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MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 2021



University of Colorado **Boulder**



[Mystery of the Grand Canyon's 'Missing Billion Years' May Be Solved Thanks To New Tectonic Model](#)

Forbes

(Aug. 20, 2021) -- A new study coauthored by University of Colorado Boulder researchers reveals the complex history behind a gap of missing time, suggesting that the breakup of an ancient supercontinent, causing tectonic uplift of some areas and erosion in others, might be to blame.

“Think of the red bluffs and cliffs of the Grand Canyon as Earth’s history textbook,” explained [Barra Peak](#), lead author of the new study and a researcher in geological sciences at CU Boulder. “If you scale down the canyon’s rock faces, you can jump back almost 2 billion years into the planet’s past. But that textbook is also missing pages: In some areas, more than 1 billion years’ worth of

rocks have disappeared from the Grand Canyon without a trace.”



[Quake-Hit Haiti Failed to Learn Building Lessons After 2010 Disaster](#)

The Wall Street Journal

(Aug. 19, 2021) -- “This is a problem throughout the world. People pour a lot of money into fixing the thing that has just collapsed and put very little additional money into fixing buildings that are vulnerable and will be hit by another earthquake,” said [Roger Bilham](#), a seismologist at CU Boulder and one of the first experts to survey the damage after the 2010 disaster.



[Booming Town asks, ‘Where Will Water Come From?’](#)

Associated Press

(Aug. 19, 2021) -- The dual challenges of population growth and water scarcity are made worse by climate change, said [Lisa Dilling](#), an environmental studies professor at CU Boulder and director of the Western Water Assessment research program.

“We can still have growth, but we have to make sure we’re thinking ahead,” Dilling said. “We need to manage the water efficiently and mindfully.”



[New Prehistoric ‘Hobbit’ From the Dawn of the Age of Mammals](#)

Cosmos

(Aug. 18, 2021) -- “When the dinosaurs went extinct, access to different foods and environments enabled mammals to flourish and diversify rapidly in their tooth anatomy, and evolve larger body size,” says lead author [Madelaine Attebury](#), from CU Boulder’s Geological Sciences Department. “They clearly took advantage of this opportunity, as we can see from the radiation of new mammal species that took place in a relatively short amount of time following the mass extinction.”



[Boots on Mars in 2026? Elon Musk Says ‘Yes’](#)

Innovation & Tech Today

(Aug. 16, 2021) -- [David Klaus](#), a professor of BioServe Space Technologies at CU Boulder’s College of Engineering and Applied Science, is optimistic. However, he expects a Mars voyage to be rife with its own unique problems.

“Getting humans to Mars within a few years from now is an ambitious goal to be sure, but the only likelihood that is certain is that if we don’t try, we definitely won’t get there,” Klaus said.



[Space Symposium Kicks Off With Day Focused on the Next Generation of Space Leaders](#)

The Gazette

(Aug. 23, 2021) -- Funneling young professionals into the aerospace industry depends on investing in students at a young age, said [Don Rabern](#), dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at UCCS. “Most of the research out there suggests if you’re going to make progress on that front, you need to do it in the K-12 area,” Rabern said.



[District 49 Thought to be First District in Colorado to Ban Critical Race Theory](#)

The Gazette

(Aug. 12, 2021) -- Critical race theory focuses on institutional racism rather than individual discrimination, according to [Jeffrey Montez de Oca](#), a sociology professor at UCCS.

“The basic premise is that racism in the United States goes beyond individual prejudice and discrimination,” Montez de Oca said. “(The theory) says that racism is woven into institutions and organizations.” Montez de Oca said many people oppose the theory, in part,

because it questions deeply held beliefs about what it means to be an American.



[NCAR study: Pandemic Exacerbated Impacts of Extreme Heat](#)

Colorado Hometown Weekly

(Aug. 5, 2021) -- Safety measures such as being able to check on loved ones actually serve an important role in heat protection, said co-author and UCCS Professor [Mary Hayden](#), and were not possible because of lockdown restrictions and other measures. While communities often have safety measures such as cooling centers, the pandemic revealed how easily those options could disappear, Hayden said.



[UCCS Business Professor Celebrating 50 Years 'Making a Difference'](#)

The Gazette

(Aug. 7, 2021) -- "I thought I would have the opportunity to help build a new university and be involved in everything," said [Don Warrick](#), 81, who has been a professor of management and organizational change at UCCS for 50 years with his office still in Dwire Hall.

"When I started, they told me they would build me a behavioral lab and the facilities director told me I had two hours to design it. It was built to my specifications and

we used it for 25 years until it was replaced by office space.”



[Local Educators Tackle Tough Conversations on Turmoil in Afghanistan](#)

KOAA

(Aug. 27, 2021) -- As the turmoil continues in Afghanistan, local educators are tackling hard conversations in their classrooms to help students better understand the events unfolding.

“A student was posting about the Taliban, and talking about how this idea of Islam as an inherently violent tradition. This student was critiquing that claim. I did add that, what's been going on, especially with this horrible airport bombing that happened recently, that it was ISIS-K. That they claimed responsibility, and they are no fans of the Taliban let alone the American forces and other security forces around the world that have been in Afghanistan,” said [Patrick D'Silva](#), visiting instructor in the philosophy department at UCCS.



University of Colorado **Denver**



[Event Aims to Educate Public on Preventing Overdoses and Saving Lives](#)

The Daily Sentinel

(Aug. 28, 2021) – An overdose-prevention event at CU Denver is part of a months-long project by [Marty Otañez](#), chair and associate professor of the anthropology department at CU Denver, and four students.

“Our goal is to humanize people who choose to use drugs and educate people so that we can prevent more unnecessary deaths,” Otañez said. “My half-brother Andrew died a few years back, and we suspect it was from fentanyl and heroin. This inspired my work, and I feel a lot more empathetic after this.”



[Health IT Adoption Disparities Impede Digital Health Transformation](#)

EHR Intelligence

(Aug. 18, 2021) -- While COVID-19 accelerated the digital health transformation, disparities exist in health IT adoption of tools that help health care planning and preparation. The CU Denver Business School researchers conducted a survey of 135 health care system CEOs from February to March 2021.

“While we are seeing electronic health records become useful in the world of COVID, we’re not seeing these new technologies being used to their fullest extent,” said

study co-author [Jiban Khuntia](#). “Health systems cannot shape future decisions and strategies until they start to leverage more comprehensive functions.”



[Why are Men Reluctant to Get the Covid-19 Vaccine?](#)

Affluencer

(Aug. 18, 2021) -- Women are more used to making decisions about their own health and the health of their families, says [Jennifer Reich](#), a sociologist at CU Denver. She has been studying vaccination behavior for more than a decade.

“Women are accustomed to seeking out health care in the form of reproductive health from a young age on a biannual or annual basis, so much so that women are more primed to be thinking about preventing illness in a way that men tend not to participate in until they’re about 50.”

Also: [The Feds Just OK'd Booster Shots. This Could Get Ugly Fast.](#) The Daily Beast, Aug. 12



[Black, Latino, LGBTQ Investors See Crypto Investments like Bitcoin as ‘a New Path’ to Wealth and Equity](#)

USA Today

(Aug. 15, 2021) -- Marginalized communities tend to worry they will lose money because they've experienced bias and unfair treatment, said [Yosef Bonaparte](#), associate professor of finance and the director of external affairs in finance at CU Denver.

"The LGBTQ community has historically been less likely to participate in investing in the stock market because they think that they could be exposed to income and credit risks if they are fired for their sexuality," Bonaparte says. "Social discrimination can have lasting adverse effects on the economic welfare of these individuals."



[Could Religion Be Fueling the Gender Pay Gap?](#)

Forbes

(Aug. 5, 2021) -- In a recent series of studies, [Traci Sitzmann](#), professor of management at CU Denver, and Elizabeth Campbell, University of Minnesota, provide compelling evidence that the answer is yes. They argue that tenets found in each of the world's six major religions – Buddhism, Christianity, Folk, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism – can create norms and expectations regarding the roles of men and women that fuel the gender pay gap in cultures where religiosity is high, compared to secular cultures where religiosity is low.



University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**



[Seeking Early Signals of Dementia in Driving and Credit Scores](#)

The New York Times

(Aug. 23, 2021) -- The pathologies underlying brain decline can begin years before symptoms emerge. Can everyday behavior provide warning?

“We were motivated by anecdotes in which family members discover a relative’s dementia through a catastrophic financial event, like a home being seized,” said [Lauren Nicholas](#), the lead author and a health economist at the CU School of Public Health. “This could be a way to identify patients at risk.”



[In the Early 1990s, Heat Waves Battered Philadelphia’s Most Vulnerable Communities. The Lessons Learned are Helping Today.](#)

The Washington Post

(Aug. 19, 2021) -- “It’s very different when you’re on oxygen or you’re on a diuretic or heart medicine or you’re a smoker or have existing heart disease,” said [Jay Lemery](#), an associate professor of emergency medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. “At that point, that physiological stressor is just enough to put you over into crisis.”



[Alcohol-Related Liver Disease Surges since Pandemic; Young Women Seeing Biggest Increase in Diagnoses](#)

Fox 31

(Aug. 12, 2021) -- At UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital, medical director of liver transplantation and section head of hepatology [James Burton](#) said more than half of his patients have some kind of alcohol-related liver disease.

“When the mayor shut down the city and closed down the liquor stores and everyone had a run in the liquor stores, I mean, that really showed that this was a problem,” Burton said.



[How to Improve Indoor Air Quality](#)

Fox 31

(Aug. 9, 2021) -- [Jeff Sippel](#), a pulmonologist at CU Anschutz Medical Campus, says some people are more at risk from poor indoor air quality than others.

“The people who should be most concerned about indoor air quality are going to be people who have underlying lung disease like asthma and COPD,” Sippel said.



[Secret Side Effects of Exercising Just 2 Hours Per Week, Says Science](#)

MSN

(Aug. 3, 2021) – “This amount has been shown to help reduce your risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, depression, stroke, type 2 diabetes, colon and breast cancer, and decreased cognitive function,” [Judith Regensteiner](#), director and a founder of the Center for Women’s Health Research at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Aurora, told Consumer Reports.

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