CU financial figures have award-winning showcase[1]

[2]

For those of us who don't know our deferred outflows from our assets, the Office of University Controller developed a website that makes it easier to understand where the University of Colorado's money comes from and how it is spent.

The site turns a copious amount of data from the university's annual financial report into a carnival of colorful graphs and illustrations and explains number combinations that only an accountant could love. There are definitions for terms you don't toss around every day such as "compensated absences," and all of this is overlaid onto iconic university scenes.

Like a mini accounting lesson, "CU Financials Explained: An Illustrated Guide to the Annual Financial Report"[2] explains various resources and expenses and how they come together to determine the health of the university.

CU might be one of the first higher education institutions to use HTML to explain where it stands financially. That pioneering approach has earned the university the 2014 Innovation Award from the National Association of College and University Business Officers, and some envious looks from other colleges.

Historically, the university had printed copies of its annual report for distribution and posted a PDF of the report online. Over the years, the costs of color printing had become prohibitive. The charge for 100 copies was about $5,000 -- quite a sum for an office with a total operating budget of $20,000, especially if you consider that such hefty reports usually receive a once-over by readers then are shelved or tossed.

Always wanting to save money, Robert Kuehler, assistant vice president/university controller, thought about passing the printing duties to the university's auditors, but after some discussion, Kuehler and his staff decided to move in another direction.

Part of Travis Chillemi's job as the strategic communication technology manager was to post the PDF of the annual report online every year.

"I'm a communicator, graphic designer and web designer in the controller's office so I'm surrounded by finance people," Chillemi said. "I would ask questions: Why do we put this online? How are people using it? The accountants knew the university was in good hands, but what about laypeople like me?"

He wanted to make the report more accessible to everyone who potentially would use it, from federal funding agencies to the Board of Regents to alumni.

"It was a nice online report, but unless you're an accountant, it was like reading a foreign language," Kuehler said.

In order for people to interact with the report, the format needed to be changed, said Chillemi. The PDF was tossed and an HTML version was put in its place. "It's more approachable. You can click on things you have questions about and the answers show up," he said. Now there's no need to flip through 80-plus pages of text to find certain details.

And Kuehler developed plain language to walk the reader through the fundamentals of the report.

Text explains, for instance, why "unearned revenue" is a liability and why investment income "swings wildly from year to year." As for compensated absences, the website says, "This amount primarily represents the $ value of paid time off earned but not yet used by CU employees."

Even the university's auditors from CliftonLarsonAllen gave the site a thumbs up. "They were cautious," said Chillemi. But after seeing a mock-up "they were along for the ride."

It took about five months of trial and error to build the HTML report and another two to three months to develop the guide. The report was posted late last year, and the guide followed this spring.

Kuehler and Chillemi have a few tweaks in mind for this year's report, and at some point, Chillemi hopes to add a few more bells and whistles, including video.

Chillemi credits the support and entrepreneurial spirit at CU for the innovative approach to something as traditional as an annual report. "It will save us money and it's sustainable. And for those who aren't interested, we still post a very vanilla black and white report that just contains the numbers."

Visit the site at http://www.cu.edu/controller/annualreport/illustratedguide/[2]

Mini Med School goes global – and free[3]

[4]
For years, on CU campuses, people have enjoyed the live CU Mini Med School[5]. Now, it goes online for everyone in the world, as the CU Anschutz Medical Campus's first massive open online course (MOOC). All CU faculty, staff and students are invited to join the thousands of people from over 100 countries in taking the course.

Mini Med School has been completely reimagined in a process that took over a year of full-time work by its developers professor JJ Cohen, M.D., Ph.D., teacher, and Helen Macfarlane, M.A., designer. The course, hosted on Canvas Network, runs about seven weeks and begins Monday.

There are no prerequisites. Like the live program, the course is suitable for interested people of any age.

Mini Medical School has been valuable for people considering a career in health care, for people with concerns about their own health or health care, for those who are just curious, and for those who wish to know more about their body and how to best keep it running well.

Like the live Mini Medical School, there are no exams and no course credit, but the student will get a broad overview of the basic science underpinnings of modern medicine in a lively, engaging video format.

There are seven weekly modules, each consisting of about eight units, which range from four minutes to seven minutes long, allowing students to cover all the material in less than an hour a week, at their own pace, watching a unit whenever they have a few minutes to relax and learn.

Additional resources for those interested – including illustrated transcripts, a lively interactive discussion forum led by "real" CU medical students, and optional self-test quizzes – are available.

Registration takes just a moment – but watch the introductory video! – at https://www.canvas.net/courses/mini-medical-school[6]

Read more about the Mini Med School MOOC at the CU For Colorado website.[7]

Commitment to service – at home and abroad – earns Chase Faculty Community Service Award for CU doctor[8]

[9]
Philip Zeitler, M.D., Ph.D., professor of pediatrics and clinical sciences at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, is the 2013-14 recipient of the Chase Faculty Community Service Award.

Each year, a full-time CU faculty member who provides exceptional service to the community receives a $10,000 endowment, funded by a grant from Chase. An advisory council recommends an award-winner to CU President Bruce D. Benson, who bestows the honor. Zeitler was recognized by the CU Board of Regents at its April meeting on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora.

Dr. Zeitler is Section Head of Pediatric Endocrinology in the CU School of Medicine and Chair of the Department of Endocrinology at Children's Hospital Colorado. An internationally known expert in pediatric endocrinology, his research has contributed greatly to the world's understanding of pediatric Type 2 diabetes and pediatric obesity. He has written several globally focused articles on international obesity and diabetes topics, and he is charged by the International Society for Pediatric Endocrinology with chairing the creation of international pediatric Type 2 diabetes guidelines, leading authors from Japan, China, Europe and South America.

In her Chase Award nomination letter, Dr. Kristen Nadeau, M.D., M.S., associate professor of Pediatric Endocrinology at the CU School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Colorado, wrote that Dr. Zeitler "infuses a sense of social justice in all of his activities, ranging from clinical service to research acumen. Moreover, his efforts to help others extend well beyond the boundaries of his professional expectations, or the traditional confines of the standard work day. Dr. Zeitler is constantly extending himself for the betterment of his community — not just locally, but also on an international scale."

A deep belief in volunteerism and service leadership has led him on travels to Ecuador, Vietnam and Peru, where he has taught English as part of Global Volunteers. Here at home, Dr. Zeitler is committed to assisting immigrant families in Denver to attain medical care, and uses his Spanish language skills to better serve the many Spanish-speaking families seen at Children's Hospital Colorado. He also has worked with Women in Crisis, a shelter for battered women and children, and has given his time and talents to many other nonprofits and religious organizations.

Dr. Zeitler, who joined CU in 1996, previously was recognized for his extraordinary service work and academic excellence by being named a winner of the university's Thomas Jefferson Award in 2011.

"The award is moving and humbling, not only for the recognition of the university, but also for the fact that I was nominated and supported by colleagues I respect and have worked with for many years," Dr. Zeitler said. "In recognition of the intent of the Chase Faculty Community Service Award, my wife and I will use the money to establish a program to provide small grants to Pediatric Department Faculty and trainees to support involvement in community service projects. We hope that we will be able to leverage this award to promote self-discovery through service on the part of others."

The Chase Faculty Community Service Award – established in 1991 with a $100,000 donation – is funded annually by an endowment from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation through the CU Foundation. The endowment provides an annual award of $10,000 to a full-time faculty member at the University of Colorado who has rendered exceptional service in his or her community.

Faculty see positives, challenges identified in social climate survey[10]
[11]

Tell us what you think about the Social Climate Survey

POST A COMMENT BELOW
(one-time registration required)

CONTACT FACULTY COUNCIL
via email[12]

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
via email[13] or online contact form[14]

Members of the CU Faculty Council[15] last week discussed findings of the university's recent Social Climate Survey, reviewing positives and potential challenges with Board of Regents members Michael Carrigan and Sue Sharkey.

The regents, along with Patrick O'Rourke, vice president, university counsel and secretary to the board, attended the council's first meeting of the academic year, held Aug. 28 at 1800 Grant St.

"(The survey) is just one step in identifying where (the CU community) may have weaknesses in discrimination," Sharkey said. "I'm looking forward to that process and working with the faculty."

O'Rourke presented an executive summary and survey highlights, which were first presented to the Board of Regents at its April meeting.[16] The executive summary also is linked from the Board of Regents website.[17]

Similar to survey results from staff and students, faculty across the system were most likely to have reported positively about the state of respect on campuses and within units. The data was generally consistent across the system. One example the summary states is that 73 percent of CU-Boulder faculty and 71 percent of UCCS faculty reported that they felt respected regardless of their political affiliations.

As far as key findings in the summary labeled as "concerning," three-quarters of faculty reported that they "rarely" or "never" experienced prejudice or discrimination; 20 percent indicated "sometimes" and 5 percent "frequently." Among those faculty who said they had experienced some prejudice or discrimination, the largest group (48 percent) said gender was the form. Gender also was most mentioned by students (34 percent), while staff mostly indicated age (44 percent).

Council member David Port, chair of the Anschutz Medical Campus Faculty Assembly, cautioned the regents not to overinterpret the survey results, noting that the self-selected survey respondents represented only 10 percent of the entire CU community.

"Use it as a guidepost, and think of global ways of addressing these concerns," Port said. "But it would be hard to prioritize one (area of concern) over another based on these findings alone."

Other council members noted that because participation was voluntary, the population who responded may have skewed results.

Carrigan said those and other concerns were "valid points, but we shouldn't let 'the perfect' be the enemy of 'the good.'"

Sharkey said the survey was intended to give voice to anyone at the university who felt they didn't otherwise have a voice.

"For the University of Colorado to take the lead on this, we've made a statement to the people of Colorado – and across higher education – that the University of Colorado cares about the issues of discrimination," she said. "That's a statement I hope we can all be proud of."

Laura Borgelt, Faculty Council chair, pointed to survey results from students: 96 percent agreed that most or all of their instructors provide a respectful learning environment; 94 percent agreed that most or all of their instructors are tolerant of diverse opinions in the classroom.

"I want to commend the faculty for creating environments where students are learning and can express themselves," Borgelt said. "That's in a vast majority of the cases. We are critical, and we should be looking to the survey for places where we can improve, but it's important that students see an environment that is inviting to learn."

The regents have recommended that such surveys be conducted every two years. O'Rourke said he sees the survey as part of the larger conversation taking place nationally in higher education about Title IX, and that stepped-up training surrounding diversity issues and surveys at universities might be required by U.S. lawmakers over the course of the next year.

In other business at last week's Faculty Council meeting:
Ken McConnellogue, vice president of communication, updated the council on three system initiatives: an umbrella marketing effort, which is moving forward with a survey of all faculty and staff that's expected to launch in the coming weeks; a new Constituent Relationship Management system, which, once acquired, will serve as a database hub for communication; and a Faculty Communication Plan, which is being refined by the council's Communication Committee. The council briefly discussed two motions. One, regarding questions for the CU Health Trust, was referred back to the Personnel and Benefits Committee for further review. Another motion, which regards details in the leave policy for bereavement as it relates to nine-month faculty, was postponed until review of the entire policy takes place later this academic year.

CAP program offers planning, design to towns in need[18]

[19]

When Amanda Tharp decided to advance her education at CU Denver's[20]College of Architecture and Planning[21], she hoped she would land an exciting internship.

She never imagined she would find herself standing at a podium in front of the Salida town council with television cameras recording every word as she presented her designs for the renovation of a favorite local event and community center.

"I had never spoken at such a formal meeting, much less one with all the city leaders," Tharp said. "They didn't treat me like a student—they treated me as if I were part of an actual design firm. They gave me feedback on my design and are talking about actually getting it built! That's why I love being part of this kind of project."
The University Technical Assistance Program
Tharp is just one of more than 30 students getting real-world experience through the University Technical Assistance [22] (UTA) program, which matches talented undergraduate and graduate students with small Colorado communities that have special planning and design needs they cannot address with local resources and staff.

UTA is a program within CU Denver's Colorado Center for Community Development [23](CCCD), a center that has partnered with communities and neighborhoods for nearly 50 years, completing more than 2,000 projects around the state.

"We help local communities help themselves," said Vickie Berkley, CCCD's assistant director for civic engagement . "There is something wonderful about how much impact one project can have on a community."

UTA has tackled a variety of community projects, including schoolyard designs, surveys, wayfinding signage, community centers, bike and hiking trails, parks and tourism. Students have worked in many small Colorado towns, including Mancos, Hayden, Yuma, Saguache, Salida, Fruita and Rye.

Funding for UTA comes from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). With DOLA support, UTA employs three professionals experienced in architecture and landscape architecture to supervise projects and mentor students. Students are paid for their work, with a community typically picking up 50 percent of the project cost and UTA paying the other half.

Because UTA work varies and can include everything from brochure design to public health surveys in all four corners of the state, students from all schools and colleges on all four campuses in the University of Colorado system can apply to be hired by the program. CCCD is considered a professional experience provider for architecture students; their UTA work will be credited toward the 2,000 hours of professional experience required before they take their exams to become licensed architects.

“What UTA does is at the heart of the mission for a college that focuses on design and urban and community planning,” said Christopher Koziol[24], PhD, CCCD director and associate professor of architecture. “It creates opportunities for students to learn what works and what doesn’t work when engaging a client. And it offers services to clients who would not otherwise get professional design consultations.”
Favorite Success Story
[25]
Ask Berkley to pick a favorite UTA success story and she doesn’t hesitate. It’s the small Western Slope town of Fruita, population 13,000.

Back in the early 1980s, Fruita made a large public investment in infrastructure, anticipating rapid growth because Exxon was planning to develop oil shale in the region. Then came May 2, 1982—“Black Sunday” in Colorado—the day Exxon announced it was ending the project and laying off thousands of workers. Heavily in debt, Fruita found itself nearly bankrupt.

“The town had great leadership,” said Berkley. “But they were struggling. What they needed was assistance turning some of their ideas into reality.”

Fruita leaders contacted the CCCD office in Grand Junction and asked for help finding economic development strategies to bring in a new tax base. CCCD surveyed the number of cars passing by on Interstate 70 and the student-gathered information convinced the state to locate a welcome center in Fruita. When cars started to get off the highway bringing new visitors, UTA students returned to Fruita to develop more attractions, including a dinosaur museum and trails for mountain biking. UTA students also created designs to improve the streetscapes in the town center and to renovate a boarded-up historic schoolhouse and turn it into the city hall and library.

[26]
“Today Fruita is a vibrant small community, with a wonderful downtown, filled with locally owned businesses,” said Berkley. “There are parks with activities, a bandstand with concerts, and all of this was designed by UTA students.”
Strengthening communities through engagement and design.
CCCD had its own version of Black Sunday in 2010 when the Colorado Legislature suspended funding for the program during the recession. In 2012, with an improving economy, the state was able to restore funding to local communities. Ultimately, CCCD was awarded a $1 million grant over 18 months to restart and expand UTA. The university is currently in discussions with DOLA to continue the program for another five years. With the level of current success, the future of UTA looks bright.

Future funding will mean that students like Lisa Hanano, who is working on her master of landscape architecture, will continue to develop projects in Colorado towns like Ridgway, Hayden and Mancos. In Ridgway, Hanano, who has also studied kinesthiology, designed a children’s playground which is now under construction.

“Each project I have worked on has played a role in strengthening the community,” said Hanano. “I feel so proud of what I have done.”

Daniel Navarro-Gomez, who already has a master of urban design and has returned to school to work on a master in landscape architecture, is gathering information from the residents of Cortez to evaluate the land-use code according to community values. “This gives students a professional environment to translate what they learn in the classroom into a real setting,” he said. “You are always working with members of the community to understand what they want and how to make it happen.”

“On every project, you always have to remember this is their community and they have to be involved in every step,” Berkley adds. “At the same time, our students are learning an important life lesson. There is something truly gratifying

about working for the public good."

UCCS enrollment surpasses 11,000 students, a new record[27]

[28]
More than 11,100 students enrolled at UCCS for the fall 2014 semester, a new record, and more than 5 percent larger than last year's record student enrollment.

Classes officially began Aug. 25 and official, detailed enrollment reports are expected in mid-September.

Preliminary reports prepared by the Office of Institutional Research show 11,199 students enrolled for the fall 2014 semester, a 601 student or 5.7 percent increase from the 10,598 students who enrolled for the fall 2013 semester. Since 2005, UCCS has grown by more than 3,500 students or 47 percent.

UCCS officials cautioned that final enrollment figures will differ slightly from preliminary reports compiled after only a few days of classes.

"We are pleased that a record number of people selected UCCS as the place to continue their futures," said Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak. "I appreciate the significant efforts of faculty and staff members who continue to provide personal support for students, explain that the university is an excellent value, and help students achieve their dream of a college education."

In addition to the overall enrollment, Homer Wesley, vice chancellor for student success and enrollment management, noted enrollment of the largest freshman class in UCCS history. For fall 2014, preliminary figures indicate 1,759 freshman are enrolled, a 177 student or 11.2 percent increase from the record-setting 1,582 students in the fall 2013 freshman class.

Additional enrollment details will be provided following the official census date, Sept. 11.

Study: For some African-American women, hair care a potential barrier to exercise[29]

[30]
According to the Centers for Disease Control, approximately four out of five black women are overweight or obese and 36 percent meet physical activity objectives as determined by the CDC. That's compared to 50 percent of white women meeting the same objectives.

A study conducted by the Center for African American Health[31] and the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Center for Women's Health Research[32] finds that African American women whose hairstyle is affected by perspiration may avoid physical activity altogether. Prior studies have found that between 29 percent and 48 percent of African American women say that their hairstyle was a factor in deciding whether or not to exercise. One key focus of this study was to learn more about cultural barriers to physical activity among African American women — including hairstyle-related factors. Some women involved in the study who experience hairstyle barriers to physical activity explained that it can take too much time or money to restyle their hair after exercise that causes perspiration.

Although hairstyle maintenance barriers were reported less frequently than the most highly rated general barriers of "lacking self-discipline" and "lacking money", they are important to understand in order to inform future interventions for the substantial number of sedentary AA women affected by hairstyle maintenance barriers.

What researchers found is that lower rates of exercise may be related to cultural barriers, including the costs and time

required to restyle hair after exercise that causes perspiration. To reduce the time needed to restyle hair after exercise, some participants reported using “low-maintenance” hairstyles such as wearing braids or ponytails. In addition, some women described being cautious to do “safe” physical activities that do not cause perspiration, in order to overcome this barrier. This study found that 29 percent of African American women who did not exercise regularly experienced hairstyle barriers to exercise. In contrast, only 7 percent of African American women who exercised regularly reported their hair was a factor in deciding whether to exercise.

“After a couple of new health diagnoses, one of our study participants said she had to make a decision between her hair and her life,” said Lucille Johnson Campbell, MA, director of special initiatives for the Center for African-American Health and co-principal investigator for the study. “We want to find solutions so women in the African American community can get through these barriers and improve their health.”

Researchers assessed the health of participants and then used surveys and focus groups to identify hairstyle-related physical activity barriers and physical activity motivators. The study included 51 women from the Denver metro area ranging in age from 18 to 75 years. “The lifespan perspective from women of varying ages allowed for a greater range of discussion into understanding if hair influenced physical activity throughout generations,” said study investigator, Candace Brown, MAG, MEd, Doctoral Candidate at Virginia Commonwealth University.

The women were divided into two categories - “exercises” and “non-exercisers.” The ”exercisers” reported at least 60 minutes of weekly activity and the “non-exercisers” reported less than 60 minutes. Both groups reported similar rates of diabetes, pre-diabetes, and arthritis.

“There is some exciting news from this study,” said Amy Huebschmann, MD, associate professor at CU School of Medicine[33] and the Center for Women’s Health Research[32] and co-principal Investigator for this study. “African American women want to overcome these barriers to exercise, and we studied many African American women who have already overcome these barriers by adjusting their hairstyles. The next step is to develop and test programs to overcome general barriers and hairstyle-related barriers.” Study participants suggested various activities to get them moving, including dance classes and other fun group activities. They also suggested other helpful strategies to overcome hairstyle-related barriers to physical activity: social support from other African American women and culturally relevant education about moisturizing hair products to combat the dry Colorado climate and “low-maintenance” hairstyles that are minimally affected by perspiration.

Huebschmann added that a recent societal culture shift may also help African American women to overcome hairstyle barriers to activity. “We had some women describe concerns of getting fired if they came to work with a low-maintenance hairstyle such as braids or natural hair, but we also heard women saying that they feel there is a growing cultural acceptance of these types of low-maintenance hairstyles.”

These study results have been presented at the national scientific meetings of the Society of Behavioral Medicine and the Society of General Internal Medicine and at a community presentation organized by the Center for African American Health. The study investigators have submitted their findings for scientific publication by a medical journal.

Researcher finds income, education disparity in reasons for choosing not to vaccinate[34]

[35]
Not all students returning to school will be up to date on their vaccinations. A new study conducted by Jennifer Reich, a researcher at the University of Colorado Denver, shows that the reasons why children may not be fully vaccinated depends on the class privilege of their mothers.

According to the National Network for Immunization Information[36], three children per 1,000 in the U.S. have never received any vaccines, with almost half of all children receiving vaccines later than recommended. The number of unvaccinated children has led to several recent vaccine-preventable outbreaks in the U.S., including measles and whooping cough.

Published in Gender & Society[37], a top-ranked journal in Gender Studies and Sociology field, Reich's research[38] shows that unvaccinated or under-vaccinated children from higher income backgrounds, with parents who are higher educated, have parents who intentionally choose to refuse or delay vaccinations out of a belief that they are protecting their children. On the other hand, children from families with lower incomes and with less-educated parents tend to be under-vaccinated because they lack access to resources.

Reich, a professor of Sociology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences[39] at CU Denver, found that middle- and upper-class "vaccine-refusers" are mothers who have the resources, education and time to make decisions regarding vaccinations. These mothers consent only to vaccines they believe are most beneficial for their children and instead rely on other intensive practices they see as rendering vaccines less necessary. Breastfeeding, healthy nutrition and monitoring social interactions and travel were listed as alternatives to vaccination and ways to prevent disease exposure.

"Vaccine-refusers see themselves as experts on their own children and question the relevance of public health claims that vaccines are necessary for all children," said Reich. "They trust that 'mother's intuition,' alongside their own personal research, is the best way to protect their children from potential harm."

On the other hand, mothers in low-income families often do not have time to consider individual choices around vaccination. If their children are under-vaccinated it is more likely due to lack of access to medical care. This same lack of health care access makes poor children who are under-vaccinated potentially more vulnerable to health risks as rates of vaccine-preventable diseases continue to rise.

Reich's findings suggest women with more time, education and resources claim greater freedom to reject public health interventions, which potentially carries consequences for under-vaccinated children from lower income backgrounds who may not have access to care.

"Those who can reject vaccines without health risks are able to do so because they are protected by the large portion of the population who is vaccinated," said Reich. "Upper-class parents who choose not to vaccinate their kids understand that they could be putting others at risk, but reiterated that their own children are their primary responsibility and suggest other mothers should advocate for their own children."

CU on the Weekend offers free programs in Boulder, expands to CU South Denver[40]

[41]

The public is invited to attend free, Saturday programs led by University of Colorado Boulder faculty on popular topics as part of the CU on the Weekend series, which begins Saturday.

With topics ranging from the sweeping stories behind celebrated musical compositions to the micro-level study of bacteria that uniquely forms each person's microbiome, CU on the Weekend programs are designed to satisfy the community's curiosity surrounding some of the intriguing research conducted at CU-Boulder.

New for fall 2014, CU-Boulder will offer CU on the Weekend programs in Parker as part of CU South Denver's collaboration with The Wildlife Experience. Two CU-Boulder history professors will lead encore presentations of popular CU on the Weekend programs at the new location.

CU South Denver events in Parker

Baseball and the American Dream in History

Saturday, Oct. 4, 1-3 p.m., CU South Denver, Classroom 204, 10035 S. Peoria St.

Tom Zeiler, professor of history, will explore what many baseball greats have in common—a shared history of baseball

and a belief in the American dream that anyone, regardless of birth and hardship, can achieve success, freedom and happiness.

Nuclear Families, Nuclear Towns: Los Alamos in the Cold War
Saturday, Nov. 1, 1-4 p.m., CU South Denver, Classroom 204, 10035 S. Peoria St.

In this program, Lee Chambers, professor of history, will discuss her research on Cold War weapons laboratories and the war's impact on family and community life in the "Atomic City" of Los Alamos, New Mexico.

CU-Boulder campus events

Revisiting 1864—The Civil War Just Became Much More Interesting
Saturday, Sept. 6, 9 a.m.–noon, Benson Earth Sciences Building, room 180, CU-Boulder campus

Peter Wood, adjunct professor of history, will explore the wartime election of 1864—held 150 years ago this fall. Through a new generation of research, 1864 emerges as a key year during the nation's most tumultuous decade, and the greatest confrontation of that fateful year involved ballots, not bullets.

Introduction to Your Human Microbiome
Saturday, Oct. 18, 1-4 p.m., Jennie Smoly Caruthers Biotechnology Building, Butcher Auditorium, CU-Boulder campus

Rob Knight, professor of chemistry and co-founder of the American Gut Project, will discuss techniques scientists are using to find out about microbes within the human body, including the gut, and the ways that microbes contribute to disease.

Stories Behind the Musical Masterpiece
Saturday, Nov. 15, 1-3 p.m., Benson Earth Sciences Building, room 180, CU-Boulder campus

Jeremy Smith, associate professor of musicology, will explain how composers over the centuries—from Byrd to Bach to Beethoven—have told their stories through their music, often with powerful results.

Doors open 30 minutes before each CU on the Weekend program, and seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

CU on the Weekend is administered by the CU-Boulder Office for Outreach and Engagement with support from the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the Provost and Division of Continuing Education. For more information or to sign up for an emailed event reminder visit http://conted.colorado.edu/programs/cu-on-the-weekend/[42]. For questions contact weekend@colorado.edu[43] or 303-492-4561.

Lightner named Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs[44]

[45]
Michael Lightner, Ph.D., has joined the CU President's Office as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs.

In his new role, he will work with Vice President for Academic Affairs **Kathleen Bollard**[46]**.** At CU-Boulder, he currently is a professor of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering. He has served as director of the ECEE graduate program, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and just completed eight years as ECEE department chair. He helped found the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities and served as its associate executive director. Lightner also served on the Boulder Faculty Assembly and the Boulder campus planning commission. He helped move the Boulder campus to partner with Coursera and was faculty liaison with Coursera. He served on the president's committee on technology enhanced learning. He also has served on and chaired the system privilege and tenure committee.

Professionally his work began in the area of computer-aided design of integrated circuits. Through the IEEE (Institute

of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, a 400,000 member global organization) Lightner served as technical and general chair of various international conferences, served as editor-in-chief of the Transactions on Computer-Aided Design, President of the Circuits and Systems Society, Institute VP of Technical Activities, Institute VP of Publication Products and Services, Institute VP of Educational Activities and as President of the Institute. He was made a Fellow of the IEEE for his technical contributions.

Since working with the Coleman Institute, he has concentrated on assistive technology for people with cognitive disabilities and collaborated with the CU Anschutz Medical Campus through Assistive Technology Partners and the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department of the School of Medicine. He was made a Fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineers for his work in assistive technology.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Florida and his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. Before joining CU-Boulder in 1981 he spent time as a Member of Technical at Bell Labs and an assistant professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Conley appointed vice chancellor for advancement at CU-Boulder[47]

[48]
Aaron Conley has been appointed vice chancellor for advancement at CU-Boulder effective Sept. 22. Conley currently is the vice president for development and alumni relations at the University of Texas at Dallas where he was chief strategist for the recent UT Dallas comprehensive campaign that surpassed original campaign goals and almost doubled the total endowment.

As vice chancellor for advancement, Conley will report to DiStefano and will be responsible for more than 100 staff members in major and principal gifts, athletics fundraising, alumni relations, parent programs, volunteer engagement and an operating budget of approximately $9 million.

Over the past 20 years, Conley has held positions at universities across the country. He was executive director of development and alumni relations at the University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering from 2003 to 2008, assistant dean for development at Florida State University's College of Business from 2001 to 2003, and the major gifts officer at Purdue University's School of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1999 to 2001.

"The University of Colorado Boulder is a very special place, not just to its alumni and friends, but also among our nation's top academic institutions," Conley said. "This is a critical time for higher education and I look forward to working with Chancellor DiStefano and the university's supporters to ensure CU's great tradition of excellence continues."

Conley earned a doctorate in higher education from Indiana University where he also held multiple positions on the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses from 1993 to 1999. He has a master's degree in geography from Indiana State University and a bachelor's degree in journalism and telecommunications from the University of Evansville. In addition, he attended the Institute of Educational Management at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education in 2013.

Anderson tests, shares research on HIV prevention drug[49]

[50]
Peter Anderson, a professor in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, contributed to the latest findings on the effectiveness of a HIV prevention drug.

Working in the Colorado Antiviral Pharmacology Laboratory at the CU School of Pharmacy, Anderson and his colleagues developed a way to test the effectiveness of the drug, Truvada (a combination of tenofovir/emtricitabine). It is taken once daily to prevent HIV infection.

The research findings were presented last month during the AIDS 2014 Conference. And the work also was published in Lancet Infectious Diseases on the efficacy and safety of prophylactic use of Truvada to protect against HIV infection.

The test developed at CU measures the amount of tenofovir-diphosphate (a metabolite of tenofovir) in red blood cells, using a dried blood spot. Because of a long half-life, high amounts of the metabolite in the dried blood spot correspond with consistent dosing of Truvada and low amounts correspond with inconsistent dosing.

The new test showed a continuous gradient of increasing efficacy (fewer HIV infections) with increasing drug concentrations.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) recently issued guidelines recommending the use of antiretroviral medicines as an additional method of preventing HIV infection.

Hoye joins UCCS University Advancement as marketing director[51]

[52]
Greg Hoye, previously executive director of communication and marketing at College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University, St. Cloud, Minnesota, and an independent marketing consultant, was selected as director of university marketing at UCCS following a national search. He will begin Sept. 15.

As marketing director, Hoye will chair the university's integrated marketing committee, work closely with the Division of Student Success and Enrollment Management, and with other university departments to develop marketing initiatives.

Before working as an independent marketing consultant, Hoye served as the chief communications marketing officer for College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University. In that role, he developed and implemented integrated marketing plans for the private liberal arts colleges in St. Joseph and Collegeville, Minnesota. They are separate institutions that share a single academic program. Earlier, he worked as director of public information for Saint John's University, as publications director for College of Saint Benedict, and as director of communications and marketing for United Way chapters in Orange County, California, and central Minnesota.

"I am extremely pleased and honored to be joining the UCCS community," Hoye said. "With the director of university-wide marketing position, the university has made a strong statement about the importance of consistent, strategic branding and marketing. I look forward to working with the many talented and committed marketing professionals at UCCS to take the university to the next level in its marketing strategies."

Hoye earned a bachelor's degree from Saint Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minnesota, and is a graduate of the St. Cloud-area Chamber of Commerce leadership program. He is active in many community and professional organizations including the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, the International Association of Business Communicators and the American Marketing Association.

Kennedy named Pew Scholar in Biomedical Sciences[53]

[54]
Matthew J. Kennedy, assistant professor of pharmacology in the School of Medicine, was named a Pew Scholar in Biomedical Sciences. He is one of 22 early career researchers to receive the honor this year from The Pew Charitable

Trusts.

The scholars receive flexible funding to investigate some of the world's most pressing problems.

Kennedy's lab is investigating the molecular events that "strengthen" the connections between neurons during learning and memory. Strengthening neural connections is thought to involve the recruitment of molecules that enhance neural activity, including proteins that recognize and react to incoming neural signals.

He is combining techniques in cell and molecular biology with a novel approach he designed to control the movement of specific proteins in selected nerve cells to address whether recruitment of a particular protein to the site of signaling between activated nerve cells actually does promote learning and examine which cells are involved in memory storage.

Kennedy joins a community of more than 500 Pew scholars whose ranks include multiple recipients of Nobel Prizes, Lasker Awards and MacArthur Fellowships. The scholars are selected based on proven creativity by a national advisory committee composed of eminent scientists.

Dropping names ...[55]

A Brighter Future: Improving the Standard of Living Now and for the Next Generation

"A Brighter Future: Improving the Standard of Living Now and for the Next Generation," edited by **Richard Holt**, professor, Department of Economics, Southern Oregon University, and **Daphne Greenwood**, professor, Department of Economics, at UCCS, recently was published by M.E. Sharpe, an Armonk, N.Y., publisher of books and journals in the social sciences and humanities. The 288-page book explores causes of a faltering standard of living in the United States since the early 1980s and what can be done to restore it. The text was created following a 2011 conference at UCCS sponsored by the Colorado Center for Policy Studies with the help of the Elizabeth Cushman Public Policy Fund and the Economics Club. The conference brought together well-known U.S. economists to discuss different aspects of how to improve the standard of living and make it sustainable into the future. … ?**Venu Akuthota**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the CU School of Medicine, is one of the authors of an article in the July 3 issue of "The New England Journal of Medicine" that reviewed the effectiveness and safety of treating lumbar spinal stenosis with epidural injections. The study was also reported in The New York Times, which featured a photo and comments from Bonnie Merenstein, a participant in the study and wife of a former colleague, pediatrician Gerald Merenstein, who died in 2007. … **Barbara Weis**, a lecturer at the College of Nursing at CU Denver, is serving as the guest editor for "Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease." She also has published an article titled "CKD and the Interdisciplinary Team: The Logic Behind the Trend" in the journal's July 2014 issue.

ELP Award nominations now being accepted[57]

[58]
The Excellence in Leadership Program (ELP) is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Excellence in Leadership Award.

ELP is a university-sponsored leadership program that seeks to develop high potential individuals as effective leaders. Since 2000, the program has been supported by the Office of the President and has graduated 449 university faculty and staff.

The award recognizes an ELP alumnus who has shown exemplary leadership at the university in one or more areas: Leadership of organizations, departments, or teams Leadership of projects, programs, and/or research Fiscal

management and/or fund raising Student instruction
Who is eligible?

ELP graduates who are currently working at the University of Colorado. View the ELP Alumni list: https://www.cu.edu/sites/default/files/ELPAlumni_web_0.pdf[59]

Deadline – 5 p.m. Sept. 26

How and where to submit?
Complete the nomination form and submit to Erin Russell at: erin.russell@cu.edu[60] View the form at: http://www.cu.edu/employee-services/leadership/elp/alumni[61]
The recipient of the award and the nominator will be recognized at the Excellence in Leadership Luncheon and Lecture on Nov. 14 at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver.

Questions?

Contact erin.russell@cu.edu[60]

Sutherland seminars focus on bipolar disorders[62]

The Sutherland Seminar Series of weekly sessions on topics related to bipolar disorders will begin Monday at CU-Boulder.

The series is primarily designed for adults with a bipolar disorder and their family and friends, but is open to anyone in the community who wants to better understand the disorder and how to manage it.

Each session stands alone, so people may attend only one session or all eight. No commitment or pre-registration is required. The next series begins Monday with a 6-7:30 p.m. session.

Most seminars are in Room E214, Muenzinger Psychology Building; Monday's seminar is in Room D430 Muenzinger.

A $10 per person donation is appreciated, but no fee is required.

Click here[63] for more details and the full schedule of topics.

Funding for the Sutherland Center at CU is provided through an annual grant from the Sutherland Foundation, through in-kind contributions from the University of Colorado, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, and from generous grants from the University of Colorado's Outreach Committee. This partnership sustains the Center's work.

Supplier Showcases continue this week[64]

[65]
The Procurement Service Center (PSC) is hosting the ninth annual Supplier Showcases, your opportunity to discover potential new suppliers and connect personally with current suppliers. All CU faculty and staff are invited to attend this systemwide series, which began this week in Boulder. The next event is Sept. 11 at UCCS.

First-time exhibitors include Instrument Rental & Calibration, Einstein Bros Catering, Halo Branded Solutions,

Macherey-Nagel, Levy Restaurants, Midland Scientific, and Staybridge Suites Air Force Academy.

The showcases present a venue to see new technology and gather free samples of new products. PSC staff will be available to answer questions about fiscal procedures, travel rules, Marketplace and Concur. Stop in to visit with staff from the Controller's Offices, Policy and Efficiency, Internal Audit, Risk Management, Sustainability, FinPro Help Desk, and the PeopleSoft Upgrade Project.

Showcase sponsors Staples, Dell, the Parking Spot, and Xerox will be featured at each event. Representatives from Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) and Christopherson Business Travel also will be in attendance.

The remaining schedule:

UCCS: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 11 at University Center, Berger Hall

CU Denver l Anschutz Medical Campus: 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sept. 17 at Research Center 2, second floor Trivisible Room, CU Anschutz Medical Campus

Register now to join the more than 1,200 CU employees who are expected to participate. Registration details and a list of exhibitors is available here: https://www.cu.edu/psc/2014-psc-supplier-showcases[66]

Questions: Contact Penny Davis, penny.davis@cu.edu[67], 303-764-3445

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-financial-figures-have-award-winning-showcase[2] https://content.cu.edu/controller/annualreport/illustratedguide/[3] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/mini-med-school-goes-global-%E2%80%93-and-free[4] https://connections.cu.edu/file/minimed01png[5] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/community/MiniMed/Pages/default.aspx[6] https://www.canvas.net/courses/mini-medical-school[7] https://www.cusys.edu/forcolorado/feature_mini-med.html#.VAX_xNfOvpw[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/commitment-service-%E2%80%93-home-and-abroad-%E2%80%93-earns-chase-faculty-community-service-award-cu-doctor[9] https://connections.cu.edu/file/zeitler-chasepng[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/faculty-see-positives-challenges-identified-social-climate-survey[11] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Feedback.png[12] mailto:facultycouncil@cu.edu[13] mailto:connections@cu.edu[14] https://connections.cu.edu/contact-us[15] https://www.cu.edu/faculty-council[16] https://connections.cu.edu/news/social-climate-survey-shows-many-positives-some-room-for-improvement[17] https://www.cu.edu/regents[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cap-program-offers-planning-design-towns-need[19] https://connections.cu.edu/file/captoppng[20] http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/denver/Pages/DenverCampus.aspx[21] http://www.ucdenver.edu/Academics/Colleges/ArchitecturePlanning/Pages/default.aspx[22] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/architectureplanning/aboutcap/researchcenters/cccd/projects/university-technical-assistance/Pages/default.aspx[23] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/ArchitecturePlanning/AboutCAP/ResearchCenters/CCCD/Pages/default.aspx[24] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/ArchitecturePlanning/discover/centers/CenterPreservationResearch/people/CAPFacultyStaffStudents/Pages/ChrisKoziol.aspx[25] https://connections.cu.edu/file/capfruitapng[26] https://connections.cu.edu/file/capfruita02png[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-enrollment-surpasses-11000-students-new-record[28] https://connections.cu.edu/file/uccsenrollmentpng[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/study-some-african-american-women-hair-care-potential-barrier-exercise[30] https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzwateraapng[31] http://www.caahealth.org/[32] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/centers/WomensHealth[33] http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/[34] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/researcher-finds-income-education-disparity-reasons-choosing-not-vaccinate[35] https://connections.cu.edu/file/anschutzvaccinatefpng[36] http://www.immunizationinfo.org/science/demographics-unvaccinated-children[37] http://gas.sagepub.com/[38] http

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