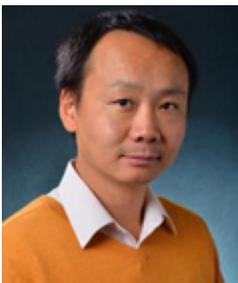


**MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**

**MARCH 2017**

**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER**



**[Study finds NSAID pain relievers may help treat sepsis](#)**

More than 1 million people die in the U.S. each year from sepsis, an immune response to infection. A study from CU Boulder has identified the potential of using non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs, to treat sepsis.

“NSAIDs like ibuprofen and aspirin are among the most prevalent pharmaceuticals worldwide,” said study author [Hang Hubert Yin](#), a biochemistry professor at the BioFrontiers Institute. “We provide the first evidence for a novel mechanism of action for NSAIDs, one we believe could have a direct impact on people’s lives.” UPI, Feb. 23



**[Alien worlds could help explain how planets form](#)**

Because the newly discovered system is so close to Earth, astronomers can study the planets’ atmospheres relatively easily. That could reveal an astonishing diversity of worlds, ranging in composition from rocky to icy.

“This system is going to be one of the best laboratories we have for understanding the evolution of small planets,” says [Zachory Berta-Thompson](#), an astronomer at CU Boulder. *Nature*, Feb. 23



**[Colleagues reflect on Gorsuch's Supreme Court nomination](#)**

“Neil has never been a person who’s said, ‘When’ I’m on the Supreme Court.’ He’s much too humble to do that,” said his colleague and friend [Melissa Hart](#). “I think he knows what he believes about how to interpret the law. I think he’s serious about it, but I also think he’s open to hearing arguments and being persuaded on some things.” Fox31, Feb. 1



### [Why facts don't change our minds](#)

[Philip Fernbach](#), a professor at CU Boulder, and Steven Sloman, a professor at Brown, believe sociability is the key to how the human mind functions or, perhaps more pertinently, malfunctions. Sloman and Fernbach see an effect, which they call the “illusion of explanatory depth,” just about everywhere. People believe that they know way more than they actually do and what allows them to persist in this belief is other people. **The New Yorker, Feb. 27**

---



### [Why your name may be ruining your life](#)

Professor [Jeffrey Zax](#) and graduate student Alexander Cauley analyzed data on the lives of more than 3,000 men who graduated from Wisconsin high schools in 1957. They found that those with surnames further back in the alphabet did worse in high school, college and in the job market early in their careers.

“The effect [of the alphabetical rank] is significant, negative and substantively large,” the researchers wrote. While correlation isn’t necessarily causation, the researchers firmly believe there’s a connection. The findings suggest that teachers pay less attention to students further down their class rolls. **Bloomberg, Feb. 10**

---



### [Daniel J. Scheeres, CU Boulder professor, added to National Academy of Engineering roster](#)

[Daniel J. Scheeres](#) joined CU in 2008, and was previously on the faculty at Iowa State University and the University of Michigan. He was also a member of the technical staff for the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and a visiting fellow at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science in Japan. He is a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the American Astronautical Society and has an asteroid named in his honor. **Daily Camera, Feb. 9**

---



### [Disadvantaged students more likely to be impacted by Jeffco school closures](#)

Across the nation, it’s common for school closures to affect disadvantaged families, said [Ben Kirshner](#), an associate professor of education at CU Boulder. School closures can have a harmful effect on these communities, which already face an array of other hardships, he said.

“Schools really do often serve as a kind of anchor for a community, a physical place that represents bonds that tie people together,” Kirshner said. **The Colorado Independent, Feb. 6**

---



### [Study: Smoking may normalize brain function for schizophrenics](#)

Researchers at CU Boulder's Institute for Behavioral Genetics have found nicotine has a normalizing effect on the brains of schizophrenics. This likely explains why up to 90 percent of schizophrenics are smokers.

"It's been thought for a long time by scientists that schizophrenics, the reason why they smoke to such a high degree, is they're self-medicating," says [Jerry Stitzel](#), a researcher and associate professor at CU Boulder. **7News, Jan. 27**

---

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS



### [Campaign underway to raise \\$1.5M to name theater for former UCCS chancellor](#)

A \$1.5 million fundraising campaign to name a theater in honor of former UCCS Chancellor [Pam Shockley-Zalabak](#) kicked off last week. CU Regent Kyle Hybl of Colorado Springs and his wife, Sally, are leading the effort. Faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members also are involved. **The Gazette, Feb. 24**

Also: [Departing UCCS chancellor saw change from commuter school to major university](#), **The Gazette, Feb. 14**



### [Celebrities use the Oscars to showcase their political opinions](#)

CU Colorado Springs political professor [Josh Dunn](#) said comments from the celebrities likely don't have a real effect on people.

"I suspect that in the end, these Hollywood speeches on politics don't have a direct effect on people's opinions except perhaps to galvanize support for the people they are speaking out against," Dunn said. **KRDO, Feb. 26**



### [Colorado Springs/El Paso County wages grow at fastest rate in more than 10 years](#)

[Tatiana Bailey](#), director of the UCCS Economic Forum, said the wage gains will help narrow the gap between average wages in the Springs area with the rest of the state and nation.

"It is good news overall and very consistent with our tight labor market," she said. **The Gazette, Feb. 23**

---



### [UCCS sports medicine center to be named after El Pomar CEO](#)

UCCS will name its sports medicine and performance center for El Pomar Foundation CEO [William J. Hybl](#), the school announced. The naming rights reflect "the longtime support of El Pomar Foundation as well as its specific support for the university's efforts to redevelop North Nevada Avenue, where the new building will be located," UCCS said in a news release. El Pomar donated \$4 million to UCCS to help its efforts to redevelop the corridor. **The Gazette, Feb. 2**

---



### [Colorado Springs a 'low-key' magnet for millennials](#)

Many millennials are drawn to Colorado Springs by the growing availability of jobs in technology, business and startup fields and the exceptional opportunities the state offers for "work-life balance," said [Scott Van Ness](#), an instructor at UCCS who is leading a workshop series with the Southern Colorado Better Business Bureau on millennials in the workplace.

"We're talking about outdoor activities, healthy lifestyles, friendly people," he said. "Colorado is a great fit for that." **The Gazette, Feb. 9**

---



### [CU Colorado Springs among best for LGBTQ-friendly online programs](#)

UCCS ranks 33rd most "LGBTQ-Friendly Online School" in the nation, according to a new study by SR Education Group, an education research publisher founded in 2004. The list includes 58 accredited institutions that have adopted policies and/or practices that demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity for LGBTQ students. **The Gazette, Feb. 8**

---

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



### [Colorado's five biggest moments in presidential politics](#)

On President's Day, 9News counted down Colorado's five biggest moments in presidential politics. You know, nerd stuff. The kind of nerd stuff we love. For the list, we turned to the man they call Dr. Colorado, or CU Denver history professor [Tom Noel](#). **9News, Feb. 21**

---



### [The football that little kids play might soon look different](#)

USA Football is talking about changing the rules for youth, but reform is in the pilot stages. [Sarah Fields](#), associate dean of the college of liberal arts and sciences at CU Denver, said children in three-point stances lead with their heads, and that's bad for their necks and brains. **NPR, Feb. 6**



### [Funding for Colorado bridges](#)

An industry report says more than 55 thousand bridges in this country are structurally deficient. CU Denver Engineering Professor [Kevin Rens](#) explains what it would take for Colorado infrastructure to receive a passing grade. **KOA, Feb. 16**



### [Denver's homicides hit a 10-year high in 2016 after domestic violence killings spiked](#)

The number of homicides rose in Denver for the second consecutive year in 2016, reaching a 10-year high of 56 people amid a sharp rise in domestic-violence deaths.

"Two years is probably too soon to say we have a trend," said [Mary Dodge](#), a criminology professor at CU Denver. "But I would call it concerning to see them go up." **The Denver Post, Feb. 15**



### [The CU South Denver gift that keeps on giving in Douglas County](#)

A little more than two years after the 151,000-square-foot museum and art gallery formerly known as the Wildlife Experience was donated to CU by Re/Max co-founder [Dave Liniger and his wife Gail](#) and began hosting college classes, the facility continues to branch out. The site has started to debut more programs, hosting more events and working directly with south metro area businesses in order to position itself as an educational resource to people of all ages, officials said. **The Denver Post, Feb. 16**

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



### [Coloradans spend \\$35M a year on childhood diseases that vaccination could prevent, says study](#)

"If we were able to increase our rates of vaccination in the state and reach a higher level, I think we could reduce roughly by half these expenses," said [Edwin Asturias](#), an infectious-disease specialist at Children's Hospital Colorado and associate professor of pediatrics at the CU School of Medicine. Asturias was one of the study's authors. **Denver Business Journal, Feb. 24**

---



### [Colorado to allow pharmacists to prescribe birth control](#)

A new initiative in Colorado will mean women won't need a doctor to be prescribed oral birth control – at least not at first. [Gina Moore](#), PharmD, with the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences says women will soon be able to get a prescription directly from their pharmacist. **9News, Feb. 14**

---



### [Safety failures lead to 'death sentence' at Hanford](#)

Six years after being removed from his job by Hanford medical professionals due to illness, Dave Aardal is gravely sick and dying from a rare illness called chronic beryllium disease (CBD).

"I can't think of a metal that's more toxic than beryllium," said [Lee Newman](#), M.D., of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Newman is considered the world's leading expert on beryllium and CBD. "The amount of beryllium it takes to cause beryllium disease is a very minute amount. So if you're not being as strict as possible in controlling the exposures, it's unfortunately easy for someone to be overexposed." **King5, Feb. 17**

---



### [What you need know about the CDC's updated vaccine guidelines](#)

No more nasal flu vaccine. Unlike traditional flu shots made from dead virus, the nasal flu vaccine, marketed as FluMist, is made from a weakened form of influenza virus. Studies have found it largely ineffective.

"It's not used a ton in adult medicine," said [Laura Hurley](#), who was not involved in setting the new guidelines. She is an assistant professor of general internal medicine at the CU School of Medicine. **CBS News, Feb. 7**

---



### **Pediatric oral formulations: Convenient but costly**

**Robert Lee Page II**, PharmD, of CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy said that if the drug is too expensive, patients don't fill the prescription and do not garner benefit from guideline-directed medical therapy.

“If rebates are not offered, then higher costs will be translated into potential exorbitant cost sharing for the patient. Thus, patients who are uninsured or underinsured are forced to pharmacy shop,” Page said. “Such a situation cries for the need to evaluate our drug approval process and its regulatory requirements as it impacts our most vulnerable populations.” **MedPage Today, Feb. 22**



### **What belongs in medical kits for climbers and hikers?**

**William Brandenburg** of the CU School of Medicine in Denver and a colleague write in the Journal of Travel Medicine that people hiking, climbing, backpacking and doing other sporting activities in mountain areas run the risk of injury or illness with little medical care available nearby. **Reuters, Feb. 24**

University of Colorado | Focus on CU Faculty  
[www.cu.edu/focus-on-faculty](http://www.cu.edu/focus-on-faculty) | [cunews@cu.edu](mailto:cunews@cu.edu)  
1800 Grant Street, Suite 800, Denver CO, 80203

This email was sent to: %%emailaddr%%  
This email was sent by the University of Colorado  
[Manage your email preferences](#) | [Update your contact information](#)  
Your CU ID: %%Contact\_ID%%