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FOCUS ON CU FACULTY



MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 2018

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



[Asteroid impact that wiped out the dinosaurs also caused abrupt climate change](#)

WAMU (National Public Radio)

(May 24, 2018) -- [Julio Sepulveda](#), a geologist at CU Boulder, worked with M.H. Negra of the University of Tunis to collect samples of the earth from a deep trench dug into a hillside.

“We basically have to go very carefully looking at layer by layer until we find a very characteristic layer that is red in color. It is at most a centimeter thick,” Sepulveda says. “That contains all the material that came from the impact itself, from the body that impacted our planet.”



[Why open plan offices are like a nudist beach](#)

The Washington Post

(May 16, 2018) -- [Stefanie Johnson](#), a professor who studies diversity and gender issues at CU Boulder, said the study rang true to the experiences women often have in the workplace. She recalls speaking with an executive at a company who described himself as being an advocate of hiring and advancing women – yet said he was pro-diversity because, “Who doesn’t want to look at women all day?” she said. “He laughed, but it’s not very funny. There’s a lot of literature on sexual objectification that shows the damaging effects it has.”



[What would happen if the moon suddenly disappeared?](#)

Popular Science

(May 8, 2018) -- Tidal movements help drive ocean currents, which in turn direct global weather patterns, as the currents distribute warm water and precipitation across the globe. Without them, regional temperatures would be much more extreme, as would major weather events, says [Jack Burns](#), who heads the Network for Exploration

and Space Science at CU Boulder. And it's not just ocean tides, he said. The moon's gravitational pull similarly moves molecules in the atmosphere.



The science behind Hawaii's car-eating, lava-filled fissures

Weather Nation

(May 7, 2018) -- All of the volcanic activity in Hawaii can be attributed to a geologic hot spot where unusual amounts of magma continually rise to Earth's surface. [Leilani Arthur](#), a professor at CU Boulder said, "[Geologists] don't understand all of the nuances about what makes up hot spots." They do know, however, that hot spots are responsible for building islands around the world, including Hawaii, she said.



CU African dance students perform for community as their final

Daily Camera

(May 6, 2018) – CU Boulder African dance students held a big, joyful, sweaty dance party last month, showing off their moves and inviting friends and family to join in. The celebrations serve as the final exam for the 45 or so students in CU instructor [Nii Armah Sowah](#)'s dance classes.

"African dance is physical, but it's also emotional and spiritual," Sowah said. "You are dancing with a village because the village belongs to you and you belong to the village."



CU Boulder cell biologist's lab lands prestigious \$8M award

Daily Camera

(May 23, 2018) -- A cell biologist at CU Boulder will be provided about \$8 million over the next seven years to continue her research. [Gia Voeltz](#), 46, who runs the Voeltz Lab at CU Boulder, was chosen by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute as one of the group of scientists who will receive part of \$200 million to further their research.

According to the institute, "She's actually changing the way we look at the machinery of life — using imaging techniques that light up the inner workings of cells. Her discoveries are rewriting textbooks, and could have implications in disease."



[In the Arctic, the old ice is disappearing](#)

The New York Times

(May 14, 2018) -- As darker, heat-absorbing water replaces reflective ice, it hastens warming in the Arctic. Older ice is generally thicker than newer ice and thus more resilient to heat.

“First-year ice grows through winter and then up to a maximum, which is usually in March,” said [Mark A. Tschudi](#), a research associate at the Colorado Center for Astrodynamics Research at CU Boulder. “As summer onsets, the ice starts to melt back.”



[Growing up with animals could make you more resilient as an adult](#)

Medical News Today

(May 2, 2018) – “It has already been very well documented that exposure to pets and rural environments during development is beneficial in terms of reducing risk of asthma and allergies later in life,” said study co-author [Christopher A. Lowry](#), professor of integrative physiology at CU Boulder. However, he adds that their study also “moves the conversation forward by showing for the first time in humans that these same exposures are likely to be important for mental health.”

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS



[UCCS professor weighs in on President Trump canceling summit with North Korea](#)

KRDO

(May 24, 2018) -- [Inhan Kim](#), assistant professor of political science at UCCS, said the differences in agendas between the two countries on denuclearization are hard to overcome.

“First, they have different ideas, different visions for the scope of denuclearization of North Korea, the second, (the) pace of denuclearization, and third, the compensation related to it,” Kim said.



[Quad Partnership pursues solutions to community issues](#)

Colorado Springs Independent

(May 16, 2018) -- Gathered from UCCS, the Air Force Academy, Pikes Peak Community College and Colorado College, students have been tasked to help solve a list of issues from partnering agencies in the city. This is all happening under the banner of the Quad Innovation Partnership, with plans to turn ideas into action and make positive change in the community through collaboration.



[Parent and provider talk high price tags, lack of space for child care](#)

KOAA

(May 14, 2018) -- Many don't have the resources to stay home with their young kids all day, so infants and toddlers head to an in-home provider or a daycare center while parents head to work. The average yearly cost for child care in El Paso County is about \$9,000 for one child, according to [Tatiana Bailey](#), director of the UCCS Economic Forum. "For two children it's about \$13,000 to \$14,000," Bailey said.



[UCCS graduate talks at spring commencement of overcoming setbacks](#)

News 13

(May 11, 2018) -- UCCS showcased two graduates as main speakers during the ceremonies; Nayda Benitez, who is a recipient of the DACA program, and Justin McConnell. McConnell took a few breaks from school before finishing, and his message to his fellow grads was to keep moving forward through hardships.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



[A Coloradan's guide to surviving the end of the world](#)

5280

(June 2018) -- We don't want to name names, but Denver's plethora of tech startups are using AI in everything from health care to home automation. If the robots decide humans are enemies, says [Ashis Kumer Biswas](#), a computer science professor at CU Denver, "You can't expect what's going to happen."



[Stapleton votes on neighborhood association name change](#)

9 News

(May 15, 2018) -- [Rebecca Hunt](#), CU Denver associate professor of history, said the local discussion is happening within a national conversation on race relations and history. That includes the choice by some cities to take down Confederate monuments.

“We are dealing with things like Stapleton and statues because of the modern time resurgence of hate speech, of white supremacy being ‘OK’ in some circles,” she said.



[A look at discipline deals for Denver police](#)

9 News

(May 8, 2018) -- [Lonnie Schaible](#), a criminology professor at CU Denver, studies police discipline and said going outside the prescribed discipline range can raise some public concern. “If you go outside of the matrix, and you do it in circumstances where it’s inconsistent or looks like you’re playing favorites, it undermines the sense of fairness about the disciplinary process internally and externally among the general public as well,” Schaible said.



[The legacy of Denver’s forced school busing era](#)

5280

(June 2018) -- An education advocacy group, A+ Colorado, produced a January 2018 report called “Learn Together, Live Together: A Call to Integrate Denver’s Schools,” which found that Denver schools are still segregated. The report has critics, including [Antwan Jefferson](#), an assistant professor at CU Denver’s School of Education and Human Development. He called for input from more community experts and a deeper look at how coded language, privilege and bias impact education policy discussions.

“If integration is the answer, what is the question?” Jefferson asks.



[Contact7: Holding public officials accountable for mobile homeowners](#)

7 News

(May 15, 2018) – “The private providers hold all the cards and the residents are left living at their whim,” said Esther Sullivan, a CU Denver sociologist. Sullivan spent eight years living in, and researching, the impacts of mobile home parks. She said lawmakers who look the other way as landowners wring profits from low-income

families have a sobering wake-up call coming.

ALSO: [Immobile homes](#), WBEZ (audio), May 15



[Meet the man who manages to pronounce every CU Denver grad's name](#)

9 News

(May 11, 2018) -- Can you imagine the pressure of reading names at graduation? You can't get any name wrong with everyone's family there. But this task isn't a big deal for [Devin Jenkins](#). He's a linguist in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at CU Denver, and he reads the names of those proud grads cold every year.



[Colorado schools gave out nearly 1,800 suspensions to young students with disabilities last year](#)

Chalkbeat

(May 9, 2018) -- Amid the continuing national debate over the fairness, effectiveness and risks of suspension, the rate stands out to experts.

"I'm very disturbed by it," said [Phil Strain](#), a professor of early childhood special education at CU Denver. "Any time that there is a disproportionality ratio of [that] size, it's beyond chance, beyond random, beyond accident."

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



[In elderly hands, firearms can be even deadlier](#)

The New York Times

(May 29, 2018) -- [Marian Betz](#), lead author of the study on firearms and dementia and an emergency physician at the CU School of Medicine, has proposed a family firearm agreement, a sort of advance directive for guns. The article contains a simple, four-paragraph template, in which the signer concedes that while he wants to control his firearms as long as possible, "the time may come when I can no longer make the best decisions for the safety of myself and others."



[Lulu's grand opening was a grand event to benefit colon cancer research](#)

The Villager

(May 23, 2018) -- The evening was a benefit for [Christopher Lieu](#)'s colon cancer research at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and the owners were able to donate \$1,000 to Lieu's research. Co-owner Christy Brant's son Nick Brant is a colon cancer survivor and is under the care of Lieu. The opening included a ribbon-cutting ceremony with many Lulu's customers, the store's co-owners, and the president and executive director of the Englewood Chamber of Commerce.



[Pureed pork for babies? New study touts benefits of introducing meat early](#)

9 News

(May 14, 2018) -- [Minghua Tang](#), the lead researcher of the CU study, said parents typically don't consider red meat as a first food for their babies. But, she said, parents should "not restrict your options to cereals," based on the study's outcomes that showed meat-fed babies grew at a faster rate and without risk of being overweight.

"We're not telling parents to load an infant's diet with red meat, but to consider animal-sourced protein as an option," Tang said.



[Doctors distressed by 'unethical' dialysis rules for undocumented immigrants](#)

Reuters

(May 22, 2018) -- Doctors who take an oath to 'do no harm' are morally distressed by dialysis payment policies in many U.S. states that don't cover services for undocumented immigrants until they're near death, a new study found.

"Undocumented immigrants that rely on emergency-only hemodialysis are near-death and critically ill weekly and so we form personalized relationships with the patients and their families," said lead author [Lilia Cervantes](#) of the CU School of Medicine.



[Boulder County experts say new medication could ease detox, but treatment mix still needed](#)

Longmont Times-Call

(May 20, 2018) -- Lucemyra, also called lofexidine, was first developed as an antihypertensive drug to treat high blood pressure, but researchers discovered that it could also treat some of the withdrawal symptoms because it affects a neurotransmitter believed to cause a number of withdrawal symptoms, according to **[Robert Valuck](#)**, a professor at the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.



[St. Pete man is first U.S. vaping death. Are e-cigarettes safe?](#)

Tampa Bay Times

(May 17, 2018) -- Some doctors warn that vaping injuries could rise. **[Joshua Williams](#)**, an assistant professor at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, was part of a team that published the first paper on vape injuries in children after treating a 17-year-old who lost a large piece of his thumb to an exploding vape pen. The paper also noted that due to the alkaline chemicals released, anyone who suffers such an explosion could actually make the burn worse by washing it with water and should instead seek immediate treatment.

“It’s incredibly unfortunate, but no, it’s not surprising that someone would eventually die like this considering the injuries we’ve seen,” he said.

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