

OFFICE OF STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007



UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
Boulder • Colorado Springs • Denver and Health Sciences Center

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STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Overview

MISSION

The mission of the Office of State and Federal Government Relations is to support the University of Colorado by building effective partnerships between the University and state and federal governments. This is achieved through representation and advocacy of CU's needs and interests with state and federal elected officials in Colorado and Washington, D.C.

Goals

- Promote the University's interests at the state and federal level.
- Enhance the understanding of the role and value of CU.
- Achieve status as one of the top public university governmental relations offices in the United States.

Strategies

- 1) Maintain visibility at both the state and federal level through testimony, tours, outreach events, Hill visits, and other activities to increase contact with state and federal policy makers.
- 2) Foster relationships between the President, Chancellors and designated officers of the University with members of the General Assembly, Colorado Congressional Delegation, and Executive branch of both the state and federal government.
- 3) Engage the business community, Ambassadors, and Alumni to help lobby CU's initiatives.
- 4) Request to have federally funded special projects for each campus.
- 5) Lobby for increases in funding for federal agencies for CU to maintain its ranking in the top five public universities for federal research funding. The following agencies are the primary sources of funding for CU:
 - National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - Department of Defense (DOD)
 - Department of Energy (DOE)
 - Department of Commerce (DOC)
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - National Institute of Space and Technology (NIST)
- 6) Educate elected officials through contact with faculty, students, and administrators from all three campuses.
- 7) Provide internal communication by:
 - Holding frequent legislative strategy meetings with top university officers.
 - Providing legislative updates at all three campuses and via email to university community.
 - Communicating with appropriate University of Colorado faculty, administrators, and students regarding specific legislation and policy issues.

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STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

State Capital Construction Summary FY2008

Campus and Project	State Appropriation	Cash Appropriation	Total Appropriation
BOULDER CAMPUS			
<i>Controlled Maintenance</i>			
Chemical Engineering Building, Replace HVAC	\$451,742	\$0	\$451,742
Fire Safety Upgrades	\$425,252	\$0	\$425,252
Repair/Replace Roof, Main Campus	\$362,351	\$0	\$362,351
Repair/Replace Building Electrical Services	\$507,011	\$0	\$507,011
Upgrade Building Transformers/Electrical Services	\$535,203	\$0	\$535,203
Upgrade Fire Alarm System, Various Buildings	\$217,568	\$0	\$217,568
Upgrade Fire Sprinklers and Alarms, Var. Buildings	\$765,766	\$0	\$765,766
Main Campus Tunnel Security Projects	\$100,907	\$0	\$100,907
<i>Capital Construction</i>			
Arnett Hall Renovation	\$0	\$12,960,000	\$12,960,000
Visual Arts Complex	\$9,168,742	\$20,219,881	\$29,388,623
Athletic Air Supported Structure	\$0	\$2,637,041	\$2,637,041
Bear Creek Apartments Acquisition	\$0	\$67,000,000	\$67,000,000
Norlin Library Renovation	\$0	\$5,101,051	\$5,101,051
Ekeley Sciences Renovation	\$2,567,767	\$285,308	\$2,853,075
Ketchum Arts and Sciences Building	\$991,015	\$0	\$991,015
TOTAL UCB CAPITAL APPROPRIATION	\$16,093,324	\$108,283,281	\$124,296,605



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
State Capital Construction Summary FY2008

Campus and Project	State Appropriation	Cash Appropriation	Total Appropriation
DENVER and HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER CAMPUSES			
<i>Controlled Maintenance</i>			
Building 500, Air Handling Unit Replacement	\$156,268	\$254,287	\$410,555
Building 500, Air Temperature Control Improvement	\$327,700	\$0	\$327,700
<i>Capital Construction</i>			
9 th Avenue Remediation	\$0	\$17,100,000	\$17,100,000
AMC Infrastructure, Phase 10b	\$0	\$5,349,033	\$5,349,033
Lease Purchase of Academic Facilities, AMC	\$13,145,713 (COP's)	-	\$13,145,713
Linear Accelerator Vault, AMC	\$0	\$1,834,143	\$1,834,143
New Pharmacy Research Building, AMC	\$0	\$42,032,512	\$42,032,512
Aspen Satellite Campus, Given Institute	\$0	\$4,835,000	\$4,835,000
TOTAL UCDHSC APPROPRIATION	\$13,629,681	\$71,404,975	\$85,034,656



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

State Capital Construction Summary FY2008

Campus and Project	State Appropriation	Cash Appropriation	Total Appropriation
COLORADO SPRINGS CAMPUS			
<i>Controlled Maintenance</i>			
Repair Structural Damage, Campus Services Bldg	\$253,311	\$0	\$253,311
Fire Alarm System Upgrades, Campus-wide	\$273,392	\$0	\$273,392
Upgrade ADA Accessibility Compliance	\$382,161	\$0	\$382,161
Repair Water Lines, Cragmoor Hall	\$467,995	\$0	\$467,995
<i>Capital Construction</i>			
North Nevada Acquisition	\$0	\$3,210,000	\$3,210,000
Science and Engineering Building	\$11,000,000	\$0	\$11,000,000
TOTAL UCCS APPROPRIATION	\$12,376,859	\$3,210,000	\$15,586,859
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO TOTAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS			
Controlled Maintenance Projects	\$5,226,627	\$254,287	\$5,480,914
Capital Construction Projects	\$36,873,237	\$182,563,969	\$219,437,206
GRAND TOTAL	\$42,099,864	\$182,818,256	\$224,918,120



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
CU Initiated State Legislation

Senate Bill 019 *Review Teacher Preparation Programs* **(Spence/A. Kerr)**

Lead: Tanya Kelly-Bowry

Clarifies that the Colorado commission on higher education shall establish a schedule for review of teacher preparation programs that ensures each teacher preparation program is reviewed not more frequently than once every 5 years.

APPROVED by Governor March 16, 2007

EFFECTIVE August 3, 2007

Senate Bill 054 *Research Building Funds Bond Limit* **(Schwartz/Fischer)**

Lead: Kirsten Castleman

Removes the bonding limits on the University of Colorado and Colorado State University research building revolving funds.

APPROVED by Governor March 15, 2007

EFFECTIVE August 3, 2007

Senate Bill 072 *Reimburse Tuition for Deployed Military* **(Morse)**

Lead: Tanya Kelly-Bowry

Permits Colorado universities and colleges to request reimbursement from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education for refunds made to students who were deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan during the academic year.

Due to funding constraints, this bill was killed in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

EFFECTIVE n/a

Senate Bill 097 *Allocation of Tobacco Settlement Monies* **(Fitz-Gerald/Madden)**

Lead: Tanya Kelly-Bowry

This bill invests Tobacco Settlement trust funds into health care. SB 07-97 will restore \$8.4M to the CU Health Sciences Center in FY 07/08, and approximately \$17M annually in future years.

APPROVED by Governor March 22, 2007

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2007

Senate Bill 182 *Innovative Higher Education Research Fund* **(Bacon/Pommer)**

Lead: Kirsten Castleman

Establishes the Innovative Research Fund and Board for the purpose of giving state matching grants that help higher education institutions win large federal research grants.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2007

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2007

House Bill 1034 *Law Student Arbitration Panel* **(Madden/Shaffer)**

Lead: Kirsten Castleman

Allows a law student of any law school that maintains a legal-aid dispensary, when representing the dispensary and its clients, to be authorized to advise clients on legal matters and appear before any arbitration panel as if licensed to practice law.

APPROVED by Governor March 2, 2007

EFFECTIVE August 3, 2007

House Bill 1242 *Higher Ed Public Service Loan Repayment* **(Levy/Veiga)**

Lead: Kirsten Castleman

Authorizes a governing board of an institution of higher education to create a loan repayment assistance program to encourage students and graduates to enter public service careers.

APPROVED by Governor June 1, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key State Higher Education Legislation

Senate Bill 045

Fees for Copies of Public Records

(McElhany/McGihon)

Authorizes custodians of certain public records, including county clerk and recorders, to charge a fee for copies of the records in an amount not to exceed 25¢ per standard page or the actual cost of copies provided in a form other than on a standard page; except that: The executive director of the department of personnel may continue to charge fees reflecting the direct and indirect costs of responding to requests for public records of which the executive director is the custodian; and Institutions of higher education may charge reasonable fees for certified copies of student transcripts.

APPROVED by Governor April 19, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Bill 048

Multi-year Contracts Higher Education

(Bacon/Fischer)

Allows systems of higher education and each campus of each state institution of higher education to have an unlimited number of long-term contracts with government-supported officials or employees if the contracts are for research in university settings. Requires long-term contracts to include a provision that the contract shall become unenforceable if, during the term of the contract, the system of higher education or campus of a state institution that is a party to the contract ceases to be an enterprise and lacks present cash reserves sufficient to pledge irrevocably to satisfy the terms of the contract.

APPROVED by Governor March 15, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Bill 051

High Performance State Buildings

(Gordon/Witwer)

Requires the state architect to adopt a high performance standard certification program for state-assisted facilities of 5,000 or more square feet that are at least 25% financed with state funds or funds guaranteed or insured by a state agency or department. Requires the substantial renovation, design, or construction of such facilities to achieve the highest performance certification attainable. Deems a certification level to be attainable if the increased initial costs of achieving the certified performance level can be recouped from decreased operational costs within 15 years. Specifies exemptions. Requires the department of personnel and administration to annually report to the general assembly regarding the implementation of the high performance standard certification program.

APPROVED by Governor April 16, 2007

EFFECTIVE September 1, 2007

Senate Bill 210 *Independent Ethics Commission* **(McElhany/Marshall)**

Implements article XXIX of the state constitution, concerning ethics in government, enacted by the voters at the 2006 general election. Establishes the Independent Ethics Commission in the office of administrative courts in the department of personnel. Specifies requirements pertaining to the appointment and terms of commission members, the reimbursement of expenses incurred by commission members, and the powers and duties of the commission.

APPROVED by Governor April 26, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Bill 222 *Statutory Transfers Capital Construction* **(Windels/Riesberg)**

As of July 1, 2006, transfers \$30 million from the general fund to the capital construction fund. If moneys in the general fund at the end of the 2006-07 fiscal year are inadequate to meet the statutory reserve and the transfer required by Senate Bill 97-001, directs the state controller to accrue a transfer of up to \$30 million from the capital construction fund to the general fund to meet such requirements.

APPROVED by Governor June 1, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Bill 228 *Vendor Perform State Contracts* **(Groff/Garcia)**

This bill establishes a system for the monitoring of vendor performance on state contracts. Requires all state agencies to submit information on the use of personal services and sole-source contracts. Requires the existing state database of prospective vendors to include information concerning vendor performance. Also requires the disclosure of state contract work to be performed outside the state and establishes procedures for monitoring vendor performance. Authorizes the state to pursue specified remedies for vendor nonperformance. Excludes research grants not funded by the state.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2007

EFFECTIVE August 3, 2007

Senate Bill 240 *Capital Construction Fund Transfers* **(Tapia/Buescher)**

Transfers \$35,753,087 to the capital construction fund from the general fund for the 2006-07 fiscal year and \$20 million from the general fund exempt account for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

APPROVED by Governor June 1, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Bill 246***Create Clean Energy Fund*****(Fiz-Gerald/Buescher)**

Creates the clean energy fund in the state treasury. Requires moneys in the limited gaming fund that are transferred to the state general fund at the end of any state fiscal year under current law to instead be transferred to the clean energy fund. Authorizes the OEMC to use moneys in the clean energy fund to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout Colorado. Specifies some of the uses that advance energy efficiency and renewable energy. Requires all income and interest earned on the deposit and investment of moneys in the clean energy fund to be credited to the fund. Specifies that all moneys remaining in the clean energy fund at the end of a state fiscal year remain in the fund and are not transferred to the general fund or any other fund.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2007**EFFECTIVE** Upon passage**Senate Bill 257*****Multi-year Contracts Higher Education*****(Bacon/Fischer)**

Allows systems of higher education and each campus of each state institution of higher education to have an unlimited number of long-term contracts with government-supported officials or employees if the contracts are for research in university settings. Requires long-term contracts to include a provision that the contract shall become unenforceable if, during the term of the contract, the system of higher education or campus of a state institution that is a party to the contract ceases to be an enterprise and lacks present cash reserves sufficient to pledge irrevocably to satisfy the terms of the contract.

APPROVED by Governor May 30, 2007**EFFECTIVE** Upon passage**Senate Bill 258*****Workers' Compensation*****(Groff/Rice)**

Clarifies that the workers' compensation fee schedule applies to all services provided by a medical professional. Requires scheduled awards to be calculated the same as lump sum awards. Deletes the requirement that the parties wait 14 days after the notice of the request to select an independent medical examiner (IME) is mailed to select an IME. Requires witness reports and employer records to be exchanged at least 20 days prior to the hearing date. Removes the requirement that a party certify he or she attempted to resolve a dispute when a hearing is requested in response to a final admission of liability or to overcome a conclusion in a division-sponsored independent medical examination. Eliminates the requirement that a judge prepare a full order in certain circumstances. Places the burden of proof on the party that attempts to reopen an issue or claim as to any issues sought to be reopened. Requires the treating physician to inform the injured worker that he/she has the right to request a different physician. Allows an employee to bring another person to a medical appointment. Deletes the requirement that the division of workers' compensation order and calculate a lump sum award. Increases the allowable aggregate lump sum award.

APPROVED by Governor May 30, 2007**EFFECTIVE** Upon passage

House Bill 1060***Bioscience Research Grants*****(Riesberg/Shaffer)**

Establishes within the bioscience discovery evaluation grant program separate maximum grant amounts for research projects based on whether a research project is funded by a federal agency Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant, or a federal agency Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program grant. Specifies which portion of moneys appropriated to the bioscience discovery evaluation cash fund may be used to provide grants to SBIR and STTR research projects and which portion shall be used to provide grants to other research projects. Establishes eligibility criteria for an office of technology transfer that seeks a grant from the program for the purposes of an SBIR or STTR research project. Increases the amount the office of economic development may expend in administering the program. Transfers \$2,500,000 of the general fund portion of limited gaming fund moneys to the program.

APPROVED by Governor March 2, 2007**EFFECTIVE** Upon passage**House Bill 1118*****High School Graduation Requirements*****(Todd/Tupa)**

Requires the state board of education to adopt guidelines for the establishment of minimum high school graduation requirements. Directs local boards of education to establish local high school graduation requirements, utilizing the state board's guidelines. Directs the Colorado commission on higher education to review and align its academic admission standards with the state board's guidelines. Creates the state graduation guidelines development council. Outlines membership on and duties of the council. Repeals the council, effective July 1, 2008.

APPROVED by Governor May 2, 2007**EFFECTIVE** Upon passage**House Bill 1163*****In-State Tuition for Military*****(McNulty/Kopp)**

Makes a member of the armed forces, or a dependent of the member, eligible for in-state tuition status if the member is transferred to Colorado on a temporary assignment of duty. Gives all members of the Colorado National Guard, and their dependents, in-state tuition status. Provides that persons eligible for in-state tuition solely because of a person's status as a member of the armed forces or Colorado National Guard are not eligible for a stipend under the college opportunity program.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2007**EFFECTIVE** July 1, 2007

House Bill 1203

***Energy Management Conservation
Studies***

(Fischer/Romer)

Encourages the governor's office of energy management and conservation to set a high priority on funding a county-level study regarding the baseline amount of carbon that may be stored in soil in Colorado to facilitate the creation of a Colorado-based market in carbon sequestration credits and a Colorado energy profile.

APPROVED by Governor May 23, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

House Bill 1256

In-state Tuition Econ Dev Incentive

(Massey/Williams)

Permits an institution of higher education to provide in-state tuition status to a student who moves to Colorado as a result of the student's employer or the student's parent's employer moving to Colorado pursuant to an incentive from the office of economic development or an incentive from a local government. Permits an institution to provide in-state tuition status to a student who moves to Colorado as a result of the student's parent taking a faculty position at a Colorado institution of higher education. Requires the institution to develop a verification process to provide students in-state tuition under these provisions. Prohibits a student receiving in-state tuition pursuant to this provision from receiving state financial aid.

APPROVED by Governor June 1, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

House Bill 1314

Extended Rules for Public Benefits

(Cerbo/Groff)

Requires the executive director of the department of revenue to issue permanent rules providing for additional forms of identification recognized by the federal government and a waiver exemption process for persons applying for federal or state or local public benefits. Specifies that emergency rules issued prior to March 1, 2007, remain in effect until new rules are promulgated.

APPROVED by Governor March 1, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

House Bill 1335

***Supp Low Income Employee State
Benefits***

(McGihon/Romer)

Reallocates tobacco litigation settlement moneys currently allocated pursuant to Senate Bill 07-097 to supplement the state contribution to the medical benefit plan premiums of all state employees to supplement only the state contribution to the group medical benefit plan premiums of lower-income state employees who have at least one dependent other than a spouse. Reallocates a portion of the settlement moneys currently allocated for short-term innovative health program grants to pay administrative costs related to the new supplements. Defines the class of lower-income state employees eligible for supplements and other terms. Specifies the supplement application process.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2007

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2007

House Bill 1359

***Accelerated Use of Strategic Contribution
Fund Monies***

**(Buescher/Fitz-
Gerald)**

This bill allocates a portion of the tobacco litigation settlement moneys received by the state from the strategic contribution fund in the state fiscal year in which they are received rather than in the next state fiscal year for the purpose of mitigating a temporary reduction in allocations for tobacco litigation settlement programs that would otherwise result from the crediting of a portion of the tobacco litigation settlement payment to be received by the state in April 2007 to a special account in the tobacco litigation settlement cash fund for use in making supplemental appropriations for specified purposes related to health care during the 2006-07 and 2007-08 fiscal years.

APPROVED by Governor June 1, 2007

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2007

House Bill 1377

Higher Ed & State Retirement Plans

(Pommer/Gordon)

Repeals the eligibility, currently set to commence on January 1, 2008, for an employee of a state college or university or an institution under the control of the board of regents of the university of Colorado to participate in the defined benefit or defined contribution plan established by the public employees' retirement association or the state defined contribution plan. Makes an employee of a community college governed by the state board for community colleges and occupational education who is hired on or after January 1, 2008, and who has not been a member of the association during the 12 months prior to the date that he or she commences employment, a member of the association with the choice to participate in the defined benefit or defined contribution plan established by the association.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2007

EFFECTIVE January 1, 2008



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key State Health Care Legislation

Senate Bill 079 *Standard Health Care Provider Contracts* **(Johnson/Romanoff)**

Requires any person or entity contracting with a health care provider on or after January 1, 2008, to use a standard form contract. Requires each contract to include a summary disclosure form. Exempts a person or entity from providing a fee schedule to a provider if the fee schedule is for dental services whose providers include licensed dentists and the fee schedule is based on fees filed by the dental provider and is revised periodically. Allows a material change to a contract only if the change is provided in writing 90 days prior to the change. Allows a contract to be terminated by either party if there is written objection to the change, unless the objection is to an addition of a new category of coverage. Prohibits a person or entity from assigning, allowing access to, selling, renting, or giving the rights to the provider's services unless specific conditions are met. Prohibits a contract from requiring a waiver of the provider's legal rights as a condition of entering into the contract. Allows a health care provider to decline services to new patients upon 60 days' notice. Allows for termination of a contract without cause by either party if the contract is for less than 2 years, otherwise requires the termination without cause terms to be specified in the contract. Allows a contract to include an agreement for binding arbitration.

APPROVED by Governor March 30, 2007

EFFECTIVE August 3, 2007

Senate Bill 196 *Health Information Technology* **(Hagedorn/Massey)**

Creates the health information technology advisory committee to develop a long-range plan for health care information technology, including the use of electronic medical records, computerized clinical support systems, computerized physician order entry, regional data sharing interchanges for health care information, data privacy and security measures, and other methods of incorporating information technology in pursuit of greater cost-effectiveness and better patient outcomes in health care. Requires the committee to pursue an interstate compact among western states to create internal state health information technology and health information exchange programs with the goal of connecting and exchanging information between the compact states to provide lower-cost, higher-quality, and accessible health care services and benefits.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Bill 232 ***Health Pro Loan Repayment Program*** **(Romer/Massey)**

Creates the state health care provider loan repayment program to provide education loan repayments to health professionals who agree to work for at least 2 years in medically underserved communities. Caps the annual amount that a health professional may receive through the program. Directs collegeinvest to administer the program in collaboration with the health care community board.

APPROVED by Governor June 4, 2007

EFFECTIVE Upon passage

Senate Joint Memorial 004 ***Prevent CMS Rule on Public Hospitals*** **(Tapia/Buescher)**

Resolves that the members of the Colorado General Assembly urge the members of the United States Congress to promptly enact legislation preventing the federal centers for Medicare and Medicaid from adopting or enforcing the proposed "Medicaid Program; Cost Limit for Providers Operated by Units of Government and Provisions to Ensure the Integrity of Federal-state Financial Partnership" rule.

APPROVED by Senate President and Speaker of the House April 12, 2007

House Bill 1022 ***Rural Health Care Needs*** **(Butcher/Sandoval)**

Makes legislative declarations concerning the inability of the health care system to meet the health care demands in rural Colorado and the need to address rural health care shortages and inadequacies through various measures. Instructs the division of insurance to conduct a study of the factors that drive health insurance costs in the Pueblo area. Creates the rural recruitment grant program to aid in the recruitment of physicians, nurses, and nurse practitioners to rural areas. Creates the medical equipment for rural communities grant program, administered by the department of public health and environment in cooperation with the state board of health, to provide matching grants to rural health care providers for the purchase of medical equipment. Creates the family mental health services grant program, administered by the state board of health in cooperation with the division of mental health services in the department of human services, to award grant moneys to community mental health centers serving rural areas for purposes of providing family mental health services in rural areas.

APPROVED by Governor June 4, 2007

EFFECTIVE Portions effective June 1, 2007

Portions effective July 1, 2008

House Bill 1176***Injured Worker Change Select Physician* (M. Carroll/Tochtrop)**

Allows an injured employee covered under the "Workers' Compensation Act of Colorado" to choose a treating physician from a list, prepared by the injured employee's employer, of at least 2 physicians or one or more networks of health care providers. Allows a health care provider or governmental entity that has its own health care network to designate that network as a treating physician.

APPROVED by Governor May 14, 2007

EFFECTIVE January 1, 2008

House Bill 1219***Health Care Special Districts*****(Roberts/Boyd)**

Specifies that the service plan filed with a county for a special district that is a health service district or health assurance district shall not be referred to the planning commission for the county in which the special district is proposed to be located. Specifies that in the event that the petition does not satisfy the legal requirements, the court shall either dismiss the petition or allow the petitioners to correct technical defects in the petition. Specifies that the court shall not accept or act upon the request of a person that his or her property be excluded from a health service district or health assurance district. Specifies that the court shall direct the question of the formation of the special district to be placed on the ballot in the event that the petition satisfies all of the legal requirements and a question regarding the formation of a health service district or a health assurance district shall be presented to the voters. Maintains the authority for a district to be organized in accordance with the "Special District Act" and to levy a property tax in the district to generate revenues to provide health care services. Authorizes any health service district or health assurance district to contract with or work in cooperation and in conjunction with another district or any other existing health care provider or service in order to provide health care services and facilities to residents of such district. Upon voter approval, allows any county in the state to impose an additional sales tax for the purpose of providing health care services in the county. Exempts such additional sales tax from the total cap on total county sales tax imposed by law.

APPROVED by Governor May 14, 2007

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2007



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Federal Relations

The 110th Congress, 2nd Session convened on January 4, 2007 and is scheduled to adjourn in October. Because the congressional calendar runs year round many issues remain outstanding at the time of this report

We are optimistic of another successful year in getting funding for special projects.

We urge faculty and staff to contact our office regarding any congressional tours or Hill visits that need to be arranged, even if they are attending with their professional associations. Also, we ask that faculty or staff contact us prior to sending any correspondence on University of Colorado letterhead to any member of Congress. Thank you.

FY2007 AND FY2008 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

Special Projects Funding Received from FY2007 Appropriations

- ◆ UCCS received \$1,900,000 for the first federally-funded PhD in Homeland Defense in partnership with U.S. Northern Command and the Naval Post Graduate School at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and the GSPA program at University of Colorado at Denver.
- ◆ UCCS received \$1,100,000 for the Partnership in Innovative Preparation for Educators and Students (PIPES) program.

Special Projects Funding Requests in FY2008

This year the Office of State and Federal Government Relations will seek funding for the following projects:

- ◆ \$1.5 Million for the University of Colorado at Boulder's Renewable and Sustainable Energy Initiative.
- ◆ \$ 1 Million for the University of Colorado at Boulder's Colorado Schools Safety Program
- ◆ \$3.3 Million for the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs joint Student and Educator Training Academy, established between the Partnership in Innovative Preparation for Educators and Students (PIPES) and the Space Education Consortium (SEC)
- ◆ \$4.4 Million for the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs Ph.D. in Homeland Defense program.
- ◆ \$1 Million for the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center's National Center for Audio/Video Forensics.
- ◆ \$4 Million for the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center establishment of the Linda Crnic Institute for Research and Treatment of Down Syndrome.
- ◆ \$1 Million for the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center's Center for Women's Health Research Development Program.



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Research Funding in FY2007

In addition to the federal initiatives, the University lobbied the congressional delegation for their support of federal research funding.

The University of Colorado continued to be a national leader in research funding by attracting some \$637 million in FY2007. The University of Colorado at Boulder had nearly a \$10 million increase from \$256 million in FY2006 to \$266 million in FY2007. The University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center remains the top research institution in the state, with \$363 million, the majority from the National Institutes of Health. The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs attracted \$7.9 million.

Research awards at University's three campuses have increased nearly 86 percent over the past decade.

Agency	Appropriations Bill
National Institutes of Health (NIH) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Department of Education	Labor/HHS/Education
National Science Foundation (NSF) National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA)	VA/HUD/Independent Agencies
Department of Defense (DOD)	Defense
Department of Energy (DOE)	Energy & Water
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Commerce / Justice / State
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)	Interior
Department of Transportation	Transportation / Treasury
Department of Homeland Security (DHS)	Homeland Security



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Higher Education Federal Legislation

110th Congress, 2nd Session

S. 1228 *Campus Law Enforcement Emergency Response Act of 2007* **(Durbin)**

Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require each institution of higher education (IHE) participating in any program under title IV (Student Assistance) to include information concerning its law enforcement emergency response program and the occurrence of campus law enforcement emergencies in the annual campus security report it must provide to current and prospective students and employees. Also requires such an IHE to: (1) test annually its law enforcement emergency response program; and (2) inform those on campus of any school law enforcement emergency within 30 minutes of discovering it.

Status: Still in Committee

H.R. 2669 *College Cost Reduction Act of 2007* **(Miller)**

Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) to reauthorize the Pell Grant program through FY2013. Authorizes and appropriates additional funding for the program for FY2008-FY2017 to increase the amount of the maximum Pell grant for which a student is eligible by \$200 for each of the award years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, \$300 for award year 2010-2011, and \$500 for each subsequent award year. Increases the authorized maximum Pell grant to \$7,600 for academic year 2008-2009 and by \$1,000 increments each academic year thereafter until it stands at \$11,600 for academic year 2012-2013.

Status: Still in Committee

S. 1642 *Higher Education Amendments of 2007* **(Kennedy)**

Provides a five-year reauthorization authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965

Status: Passed Senate with an amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 95 - 0. Record Vote Number: 275

H.R. 1469 *Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007* **(Lantos)**

Establishes in the executive branch the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation to carry out this Act under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961. Requires the Foundation to award grants, increasingly for study in nontraditional study abroad destinations, to: (1) U.S. students; (2) nongovernmental institutions that provide and promote study abroad opportunities for U.S. students, in consortium with institutions of higher education (IHEs); and (3) IHEs, individually or in consortium.

Status: Passed out of House. Received in Senate.

S. 911 *Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007* **(Durbin)**

Establishes in the executive branch the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation to carry out this Act under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961. Requires the Foundation to award grants, increasingly for study in nontraditional study abroad destinations, to: (1) U.S. students; (2) nongovernmental institutions that provide and promote study abroad opportunities for U.S. students, in consortium with institutions of higher education (IHEs); and (3) IHEs, individually or in consortium.

Status: Still in Committee



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Competitiveness Federal Legislation 110th Congress, 2nd Session

S. 761 *America COMPETES Act* **(Reid)**

Focuses on three areas that are important for maintaining and improving U.S. innovation: 1) increasing research investment; 2) strengthening educational opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, from elementary through graduate school; and 3) developing an innovation infrastructure.

Status: Senate incorporated this measure in H.R. 2272 as an amendment

H.R. 906 *Global Change Research and Data Management Act of 2007* **(Udall)**

Would require the President to establish an interagency United States Global Change Research Program to improve understanding of global change, to respond to the information needs of communities and decision makers, and to provide periodic assessments of the vulnerability of the United States and other regions to global change. The bill would repeal The Global Change Research Act of 1990.

Status: Passed out of House. Still in Senate Committee.

H.R. 363 *Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act* **(Gordon)**

Authorizes appropriations for FY2008-FY2012 to: (1) the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for support of basic research activities in the physical sciences, mathematics and computer sciences, and engineering; and (2) the Department of Defense (DOD) for support of basic research activities. Makes at least 8% of such amounts available for high-risk, potentially high-payoff research.

Status: Passed out of House. Still in Senate Committee.



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Intellectual Property Federal Legislation

110th Congress, 2nd Session

H.R. 1908 *The Patent Act of 2007*

(Berman)

To amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform. Modifies conditions under which a patent may be obtained for an invention or discovery, including by: (1) defining "inventor" to include a joint inventor and coinventor; (2) making the effective filing date of a claimed invention the filing date of the patent or the patent application; and (3) revising procedures for patent interference disputes.

Status: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

S. 1145 *The Patent Act of 2007*

(Leahy)

To amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform. Modifies conditions under which a patent may be obtained for an invention or discovery, including by: (1) defining "inventor" to include a joint inventor and coinventor; (2) making the effective filing date of a claimed invention the filing date of the patent or the patent application; and (3) revising procedures for patent interference disputes.

Status: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Security Federal Legislation

110th Congress, 2nd Session

H.R. 958 *Citizen Involvement in Campaigns Act of 2005* **(Petri)**

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow: (1) a \$200 tax credit (\$400 for joint returns) for contributions to a candidate for Federal elective public office or to the national committee of a national political party; and (2) a tax deduction (available to taxpayers who do not itemize deductions) for such political contributions up to \$600 (\$1,200 for joint returns).

Status: Still in Committee

S. 495 *Personal Data Privacy and Security Act of 2007* **(Leahy)**

A bill to prevent and mitigate identity theft, to ensure privacy, to provide notice of security breaches, and to enhance criminal penalties, law enforcement assistance, and other protections against security breaches, fraudulent access, and misuse of personally identifiable information.

Status: Still in Committee

S. 239 *Notification of Risk to Personal Data Act of 2007* **(Feinstein)**

Requires any federal agency or business entity engaged in interstate commerce that uses, accesses, transmits, stores, disposes of, or collects sensitive, personally identifiable information, following the discovery of a security breach, to notify (as specified): (1) any U.S. resident whose information may have been accessed or acquired; and (2) the owner or licensee of any such information the agency or business does not own or license.

Status: Still in Committee



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Trade Federal Legislation 110th Congress, 2nd Session

H.R. 910 *American Competitiveness and Adjustment Act* **(English)**

To amend the Trade Act of 1974 to make certain modifications to the trade adjustment assistance program. Changes funding from '\$16,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007' and inserts '\$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012'.

Status: Still in Committee

S. 122 *Trade Adjustment Assistance Improvement Act of 2007* **(Baucus)**

Amends the Trade Act of 1974 to allow the filing of a petition for certification of eligibility to apply for trade adjustment assistance by adversely affected: (1) workers in a service sector firm, its subdivision, or public agency; and (2) service sector firms. Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to provide technical assistance to service industries adversely affected by import competition. Extends the trade adjustment assistance program through FY2012. Would authorize the program at \$50,000,000.

Status: Still in Committee



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Lobbying Federal Legislation 110th Congress, 2nd Session

S. 1 *A bill to provide greater transparency in the legislative process.* **(Reid)**

Authorizes a point of order by any Senator against consideration of any item in a conference report that includes any matter not committed to the conferees by either chamber. Prohibits Members, officers, or employees from knowingly accepting gifts from lobbyists, agents of a foreign principal, or private entities that retain or employ such individuals, except in specified circumstances. Also sets limitations on reimbursement for transportation as well as others.

Status: Cleared for White House

H Res 6 *Adopting the Rules of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Tenth Congress.* **(Hoyer)**

Amends Rule XXIII (Code of Official Conduct) to prohibit Members, with the intent to influence on the basis of partisan political affiliation an employment decision or practice of private entities, from: (1) taking or withholding, or offering or threatening to take or withhold, an official act; or (2) influencing, or offering or threatening to influence, the official act of another. Sets numerous limits on gifts, transportation and more to provide greater transparency.

Status: On agreeing to Title V of the resolution Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 232 - 200



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Health Care Federal Legislation

110th Congress, 2nd Session

S. 472 *A bill to authorize a major medical facility project for the* **(Allard)**
Department of Veterans Affairs at Denver, Colorado.

Would allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a major medical facility project for a replacement facility for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Denver, Colorado, in an amount not to exceed \$523,000,000. Would also allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obligate and expend any unobligated amount in the 'Construction, Major Projects' account of the Department of Veterans Affairs to purchase a site for, and for the construction of, the Department of Veterans Affairs replacement facility.

Status: Still in Committee

H.R. 1323 *A bill to authorize a major medical facility project for the* **(Salazar)**
Department of Veterans Affairs at Denver, Colorado.

Would allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a major medical facility project for a replacement facility for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Denver, Colorado, in an amount not to exceed \$523,000,000. Would also allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obligate and expend any unobligated amount in the 'Construction, Major Projects' account of the Department of Veterans Affairs to purchase a site for, and for the construction of, the Department of Veterans Affairs replacement facility.

Status: Still in Committee

H.R. 1480 *A bill to impose a 2-year moratorium on implementation of* **(Klein)**
a proposed rule relating to the Federal-State financial
partnerships under Medicaid and the State Children's
Health Insurance Program.

Imposes a two-year moratorium on implementation of a proposed rule ("Medicaid Program; Cost Limit for Providers Operated by Units of Government and Provisions To Ensure the Integrity of Federal-State Financial Partnership") relating to the federal-state financial partnerships under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) under titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act.

Status: Still in Committee

S. 787 *A bill to impose a 2-year moratorium on implementation of a proposed rule relating to the Federal-State financial partnerships under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.* **(Martinez)**

Imposes a two-year moratorium on implementation of a proposed rule ("Medicaid Program; Cost Limit for Providers Operated by Units of Government and Provisions To Ensure the Integrity of Federal-State Financial Partnership") relating to the federal-state financial partnerships under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) under titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act.

Status: Still in Committee

H.R. 2206 *Emergency Supplemental Spending Bill* **(Obey)**

Makes additional FY2007 appropriations to the Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under Public Law 480 Title II Grants. The AHA-backed provisions in the bill place a one-year moratorium on a final **Medicaid rule** related to intergovernmental transfers and certified public expenditures. It also prevent CMS from implementing a rule to eliminate payments for graduate medical education under Medicaid. The bill also allows up to \$650 million in emergency funding for the State Children's Health Insurance Program to prevent an anticipated funding shortfall in 11 states this year.

Status: Became Public Law No: 110-28

H.R. 3 *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007 (Engrossed as Agreed to or Passed by House)* **(DeGette)**

Amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct and support research that utilizes human embryonic stem cells, regardless of the date on which the stem cells were derived from a human embryo, provided such embryos: (1) have been donated from in vitro fertilization clinics; (2) were created for the purposes of fertility treatment; (3) were in excess of the needs of the individuals seeking such treatment and would never be implanted in a woman and would otherwise be discarded (as determined in consultation with the individuals seeking fertility treatment); and (4) were donated by such individuals with written informed consent and without any financial or other inducements.

Status: Placed on Senate Calendar



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

FY2008 U.S. President's Budget Request

Summary of the President's FY2008 Request by Agency

National Science Foundation (NSF)

- The FY08 budget request for NSF is \$6.449 billion, an increase of \$409 million, or 6.8 percent, above the FY07 budget request.
- NSF is one of the agencies targeted for funding increases under the President's American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI).
- The request for Research and Related Activities is \$5.131 billion, an increase of \$366 million, or 7.7 percent, above the FY07 budget request.
- The budget would fund NSF's Education and Human Resources programs at \$750.60 million, an increase of \$34.38 million, or 4.8 percent, over the FY07 budget request. Graduate Education programs would receive \$169.50 million, an increase of \$9 million, or 5.6 percent. Undergraduate education programs would receive \$210 million, an increase of \$13 million, or 6.8 percent.
- The Major Research Equipment and Facilities and Construction Account would be funded at \$245 million, an increase of \$4.29 million over the FY07 budget request. This is an increase of 1.8 percent.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

- The FY08 budget request for NASA is \$17.309 billion, an increase of \$517 million, or 3.08 percent, above the FY07 budget request.
- The Administration has requested \$10.483 billion for the Science, Aeronautics, and Exploration Account (SAE) account, a reduction of \$167 million, or 1.57 percent, from the FY07 budget request. *Living With a Star* would receive \$253 million, or \$20.5 million above the FY07 budget request. The Hubble Space Telescope would receive \$277 million, or \$66 million below the FY07 budget request.
- The Science Mission Directorate would receive \$5.516 billion, an increase of \$49.2 million, or one percent, above the FY07 budget request.
- The Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate would receive \$554 million, an increase of \$24.7 million, or 4.67 percent, above the FY07 budget request.
- The Exploration Systems Mission Directorate would receive \$3.923 billion, a reduction of \$228 million, or 0.5 percent below the FY07 budget request. The Constellations Systems program would receive \$3.068 billion, a cut of \$164 million, or one percent, below the FY07 budget request.

- The Education Programs (Cross-Agency Support Programs) would receive \$153 million, a reduction of \$13.7 million, or eight percent, below the FY07 budget request.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- The President's FY08 budget request for NIH is \$28.621 billion, a \$232 million increase over the Administration's estimate of \$28.389 billion for FY07.
- The Administration's request would continue the erosion of research capacity created during the doubling of the NIH budget, which was completed in 2003. In inflation-adjusted terms, NIH's purchasing power may have been cut by as much as 12.4 percent since the doubling ended.
- The President's FY08 budget proposes to support 10,188 competing Research Project Grants (RPGs), an increase of 566 competing RPGs over the FY07 Administration estimate and 1,060 more than the FY06 actual level.
- No inflationary increases are provided in the FY08 budget for direct, recurring costs in non-competing RPGs. However, where the NIH has committed to a programmatic increase in an award, such increases are provided.
- Consistent with the FY07 President's Budget request, no funds are provided for non-biodefense extramural construction.
- The Office of the Director (OD) increases by \$38 million, or eight percent, for a total of \$517 million. Of this amount, \$122 million is reserved for the OD contribution to the NIH Roadmap/Common Fund, an increase of +\$39 million over the FY07 Estimate.

Department of Defense (DOD)

- The Administration's FY08 budget request would provide \$10.77 billion for Defense Science and Technology (S&T) (budget categories 6.1 basic research, 6.2 applied research, and 6.3 advanced technology development). This is a reduction of \$2.55 billion, or 19.2 percent, from the FY07 funding level of \$13.33 billion.
- Basic Research (6.1) -- The President's FY08 budget request would provide \$1.43 billion for Defense 6.1 Basic Research programs, a reduction of \$135.6 million, or 8.7 percent, from the FY07 funding level of \$1.56 billion. It includes all basic research programs funded under the Office of the Secretary of Defense and DARPA, also known as *Defense Wide*, as well those supported by the respective military services, e.g. the Navy, Army, and Air Force research programs. Basic research represents 13.3 percent of the total proposed FY08 budget for Defense S&T.
- Applied Research (6.2) -- For Defense 6.2 Applied Research programs, the budget proposes \$4.36 billion. This is a reduction of \$972.5 million, or 18.2 percent, from the FY07 funding level of \$5.33 billion. Applied research represents 40.5 percent of the total budget for Defense S&T.

Department of Education (DOED)

- The President's FY08 budget would provide \$90.4 billion for federal student financial aid, excluding the cost of consolidating existing student loans. The total represents a \$7.3 billion, or 8.8 percent, increase over FY07.
- The FY08 budget proposes to eliminate several student aid programs, including: the Perkins Loan program, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), and the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships (LEAP). Overall, the Department of Education budget proposes to eliminate 44 programs, for projected savings of \$2.2 billion.
- The budget would increase the maximum Pell Grant by nearly 14 percent, or \$550, to a total of \$4,600 in 2008. The plan calls for increasing the maximum grant by \$200 each year thereafter until it reaches \$5,400 in 2012.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

- The President's FY08 budget would provide \$141 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), an increase of about \$500,000 above the FY07 budget request.
- The FY08 budget includes \$1.4 million for NEH's recently launched Digital Humanities Initiative (DHI). The initiative consists of five new digital programs: Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants, an Institute of Museum and Library Services/NEH Digital Partnership, Digital Humanities Challenge Grants, Digital Humanities Workshops, and Digital Humanities Fellowships.

Department of Energy (DOE)

- As part of the American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI), the President's FY08 budget proposes \$4.4 billion for the DOE Office of Science. This is a \$296 million, or 7.2 percent, increase over the FY07 request, which was just over \$4.1 million. The added funding will allow the DOE Office of Science to support 25,500 PhDs, post doctoral researchers, and graduate students in FY08, an increase of 3,600 over the number the office was able to support in FY06.
- The FY08 DOE request includes \$2.7 billion for the President's Advanced Energy Initiative (AEI), which is \$557 million above the FY07 request of \$2.1 billion. The AEI includes funding for the development of clean energy technologies, as well funding for basic and applied energy research in areas such as biomass, wind, solar, hydrogen, clean coal, and nuclear technologies.



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Highlighted Hill Visits, Tours, and Events

Washington, DC advocacy visits July 2006-June 2007:

- The Office of State and Federal Government Relations has participated in more than 100 hill and department visits in Washington, DC with President Brown, Chancellors Peterson, Shockley-Zalabak, and Wilson, UCH President Schroffel as well as faculty from all three campuses.

Tours:

- During the state legislative session, the office coordinated special tours of the State Capitol and meetings with legislators who spoke about the legislative process to the following CU and outside groups:
 - Emerging Leaders Program
 - University Perspectives
 - 50 for Colorado
 - UCDHSC School of Education
- The Office of State and Federal Government Relations conducted over 30 in-state tours/meetings to all three CU campuses with our Congressional members, state legislators and/or their staff.
- The office also participated in outreach tours with the President and Chancellors.

Events:

In addition to our lobbying efforts on both the state and federal side, highlighted below are a few of the many events our office participates in to help garner our internal relationships as well as those with outside entities:

- CU After Hours – Legislative Alumni Event
- CU/UNC/CSU Legislative Reception
- CU Boulder Music in the Senate
- 2007 Allard Health Care Summit
- Women’s Health Care Symposium
- CU Boulder Allard Financial Literacy Event
- Perlmutter Veterans Affairs Health Forum
- CU President’s Office Capitol Tour
- CU Joint Education Committee Briefing
- President Brown’s DC Alumni College



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS *CU Ambassadors Program*

The Office of State and Federal Government Relations coordinates the University's CU Ambassadors program. The CU Ambassadors are a group of Colorado residents who advocate on behalf of CU and higher education with the Colorado state legislature.

The primary goal of CU Ambassadors is to increase awareness and advocate for CU's interests among lawmakers. By influencing state legislative opinion, the program seeks to strengthen the University of Colorado academic programs and support research in a way that benefits all Colorado citizens.

Through their participation in the program, Ambassadors receive:

- ◆ An invitation to attend an Ambassadors-only annual meeting with the CU President.
- ◆ Regular email communication including updates on issues of importance to the University, legislative updates, advance notice of CU outreach events and "CU's Good News" quarterly updates.
- ◆ Legislative Calls to Action - during the legislative session, the President calls on Ambassadors to contact their legislators to advocate for action supporting the University or the interests of higher education.

During the 2007 state session, President Brown and the Office of State and Federal Government Relations asked CU's Ambassadors to contact their state elected officials in support of SB 07-097 Allocation of Tobacco Settlement Monies. The office made personal phone calls to more than fifty Ambassadors in an effort to increase participation. A critical number of Ambassadors responded with phone calls and emails to their state legislators and the Governor's office and assisted the University in achieving its goals.

CU Ambassadors are an increasingly important part of the University's advocacy corps. Ambassadors sound a critical voice with our elected officials, as alumni, friends, and current or future parents of CU students.

Special thanks to all of our Ambassadors who made vital contacts with our elected officials this year.

To join the CU Ambassadors program, please email cuambassadors@cu.edu. Only non-university resources may be used to contact state elected officials.



STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Office of State and Federal Government Relations Team



Hollie Stevenson
Executive Director

Hollie Stevenson is the Executive Director of State and Federal Government Relations at the University of Colorado. She is responsible for the development and implementation of CU's legislative agenda relating to both state and federal issues. Ms. Stevenson is a member of the President's Executive Committee and weighs in on critical policy issues for the University. Additionally, she lobbies on important legislation at the State Capitol, and on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Previously, Hollie served as Director of Privacy and Public Policy in the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. Prior to this, she served the University of Colorado as Deputy Director in the Office of Government Relations from 2000-2004, and as Special Assistant to the UCDHSC Chancellor in a chief of staff role from 2004-2005. Hollie holds a J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law, and a B.S. in Business Administration with a Minor in Computer Science from Regis College.



Kirsten Castleman
Deputy Director of State Relations

Kirsten Castleman serves as Deputy Director for State Relations. She focuses her lobbying efforts on health care policy issues for the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, University of Colorado Hospital, and the CU Colorado Springs Beth El College of Nursing and Health Sciences. She is the lead on capital issues for the CU system. Kirsten is an active member of the Colorado Health and Hospital Association and was selected as a member of the 50 for Colorado 2005 program, which is administered by Executive Development Programs, a partnership between the Leeds School of Business and the Division of Continuing Education and Professional Studies at UCB. Kirsten has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville and a Master of Arts in Higher Education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



Heather Fields
Executive Assistant

Heather Fields is the Executive Assistant to Deputy Directors Lynne Lyons and Kirsten Castleman. Her position aids in tracking federal legislation, as well as health care legislation during the state session. Additionally, Heather manages scheduling and travel for both Deputy Directors, and prepares fact sheets and other correspondence related to the University's legislative priorities. Heather worked in the office as a student assistant for three years while attending college. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



Tanya Kelly-Bowry
Policy Analyst

Tanya Kelly-Bowry is the Policy Analyst for State Relations. Ms. Kelly-Bowry has served the University of Colorado for the past eight years as Associate Director for State Relations, Director of Federal Relations, and Associate Vice President of State and Federal Government Relations and is the lead lobbyist for the University's budget issues at the Capitol. In July 2004, Tanya attended Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and was appointed by Governor Bill Owens to the Colorado Commission on Community Service. She is a Hispanic woman who was raised in the San Luis Valley and is fluent in Spanish. An international affairs graduate of CU-Boulder, she received a Master's in nonprofit management from Regis University on a fellowship from the Colorado Trust.



Amanda Lewis
Assistant Director of State and Federal Relations

Amanda Lewis is the Assistant Director of State and Federal Relations. She serves as chief of staff for the office and is responsible for analyzing and tracking all state higher education legislation and policy. In addition, Amanda is the coordinator of the CU Ambassadors Program and she is responsible for all state and federal relations special events including campus tours for congressional members and state legislators. She is a member of the CU System Barrier Busters Committee and a liaison to the Faculty Council Communications Committee. She has worked in the office for the past six years. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Colorado at Boulder and she is currently working on a Master of Arts degree from the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center.



Lynne Lyons
Deputy Director of Federal Relations

Lynne Lyons serves as Deputy Director of Federal Relations. She assists ED Stevenson and Director Sprenger on federal special projects for all three campuses. Lynne lobbies on legislation ranging from research funding, academic health, hospital, copyright and intellectual property legislation. She serves on the AAMC Government Relations Steering Committee, the NASULGC Council of Federal Relations and Executive Steering Committee, as well as the AAU Council on Federal Relations. Lynne has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado at Denver. In 2005, she was selected by President Hoffman to participate in the University's Emerging Leaders Program.



Melissa Miller
Special Assistant to the Executive Director

Melissa Miller is the Special Assistant to Executive Director Hollie Stevenson. Her position manages the ED's calendar and travel, as well as many of the office administrative duties, including managing the Office of State and Federal Government Relations budget. Melissa prepares critical correspondence with regard to the University's legislative priorities. In addition, she responds to legislative and constituent requests for information pertaining to the University of Colorado System and aids in tracking state legislation during the session. For four years during her collegiate career, Melissa worked in the office as a student assistant. She has a Bachelor of Arts in English and Education from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



David Sprenger
Director of Federal Relations

David Sprenger serves as the Director of Federal Relations and is based at the University of Colorado's office in Washington, DC. David works with ED Stevenson to cultivate positive relationships with Colorado's Congressional delegation and advocates on all federal issues that impact the University. David has expanded the presence of the University of Colorado within the federal departments and with the Congressional committees. He also represents the University of Colorado at AAU. David sits on the executive board of the Colorado State Society and is also a member of the DC CU Alumni Buffs Club. His professional background includes working as a lobbyist for a top DC firm and a health policy advisor to Congressman Scott McInnis on Capitol Hill. David, a Colorado native, was raised in Colorado Springs and received degrees in political science and history from Regis University. He is currently working on a Master's of Public Policy degree from George Mason University in Virginia.

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