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July 2019

Dear Friends and Alumni:

I'm thrilled to begin my time as president of the University of Colorado. Since my selection in early May, I have spent considerable time learning more about CU, its people, activities, impact and the four campuses. The more I learn, the more I want to know.

CU is an exceptional university that serves Colorado well. Yet its reach is also national and, in many cases, international. Through our aerospace programs, CU's influence even goes beyond the bounds of Earth.

While I've been interested to read books about CU's storied history and visit university websites, there's no substitute for hearing from people like you about your perspective on CU. I look forward to meeting and hearing from as many of you as possible in the coming months and beyond.



**President Mark Kennedy tours CU's campuses** I had a remarkable first day as CU president visiting all four CU campuses and learning more about our great university. I want to thank the CU community for the warm welcome.

Generating opportunities for Colorado and our students is our prime imperative. CU makes a real difference in lives and in communities, and I intend to travel the state throughout my tenure to hear about how we're doing and how we can do better.

CU rests on a solid foundation. Teaching and learning are first-rate and research is world class. We have an excellent faculty, staff and students who are dedicated and passionate. Our accomplished alumni exemplify the best of all we have to offer.

Much of the credit for CU's solid foundation goes to my predecessor, President Emeritus Bruce Benson. I want to congratulate him on a great 11-plus years. Bruce has been most helpful to me in the transition and has offered his continued support and insight, which I appreciate.

While I have much to learn about the university and the state, the Board of Regents and I agree on four fundamental areas of focus: elevating student success; keeping a CU education affordable and accessible; growing CU's significant research portfolio and economic impact; and fiscal sustainability. We also agree that developing a strategic plan, with substantial input from inside and outside the university, will provide a roadmap to ensure we address these priorities and others that emerge. We will work toward a shared vision for CU's future.

My wife Debbie and I are excited to be at CU. It's a great university with tremendous people. We are honored to join such a community and we're excited to work with you to help CU continue its upward trajectory. I intend to spend the coming months listening to you and learning more about CU's strengths, opportunities and challenges. I'm excited about what's ahead and hope you are too.

Sincerely,

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Mark Kennedy President For feedback, contact <u>officeofthepresident@cu.edu</u>



## IN THE NEWS



Medical care at the final frontier

Collaborative course cements the unique positioning of CU Anschutz and CU Boulder experts, along with aerospace firms on the Front Range, to solve the complex problems arising from humankind's most ambitious quest – to travel the roughly 250 million miles to Mars, and ultimately colonize the desolate planet

## CU ON THE AIR PODCAST



Buried in unmarked graves, Leadville's Irish miners now have a voice

A sign in Leadville's Evergreen Cemetery calls it the Old Catholic section, while period maps list it as the Free Catholic section. <u>CU on the Air</u> talks with Jim Walsh, assistant professor of political science at CU Denver, who for more than decade has researched Leadville's Irish community during the late 1800s silver mining boom. Walsh is working with the Irish government and the Colorado Irish community to have a memorial built to honor the immigrants who were so important to advancing the state.

## NEWS FROM THE CAMPUSES

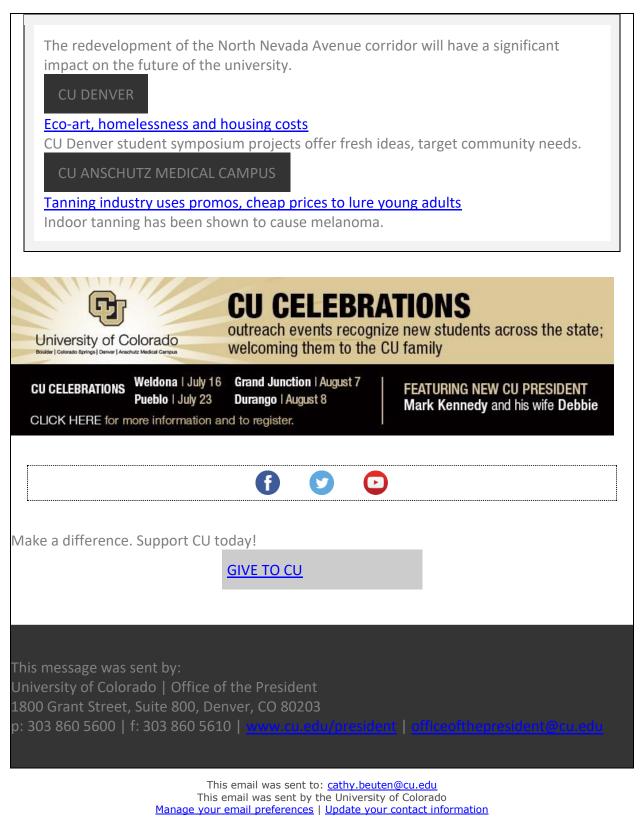
## CU BOULDER

National emergency alerts potentially vulnerable to attack

A CU Boulder study raises a red flag around these alerts—namely, that such emergency alerts can, theoretically, be spoofed.

CU COLORADO SPRINGS

UCCS alumni imagine possibilities for North Nevada Avenue



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