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Letter from the Editor

BREAK THE ICE: Take part in conversation within the CU community by writing a letter to the editor. The *Faculty and Staff Newsletter* invites you to submit thoughts on topics of interest to current and retired CU faculty and staff. Please send submissions to newsletter@cu.edu. If you have a news item or story idea you'd like to suggest, please send it to Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu.

— Jay Dedrick

Dozens of CU graduate programs earn national ranking

Statistics, experts shape annual survey from U.S. News & World Report

Graduate programs across the University of Colorado system continue to earn national prominence based on the latest annual rankings from *U.S. News & World Report*. Schools and programs at the four CU campuses notch 37 mentions in the 2012 edition of [Best Graduate Schools](#) (U.S. News Media Group), including nine ranked in the top 10 in their fields.



CU's 2012 rankings are:

University of Colorado Boulder

- **No. 1:** CU-Boulder takes top honors for the atomic/molecular/optical physics program, tied with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- **Top 10:** Other CU-Boulder programs ranking in the top 10 nationally are environmental sciences (fifth), quantum physics (fifth), environmental law (fifth) and physical chemistry (eighth).
- Some 19 other CU-Boulder schools and programs land on the national rankings within their fields: aerospace/aeronautical/astronautical engineering (17), chemical engineering (19), physics (19), psychology (19), civil engineering (22), earth sciences (23), environmental/environmental health engineering (23), speech-language pathology (25), chemistry (26), biological sciences (30), audiology (33), electrical/electronic/communications engineering (35), mechanical engineering (35), Leeds School of Business (36 for part-time MBA schools; 69 overall), School of Engineering (36), computer engineering (36), computer science (39), School of Education (43) and School of Law (47).

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

- **Top Five:** The School of Medicine ranks fourth nationally for primary care, with the specialties of family medicine (fourth) and pediatrics (fifth). Within the College of Nursing (ranked 15th), the pediatric nurse practitioner program ranks fifth.
- The School of Medicine ranks 38th overall for research. The physician assistant program ranks at 11; biological sciences at 68.

University of Colorado Denver

- The School of Public Affairs, with programs at CU Denver and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, is listed at 32 nationally.
- CU Denver also notches recognition for its part-time MBA program (93) and School of Education (104).

University of Colorado Colorado Springs

- Besides sharing the School of Public Affairs honor with CU Denver, the part-time MBA program at UCCS lands at 121 nationally.

The 2012 Best Graduate Schools includes essential, detailed statistical information on more than 1,200 programs nationwide. In addition to featuring new rankings in five of the largest professional graduate school disciplines ([business](#), [law](#), [education](#), [engineering](#), and [medicine](#)), the 2012 rankings also include updated peer-assessment-only rankings for health-care management, nursing, nursing-anesthesia, nursing-midwifery, physician assistant, public health, rehabilitation counseling, and veterinary medicine.

Highlights of the rankings will be published in the Best Graduate Schools 2012 edition book, available

April 5, 2011.

Rankings are based on two types of data: expert opinions about program quality, and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school's faculty, research and students. These data come from surveys of more than 1,200 programs and some 12,400 academics and professionals. The publication aims to provide a tool to students and parents who are comparing college programs at accredited public and private universities in the United States.

Five questions for Clark Thenhaus

Exhibitions coordinator, College of Architecture and Planning, CU Denver

Clark Thenhaus discovered architecture and design in the fourth grade; his interest never waned. After earning his graduate degree on the East Coast, he moved west to work for an architectural firm in Los Angeles. While there, he was introduced to teaching.

In August 2010, he began teaching landscape and architectural design at the University of Colorado Denver while still maintaining his position in L.A. as a designer and project manager. He currently teaches the Advanced Design Studio and digital applications seminar and serves as the spring 2011 exhibitions coordinator for the College of Architecture and Planning.

Thenhaus has changed his focus for now, moving away from the world of bricks and mortar into an area where forward-thinking possibilities are realized through technology.

His designs, he says, serve as models of investigation for numerous issues. His newer work showcases "surface geometry and spatial affects (color, texture, light and geometry/form) that are beyond the mere satisfying of the program/function but approach new considerations of architecture and its role with regard to people and/or place."



Clark Thenhaus

— Cynthia Pasquale

1. You recently received a special mention award in the [d3 Housing Tomorrow 2011](#) international architectural design competition for the Farm House, a design for farm workers. Can you tell me about this design?

The design for the Farm House is considered extra-urban, a realm of housing often left unaddressed. The project was developed in response to a call for novel ways of considering the future of housing. The Farm House approached housing in a hypothetical manner as having potential to ease ground and surface water withdrawals for agricultural irrigation. This project proposes a small-scale home capitalizing on hydrological cycles – harvesting rain water for the purposes of irrigation – while providing seasonal housing for legal farm laborers, who often live in less adequate housing.

Water has become a critical concern, especially in the areas of industrial production and agricultural irrigation, the two largest consumers of fresh water. The Farm House addresses these water issues through collection, storage and distribution of rain water to irrigation infrastructures using the building's exterior skin. The 800-square-foot Farm House, formed around a center point, creates five distinct interior zones for sleeping, hygiene, cooking and closet/storage spaces with a centralized living space. The capacity of the house to perform like a cactus in biology or a canteen in technology enables the home to become an integral component in the operations of food productivity, easing withdrawals on river systems and aquifers.

I designed the skin, composed of rubber "canteens," as an assembly of elastic membranes. The elasticity allows the skin to collect, store and distribute rain water. This has much to do with my interests in the interactions between architecture and its context. The skin indexes the hydrological cycles through the swelling and contraction of the elastic skin as it fills with, and releases, water. This allows for tracking the environment through the dynamism of the building form and texture. As the canteens fill with water diverted from the roof catchment, the skin stretches, revealing an underlying hexagonal patterning.

The change in form – from thin to thick – provides a visual measure of hydration conditions. One canteen skin can hold up to 17,000 gallons of water, making for a total capacity of 34,000 gallons between the two canteen skins. Using an annual average of rainfall in the Midwestern United States of 36 inches, the canteens could fill numerous (approximately 20) times per year to full capacity, establishing an indexical relationship with its environment and agrarian production.

2. Have you always developed designs that are meant to integrate with the natural surroundings? Why is this important to you? What other goals do you want your designs to achieve?

I have been interested in the integration of architecture with the context since graduate school. Using such strategies allows architecture to become less object-oriented and more comprehensive, allowing for new models and processes of performance and spatial affects.

For instance, in the Urban Garden, landscape and architecture are nearly camouflaged as a comprehensive landscape building. Other times, integration might simply mean considering atmospheric qualities such as light or color. The Star Garden project converts abandoned silos across the Midwest into gardens of light and dark for leisure purposes using a perforated dome. The perforations are calibrated to constellations in the night sky. The kaleidoscopic array of light during the day cast by the perforations creates a thickened, tranquil and purplish atmosphere. At night, the dome serves to individuate constellations and serves as a device for star gazing. And, of course, the Farm House was developed with an elastic skin that swells and contracts relative to rain water intake and irrigation need, thus indexing hydrological cycles with food production.

I think these types of investigations are important because they serve as new ways of considering space, form, affect and performance while capitalizing on contemporary technologies and digital techniques in service of compelling design.Â

3. What is the most important thing you want your students to take away from your courses and why?

One important thing, among others, would be a way of thinking and a general spirit toward their work. How one thinks about or processes the role of architectural design that might not be understood as conventional, yet is plausible and doesn't depend on *a priori* notions often leads to truly unique solutions. This thought process can then lend itself to or be augmented with current technologies in

design and fabrication, the handmade, or combined procedures that catalyze otherwise unforeseen ideas and strategies in design.

I think it's important to tow the line between exploration/experimentation with new technologies and temper that with fundamentals in design and representation to yield plausible responses to a given design problem. I also encourage students to be exploratory and immerse themselves into procedures or techniques they wouldn't otherwise consider in order to be forward-thinking and thought-provoking concerning design – to consider the potential of what they are making.

4. What about Denver's architecture? Any standouts? Anything that should be demolished right now?

I think Denver could be a city on the cusp and in the conversation of relevant architecture over the next decade or so. It's attracting younger practices that bring new ideas, energy and technology to the scene, much like San Francisco did in the late '90s and early 2000s. Geographically, Denver is unique given its proximity to the mountains as well as the plains, and coupled with seasonal changes, offers interesting ways to consider design in multiple environments with close proximity to an urban center.

I think a lot of the work of the 1980s could come down. However, that is not specific to Denver.

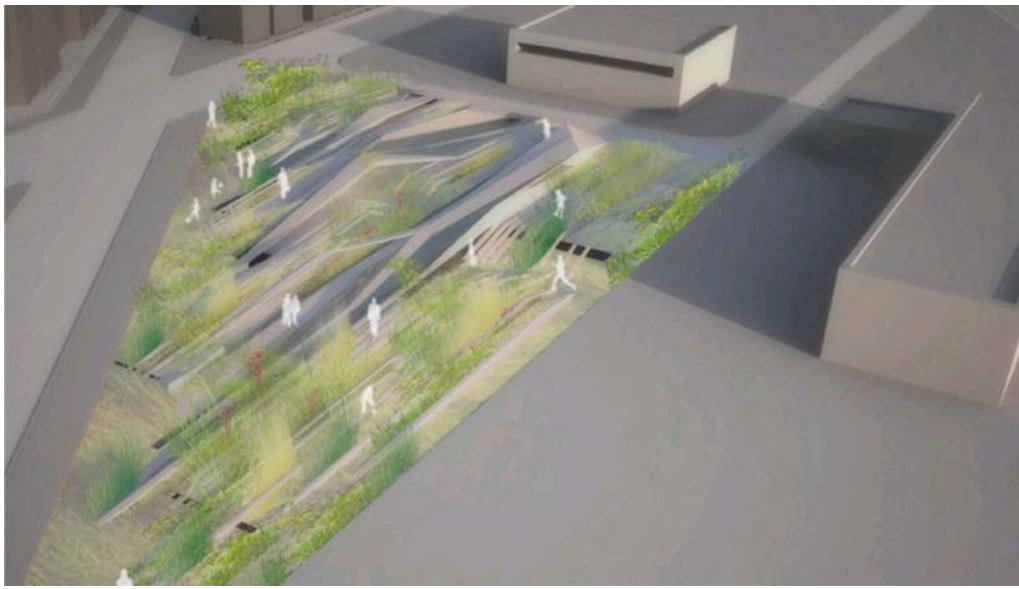
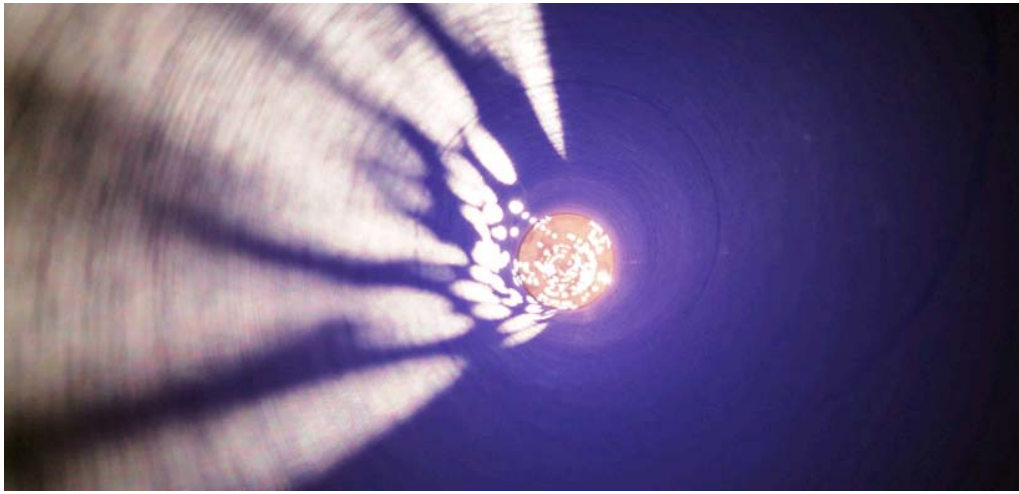
5. What are some hobbies or pastimes you enjoy away from architecture?

I find this to be a shifting target. Before heading to the East Coast for grad school, I was big into fly fishing for many years. I had many good friends – growing up and as an undergraduate – who also enjoyed it, so we'd often head off for days at a time to find new rivers to fish.

While back East, I found new interests in art and music. I enjoy exploring the local music scene and enjoy music by lesser-known bands, and that continued when I was in L.A. I also added interests in water activities, such as boogie boarding and sailing. Since I returned to the Denver area, I have a renewed interest in photography and I imagine fly fishing will again become a summer staple.

Want to suggest a faculty or staff member for Five Questions? Please e-mail Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu





Obituary: Louis Cicotello

Professor emeritus, UCCS

Louis Cicotello, professor emeritus in the department of fine arts at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, died March 6, 2011, in a climbing accident near Hanksville, Utah. He was 70.

Cicotello joined the department of fine arts in 1984 as professor. For many years he served as chair for the department and, later, for the department of visual and performing arts, before retiring in 2007.

In 1996, he earned the Chancellor's Award in recognition of his campus leadership. He returned to campus to co-teach core humanities courses.

Rex Welson, associate dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, and a personal friend of Cicotello, [shared this account](#) of Cicotello's rappelling accident and the rescue of Cicotello's brother, David, from the Utah mountains. David Cicotello was with Louis in No Man's Canyon and then survived for six days until being rescued by Wayne County Search and Rescue on Saturday, March 12.

In a letter to the campus community, UCCS Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak's wrote:

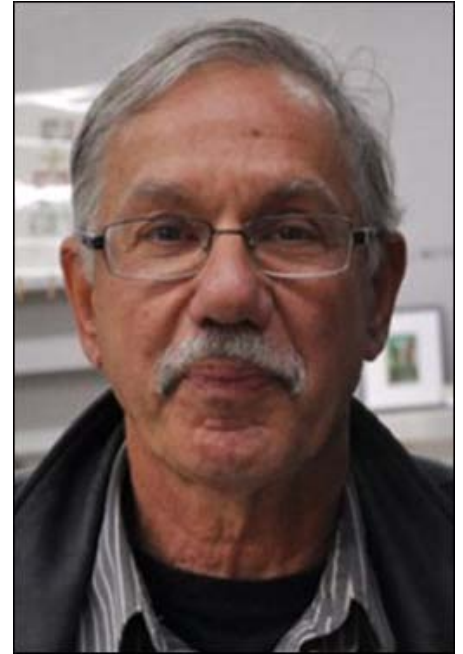
"He was a world traveler, excellent cook and a vigorous canyoneering enthusiast.

"According to his colleagues, Professor Cicotello was an energetic participant and stalwart champion of the arts on the campus and in the community. He was a frequent and respected contributor to exhibitions and galleries along the Front Range and beyond. His work in sculpture and collage was consistently recognizable. Many of his collages can be found on campus. One of his most prominent works is the commencement mace which is carried by the commencement marshal during the graduate processional at each graduation ceremony.

"Professor Cicotello modeled and lived the creative process. He valued curiosity, experience, personal connection, careful observation, and joy. He taught, encouraged and challenged his students who will carry his legacy.

"In addition to his wife, Millie Yawn, and brother, survivors include his daughter, Sarah; son-in-law, Chris; and a granddaughter, Olive."

Arrangements for a memorial service are pending.



Louis Cicotello

People

Researcher to study use of technology during recent earthquake

A University of Colorado Colorado Springs researcher will join a multidisciplinary team in New Zealand in an effort to study the effects of the earthquake that struck Christchurch on Feb. 22.



Sutton

Jeannette Sutton, senior research associate at the Trauma, Health and Hazards Center, will join a team from the U.S.-based Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. The team will examine the aftermath of the 6.3 magnitude earthquake with the goal of bringing back lessons that can be applied to U.S. building practices and used in academic settings.

Sutton will examine the use of social media during the earthquake. Specifically, she is interested in how the technology was used to share information between victims and survivors and how volunteers and first-responders used the tools.

"I'm also interested in the collaboration and coordination between volunteer groups and the official response organizations via social media," Sutton said.

"And in those areas where social media or communication technology is not available, I want to learn about how they are communicating to vulnerable groups and populations who are at extreme risk."

Sutton will join researchers from Auburn University, the University of British Columbia, the Johns Hopkins University, the U.S. Geological Survey, Colorado State University and Duke University. The group will focus on the performance of engineered structures in the earthquake, nonstructural building components, hospitals, and the health-care system, as well as risk communication and societal resiliency in addition to Sutton's interest in communication. The Christchurch earthquake is of particular interest to researchers because it was part of an aftershock from a September 2010 earthquake.

The team is organized by EERI's Learning from Earthquakes Program which has sent reconnaissance teams to investigate hundreds of earthquakes during the past 40 years. Six team members, including Sutton, are receiving support from the National Science Foundation. Other public and private organizations are contributing travel support.

During the trip, the researchers will be contributing to a blog. To view, visit <http://www.eqclearinghouse.org/2011-02-22-christchurch>.

— Tom Hutton

Professor elected to leadership post with international academic group



von Dassanowsky

Robert von Dassanowsky, University of Colorado Colorado Springs professor of German and film studies, has been elected vice president of the Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association (MALCA), the international academic organization for Austrian studies.

He will assume the office April 7 during the association's annual conference, hosted this year by Washington and Jefferson College in Pennsylvania.

Dassanowsky also has been invited to speak at the "Cultures at War: Austria-Hungary 1914-1918" symposium at St Hilda's College, Oxford University, April 13-15.

CU educators take honors for authoring textbook



Briggs

A textbook authored by two professors with University of Colorado connections, along with two other academicians from Washington state, was awarded the 2011 Textbook Excellence Award (Texty) in the college level Mathematics/Statistics category.

The Text and Academic Authors Association (TAA) honored the first edition of "Briggs/Cochran: Calculus" by **William Briggs**, Lyle Cochran, **Bernard Gillett** and Eric Schulz. The book is published by Pearson Education/Addison-Wesley.

Briggs was on the mathematics faculty at the University of Colorado Denver for 23 years, teaching throughout the undergraduate and graduate curriculum with a special interest in applied mathematics. He developed the Quantitative Reasoning course for liberal arts students at CU Denver. He is the author of five other textbooks and monographs, and is a University of Colorado President's Teaching Scholar.

Gillett is a senior instructor at CU-Boulder. He has earned five teaching awards over the span of a 20-year career. He has been active in the publishing industry since 1993, working at that time as a developmental editor for a software package that accompanied a college mathematics textbook series. He has published a number of books, including several student and instructor manuals for math texts, and four rock climbing guides for the mountains in and around Rocky Mountain National Park.

Cochran is a professor of mathematics at Whitworth University in Spokane, Wash., and Schulz has been on the mathematics faculty at Walla Walla Community College in Walla Walla, Wash., since 1989.

The Texty Award, created in 1992, recognizes current textbooks and learning materials. Judges are published textbook authors. "Briggs/Cochran: Calculus" was one of seven textbooks to receive the award.

For a list of winners, visit <http://www.taaonline.net/awards/2011winners.html>

The awards will be presented during a luncheon at the 24th annual TAA Conference in Albuquerque on June 25.

The TAA is the only nonprofit membership association dedicated solely to assisting textbook and academic authors. TAA's overall mission is to enhance the quality of textbooks and other academic materials, such as journal articles, monographs and scholarly books, in all fields and disciplines, by providing its textbook and academic author members with educational and networking opportunities.

Law professor's book focuses on Supreme Court justices

In her new book, University of Colorado Law Professor **Emily Calhoun** examines the obligations of Supreme Court justices to losing parties in constitutional rights disputes.

"Losing Twice" (Oxford University Press) argues that justices have an obligation to avoid and ameliorate harm to citizens whose arguments about constitutional meaning are rejected. Building on that straightforward proposition, Calhoun shows how the justices' failure to satisfy their obligation inflicts unjust harm on constitutional losers. She moves beyond debates about judicial activism to construct a novel legal framework for evaluating the legitimacy of the work of Supreme Court Justices.

The book draws on insights from many academic disciplines, but is directed at a general readership as well as academic audiences. It examines real-world constitutional rights disputes using language and concepts that will help any reader better understand why the Justices' resolutions of abortion, gay rights, and racial discrimination disputes can provoke such outrage.

With the book, Calhoun aims to remind readers of the relationship that ought to exist among members of a political community committed to equality and government-by-consent. She questions assertions that justices should be thought of as umpires in an athletic contest or as mere elite, legal technicians.

Want to suggest a colleague — or yourself — for People? Please e-mail information to Jay.Dedrick@cu.edu

Did you know...

President's Diversity Award includes up to \$1,000

Nominations are being accepted for the 2011 President's Diversity Award. The annual honor recognizes significant achievements of faculty, staff, students and academic or administrative units toward developing a more culturally diverse, competent and inclusive university community.

Up to four awards of up to \$1,000 each are given for projects or practices that best reflect the implementation of system and/or campus diversity goals. Awardees will be recognized at the President's Diversity Award Reception in early May at the President's Office in downtown Denver, and they will be featured in the *CU Faculty and Staff Newsletter*.

Nominations are welcome from any member of the university community, and are sought in four categories: (1) faculty, (2) staff, (3) student and (4) academic unit or administrative unit. Faculty must be full-time tenured/tenure track or senior instructors/instructors; staff must be full-time professional exempt or classified employees; and students must be full-time undergraduate or graduate students. Unit refers to academic and administrative offices; staff, faculty, and student committees; and organizations (such as alumni) directly associated with CU.

[Click here for details](#) on criteria for selection and nomination letter requirements. The deadline for receipt of nominations and all supporting documents is Friday, April 15.

Heart Association aims to train 5,000 for CPR in one day

The American Heart Association is asking members of the University of Colorado community to help achieve a goal of 5,000 trainees at a free CPR training event from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 9 at the University of Denver's Hamilton Gymnasium.

The association is teaming with Centura Health, Exempla Healthcare and HealthONE in a bid to set a record for number of people trained in one day. Basic CPR skills will be taught by trained professionals. While participants of all ages will gain the skills to save a life, CPR certification is not provided.

Trainings will occur every hour on the hour throughout the day. The first training begins at 9 a.m.; the last at 4 p.m.

The gym is at the Ritchie Center, 2240 E. Buchtel Blvd., Denver. For information on available parking, directions and light rail instructions, visit <http://recreation.du.edu>

Less than 5 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims survive because most people who witness the arrest do not know how to perform CPR. Sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone at anytime. Many victims appear healthy with no known heart disease or other risk factors.

To register, go to [AHA Free Mass CPR training](#). For groups of 50 or more contact, Ashley McCurrach at 303-996-8690.

Forum

Let's get writing

While most of us still miss the *Silver & Gold* and the opportunity to read from the printed page, it is gratifying to have space in the *Faculty and Staff Newsletter* for our letters and opinions.

More of us should take advantage of this outlet.

Chuck Howe

Institute of Behavioral Science, Economics, Retired Faculty Association
CU-Boulder

[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.

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

Space scientists ready for orbital insertion of Mercury spacecraft

[NASA's MESSENGER mission](#), launched in 2004, is expected to slide into Mercury's orbit March 17 after a harrowing 4.7 billion mile journey that involved 15 loops around the sun and will bring relief and renewed excitement to the University of Colorado Boulder team that designed and a built an \$8.7 million instrument onboard.

"In 2004, this milestone seemed like it was a long, long way away," said Senior Research Associate William McClintock, a mission co-investigator from CU-Boulder's [Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics](#) (LASP). "But here we are at last, poised to help solve some of the many tantalizing mysteries about Mercury."

The smallest of the solar system's four rocky planets, Mercury is about two-thirds of the way nearer to the sun than Earth and has been visited by only one other spacecraft, NASA's Mariner 10, in 1974 and 1975. CU-Boulder scientists say learning what makes the hot, rocky planet tick will help them better understand the formation and evolution of planetary systems.

The refrigerator-sized spacecraft is carrying seven instruments: a camera, a magnetometer, an altimeter and four spectrometers. Designed and built by CU-Boulder's LASP, the Mercury Atmospheric and Surface Composition Spectrometer, or MASCS, is a power-packed, 7-pound instrument that will make measurements of Mercury's surface and its tenuous atmosphere, called the exosphere.

MASCS breaks up light like a prism, and since each element and compound has a unique spectral signature, scientists can determine the distribution and abundance of various minerals and gases on the planet's surface and exosphere, McClintock said. "We now know Mercury's exosphere is constantly changing."

During a 2009 MESSENGER flyby of Mercury, MASCS detected magnesium, an element created inside exploding stars, clumped in the exosphere. The team determined magnesium, sodium and potassium and

several other kinds of atoms flying off Mercury's surface were being accelerated by solar radiation pressure to form a gigantic tail of material flowing away from the sun, McClintock said.

"All of the instruments on MESSENGER had to be extremely light, which stretched our imaginations and creativity," Lankton said. "We have learned a lot, and wound up getting a lot of bang for our buck."

LASP Director Daniel Baker, also a co-investigator on the MESSENGER mission, is studying Mercury's magnetic field and its interaction with the solar wind, including violent "sub-storms" that occur in the planet's vicinity. Because Mercury is the closest planet to the sun, MESSENGER is equipped with a large sunshade and heat-resistant ceramic fabric to protect it, said Baker.

"The three successful flybys of MESSENGER past Mercury have already rewritten the textbooks about the sun's nearest neighbor," Baker said. "We are pleased by all we have learned about the space environment of the planet. But we think there is so much more to learn – we've probably just scratched the surface, so to speak."

Baker said the orbit insertion of Mercury will be celebrated by all of LASP, including a solar science team that saw its \$28 million instrument crash into the sea March 4 because of problems with a NASA-contracted launch vehicle.

"A very important aspect of LASP is that it is like a big family," Baker said. "Everyone shares the joys of success and the sorrow of failure, which has been a blessedly rare occurrence in our history."

Said Lankton, program manager for MASCS, "We have all of our appendages crossed for a successful orbit insertion. MESSENGER is part of NASA's Discovery Program, and I'd be surprised if we don't continue to be surprised. Once we are in Mercury's orbit we are going to be getting a bounty of new data every day."

Dozens of undergraduates and graduate students will be involved in analyzing data as information and images begin pouring back to Earth from MESSENGER, dubbed "the little spacecraft that could" by LASP scientists.

"This mission is going to be a field day for students, not only at CU-Boulder, but for students all over the world," Baker said.

CU-Boulder's LASP is the only space institute in the world to have designed and flown instruments that have visited or are en route to every planet in the solar system. LASP also has a student-built dust-counting instrument on NASA's New Horizons Mission, launched in 2006 to Pluto and now approaching the orbit of Uranus.

"LASP has some of the best people in the world pursuing great science, great engineering, wonderful mission operations, and superb administrative and managerial achievement," Baker said. "When such a team is given the facilities and resources to thrive, the sky is the limit. But it all starts with our people, including our students."

The data will be sent via NASA's Deep Space Network to the Applied Physics Laboratory at Johns Hopkins University – which is managing the mission for NASA – where mission scientists, including researchers and students at LASP's Space Technology Building at the CU Research Park, will access it electronically, he said.

Sean Solomon from the Carnegie Institute of Washington in Washington, D.C., is the chief MESSENGER

scientist.

Located at 1234 Innovation Drive on CU-Boulder's East Campus, LASP is hosting an open house Thursday, March 17, to celebrate the MESSENGER spacecraft's insertion into orbit around Mercury. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Lankton will give a talk on the mission and Clark Chapman of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder discuss Mercury beginning at 6 p.m. NASA's broadcast of the orbit insertion – a 15-minute maneuver – will take place beginning at 6:45 p.m.

UCCS

System, Boulder visitors gain UCCS perspective during campus tour

By Ron Fitz

About 20 members of the University of Colorado system and the CU-Boulder campus recently visited UCCS to gain a better understanding of other CU campuses.

Brett Rogers, senior employee relations specialist with the CU-Boulder Office of Labor Relations, and other participants in the University Perspectives Program met on March 1 in Dwire Hall with UCCS administrators to compare and contrast aspects of the Colorado Springs campus with the rest of the system.

They discussed university issues with Pam Shockley-Zalabak, chancellor; Peg Bacon, provost; Homer Wesley, vice chancellor for student success and enrollment management; and Brian Burnett, vice chancellor for administration and finance.

"The entire leadership team we met with did an outstanding job of sharing with our participants the individual successes of UCCS, the important role UCCS plays as a member of the CU system, and the vital impact it has on the state of Colorado," Rogers said.

"Throughout the entire University Perspective program it has been great to experience how well each of the campuses executes their very diverse missions, yet how well they complement each other to the overall success of the University of Colorado.

"As always, UCCS was a welcoming host for this year's visit."

Gary Reynolds, executive director of facilities services, guided the group on a campus tour. Some visitors saw the Foucault pendulum housed in the Science and Engineering Building for the first time, Rogers noted. Others remarked on the state-of-the-art labs and facilities in Centennial Hall.

Overall, Rogers reported, the group was quite impressed with the new buildings.

"The campus itself is beautiful and I can only imagine that the use of so much natural light that is incorporated into the architecture in the buildings makes for an outstanding learning environment," Rogers said. "Having had the privilege of facilitating the University Perspective program this year, perhaps the greatest compliment I can give is to say that I would be honored and thrilled to have my own children attend any of our campuses at the University of Colorado."

CU Denver

Campus community takes part in iron-clad collaboration

By Catherine Gray Beuten

An already warm pre-spring day got red hot as students, faculty, guest artists and members of the local community gathered to create works of art cast in iron. Dozens unleashed their artistic sides to create works of art ranging from tiles created on the spot to sculptures replicated, carved or modeled in wax.

Rian Kerrane, associate professor of visual arts in the College of Arts and Media, organized the event Thursday, March 10, at the Tivoli flagpole on the Auraria Campus. Visiting artist Toby Flores, sculptor and professor from Fort Hays State University in Kansas, facilitated the iron-pour performance.

Throughout the afternoon, the public took part in creating tiles to be cast. Carvings were coated with graphite and rubbing alcohol in preparation for receiving 2,700 degree Fahrenheit molten iron. The choreographed event included continuously placing the coke, iron and limestone in the cupola and collecting 100 pounds of molten iron every 15 minutes in ladles, then pouring the iron into the molds.



Rian Kerrane, right, helps a student balance her mold.



Toby Flores and Kerrane take a quick break for photo opps.

The sculpture program teaches iron casting, mold making and the lost process of wax casting. Students cast the iron into ceramic shell and bonded sand molds.

The iron pour was part of Iron Week in the College of Arts and Media, and also featured sand tile carving workshops March 8 and 9 in the Arts Building on the Auraria Campus.

Students from the CU Denver Sculpture Club guided participants through the steps of carving the tiles in preparation for the iron pour. The first 150 CU Denver students who attended the mold-making workshops were treated to a sand tile to carve. The public was able to buy tiles to carve for \$10 each.

The event was sponsored by CU Denver Live!, the CU Denver College of Arts and Media and the CU Denver Sculpture Club.

See more event [photos on Facebook](#).

Anschutz Medical Campus

Cancer Center experts take calls in awareness-raising effort

University of Colorado Cancer Center experts participated in a colorectal cancer awareness call-in line at 7News television station Tuesday, March 8. Csaba Gajdos, M.D.; Neil Toribara, M.D.; and Susan Rein, R.N., from the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program, took part alongside three gastroenterologists from the Rocky Mountain Gastroenterology Association.



From left, Csaba Gajdos, Susan Rein, Neil Toribara

"This was a great opportunity for us to talk to people about the importance of discussing screening with their health care provider, since colorectal cancer can often be prevented and found early when most treatable by routine screening," said Teri Spector, media and awareness coordinator for the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program. "Since several of the callers were uninsured, we were able to let them know about assistance for screening through the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program."

More than 60 people called into the station to ask questions about colorectal cancer. The call-in also helped raise awareness of colorectal screening as part of March Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Tech Transfer

Lafayette company licenses CU solar technology

[Phobos Energy](#) of Lafayette recently executed an exclusive license agreement with the University of Colorado for photovoltaic (PV) technology developed by [Robert Erickson](#), co-director of CU-Boulder's [Colorado Power Electronics Center](#).

Erickson's research has led to a technique for increasing the power generated by solar PV arrays when its panels are mismatched, and also provides simpler interconnection and wiring. As a result, the energy generated by the array is increased, the costs of system design and installation are reduced, and it becomes feasible to install PV arrays in new locations such as on gabled or non-planar roofs.

Phobos Energy was founded by Erickson (CTO, currently on entrepreneurial leave from CU) and two Silicon Valley serial entrepreneurs, Pete Del Vecchio (CEO) and Krishna Anne (President and COO). The company has received development funding from a large industrial partner and is seeking additional funding to expand operations.

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