

[Expanded tuition waiver benefit could be in place summer 2012](#)[1]

University of Colorado leadership continues to develop a plan to expand the tuition waiver benefit throughout the system, with a target of summer 2012 for implementing the revised policy.

E. Jill Pollock, senior associate vice president and chief human resources officer, presented an update on the matter at Faculty Council's Aug. 25 meeting at 1800 Grant St. in Denver.

Pollock said the plan is to expand the benefit to include eligible dependents of faculty and staff, which is the recommendation the Faculty Council passed in a motion in March. The idea of expanding the benefit from nine credits to 12 or more had been discussed, but the ongoing down economy is limiting further expansion at this time, she said.

"When the economy gets a little better, then we can talk about some of your other ideas," Pollock told the council. "But we think this is a good first effort."

In other business at the meeting:

Risa Heywood, system health program manager, presented a preview of the university's new wellness program, which will be rolled out this fall and winter. She said she hopes for participation of 30 percent to 50 percent of faculty and staff in the upcoming health assessment. Melinda Piket-May, chair of the new communication committee, updated the council on meetings over the summer with members of University Relations, and progress in improvements to CU Connections, formerly the Faculty and Staff Newsletter. Ken McConnellogue, Jay Dedrick and Cathy Beuten of University Relations also spoke and presented changes and improvements to the website. Faculty Council Administrator Tricia Strating presented the [recently redesigned website](#)[2] for the council. Faculty Council Chair Mark Malone noted that a new addition lists all current vacancies for committee positions, and encouraged campus representatives to participate. Malone announced the schedule for meetings with campus assemblies for the purpose of discussing the university's policy regarding severance pay for dismissed faculty: University of Colorado Colorado Springs, Sept. 9; University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Sept. 27; University of Colorado Denver, Oct. 4; University of Colorado Boulder, Oct. 6. Malone said he aims to have the final faculty recommendation ready to present by November; the Board of Regents set a deadline in advance of its January 2012 meeting, when it plans to hear the matter. Malone also noted that the council's annual retreat is set for Sept. 8 at Maggiano's Little Italy in Greenwood Village. R L Widmann said the Educational Policy and University Standards (EPUS) Committee plans to take up discussion of a possible systemwide Administrative Policy Statement regarding use of social media. Jerry Peterson, chair of the Boulder Faculty Assembly, said he has invited the heads of faculty government at CU-Boulder's new sister institutions in the Pac-12 to meet in Boulder on Oct. 15 to discuss best practices.

[School of Pharmacy looks to future with new name, new building](#)[3]

[4]

From Boulder to Ninth Avenue in Denver and now to its current Aurora home on the Anschutz Medical Campus, the University of Colorado School of Pharmacy recognized 100 years of education, patient care and scientific discovery Aug. 29 with a new building and dedication, new name and kickoff to a yearlong celebration of the school's century of care.

The new, four-story, 171,146-square-foot pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences building, which houses the school, is the newest education and research addition on the campus and the first to seek LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) status, an internationally recognized green building certification system.

The building was made possible by an \$11 million grant from the Skaggs family and the ALSAM Foundation. During the dedication ceremony, the school was named the University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, in recognition of Mr. L.S. Skaggs, his family and the ALSAM Foundation, whose generosity made the building a reality.

Guests and speakers at the dedication included Claudia Skaggs Luttrell, representing the Skaggs family; School of Pharmacy Dean Ralph Altieri; Colorado Rep. Ed Perlmutter; Colorado Rep. Diana DeGette; Aurora Mayor Ed Tauer; University of Colorado President Bruce Benson; University of Colorado Denver Chancellor Jerry Wartgow; Vice President for Health Affairs University of Colorado and Executive Vice Chancellor Anschutz Medical Campus Lilly Marks; and University of Colorado Regent Sue Sharkey.

From providing care to thousands of Coloradans through health fairs and collaborative diabetes clinics throughout the state to its annual prescription drug disposal event to its long-held tradition of embracing diversity and the discovery of a new colon cancer marker, the school is one of the top research schools in the country. It ranks second of 120 U.S. pharmacy schools having PharmDs with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH); third among U.S. pharmacy schools in NIH awards per Ph.D. faculty and No. 14 among U.S. pharmacy schools in total NIH research funding. The school also is the second-largest school of pharmacy in the nation to provide online pharmacy education for working pharmacists.

Recent research breakthroughs include: Faculty member Vasilis Vasiliou has spent the past 15 years researching detoxifying enzymes to discover a new colon cancer marker that could one day improve both detection and treatment of colon cancer. LaToya Jones-Braun's breakthrough work keeping the hepatitis B vaccine potent at room temperature will help ensure thousands of people are vaccinated from this killer and potentially save millions of lives. Studying the potential of a combination of drugs to prevent HIV transmission prior to exposure, Peter Anderson and colleagues proved that you can protect people from the virus. His work was highlighted in the November 2010 edition of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

**Breaking barriers and embracing diversity:**

From first graduate Armin Rosenblum to the all-female class of 1920, the School of Pharmacy has long held a tradition of embracing people of color, gender and ethnicities. In 1953, Daniel Brockman was one of the first African-Americans to graduate from the School of Pharmacy. Today, one-third of the student body is non-Caucasian. Colorado Women's Hall of Fame 2008 inductee and CU School of Pharmacy graduate Capt. Katherine Keating actively served in three wars and was the first woman to rise from seaman recruit to captain. Providing care and community service: Since 1981, the School of Pharmacy has provided thousands of Coloradans with testing and clinical care through its partnerships with 9Health Fair and the National Western stock show. Clinical trials and adjusting medications of pancreatic cancer patients is helping those with stage IV cancer survive four-plus years. Thanks to a clinical trial and combination of medications managed by associate pharmacy professor Cindy O'Bryant, Garrison Roots has lived more than four years with advanced pancreatic cancer. The school has hosted two medication drug disposal events for the community, collecting and disposing of more than a ton of expired and unused medications.

With dedicated space for student organizations and clinical trials, faculty offices, 45 laboratories and multipurpose space for seminars and onsite immunization clinics, the new building will grow with the staff and students as they grow for many years to come.

The \$63 million, 171,416-square-foot building boasts a research and learning hub for 600-plus students. The top three floors of the four-story structure are programmed for research; they host 45 wet lab bays, 69 specialty alcoves that can be reconfigured to support a variety of functions and a fixed core area devoted to cold rooms, dark rooms, mass spectrometers and other shared support equipment. The new research space will enable the school to expand its pharmaceutical biotechnology program, launch a drug-development center and expand its 55-member faculty. The ground floor houses a drug trials clinic and an 80-seat tiered seminar room.

[Five questions for Leaf Van Boven](#)[5]

Leaf Van Boven takes a break from a nearly six-hour walking tour of Paris on the Champs-Élysées near the Obelisk of Luxor. Following a presentation at the INSEAD business school a few years ago, Van Boven and his wife enjoyed an extended vacation/second honeymoon in France and Belgium.

A single day in an introductory class helped launch Leaf Van Boven's career in social psychology, but it was statistics and the science of discovery that sealed the deal.

"I knew on the first day of intro to psych that I wanted to be a university professor – tweed jacket with leather patches and all," says Van Boven, an associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of Colorado Boulder.

He found his calling in a statistics course where he was fascinated by two observations.

First was the idea that there is a science to understanding how the mind works, and that the rigor and power of the scientific, experimental method could be used to advance human understanding.

The second was how distraught people in the class felt being the subject of data analysis, critical thinking and prediction. For instance, there's "regression to the mean," or the idea that those who performed at the very highest level on one exam were unlikely to perform at the same level on the next exam. The performance, says Van Boven, decreases because of perfectly normal random fluctuations, but some of his classmates felt that using statistical principles to predict behavior somehow undermined their humanity.

"For my part, I was fascinated both by the fact that statistical principles could be used to predict human behavior and that people were reluctant to apply those principles to themselves. That was really a distinct starting point to my interest in human intuition."

Van Boven earned his Ph.D. in psychology from Cornell University in 2000, and after a brief stay at the University of British Columbia, was "fortunate" to be hired by CU in 2002.

"People don't always realize how competitive tenure-track jobs at top research universities can be," he says. "We often have 125 applications for a single position, so I count myself very fortunate to have been offered a position at CU."

He is director of the Emotion, Decision, Judgment and Intuition (EDJI, pronounced "edgy") lab, which investigates the everyday interrelations between emotion, decisions and judgments — and people's intuitions about those interrelations.

"To have the opportunity to spend time discovering new things about how the social mind works is amazing. It is greatly rewarding to work with very talented, hard-working students to identify interesting and challenging questions, figure out how to test those questions, and then analyzing, deciphering and communicating those discoveries," Van Boven says. "How many people get paid to do what they love doing?"

### **1. Some of your research includes how people's immediate emotional experience shapes their perceptions of themselves and the social world. What have you found?**

In one line of work, we've examined how emotions make temporally distant events seem psychologically close or far. For instance, when people think about an upcoming stressful event, such as a midterm examination, that event is psychologically closer when it arouses strong emotions than when it does not. Understanding what makes events psychologically close or distant is important because psychological distance affects whether people take action to cope with "close" events.

In another line of work, we've examined people's tendency to see their immediate emotions as more intense than their previous emotions, a pattern we call the "immediacy bias." This bias is important because it gives greater power to emotions in the here and now, which can lead people to think their current emotions are unusually strong and therefore worthy of action. We have shown, for instance, that terrorism risks that just happen to arouse immediate emotions are seen as more dangerous than terrorism risks that happened to have aroused previous emotions. We have also shown that people donate more charitable funds to humanitarian suffering that just happens to arouse immediate emotions – if the suffering happens to be presented last in series of emotionally evocative descriptions – because they perceive their immediate distress, and hence the severity of human suffering that caused that distress,

as more intense than their previous emotions.

In another area, we are working on the question of how people's experience with attention influences their perception of emotional intensity, and particularly whether people believe that objects that capture and hold their attention are more emotionally significant than objects that do not capture and hold attention. There is a large body of previous research implying that objects that are emotionally arousing, such as emotionally evocative pictures or people, attract and hold attention, or in other words, emotion influences attention. We are examining the reverse association, or whether attention influences emotion. This is important because there are many factors unrelated to emotionality that can influence attention, such as whether a topic happens to be covered in the media or happens to be visually salient.

## **2. Another topic of research is the (false) perception of political polarization. If Americans aren't politically polarized, what is it that we are experiencing?**

We have found in several studies that people drastically overestimate American political polarization. Democrats and Republicans simply do not see things as differently as we expect them to. We've found this overestimation of polarization across many issues and for the past three decades. That doesn't mean that Americans aren't somewhat polarized – we are – but the degree to which that is true is largely exaggerated. This observation, then, raises the interesting question of why people perceive polarization.

We've identified and are studying three social psychological factors. First, people who themselves have more extreme stances on partisan issues see Americans as more polarized; people seem to assume that their own strong feelings are shared by others, both on their side and the opposite side of partisan issues. Second, people see more polarization to the extent that they personally identify with partisan groups. Those who strongly identify as Democrats, for instance, see more polarization than those who less strongly identify as Democrats. This is partly because people who care about their group (as measured by identification) tend to draw sharper distinctions between their group and other groups.

Finally, we have found that the experience of anger increases perception of polarization to the extent that people identify with a partisan group. We believe that anger signals that one's group is under threat – Democrats feel more threatened when they happen to feel anger than when not – and the perception that one's group is threatened causes one to draw even sharper distinctions between one's own and other groups.

## **3. Are humans more alike psychologically than not or do our varied experiences make us truly different?**

In the broader scheme, humans are almost exactly the same as one another. If the proverbial Martian was to visit Earth to understand humans, he'd be less interested in administering personality tests and more interested in characterizing our commonalities (How do we grow, reproduce, eat? Do we live in groups or individually? Do we communicate orally? Do we have emotions? As a species, how "intelligent" are we? How are our brains and bodies structured?). As a social psychological scientist, I take essentially the Martian approach, asking questions about human commonalities, designing experiments to uncover those commonalities, and making inferences about how people typically feel, think and behave. It is true that we are complicated subjects, but that's what makes us so fascinating to study.

## **4. You direct the EDJI Lab, which uses psychological science to understand and improve the quality of everyday life. Can you give examples of how the lab's and your work has improved life?**

We previously found that people are made happier by pursuing life experiences than by pursuing material possessions, which has strong implications for prioritizing life goals. We found that immediate emotions can have undue impact on behavior (as when embarrassment in the "heat of the moment" prevents people from taking social risks), which implies that people benefit by giving themselves some "cooling off" time before making decisions. We found, as I described, that Americans are less politically polarized than we tend to believe, which implies that we might adopt a less combative stance in partisan context – particularly given that anger can exacerbate partisan conflict.

## **5. What keeps you busy outside of the university setting?**

I have two children, Caleb, 15, and Anna, 11, who keep me plenty busy. Between homework, shuttling to activities, homework, and the usual parenting requirements, I spend lots of nonwork time with the kids. I'm amazingly fortunate to have the opportunity to do so. I'm also an avid cyclist – mostly road, mountain biking less frequently – and generally enjoy the beautiful Colorado outdoors.

[Associate professor to aid with Red Rocks landmark nomination](#)[7]

Komara

**Ann Komara**, associate professor and chair of landscape architecture at the University of Colorado Denver, is the principal investigator for a \$3,000 grant from the National Park Service to address research questions related to the physical integrity of Red Rocks Park and the amphitheater, its major architectural feature, to put the park design and construction in a national context.

The Red Rocks Park and Mount Morrison Civilian Conservation Corps Camp historic district are included in the overall 640-acre Red Rocks Park, owned and managed by the city of Denver. Red Rocks Park has been determined to be nationally significant, and a National Historic Landmark nomination is being prepared by the National Park Service. Komara's research will help complete the nomination.

[Theus-Lee named employee of the month at CU Denver](#)[9]

Theus-Lee, left, with Deborah Makray

**Linda Theus-Lee**, program assistant in the University of Colorado Denver's Business School Dean's Office recently was named Employee of the Month by the CU Denver Staff Council. Theus-Lee, who was described as "a model employee," "self-motivated" and "trusted" in nomination letters, received a plaque and a monetary award from CU Denver Staff Council Chair Deborah Makray.

"If there is something that she doesn't know, she will ask questions rather than overlook it or leave it undone," Makray said in her nomination letter. Supervisor Malena Brohm wrote, "Linda strives to do 150 percent and always willingly helps with a smile. Linda works diligently on special events, including organizing and executing the CITI Student Panel event. Linda organized the entire event with little supervision, and it was one of the most successful panel events the program had seen. When Linda is given an assignment, she will dedicate herself to make sure it is completed. She is a great team member."

Besides her role on campus, Theus-Lee volunteers with a half-dozen community organizations. Business School Associate Dean Jean-Claude Bosch's nomination of Theus-Lee also noted her community efforts and team approach: "She can always be trusted to find the best way to complete a project."

Theus-Lee's passion is working with and mentoring youth. "I am part of the Junior Achievement Mentoring Program in which we go to high schools and talk to youth about the importance of education," she says. "For me, mentoring is a

very powerful and personal way to enhance the lives of all types of youth.”

While the Employee of the Month award is available monthly, it is handed out less frequently. Honorees must be nominated by co-workers, supervisors and others. The [nomination guidelines](#)[11] provide attributes to be considered when preparing a nomination.

#### [Diversity summit aims to take next step in Boulder](#) [12]

The Diversity and Inclusion Planning Committee at the University of Colorado Boulder is soliciting proposals for sessions for the 2011 Diversity and Inclusion Summit, set for Nov. 8-10 on the CU-Boulder campus.

The theme for the systemwide summit, a collaboration with the city of Boulder and Boulder County, is “Taking the Next Step.” Proposals will be accepted until Sept. 19.

The committee seeks proposals addressing a wide array of topics, including but not limited to:

Culturally responsive teaching and empowerment Outreach and community engagement Actions that are evidence-based which lead to:

Awareness development (i.e., raising sensitivity and introduction to little-understood matters of human dignity and treatment) Skill development for everyday interactions and workplace productivity across cultural differences Advanced practices for intercultural change and deliberative dialogue

Proposals should be for 50- or 75-minute presentations that identify innovative and progressive action toward diversity, inclusion and social justice at all levels of human and social interaction.

Session proposals should be one to three pages and clearly identify how they meet the conference theme and promote “taking the next step” through identifying actions, outcomes and intended outcomes.

The nomination form may be downloaded at <http://www.colorado.edu/odece/>[13]

#### [Equity in Education Film Fest coming to Auraria Campus](#)[14]

Anyone engaged in and affected by education reform is invited to take part in the Equity in Education Film Festival, set for Sept. 16 and 17 at the Starz theaters on the Auraria Campus.

The festival will provide a venue for critical inquiry about the issues that affect public schools and education reform and bring together multiple perspectives of various stakeholders: teachers, school personnel, policy makers, academics, community members, families and students. Our mission is to frame the ideas from a larger context of education reform in urban schools, to provoke thought on the issues through narratives and counter-narratives from the films, and shift the way we as a community have conversations about the issues that affect Colorado schools.

The festival will open with a keynote session by Antwi Akom, Ph.D., a leading expert on the links between race, environmental health and educational equity in cities and schools. Documentaries will include “Unnatural Causes,” “Place Matters,” “Precious Knowledge,” “Papers,” “The People Speak” and “The Inconvenient Truth Behind Waiting for Superman.”

The Equity in Education Film Festival is hosted by the Center for Culturally Responsive Urban Education, the University of Colorado Denver School of Education and Human Development, along with the Office of P-20 Education Initiatives and the Anschutz Medical Campus Office of Inclusion and Diversity.

For details on ticket prices and other information, [click here](#)[15].

[New partnership brings powerful neuroimaging scanner to campus](#)[16]

(Photo by Patrick Campbell/University of Colorado)

The University of Colorado Boulder has partnered with the Mind Research Network in Albuquerque to bring to campus a state-of-the-art magnetic resonance scanner that will significantly enhance the neuroimaging capabilities on campus.

The partnership, called the Intermountain Neuroimaging Consortium, is designed to bring researchers from Boulder, the Front Range and New Mexico together to cooperatively use the new system to investigate how the brain works and how it influences our behavior.

The 25,000-pound, \$3 million Siemens 3T Trio Magnetic Resonance Imaging System will be the most powerful imaging system on campus and will be at CU-Boulder's Center for Innovation and Creativity, which also houses the Janus supercomputer, one of the 52 fastest computers in the world.

Having these two tools in the same location will greatly help researchers analyze massive amounts of brain imaging data, according to Marie Banich, executive director of the Intermountain Neuroimaging Consortium and director of CU-Boulder's Institute of Cognitive Science. Along with software being developed at CU-Boulder, the Janus Supercomputer will allow researchers to combine multiple measures of how the brain functions with measures of brain anatomy to see which best predict aspects of people's behavior, such as whether they are sensitive to pain.

"The implications of the work to be performed here at CU-Boulder are far-reaching," Banich said. "These range from revealing the causes of mental illness and addiction, which in turn can lead to the creation of new avenues for treatments, to understanding factors that influence how easy or difficult it is to pay attention."

Researchers from CU-Boulder's Institute for Behavioral Genetics will use the scanner to determine what aspects of brain function are more strongly influenced by genetic factors and which are more highly influenced by the environment. Developmental psychologists will examine how the brain changes during childhood and adolescence, while others will examine the effects on the brain of training and interventions.

Before the imaging system's delivery to campus, CU-Boulder researchers had to travel to the Anschutz Medical Campus to conduct brain scans, while others scanned their subjects on the East and West coasts.

[Internationalization in focus with new collaborative project](#)[18]

The University of Colorado Colorado Springs will join a prestigious American Council on Education project funded by the Henry Luce Foundation to promote collaboration between internationalization and diversity education initiatives on college and university campuses.

“Colorado Springs is a globally connected community and today’s students must be prepared to navigate a complex world,” Provost Peg Bacon said. “Connecting UCCS students to the world requires particular ingenuity. For many UCCS students, the traditional semester-long study abroad program is not a viable option. We must open additional paths for global engagement.”

UCCS is one of eight universities nationally and the only Colorado university selected to explore connections between on-campus international and diversity efforts that aim to better prepare students for the impact of globalization and improve cultural communication skills among students, faculty and staff. UCCS team leaders, Charles Sweet, executive director, Strategic Planning and Initiatives, and Kee Warner, associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusiveness, will meet in Washington, D.C., with ACE staff and leaders from the other selected institutions to launch this project, titled “At Home in the World: Educating for Global Connections and Local Commitments.” The ACE Project team will visit UCCS to share experiences and discover best practices with campus leaders during the next two years in support of this national collaboration.

Said Patti McGill Peterson, presidential adviser for global initiatives at ACE, “The interface between multicultural and international efforts on campus is a critical place to engage students, who will face an increasingly diverse and global workplace over the course of their careers. Competition for this project was quite intense and shows a great desire among applicants to effectively address this important relationship. We anticipate great strides from this learning community.”

UCCS was one of eight colleges and universities named to the effort. The other institutions are: Alliant International University-San Diego Scripps Ranch, Arcadia University, Bennett College for Women, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, Mercy College, North Carolina State University and Washington State University. The group was chosen from 54 applicants.

Founded in 1918, ACE is the major coordinating body for all the nation's higher education institutions, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents, and more than 200 related associations, nationwide. It provides leadership on key higher education issues and influences public policy through advocacy.

[Botanical Society's national meeting features presentation by associate professor](#)[19]

Bruederle

**Leo P. Bruederle**, associate professor of integrative biology at the University of Colorado Denver’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and former student Carol English (MS, 2008) co-authored a paper with Aaron Wenzel and Andi Wolfe (The Ohio State University) that was delivered at the annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America in St. Louis.

Their paper addressed the reproductive biology and genetic diversity in *Penstemon degeneri* Crosswhite (Plantaginaceae), a rare species that is restricted in distribution to Colorado in Fremont and Custer counties. This collaborative research examines the apportionment of genetic diversity in Degener’s Beardtongue within the context of its pollination biology.

[New weight-loss program available on Anschutz Medical Campus](#)[21]

[22]

A meal replacement weight-loss program, monitored by Anschutz Medical Campus endocrinologists and registered dietitians, is now available on the campus.



The program includes support through weekly group meetings and input from Anschutz Medical Campus experts, along with low-calorie meal replacements purchased by participants.

To join, participants must be generally healthy but have a BMI (body mass index) greater than 30 or be about 30 pounds overweight. (To determine your BMI, visit [www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi/](http://www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi/)[23].) Participants also must be able to pay for meal replacements and weekly classes.

For more information about the program, contact Kristen Bing at the Center for Human Nutrition, 303-724-9098 or [kristen.bing@ucdenver.edu](mailto:kristen.bing@ucdenver.edu)[24].

#### [Architecture and planning faculty to lead grant projects](#)[25]

**Kat Vlahos** and **Christopher Koziol** of the University of Colorado Denver's College of Architecture and Planning are co-principle investigators on two grant projects:

The Colorado State Historical Fund awarded \$88,708 for the Colorado Rural Preservation Education Project (CRPEP), a pilot partnership between the Center of Preservation Research and Colorado Preservation Inc. The project is designed to survey and document the working historic landscapes of rural Colorado, while providing an experiential learning opportunity for graduate students in the college through internships and class work. The National Park Service (NPS) awarded \$48,000 for the Heritage Programs Partnership Digital Documentation Project, partnering with the university to create a digital documentation project at one nationally significant site within the Intermountain Region, which will be selected with input by NPS and the university. The purpose of the project is to build upon the knowledge learned through the earlier digital documentation projects and to further explore, identify and refine the appropriate digital documentation technologies for specific resource types, e.g. archaeological resources, simple structures, multiplane complexes.

#### [Content of journalism education up for discussion at series of meetings](#)[26]

##### [\[27\]](#)

Faculty members are invited to make recommendations concerning the content areas of the new college or school that will replace the School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC) at the University of Colorado Boulder in a series of meetings that will be conducted over the next few months. The new entity will focus on information, communication, journalism, media and technology (ICJMT).

Following recommendations by President Bruce D. Benson and Provost Russell L. Moore, the Board of Regents voted 5-4 to close the SJMC during a meeting in April, about nine months after the process of program discontinuance was begun. In June, Moore established a steering committee to collect information and begin the process of determining the different educational and academic dimensions of the new school or college. The committee consists of five faculty members, one liaison from the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Exploratory Committee and Jeff Cox, associate vice chancellor for faculty affairs, who will act as the liaison from Academic Affairs.

Eight discussion groups will collect feedback and suggestions from faculty and report to the steering committee.

Besides faculty discussion groups, a public forum will be conducted to answer questions and hear comments regarding the process. A representative from each of the eight discussion groups will be present at the event, set for 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 22 in the Aspen Rooms in the University Memorial Center. Associate Vice Chancellor Cox will moderate the forum.

Discussion group dates and topics, along with contact information, are:

**Group 1:** Journalism, documentary filmmaking, creative nonfiction and other modes of delivering nonfiction content across platforms; Dan Boord, film studies, [daniel.boord@colorado.edu](mailto:daniel.boord@colorado.edu)[28]; 9 a.m. to 11 .m. Oct. 18 in UMC 245 and 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 26 in UMC 247. **Group 2:** Media studies, communication, mass communication; Janice Peck, journalism and mass communication, [janice.peck@colorado.edu](mailto:janice.peck@colorado.edu)[29]; 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sept. 8 in UMC 247 and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 10 in UMC 245. **Group 3:** Advertising, design and related issues; Brett Robbs, journalism and mass communication, [brett.robbs@colorado.edu](mailto:brett.robbs@colorado.edu)[30]; 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 4 in ATLAS 1B31 and 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 12 in UMC 335. **Group 4:** Technology, computation and related issues; Dirk Grunwald, computer science, [dirk.grunwald@gmail.com](mailto:dirk.grunwald@gmail.com)[31]; meeting times and locations to be announced. **Group 5:** Journalism, science, the environment and related issues; Tom Yulsman, journalism and mass communication, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sept. 15 in UMC 245 and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 12 in UMC 425. **Group 6:** Arts, media technology and related issues; Mark Amerika, art and art history, [mark.amerika@colorado.edu](mailto:mark.amerika@colorado.edu)[32]; 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 8 in UMC 285-Aspen Room and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 1 in ATLAS 229. **Group 7:** Humanities, media technology, digital humanities and related issues; Mark Winokur, English, [mark.winokur@colorado.edu](mailto:mark.winokur@colorado.edu)[33]; meeting times and locations to be announced. **Group 8:** Communication, internationalization, globalization and other related issues; Meg Moritz, journalism and mass communication, [moritzm@colorado.edu](mailto:moritzm@colorado.edu)[34]; meeting times and locations to be announced.

Those unable to attend the scheduled meetings should contact the group's leader with thoughts and feedback about the process. Information and meeting updates can be found on the [Academic Affairs website](#)[35].

[New partnership of leaders in education, business launched](#)[36]

[37]

With the Auraria Campus as a backdrop, Denver Mayor Michael Hancock recently announced the Denver Education Compact, aimed at enhancing and improving education. Hancock is an alumnus of the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs.

At the Aug. 25 news conference, Chancellor Jerry Wartgow introduced the mayor. A well-known education leader and advocate himself, Wartgow highlighted the university's work in the area of P-20, or preschool through college, and he acknowledged other highly respected business and education leaders who attended as a show of support.

Among those attending were Joe Blake, Colorado State University System chancellor; Dan Ritchie, businessman and chancellor emeritus University of Denver; Community College of Denver Interim President Cliff Richardson; Anna Jo Haynes, a 40-year veteran of Mile High Montessori Early Learning Centers; and a group of children from the Auraria Early Learning Center.

Hancock named Denver Public Schools (DPS) [Superintendent Tom Boasberg](#).[38] and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Colorado [President Donna Lynne](#).[39] to co-chair the Compact (photo above Chancellor Wartgow at podium, l to r, Boasberg, Mayor Hancock and Lynne).

Education advocate Theresa Pena will become executive director of the compact when her second and final term on the DPS School Board ends in November. Until then, University of Colorado Denver's [Janet Lopez](#).[40] director of [P-20 Education Initiatives](#)[41] will help launch the compact and serve as the interim-executive director.

The Denver Education Compact is a cradle-to-career effort that will focus the action and resources of all stakeholders on areas that will make the biggest differences in children's futures. Members of the compact will come from the private, public and nonprofit sectors to drive collaboration between the city, Denver Public Schools, higher education, business, foundation and civic leaders in order to evaluate needs, develop strategies and implement an agenda to improve outcomes for children.

In his remarks about the task ahead, Hancock referenced Martin Luther King's philosophy regarding how we are measured by our actions in times of challenge and controversy. For Denver, Hancock sees "a city where every child has an opportunity to live up to their potential." Actions that will have the greatest impact for helping Denver children to succeed must be the focus of the Education Compact, Hancock said.

Hancock pointed to similar efforts in cities such as Boston, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and Seattle, where results are measurable. He said the Denver Education Compact will draw on the opportunities and challenges from all these efforts to build a plan that fits Denver's needs.

The first act of the leadership team will be to appoint a board of stakeholders. Then the board will set common goals and establish metrics that will be used to measure and monitor progress. Next, the board will determine the best approaches to achieve progress. Compact members will make specific commitments outlining how they will help reach these goals. Finally, the compact will report clear measures of progress each year and adjust strategies based on the results.

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## Links

- [1] <https://connections.cu.edu/stories/expanded-tuition-waiver-benefit-could-be-place-summer-2012>[2]
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