for the most part, preventable. Medicare began a system of penalties for high patient readmission rates on Tuesday, when the MacArthur awards coincidentally were announced.

Through studies piloted in Denver, then exported to other cities, Coleman[18] showed that coaching patients in the transition out of a hospital, and following up with them, helped keep them from having to return quickly. His approach, using practical information such as lists of medical warning signs and follow-up appointments, is called Care Transitions Intervention[19].

The head of the medical school's Division of Health Care Policy and Research[20] in the Department of Medicine, Coleman received his medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco.

The MacArthur Foundation[21] announced 23 grant winners. The grants support people who show exceptional originality and creativity. The awards have become known as "genius" grants, although the foundation does not call them that. This year's crop included writers, an economist and a maker of bows for stringed instruments.

Coleman notes that his work has been enough ahead of the curve that it's been difficult to attract federal funding for it.

"Pursuing a relatively high risk research portfolio that challenges existing paradigms has translated into being ahead of the federal funding opportunities," he says. "This has required identifying philanthropic funding partners that have been willing to take this risk together."

Coleman works on the University of Colorado's Anschutz Medical Campus[22], a medical city in Aurora designed to foster collaboration. The campus "has been a supportive environment to pursue these endeavors," he says.

Richard D. Krugman, dean of the medical school, says the school is "enormously proud of Eric and pleased he has received this prestigious recognition."

Coleman is the eighth person to receive a MacArthur Fellowship while on the University of Colorado faculty. The seven other fellows since the program began in 1981, all from the University of Colorado Boulder: Deborah Jin[23], physics, 2003; Daniel Jurafsky[24], associate professor of linguistics and computer science, 2002; Norman Pace[25], molecular, cellular and developmental biology, 2001; Margaret Murnane[26], physics, 2000; Patricia (Patty) Limerick[27] of history in 1995; Charles Archambeau, physics, 1988; and David Hawkins, philosophy, 1981.

Home page photo courtesy of the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Five questions for Tom Noel[28]
[29]

Noel to talk Larimer, Auraria

Tom Noel will be the featured speaker at an upcoming brown bag lunch presented by CU System Staff Council[30]. His topic is, “Larimer Street: Main Street to Skid Row to Urban Renaissance,” plus the evolution of the Auraria Campus.

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Oct. 161800 Grant St., first floor conference room

Information: Email SSC@cu.edu[31]

Learn more about Noel’s tours and speaking engagements[32]

As he worked toward his Ph.D. in history at the University of Colorado Boulder, Tom Noel wanted to find a topic that would 1) sell, and 2) enchant the general public. He succeeded in both. His dissertation examined Denver through the lens of life at local taverns. The book, 1982’s “The City and the Saloon: Denver, 1858-1916,” still is in print and he proved that history really isn’t dry.

Through the years and 41 books later, he still works to make history less intimidating for everyone, from his students to those who participate in his walking tours[32], which use a variety of venues around the city to illuminate the past.

Noel, a professor of history and director of public history, preservation and Colorado studies at the University of Colorado Denver, has been connected with the campus since 1978. He began leading tours as a part-time teacher when “you would only get paid if the students enrolled.” On one rainy day, the group took refuge in Charlie Brown’s saloon, and Noel is sure at least two marriages and several affairs resulted from the detour. That’s how the bar tours began.

As he’s gotten older, he said, he’s conducted fewer bar tours and more that focus on churches and cemeteries. Students in his classes often play the roles of historical characters for his Halloween cemetery tour.

“In Colorado, you can go out and see where things took place or interview people who were connected with it or their descendants,” said Noel, whose love of history began early. “You can see the first generation of log cabins and homes and buildings in ghost towns. It always fascinated me that we are this close to the first settlers.”

Noel also is co-director for the Center for Colorado and the West. In conjunction with the Auraria Library, the center is listing all the new nonfiction books on Colorado, especially those that are self-published. Some of the better publications will be reviewed.

“Newspapers are shrinking and they don’t review books the way the used to,” he said. “And the academic journals don’t focus on the narrow local history.” The center also is publishing history resource guides that have been written by grad students. One focuses on Native Americans in the state, and related museums, websites and other resources. Another examines Hispanics, while future guides will detail mining and ethnic groups in the state.

[33]
Noel is interested in preservation and serves on the preservation committee for History Colorado. He is a former chair of the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission and a former member of the National Register Review Board for Colorado. One of his books, “Buildings of Colorado,” which he considers one of the most important, detailed the state’s significant buildings, but is now out of print. He’s considering updating the volume, first published in 1987, to document new and valuable edifices.

“Every community has some building that they are proud of,” he said.

Away from home, you’ll likely find him wearing his signature bowtie: “Students pay a lot of tuition so they ought to get a real professor with a bowtie, not somebody in blue jeans and a T-shirt.” When he’s not touring, speaking, writing or grading papers, you might find him “puttering” in the garden. “The challenge is to get something to bloom year-round. Anybody can make their garden look good in June.” He also enjoys swimming and canoeing, and collecting books – with Colorado history as a focus, of course.

1. Have you ever discovered something surprising or shocking during your studies of Colorado history that changed what we thought we knew about our state? What is your favorite era and why?

[34]
The city of Denver was originally called Mexican Diggings. The year before white folks discovered gold, there were Hispanics along the South Platte -- about where Florida Avenue goes over the Platte today -- who found gold and established the town of Mexican Diggings. This was in Jerome C. Smiley’s History of Denver, who found this through oral history, but there’s never been a mention of it anywhere else. It’s typically of the lost and stolen Hispanic history, where Hispanics get there first and establish a town but they are chased off and the name is changed to an Anglo name. So instead of the Mexican Diggings Broncos, it’s the Denver Broncos. The history is forgotten and there’s not a marker or anything there. I’ve fussed about it and written about it, but there’s not a trace of these Hispanic origins in what is now the city of Denver.

I love the Progressive Era, which was ‘round 1900 to World War I when the City Beautiful Movement was transforming the nation, putting parks in Boulder and Denver, developing Denver mountain parks and Civic Center Park. There was a big emphasis on libraries and schools and museums. It was a great era for public construction and the idea that you could uplift the masses, that poor people would have access to libraries and plays and the finer things of life. Since then we’ve focused on more private development and not so much on public sector, so schools and libraries are struggling.

2. What are some historic buildings or places that are threatened that you believe should be saved? What has been destroyed that you feel is a huge loss to the state?

I think I became interested in doing my dissertation on the bars of Denver and skid row after seeing how many beautiful buildings were being knocked down. They were kind of derelict but built with great materials and could have been fixed up. You could see what urban renewal was doing all across the country in the way of wiping out great buildings like the Tabor Grand Opera House and so many fine hotels and structures built by the pioneers to last forever.

We lost our greatest, and one of the most wonderful buildings in Denver, when they demolished the opera house. Tabor, a U.S. Senator and silver magnet, built it sparing no expense. This extravagant building constructed with the best materials and great architectural design was knocked down, gone. Another loss is the smelter stacks around the state. They were a great monument to the mining industry, which was basic to Colorado’s early years. It was the gold rush that gave birth to the state, yet most smelters have been knocked down. One remains in Salida, but we had a great one – the Omaha and Grant Smelter in Globeville. Smelters are visible landmarks and reminders that so many of the state’s cities started with the gold rush.

Some of the things I think should be saved are the waterways and ditches – like the Highline Canal – where you see cottonwoods growing. They should be turned into bike paths and recreational amenities. Water should be put back into the Highline. We should also turn old, abandoned railroad grades into bike paths and trails as alternate forms of

transportation. Some of this has been done but the movement has run out of steam. Sometimes private owners have obstructed efforts or whoever is trying to get this done doesn't have the money to buy something from a landlord who is holding them up for an exorbitant amount of money.

3. What is a favorite part of your research?

A favorite thing and what I'm best known for is writing about saloons. Some of the history includes exploring ethnic groups, including the poorer Poles and Italians or Greeks who didn't have country clubs or didn't have much money, but did have their corner taverns where they could relax. I found out a lot about the Black, Hispanic and gay bars, too. I see parallels with gays and ethnic groups because gays suffer from some of the same discrimination that the Irish and Italian people suffered in the old days. They were comfortable in their own saloons because they often were insulted or not served or mistreated in any other kind of tavern. I also looked at how taverns served other functions: There was art, theater, dance and music in some of them. Ethnic songs and rituals were preserved, especially in German bars where you would actually hear Mozart and Beethoven or read newspapers in the home language or eat German food. Taverns also were important to labor unions and it was a place where you might meet your spouse. So a lot more went on in the taverns than drinking.

4. What is something you hope students will remember from your classes?

I drive this point home over and over: We palefaces weren't the first folks here. There were Native Americans here and often they lived exactly where there are settlements today. The nice climate, water, a good view, and whatever attracts people today also attracted Native Americans. And like with Mexican Diggings, many, many communities were originally ancestor Hispanic places. So you should try to figure out who was there first.

5. What worries you most and heartens you most about our study of history? What would you put in a time capsule today to be opened in 100 years?

What worries me most is that students say, "I love history, but how am I going to make a living?" There are not many jobs out there and 100 people apply for one job that pays $20,000 a year. It's sad that there's not more of a place for history and historians. What's heartening is that history makes a great avocation. You can make your living some other way but have history as a hobby. If you know something about your community, you'll have a lot more interest in it and voting and participating in the community and things like history preservation. History is a good general background for any profession and ultimately makes life more interesting.

As for a time capsule, I'd put all of my books in it, of course, and a copy of The Denver Post. It might be fun to put in a bottle from each of brew pubs -- there are 109 now. Since I've studied taverns, I've also become interested in the brew pubs. They have some interesting labels and fancy names. And while we're at it, let's throw in the best wines from the Grand Junction area.

Senators converge on campus to discuss defense[35]

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., addresses a group of local leaders Tuesday at the Lodge.

The Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation hosted three leading U.S. senators Sept. 25 for a town hall meeting at the Lodge regarding defense spending and possible spending reductions.

Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak welcomed Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.; Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H.; and Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.; members of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, and other elected officials including Rep. Doug Lamborn, R-Colorado Springs, and staff from the offices of Sen. Michael Bennet and Sen. Mark Udall.

Shockley-Zalabak used personal leave while spending time with the senators who primarily spoke about

"sequestration," which refers to the $1 trillion in cuts the Pentagon is required to make over the next decade under the Budget Control Act of 2011. The bill was part of a bipartisan attempt to balance the federal budget.

Invitations to the event were distributed by the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation to its members and elected officials. The group paid a rental fee for the Lodge and for additional staff costs for the event.

'Focus is prevention' in Occupational Health Program[37]

[38]
The Occupational Health Program[39] has undergone significant expansion in the last year to provide comprehensive occupational health services to researchers and students on both campuses. The OHP was initiated in 2008-2009 to provide in-house services to the researchers.

While the initial scope of the OH program was focused on several small groups of researchers working in specified areas, the program has rapidly expanded during the last year to include nearly all researchers at the Anschutz Medical Campus and many at the Denver Campus, said Beth Strimpel, RN, manager of the Occupational Health Clinic.

Starting in January of this year, "We went from one full-time employee to 2.5 full-time employees," Strimpel said. "A lot of the support for the expansion came from the NIH and other accrediting agencies and regulatory partners. They have high expectations that the university staff and researchers are protected when carrying out their research. However, we couldn't have expanded without the support from our vice chancellor for research, Dr. Richard Traystman, and our vice chancellor for administration and finance, Jeffrey Parker. They were instrumental in making it happen."

The National Institutes of Health grant support provides the OHP with the bulk of its funding, allowing researchers to receive OHP services at little or no cost, Strimpel said.

The OHP is administered by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. It is designed to promote a safe work environment by minimizing the risk of illness and injury associated with working with or around research animals, toxins/venoms, infectious agents, anesthetic gases, anti-neoplastic drugs, teratogens/carcinogens, radioactive materials, heavy metals, lasers, formaldehyde or human blood, tissues and cells.

The OHP now has about 1,500 researchers enrolled in its medical surveillance service -- more than double the number previous to the expansion. The program includes initial and annual enrollment and general education for personnel exposed to research animals or other hazardous materials, as well as providing any vaccines or blood work needed for surveillance.

The surveillance begins with an appointment at the clinic, 1784 Racine St., Building 401, Anschutz Medical Campus.

"We go over their medical history, allergies and other risk factors," Strimpel said. "We provide information on safety and how to report injury or illness. Our focus is on prevention."

The OHP was able to lower prices for vaccines by working with its suppliers and the student health insurance program, Strimpel said. This year, for example, the insurance fully covers tuberculosis skin tests, which are an annual requirement for graduate students in the School of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistants and College of Nursing. A full list of OHP program fees is available here[40].

The OHP's services extend to working with the Infectious Disease Group Practice at the University of Colorado Hospital, as well as the Designated Medical Providers through the University Risk Management program. This allows researchers to get quickly evaluated in the event of a needle stick or sharps injury. The OHP also counsels women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant on concerns about exposure to chemicals or toxic substances in the

lab.

Go to the Flu Season Alerts [41]page for a full schedule of flu shots this fall. Flu vaccines cost $20 and are available from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday (no appointment needed), at least through the month of October, in the OHP clinic. Flu shots will be administered from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Education 1 Building, Room 1100, on Oct. 3 and 4 (next Wednesday and Thursday), and from 8 a.m. to noon on Oct. 11 at the Lawrence Street Center on the Denver Campus.

“We're also available to do traveling flu clinics,” Strimpel said. “So if a department or area wants us to come there -- and there are a number of people who want it -- they can call us.”

The OHP clinic can be reached at 303-724-4663. More information about OHP and the Department of Environmental Health and Safety[42] can be found on the EHS's new Facebook page.

The expanded clinic hours are:

Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; noon to 2:30 p.m.; 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Warm welcome for new leader of Office of Diversity and Inclusion[43]

[44]
The Office of Diversity and Inclusion[45] on Monday welcomed new Associate Vice Chancellor Brenda J. Allen at a meet-and-greet on the Anschutz Medical Campus. Allen took over the position as of Aug. 1 and already has big plans for bringing a higher degree of diversity to both the Anschutz Medical Campus and the Denver Campus.

“One goal I have for the semester and year is I want to do an in-depth inventory of who is doing what on both campuses so I can understand better what we have going on and where we can grow,” Allen said.

“She is an amazing teacher, consultant and speaker,” said Sally Thee, executive assistant to Allen. “She brings a huge range of diversity to the team. It is not just about skin color.”

Dominic Martinez, director for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, said of Allen, “She brings a lot of great communication to the office.”
Allen has been in the CU system for more than 20 years and has brought groundbreaking ideas to the table from the beginning. Her book “Difference Matters” is used in many different communication courses.

There were many well-wishers who stopped by to say hello -- so many that there was a constant line to speak with Allen.

“I really feel so blessed to be in this position,” Allen said.

Allen will be overseeing both the Educational Opportunity Programs[46] (EOP) on the Auraria Campus and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Added Martinez, “Allen will bring such a great new perspective to the position. It is really exciting.”

NSF awards CU-Boulder-led team $12 million to study effects of natural gas development[47]

[48]
The National Science Foundation has awarded a $12 million grant to a University of Colorado Boulder-led team to explore ways to maximize the benefits of natural gas development while minimizing negative effects on ecosystems and communities.

Led by professor Joseph Ryan of CU-Boulder's civil, environmental and architectural engineering department, the team will examine social, ecological and economic aspects of the development of natural gas resources and the protection of air and water resources. A part of NSF's Sustainability Research Network initiative, or SRN, the project will focus on the Rocky Mountain region, where natural gas development, as well as objections to it, are increasing.

"We all create demand for natural gas so we have to accept some of the outcomes of its extraction," Ryan said. "Our goal is to provide a framework for society to evaluate the trade-offs associated with the benefits and costs of natural gas development."

The SRN team assembled by Ryan includes air and water quality experts, social scientists, human health experts, information technology experts and a substantial outreach and education effort. The SRN team will be advised by an external committee that includes representatives of the oil and gas industry, regulatory agencies, environmental organizations, local governments, academia and Native American tribes. Preparation of the SRN proposal to the NSF was fostered by CU-Boulder's Office for University Outreach, which supported the creation of the Colorado Water and Energy Research Center, Ryan said.

As part of the effort, Ryan said team members will review industry practices for hydraulic fracturing, which involves pumping pressurized water, sand and chemicals deep down well bores to crack rocks and free petroleum and natural gas for easier extraction. The team will evaluate the current state of drilling technology, the integrity of well bore casings and natural gas collection mechanisms and processes.

Hydraulic fracturing requires large volumes of chemically treated water – most wells require between 3 million and 5 million gallons of water each, say experts. The fracturing fluid left in the ground, as well as the fluid that returns to the surface, known as "flowback," present potential ecological and health risks if not handled properly, Ryan said.

While oil and gas extractions from hydraulic fracturing also result in atmospheric emissions of some greenhouse gases and volatile organic compounds, natural gas is nevertheless seen by many as a "bridge fuel" that leads away from dirty coal combustion toward cleaner sustainability methods, said Patrick Bourgeron, associate director of the SRN and a fellow at CU-Boulder's Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research.

As part of the project, a team led by CU-Boulder Professor Harihar Rajaram will be investigating the hydrologic processes tied to potential risks of natural gas and oil extraction, including groundwater and aquifer systems. The team also plans to assess the risk of natural gas and oil extraction to water quality and mitigation strategies that involve improvements in current water treatment technology.

Professor Jana Milford of CU-Boulder's mechanical engineering department will lead a team monitoring and modeling the potential risks of natural gas and oil development to air quality. Professor John Adgate of the Colorado School of Public Health in Denver will spearhead a team assessing the potential risks of natural gas development to public health.

Other partners on the CU-led NSF project include the Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo., the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the University of Michigan and California State Polytechnic University Pomona.

Attitudes toward natural gas extraction using hydraulic fracturing vary widely around the West, said CU-Boulder professor Mark Williams, a co-investigator on the project. One classic Colorado example is Boulder County and adjoining Weld County to the northeast.

“The geology doesn’t change, the price of gas doesn’t change and the extraction methods are the same,” Williams said. “But for the most part, Boulder County opposes hydraulic fracturing while Weld County generally embraces it.”

Ryan said the network’s research findings eventually will be shared with the public through an extensive outreach and education effort led by SRN co-investigator and CU-Boulder professor Patricia Limerick of the Center of the American West. The effort includes a “citizen science” component in which the public is encouraged to make science measurements, including air quality readings made with portable instruments compatible with smart phones, and share the results with the SRN research team.

“The citizen science aspect of this effort will result in a stronger connection between the public and the science used to make regulatory decisions,” said professor Michael Hannigan of CU-Boulder’s mechanical engineering department and one of the co-investigators on the SRN project.

Natural gas production, especially the use of hydraulic fracturing, has become the subject of intense controversy, Limerick said.

“Some people living in proximity to well sites are understandably worried and anxious, often feeling powerless as they confront a possible threat to their health and to the quality of their lives,” she said. “Environmental advocates find themselves pulled between the climate benefits of natural gas, which releases significantly less carbon in combustion than coal, and the disturbances associated with natural gas extraction.”

Outreach events will include periodic town hall meetings around the West. There also will be SRN meetings involving engineers, natural scientists and social scientists to stay abreast of the latest technologies and evolving socioeconomic factors regarding natural gas production, Limerick said.

“Unraveling complex processes involving Earth systems, especially the coupling of human activities and climate, depends increasingly on partnerships among natural science, philosophy and ethics, economics, social science, mathematics and engineering,” said Marge Cavanaugh, NSF acting assistant director for geosciences.

The CU-led research team and a second team from Penn State were chosen from more than 200 SRN proposals by the NSF as part of its Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability program. The $12 million award to CU-Boulder is for five years.

Archibeque recognized by peers with Distinguished Service Award[49]

[50]
Orlando "Lando" Archibeque of the Auraria Library was recognized by the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color at the group's national conference recently in Kansas City, Mo. The group announced Archibeque as this year's recipient of the Distinguished Service Award.

He received the award for his years of service, contributions to and support of REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking.

“It's a special honor to be recognized by my colleagues from around the country,” Archibeque said. “Awards like this are always a recognition of the work and support of many people. I've been fortunate to work with so many wonderful friends and colleagues at the libraries in which I have worked (UCCS, Pikes Peak Library District, Auraria) and I have always received support (moral and financial) for my REFORMA activities from my colleagues, supervisors and administrators. It takes a village.”

Delgado named new MOSAIC director[51]

[52]
Vanessa Delgado, a former graduate assistant in the Office of LGBTQA Resources and Support at Northern Arizona University, is the new LGBT program director for the Multicultural Office for Student Access, Inclusiveness and Community (MOSAIC) at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

As a graduate assistant at Northern Arizona, Delgado helped establish the first LGBT-specific resource center, coordinated NAU's first Coming Out Week and first Trans(cending) Gender Awareness Week events, and participated in strategic planning sessions to establish an LGBTQ Commission. Earlier, she was a student worker in the GLBT Resource Center at Texas A&M University in addition to serving as president of a student organization, Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Aggies, and an Aggie Allies safe space facilitator.

She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a certificate in gender from Texas A&M University and a master's in counseling from Northern Arizona University.

Her awards include the NAU President's Distinguished Student Award, which recognized her service to the LGBT community.

Haugen takes helm of national association[53]

[54]
Bryan Haugen, a professor of medicine and pathology at the University of Colorado Denver and chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes, assumed the position of president of the American Thyroid Association (ATA) at its 82nd annual meeting last month in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

Haugen has been a member of the ATA since 1994 and has served on numerous committees. He has been a member of the thyroid nodules and cancer task force that developed the 2006 and 2009 guidelines. He has been on the editorial board of Thyroid since 1998 and an associate editor since 2008.

The American Thyroid Association is the leading worldwide organization dedicated to the advancement, understanding, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of thyroid disorders and thyroid cancer. ATA is an international individual membership organization with more than 1,600 members from 43 countries around the world.

Charlesworth collaboration leads to paper, presentation[55]

[56]
Amanda Charlesworth, assistant professor in integrative biology at the University of Colorado Denver, had a paper published in Developmental Biology: "Xenopus laevis Zygote arrest 2 (zar2) encodes a zinc finger RNA-binding protein that binds to the Translational Control Sequence in the maternal Wee1 mRNA and regulates translation" (see: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22732570[57]).

Charlesworth presented these findings and new data in a platform presentation titled, "Zygote Arrest Proteins - a new family of trans-acting factors that regulate translation of maternal mRNAs" at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Translational Control Meeting in September. These results describe a new gene expression mechanism that controls early development. The studies were co-authored with undergraduates Kevin Silva and Terry Khat, and graduate students Cassandra Kotter and Jonanthan Cook.

Hildebrand presents pragmatism in Europe[58]

[59]
David Hildebrand, associate professor in philosophy at the University of Colorado Denver, last month presented a paper titled, "Experience or Language? Choosing Pragmatism's Central Motive" at the First European Pragmatism Conference in Rome.

One of the largest and most internationally diverse conferences on philosophical pragmatism, the event effectively launched a European-wide philosophical pragmatist association. The conference featured prominent scholars from universities and institutes around the world including Brazil, Colombia, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands and the U.S.

The conference was organized by the Nordic Pragmatist Network and Associazione Pragma of Italy, and Hildebrand also contributed to the organizing effort.

Dropping names...[60]

Scandlyn

Tollin

Foss

Jean Scandlyn, research professor in anthropology at the University of Colorado Denver, and Sarah Hautzinger of Colorado College, have been conducting research since 2008 on the ripple effects of returning soldiers with PTSD in communities. Their research, which largely involved interviews of soldiers, their families and people in the behavioral health field, will soon be published in a book they are currently shopping to publishers. … **Daniel Tollin**, an associate professor of physiology and biophysics and Otolaryngology, at the School of Medicine, recently was elected to the Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amiticiae Sacrum (CORLAS). CORLAS is the premiere international Otolaryngology organization dedicated to fostering research in Otolaryngology and international cooperation. Onlys six basic scientist and 20 clinical scientist members from the United States are allowed in the organization. … **Sonja Foss**, professor of communication at the University of Colorado Denver's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has won the National Communication Association's 2012 Douglas W. Ehninger Distinguished Rhetorical Scholar Award. The award

is among the highest in the field and usually is bestowed as a career capstone upon the most important scholars. It honors those who have executed research programs in rhetorical theory, rhetorical criticism and/or public address studies.

Call for nominations: Excellence in Leadership Award[64]

The Excellence in Leadership Program (ELP) is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Excellence in Leadership Award. ELP is a university sponsored leadership program that seeks to develop high-potential individuals as effective leaders. Supported by the Office of the President, in the past decade 373 university faculty, staff and CU Foundation affiliates have completed the program. The award recognizes an ELP graduate who has shown exemplary leadership at the university and who has demonstrated, in one or more areas, the following attributes:
Leadership of organizations, departments or teams Leadership of projects, programs and/or research Fiscal management and/or fundraising Student instruction
Who is eligible? – A graduate of ELP who is currently working at the University of Colorado. View the ELP Alumni list: https://www.cu.edu/articles/upload/ELPAlumni2.pdf[65]

Who may nominate? – Anyone who currently works at CU and who has worked with the nominee.

Deadline? – Friday, Oct. 19

How and where to submit? – Complete the nomination form and submit to Erin Russell at: erin.russell@cu.edu[66]
View the form at: cu.edu/eld/leadership[67]
The recipient of the award and the nominator(s) will be recognized during the Excellence in Leadership Luncheon and Lecture at the Brown Palace Hotel on Nov. 30.

Questions? Contact erin.russell@cu.edu[66]

Understanding Wi-Fi security[68]

Wireless technology (often called Wi-Fi) makes it simple for you to connect to the Internet. However, this technology can also make it simple for cybercriminals to monitor and steal your information.
To learn more about how to protect yourself when using wireless connections, see the October 2012 Office of Information Security Cyber Security newsletter[69].

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[70].

History quest: Who was CU's first staff member?[71]

Campus staff is the backbone of the university, supporting its goals and achievements for more than a century in making the University of Colorado what it is today: one of the foremost educational institutions in the country. Boulder Campus Staff Council would like to thank each and every one of you for your efforts in achieving these goals.

The Awards and Staff Recognition (ASR) Committee of your Boulder Campus Staff Council is taking on the challenge

of documenting staff accomplishments -- present and past. In helping to promote those achievements, we are partnering with Campus HR on developing additional recognition programs and trying to answer the 130-plus-year-old question, who was the first staff person hired at CU who did not also teach?

Staff has a family tree full of remarkable colleagues who were breaking down barriers, creating innovative solutions to student and administrative issues and, more often than not, just doing their jobs day in and day out at a level that added to CU's reputation.

The ASR committee is planning to research the contributions of staff to the university, community and one another. The goal is to develop a centralized archive of staff achievements and history that can be accessed by the CU community.

To accomplish this task, the committee will need the help of all staff, many of whom are second- and third-generation employees. We want to hear the stories of what it was like when CU brought in its first computers, of recruiting students during the train age, of the challenges through the years of cooking for students, maintenance of buildings, and groundskeeping before engines, etc.

If you would like to share a story or help the committee with this project, please contact scouncil@Colorado.edu[72] or visit our website[73].

ASR meeting schedule: Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 18, Regent 1B55; Nov. 16, UMC 381; Dec. 20, ARC 446.

Submitted by Boulder Campus Staff Council

Screenings convenient – and potentially life-saving[74]

Phlebotomist Sue Valdez at a recent Be Colorado health screening.

[76]

If you could design a health care program with your imagination being the only limit, it would look something like this: free, convenient, with no waiting for appointments and designed to keep you well rather than just treating you when you're sick. For CU employees, that's not just a fantasy. The Be Colorado 2012 health screening program is a quick and easy way to evaluate your health status before chronic illnesses such as diabetes or heart disease get started. With free blood screenings and a flu shot, it's a great deal. It can save all of us a lot of time and money. But the best reason for participating is that it just might save your life.

A calendar of dates and locations is now available. Learn more at www.becolorado.org[77]. Questions: Contact Payroll & Benefit Services, benefits@cu.edu[78] or 303-860-4200.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cdhe-faculty-%E2%80%98we%E2%80%99re-not-out-get-you%E2%80%99[2]

https://connections.cu.edu/news/cdhe-to-faculty-were-not-out-to-get-you/gianneshchi[3]
https://connections.cu.edu/news/update-regents-hear-garcia-present-state-higher-education-master-plan[4]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/symposium-aims-connect-friends-allies-glbti-community[5]
http://www.cu.edu/facultycouncil/glbti/[6] http://www.cu.edu/facultycouncil/glbti/sch.html[7]
https://connections.cu.edu/news/symposium-aims-to-connect-friends-allies-of-glbti-community-2/glbit-symp_groshek[8]
https://connections.cu.edu/news/symposium-aims-to-connect-friends-allies-of-glbti-community-2/glbit-symp_sanli[9]
https://connections.cu.edu/news/symposium-aims-to-connect-friends-allies-of-glbti-community-2/glbit-symp_nairn[10]
https://connections.cu.edu/news/symposium-aims-to-connect-friends-allies-of-glbti-community-2/glbit-symp_carrigan
[11] https://www.cu.edu/facultycouncil/glbti/reg.html[12] mailto:thomas.riis@colorado.edu[13]
mailto:elena.cabodevilla@ucdenver.edu[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-medical-school-professor-eric-coleman-wins-macarthur-%E2%80%98genius%E2%80%99-grant[15]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/macarthercolemanpng[16]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/Pages/somWelcome.aspx[17] http://www.uch.edu/[18]
http://www.cudoctors.com/find-a-doctor/profile/?providerID=3243&keywords=coleman[19]
http://www.macfound.org/fellows/863/[20]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/medicine/hcpr/Pages/hcpr.aspx[21]
http://www.macfound.org/[22] http://www.ucdenver.edu/admissions/tours/Pages/AnschutzMedicalCampus.aspx[23]
http://jila.colorado.edu/content/deborah-jin[24] http://www.cs.colorado.edu/department/news/jurafskymacarthur.html[25]
http://pacelab.colorado.edu/PI_NormPace.html[26] http://jila.colorado.edu/content/margaret-murnane[27]
http://centerwest.org/about/patty/[28] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-tom-noel[29]
https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/5q-noel.png[30]
https://www.cu.edu/staff/ssc[31] mailto:SSC@cu.edu[32] http://drcolorado.auraria.edu/calendar[33]
https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-tom-noel/5q-noel3-2[34] https://connections.cu.edu/news/five-questions-for-tom-noel/5q-noel2-2[35] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/senators-converge-campus-discuss-defense
[36] https://connections.cu.edu/file/uccsmccainpng[37] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/%E2%80%98focus-prevention%E2%80%99-occupational-health-program[38] https://connections.cu.edu/file/amcpng[39]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/health-safety/services/Pages/occupational-health.aspx[40] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/health-safety/Documents/pdf/Occupational%20Health%20Fee%20Structure.pdf[41]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/alert/Flu/Pages/FluAlertOverview.aspx[42]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/health-safety/Pages/EnvironmentalHealthSafety.aspx[43]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/warm-welcome-new-leader-office-diversity-and-inclusion[44]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/ucddiversitypng[45] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/departments/DiversityAndInclusion/Pages/AnschutzMedicalCampusOfficeOfDiversityandInclusion.aspx[46]
http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/departments/dcodi/eop/Pages/EducationalOpportunityPrograms.aspx[47]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/nsf-awards-cu-boulder-led-team-12-million-study-effects-natural-gas-development
[48] https://connections.cu.edu/file/nsf-ppng[49] https://connections.cu.edu/people/archibeque-recognized-peers-distinguished-service-award[50] https://connections.cu.edu/file/parchibequepng[51]
https://connections.cu.edu/people/delgado-named-new-mosaic-director[52] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pdelgadopng
[53] https://connections.cu.edu/people/haugen-takes-helm-national-association[54]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/phaugenpng[55] https://connections.cu.edu/people/charlesworth-collaboration-leads-paper-presentation[56] https://connections.cu.edu/file/pcharlesworthpng[57]
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22732570[58] https://connections.cu.edu/people/hildebrand-presents-pragmatism-europe[59] https://connections.cu.edu/file/phildebrandpng[60] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-54
[61] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-32/p-dn_scandlyn[62]
https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-32/p-dn_tollin[63] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dropping-names-32/p-dn_foss[64] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/call-nominations-excellence-leadership-award[65]
https://www.cu.edu/articles/upload/ELPAlumni2.pdf[66] mailto:erin.russell@cu.edu[67]
http://www.cu.edu/eld/leadership[68] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/understanding-wi-fi-security[69]
https://www.cu.edu/content/oismonthlycybersecuritynewsletter[70] https://www.cu.edu/policies/aps/it/6005.pdf[71]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/history-quest-who-was-cu%E2%80%99s-first-staff-member[72]
mailto:scouncil@Colorado.edu[73] http://www.colorado.edu/StaffCouncil/[74]
https://connections.cu.edu/stories/screenings-convenient-%E2%80%93-and-potentially-life-saving[75]
https://connections.cu.edu/file/dykbeco-event1png[76] https://connections.cu.edu/did-you-know/be-colorado-wellness-program-offering-free-health-screenings/beco-2[77] http://www.becolorado.org[78] mailto:benefits@cu.edu