Regents support Amendment S[1]

The University of Colorado Board of Regents last week voiced its support for Amendment S, a ballot issue that Gov. John Hickenlooper and state lawmakers say will bring long-overdue reform to the state personnel system.

During its meeting at the University of Colorado Boulder, the board voted unanimously in favor of a resolution supporting Amendment S, which would increase flexibility for CU and other public employers. Because the targeted personnel rules are part of the Colorado Constitution, voters must approve the changes. The amendment was referred to voters unanimously by the General Assembly (as House Concurrent Resolution 12-1001).

“This ballot measure continues the work we’ve started with changing the state’s personnel system,” Hickenlooper said in June. “The changes would give state government more flexibility in retaining and recruiting top talent and would make Colorado an even more military-friendly state.”

Among the proposed changes included in Amendment S:
Job applicants would be judged based on “objective comparative analysis,” rather than test results alone. Hiring managers also would be allowed to consider up to six applicants rather than the current three highest-scoring applicants. Temporary employment, now limited to six months, would be expanded to nine months in any 12-month period, with a four-month waiting period between appointments. The state residency requirement for applicants would be removed for open positions located within 30 miles of the state border. State Personnel Board members would be term limited. Military veterans would be allowed to use preference points when applying to any position in the civil services system, rather than just at initial hire.
Colorado voters will decide on Amendment S on Nov. 6. If approved, it would take effect Jan. 1, 2013, at which point the Department of Personnel and Administration would begin a rulemaking process.

Amendment S aims to further the governor’s “Talent Agenda,” which also included changes to the State Personnel System that did not require Constitutional amendment. House Bill 12-1321, which took effect earlier this month, made these changes:
A certified employee separated from state service who is within five years of being eligible for full retirement has bumping rights. Any other certified employee separated from state service is not entitled to bumping rights, but may receive a separation incentive that includes a hiring preference, continuation of health benefits, educational training vouchers or placement on a re-employment list. No severance may exceed the equivalent of one week of salary for each year of service, up to 18 weeks. The pay for performance program is replaced by a merit pay system that rewards employees based on performance and placement within the salary range. Higher education institutions may determine their own performance categories.
The State Personnel Director is in the process of establishing rules for the changes implemented by House Bill 12-1321 to be effective in the next budget cycle (fiscal year 2013-14). CU leadership is monitoring these changes carefully.

Employees are reminded that state law prohibits the use of university resources to advocate for or against a ballot initiative such as Amendment S. There is an exception for elected officials, including the Board of Regents, and it is permissible to use university resources to communicate the position taken by the regents.

Wartgow named chancellor emeritus[2]

[3]
Jerry Wartgow, who recently stepped down from the role of chancellor at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus, was named chancellor emeritus by the Board of Regents in recognition of his service and leadership during challenging economic times.

A resolution of thanks recognized Wartgow for creating strong partnerships and civic engagement with the community. His efforts included the Admissions Promise with community colleges, the Boots to Suits program with the Denver

Chamber of Commerce, a new partnership with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, and many industry collaborations at the business school.

Wartgow, who gave credit to his leadership team, called the recognition a huge honor.

Regents aim to follow new budget process for coming year[4]

The University of Colorado Board of Regents last week outlined a new budget process that they say will provide guideposts throughout the coming fiscal year.

During the board's meeting last week at the University of Colorado Boulder, Regent James Geddes, chair of the board's Budget and Finance committee, said he would like campus CFOs to present "zero revenue change" budgets at the board's November meeting. Those budgets "would perhaps take into account a savings with certain efficiencies, and may include some nondiscretionary expenses … that can be offset against those savings," Geddes said.

"That's not to say that's what will happen, but that gives us an anchor or reference point to proceed with throughout the process," he said.

Geddes said the board would ask campuses to describe and prioritize a list of recommended expenditures, thus indicating "what sort of tuition increase would be required." Those priorities would be provided to the board in January.

In February, the board would aim to reach consensus on the priorities it would support, to be followed by multiple budget scenarios dependent on likely amounts of state funding support; the budget options would be offered to the board by Todd Saliman, vice president of budget and finance and chief financial officer for the CU system.

"By the time we learn the degree of state funding, we'd be in a good position to finalize (our 2013-2014 budget), ending up (in April) with a tuition determination for the campuses and major schools," Geddes said. "We also feel this process will allow us a very clear description of our desires and dilemmas in providing high-quality education to our students. Perhaps it can be a tool to help encourage our legislators to give us better support … as funds become available."

Geddes called the process a "change in direction" that would be fluid, and that the timeline could shift based on feedback from the campuses.

"We don't know exactly what the future holds, but we do know that state revenue growth is not going to be enough to cover state expenses," Saliman said. "The good news is, we will likely see a bump in revenues next fiscal year, which will help all of us. But that likely won't be adequate to cover growing costs in the budget over time."

CU President Bruce Benson said that any anticipation of a revenue bump should be tempered, because there's a question of whether the state might direct the university how to use increased funding.

CU-Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano told the committee that the possibility of additional revenue streams could affect budget planning throughout the year. "We've been talking about some areas that could in fact be revenue streams – Tech Transfer, for example -- in addition to state funding and tuition, which could give us a better picture."

Five questions for Howie Movshovitz[5]

Howie Movshovitz, left, and David Shepard at opening night of the 2011 Denver Silent Film Festival. Photo by Steve Peterson/TerraChroma.com[7]

Howie Movshovitz, left, and David Shepard at opening night of the 2011 Denver Silent Film Festival. Photo by Steve Peterson/TerraChroma.com

Howie Movshovitz originally started off in the English Department at University of Colorado Denver in 1978, but always knew film was his true calling. He helped charter the film studies program, which has since become a popular minor. He then became the film critic for The Denver Post, a stint that lasted nine years, before returning in 1996 to campus to teach film history at the College of Arts and Media (CAM), where he currently is the director of film education. He also helped get CAM and the Denver Film Society to come together to create the Starz FilmCenter, which opened in 2002.

His accomplishments have reached beyond Denver: He works with both Colorado Public Radio (CPR) and National Public Radio (NPR) to produce features on film. He also has been honored with the task of working as one of only two faculty leaders at the Telluride Film Festival's Student Symposium.

His most recent success has come with the creation of the Denver Silent Film Festival[8]. After attending the San Francisco Silent Film Festival, he decided a similar event would be successful in Denver. He was right. The already highly acclaimed festival started just last year, with audiences growing from screening to screening. This year's festival is expected to sell out. Spanning across three days, Friday through Sunday, audiences have a chance to see a wide range of silent films. Shown on 35mm prints, these films will be seen as they were always intended to be seen; they'll also be accompanied by performances by musicians. For Saturday's screening of "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," audiences will hear the live musical accompaniment of Donald Sosin, Joanna Seaton and the CU Denver Silent Film Orchestra – last year's performance was one of the festival's most popular events. Tickets are on sale now at the King Center box office or online[9].

When asked why people should attend the festival and properly experience silent films, the CU-Boulder alumnus (master's and Ph.D. in English literature) said that it's not about nostalgia or even about understanding or appreciating filmmaking during that era -- people should go simply "because it's good. It's not well-known and they're great films."

1. How did you get involved with the Telluride Film Festival? What is your role and what has been most rewarding for you as one of the teachers?

About 24 and a half years ago, Bill and Stella Pence and Kate Sibley came to me and said, "We're thinking of a program for college students." Then after two years, I talked to Linda Williams and told her she had to join in.

We lead discussions, students meet with filmmakers, etc. And we mediate, we choose students from the applications ... teacher things. I get to participate on an intimate level with what I consider to be the best festival in the world.

2. Tell me about your decision to become a film critic and your experiences working with CPR and NPR.

Well, I sort of fell on it. After making a few films, a filmmaker on the East Coast suggested I try being a film critic ... although this was not a statement on my filmmaking!

The standards for CPR and NPR are really rigorous. It has to be right, has to be good, or else it's not aired. I get to do work that friends all over the country can hear ... which I love.

3. How do you account for the popularity of the Denver Silent Film Festival?

Last year we noticed that after every film, the audiences grew. We chose good films and we did everything first-rate. The musicians are extremely good. It's about quality.

4. As the artistic director for the festival, what criteria did you use in choosing the films and which would you most recommend attending?

(The films must) be good, high-quality 35mm prints. We want balance and we don't want only one kind. We chose

different films -- not just Chaplin. Since the festival is new, we chose titles people know.

If you're only going to one show it depends on who is going. If it's a friend with a young daughter, go to the "Four Short Comedies." If he or she is a more sophisticated person, go see "Grass." It's spectacular. "Grass" is the gem of the festival. I like all of them since I picked them.

5. Finally, accompanying the films will be "An Hour With Serge and David." As two of today's renowned film archivists, they'll be discussing their work and showing clips of their restorations. Do you think this will be interesting event to those not studying or in the business of film?

Yeah. Serge Bromstead is very funny. He talks, plays piano and occasionally even burns a piece of nitrate film. And he and David Shepard are great friends and have a great connection. I mean, there's going to be a point if people just have absolutely no interest, but these are two fascinating people and that's usually good enough.

Little Clinics bring health care closer to CU Health Plan members[10]
[11]Locations & Hours of Operation
Conveniently located in 14 neighborhood King Soopers: Denver, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins and Greeley. Check online for all Colorado locations[12]. Hours of Operation Mon. - Fri.: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Sat.: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun.: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
The University of Colorado has joined King Soopers and The Little Clinic to bring convenient care to more communities. The unique collaboration will provide CU Health Plan members and the larger community more options to improve their health through services and access to professionals in a variety of fields such as nutrition and wellness programs and more.

The Little Clinic offers Board Certified Nurse Practitioners to treat common illnesses, minor injuries and wellness care including sports physicals and vaccinations. The clinics are open seven days a week; no appointment is necessary.

Lilly Marks, vice president for health affairs for the University of Colorado and executive vice chancellor for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, has noted, "Through The Little Clinic inside King Soopers, CU Health partners and University Physicians will be able to more directly connect with our community in neighborhoods where patients live throughout Colorado. The Little Clinic meets several essential demands in today's health care marketplace, including convenience and access, and the University of Colorado Health Partners is proud to connect our vast network of quality health care professionals to meet these needs."

The Little Clinic is a great option for the following after-hours and weekend services:
Illnesses – Seasonal allergies, bronchitis, ear infection, flu, sinus infection, urinary infections Physicals – Camp, School, Sports, DOT Physicals & Life Event Physical Health Screenings – Biometric Screenings, Blood Glucose, Blood Pressure Preventive Services – Tobacco Cessation Program, Travel Healthcare Services Vaccinations – Flu, Hepatitis A & B, Meningitis, Pneumonia, Varicella (Chickenpox) Injectable Medications – Corticosteroid, Phenergan Injection, Toradol Injection Other Services – Pregnancy Testing, Suture Removal, Rapid Strep Test, Wound Repair
CU Health Plan members in the Exclusive, High Deductible, Open Access, and Medicare plans have the same coverage and applicable copayments and/or deductibles for services provided at the Little Clinic as they would at other providers. For CU Health Plan – Exclusive members, Little Clinic TLC visits are covered under the primary care co-pay, and a referral by a primary care physician is not required.

Services are not covered for CU Health Plan – Kaiser members, and some services, such as camp, school, sports, and life event physicals are not covered under any of the CU Health Plans. While the total cost for these types of services is a member's responsibility, out-of-pocket costs still may be lower than other options.

Location, Hours of Operation Conveniently located in 14 neighborhood King Soopers Denver, Colorado Springs,

Fort Collins and Greeley. Link to Locations in Colorado: http://www.thelittleclinic.com/Dot_LocationColorado.asp?category=118[12] Hours of Operation Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Saturday: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information about the Little Clinics and their full range of services, go to http://www.thelittleclinic.com[13].

Board of Regents seeking award nominees[14]

The Board of Regents is soliciting nominations for University of Colorado 2013 Honorary Degrees, University Medals and Distinguished Service Awards. Nominations are due by Nov. 15.

An Honorary Degree (Doctor of Humane Letters or Doctor of Science) is the highest award the University of Colorado can bestow. It is the policy of the Board of Regents to award Honorary Degrees in recognition of outstanding intellectual achievement in one or more of the following areas: intellectual contributions, university service, and/or public service.

University Medals are awarded in recognition of those persons whose achievements and contributions are particularly associated with the university, while Distinguished Service Awards are awarded in recognition of achievements and contributions particularly associated with the state and/or nation.

Nominations must meet the following criteria (Laws of the Regents, Article 9, and Regent Policy 9-A):

Nomination Process:

(a) Each year the vice president, university counsel and secretary of the board will solicit names of nominees for these awards. Nomination deadline is Nov. 15, 2012. Late or incomplete nomination packages will not be considered.

(b) Honorary Degree, University Medal, and Distinguished Service Award nominations must be submitted on the award nomination form and supported by three and not more than five letters of recommendation. The nominator will provide the recommendation letters and the nominee's current vitae[15]/resume, address, and telephone number. The complete nomination package must be submitted to the Office of the Vice President, University Counsel and Secretary of the Board of Regents by the deadline date. **Please view the regents' website at: www.cu.edu/regents/Awards/AwardsMaster.htm[16] to ensure your nominee has not previously received a Regent Award.**

(c) Nomination Guidelines
No person may nominate him/herself, nor may current university employees be nominated. Current public officials may not be nominated. Public officials are elected or appointed officials in policy making positions with the ability to directly affect the university through an official act. Public officials may be nominated two years after completion of their terms of office. All nominations will be considered confidential.
(d) Each chancellor will designate a campus Regents Awards Canvassing Committee that encourages qualified nominations. The director of board operations will accept any qualified nomination not submitted through a campus canvassing committee, but will forward the nomination package to the respective canvassing committee for formal submittal on behalf of the respective campus. Chancellors will identify the chair of the canvassing committee to the director of board operations to facilitate nomination referrals to the committee.

(e) The campus canvassing committees will submit qualified nominations to the director of board operations to forward to the Regents Awards Committee. The Regents Awards Committee will be composed of four regents and four faculty members of the Faculty Council on Educational Policy and University Standards (EPUS) committee.

(f) The 2013 Regents Awards Committee will convene in January 2013, and the committee's confidential recommendations subsequently will be presented to the board for action. The list of approved honorees will be made

public at spring 2013 meeting of the Board of Regents. The deliberations of the Regents Awards Committee will not be released.

(g) To receive an Honorary Degree, the candidates selected must attend a university commencement within a two-year period following selection. University Medals or Distinguished Service Awards are generally awarded at commencements but may be awarded on other occasions, as determined by the board.

(h) Nominees not selected may be resubmitted for reconsideration if new information (such as additional accomplishments) is cited in the nomination package. Nominees not selected after two consecutive nominations may not be submitted again for three years, unless the Regents Awards Committee specifically requests a submittal.

Award selectees will be invited to attend the commencement ceremony of the nominating campus, but can opt to attend any one of our several 2013 graduations. Some of the expenses for the honoree to attend commencement ceremony activities will be funded by the host campus, in accordance with university fiscal policies.

It will be the responsibility of the nominator to obtain the required letters of support, vitae or resume, and nominee data. Nominations received, and judged to be qualified and complete, will be referred to the 2013 Regents Awards Committee. Nominators will be notified when the nomination package is complete.

Late or incomplete packages will not be forwarded for committee consideration. Nomination is no guarantee of an award. Please forward by Nov. 15, 2012, the nomination form, nominee vitae or resume, and nomination support letters to:

Mark Ostrander
Director of Operations
Office of the Board of Regents
1800 Grant St., Eighth Floor
Denver, CO 80203

For more information and to download award nomination forms, please go to: www.cu.edu/regents/Awards[17]. If you would like hard copies of the forms sent to you, please call the Board of Regents office at 303-860-5667.

Faculty resource center rolls out welcome mat[18]

From left, Molly O'Brien, Andres Lema-Hincapie and Sarah Johnson chat at Tuesday’s open house for the Center for Faculty Development.

Rebecca Fisher and Christine Blake from the ESL Academy found just the kind of information they were looking for at the Center for Faculty Development open house.

Fisher is director of the university's English as a Second Language Academy[20] that opened last spring in downtown Denver, while Blake is an ESL specialist.

“We want to beef up our curriculum and add more content,” Fisher said. “It looks like the folks over here will be able to help us out. ... It's great to know we have the backup and support.”

Support is the specialty at the Center for Faculty Development[21], which this year has a new leader in Acting Director Donna Sobel, Ph.D., an associate professor in special education. At Tuesday’s open house, Sobel and her staff chatted with visitors who enjoyed light snacks and refreshments.

Sobel stressed that the center is a resource for faculty of all levels -- from adjunct and senior instructors to tenured professors. The center offers workshops, mentoring, coaching, syllabi development, dossier review and grants.

The mission for the center, founded by associate professor Ellen Stevens, who retired earlier this year, developed from the notion that CU Denver attracts a diverse student population, so how can faculty make the most of that diversity. Also, how can they support and learn from each other.

“There's so much out there for faculty development. We can always be better,” Sobel said. “It's been our hope -- and I think it's been realized -- that faculty can continue to develop, both in their research and their teaching.”

For example, the center offers the Tenure Track Mentoring Program, for tenure-track assistant professors, and the Teaching Mentors Program, for any faculty member. Sobel said she has personally benefited from the programs, helping her to forge bonds with colleagues and “keeping me on my toes.”

Last year, the Center for Faculty Development fully funded numerous grant proposals it received.

Andres Lema-Hincapie, Ph.D., assistant professor in Modern Languages, received a $2,000 grant for his proposal, “Gabriel Garcia Marquez For the Big Screen: Words, Images in Movement.”

“It's important, not only as professors that we have that funding support for our programs, but it's a way to foster our students' goals in the profession, as a way of introducing them to the academic grant system,” Lema-Hincapie said. He was helped in writing his grant proposal by Sarah Johnson, an undergraduate in International Studies.

The Center for Faculty Development offers weekly workshops. Check the website[21] for topics, which include enhancing classroom participation, teaching portfolios, teaching large classes and instructional uses of social networking.

BioFrontiers scientist redefines computer science education[22]

[23]
If you were alive during the late 1990s you might have noticed a little era called the dot-com bubble. It was a time when Internet-based companies like Amazon.com, and IT-focused companies like Cisco, rose to power. Generous venture capitalists and soaring stock prices sent many students running into the ranks of computer science, dreaming of a healthy paycheck and lifelong job security.

The stock market peaked on March 10, 2000, with the NASDAQ bringing in a scorching $5,132.52 in intraday trading. Like all things that go up, the NASDAQ came down. Cisco saw an 86 percent decline in its stock. Amazon eventually went from $107 per share to a meager $7. Students fled to other disciplines amid rumors that the tech industry would never recover and their jobs would be outsourced to overseas companies.

Now, the National Science Foundation’s Science and Engineering Indicators 2012 Report found that all science and engineering fields experienced increases in the number of degrees awarded — except for computer science. The number of bachelor’s and master’s degrees awarded in computer science decreased sharply from 2004 to 2007, and hasn’t come up for air since.

Computer science leads the way…again

The funny thing about computer scientists is that they are used to living on the edge of technology. While the business of the Internet was crashing down, these scientists were turning their attention to their next big challenges, retooling their approaches and honing new skills. They were blazing trails into interdisciplinary research and education because they were interdisciplinary by nature.

Dilbert-esque stereotypes aside, no one can argue that all fields have computational needs. From medicine to math, everyone is deluged by data and looking for a way to make sense of it all. Debra Goldberg, a BioFrontiers faculty member and assistant professor of Computer Science at the University of Colorad Boulder, is her subject's biggest fan.

Goldberg came to computer science via the scenic route, first getting a bachelor's degree in biology, a master's degree in computer science and then a Ph.D. in applied math. In between, she spent time at Johns Hopkins as a research programmer and, later, eight years in the aerospace industry. She can convince even the most math-phobic of us that computer science is the degree we want.

"Computer scientists aren't the math geeks you're thinking of," Goldberg said. "Computer scientists are good at puzzles and seeing patterns. They are good at building logical arguments and breaking down projects into fundamental parts."

Because almost any field has computational needs, a degree in computer science is the Swiss Army knife of any educational endeavor. Goldberg's career path is proof that computer science is extremely flexible. Her personal challenge is getting more people to see computer science as the jack-of-all-trades degree that is at home in the life sciences.

Redefining computer science before college

Goldberg tackled this issue at its source: high school. In an experiment funded by the National Science Foundation as part of the Engaging Computer Science in Traditional Education, or ECSITE (pronounced "excite") program, Goldberg and her graduate students worked with Advanced Placement, or AP, biology teachers at two local high schools to create a unit to help students gain a deeper understanding of genetic evolution using computer science and biology.

During the unit, students were given a crash course in algorithms: a series of steps used in solving a problem. Students were then given an algorithm currently used to compare DNA sequences. Later the students used a different algorithm to build evolutionary trees for genetic diseases.

Goldberg received a variety of reactions to the curriculum. Students loved using the same tools used by scientists. They also enjoyed the hands-on activities involved in learning about algorithms when a small task, like making coffee, was turned into a series of steps and acted out in a "Human Computer."

As with all things in education, there were also a few challenges. While most students saw the interconnectivity between computer algorithms and biological science, a few had trouble seeing the relevance to their schoolwork. Another challenge: high-stakes testing. A small subgroup of students were unwilling to take on additional subjects if they felt the time spent studying them wouldn't pay off on their AP exam. Long term, Goldberg would like to see computational biology added to AP exams. In the near term, she feels that computational methods can still be part of a healthy biology class, even a class studying for a high-stakes exam.

"I absolutely think that teaching computer science in the context of biology pays off in high stakes exams," Goldberg said. "Our next step is to make that connection clearer to students early on in the program."

Goldberg is pleased with the reactions: the successes and the challenges. If students don't think computation belongs with biology, she doesn't seem to take it personally.

She has the two essential elements of a good teacher: an innate feel for when she's lost her audience and a deep reservoir of techniques to lure them back in. Armed with both, Goldberg is tweaking her program so that it leaves high schoolers with the feeling that computer science is an essential companion to biology, and a key to success on AP exams. With computational needs expanding exponentially, there isn't a doubt that computer science will once again have its heyday, and those students who are listening to Goldberg right now may just find themselves at the forefront of the next wave in computing.

Chancellor to host live online alumni update[24]

For the first time, UCCS alumni will have the opportunity for a live online campus update with Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak.

Scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, alumni can watch Shockley-Zalabak live from their desktop computers and pose questions for her to answer.

Shockley-Zalabak will cover a variety of topics including new faculty members who arrived on campus this fall and various other academic updates. She will also explain ways UCCS alumni can connect with the university in addition to fielding questions.

“We are using technology to reach out to UCCS alumni who may be far away from campus but still interested in what’s happening as well as for those alumni who live in town but who find an online conversation convenient,” said Jennifer Hane, director, Alumni Relations and Special Projects. “This is an opportunity for alums to learn about what’s happening at UCCS and to be able to ask a question directly to the chancellor herself.”

To participate, register at https://secure.www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UCOC/event/showEventForm.jsp?form_id=134350[25] before Friday.

For questions, contact Hane at 719-255-3189 or jhane@uccs.edu[26]

Dennis C. Piper selected as VP, chief financial officer of CU Foundation[27]

[28]
Following a national search, the University of Colorado Foundation has named Dennis C. Piper as vice president and chief financial officer, a role he began Monday.

Piper brings a strong track record and more than 30 years of broad-based corporate financial experience to the position. Most recently he was senior vice president at Northern Trust in Chicago, where he designed, implemented and monitored investment programs for large institutional clients.

“I am very pleased and excited to be joining the CU Foundation,” Piper said. “It is an outstanding organization with an important mission. I appreciate the trust and confidence placed in me, and I will work hard to be a good steward of donor assets.”

Donors contributed more than $110 million in the 2011-12 fiscal year in support of the University of Colorado through the Foundation, which operates on an annual budget of approximately $23 million and manages more than $900 million in assets consisting primarily of endowments managed on behalf of CU.

At the CU Foundation, Piper will oversee strategic and tactical matters related to the financial management of the foundation. These responsibilities have most recently been overseen by Richard W. Lawrence, who earlier this year became the Foundation’s president and chief executive officer.

“It is a great pleasure to welcome Dennis to the CU Foundation team,” Lawrence said. “His extensive leadership and investment experience will help us maximize our ability to efficiently support the outstanding people, places, and programs throughout CU’s four campuses.”

Prior to joining Northern Trust, Piper was vice president of finance at Sprint Corporation, where he had responsibility for the treasury department for seven years and served in other senior financial positions. Prior to his 16 years at Sprint, Piper spent 11 years at the Pillsbury Company in various financial roles.

Piper holds a bachelor's degree in applied science and engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. After serving as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army for five years, he earned his MBA in finance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is married with three grown children and three grandchildren, and has relocated with his wife, Teri, to Boulder County.

UCH repeats as top academic medical center[29]

[30]
University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) has named the University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) as the highest-performing academic hospital in the United States for delivering quality health care. This is the second consecutive year that UCH has been honored with the award, and no other hospital has received this honor two years in a row.

The Quality Leadership Award is given annually by University HealthSystem Consortium[31] (UHC), the 116-member alliance of the nation's leading nonprofit academic medical centers and 276 of their affiliated hospitals. The award is given to the academic hospital with the best outcome scores in patient safety, clinical effectiveness, clinical efficiency, patient satisfaction, mortality and equity, which is a measure of whether outcomes differ for patients of different ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds.

"Last year, when the University of Colorado Hospital won this award for the first time, I thought it was the proudest moment of my career," said University of Colorado Health CEO Bruce Schroffel. "Now, to be named the top academic hospital in quality in the nation for two consecutive years, I'm speechless. This is the highest recognition any hospital can receive, and it motivates us to constantly focus on providing a level and quality of care not found anywhere else in Colorado or the United States."

Academic medical centers are the research and medical school-based hospitals generally seen as the best places for advanced, complex care. University of Colorado Hospital is the leading academic medical center in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region and is home to some of the nation's best specialists and sub-specialists. Through the research focus of the University of Colorado School of Medicine, UCH offers clinical trial drugs and innovative procedures unavailable at other hospitals in our region.

"Every day our nurses, staff and physicians strive to be the very best," University of Colorado Hospital President and CEO John Harney said. "We're honored that our hard work is being recognized, but the primary reason we strive for the top is to provide our patients with that award-winning care. From the moment patients step through our doors, we're focused on providing top quality treatment and a positive experience."

University of Colorado Hospital also received the 2012 UHC Supply Chain Performance Excellence Award, which reflects the dedication of staff to ordering and delivering medications and supplies while maintaining high quality and efficiency.

"Supply chain might sound boring, but this incredible department ensures our nurses and doctors have the supplies they need exactly when they need them," Harney said. "A delay of even 15 minutes could put a patient at risk, so getting literally thousands of critical, sometimes short-lived medications and high-tech equipment to the right place at the right time is a science unto itself. Part of the UHC award is based on cost-effectiveness of the supply chain and the prices paid."

University of Colorado Hospital is now part of University of Colorado Health, a Colorado-based health care system composed of five hospitals and many clinics and physicians stretching from Colorado Springs to Wyoming. The quality reflected by the UHC awards is shared across the system to improve health care throughout the Rocky Mountain

region.

In addition to being named the top-performing academic hospital in the United States, U.S. News & World Report named University of Colorado Hospital the best hospital in Colorado in July 2012. The hospital's specialties have been ranked among the best in the country by U.S. News for 18 consecutive years.

Contributors to UCH honored at President's Award ceremony[32]

Those who have made exceptional contributions to the University of Colorado Hospital recently were honored at the President's Award ceremony.
[33]
Lisa Kassell, a clinical dietitian with Food and Nutrition Services, earned an Outstanding Service Award for her service to the Surgical Weight Loss Center team and the patients it treats. Kassell prepares patients for bariatric surgery and follows them through the procedure and postoperative period. Also receiving an Outstanding Service Award was Phil Boden for his efforts to remodel and upgrade the Discharge Lounge. The room accommodates inpatients preparing to leave the hospital. [34]
The Rock Solid Economics award went to Perioperative Services staffers **Ashley Nassau**, a senior financial analyst, and business coordinators **Joanne Becker** and **Karen Talcott**. **Joan Hart** of the University of Colorado Cancer Center gave a very personal donation to cancer patients and their families. Earlier this year, Hart set out to raise $5,000 for the Cancer Center's Patient Assistance Fund, and pledge to save her head if she beat her goal. She lost her long locks but received the Community Service award for her efforts. [35]
A 14-member team received the Working Together Award for helping to implement a new, online performance appraisal system. The Human Resources/Patient Services Health Stream Competency Team automated the hospital's paper-based employee performance evaluation system. [36]
Elizabeth Tupta, a nurse on the Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, received the Patient and Family Centered Care award for her efforts to provide care that stretched across years to a patient.
For more about the awards and the recipients, visit
http://www3.uch.edu/uchinsider/presidents%20awards%20august%202012.pdf[37]

Dassanowsky edits film books[38]

Robert von Dassanowsky, professor in the Department of Languages and Cultures and Visual and Performing Arts at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, edited two books that appeared this summer.

"Quentin Tarantino's Inglourious Basterds: A Manipulation of Metafilm" is the first comprehensive attempt at an analysis of the provocative work. It features 14 essays by Dassanowsky and international scholars dealing with all aspects of the film. Dassanowsky also edited "World Film Locations: Vienna," a volume from the international series by Intellect, London. The first English language book to explore Vienna's relationship with film beyond the fantasies once shot in studios around the world, this text shows how specific urban sites contribute to films that, in turn, play a role in changing ideas about the city. In addition to key scene reviews of 46 international films from the silent era to the present, expert contributors explore wide-ranging historical and cultural topics linked to filming in Vienna. The book is distributed by the University of Chicago Press in the United States.

Harner explores historical geography of Colorado Springs[39]

[40]
Local history isn't just for history majors. **John Harner**, professor of geography and environmental studies at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, spent four days each week of his spring semester sabbatical buried in the archives at the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum. Harner was researching an idea for a future book, a common activity for faculty members on sabbaticals.

But what happened to Harner was anything but commonplace. Instead of focusing on his own needs, Harner found himself collaborating with museum staff to bring geography and history together to tell the story of Colorado Springs, past, present and future.

"The historians are often all about the stories – this person did these things during these years," Harner said. "That's great. But there needs to be a context – maps and photos – that show the city's expansion and the societal forces that shaped it."

Harner hopes to someday produce a book on the historical geography of Colorado Springs. As a result of his time at the museum, Harner found himself working side-by-side with historians to tell the Colorado Springs story, participating in a fundraising video and in projects that will be unveiled next year. He will present preliminary findings from his research at the museum's monthly lecture series Nov. 10.

Harner will help the Pioneers Museum create maps to accompany an upcoming exhibit "The Story of Us." He also helped museum staff with a current exhibit about early African American residents in Colorado Springs. And for his part in a fundraising video, Harner laughs about his acting debut.

"I was there working and they grabbed me and put me in front of the camera," Harner said. "It wasn't exactly well rehearsed but it was a good UCCS promo."

Museum archivist Leah Davis Witherow, who earned a master's in history from UCCS in 1997, as well as museum director Matt Mayberry, a UCCS master's in history graduate from 1996, both teach and guest lecture at UCCS. Harner hopes to build on his new relationship by taking students in his urban geography and cultural landscape courses to work on projects in the museum archives, possibly leading to student research projects and sparking an interest in the common ground of geographers and historians.

"Collaboration is good," Harner said recently. "I'm glad that I can help. The missions of these two institutions are intertwined in that both help create community."

Runyan named influential leader in injury control[41]

[42]
Colorado School of Public Health Professor of Epidemiology **Carol Runyan** recently was named one of the 20 leaders and visionaries who have had a transformative effect on the field of violence and injury prevention over the twenty-year history of the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC). Runyan will be recognized at the American Public Health Association meetings in San Francisco in October.

As part of the NCIPC's 20th anniversary celebration, they launched the "20 for 20 Project" earlier this year, with leaders nominated and selected by peers.

Runyan joined the Colorado School of Public Health in 2011 after a distinguished career on the faculty of the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health. While there, Runyan directed the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center and has for years been a national leader and advocate in addressing injury and violence prevention

through applied research and workforce development. Runyan currently directs Colorado's Pediatric Injury Prevention, Education and Research (PIPER) program, a collaborative initiative of the Colorado School of Public Health, the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and Children's Hospital Colorado.

Be Colorado begins free health screenings next week[43]

[44]
Be Colorado is offering free health screenings beginning Tuesday and continuing through Nov. 2.

Sign up today for a free, convenient, confidential health screening and you will be automatically enrolled in a drawing to win one of 10 new electric bicycles.

Be Colorado is paying for a Lipid Profile with Glucose (total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and blood glucose), blood pressure and measurement of height, weight and waist circumference and a health assessment profile — a value of more than $200.

Free flu shots also are available.

The Be Colorado health screenings are absolutely private and confidential. The university will not see anyone's private health information; doing so would violate the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

[45]

A calendar[46] of dates and locations is now available. Learn more at www.becolorado.org[47]. Questions: Contact Payroll & Benefit Services, benefits@cu.edu[48] or 303-860-4200.

Honors for faculty at convocation[49]

The seventh annual Fall Convocation at CU-Boulder, featuring awards and presentations celebrating faculty and student achievements, is set for Sept. 28.

The event runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Center for British and Irish Studies, fifth floor, Norlin Library. It will be held in conjunction with this year's Family Weekend. Events include speakers throughout the morning and an awards ceremony followed by a reception.

The program:

10-10:50 a.m.: **Understanding Climate Variations and Change,** A Panel Discussion Organized by Professor Mark Serreze, Department of Geography; Director, National Snow and Ice Data Center; Dr. Julienne Stroeve, Research Scientist, National Snow and Ice Data Center; Professor Mark Williams, Department of Geography; Fellow of the Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research. Given how difficult it is to forecast the local weather even a week in advance, imagine how much more difficult it is to understand climate variations and change over time. Complicating the issue even more, discussions of climate change are too often affected as much by ideology as by scientific understanding, often obscuring the very knowledge that Americans need to make good decisions about the future. As one of the world's leading institutions for the scientific study of climate change, CU-Boulder possesses the expertise to cut through the ideological clutter and offer a clear view of what science has to tell us about climate change.

11-11:50 a.m.: Obama, Romney, and the Election of 2012, A Panel Discussion Organized by Professor Kenneth Bickers, Department of Political Science; Director, CU in DC; Professor Scott Adler, Department of Political Science; Professor John Griffin, Department of Political Science. Thomas Jefferson observed that “An informed citizenry is the only true repository of the public will.” Jefferson’s observation may have never had more resonance than it does for this fall’s election, which may prove to be one of the most consequential in our lifetime. The two major political parties have taken strikingly different positions on policy matters ranging from health care to the economy, taxes to immigration. Underlying these policy differences are two very different visions of the relationship between the government and its citizens—and the future direction of the nation. As a key swing state in this year’s election, Colorado will play a pivotal role in deciding which vision the nation will pursue.

1:30-2:30 p.m.: Awards Ceremony, Welcome by Chancellor Philip DiStefano; Introduction of Faculty Receiving Tenure and Promotion by Provost Russell Moore; Presentation of Provost’s Faculty Achievement Awards; Presentation of Provost’s Student Achievement Awards. **Reception immediately following awards ceremony.**

More information is available here.[50]

Diversity and Excellence Grant proposals requested[51]

Proposals for Diversity and Excellence Grants for 2012-2013 now are requested, with a submission deadline of Oct. 26.

Diversity and Excellence Grants fund staff and/or faculty projects that promote excellence in diversity and inclusion at the University of Colorado. Multiple awards of up to $3,000 each will be made. This round of grants will fund project proposals that will be completed by Dec. 31, 2013.

Priority will be given to projects that:
Have a broad impact, Promote and encourage collaboration between departments, staff and faculty members, campuses and/or the university and the greater community, Align with the institution’s strategic plan for diversity, Address critical needs in higher education, such as the recruitment and retention of historically underserved; underrepresented student populations, staff and faculty, etc., Demonstrate tangible results, sustainability, capacity-building and the potential for replication and scalability, and Leverage additional resources, including financial, institutional and human.
Examples of recently funded projects are listed here[52].

For more information on proposal requirements, click here[53].

Questions: Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, 303-860-5623 or thomas.spahr@cu.edu[54].

Anschutz Health and Wellness Center introduces My New Weigh[55]

Losing weight is tough to do in today's environment. If you are ready to try something different and exciting, then discover My New Weigh, now available at the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

This effective program is specifically designed for people who are ready to lose more than 30 pounds. It is medically supervised, includes weekly lifestyle modification classes and uses a science-based, nutritionally balanced meal plan. It provides you with the tools needed for long-term success.

Let My New Weigh get you on your new way to good health. Call today to attend a no-obligation informational session, 303-724-9088. Sessions are set for the next two weeks; a new 20-week class begins Oct. 29.

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-support-amendment-s[2] https://connections.cu.edu/people/wartgow-named-chancellor-emeritus[3] https://connections.cu.edu/people/wartgow-named-chancellor-emeritus/p_wartgow[4] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/regents-aim-follow-new-budget-process-coming-year[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/five-questions-howie-movshovitz[6] https://connections.cu.edu/file/5q-movshovitzpng[7] https://connections.cu.edu/TerraChroma.com[8] http://denversilentfilmfest.org/[9] http://denversilentfilmfest.org/festival/tickets/[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/little-clinics-bring-health-care-closer-cu-health-plan-members[11] http://www.thelittleclinic.com[12] http://www.thelittleclinic.com/Dot_LocationColorado.asp?category=118[13] http://www.thelittleclinic.com/[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/board-regents-seeking-award-nominees[15] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curriculum_vitae[16] http://www.cu.edu/regents/Awards/AwardsMaster.htm[17] http://www.cu.edu/regents/Awards/[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-resource-center-rolls-out-welcome-mat[19] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ucd-fac-res-ctrpng[20] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/InternationalPrograms/OIA/esl/Pages/default.aspx[21] http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/faculty/center-for-faculty-development/Pages/default.aspx[22] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/biofrontiers-scientist-redefines-computer-science-education[23] https://connections.cu.edu/file/ucb1png[24] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/chancellor-host-live-online-alumni-update[25] https://secure.www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UCOC/event/showEventForm.jsp?form_id=134350[26] mailto:jhane@uccs.edu[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/dennis-c-piper-selected-vp-chief-financial-officer-cu-foundation[28] https://connections.cu.edu/across-cu/dennis-c-piper-selected-as-vp-chief-financial-officer-of-cu-foundation/cuf-cfo[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uch-repeats-top-academic-medical-center[30] https://connections.cu.edu/file/amc-top-ctrpng[31] https://www.uhc.edu/[32] https://connections.cu.edu/people/contributors-uch-honored-president%E2%80%99s-award-ceremony[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/contributors-to-uch-honored-at-presidents-award-ceremony/p_ucd-awards-01[34] https://connections.cu.edu/people/contributors-to-uch-honored-at-presidents-award-ceremony/p_ucd-awards-02[35] https://connections.cu.edu/people/contributors-to-uch-honored-at-presidents-award-ceremony/p_ucd-awards-03[36] https://connections.cu.edu/people/contributors-to-uch-honored-at-presidents-award-ceremony/p_ucd-awards-04[37] http://www3.uch.edu/uchinsider/presidents%20awards%20august%202012.pdf[38] https://connections.cu.edu/people/dassanowsky-edits-film-books[39] https://connections.cu.edu/people/harner-explores-historical-geography-colorado-springs[40] https://connections.cu.edu/people/harner-explores-historical-geography-of-colorado-springs/p-harner[41] https://connections.cu.edu/people/runyan-named-influential-leader-injury-control[42] https://connections.cu.edu/file/p-runyanpng[43] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/be-colorado-begins-free-health-screenings-next-week[44] https://connections.cu.edu/did-you-know/be-colorado-wellness-program-offering-free-health-screenings/beco-2[45] https://www.securedata-trans9.com/ap/cuhealthscreening/index.php?page=10[46] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/screenings-calendar_BeColo.pdf[47] http://www.becolorado.org/[48] mailto:benefits@cu.edu[49] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/honors-faculty-convocation[50] https://facultyaffairs.colorado.edu/welcome/seventh-annual-fall-convocation[51] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/diversity-and-excellence-grant-proposals-requested[52] https://www.cu.edu/content/diversityandexcellencegrants[53] https://www.cu.edu/academicaffairs/documents/Diversity-Excellence-Grants-RFP-2013.pdf[54] mailto:thomas.spahr@cu.edu[55] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/anschutz-health-and-wellness-center-introduces-my-new-weigh