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Welcome New UIS Employees June 2023 - September 2023 [1]

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Join us in celebrating new hires, transfers and changes to the UIS team!

New to UIS

Kavi Jakkula	6/20/23	Senior BI Engineer	Kavi Jakkula brings a decade of professional IT experience to UIS. She has worked at CU for seven years, serving as a reporting analyst team lead in Research Information Technology at CU Anschutz. In her free time, Kavi has a profound passion for dance and her plants and enjoys spending time with her husband and young daughter.
Ray Petrosek	6/20/23	Principal Data Governance Engineer	Ray Petrosek previously worked in Silicon Valley and in government contracting. In this new position within the Data & BI team, they will be managing Collibra, the new data governance cataloging product and working on the Data Governance project. Ray's hobbies include weaving, learning languages, music, exercise, reading, cooking, hiking and gardening. They also have a working knowledge of several languages, particularly Modern Standard Arabic. Ray and their husband Justin live in Lakewood with their dog, Layla.

Hans Smits	6/20/23	Associate Director ITBSO – PMO Focus	With more than 20 years of experience, Hans Smits is a multilingual project leader with international experience managing large-scale technology projects across North America and Europe. Within UIS, he will lead CU's IT Business Services Operations (ITBSO) group, which includes UIS change management, project management and IT Gov project management teams. Hans and his wife, Michelle, have three children. He enjoys photography, the outdoors and sports.
Kelly Richter	6/27/23	Senior BI Engineer	Kelly Richter returns to CU after working as an analytic developer for UCHealth. He previously worked for CU System's Procurement Service Center for almost 10 years. Now, he will be focused on managing the Data & BI products, including Cognos and Tableau. Kelly enjoys camping adventures with his family and exploring as much of the outdoors as he can.
Hallie Davis	6/27/23	Senior Digital Media Designer	Hallie Davis has 10 years of experience as a graphic designer working in advertising and marketing. Most recently, she worked at the University of Wyoming, designing institutional marketing. Hallie lives in Lafayette with her boyfriend and endlessly entertaining cat, Nala. She enjoys nature, art, travel, concerts, podcasts, crosswords, disc golf and ski-biking.
Becky Alberti-Powell	7/10/23	Principal Financial Analyst	Becky Alberti-Powell comes to UIS after working at CU Anschutz for five years in several roles, mostly overseeing new program creation and operations, and managing aspects of finance and human resources. When she is not spending time doing class work for her CU Denver MBA program, Becky enjoys hanging out with her dog Timber, reading adventure and fantasy books, or planning her next trip.

Josiah Bartel	7/10/23	CRM Operations Coordinator	Josiah Bartel joins CU after working as a facilities operations manager and in a revenue operations role for a ghost-kitchen scaleup. Now, he will provide direct support to eComm campus customers and supplementary support to CU System eComm users. Outside of work, Josiah and his girlfriend enjoy getting outdoors, playing with their cats and playing board games.
Carla Boyd	8/7/23	Principal Data Governance & Metadata Analyst	Carla worked for CU as an independent contractor for the past year and is transitioning to a permanent position within the Data and Business Intelligence team. Her previous career includes being a small business owner, project manager and, prior to joining CU, an academic registrar at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Carla lives in Minnesota with her husband, Bob, and has two kids, Nathan and Julia. She enjoys growing flowers and time with her two elderly Yorkies, Bella and Bandt, as well as a Betta fish named Othello.
Steven Linenberger	8/14/23	Senior Project Manager	Steven Linenberger has been working within the higher education realm for over 15 years in various capacities and now joins UIS as a Senior Project Manager. Outside of work, Steven enjoys travel, fitness, cooking and spending time with his husband and their dog Izzy.
Laura Leonard	9/11/23	Senior Project Manager	Laura Leonard enjoyed a diverse career in fields such as customer service and fashion design. She spent the last seven years in IT and project management before joining the UIS Project Management Office. Laura and her family of five — plus seven animals—recently moved from Missouri back to Southern California. She and her family are self-described Disney fanatics, Renn Faire nerds and love spending time outdoors or in arcades.

Karah Evans	9/11/23	Benefits Application Manager	Karah Evans has worked with PeopleSoft HCM for over 20 years. She brings a wealth of knowledge to the HCM IT Services team and will manage the annual Open Enrollment project as well as the implementation of the new Roth savings plan and FAMLI project. Karah lives in the suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia after many years in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She enjoys her three grandchildren, her two cats and learning about nature.
David Franz	9/18/23	Senior CRM Data Quality Analyst	David Franz comes to CU after working in the private sector in data analytics, revenue management and finance. He brings strong analytical skills and is a welcome addition to the CRM team. David lives with his wife, Chea and their dog, Lucy, in Denver. They enjoy neighborhood walks, bike rides, games, cooking and spending time with friends and family.

Changes within UIS

Praveen Ghimire	6/1/23	Senior IDM Engineer	Praveen has been a valuable member of the Identity Management team for the past five years. He contributed greatly to several identity management projects, including PingFederate and Oracle Identity Manager. Praveen enjoys hiking in the mountains, playing table tennis, and spending quality time with his family.
Brandon Sine	6/1/23	Principal Enterprise Applications Administrator	Brandon Sine is the new Applications Administrator within Enterprise Cloud Services. Since 2019, Brandon served as the Senior Service Desk professional. Brandon brings a wealth of knowledge to the team and a drive to learn new technologies. In his free time, Brandon enjoys playing softball and rooting for the Rockies even during their worst seasons.

Claire Palmquist	8/1/23	Sr. Digital Engagement Admin	Claire has been working at CU since 2020, first as an eComm specialist on the CU Denver campus and later transitioning to the UIS CRM team to support the eComm program in a more technical capacity. While eComm will always hold a special place in her heart, Claire is excited to expand her experience and serve as the senior digital engagement admin supporting UCCS Marketing Cloud efforts. Outside of work, Claire enjoys playing Settlers of Catan, checking out new breweries, spending quality time with her cat Elbert, and cheering on the Minnesota Timberwolves. Earlier this year, she completed her MBA with a specialization in Information Systems.
Nonie Roberts	8/1/23	Digital Engagement Manager	Nonie Roberts has been part of the CRM team since 2021, supporting a variety of marketing automation efforts as a senior digital engagement administrator. Now, as digital engagement manager, she will lead a team of digital engagement administrators, specifically supporting marketing automation efforts in Pardot and Salesforce Marketing Cloud. Outside of work, you can find Nonie on Evergreen’s mountain bike trails or hanging out with her two toddlers.
Sam Moreno	8/1/2023	Program Success Manager	Sam Moreno has served in multiple roles at CU, including as an instructor at CU Denver and their Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business Operations and Academic Programs. She has been on the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) team since 2022 and contributing to CRM efforts since 2020. In this new role, Sam Moreno will manage CRM Analysts and CRM Program Success Analysts to help make our customers successful. Sam was born in Colorado and loves to take full advantage of camping, hiking, fishing, paddle-boarding, jeeping and spending time with her golden retrievers, Callie and Peyton. She runs triathlons and love the Broncos — her family has been season ticket holders since 1972 and their puppy is named after Peyton Manning!

Richard Escamilla	8/21/23	Sr Service Desk Professional	Richard Escamilla joined the UIS Production Services team six years ago and contributed greatly, even writing Linux scripts and Automic code. The UIS Service Desk is thrilled to welcome him, his knowledge and energy to the team! Richard enjoys spending time with his family, watching sports, playing video games and golfing.
Sean Golden	8/31/23	IAM Security Administrator	Sean Golden started with UIS as a Tier 1 Service Desk technician in 2021 and moved his way up to a Tier 2 position. In his new role with the Identity and Access Management (IAM) team, Sean is responsible for provisioning and maintaining user access to systems across the entire CU system. Outside of work, Sean is an avid lover of music and Denver's concert scene. He enjoys video games and football (both college and professional — go Chiefs! — and is on a journey to find the best BBQ and burgers in Denver. He will be graduating with a bachelor's degree in information technology this year!
Anthony Tran	9/1/23	Sr Service Desk Professional	Anthony Tran joined the UIS Service Desk in late 2021 and has delivered exceptional customer service while addressing technical issues on Windows and Mac devices. Anthony's responsibilities as a senior technician include instructing and guiding peers, serving as the initial touchpoint for onboarding and offboarding processes, and maintaining the same high standards of customer service. Outside of work, Anthony stays busy using his humor and creativity to craft memes, "ensuring that they materialize as more than mere dreams."

Stefan Garman	9/1/23	Principal Enterprise App Developer	Stefan joined the CU-SIS Development team in 2015 and has been a critical support for UIS and our campus customers through many projects and initiatives, including duplicate resolution, NameCoach implementation, Audit tracking and cleanup, and Phire application support as a few examples. Going forward in this new role Stefan will have the opportunity to work on technical strategy and Initiative processes, expand support of the Phire Change Management tool, and provide additional support for CU-SIS applications.
Marc Donohue	9/1/23	CRM Administration Manager	Marc Donohue has been with CU since July 2020, previously with the Office of Digital Education and most recently within UIS, where he supported our Salesforce integrations. Before joining CU, Marc worked in roles supporting Salesforce and providing IT in several fields.
Ryan Day	9/1/23	Assistant Director of Grants IT Services	Ryan was the first person to be hired on the then newly formed UIS Grants team in March 2017. He began his journey as a Senior BSA supporting the campuses throughout the Grants Optimization project, and later he led several initiatives including Billing Automation, which won the 2021 CU Innovation and Efficiency Grand Prize. In his new role as assistant director of Grants IT Services, Ryan will be responsible for managing a team dedicated to providing creating and maintaining solutions and supporting Grants Management at all four CU campuses. In his spare time, Ryan is also the co-owner and lead drummer of the highly popular 80s cover band, the 6 Million Dollar Band. When not performing, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two young boys and going on cruises.

Tony Brooks	9/1/23	Senior Director of Enterprise Cloud Services	Tony Brooks has been leading IT services in non-profit, for-profit, and educational settings for more than 20 years. He came to CU 11 years ago and has led Enterprise Cloud Services and Infrastructure Management for UIS. In the senior director role, Tony's focus will be to combine the complexity of cloud services and strategy to meet the university's technology needs now and in the future. The goal is to continue to simplify services for our customers and provide the platforms needed for greater success. Outside of work, Tony enjoys time with his family, enjoying the peace and serenity of the Colorado outdoors and house renovation projects.
Kevin Reynen	9/1/23	Principal Web App Developer	Kevin's past Content Management System (CMS) work for CU can be seen in the Web Express solution that still drives 1200 Drupal sites that make up www.colorado.edu [3] at CU Boulder and 300 sites for CU Denver. As the first Drupal developer in UIS, Kevin worked with existing UIS groups to build out the infrastructure that made it possible for a small team to build and launch the three campus-branded sites UIS has provided for CU Online. These are the first public-facing marketing sites UIS has managed for the campuses on their domains. Kevin and his wife have renovated and flipped 4 houses since moving to CO doing most of the work themselves. Kevin's approach to homeownership and open source software are similar in that you don't have to settle for button or door in a specific place if you have the skills, tools and permission required to change it.

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