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FOCUS ON FACULTY

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 2020



University of Colorado **Boulder**



[Could dark matter be a source of light in the universe?](#)

The Daily Galaxy

(June 20, 2020) -- A new version of Hubble's deep image can be seen as dark gray, showing the new light that has been found around the galaxies in this field – the brightness of more than one hundred billion suns.

“The simulations fit the data beautifully in the early universe, and they fit the local data beautifully if we’re allowed to assume that this extra light is really there,” explained [Ben Oppenheimer](#), a study co-author from CU Boulder.



[Western Colorado water purchases are stirring up worries about the future of farming](#)

KUNC

(June 2, 2020) – “They are the same concerns that have existed since the 1930s,” said [Anne Castle](#), a senior fellow at the CU Boulder Getches-Wilkinson Center. “The east slope municipal diverters or an investment firm – it doesn’t matter who it is – are going to be able to offer more money for water than you could derive from farming or ranching. The concern is that if that becomes a trend, then the whole economy of the Western Slope changes and the agriculture economy will be very different and smaller than it is now.”



[Study shows sleep improved under stay-at-home orders](#)

Julesburg Advocate

(June 11, 2020) -- “Even though we are living through this incredibly stressful time which is changing our behaviors drastically, we are seeing changes to sleep behaviors that are for the most part positive,” said lead author [Ken Wright](#), an integrative physiology professor at CU Boulder. For the study, Wright and co-authors at the University of Washington set out to assess how student sleep habits were changing in the wake of widespread stay-at-home orders and social distancing guidelines put into place in mid-March.



[Why diversity and inclusion efforts fail to deliver and how to change that](#)

Forbes

Over the past decade, more companies have tried to demonstrate a commitment to diversity and inclusion in recruiting, engaging, developing and promoting employees. But in most cases, the experience of those from marginalized backgrounds has not changed enough. [Stefanie Johnson](#), a professor at the Leeds School of Business at CU Boulder, discussed her work, which helps explain why current approaches to achieving diversity often fall flat and what managers and employees can do to change that.



[CU Law launches boot camp to prep future lawyers for 'bankruptcy tsunami'](#)

BizWest

(June 26, 2020) -- CU law professors, led by [Erik Gerding](#), recently launched a summertime virtual boot camp to teach bankruptcy basics and connect students with experts in the field in the hope that they will decide to pursue careers in bankruptcy law after graduation.

“I think there's a real concern that there's going to be a tsunami of consumer and small business bankruptcies because of the economic crisis. That means there's going to be a real need for attorneys, and especially

energetic young attorneys, to help clients navigate the process,” Gerding said.



University of Colorado **Colorado Springs**



[Studying fruit flies to understand neurologic disorders](#)

Inside Higher Ed

(June 19, 2020) -- Can fruit flies help us understand more about human neurological disorders? In the Academic Minute, part of UCCS Week, [Eugenia Olesnicky Killian](#) determines how their genes can help us understand our own. Olesnicky Killian is an associate professor in the department of biology.



[New UCCS business dean has experience with tight budgets](#)

The Gazette

(June 28, 2020) -- [Karen Markel](#) has plenty of experience with tight budgets — and she will put that expertise to work as dean of the College of Business at UCCS. Before arriving at UCCS, she was dean of the College of Business and Public Policy at the University of Alaska Anchorage, where the university faced a 40% budget cut.



[Local schools — and passionate educators — work to level the playing field for students of color](#)

Colorado Springs Independent

(June 24, 2020) -- [Andrea Herrera](#) was hired at UCCS where she helped establish ethics and social equity programs. She now serves as its associate vice chancellor for equity, diversity and inclusion. Among her challenges is raising awareness among students, faculty and the community of the discrimination that permeates the culture.



[Colorado Springs cost of living surges to 23-year high](#)

Out There Colorado

(June 23, 2020) -- “This isn’t a huge surprise, especially with Colorado Springs ranking as one of the nation’s hottest housing market in recent years. That is likely to continue because the people who are losing their jobs weren’t home buyers for the most part; most were renters,” said [Tatiana Bailey](#), director of the UCCS Economic Forum. “A higher cost of living is a byproduct of the last few years of very strong economic growth.”



[As coronavirus slows its spread in elder care homes, residents still face another health battle: loneliness](#)

Colorado Public Radio

(June 10, 2020) -- “What we know about loneliness is that it is linked to poor health indicators. So it can increase a person’s likelihood to develop more medical problems,” said [Sheri Gibson](#), a geropsychologist at UCCS. “Among older adults, it has even been linked to early mortality.”



University of Colorado **Denver**



[How deepfakes could actually do some good](#)

Vox

(June 29, 2020) -- The director of the CU Denver National Center on Media Forensics, [Catalin Grigoras](#), emphasizes that the ethical questions surrounding synthetic media are raised when they appear to take on aspects of reality. No one has an issue with fake faces generated in Hollywood films, he says, but issues emerge, for instance, when they’re used to create false news. As for the movie Welcome to Chechnya, the application of deepfake technology is within reason.

“It’s just a new movie that has this kind of visual effects,”

Grigoras said. “They are quite good, but still it is possible to detect them.”



[Denver proactively removes Kit Carson statue from downtown monument ahead of protests](#)

The Colorado Sun

(June 26, 2020) -- “There are two original sins in the United States,” said [Glenn Morris](#), who is a professor of political science at CU Denver. He directs the Fourth World Center for the Study of Indigenous Law and Politics at CU. “One is the genocide against native people and the dispossession of Indigenous peoples’ territories, and then in the enslavement of Africans.”



[‘No evidence’ black lives matter protests caused COVID-19 spike](#)

Newsweek

(June 22, 2020) – “Science is never 100% conclusive,” said [Andrew Friedson](#), assistant professor at the CU Denver's Department of Economics and one of the study's authors. “I think that we’ve put forward a solid piece of evidence on the topic, but there are always improvements that can be made over time.”



[DRIVE task force tackles challenges, opportunities of recruiting teachers of color](#)

EdNews

(June 17, 2020) -- [Margarita Bianco](#), an associate professor at CU Denver, presented on Pathways2Teaching (P2T), a college readiness program for juniors and seniors in high school to explore issues in education, social justice and equity, and teaching as a potential career choice.



[Fossil footprints help uncover the mysteries of bipedal crocodiles](#)

Scientific American

(June 11, 2020) -- Fossil footprint expert and CU Denver professor [Martin Lockley](#) and colleagues describe the puzzling fossil tracks in a paper published in Scientific Reports. Lockley calls South Korea a “tracker’s heaven” for paleontologists because of the sheer number of fossil footprints found in the country.



University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**



[Would MLB be better off in a bubble? Experts say ... maybe](#)

Sports Illustrated

(June 24, 2020) -- “The Twins and the Rockies have different public health leaders and different public health perspectives and, quite frankly, are in different places in the coronavirus outbreak right now than the Rangers and the Diamondbacks,” said [Dawn Comstock](#), a sports epidemiologist at the Colorado School of Public Health. “You’re going to have to deal with different public health mandates.”

Also: [Fans want sports. Sports want fans. But it’s not that simple](#), New York Times, June 18, 2020



[For diabetes patients, new health threats and cost concerns surface during coronavirus](#)

The Colorado Sun

(June 26, 2020) -- [Andrea Gerard Gonzalez](#), assistant professor of pediatrics at the CU School of Medicine, said almost none of the center’s Spanish-speaking patients were getting the modern standard care of continuous monitoring and insulin pumps. She and the center instituted group diabetes sessions, with up to 10 families in each, and invited siblings, grandparents and other caregivers. Sessions are led by providers and nutritionists who, like Gerard Gonzalez, are bilingual.



[El Paso County led state in suicides, including self-inflicted firearms deaths in 2019](#)

The Gazette

(June 28, 2020) -- “It means we’ve got a lot of work to do,” said [Erik Wallace](#), a professor and associate dean of the CU School of Medicine branch in Colorado Springs. “What is clear is when people are in a crisis, access to a firearm is a major contributor to a completed suicide.”



[Colorado Edition: discussing disparities](#)

KUNC

(June 15, 2020) -- Black and Hispanic Coloradans have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 in terms of case and death numbers, according to state data. To learn more about why COVID-19 is impacting these communities more in Colorado, we spoke with [Tanya Sorrell](#), an associate professor in the college of nursing at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.



[Poor fitness may impede long-term success in weight loss programs](#)

Today's Dietitian

(June 23, 2020) -- “This research could help us improve the design of our weight loss programs and suggests that adults with very poor fitness may benefit from additional exercise support during a weight loss program to achieve higher levels of moderate to vigorous physical activity and improve long-term weight loss,” says lead researcher [Adnin Zaman](#), of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.

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