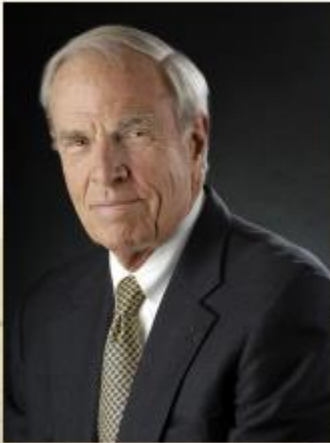


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# University of Colorado

Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus



## A Message from the President

**September 2018**

**Dear Cathy:**

When you consider the top medical destinations in the United States, a few names always stand out – the Mayo Clinic. Johns Hopkins. The M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Massachusetts General.

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus is making a strong case for inclusion on that list. And with the recent [\\$120 million gift from Philip Anschutz](#) and the Anschutz Foundation, our efforts just received a substantial shot of adrenaline. I have known Phil for some time and he has never wavered from his vision for an academic medical center in the Rockies that rivals the best in the world. His generosity accelerates that vision, allowing critical investment in top talent, innovative research, key industry partnerships, technology transfer and facilities. It is the largest single gift in the campus's history.

We have deep roots and a solid foundation to build on. Although the CU Anschutz Medical Campus is less than 20 years old, CU's School of Medicine dates to 1883, when it was founded on our Boulder campus. That first year it had "two rooms in Old Main, two professors, two instructors and two hastily recruited students," according to the school's centennial history. It soon outgrew Boulder and relocated to Denver permanently in 1925, when the CU Health Sciences Center took up residence at Ninth Avenue and Colorado Boulevard. It moved to the decommissioned Fitzsimons Army Medical Garrison base, renamed the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, in 2006 and has been going great guns ever since.

It is one of the only academic medical centers in the United States where education, research and clinical care all happen on one site. Our hospital partners that share the campus, the University of Colorado Hospital (part of the UCHealth network) and Children's Hospital Colorado, are among the top in the country. The neighboring VA Hospital just opened as well. Add to that the adjacent Fitzsimons Innovation Community, a biosciences park emerging on the north edge of the campus (which will also feature retail, hotels, a faculty club and a K-5 and a 6-12 school), and you have a powerhouse in the making.

In many ways, it's a powerhouse right now. I don't have the space to list all our myriad strengths, but a sampling will give you a sense. We have one of the top pulmonary programs in the country. We are a leader in transplant science (CU School of Medicine physicians performed the first liver transplant). Our diabetes research and treatment efforts are exemplary. We are making progress in the fight against Alzheimer's disease. Our ophthalmology department (housed in the Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Eye Center) is doing world-class work.

Phil and I share an interest in mental health, a huge concern in our society, and one that deserves much more attention. As part of the \$300 million total investment he and his family foundation have made since 2000, he has designated funds that help us place a sharp focus on mental health. The campus is home to the new National Mental Health Innovation Center, which is on the leading edge of using

technology to treat a variety of mental illnesses.

Phil's investment also helps us leverage our efforts and the generosity of other donors. The Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Depression Center (funded by the Johnson Foundation and philanthropist George Wieggers, the "father" of the center) is making its mark as a go-to place for treatment and research in various cognitive disorders. The Marcus Institute for Brain Health is one of our newest efforts, treating veterans and those with traumatic brain injury. Our partnership with the Cohen Veterans Network provides further treatment to veterans.

Another result of Phil's commitment will be the new 390,000-square-foot interdisciplinary Anschutz Health Sciences Building, which breaks ground later this year. It will house faculty leaders in mental and behavioral health, including the CU Department of Psychiatry, as well as the Colorado Center for Personalized Medicine, the Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, classrooms, exhibit space and more.

It's remarkable how transformational Phil's investment has been and will be. When a vision is backed by private funding, the pace of change accelerates at a tremendous rate. And given the equally dizzying changes and innovation occurring in medicine these days, we are able to not only keep up, but also lead the way in many areas. And that will put the CU Anschutz Medical Campus squarely in the conversation about the top medical destinations in the world.

For feedback, contact [officeofthepresident@cu.edu](mailto:officeofthepresident@cu.edu)

Sincerely,



Bruce Benson  
President



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## CU has record-breaking year in research funding, totaling more than \$1 billion

The University of Colorado reached a new record for research funding in the 2017-18 fiscal year, as faculty merited \$1.053 billion in federal, state and local awards, based on preliminary figures. This year's preliminary total shows a 1.8 percent increase over last year; final figures are expected later this year.

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## CU is Transforming Mental Health through Innovation

*How CU is applying technology, such as virtual reality, to address mental health*

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, and the CU Advocates program will host an educational program at CU Denver that also will be live streamed. The event will feature Matt Vogl, executive director of the National Mental Health Innovation Center at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Under Vogl's leadership, the center established the Technology Innovation Network, one of the largest and most diverse mental health technology test beds in the United States.



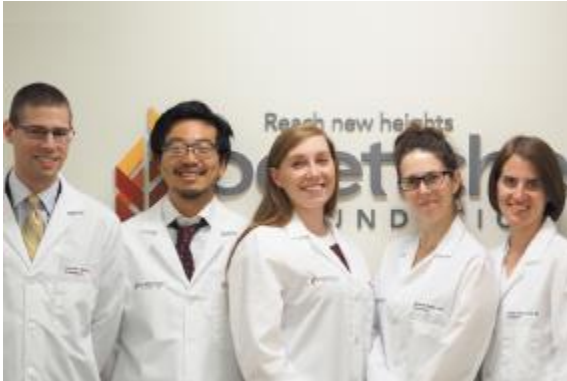
- **Learn in person:**

Tuesday, Sept. 25 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. CU Denver Campus, 1380 Lawrence St., Terrace Room, Second floor

- **On the web:**

Register to: [Attend in person](#) | [Watch the live stream](#) | [Request a video](#)

of the program



### CU researchers named Boettcher Investigators

Congratulations to six CU researchers who were named Boettcher Investigators in the Boettcher Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards Program for 2018. The awards support promising, early career scientific researchers, allowing them to establish their independent research and compete in the future for major federal and private awards.



### Remembering a remarkable student

The commencement robe Erica Huss wore was adorned with so many honor designations it was almost hard to see her face. She had two medallions, one stole and three sets of cords, each signifying a substantial academic achievement. Now, a CU Denver scholarship has been created in her memory.



### UCCS has a lot to celebrate

The University of Colorado Colorado Springs is celebrating two openings within a week, further establishing itself as one of the fastest-growing university communities in the state and an economic catalyst in the Pikes Peak region. Yesterday, UCCS opened [Mountain Lion Fieldhouse](#), which houses a 200-meter track with eight sprint lanes, two long/triple jump pits and a pole vault pit on the infield of the oval. On Sept. 10, UCCS will host an open house for

the launch of [UCCS Downtown](#), 4-6 p.m. at 102 S. Tejon St., Colorado Springs.

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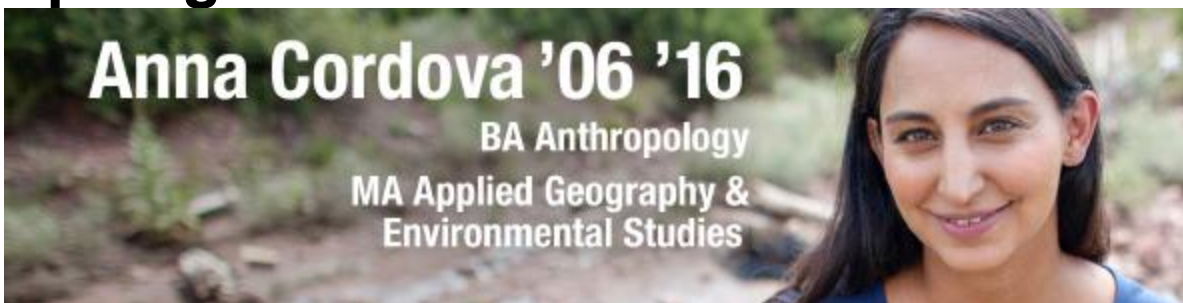
## CU On the Air Podcast



### [George Norlin: Champion of civil rights and an unwavering rebel with a cause](#)

Delve into the courageous academic and civil accomplishments of CU's fifth and longest-serving president, [George Norlin](#), and hear how he helped build the university, stood up to the KKK and helped shape the university of today.

## Spotlight On Alumni



### [UCCS alumna is uncovering Colorado Springs' past](#)

Anna Cordova, the archaeologist for Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services, made the largest discovery of her career, linking thousands of artifacts to the city's early history. "This was a once-in-a-lifetime find," 35-year-old Cordova said. "It's very, very, very cool."

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# FOUR CAMPUSES UNITED ALL FOUR:ONE



## 'The Yuccans' bring nature education to Mesa Verde

CU Boulder students made the seven-plus-hour trip to Montezuma County, Colorado, to teach park goers about the plants and animals that call the region home. Throughout the summer, teams of students worked with scientists from CU Boulder to map the park's diverse life, including populations of single-celled algae, rodents and even carrion beetles.

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## News from the campuses

### CU BOULDER

#### **K-12 schools ill-prepared for natural**

**disasters:** CU Boulder sociology professor Lori Peek has a question for parents and school administrators: How safe would your school be in the case of a natural disaster?

### CU COLORADO SPRINGS

#### **Nutrition student bikes West Coast to**

**combat hunger:** Dillon Nobbs raised nearly \$1,500 for food banks during a 26-day bike trip along the West Coast this summer.

### CU DENVER

**Dancing in the streets:** Tunes, swag and Milo draw lively Block Party crowd.

### CU ANSCHUTZ

**Are pet owners abusing animals to get opioids?** Colorado veterinarians see opioid epidemic now extending to pets.



**Make a difference. Support CU today!**

**GIVE TO CU**



**University of Colorado**

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**This message was sent by:**

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