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### **Letter from the Editor**

We've turned a page on the calendar and welcomed a new year. But as the Colorado General Assembly convenes today, last year's big issue remains this year's big issue: revenue shortfall. A drop in spending statewide meant a drop in tax revenue, which has led to difficult decisions for state lawmakers. Understandably, there's been a rise in concern over how those decisions eventually affect budgets at institutions such as the University of Colorado.

In today's issue, the Faculty and Staff Newsletter presents a preview of the 2010 legislative session and the issues that are most relevant to the CU community. It's just the beginning of the Newsletter's coverage of what's happening at the Capitol and the eventual impact on the ability of faculty and staff members to carry out the university's mission. Throughout the session, the Newsletter will report weekly on developments.

We understand that a proposed bill's status may look dramatically different from one moment to the next, so we'll take advantage of the immediacy of our vehicle by updating coverage as events warrant.

You're bound to have thoughts on the debates that take shape, and we invite you to use the platform the Newsletter offers. Our Letters to the Editor section is open for business, ready to host an exchange of ideas inspired by actions under the gold dome — and the ensuing ramifications within offices, labs and classrooms in Boulder, Colorado Springs and Denver.

As always, we invite your comments, so let us know what you'd like to see from the Newsletter's coverage of the state legislature. Send feedback to [newsletter@cu.edu](mailto:newsletter@cu.edu). If you have a news item you'd like to share with the CU community, please send it to [Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu](mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu).

-Jay Dedrick

# Flexibility for university a key goal at 2010 legislative session

*As state lawmakers gather, CU representatives work to protect budget*

Like the old line about the three most important things in real estate, the University of Colorado's focus during the 2010 Colorado General Assembly also is a list of three - not "location, location, location," but "budget, budget, budget."

State lawmakers today began their four-month session at the Capitol in Denver. CU's Office of Government Relations has been working with lawmaker committees in the months leading up to the legislative session, and will continue to monitor the nearly 500 bills expected to be introduced.

Tanya Kelly-Bowry, the university's vice president for state and federal government relations, said 2010 "is going to be a tough, highly politicized year at the state legislature."

"Our lobbying team is already working hard to fight for CU's interests in these challenging budget times," Kelly-Bowry said. "It's important to focus our energy this year on pursuing flexibility legislation, which will help make our business practices more effective and efficient, and open up new ways to help our students."



University of Colorado/Casey  
A. Cass

Besides monitoring specific legislation, government relations will keep tabs on the overall state budget, particularly higher education's portion.

Some of the legislation CU representatives expect to watch closely:

- **Higher education flexibility**

Spearheaded by senate majority leader John Morse (D-Colorado Springs), the state's Fiscal Stability Commission, and higher education leaders, this package is aimed at improving efficiency at the university by loosening some current state-mandated regulations. Among the bill's goals:

1. Allow higher education institutions to develop their own fiscal rules and policies, apart from some state regulations. Cutting down on bureaucracy would improve efficiency and effectiveness.
2. Remove current limits on the number of international students who may enroll in colleges. The University of Colorado at Boulder has the smallest international student population of any institution in the American Association of Universities. Without denying spots to in-state students, a greater influx of students from around the world would grow enrollment, diversify the campus experience and boost tuition revenue.
3. Allow universities to determine how they allocate student financial aid money, rather than have it driven by state formulas.
4. Establish that higher education institutions autonomously set their own information technology practices.

- **Higher education transferability**

CU has worked with other state institutions to agree on standards for transferring college credits from two-year schools to four-year schools, and between four-year schools. Kathleen Bollard, associate vice president for academic affairs, has represented the university in discussions with other educators to determine language that makes clear to students what the standards will allow. Higher education faculty

and administrators from two- and four-year institutions have been collaborating to determine transfer requirements for five degree programs by next year, with agreements on more degrees to follow in the future.

- **Nurse faculty loan forgiveness program**

The university is working with CollegeInvest, other higher education institutions, sponsors, and the governor's office to extend eligibility requirements for the existing CollegeInvest nurse loan forgiveness program. Nursing programs at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and the Anschutz Medical Campus could then promote the incentive as a recruiting tool when hiring new faculty.

- **PERA repair**

Lawmakers are expected to work on a bill to bolster the ailing retirement fund relied on largely by education employees. Changes could be made to the retirement age, employer and employee contributions and cost-of-living increases.

## **Government Relations staff at ready to help educators interact with lawmakers**

### *Office helps ensure compliance with lobbying rules*

In a year when government funding for higher education is a critical focus of lawmakers, interaction between politicians and University of Colorado educators will take on even greater significance.

Faculty and staff members who would like to invite a federal or state official to an event or tour associated with the university are asked to first notify the [Office of Government Relations](#), which will arrange to contact the official.

The office works with elected and appointed officials in the congressional, legislative and executive branches of the federal and state governments on behalf of the entire university. CU must comply with state and federal rules governing lobbying activity; government relations professionals know the rules well and will help ensure compliance.

"Working via the government relations office ensures that critical relationships with elected officials are maintained and leveraged to fulfill the budget and legislative goals of the university," said Tanya Kelly-Bowry, vice president for government relations. "With the many extraordinary events and activities happening throughout the CU community, we have a great opportunity to meet those goals together."

After undergoing a review process that involved university governance groups, an Administrative Policy Statement on state lobbying activities took effect Jan. 1. It makes explicit existing practices and state law regarding lobbying activities on behalf of the university. It does not restrict personal or private lobbying and includes exemptions for faculty members engaged in academic activities.

The university's policy on federal lobbying also underwent minor revisions to reflect recent changes in federal law.

# Nine policy changes made official

## *Office of Policy and Efficiency announces latest streamlining efforts*

The Office of Policy and Efficiency (OPE) has announced changes to nine policies in the areas of academic affairs, administrative/general, fiscal and legal. The approved actions include three policy eliminations, five policy revisions and one policy addition:

### **Academic Affairs**

1. Acceptance of first-time freshmen students who have successfully completed an international baccalaureate diploma program (revised)
2. Adopting standards for intercampus transfer of students among the three campuses (revised)
3. Conflict of interest and commitment (revised)

### **Administrative/General**

4. Regents scholarship program (eliminated)
5. IT security program (revised)

### **Fiscal**

6. Administrative service recharge (eliminated)

### **Legal**

7. Reimbursement of university costs associated with responding to public inquiries (eliminated)
8. Federal lobbying policies (revised)
9. State lobbying activities (new; see [related story](#))

The proposed changes were approved and signed by President Bruce Benson. For more information, visit the University Policy Web site at [www.cu.edu/policies](http://www.cu.edu/policies).

## **President's Teaching and Learning Collaborative names 2010 researchers**

### *Group of 17 educators represents all four campuses*

Faculty researchers from all four university campuses have been chosen to participate in the President's Teaching and Learning Collaborative (PTLC) for 2010.

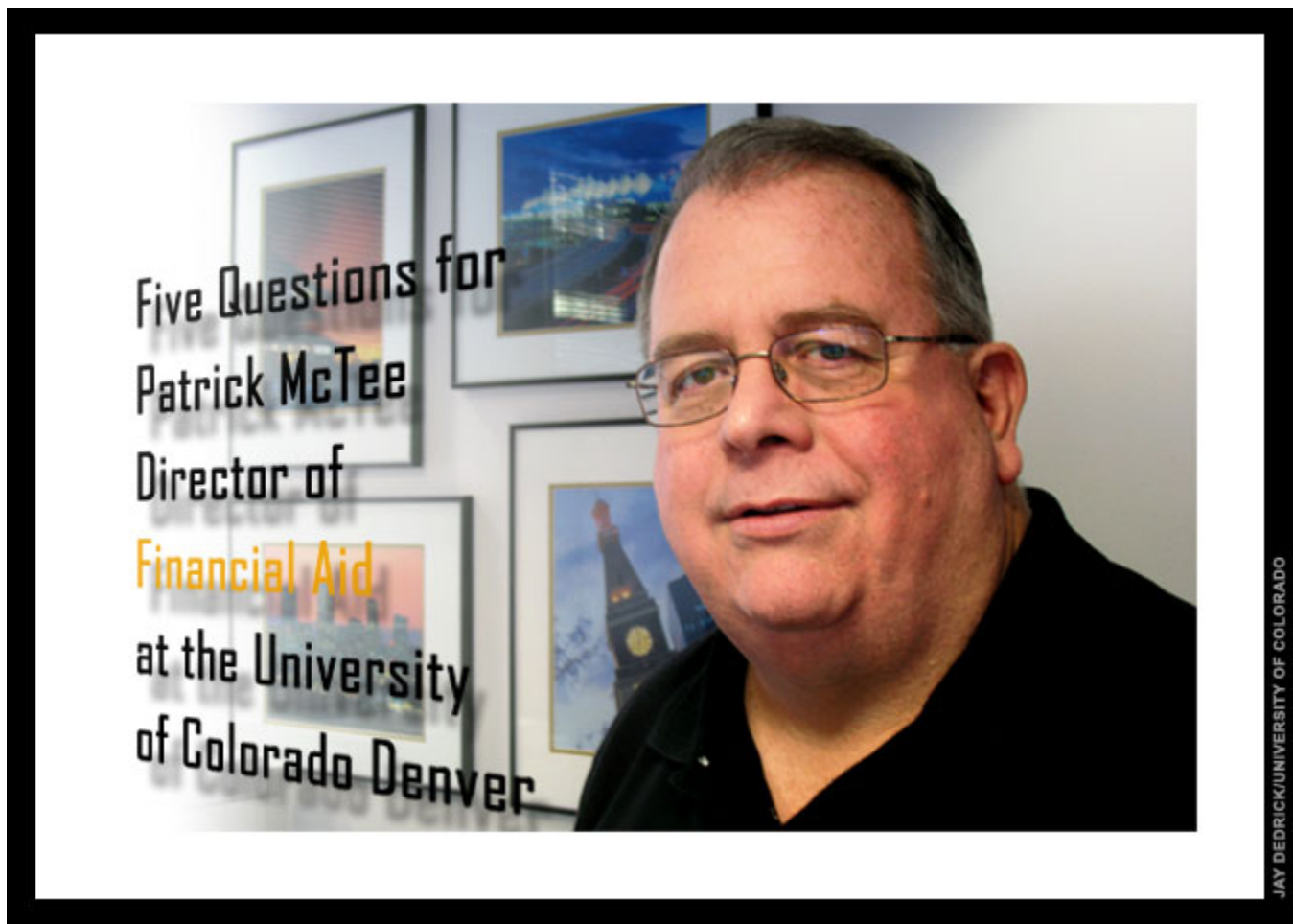
The collaborative assists faculty members in developing scholarly research projects on teaching and learning in order to contribute to scholarship and practice.

This year's group of 17 educators will work with coaches and mentors on projects that span the scope of education. Each faculty researcher designs and undertakes investigations aimed at deepening his or her understanding of and practice related to an important issue in innovative learning. At the end of their year with the PTLC, faculty researchers are expected to disseminate their findings through a peer-reviewed journal publication or conference presentation.

Participants chosen for this year's program and their project title are:

- **Meredith Banasiak**, instructor, department of architecture, University of Colorado at Boulder, "The fun factor: developing and evaluating a process for integrating research into the design studio";
- **Kristen Brown**, assistant professor, school of pharmacy, Anschutz Medical Campus, "Incorporation of a longitudinal hospital-based mentor model within the introductory pharmacy practice experience curriculum for second-year pharmacy students";
- **Jeffrey Druck**, assistant professor, division of emergency medicine, department of surgery, Anschutz, "Effectiveness of an e-mailed EKG curriculum for residency training";
- **Peter Ellingson**, senior instructor, music and entertainment industry studies, University of Colorado Denver, "Evaluating self-assessment techniques in applied and class piano";
- **Jeff Gemmell**, assistant professor, College of Music, CU-Boulder, "Students' self-perceptions of kinesthetic choral rehearsal techniques: a descriptive study";
- **Storm Gloor**, assistant professor, music and entertainment industry studies, UC Denver, "The value of online collaboration in student group learning";
- **Veronica House**, instructor, program for writing and rhetoric, CU-Boulder, "Assessing reflective assignments in first-year service-learning composition courses";
- **Jacqueline Jones**, associate professor, College of Nursing, Anschutz, "Pedagogy of doctoral coursework";
- **Anna MacBriar**, instructor, program for writing and rhetoric, CU-Boulder, "Digital profiles and agentive identities in the professional writing classroom";
- **Shelly Miller**, associate professor, department of mechanical engineering, CU-Boulder, "Following the rhythms of the classroom";
- **Mary Nelson**, instructor, department of applied mathematics, CU-Boulder, "Orals for the masses";
- **Kathryn Pieplow**, instructor, program for writing and rhetoric, CU-Boulder, "Rhetorical literacy: transferability of genre analysis strategies across disciplines and into the workplace";
- **Melinda Piket-May**, associate professor, department of electrical, computer and energy engineering, CU-Boulder, "Outside the curriculum box";
- **Peter Schneider**, professor, department of architecture and division of environmental design, CU-Boulder, "The work of remembering: enhancing learning in a design curriculum through the use of reflective biographical narratives";
- **Curtis Smith**, instructor, department of visual and performing Arts, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, "Computer music and creativity";
- **Laura Summers**, assistant professor, School of Education and Human Development, UC Denver, "A portrait of a professor's investigation of students' perceptions of success within an online course"; and
- **David Weiss**, associate professor, department of chemistry, UCCS, "Investigation of cooperative group learning in general chemistry at UCCS."

Since its inception in 2006, the collaborative has assisted 70 faculty researchers. The program is modeling on and sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning.



Patrick McTee loves to give away money. It's not that he's independently wealthy — he passes cash from other entities to worthy students at the University of Colorado Denver.

McTee has been the director of financial aid at UC Denver for just over four years. Before coming to Colorado, he was director of financial aid at the University of Missouri and the University of Nebraska. He is a Cornhusker alum, something he says he probably shouldn't admit, but is proud to have adopted Colorado as home.

During the 2008-09 year, 12,500 students at UC Denver received more than \$186 million in financial aid that included grants, loans, scholarships and work-study. Those figures show a 17 percent increase in recipients, who come from all walks of life, and a 27 percent increase in money since the 2006-07 academic year.

**1. Has the current economic crisis placed additional pressure on you or your staff?**

Yes. We were already feeling pressure from the increase in recipients. But in addition, we've seen a 17 percent increase in the number of financial aid applications this year compared to last. We won't have actual recipient totals until the end of the school year, but we anticipate a significant increase in both recipients and dollars.

**2. Is there a bright side to the recession, for instance, are students using scholarships more? Where does most of the financial aid come from and is all of the money awarded every year?**

We don't have statistics on scholarship applications since that's a very decentralized process at UC Denver. However, the amount of funds available from endowed scholarships has dropped slightly due to the economy. I

think the only bright side is that more people are furthering their education as a result of unemployment. The community colleges have seen huge enrollment increases and we also have seen moderate increases.

The vast majority of funding comes from the federal government, with lesser amounts from state, institutional and private sources. Federal aid has increased a great deal lately, but the majority of it is in the form of loans. State and institutional aid has also increased but to a lesser degree. They provide primarily grant funds, however, so that's important for our lowest-income students. All sources of gift aid are awarded each year and there are many students who are eligible but not able to be funded. Those who aren't funded are then faced with the prospect of having to take higher amounts of loan assistance to pay for school.

### **3. What do you do away from your job?**

I'd have to say that my No. 1 guilty pleasure is to travel. I love to get away, whether it be for a long weekend or a bigger adventure. I'm fortunate enough to have friends in many areas of the U.S. so that makes for great weekend trips. I do like any trip that involves beach time. That's my version of a relaxing vacation. However, I also enjoy visiting new cities and countries just as much. The one place that is on the top of my "must visit" list is Machu Picchu. It's always intrigued me and someday I hope to explore it.

### **4. Do you interact with students who are applying or who have received loans?**

My favorite anecdote about a student is one that happened at a previous institution. I had just started working there and was walking by the front counter and saw a student waiting. I asked if I could help him and he requested to see the previous director (who was no longer at the institution). When I explained that to him, he proceeded to ask, "Well then, just who is the head toad around here now?" Biting my tongue, I told him it was me and proceeded to take care of his questions. Unfortunately, several coworkers had overheard the conversation, and from there on out, I was cheerfully considered not to be the director, but the head toad.

### **5. What do you like most/least about your profession?**

My job is to help make dreams come true. I borrowed that slogan from a student loan corporation, but I believe it clearly states what financial aid professionals and other staff in educational institutions do. Of course there are the other parts of the job, like compliance with federal and state regulations, equitably distributing scarce financial aid funds, balancing accounts and the like. But I'm fortunate enough to have an excellent staff to help with all of that. (I wish I would) never have to say "no" to a qualified student. It's really unfortunate that there aren't enough grant and scholarship funds available to enable us to keep student borrowing to a minimum for all students.

*Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail [Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu](mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu)*



# People

## Wasserman leads fundraising for UC Denver



Wasserman

**Matthew Wasserman** has begun leading fundraising efforts for the University of Colorado Denver's downtown campus. As a senior director of development for the CU Foundation, Wasserman heads up an effort that in 2008-09 raised \$4.8 million for the campus' eight schools and colleges serving a student population of 11,000.

For the past two years, Wasserman has been in charge of fundraising for the UC Denver Business School, which received gifts amounting to \$3 million, nearly triple its average annual amount. He has played an integral role in the campaign to create a new home for the school at 1475 Lawrence Court. He also has initiated a campaign fundraising model that mobilizes effective volunteer networks and is now being implemented at other schools on the downtown campus.

"Thanks to Matt's diligence and ingenuity, our campaign is ideally positioned for continued growth and success, as we prepare the school to take a substantial step forward," said Sueann Ambron, dean of the Business School.

Before arriving at the CU Foundation in December 2007, Wasserman worked in numerous fundraising and management capacities in nonprofit and political arenas, including as co-owner and president for the Denver Development Group, which raised money for clients such as the Children's Museum of Denver, the Denver Art Museum and Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper's re-election campaign.

Founded in 1967, the nonprofit CU Foundation partners with the University of Colorado to raise, manage and invest private support for the university's benefit. Visit [www.cufund.org](http://www.cufund.org) for more information.

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## Career of 35 years comes to a close



Watson

After 35 years working for the university, **Kris Watson** is looking forward to spending a little more time traveling and concentrating on her hobbies.

Watson, manager for recruitment and selection for classified staff at the University of Colorado at Boulder, is retiring. A send-off party is planned for Friday, Jan. 15.

Watson is a third-generation Boulder native who graduated from Boulder High School and CU-Boulder with a bachelor's degree. She earned her master's degree in public administration from UC Denver in 1995. She worked at the Institute for Behavioral Genetics as a researcher from 1974 to 1995; a year later, she began working for the Department of Human Resources.

An avid traveler, she's planning more trips, including one to Egypt. Her other loves are horses (she is a dressage competitor) and needlework, including knitting, crochet and embroidery.

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## School of Pharmacy researcher named fellow



Photo courtesy of Tom Cherrey/Cherrey Visual Solutions

Kompella

**Uday Kompella, Ph.D.**, was elected as a fellow of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO). A professor at the University of Colorado Denver's School of Pharmacy, he will be awarded fellow status this year.

Kompella is researching and developing technology that will enable the delivery of medicine to the back of the eye with the convenience of an eye drop. It will have implications for many eye disorders, including age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.

ARVO is an international organization that attracts leading experts in ophthalmic research. The group encourages and helps with research, training, publication and dissemination of knowledge in vision and ophthalmology.

"All my research work related to the eye is typically presented first at the ARVO annual meetings, and input from ARVO members over the years has been extremely helpful in shaping my research and career," Kompella said. "I am delighted that I have been selected to receive the ARVO fellow designation."

Kompella and 251 others will be honored at the 2010 annual meeting of ARVO in May in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

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## College of Nursing professor, associate dean earns high honor



Sousa

**Karen H. Sousa, R.N., Ph.D.**, professor and associate dean for research and extramural affairs at the University of Colorado College of Nursing, recently was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing as a 2009 fellow, one of nursing's highest honors.

Sousa was nominated for the honor by two current academy fellows and was selected by a 15-member committee for outstanding achievements in nursing.

She was recognized for contributions exploring health-related quality of life using methodology to analyze nursing-patient relationships. Her work "provides an avenue for exploring the processes of care and validating the importance of nursing (and provides a) means for verifying the impact nurses make on the lives of patients," said Patricia Moritz, dean of the College of Nursing.

As a scholar, Sousa has been supported through a number of mechanisms including the National Institutes of Health and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

*Want to suggest a colleague — or yourself — for People? Please e-mail information to [Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu](mailto:Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu)*

## Letters to the editor

### Legislative coverage is welcome

I was so glad to read that you will be covering the Capitol this legislative session (Jan. 6 issue). I and many of my colleagues are very interested in knowing about the PERA bill and the changes that will be happening to our retirement plan as well as all of higher education.

One of our main concerns regarding the demise of the Silver and Gold Record was that we weren't going to have anyone covering legislation that concerns us — state classified employees.

I am the chair of the legislative committee for the University of Colorado Denver's Staff Council. I also sit on the legislative committee for Statewide Liaison Council, a group represented by the majority of higher education institutions in the state. We look forward to any information you can obtain for us during this legislative session.

***Mary K. Ulibarri***

Auraria Library, University of Colorado Denver

### **Why so few letters?**

I'm wondering why there are so few letters (many weeks: none) to the editor in the Newsletter. Compared to the Silver and Gold Record, there are very few.

I'd be curious to hear from readers as to why they think there are fewer letters, though perhaps there's been a drop in readership, which would explain it (while raising other questions).

***David Hildebrand, Ph.D.***

University of Colorado Denver, department of philosophy

**[Forum Archive](#)**

### **Letter Submission Guidelines**

The *Faculty and Staff Newsletter* welcomes letter submissions from current or retired University of Colorado faculty and staff about issues of interest to the university community. Submissions may be edited for length, style and clarity. Anonymous submissions will be neither considered nor published. Please send submissions to [newsletter@cu.edu](mailto:newsletter@cu.edu).

Please indicate whether or not you would like to see your comment published in the newsletter as a letter to the editor. Thank you.

# News from the CU system - CU-Boulder

## University ranks fifth on 'best value' list of public colleges

The University of Colorado at Boulder is the nation's No. 5 "best value" public college or university for 2010 according to rankings released Tuesday, Jan. 12, by USA Today and The Princeton Review.

CU-Boulder's "reasonable tuition is one of the school's major selling points," stated the CU profile posted on [USA Today's Web site](#). "Tuition (including mandatory fees) for Colorado residents ranges from roughly \$8,000 to \$12,000 annually, depending on the academic program. For nonresidents, tuition ranges from \$28,000 to \$31,500. Room and board is an additional \$10,000 annually. Aside from these expenses, the school estimates that a student will spend about \$2,000 in books and supplies."

The rankings featuring 100 schools — 50 public and 50 private — are posted on the Web sites of USA Today and [The Princeton Review](#). The top 10 schools in the public and private categories are ranked and the remaining 40 schools are listed in alphabetical order.

The rankings were based on surveys of administrators and students at more than 650 public and private colleges and universities. The selection criteria covered more than 30 factors in three areas: academics, costs of attendance and financial aid, using the most recently reported data from each institution for the 2008-09 academic year.

"It is gratifying to have a national publication recognize what Colorado students have known for a long time: CU-Boulder is an amazing value," said CU-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano. "We are committed to providing an outstanding and affordable education for Colorado students and, indeed, for students around the nation and the world."

USA Today's site features a database that allows users to view in-depth details about the schools by clicking on an interactive map to explore criteria including cost of attendance and financial aid data, enrollment size, location and The Princeton Review's analysis of why each school was chosen as a "best value" college.

## UCCS

### Homeland Security certificate programs begin next week

The Center for Homeland Security, part of the [National Institute of Science, Space and Security Centers](#) at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, will offer two new certificates in security intelligence and disaster public health beginning Tuesday, Jan. 19.

The School of Public Affairs offers a graduate certificate in security intelligence in conjunction with the center. Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences offers the undergraduate and graduate certificate in disaster public health also in conjunction with the center.

"An academic certificate from UCCS can be a powerful discriminator setting you above the competition when it comes time to land that next job or promotion," said Mike Perini, executive director of the institute.

The certificate programs are taught online and in-residence by experienced and leading professionals.

"For example, UCCS employs subject matter experts from NORTHCOM's Surgeon General's office and Intelligence Directorate as instructors," said Tina Markowski, the center's operations and academic programs

manager.

"These experts offer insight into and study of the intricacies of disaster health management for first responders, military personnel, community volunteers or anyone interested in the roles associated with managing public health issues during a disaster," she said.

The new certificate in security intelligence helps people prepare for a career.

"This is a unique opportunity to acquire the education for a specific path toward a professional career in the field of intelligence and homeland security," Markowski said.

Added Perini, "These certificates build on the momentum of the exciting new efforts happening within (the institute) to provide educational services in partnership with academic units. This new educational service will position (the institute) for future growth and demonstrate our commitment to meet the needs of our military and private sector partners."

## UC Denver

### **Research applies math model to better predict spread of epidemic diseases**

The lurking threat of a major epidemic over the last decade has captured the attention of the international media and the public, with fears running rampant about the avian flu spreading to humans or H1N1 flu mutating at such a rate that it couldn't be controlled.

Researchers at the University of Colorado Denver have received an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant to harness an opportunity created by recent mathematical advances that can systematically track the spread of wildfires, weather systems and climate patterns. The UC Denver researchers plan to adapt these new tracking techniques to the movements of epidemic diseases.

"When looking at the current climate changes combined with the exponential growth of the human population, long distance travel made easier than ever, and a multitude of other factors, humanity is at the brink of the emergence of new and possibly devastating infectious epidemic diseases, as well as the possible re-emergence of resistant strains of older diseases," said Loren Cobb, Ph.D., research associate professor in the department of mathematical and statistical sciences at UC Denver and principal investigator on the study. "A reliable mathematical system could dramatically improve our ability to track epidemics and to predict their short-term spatial movements—which would have a huge potential impact on public health."

Monitoring and suppressing small outbreaks so that they do not become a global emergency has become the daily routine of public health systems in many parts of the world. Cobb and colleagues say the objective of the UC Denver project is to develop a spatial epidemic simulation system, capable of incorporating and adapting real-time data such as incidence, prevalence, and mortality reports from locations around the world, while the model is running. The technology and advanced theory for this spatial data assimilation have only recently been developed in the fields of climate science, meteorology, and wildfire studies, where it has had a major impact.

"This is exciting new technology and we anticipate it can create a dramatic improvement in the ability to forecast epidemics, having a beneficial impact on public health by enabling more effective policies and the concentration of resources to save lives," Cobb said. "Given the global nature of pandemic disease and the dangers in failing to control a lethal outbreak, it would not be an exaggeration to suggest that the size of the community impacted by the benefits of this type of technology could be the world's entire population."

This study project will incorporate mass population movements that may occur as a result of a hypothetical epidemic, using a mathematical model that can update itself in real time, significantly improving predictions of the geographical spread of the disease. The new capability could make it possible for public health authorities to concentrate their efforts where they matter most, and for the government to adopt effective policies anticipating the response of the population.

The computerized tracking system will be validated against historical as well as artificial test data streams. The project will culminate with an operational exercise to be performed with the Office of Emergency Preparedness in the state of Colorado's department of public health and environment, along with the Colorado School of Public Health at UC Denver. This exercise will test the ability of the modeling system to provide decision makers with timely and useful spatial information on a dynamic digital map.

"This effort will ultimately be judged successful if public health departments come to rely upon spatial simulations to give them information on the likely progress of fast-moving epidemic outbreaks," Cobb said.

The two-year, \$710,000 study will be supervised by the National Library of Medicine. Cobb and colleagues expect to demonstrate the results of their research early this year.

## **Anschutz Medical Campus**

### **State-of-the-art imaging offers enhanced treatment for arrhythmia**

The University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) is the first hospital in the state where patients may benefit from a new advanced imaging technology used in treating cardiac arrhythmias, commonly known as irregular heart rhythms.

"Cardiac electrophysiology is a field that has made tremendous technological advances and has allowed us to effectively cure cardiac arrhythmias that were untreatable five or 10 years ago," said William Sauer, M.D., director of cardiac electrophysiology at UCH. "The technological advances include the improved imaging and mapping technologies we are using today."

The new three-dimensional imaging system, called the CARTO 3 Navigation System, allows UCH physicians to quickly and accurately visualize cardiac anatomy. The system will be especially useful in the treatment of atrial fibrillation, or afib, the most common type of irregular heart rhythm in the U.S.

UCH performs more complex arrhythmia ablation procedures than any other hospital in the region and this new technology will be beneficial to patients who undergo the procedure. The ablation procedure finds and eliminates areas of faulty electrical flow in the heart that disturb normal heart rhythms.

Physicians have used the new imaging system for ablation of ventricular fibrillation and atrial fibrillation procedures.

"This advance in technology gives UCH another weapon in our arsenal for treating the most complex cardiac cases including ventricular arrhythmias which can lead to sudden cardiac death, and atrial fibrillation," Sauer said.

# CU Foundation

## Alumna makes a classics gift

Amid CU-Boulder's storied progress in leading-edge fields such as biotech and energy, the university's classics department (incorporating the study of ancient Greek and Latin, history and archaeology) garners fewer headlines — and fewer of the research grants and private gifts that could help the department thrive.

Yet while Mary McClanahan ('67, '69 AS) has had a successful 30-year career in managing computer services in support of scientific research, she credits her humanities education at CU-Boulder, where she earned a bachelor's degree in classical languages and a master's in Latin, for her career success.

"The classics are the very basis and foundation of our civilization, of how we think about things," she said.

To ensure the study of classics at CU-Boulder will endure and thrive, McClanahan has made a substantial estate commitment to establish the Mary McClanahan Endowed Fund in Classics. This fund will support graduate fellowships and faculty resources within the department; precise allocation will be at the department chair's discretion.

Though the exact amount will not be certain until the planned bequest is realized, this transformative gift could, for example, allow the department to offer a year of fellowship support to its top doctoral applicant each year, in perpetuity.



Mary McClanahan ('67, '69 AS)

"We are thrilled by Mary's gift, which will have a huge impact on our ability both to attract the best graduate students and to train them well," said Peter Hunt, chair of the classics department.

McClanahan has studied Latin, Greek, Sanskrit and German, but spent much of her career working in other sorts of languages, the computer languages FORTRAN and COMPASS.

"Languages are languages are languages," she said about connections between her education and her work for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, where she was manager in charge of systems programming. "When you're writing computer programs, you're just writing in another language."

But McClanahan says she would not have been able to afford her CU-Boulder education without scholarships; she worked full-time during vacations and part-time during semesters. "Education is the most important thing there is."

## Tech Transfer

### AmideBio licenses technology from CU

The University of Colorado and [AmideBio LLC](#) have executed an exclusive license agreement allowing the company to develop, manufacture and commercialize peptides based on the work of Michael Stowell, Ph.D., an associate professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

The CU technology is a method for manufacturing recombinant proteins and peptides (molecules similar to

proteins but smaller). These types of molecules are often key for treating diseases that cannot be addressed using conventional chemical therapeutics, but the field has historically been limited by challenges such as economical manufacturing and delivery.

CU's technology circumvents these problems, particularly those associated with longer and more complex proteins, by leveraging a proprietary recombinant strategy that is economically viable and environmentally sustainable.

"We are pleased to be able to commercialize this technology developed at the University of Colorado, with which I have had an extensive and robust association," said Misha Plam, AmideBio president and CEO. "This advance in peptide manufacturing provides AmideBio with a real advantage in the market, by providing historically difficult-to-produce peptides, without compromising quality, yield or economics."

Tom Smerdon, director of licensing and new business development at the CU Technology Transfer Office, said, "We are pleased to see the launch of this new life science venture based on technology developed in Dr. Stowell's lab. We believe this technology has strong commercial potential, and AmideBio has the business leadership necessary to make it a commercial reality."

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1800 Grant St., Suite 800  
Denver, CO 80203

E-mail: [newsletter@cu.edu](mailto:newsletter@cu.edu)  
Web Site: [www.cu.edu/newsletter](http://www.cu.edu/newsletter)

General Phone: 303-860-5707