CU on the road again[1]

Colorado is one state, but it is far from singular when it comes to the diversity of its cultures and communities. Starting in May and continuing through September, CU President Todd Saliman[3] and members of the CU Board of Regents[4] joined the CU Outreach & Engagement staff, led by Assistant Vice President for Outreach and Engagement Tony Salazar[5], on outreach tours across Colorado.

The tours included listening and learning about the interests and needs of communities across the state, Coloradans’ views on CU as a destination for students, and the impact of the many touchpoints that CU has in every part of Colorado, including the work being done by the six regional Area Health Education Centers (AHECs).

“We also had some truly inspiring visits with current and incoming CU students,” Saliman said.

Salazar added, “Every visit included conversations about how to better connect CU to people in Colorado, regardless of where they live.”

Common areas of interest in these communities include:
Advancing higher education awareness and opportunities for all students, with an emphasis on rural, Latino and Native American students. Identifying ways CU can partner with local communities to uncover and support workforce needs. Expanding opportunities for students to remain in their home communities while receiving a CU education that is valued across the state. Working in partnership with local higher education institutions to provide needed education programs. Clarifying misperceptions about the cost to attend CU, which is sometimes mistaken with private school or out-of-state tuition rates. Having an ongoing CU presence in communities across the state, including in school districts where prospective students can learn more about CU’s educational offerings. “Quite a bit of follow-up is needed after these trips and we have started dividing up assignments to the team,” Saliman said.

May 23-25

During the Western Slope tour, CU leaders visited Grand Junction, Delta, Carbondale and Glenwood Springs. There, they met with Club 20, elected officials, school district representatives, health care professionals, community advocates, the editorial board of the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel and CU’s partners at Colorado Mesa University.

Attending regents included Glen Gallegos, Lesley Smith, Heidi Ganahl, Callie Rennison and Ilana Spiegel. CU leaders also were joined at different points in the tour by Tammy Spencer, assistant dean of the nursing undergraduate program at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus; and by Georgia Hoaglund, executive director of the Western Colorado AHEC.

July 25-27

The Southeast and Southern Colorado outreach tour saw CU visitors speaking with leaders from Lamar Community College, Otero Junior College and Trinidad State College, who are eager to partner with CU. CU received feedback on meaningful issues from leaders in La Junta, Trinidad and Pueblo that align with research.

In Pueblo, CU celebrated more than 20 incoming students and connected with alumni and community partners. Janelle Quick from the Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation presented each student at the event with a scholarship of at
least $2,500.

Aug. 22-24

CU leaders traveled to Southwestern Colorado, where they spent two days with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in Ignacio to further strengthen CU’s partnership with the tribe. They also met the Ute Mountain Ute tribe in Towaoc for the first time, visited with tribal leaders and toured the tribe’s education facilities.

“It was a fantastic way to begin a relationship with the tribe,” Saliman said. “The trip was another reminder about how important it is to regularly connect with all four corners of our beautiful state.”

Attending regents included Lesley Smith, Sue Sharkey, Ilana Spiegel, Jack Kroll and Glen Gallegos. Campuses were represented by Theresa Hernandez, director of CU-Southern Colorado Partnerships at CU Boulder; and Josina Romero O’Connell, director of Colorado AHEC based on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.

Sept. 19-21

The fourth and final outreach tour for 2022 took CU leadership to the San Luis Valley, where they visited cultural, education and health centers in Alamosa, Monte Vista and Center. Leadership met at and toured the Alamosa farm of State Sen. Cleave Simpson, who is deeply involved in water issues in the San Luis Valley and offered insights about various water proposals for the region. They toured Adams State College and learned of the new engineering partnership with CSU.

At the San Luis Valley American Indian Center, CU leaders were treated to a traditional meal that included moose and venison stews and fry bread. They learned about the history of the area’s American Indian community and how their ill treatment still resonates today.

Regents attending this trip included Ken Montera, Sue Sharkey and Ilana Spiegel. CU Boulder’s Director of Precollege Partnership Outreach Programs, Valeria Morales, joined CU leaders to discuss reinvigorating the San Luis Valley Pre-College Program with local school districts.

More tours are being planned for 2023. Specific locations have not been determined; however, CU leadership is excited to continue meaningful discussions with communities in all parts of Colorado.
2022 UIS Impact Report: Creating solutions through technology, services and collaboration

The 2022 UIS Impact Report highlights the extraordinary work accomplished by UIS since 2020 to empower CU to adapt, connect and achieve.

The report features UIS collaborations that led to new solutions, efficiencies, savings or increased security. Collaborators include the Office of Information Security, campuses’ Office of Information Technology, the Controller’s Office, Human Resources, Finance, Student Services, Procurement, Research and Grants, Advancement and departments from every CU campus.

A few report highlights:
Learn how CU IT Governance is reducing risk, increasing alignment and maximizing resources. Understand the work UIS did to prepare for hybrid work and other COVID-related conundrums. Celebrate the significant reduction in time required for critical patch updates and other advances in keeping CU’s data safe. See how collaboration with PSC and campuses led to an enterprise Tableau server and a savings of close to $1 million for CU. Discover the solutions that led to greater efficiency, personalization and automation across CU. Learn UIS’ top priorities as they lay the groundwork for greater advancement toward CU’s strategic goals.
After you’ve read the report, provide feedback and put your new knowledge to the test by playing the UIS Impact Report Game. Five participants will be selected at random on Oct. 24 to receive a $10 Amazon gift card.

Visit the UIS Impact Report.

CU hosts gathering of leaders in open education

The Open CU Initiative and the system Office of Academic Affairs last week hosted an international convening of the open educational resources organization DOERS3 (Driving OER Sustainability for Student Success). The Sept. 19-20 event took place at 1800 Grant St., with over 40 attendees in person or online.

DOERS3’s membership includes 30 participating higher education systems and statewide/provincewide initiatives serving over 6.9 million students at more than 769 colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada. The CU system along with the Colorado Community College System and the Colorado Department of Higher Education are members.

DOERS3 helps member organizations implement, scale and sustain open educational resources (OER) by advancing research and policy, sharing tools and learnings, and showing how OER can foster equity and student success. Leveraging the collective strength of the collaborative, DOERS3 members build capacity to take established OER initiatives to scale and shape national and state innovation in the areas of OER research, data, policy, accessibility, equity and quality.

To learn more about OER and CU campus web resources, go to cu.edu/open-cu.

Your shot at good health: Register for an on-campus flu shot

No one wants to be sick, especially during one of the best times of year. The leaves are changing, the crisp air is perfect for a stroll, hayrides and pumpkin patches are abundant: You definitely don’t want to be stuck at home with the flu.
Vaccines make everyday moments safer. The CDC recommends that you and your family members get a flu vaccine before the flu begins to spread in your community. It takes up to two weeks for your immune system to build maximum immunity in response to the vaccine, so the earlier you vaccinate, the better.

CU Boulder, UCCS and System Administration

With this in mind, Employee Services will host flu vaccine clinics in October and November for all CU Health Plan enrollees to help you and your family stay safe and enjoy the season.

CU Boulder clinics are set for Oct. 10, 24, 26 and 28. UCCS clinics will be Oct. 17 and Nov. 4, and a System Administration clinic will be Oct. 7.

At CU campus clinics, CU Health Plan enrollees can receive a flu shot at no cost. If you have medical insurance through another health provider, you can receive a flu shot for $39. Registration is required. Visit our flu shot information page to schedule an appointment.

CU Anschutz

Members of the CU Anschutz campus community are encouraged to get their flu shot this fall through their health provider, local pharmacies, clinics and other available locations. For our clinical providers and students who see patients, be sure you follow any requirement to receive a flu shot at the hospitals or clinical sites. We also have a limited supply available through our Campus Community Health clinic by appointment only and UCHealth patients can schedule through My Health Connect.

CU Denver

For CU Denver faculty and staff, flu shots are being offered through the Health Center at Auraria.

If you can’t attend a clinic offered through Employee Services, find a flu shot near you:
Your primary care provider Pharmacies Medical centers And more…
Learn more about the flu virus, the health risks and annual statistics on the CDC’s website.

Election 2022: University guidelines affect campaign activity, expression

With the Nov. 8 election approaching, the University of Colorado reminds employees of guidelines regarding political campaign-related activity and expression.

A variety of state and federal laws and regulations govern political expression, activity and conduct in the university workplace. Application of the law depends on the particular facts of the situation, and legal counsel should be consulted when questions arise. However, the following guidelines may be used when trying to determine whether particular conduct is appropriate in the university setting.

General principles:
Employees have the right as private citizens to freedom of expression and participation in the political process. When expressing personal political views, university employees should be clear that they are not representing a university position and endeavor to maintain the principle of university impartiality in political campaigns. Private political activities must be conducted on personal time and without using university resources (computers, copiers, email addresses, promotional materials).

Employees should refrain from the following activities while at work:
Sending or forwarding emails from university-hosted email accounts in support of or in opposition to candidates or ballot initiatives. Using university office supplies (including computers, copiers and fax machines) to create or disseminate campaign materials. Making calls on university phones in support of or opposition to a political candidate or ballot initiatives. Using university computers to make monetary contributions to political campaigns. Placing campaign materials in locations not designated for general signage.

In general, employees may engage in the following activities while at work:
Discussing political issues and political campaigns with one another while on break. Wearing buttons or clothing promoting a particular candidate or issue, provided that the employee does not regularly interact with the public as part of their job duties. Placing a bumper sticker on a personal vehicle. Participating in campaign-related activities on personal time.

Because university email addresses are generally public and published on various websites, employees may receive electronic mail messages on their university-hosted email accounts from candidates and campaigns. Such emails are not illegal. The university cannot know or block every campaign- or candidate-related email account. Installing restrictive “spam” filters would have limited success with such messages, which originate from many different sources. It is important to remember, however, that the transmission of such emails to you does not constitute University of Colorado endorsement of any candidate or campaign. Employees should refrain from using university email accounts to forward candidate or campaign-related messages for the purpose of expressing opposition to or support for the relevant candidate or campaign issue.

University employees should always be aware that, as public employees, their activities may be subject to heightened scrutiny by the media and members of the public. Accordingly, they should take care to ensure that their private activities do not compromise their ability to carry out their official duties.

New Colorado space instrument part of flagship mission to Europa

‘Art Meets Data’ in new lecture series

A grant from the President’s Fund for the Humanities is supporting a new lecture series, “Art Meets Data: A Lecture Series on Creative Research Methods.”

Stephanie Renee Toliver, Ph.D., assistant professor of literacy and secondary humanities in the School of Education at CU Boulder, received the grant for the lecture series. The virtual series, accessible via Zoom, begins Tuesday with “Historiartgraphy With Bretton Varga and Vonzell Agosto” and continues through Dec. 13.

From Toliver:

“Throughout time, the humanities and the sciences have been separated, treated as two independent fields that exist on completely different trajectories. However, Patricia Leavy (2018) contends that, ‘art and science bear intrinsic similarities in their attempts to explore, illuminate, and represent aspects of human life and the social and natural worlds in which we are a part’ (p. 3).

“In other words, art, imagination and creativity are intricately connected to science, scholarship and research, bound by the human desire to investigate and understand the world around us. Thus, it is important to consider how researchers – often trained to separate art and science – might join the two together.
“This series, ‘Art Meets Data,’ is an interdisciplinary sequence that attempts to build upon this conversation by featuring social science researchers who draw on the humanities to enhance their data collection, analysis and representation. Each lecture reinforces the humanities by focusing on the connection between the social sciences and history, art, literature, music, dance and/or sound.”

Click here to register for one or more of the lectures.

COVID-19 was bad for college students’ health. How should universities respond?

Seven faculty honored for work that impacts city of Denver at 2022–23 TIAA Chancellor’s Urban Engaged Scholars reception

CU Denver Disability Symposium set for Nov. 2-3

Registration is open for the CU Denver Disability Symposium, a virtual event set for Nov. 2-3. Lydia X. Z. Brown, a nationally recognized advocate and author within the disability community, will appear as keynote speaker.

Click here for more information and the agenda for the symposium, which is presented by the Faculty Assembly and Faculty Council Disability Committees.

Between 15% and 26% of the population lives with some form of a disability. Some of these disabilities are visible, such as some mobility and sensory disabilities, while many are hidden, such as chronic illnesses, psychiatric conditions, neurological and learning disabilities.

People with disabilities often deal with systemic barriers and obstacles, as do other marginalized communities. Disabled persons who are also part of the BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ communities often find their access to services and ability to fully participate educationally, professionally, and socially are even more greatly impeded.

The CU Denver Disability Symposium examines the impediments to physical, informational and educational access that these groups often share and will explore avenues for expanding community inclusivity.

The event will begin by exploring the intersection of disability, gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity in terms of systemic, institutional barriers and the social efforts to overcome them. Subsequent sessions will look specifically at issues that impact our campus community.

The symposium will include sessions that promote a greater understanding of the diverse ways in which people think; it also will address more inclusive pedagogy and assessment strategies that allow people who learn differently to best demonstrate their mastery of material.
Students and faculty also will have the opportunity to learn about available accessibility tools.

The symposium will conclude with open forums that invite faculty and students to discuss their experiences as members and friends of these communities.

Can science curb an alcohol use crisis? CU Anschutz addiction experts bank on it [36]

Kaufman wins Breakthrough’s New Horizons in Physics Prize[37]

Pastula describes first cases of encephalomyelitis resulting from monkeypox virus [38]

McGarry joins CAP as new Director of Interior Design [39]

Space junk worries prompt new action by NASA, Congress[40]

The pandemic’s not over, but Colorado and the feds are winding down the public health response. So who fills in the gaps? [41]

Students’ archaeological dig peers into Auraria campus’s past as Denver’s oldest neighborhood [42]
Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/cu-road-again
[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/pres-outreach-tour_feat_0.jpg
[3] https://president.cu.edu/
[4] https://regents.cu.edu/
[5] https://president.cu.edu/university-leadership/tony-salazar
[8] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/pres-outreach-tour_page03.jpg
[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/pres-outreach-tour_page05.jpg
[18] https://www.doers3.org/members.html
[19] https://www.cu.edu/open-cu
[21] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/flu-shot-clinics
[22] https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/patient-care/campus-community-health
[23] https://www.uchealth.org/access-my-health-connection/
[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-colorado-space-instrument-part-flagship-mission-europa
[29] https://www.cu.edu/oaa/grants/presidents-fund-humanities
[30] https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUDDTZHn8ODAnzCLiwEX4YKLBm5xPc_RVOSy9fBreN1--Q/viewform
[31] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/covid-19-was-bad-college-students-health-how-should-universities-respond
[34] https://web.cvent.com/event/110b0064-295b-4c3b-8dd1-718e5ccffcdf/summary
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[40] https://connections.cu.edu/itn/space-junk-worries-prompt-new-action-nasa-congress