

'Crisis' is the word often used to describe this widespread problem – CU programs can help

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A Message from the President

August 2017

Dear eComm:



The teacher shortage in the United States is a growing topic of discussion in communities, state education departments, school boards and media reports. “Crisis” is the word most often used to describe the situation. In Colorado, some estimates note that about 3,000 more teachers are needed, and the problem is particularly acute in rural and urban districts.

CU's Colleges of Education on our campuses in Boulder, Colorado Springs and Denver are deeply engaged in the issue. The deans responsible for the programs are collaborating on solutions. I recently took [CU Boulder](#) College of Education dean Kathy Schultz to The Daniels Fund, one of our strong supporters and partners, to share information and determine ways we can make a dent in the shortage, particularly in rural schools.

The problem can be daunting, but I am encouraged by some of our efforts, particularly one led by one of our top faculty members. Dr. Margarita

More on the Path
[Pathways2Teaching](#)
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Bianco, who earned CU's Timmerhaus Teaching Ambassador Award this year, leads the [Pathways2Teaching](#) program, which attracts high school students from low-income and rural districts to teaching. Now in its eighth year, it has engaged nearly 450 students from six school districts in Colorado, including Denver Public Schools. Bianco is an associate professor in the School of Education and Human Development at [CU Denver](#). Bianco's innovative "grow your own" program not only addresses the shortage of teachers, but also the significant lack of teacher diversity. Its motto, "You can't be who you can't see," emerged from her own experience growing up in New York City, where she rarely saw a teacher who was an ethnic minority.

Pathways2Teaching allows high school juniors and seniors to get an inside look at the profession and earn college credit along the way. They learn about the teaching profession and some of the issues particular to low-income and rural schools, especially how social inequities affect the teaching workforce. It can sometimes be a tough sell, enticing students to make a career in the kinds of schools many are trying to escape. Yet Bianco makes good use of her undergraduate and graduate students at CU Denver to provide the very thing needed by many of the students the program serves -- mentors and role models. In turn, the high school students in the program work with middle school and elementary school students to get a better sense of issues and to serve as role models themselves. The program also works with local communities, where people best understand their unique challenges and issues, engaging them as a resource to build the teacher workforce.

Bianco exemplifies the spirit of CU's Timmerhaus Teaching Ambassador Award. In addition to her work with Pathways2Teaching, she will spend the next [two years sharing her experiences with faculty at CU and around the country](#), as well as with K-12 teachers and school districts. She spent time this summer working with schools in Nashville on a version of Pathways2Teaching. We were happy to [feature her in our new podcast series, CU on the Air](#), and I would encourage you to listen to Bianco describe her work in her own words.

The teacher shortage won't be solved by any big-bang initiatives, but by local efforts such as Pathways2Teaching. School districts growing their own teacher workforce is a great way to chip away at the shortage, and it has the added bonus of fostering a teacher workforce that understands issues in the kinds of schools they went through. CU is committed to doing its part to address this critical issue facing our communities, state and country, and we're proud to have people such as Margarita Bianco on the front lines.

For feedback, contact officeofthepresident@cu.edu

Sincerely,



Bruce Benson
President

IN THE NEWS



[Thanks to our donors, another record-setting year for private support](#)

I'm very pleased to announce another record-setting year at CU for fundraising. According to preliminary figures, the fiscal year that recently ended saw a total of \$386.3 million contributed by individuals, foundations and corporations. This marks the eighth straight time we've set a new record, besting the previous year. I can't overstate the value of this private support, which has a direct impact on enhancing the high-quality academic and research enterprises at all four of our campuses. [Click here for details](#), including examples of how this private support is being put to use.



[Dr. Jonathan Samet chosen dean of Colorado School of Public Health](#)

Following an extensive national search, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Jonathan Samet as the new dean of the Colorado School of Public Health. Samet, an accomplished medical professional and administrator, brings nearly 40 years of experience in patient care, administration and research.



[CU on the Air podcast: Intriguing, educational, timely](#)

The University of Colorado has thousands of remarkable stories to tell, and each month '[CU on the Air](#)' will feature informational, timely and entertaining topics on the

outstanding, life-changing work underway on our four campuses. Hosted by [Ken McConnellogue](#), vice president for university communication, the podcast shares good news on how CU is “All Four” Colorado and beyond.



[Aug 21 total solar eclipse tips with Doug Duncan](#)

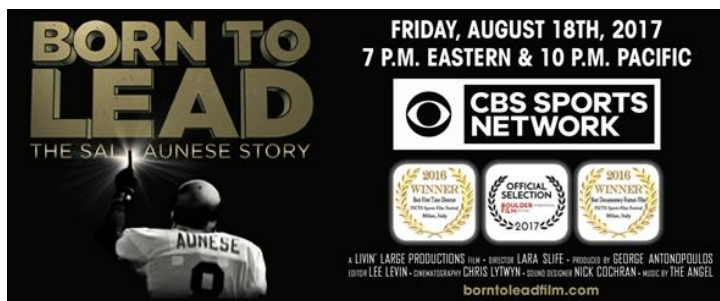
The best total solar eclipse in the U.S. in 40 years will be visible within a 70-mile corridor crossing 14 states from Oregon to South Carolina. CU Boulder astronomy professor and world renowned stargazer [Doug Duncan](#), director of the Fiske Planetarium in Boulder, tells us what to expect.



[Alzheimer's research with Huntington Potter](#)

Dr. Huntington Potter, CU Anschutz Medical Campus professor and director of the [Rocky Mountain Alzheimer's Disease Center](#), speaks on the drug leukine, which shows encouraging results; why Down syndrome research is important in Alzheimer's research; and what the center is looking for in clinical studies.

Subscribe to [CU on the Air](#). Email us at cuontheair@cu.edu.



[Watch 'Born To Lead: The Sal Aunese Story' Aug. 18 on CBS Sports Network](#)

The award-winning documentary Born To Lead: The Sal Aunese Story will air Friday, Aug. 18, on CBS Sports Network. The movie captures the inspirational story of former CU Buffs quarterback [Sal Aunese](#) who, after being diagnosed with stomach cancer, inspired his team with his strength, courage and friendship. Aunese died in 1989, but his

presence lived on as his teammates went on to win the 1990 National Championship. The documentary was produced by CU Boulder alumnus George Antonopoulos (B.A. economics, 1991; MBA finance, 1994) and features interviews with Aunese's teammates such as Eric Bieniemy and former Buffs coaches Bill McCartney and Gary Barnett. The film was the 2016 winner for Best Documentary Feature Film and Best First-Time Director (Lara Slife) at the FICTS Sports Film Festival in Milan, Italy, and has been accepted into the AMC Theatres chain for an Oscar Qualifying Run. Click on the [Facebook page](#) to find more information and when it airs in your time zone.

ALL FOUR:COLORADO



['It opened my mind to a health-centered career'](#)

The [Center for Women's Health Research](#) and [UCHealth](#) in June partnered to host the third annual "Exploring Healthcare Careers for High School-Aged Girls," an interactive learning opportunity for high school girls interested in exploring health care and science careers. The program offered 60 young women the chance to visit the [CU Anschutz Medical Campus](#).

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI



[Alumna mentors all-female Afghani orchestra](#)

Afghanistan's first all-female orchestra kicked off its debut European tour at the World Economic Forum in Switzerland earlier this year. Allegra Boggess, their mentor, flew from Colorado to help supervise the student musicians, the youngest of whom was 12.

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NEWS FROM OUR **CAMPUSES**

CU BOULDER

['Project Drought' taps drones to measure water moisture at Colorado farm](#): Initiative uses drones to improve the understanding and prediction of drought, flooding and agricultural vulnerabilities.

CU COLORADO SPRINGS

[Ent Center continues to take shape](#): The silver exterior shines, interior walls are painted, floors installed and design aspects are taking shape throughout the 92,000-square-foot building.

CU DENVER

[At topping-off celebration, CU Denver gets in Student Wellness Center spirit](#): Student initiated center to open in spring 2018.

CU ANSCHUTZ

[Facilities Management honored for excellence](#): The CU Anschutz Medical Campus has received the 2017 Award for Excellence in Facilities Management from APPA: Leadership in Educational Facilities.



Make a difference. Support CU today!

[GIVE TO CU](#)

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