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FOCUS ON **CU FACULTY**



ALL FOUR:**COLORADO**

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2017

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



[Colorado's long history — and uncertain present — with the KKK and other hate groups](#)

The Denver Post

(Aug. 20, 2017) – CU Boulder historian [Patty Limerick](#) objects to the notion of history repeating itself, but says the 1920s provide cautionary tales for today's leaders. Denver Mayor Benjamin Stapleton, for example, was not driven to join the KKK solely by hatred of black people, Catholics and Jews, but he knew he needed Klan support to win an election, she said.



[In Colorado, a global flood observatory keeps a close watch on Harvey's torrent](#)

Science

(Aug. 30, 2017) -- While the media is gripped with pictures of waters swallowing freeways and pouring into homes and offices in southeastern Texas, geoscientist [Robert Brakenridge](#) is waiting for images of his own. Brakenridge directs the Dartmouth Flood Observatory at CU Boulder, which creates real-time maps of flooding events around the world. The lab, which he founded in 1993, uses satellite imagery to monitor changing water levels, and is experimenting with other methods—such as using satellite-based microwave sensors—to track river levels.



Dino-killing Chicxulub asteroid inhibited photosynthesis, cooled Earth for up to four years

Sci News

(Aug. 23, 2017) -- "At first it would have been about as dark as a moonlit night," said [Owen "Brian" Toon](#), a professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at CU Boulder. While the skies would have gradually brightened, photosynthesis would have been impossible for up to two years, according to simulations.



The real reason why these celebrity couples failed

The New York Post

(Aug. 3, 2017) – Marriages with large age gaps are more satisfying at the outset, but their satisfaction levels drop over time, according to the researchers from CU Boulder.
"We find that when couples have a large age difference they tend to have a much larger decline in marital satisfaction when faced with an economic shock than couples that have a very small age difference," said [Terra McKinnish](#), a professor of economics at CU Boulder.



Martian weather kicks into high gear at night

Nature

(Aug. 21, 2017) – CU Boulder researchers' simulations revealed some upward release of water vapor in the clouds near Mars' poles. If this relatively low-level atmospheric mixing pushed water higher up into the atmosphere, that could explain how the Red Planet lost a lot of its water, says [Mike Chaffin](#), a planetary scientist at CU Boulder.

"More and more, we're understanding that the Mars atmosphere is connected vertically in ways we didn't expect," Chaffin said.



Mayans accurately predicted solar eclipses hundreds of years in the future

The Denver Post

(Aug. 17, 2017) -- The Mayans were extremely literate, CU Boulder anthropology professor [Payson Sheets](#) said. Not just literate, but the most literate of any new world civilization "by a long shot." The ancient civilization would diligently record its history, including when kings and queens were crowned, equinoxes and solstices, and solar and lunar eclipses.



Shrinking monuments could open land for mining and drilling, but energy industry isn't interested

Washington Examiner

(Aug. 27, 2017) -- [Charles Wilkinson](#), a professor of public land law at CU Boulder, said Bears Ears has significant uranium deposits. Wilkinson is an adviser to the Native American tribes who lobbied for the area to become a national monument.

"Mining is a serious threat to Bears Ears," Wilkinson said. "It is true that the oil and gas deposits are not extensive. But it would be extremely destructive to have uranium mining take place in undisturbed land."



What the science actually says about gender gaps in the workplace

Harvard Business Review

(Aug. 17, 2017) -- While there are (of course) biological differences between the sexes, social science has shown that men and women are more similar than different on a wide range of characteristics, from personality to ability to attitude. These factors have a larger effect on career outcomes than biology does, writes [Stefanie K. Johnson](#), an associate professor of management and entrepreneurship at CU Boulder's Leeds School of Business.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS



This is how women today REALLY feel about getting naked

Women's Health

(Aug. 2, 2017) – When the body-positivity movement exploded, “strong” replaced “skinny” as social media’s favorite adjective. As with the general body-positivity movement, seeing more body diversity in bikinis “is just a drop in the bucket compared to the decades of the notion that only a specific body type can wear a bikini,” says [Elizabeth Daniels](#), assistant professor of psychology at UCCS.



Education leaders hold town hall in Colorado Springs on state's teacher shortages

The Gazette

(Aug. 7, 2017) -- [Beth Cutter](#), alternative licensure coordinator at UCCS’ College of Education, said there’s record enrollment in alternative licensure this year, with many students saying they have high-paying jobs they hate.

“They want to invest their lives in something more worthwhile, like teaching,” she said. “What if there was a media ad campaign: To make a difference, be a teacher. It could help people’s thinking.”



Colorado Springs-area unemployment rate lowest since 2000, more reason for continued optimism

The Gazette

(Aug. 3, 2017) – “It’s all good news and continues to make me optimistic about the quarterly numbers, which are the most reliable indicator of local job growth,” said [Tatiana Bailey](#), director of the UCCS Economic Forum. “If we continue to add this many people to the labor force and unemployment stays low, that is good for both

employers and employees."



[UCCS starting mini-MBA course to boost career prospects in Colorado Springs](#)

The Gazette

(Aug. 28, 2017) -- UCCS is rolling out the community's first Mini-MBA, an executive education track of business basics to enhance career prospects for employees working at the managerial level and below.

"We thought it would be a good format in a short time frame that people can do and still balance work and family," said [Shawna Lippert](#), director of the Office of Professional and Executive Development in the College of Business.



[White nationalism is now 'state-sanctioned' under Donald Trump, experts say](#)

Newsweek

(Aug. 17, 2017) – For President Donald Trump, mustering the courage and gall to call out the racist group for what it is seemed to be one of his hardest challenges yet.

"This is simply who Trump is," said [Paul Harvey](#), professor and presidential teaching scholar at UCCS. "This is who he's been the last six or seven years, so it shouldn't be that surprising. Michelle Obama nailed it when she said the presidency doesn't change you, it just reveals who you truly are."



Aisha Ahmad-Post named Ent Center for the Arts director

Colorado Springs Independent

(Aug. 21, 2017) -- Five months out from the opening of the Ent Center for the Arts, UCCS has hired a director to program the \$70 million project. The university selected [Aisha Ahmad-Post](#) for the position. She comes to Colorado Springs from a five-year stint at the New York Public Library, acting as their public programs producer.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



How would a storm the size of Harvey impact Colorado?

Fox 31

(Aug. 29, 2017) -- [David Mays](#) is a professor of civil engineering at CU Denver. He has pondered how Denver would be impacted by a storm like Harvey.

"We are not as flat as Houston. We would not have the same kind of widespread flooding they have," he said.



The global crackdown on parents who refuse vaccines for their kids has begun

VOX

(Aug. 3, 2017) -- All 50 states currently have legislation requiring vaccines for students — but almost every state allows exemptions for people with religious beliefs against immunizations.

"States expect that to access public resources, like schools, camps, or child care centers, individuals must give up some autonomy to make sure everyone in the community is safe," said CU Denver sociologist [Jennifer Reich](#), who studies the anti-vaccine movement.



[Denver Sheriff Department spent \\$14 million on OT in 2016 despite surge in hiring](#)

The Denver Post

(Aug. 9, 2017) -- Corrections experts warn the sheriff is taking a risk by relying on overtime to run the city's two jails. Excessive overtime not only is costly to taxpayers, it creates a dangerous environment inside the jails, with deputies working too many hours in a high-stress job, said [Mark Pogrebin](#), a criminology professor CU Denver.



[Taylor Swift trial echoes Michael Jackson's trip to Denver Court](#)

Westword

(Aug. 7, 2017) -- In 2009, after Michael Jackson's death, we revisited the Crystal Cartier case with the help of [Stan Soocher](#), an associate professor of music and entertainment-industry studies at CU Denver. Soocher is the author of *They Fought the Law: Rock Music Goes to Court* and devoted an entire chapter to copyright issues involving Jackson.

"I wasn't living in Colorado at the time, but I covered the Cartier trial. And it turned out to be quite an interesting case," Soocher said.



[City Council seat now vacant; HPD makes case for fifth officer](#)

Holyoke Enterprise

(Aug. 23, 2017) – The Holyoke City Council is looking to university students' expertise for new development. Five CU Denver students, joined by [Jennifer Kovarik](#), supervisor at the Colorado Center for Community Development, presented their final conceptual plans for new fire and police stations to the council. Throughout the summer, the engineering students have worked closely with the city to design plans to meet its needs.

Also: [Property development group to restore classic, historic Cripple Creek buildings](#), The Mountain Jackpot News, Aug. 23



[How to become an education entrepreneur: The top five voices you need to follow](#)

Forbes

(Aug. 21, 2017) -- **Scott McLeod**, associate professor of educational leadership at CU Denver, is one of the most visible education professors in the United States because of his social media presence. McLeod's work focuses on the intersection of two rarely connected scholarly worlds: P-12 school leadership and digital technologies. He is one of a very small number of educational administration professors who explores the leadership implications that accompany schools' deployment of instructional and operational technologies.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



[Many heart failure patients don't recognize the risks of their illness](#)

Reuters

(Aug. 23, 2017) -- Even though doctors think most people with heart failure have a high likelihood of requiring a heart transplant or dying from complications of their illness, a small U.S. study suggests that many patients see a much rosier picture of their future.

"Part of this is that hope is human nature -- patients think they will beat the odds," said lead study author **Amrut Ambardekar**, medical director of the cardiac transplant program at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.



Plant used in American Indian medicine may be stronger than modern drugs, CU study finds

7 News

(Aug. 16, 2017) -- A plant used for generations by American Indians in both the United States and Mexico may be better at treating certain parasitic infections than currently available pharmaceuticals. Researchers at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus teamed up with UC San Diego to study naturally occurring compounds in the creosote bush, which is commonly found in the American Southwest. In native cultures, the plant has traditionally been used to treat a wide range of medical problems, including intestinal problems.

"In our study the creosote natural product NDGA proved to be a more potent anti-parasitic agent against *N. fowleri* compared to miltefosine," said [Dan LaBarbera](#), associate professor of drug discovery and medicinal chemistry at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.



Researchers track an unlikely culprit in weight gain

The New York Times

(Aug. 7, 2017) -- [Wendy Kohrt](#), a professor of medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, has been studying the effects of menopause on women's body fat and the amount of calories women burn. Kohrt has given healthy premenopausal women a drug that blocks production of estrogen and FSH, putting them into a reversible state of menopause. Within five months, she found, the women's fat moves to their abdomens, increasing by 11 percent on average. And they burn 50 fewer calories per day.



A serious reaction after vaccination rarely occurs again with later immunization

Forbes

(Aug. 28, 2017) -- A child who experiences a serious medical event after a vaccine has a very low risk of having another serious event

occur after the next vaccine, a new study found. But parents are still wary.

"There are few experiences more challenging for a pediatrician than trying to convince a parent to continue vaccinating their child after they have witnessed a febrile seizure or a hypotonic hyporesponsive episode not long after a vaccination," wrote [Sean T. O'Leary](#), associate professor of pediatrics in the CU School of Medicine.



Focus on cancer during medical school

U.S. News and World Report

(Aug. 24, 2017) -- For [Saketh Guntupalli](#), learning about cancer during medical school was a formative experience that helped sway him toward a career in cancer medicine.

"The mentor that I worked with had a really strong bedside manner, she had a real strong interest in patient care and developing really strong bonds, and I'd say that's probably the thing that drew me to oncology," says Guntupalli, an associate professor of gynecology and obstetrics at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.



Climate change health impacts to hit some Coloradans hardest

Public News Service

(Aug. 18, 2017) -- [Rosemary Rochford](#), a professor at the Colorado School of Public Health at CU Anschutz Medical Campus, directs the new Colorado Consortium on Climate and Health. She says climate change may not create new diseases, but it's likely to amplify conditions that already exist.

"Imagine if you have a child going back to school in a hot classroom, what is that going to do if they've got asthma?" she asks. "It's really going to amplify the problems for our kids, and especially those children that don't have access to good schools with air conditioning units."

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