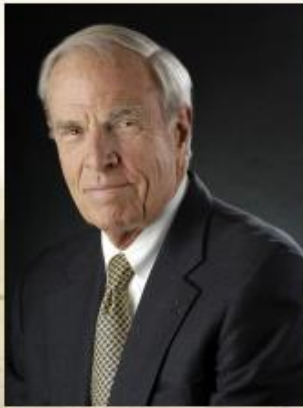


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University of Colorado

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A Message from the President

October 2018

Dear Cathy:

Paul Rady and I shared a connection long before we became friends, one that came full circle recently. When I was pursuing a master's degree in geology at CU in the early 1960s, two classmates from the doctoral program, Tom Prather and Bruce Bartleson, went on to become faculty members at Western State College (now Western State Colorado University). One of their students was Paul Rady, who earned his bachelor's degree in geology in 1979. I got to know him more than 20 years ago, and we have been friends since.

Paul and I discussed over lunch one day that Western intended to start an engineering program. He was intent on addressing an acute shortage of people in Colorado who fuel our high-tech economy. I suggested to him we could accomplish

the same outcome – increasing the number of Coloradans in STEM fields, particularly engineering – by establishing a partnership between CU and Western modeled on the successful partnership we have had with Colorado Mesa University for the past decade.

Students take their first two years at the home campus from Western faculty. CU faculty (who are in residence) will deliver the engineering portion of the program, also on the home campus. Students earn a bachelor of science degree in computer science or mechanical engineering from the CU Boulder College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. The programs are accredited immediately through CU instead of having to wait years for the accreditation process.

As the higher education landscape continues to change and evolve, these kinds of partnerships will become increasingly common. They are certainly more efficient than colleges reinventing the wheel and starting programs of their own from scratch, particularly those as expensive to deliver as engineering.

Our partnership with Western will also be substantially augmented by Paul Rady's generosity. He provided \$80 million – the largest gift in Western's history and one of the largest ever in Colorado – to establish the Paul M. Rady School of Computer Sciences and Engineering. It will be a 75,000-square-foot facility with classrooms, high-tech lab space, faculty offices and indoor and outdoor spaces to promote a collaborative learning environment. Construction is underway.

When I chaired the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (the state's oversight body for colleges and universities) in the mid-1980s, we worked to ensure higher education institutions avoided mission creep and program duplication. What we see in our partnerships with Mesa and Western is in keeping with that spirit. We are addressing a statewide need, in this case a shortage of people with degrees in areas such as software engineering, computer science or mechanical engineering. But we are doing it in an efficient manner, one that serves the students, our state and the institutions. At CU we often get well-meaning people who suggest we

should “take over” some of the smaller institutions in our state, particularly as higher education funding remains constrained. We feel partnerships are better. Each institution has its own character, history and place in the community.

We can and should work together. Our engineering partnership with Colorado Mesa University provided the blueprint for how it can be done. Now in its 10th year, some 115 students from Mesa have earned degrees without leaving the campus in Grand Junction. The program started with mechanical engineering and expanded with civil and electrical/computer engineering.

We’re building on that success. CU Boulder Engineering Dean Bobby Braun crisscrossed the state this summer to engage people in industry and education, looking to form partnerships that will advance our state and provide opportunities for students. His conversations around Colorado will allow a collaborative approach to inspiring young women and men to pursue careers in engineering and giving them a pathway to achieve it. He has a sharp focus because of the growth industries in Colorado driven by engineering and high tech. The Alliance for Science and Technology Research in America estimates that in the next decade, 19 of the top 40 STEM jobs in Colorado will be engineering or tech related.

While engineering is our current focus, we are also looking at partnerships in other areas such as business or health fields – the branch of our School of Medicine on our Colorado Springs campus is a great example of what’s possible. We have also been in discussions with other universities about other partnerships. For now, we’ll leave it to engineers to figure out a way to make something work better and provide a blueprint for future efforts.

For feedback, contact officeofthepresident@cu.edu

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Albrecht", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Benson
President



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In the news



[Regents set presidential search town halls](#)

The University of Colorado Board of Regents will hold a series of town hall meetings throughout October to gather insight and feedback from the public and members of the university community regarding the search for CU's next president. You can find the [dates and locations here](#). In addition to the in-person meetings, the board invites [electronic feedback on the search](#).



[CU affirms commitment to free speech and academic freedom](#)



[CU campuses set yet another enrollment record](#)

The CU Board of Regents recently took an important step in articulating the university's commitment to freedom of expression and academic freedom when it unanimously passed revisions to Regent Law and Policy. The vote was the culmination of more than a year's work in revising the university's highest governing documents. Students, faculty, staff and others contributed to the effort. But the action is really only the beginning. How we manifest the policies on our campuses and infuse them into our culture will be the true test. We have a strong track record already. But we must ensure our campuses are places that welcome open, vigorous and respectful debate in classrooms and around campus. Most important, CU must be a university where we teach students how to think, not what to think.



[Seven exceptional faculty members are University of Colorado's newest Distinguished Professors](#)

Congratulations and well done to our seven newly designated Distinguished Professors, the highest honor awarded to faculty across the CU system's four campuses. These

Some 66,728 students enrolled at the four University of Colorado campuses for fall 2018 – the preliminary figures indicate a new record across the CU system. The systemwide increase of 1,353 students represents a 2 percent rise over a year ago.



[New name marks a proud history](#)

The structure that has long been the centerpiece of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus — Building 500 — has been given a new name befitting its proud history and stature: the Fitzsimons Building. The CU Board of Regents voted

faculty members demonstrate exemplary performance in research or creative work, a record of excellence in classroom teaching and much more.

unanimously to rename the building that opened its doors in December 1941, four days before the attack on Pearl Harbor, and where thousands of soldiers were treated and Coloradans were born.

CU On the Air



[Mental illness: Using innovation to recognize and reach those in need](#)

Mental health is a growing concern throughout our communities in Colorado and across the country. This month, host Ken McConnellogue speaks with Matt Vogl, executive director at the National Mental Health Innovation Center at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, about mental health among college students, how to recognize and reach out to those in need, reducing the stigma of illness and how technological advances are changing treatment options.

FOUR CAMPUSES UNITED
ALL FOUR:ONE



[A Lynx link: New CityCenter connects CU Denver with community](#)

The brainchild of Denver Mayor Michael Hancock (MPA, '95), the new CU Denver CityCenter is loosely modeled after other urban centers around the country, such as New York University's Center for Urban Science and Policy. Its mission aligns with Chancellor Dorothy Horrell's aim of enhancing the role of Colorado's only public urban research university within the community.

Spotlight on Alumni



[Degree helps artist turn passion into career](#)

Thomas Evans is a professional artist working under the name Detour. He has created pieces for companies including Red Bull and Sprite. Most recently, he has painted portraits of David Letterman and Jay-Z for a Netflix marketing campaign. His CU Denver Business School education, which included an emphasis in marketing, helped him turn his passion into a career.

CU Advocates | The official grassroots network of the University of Colorado

Colorado needs healthy research universities that produce a highly educated workforce, grow our economy, attract business and industry, and engage in research that generates jobs, creates companies and improves lives. With your help we can keep CU - and Colorado - strong.

[Become an advocate for CU](#)

CU ADVOCACY FORUMS

AFFORDABILITY AND VALUE OF A CU EDUCATION



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

TWO LOCATIONS:

CU LUNCH AND LEARN

CU DENVER BUSINESS SCHOOL
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

CU SCOOP

CU BOULDER LAW SCHOOL
5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

SPEAKER: TODD SALIMAN

CU Vice President of Finance
and CFO

HOSTED BY:



Advocates

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

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News from the campuses

CU BOULDER

[Work with bees could unlock strength of natural designs in new materials:](#)

The project looked at the honeybee cluster swarms that hang in cone shapes from tree branches and are made up of hundreds of individual insects clinging to one another.

CU COLORADO SPRINGS

[UCCS launches new marketing campaign:](#)

A new marketing campaign, "UCCS fuels Success," launched Sept. 17 to share the core values of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs across the nation and world.

CU DENVER

[Women and the economy:](#) Laura Argys, professor of economics and associate dean for research, and Saul Hoffman, visiting professor of economics, were two of the three editors of the new "Oxford Handbook of Women and the Economy."

CU ANSCHUTZ

[Discovery on T-cell behavior has implications for cancer immunotherapy:](#)

Researchers find T cells elicited from subunit vaccines do not depend on glucose for reproduction.



Make a difference. Support CU today!

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Office of the President, University of Colorado

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