



Office of Government Relations Annual Report 2013

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
Overview

This annual report covers work by the Office of Government Relations from January 1 – December 31, 2013.

Mission

The mission of the Office of Government Relations is to support the University of Colorado by building effective partnerships between the University and state and federal governments. This is achieved through representation and advocacy of CU's needs and interests with state and federal elected officials in Colorado and Washington, D.C.

Goals

- Promote the University's interests at the state and federal level.
- Enhance the understanding of the role and value of CU.
- Achieve status as one of the top public university governmental relations offices in the United States.

Strategies

- 1) Maintain visibility at both the state and federal level through testimony, tours, outreach events, Hill visits, and other activities to increase contact with state and federal policy makers.
- 2) Foster relationships between the president, chancellors and designated officers of the university with members of the General Assembly, Colorado Congressional Delegation, and Executive branch of both the state and federal government.
- 3) Engage the business community, CU Advocates, and alumni to help advocate for the university's initiatives.
- 4) Request federal funding for special projects at each campus.
- 5) Lobby for increases in funding by federal agencies. The following agencies are the primary sources of research funding for CU:
 - National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - Department of Defense (DOD)
 - Department of Energy (DOE)
 - Department of Commerce (DOC)
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - National Institute of Space and Technology (NIST)
- 6) Educate elected officials about the university through contact with faculty, students, and administrators from all three campuses.
- 7) Provide internal communication by:
 - Holding frequent legislative strategy meetings with top university officers;
 - Providing legislative updates at all three campuses and via email to the university community; and
 - Communicating with appropriate university faculty, administrators, and students regarding specific legislation and policy issues.

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
CU Initiated State Legislation

The First Regular Session of the sixty-ninth session of the Colorado General Assembly convened on January 9, 2013 and ended on May 8, 2013.

H.B. 13-1320 Colorado Scholar Programs- In-state (Waller/Heath)
Admissions Requirements

Before passage of the act, state-supported institutions of higher education (institution) must generally maintain a required ratio of resident student admissions to nonresident student admissions. The act allows an institution to count a student who is admitted as a Colorado scholar as 2 in-state students for purposes of calculating this ratio.

To qualify as a Colorado scholar, an in-state student must graduate in the top 10% of his or her class, or graduate with at least a 3.75 grade point average, and meet any additional criteria that an institution may set. Each Colorado scholar that an institution counts as 2 in-state students must receive at least \$2,500 in annual financial aid or scholarship moneys through the institution's Colorado scholar program.

The University of Colorado system and Colorado State University are also required to ensure that the percentage of students who are admitted based on criteria other than the statewide admissions criteria does not fall below the average of the percentage of these students admitted for the 3 preceding years. Under the act, these institutions are considered to meet this requirement if the percentage of in-state students admitted based on the alternative criteria plus the percentage of in-state students enrolling as Colorado scholars is greater than the percentage of nonresident students admitted based on the alternative criteria.

The number of Colorado scholars that an institution counts in a year cannot be more than 8% of the total number of in-state students that the institution counts for that year.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2013

EFFECTIVE June 5, 2013

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Key State Higher Education Legislation

H.B. 13-1001 Advanced Industries Acceleration Grant Program (Young/SteadmanLambert)

The act creates the advanced industries acceleration grant program in the Colorado office of economic development. The program provides incentive to bolster collaboration between industry, research institutions, federal laboratories and private sector funders. Each type of grant has its own eligibility requirements, preferences, and maximum grant amounts. The program includes proof of concept grants, early stage capital and retention grants, and infrastructure grants.

APPROVED by Governor May 15, 2013

EFFECTIVE August 7, 2013

H.B. 13-1041 Procedures For Transmission of Records Under Colorado Open Records Act (Pettersen/Kefalas)

The act sets parameters for the transmission of public records under CORA. For records that are to be mailed, once payment is received or payment arrangements have been made, the public entity is required to send the records as soon as possible, but no later than within three business days. For records that are sent by e-mail, the public entity is not permitted to charge fees.

APPROVED by Governor March 8, 2013

EFFECTIVE March 8, 2013

H.B. 13-1044 Authorize Graywater Use (Fischer/Schwartz)

The act clarifies when and under what conditions graywater may be used. The act defines "graywater" and "graywater treatment works" and identifies sources of graywater to include discharges from bathroom and laundry room sinks, bathtubs, showers, and laundry machines, as well as water from other sources authorized by rules promulgated by the water quality control commission (commission). Graywater does not include wastewater from toilets, urinals, kitchen sinks, nonlaundry utility sinks, and dishwashers. Graywater must be collected in a manner that minimizes household wastes, human excreta, animal or vegetable matter, and chemicals that are hazardous or toxic, as determined by the commission.

The commission may establish minimum statewide requirements, standards, and prohibitions concerning the use of graywater. Counties and municipalities have the discretion to authorize graywater use and the exclusive authority to enforce compliance with their graywater use resolutions and ordinances. The act specifies that a water user's graywater usage must comply with the local government's ordinance or resolution authorizing the use of graywater, as well as applicable decrees, well permits, and federal, state, and local water use requirements.

Additionally, the act authorizes the board of any groundwater management district to adopt rules restricting the use of graywater treatment works. Water users served by a well or by municipal or industrial water providers may use graywater but only if used in compliance with the commission's control regulations concerning graywater use and subject to any limitations on use contained in applicable decrees, well permits, or requirements under a municipality's or water district's water rights.

APPROVED by Governor May 15, 2013
EFFECTIVE May 15, 2013

H.B. 13-1147 Voter Registration at State Institutions of Higher Education (Melton/Newell)

The act requires a state institution of higher education (institution) that utilizes electronic course registration to provide its students, when a student so registers at the institution for each term or semester, the opportunity to be electronically directed to the web site maintained by the secretary of state in order to register to vote. This option must be offered to students as soon as practicable, but no later than the next regularly scheduled maintenance of an institution's electronic course registration process.

An institution that does not provide electronic course registration must provide voter registration information to students, including posting such information in the institution's office of the registrar.

APPROVED by Governor April 18, 2013
EFFECTIVE August 7, 2013

H.B. 13-1194 In-state Tuition For Military Dependents (Everett/Marble)

The act extends in-state tuition at Colorado public institutions of higher education to all dependents, including spouses, of service members who moved to Colorado on a permanent change-of-station basis, and defines "dependent" as:

A spouse who was married to the member at the time the member was stationed in Colorado and at the time the spouse applies for in-state tuition; and

A child of the member who enrolls within ten years after the member was stationed in Colorado.

APPROVED by Governor May 28, 2013
EFFECTIVE May 28, 2013

H.B. 13-1292 Keep Jobs in Colorado Act (Pabon/Kerr)

The act makes changes to contracting requirements for state and local government agencies, including changes to the enforcement of the 80 percent labor law, the preference for resident bidders, the addition of competitive sealed best value bidding, and the modification of disclosure requirements related to outsourcing services, labor, and manufactured goods. It also requires the Public Utilities Commission to consider best value employment metrics in connection with the construction or expansion of generating facilities.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2013
EFFECTIVE May 24, 2013

S.B. 13-023 Increase Damage Caps Under Colorado Governmental Immunity Act (Levy/Cadman)

Currently, the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act sets as a maximum amount that may be recovered by a person suing a public entity or public employee for loss or injury caused by the entity or employee in any single occurrence. For any injury to one person in any single

occurrence, the sum of \$150,000 may be recovered. For an injury to 2 or more persons in any single occurrence, the sum of \$600,000 may be recovered, and, in such circumstances, the act prohibits any single person from recovering in excess of \$150,000.

To ensure these limitations on damages reflect the effects of inflation since the specific limitations were last increased by the general assembly, the act increases the damages limitation for any injury to one person in any single occurrence to \$350,000. For an injury to 2 or more persons in any single occurrence, the act increases the damages limitation to \$990,000 and further specifies that, in such circumstances, a single person is precluded from recovering in excess of \$350,000.

The act further provides that the increased damages amounts are to be adjusted for inflation every 4 years.

APPROVED by Governor April 19, 2013

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2013

S.B. 13-028 Track Utility Data in High Performance (Tyler/Jones)
State Building

For all state-assisted facilities that started the design process on or after January 1, 2010, each state agency is required to monitor, track, and verify utility vendor bill data pertaining to the state-assisted facility and annually report to the office of the state architect. The annual report must include information related to building performance based on the state-assisted facility's utility consumption.

State-assisted facilities that have achieved the highest performance certification attainable and started the design process prior to January 1, 2010, are strongly encouraged to monitor, track, and verify utility vendor bill data pertaining to such state-assisted facility to ensure that the increased initial costs to achieve the highest performance certification attainable are recouped. The act defines "utility vendor bill data" as being limited to the usage data measured by the state agency or department or the information or data required to meet minimum program standards by an independent third party pursuant to the high performance standard certification program. The act also removes a statute allowing a state-assisted facility to be exempted from complying with the high performance standard certification requirements upon a determination by the executive director that extenuating circumstances exist that preclude the implementation of the requirements.

APPROVED by Governor March 22, 2013

EFFECTIVE March 22, 2013

S.B. 13-033 In-state Tuition Classification Colorado High (Williams/Johnston)
School Completion

The act establishes that any student meeting the following criteria shall be charged resident tuition rates at institutions of higher education: the student attended high school in the state for at least 3 years immediately preceding graduation or attaining a general education equivalent degree; and the student is admitted to a school of higher education within 1 academic year following graduation, or the attainment of a GED. A high school graduate who has not been admitted to college within 1 year following graduation, but who otherwise satisfies the requirements in the

bill, may be classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes so long as the student has been physically present in Colorado for at least 18 months prior to enrolling.

APPROVED by Governor April 29, 2013

EFFECTIVE April 29, 2013

S.B. 13-090 Supplemental Appropriation Department of Higher Education (Levy/Steadman)

The act adds an additional \$9 million to institutions of higher education in the current fiscal year.

APPROVED by Governor February 19, 2013

EFFECTIVE February 19, 2013

S.B. 13-133 Distribution of State Share of Limited Gaming Revenues (Gerou/Steadman)

The act inserts dollar amounts instead of percentages for the transfers of the state share of limited gaming revenues certain funds including the bioscience discovery evaluation cash fund and the innovative higher education research fund.

APPROVED by Governor March 8, 2013

EFFECTIVE June 15, 2013

S.B. 13-178 Red Rocks Community College Physician Assistant Graduate Program (Hamner/Hudak)

The act authorizes Red Rocks community college to confer a graduate degree upon a student who completes the physician assistant studies program and to seek accreditation for the program.

APPROVED by Governor May 17, 2013

EFFECTIVE August 7, 2013

S.B. 13-236 Transfers of Money Related to Capital Construction (Levy/Steadman)

For the 2012-13 fiscal year, the bill increases the transfer from the general fund to the capital construction fund from \$60,491,314 to \$60,911,498. For the 2013-14 fiscal year, the bill transfers \$192,566,495 from the general fund to the capital construction fund and \$500,000 from the general fund exempt account of the general fund to the capital construction fund.

APPROVED by Governor May 10, 2013

EFFECTIVE May 10, 2013



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
Key State Health Care Legislation

H.B. 13-1310 Pharmacy Intern Definition Repeal (May/Hodge)

Under the pharmacy practice act, an intern is permitted to practice a limited scope of pharmacy under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist while progressing toward full licensure. An intern is defined to include a person who is licensed as a pharmacist in this or another state and in good standing, and is making the clinical rotations of the nontraditional pharmacy program at the University of Colorado or other board-approved program. The act deletes this portion from the definition of "intern".

APPROVED by Governor May 28, 2013

EFFECTIVE May 28, 2013

**S.B. 13-042 Foreign Assistant Medical Professor Renew (Waller/Morse)
Physician License**

Currently, an assistant professor at a state medical school who is a distinguished foreign teaching physician may be licensed to practice medicine at the school for one year only and cannot renew the license. The act allows for renewal of this type of license.

APPROVED by Governor April 19, 2013

EFFECTIVE April 19, 2013

S.B. 13-200 Expand Medicaid Eligibility (Ferrandino/Aguilar)

Under current law, moneys in the hospital provider fee cash fund may be used to increase, up to 100% of the federal poverty line (FPL), the medicaid eligibility income level for parents of children who are eligible for medicaid and for childless adults or adults without a dependent child in the home. The bill allows moneys in the hospital provider fee cash fund to be used to increase the income eligibility for parents and caretaker relatives of medicaid children from 61% to 133% of FPL and to increase the income eligibility for childless adults or adults without a dependent child to up to 133% of FPL. In addition, to implement the federal Affordable Care Act, the bill amends the optional eligibility groups in Colorado's medicaid program to increase the income eligibility levels for parents and caretaker relatives of medicaid children from 100% to 133% of FPL and for childless adults or adults without dependent children as described in federal law to 133% of FPL.

APPROVED by Governor May 13, 2013

EFFECTIVE May 13, 2013

S.B. 13-225

**STEMI Heart Attack Stroke Data Hospital
Designation**

(Ginal/Giron)

The act creates, within the department of public health and environment (department):
The STEMI task force to study and make recommendations for developing a statewide plan to improve quality of care to ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) heart attack patients; and the stroke advisory board to study and make recommendations for developing a statewide plan to improve quality of care for stroke patients. The governor is to appoint members to the STEMI task force and stroke advisory board, respectively, by August 1, 2013. Members of the STEMI task force must represent various aspects of STEMI care, including cardiologists from both rural and urban settings, an emergency medical service provider, a registered nurse involved in cardiac care, hospital administrators from both rural and urban settings, a STEMI heart attack victim, cardiovascular data registry experts, and representatives from statewide and national associations. The STEMI task force is to submit an initial report to the general assembly by January 31, 2014, and its final report by July 31, 2015, specifying its findings and recommendations. The STEMI task force is repealed on August 1, 2015. Members of the stroke advisory board must represent various aspects of stroke care, including physicians actively involved in stroke care, an emergency medical service provider, a registered nurse involved in stroke care, hospital administrators from rural and urban settings, a representative of a stroke rehabilitation facility, a physical or occupational therapist involved in stroke care, a stroke victim or caregiver of a stroke victim, an expert in stroke database management, and representatives of statewide and national associations. The stroke advisory board is to submit annual reports to the general assembly starting January 31, 2014, and is subject to sunset review and repeal on September 1, 2018. The act permits hospitals that have an accreditation, certification, or designation in STEMI or stroke care from a nationally recognized accrediting body to send information and supporting documentation to the department, and the department must make a hospital's national accreditation, certification, or designation available to the public and deem the hospital as satisfying requirements for recognition and publication by the department. The department may delist a hospital if it determines, after notice and hearing, that the hospital no longer holds an active national accreditation, certification, or designation.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2013
EFFECTIVE May 24, 2013

S.B. 13-264

**Develop Rural Family Medicine Residency
Programs**

(McLachlan/Aguilar)

The bill requires the commission on family medicine to support the development of rural family medicine residency programs. The duty repeals after three years.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2013
EFFECTIVE August 7, 2013

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Federal Relations

The 113th Congress, 1st session convened on January 3rd, 2013.

The Office of Government Relations supports the University by building effective partnerships between the University of Colorado (CU) and the federal government. This is achieved through representation and advocacy of CU's needs and interests with federal elected officials in Washington, D.C. Working in coordination with all CU administrators and faculty members, we effectively communicate our priorities to Congress. Among CU's top priorities is to advocate for strong federal investments and policies that support basic research and higher education programs.

Major Activities and Policy Issues

Budget, Appropriations and the Impact of Sequestration

When the 1st Session of the 113th Congress was sworn in on January 3, 2013, there were several challenges facing the divided legislative body, with the Democrats controlling the majority in the Senate, and the Republicans controlling the House of Representatives. Since 2011, a divided Congress has led to partisan strife between the chambers, which has not only resulted in challenges when it comes to passing legislation, but has also paved the way for a disruption to the annual appropriations process.

Following the passage of the Budget Control Act, which became law in 2011, a series of across-the-board cuts (sequestration) were set to take place beginning January 2013 after Congress failed to reach a plan to reduce the nation's long-term spending. The total reduction in spending would be about \$85 billion in the first year and would account for a reduction of nearly \$1.2 trillion over the next 10 years. These cuts were designed to be evenly split among defense and non-defense discretionary spending accounts, with mandatory federal programs such as Social Security and Medicaid exempted from the cuts. While Congress did enact a two-month patch that staved off these cuts until March 1, 2013, it was unable to reach an agreement past that date, and the automatic cuts began to take effect. Congress passed the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 113-6), which funded the government and its agencies at Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12) levels through September 30, 2013, and included the cuts implemented by sequestration. President Obama signed this legislation into law on March 26, 2013.

The President submitted his FY14 Budget Request to Capitol Hill on April 10, almost two months beyond the normal submission date of early February. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate passed their own respective budget frameworks for FY14 during the spring of 2013, but the two chambers were unable to reach an agreement on top-line spending before the end of the fiscal year on September 30. The budget framework passed by the House set FY14 spending levels at \$967 billion, while the Senate measure included \$1.058 trillion over that same time. Given the stark difference between the two chambers, and the inability for the House and Senate to reach an agreement on FY14 spending levels, the government endured its first partial shutdown since 1996, which lasted until October 16 when an agreement was reached that re-opened the government. The agreement funded the government through January 15, 2014 at sequestration levels, and extended the debt ceiling through February 7, 2014. It also included

back pay for unpaid and furloughed federal workers and an agreement that both chambers would open a budget conference committee to ideally find a way to agree on an overall budget framework and put a stop to sequestration.

With the opportunity to establish a new budget framework for the remainder of FY14 that could relieve CU and its campuses from sequestration, CU President Bruce Benson led a collaborative effort urging the Colorado delegation to eliminate the sequester as part of the budget negotiations given the detrimental impact it was having on Colorado's leading public research institutions and the state's research enterprise as a whole. President Benson was joined by leadership from the Colorado State University System, Colorado School of Mines, and the University of Northern Colorado in this effort. CU-Boulder Chancellor DiStefano also outlined the impact of sequestration on the Boulder campus in his own letter to the delegation.

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), the Association of American Universities (AAU) and The Science Coalition held a press conference on November 11th releasing the results of their most recent survey on the budget sequestration's impact on university research and students. Chancellor DiStefano participated in the press conference and spoke about the specific impacts of sequestration on the CU-Boulder campus. He was joined by leaders of the University of California Los Angeles, Stony Brook University, and Washington State University,

The results of the survey showed that in the first seven months of sequestration, 70% of responding universities cited delays in research projects, 70% experienced reductions in the number of new research grants, and 58% of respondents reported that sequestration had a negative effect on research-related personnel – researchers, staff and students.

House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan and Senate Budget Committee Chairman Patty Murray led a budget conference committee, which resulted in a deal reached in December that sets discretionary spending at \$1.012 trillion for FY14 and \$1.014 trillion for FY15, and offers some relief from the cuts made under sequestration for the remainder of FY14 and FY15. This agreement is significant as it provides stability in the budget process for the next two fiscal years, something which has been sorely lacking in recent years. The Bipartisan Budget Act was passed by both the House and the Senate in an overwhelmingly bipartisan manner with seven of Colorado's nine members of the delegation voting in support. Under the agreement, both House and Senate Appropriators are now charged with passing their respective appropriations bills using this agreement as a framework before the current continuing resolution expires on January 15. Failure to pass the remaining appropriations bills, or another short term Continuing Resolution, could result in another partial government shutdown.

Higher Education Act

The Higher Education Act (HEA), the vehicle that governs federal student aid, is up for reauthorization in 2014. The federal team has been proactive in discussing this Act and the implications it has for higher education with the Colorado Congressional delegation. Colorado is well positioned given that Senator Michael Bennet sits on the Senate Committee in charge of drafting the legislation, and Congressman Jared Polis sits on the companion House Committee. As a result, our federal team has organized a series of calls with Juliana Herman, Senator Bennet's lead education staffer, to discuss several key areas of the law, including financial aid, accreditation, and higher education tax issues as they relate to the reauthorization of HEA. Most

of these calls took place this past fall, with the remaining call on teacher preparation, another important issue involved with HEA, taking place in early 2014. Representatives from each campus have participated on each call in order to provide Senator Bennet's staff with the system-wide perspective as well as a campus-specific understanding of the important issues involved in the reauthorization of HEA here at CU. In addition, our federal team plans to hold similar calls with the staff of Congressman Polis in early 2014 when the House begins its work on the legislation.

College Affordability

In February, President Obama criticized higher education institutions for rising costs during his State of the Union Address, saying that “skyrocketing costs price too many young people out of a higher education, or saddle them with unsustainable debt.” He went on to say, “taxpayers can’t keep on subsidizing higher and higher and higher costs for higher education. Colleges must do their part to keep costs down, and it’s our job to make sure that they do.” He called on Congress to change the Higher Education Act so that “affordability and value are included in determining which colleges receive certain types of federal aid.”

The President also released a new “College Scorecard” to enable parents and students “to compare schools based on a simple criterion—where you can get the most bang for your educational buck” and called on “Holding colleges accountable for cost, value and quality: Today, the federal government provides more than \$150 billion each year in direct loan and grant aid for America’s students. In an era of limited resources, we must allocate the federal investment in student aid wisely, in order to promote opportunity in higher education and ensure the best return on investment. The President will call on Congress to consider value, affordability, and student outcomes in making determinations about which colleges and universities receive access to federal student aid, either by incorporating measures of value and affordability into the existing accreditation system; or by establishing a new, alternative system of accreditation that would provide pathways for higher education models and colleges to receive federal student aid based on performance and results.”

On August 22, President Obama announced implementation of this call as he outlined a new agenda to combat rising college costs and make college more affordable. Called “A Better Bargain for the Middle Class: Making College More Affordable,” this plan will measure college performance through a new ratings system so students and families have more information to select a school that provides the best value. Once a rating system has been established, Congress will be able to tie federal student aid to college performance. The plan also focuses on promoting innovation and competition. Colleges are challenged to offer students a greater range of affordable, high-quality options than are currently available. Innovation is encouraged by stripping away unnecessary regulations. Another focus is keeping college costs affordable to students by capping federal student loan debt to 10 percent of the student’s income and making sure they have the best information possible to repay debt. The Department has held a number of listening sessions across the country on this new ratings proposal, and will continue to seek input from stakeholders into the new year. The six Presidential Higher Education Associations have also been very active in soliciting feedback on this proposal and providing it to the Administration.

Also in August 2013, when faced with an increase in interest rates to student loans, President Obama signed into law the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013 (H.R. 1911), a measure that links student loan interest rates to the market. After much debate, the bill was

approved by the Senate on July 24 and by the House on July 31. The final bill is similar to a market-based plan offered by the Administration and modified and approved by the House, but it also included a rate cap and locked in the interest rate on a loan when it is first made, rather than allowing the rate to vary over the life of the loan, as in the earlier House-passed bill. The new law provides a retroactive fix as the interest rate on subsidized loans doubled from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent on July 1.

Immigration Reform

On June 27, 2013, the Senate passed a comprehensive immigration reform package – The Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act (S. 744), which was developed by the “Gang of Eight”, including Colorado Senator Michael Bennet. The bill was approved on a bipartisan basis receiving 68 votes in favor of passage. The bill contains many positive provisions for higher education, particularly related to implementation of the "DREAM Act" and increasing the number and type of immigration opportunities for our outstanding professors and researchers, students, and high-skilled workers. While the Senate passed a comprehensive bill, the House has not taken up the measure to this point, and has indicated that it will move forward in a more piecemeal approach on individual immigration legislation due to the difficulties of passing a comprehensive measure in that chamber.

Other Federal Priorities

In addition to our focus on the budget and college affordability, the federal relations team also monitored several legislative and policy proposals of interest to CU.

CU-System

- **Taxes:** In July, the federal team submitted a number of federal tax priorities of importance to CU to both Senator Bennet and Senator Udall in anticipation of the Senate Finance Committee’s work on tax reform legislation. Among the educational tax priorities included: Sec. 529 Savings Plans, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, American Opportunity Tax Credit, Lifetime Learning Credit, Tuition Deduction, Section 127 Employer-provided educational assistance, Qualified Scholarships Exemption, Student Loan Interest Deduction, and the tax component of Federal Loan Forgiveness. Other priorities included the inclusion of the Charitable Giving Incentive as well as the Tax-exempt Bond Financing.
- **Transportation:** Over the course of the year, the federal team has worked with CU leadership and local stakeholders on various transportation-related projects of importance to CU. The projects of priority include: US Highway 36 and the Bus Rapid Transit system currently under construction and RTD’s FasTracks East Rail Line as it relates to CU-Anschutz and the University of Colorado Hospital. Lynne worked with CU-Anschutz and Representative Coffman on mitigation of road closures due to the construction of the new Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC).
- **Innovation:** Abby and Lynne worked closely with the Technology Transfer Office on various bills related to patent law and innovation. Most notable of these bills is HR 3309, the Innovation Act, which sought to reduce abusive patent litigation practices. However,

we had multiple concerns such as fee shifting provisions and joinder provisions that we believed would impair technology transfer operations, so while we supported the goals of the bill, we lobbied against the bill.

CU-Boulder

Abby submitted CU-Boulder's FY14 programmatic request to members of the delegation with research and financial aid priorities for FY14. The team lobbied for these programmatic priorities—which included funding for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Defense (DoD), the U.S. Department of Education (Ed), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and Reclamation—through the respective appropriations bills. This resulted in certain members of the Colorado delegation reaching out to House and Senate Appropriators to express their support for federal funding. Highlights include:

- Representative Polis spearheaded a letter in support of NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) for FY14, which garnered 41 Congressional signatures from around the country.
- Representative Polis also signed onto "Dear Colleague" letters in support of DOE's Office of Science, the Office of Fusion Energy Research within the Office of Science, NSF, NOAA, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), National Institutes of Health (NIH), and Department of Education Title VI (international education).
- Representative Perlmutter signed onto Dear Colleague letters in support of NIH, Financial Aid, and DOE applied funding.
- Senator Bennet signed onto a letter in support of NIH.

In addition to the appropriations process, Abby lobbied on a number of issue on behalf of CU-Boulder including:

- The America COMPETES Act, which authorizes NSF, NIST, DOE basic research programs, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs.
- The Weather Forecasting Improvement Act, legislation that aims to prioritize weather research over climate research at NOAA.
- The NASA Authorization Act, which authorizes science, technology, human exploration, and education programs at NASA.
- The Administration's STEM consolidation proposal, which would have cancelled or moved several federal STEM programs, impacting programs at CU-Boulder.
- The Innovation Act and the Transfer Act, legislation which would impact patent
- Gathering Congressional support for a number of significant CU-Boulder research proposals including the Digital Manufacturing Institute proposal to the DoD, the Unmanned Aerial Systems proposal to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the University Transportation Center proposal to the Department of Transportation (DOT), and a technology transfer proposal to the Economic Development Agency.

CU-Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus

Lynne worked on the 2014 programmatic request for NIH funding for the University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus. Executive Vice Chancellor Lilly Marks handed the requests

to members on her Hill visits and identified sequestration cuts and NIH funding as her top priority.

- Representatives Polis, Coffman and DeGette signed on to the House Markey-McKinley NIH Dear Colleague which requested \$32B minimum for NIH funding in FY14.
- Senator Bennet signed on to the Casey Burr NIH Dear Colleague letter.

In addition to NIH funding, we lobbied actively in support of any other federal funding that comes to the University of Colorado Denver campuses, including:

- Funding for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions programs.
- Funding for HRSA's Title VIII health professions programs.
- Funding for The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Education and Research Centers (ERCs) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- CU submitted testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education in support of Advanced Research and Development of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Medicine Countermeasures grant through Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) grant funding to develop a strategic reserve of frozen Hematopoietic Stem Cells (HSC) ready for transplantation. The federal team lobbied several members of the Colorado delegation (House and Senate) in asking for a delegation letter in support of the grant proposal.
- Funding for Federal Pell Grant programs as well as work study programs.
- Funding for Stafford Loan programs.
- Funding for Title VI/Fulbright-Hays programs.
- Funding for the Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program.

In addition to research and programmatic funding, Lynne Lyons worked extensively on Medicare and Medicaid funding including:

- The Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate reform continued to be a big issue for UPI. Lynne worked closely with Jane Schumacher and her team and members of the Senate Finance Committee to discuss what key issues should be addressed in repeal legislation.
- Relief from Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) cuts enacted in the Affordable Care Act continued to be a big issue. Lynne lobbied extensively for a two year delay of these pending cuts and we were successful in obtaining that delay in the budget deal passed in December.
- Graduate Medical Education remains a critical issue in terms of the health professions pipeline. We have Reps Coffman, DeGette and Polis signed on to H.R. 1201, the Training Tomorrow's Doctors Today Act that creates additional residency slots.

CU-Colorado Springs

David Sprenger worked to advance several campus priorities before Congress, federal organizations, philanthropic groups and corporations. In addition to lobbying for programmatic priorities that fund federal activities and research on campus and the role that Pell grants play to the UCCS student population, we paid significant attention to the development on North Nevada and UCCS' role in City for Champions. Activities and accomplishments for 2013 include:

- Participated in multiple site tours of the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) with Chancellor Shockley, Regent Hybl, Lyda Hill and UCCS leadership team. We also worked to develop a white paper outlining a formal partnership with NICoE Director, Dr. James Kelly.
- Helped to schedule visits and coordinate the Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance DC visits. We worked to educate the Colorado congressional delegation on the value of the City for Champions proposal in addition to advocating for fire and flood mitigation funds for the community.
- Organized DC-based meetings for UCCS leadership team to advance grant efforts in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.
- Responded to a request from Senator Bennet's office to provide detailed information on UCCS programs supporting active duty and veteran student populations on campus.
- Worked in concert with the campus to respond to the Senate Finance Committee request for proposals to improve the mental health delivery and educational system.



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Appropriations Legislation

113 Congress, 1st Session

H.R. 933

**Consolidated and Further Continuing
Appropriations Act, 2013**

(Rogers)

The CU federal relations team closely monitored and advocated for numerous draft FY 2014 appropriations bills that fund research and education related agencies, including the two continuing resolutions (including HJ Res 59 and HR 2775), before a larger agreement between the House and Senate was reached (HJ Res 59) which restores sequestration cuts of \$31.5 billion in non-discretionary spending, including critical research funding.

HJ Res 59 - FY2014 Continuing Resolution (through Dec. 15, 2013)

The measure is the vehicle for the budget agreement negotiated by the chairs of the House and Senate Budget Committees and includes the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 and the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013.

HR 2775 - FY2014 Continuing Resolution, (through January 15, 2014)

The final version of the bill makes continuing appropriations through January 15, 2014, thus ending the government shutdown, and increases the debt limit through February 7, 2014.

Lobbied in opposition of Senator Coburn amendment to this legislation to defund political science. Lobbied in support of Senator Harkin's amendment to the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013.

Status: Became Public Law No: 113-6



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Research Federal Legislation

113th Congress, 1st Session

H.R. 708 **Fair Access to Science and Technology** **(Doyle)**
Research Act of 2013

Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2013 - Requires each federal agency with extramural research expenditures of over \$100 million to develop a federal research public access policy, following common procedures for the collection and depositing of research papers, that is consistent with, and that advances, the purposes of the agency.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: 2/14/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S.350 **Fair Access to Science and Technology** **(Cornyn)**
Research Act of 2013

Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2013 - Requires each federal agency with extramural research expenditures of over \$100 million to develop a federal research public access policy, following common procedures for the collection and depositing of research papers, that is consistent with, and that advances, the purposes of the agency.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: 2/14/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2413 **Weather Forecasting Improvement Act of** **(Bridenstine)**
2013

Weather Forecasting Improvement Act of 2013 - Requires the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (and also the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration [NOAA]) to make certain weather-related activities concerning public safety and the national economy the top priority in the planning and management of programs within all relevant NOAA line offices.

Expressed concerns with this bill.

Status: 12/5/2013 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Voice Vote.



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Other Key Federal Legislation

113th Congress, 1st Session

S.930

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in cases of overpayments of educational assistance under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, to deduct amounts for repayment from the last months of educational assistance entitlement, and for other purposes.

(Bennet)

Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA), in the case of an overpayment of educational assistance under the post-9/11 educational assistance program, to deduct the appropriate amount from the last payment(s) to which the individual is entitled. Allows for the charging and collection of appropriate interest on such overpayment.

Expressed support for this bill, which would impact overpayments made by the Veterans Administration to veteran students.

Status: 6/12/2013 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1238

Keep Student Loans Affordable Act of 2013

(Reed)

Amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend the 3.4% interest rate on Direct Stafford loans first disbursed to undergraduate students between July 1, 2011, and July 1, 2013, to Direct Stafford loans first disbursed to undergraduate students between July 1, 2011, and July 1, 2014.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to modify rules for required distributions from tax-exempt pension plans to an employee who dies before such employee's entire interest is distributed to require such interest to be distributed within five years after the death of such employee, subject to exceptions for an eligible designated beneficiary and surviving spouse of such employee.

Defines "eligible designated beneficiary" to include a disabled or chronically-ill individual.

Exempts from such modification a binding annuity contract in effect on the enactment date of this Act.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: 7/17/2013 Senate floor actions. Status: Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate.

H.R. 1911

**Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of
2013**

(Kline)

Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013 - (Sec. 2) Amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) to set the annual interest rate on Direct Stafford loans and Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loans issued to undergraduate students at the rate on high-yield 10-year Treasury notes plus 2.05%, but caps that rate at 8.25%.

Sets the annual interest rate on Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loans issued to graduate or professional students at the rate on high-yield 10-year Treasury notes plus 3.6%, but caps that rate at 9.5%.

Limits the applicability of the preceding provisions to loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2013.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: Became Public Law No: 113-28

S.1052

GREAT Teachers and Principals Act

(Bennet)

Authorizes the Secretary of Education to award grants to states to create or approve teacher or principal preparation academies and create or designate authorizers of those academies; (2) support the creation and operation of such academies; and (3) award subgrants to nonprofit entities to establish or expand such academies, measure their effectiveness, or recruit enrollees who have demonstrated strong potential to be effective teachers or principals.

Expressed concerns with this bill in regards to teacher preparation requirements.

Status: 5/23/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

2014 Outlook

113th Congress, 2nd Session

The 113th Congress

Leadership in the House and Senate remains unchanged in the second session of the 113th Congress, with Democrats in control of the Senate with 53 seats to the Republicans' 45 seats plus two Independents who generally caucus with the Democrats; and House Republicans in control of the House with 232 seats to the Democrats' 201 seats (with two vacancies). Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) remains as Senate Majority Leader and Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) remains as Senate Minority Leader. Representative John Boehner (R-OH) remains as Speaker of the House and Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) remains as House Minority Leader. 2014 is an election year, so Congress will likely wrap up the majority of its business by October in order to facilitate campaigning.

Budget / Appropriations

The second session of the 113th Congress begins on a high note, as the Senate passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, formalizing the budget deal that was announced in mid-December. The Senate vote was 64-36, with all Democrats, two Independents, and nine Republicans voting for the bill. The House passed the bill with 169 Republicans and 163 Democrats voting in favor. The President signed the bill in late December.

While this bill doesn't solve the long-term fiscal challenges facing the country, it does provide sorely needed stability in the federal budget process by providing some relief to sequestration (\$81 billion over two years) and setting top-line spending numbers for both FY14 (\$1.012 trillion) and FY15 (\$1.014 trillion). This agreement will allow House and Senate appropriators to reconcile their FY14 spending bills, ideally before January 15 when the current continuing resolution (CR) expires.

The Senate Appropriations Committee considered eleven bills in 2013, but none were passed by the full Senate. The House passed four spending bills, and moved five more through full appropriations committee. While both chambers have considered bills to fund research at the National Science Foundation (NSF), NASA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Department of Energy (DOE), and the Department of Defense (DoD), the bills funding the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Education (Ed), and the Department of the Interior (DOI) are very much up in the air. The final FY14 spending package to emerge will likely be some form of an "omnibus" bill, but it is not yet clear which of the individual spending bills will be included in their entirety, and which will be included as simple continuing resolutions.

The FY15 President's Budget request is normally due to Congress the first week of February, but has been late in recent years. We know that "passback," the process by which the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) sends the agency's initial requests back for review, is supposed to happen the week of Thanksgiving but has not happened as of January 1. We expect that this budget will once again include strong funding for research and education programs, however it is not clear if it will stay within the confines of the agreed-upon Bipartisan Budget Act top-line

spending number. We do expect the President's Budget request will also include a reorganization of federal STEM program as was included in the FY14 budget request. This proposal hit much resistance on the Hill, for its lack of stakeholder input, but we expect to see a similar proposal in this year's budget.

Legislative Outlook

Beyond the country's fiscal challenges, we could see reconsideration of several major legislative initiatives in the second session. The Senate, for example, passed comprehensive immigration reform legislation last summer, but the House failed to follow suit. Although there have been doubts that this legislation could pass in an election year, there may be efforts to move piecemeal immigration bills in the House to not lose that momentum.

There has also been a lot of focus paid to comprehensive tax reform, but this may be stymied by the late December announcement that Senate Finance Committee Chair, Max Baucus (D-MT) who has been leading the charge in the Senate has been nominated to serve as the next U.S. ambassador to China. Senator Wyden (D-OR) is expected to take his place, and it's not clear if he will be able to carry on the effort to the same extent.

Education

We expect reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) to get underway this year. Both the House and Senate have been holding hearings in preparation for such, and we expect more in the spring of 2014. Topics of interest include college costs, student debt, accountability, assessment, and STEM education. CU is in a unique opportunity to influence this legislation as we have Senator Bennet serving on the majority of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee and Rep. Polis serving in the minority of the House Education and Commerce committee. The Government Relations team has been working closely with staff in both offices to prepare for HEA reauthorization.

Research/Innovation

Another significant piece of legislation expected to move this year, of particular interest to CU-Boulder, is the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act, which authorizes funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science as well as STEM programs. Draft versions of the bill have been released in the House by both the majority and minority. The majority bill, offered by House Science, Space, and Technology Committee Chair Lamar Smith (R-TX) has caused some controversy as it does not provide an aspirational take on the importance of research, but rather focuses on increased transparency and reporting requirements at the NSF. The bill takes particular aim at the peer review process and the value of social, economic, and behavioral research. The minority bill is more in line with the previously passed 2007 and 2010 America COMPETES Acts, outlining aspirational goals for the research enterprise.

Other bills of interest to CU-Boulder this legislative session include the NASA Authorization Act, which provides funding and programmatic direction for the agency, and the Weather Forecasting Improvement Act, which attempts to prioritize funding for weather-related research over climate-related research at NOAA. Both of these bills saw House versions advance last year, and we expect movement in the Senate in 2014.

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
State and Federal Meetings, Events and Tours

As a service to the University of Colorado, the Office of Government Relations coordinates and staffs many state and federal meetings, events and tours on the Hill in Washington, DC, at the Colorado State Capitol, and on each of the university's four campuses. Highlighted below are a few of the many activities we participated in during the year.

State Relations

The State Relations team met with many university groups to give legislative updates during the state session and during the interim. The activities for these meetings included securing state elected and appointed officials and legislators to speak with the groups; providing tours of the State Capitol; and talking with them about advocacy on behalf of the university and higher education; and providing legislative updates at their meetings on campus.

- These groups who came to the capitol included, but were not limited to: Emerging Leaders Program, University Perspectives Program, and CU-Boulder Staff Council.
- The groups we gave presentations to include, but were not limited to: CU Denver, CU-Boulder, and UCCS Executive Cabinet Meetings, All Staff Council Meetings; CU-Boulder, UCCS and CU Denver Staff Council Meetings, CU Denver Deans and Assistant Deans Meetings, CU-Boulder Deans Meetings, just to mention a few. We also set up many meetings and events with State officials throughout the year.

Highlighted below are some of the meetings and events we helped facilitate or where we staffed legislators:

- Legislative Delegation Luncheons with campus leaders and legislators serving near their respective campuses.
- Meetings with legislators and campus leadership: Legislators include Rep. Mark Ferrandino, Angela Williams, Crisanta Duran, Dan Pabon, Mark Waller, Rollie Heath, Cheri Gerou and other members from the Joint Budget Committee and Capital Development Committee among others.
- We held legislative strategy meetings and conference calls with CU Leadership and policy experts from both System and the campuses to discuss legislation impacting the University every Monday during the 2013 session (January-May)
- Attendee bi-weekly Higher Education Lobbyist Meetings during the session coordinated by the Department of Higher Education to discuss legislation impacting Higher Ed.
- Staffed Transportation Legislative Review Committee tour of UCCS campus.
- Staffed briefings by the Assistive Technology Center and Cancer Center attended by Rep. Cheri Gerou, Jovan Melton, Jenise May, Dave Young, Dominick Moreno, Senator Andy Kerr, Nancy Todd and others.
- Staffed tours of the Anschutz Medical Campus Health and Wellness Center and the University of Colorado Hospital attended by Rep. Beth McCann, Jonathan Singer, Amy Stephens, Jenise May, Dianne Primavera, Kathleen Conti, John Buckner, Senator David Balmer and Irene Aguilar.
- Staffed Capital Development Committee tour of Auraria Library, UCCS campus, and UCB Campus
- CU Advocacy Events

- Pueblo: A large number of current and former state and local officials and candidates attended both a VIP Reception and Advocacy Reception in Pueblo.
- Staffed the Legislative BBQ in August
- Staffed Conservative Scholar event in Pitkin County attended by Representative Rankin.
- Staffed the Higher Education Success Task Force meetings throughout the year.
- Annual Capital Development Committee Higher Ed Hearing for CU- Presentation to the Committee from President Bruce Benson and Regent Chair Michael Carrigan to answer questions about Higher Ed and CU.
- Annual Joint Budget Committee Higher Ed Hearing for CU: Presentation to the Committee by Campus Leadership, President Benson and Regent Irene Griego about capital requests for the next fiscal year.
- Coordinated CU Denver's program Boots to Suits presentation to legislators at the Colorado State Capitol.
- Presented a legislative update to the CU Advocates.
- Staffed legislators at the CU Conservative Scholar Event with Steven Hayward.
- Invited Governor Hickenlooper and Lt. Governor Garcia to events on campus. Lieutenant Governor Garcia attended and gave keynote address at the University of Colorado Boulder Diversity & Inclusion Summit

2013 CU Advocacy Day at the Capitol

CU Advocacy Day at the Capitol was held on March 17, 2013, at the Colorado State Capitol. There were more than 200 attendees at the event including CU Advocates, alumni, donors friends and students. More than 20 legislators were on hand for the networking breakfast and to speak with event attendees. Regent Michael Carrigan and President Benson gave the opening remarks. Senator Mike Johnston introduced Dr. Huntington Potter who gave the keynote address about his research on Alzheimer's disease. Representative Kevin Priola, Representative Mark Waller, Senator Andy Kerr, and Senator Matt Jones all took time to share with the advocates what it is like to be part of the Colorado legislature and how to lobby as a citizen. President Bruce Benson and Marcy Benson were honored on the Senate floor during the event.

Federal Relations

The Federal Relations team arranged, facilitated and staffed meetings with Congressional members, federal agency officials, and staffers both in Washington, DC and on all four CU campuses throughout the year. We also set up and staffed Hill visits for University of Colorado leadership including Chancellors DiStefano and Shockley-Zalabak, and Vice President for Health Affairs and Executive Vice Chancellor Lilly Marks, then-President of University of Colorado Hospital Bruce Shroffel, Director of Government & Corporate Relations at University of Colorado Hospital Jeff Thompson, Dr. Theodorescu and Mark Kochevar of the Cancer Center, CU-Boulder Vice Chancellor Frances Draper, CU-Boulder Dean of the Graduate School John Stevenson, and other key faculty from all four campuses. We set up and staffed meetings and tours at the four campuses throughout the year for staff from various Congressional Committees. Tanya Kelly-Bowry, Abby Benson, David Sprenger, Lynne Lyons, and Jack Waldorf represented CU at several of these events in DC and Colorado throughout the year.

Lynne and Abby actively participated in federal relations briefings and conferences hosted by the Association of American Universities (AAU), and Abby served as the Chair of the AAU Council on Federal Relations (CFR) for 2013. Lynne also attended the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Government Relations Representatives meetings as well as the AAMC

Annual Meeting. Lynne also represented University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) at various America's Essential Hospitals (AES) conferences.

Abby continued in her role on the Executive Committee of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) Council of Government Affairs (CGA) and attended their winter, spring, and summer meetings. Abby and Lynne attended the APLU Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. where issues reviewed included federal research agency strategies under contemporary fiscal constraints, campus-based strategies for ensuring student success, and undergraduate research as an institutional strategy. During the annual meeting, Abby staffed Chancellor DiStefano as he participated in a press conference with several other APLU, AAU, and Science Coalition Presidents and Chancellors about the impact of sequestration to college campuses.

Abby continued to represent CU-Boulder as past President of The Science Coalition (TSC), a group of 50 universities dedicated to preserving federal investment in basic research. Abby also participated in a number of DC-based coalition activities, including the Energy Sciences Coalition, the Coalition for National Science Funding, and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Coalition, and in activities with various scientific societies including the American Geophysical Union (AGU), the American Meteorological Society (AMS), the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

David participated in Hill meetings with Colorado Springs business and community leaders to discuss the City of Champions proposal including development on North Nevada Avenue. The group met with staff from the entire Colorado delegation.

Highlighted below are just a few of the many events our office helped to arrange and/or participated in in 2013:

- Lynne presented on advocacy and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) at a panel discussion put together by Barb Paradiso and held at the State Capitol. Speakers included State Senator Ellen Roberts and Amy Miller, Public Policy Director at the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Congressman Ed Perlmutter was honored as a CU champion at an event at CU-Anschutz that was attended by Regent Steve Bosley, Regent Irene Griego, President Bruce Benson CU-Denver Chancellor Don Elliman, EVP Lilly Marks, and Mayor Hogan of Aurora, among others. The event was coordinated and staffed by Tanya, Jack and Natalie Ellis.
- Dr. Jeff Thayer, CU-Boulder Professor of Aerospace Engineering Sciences, participated as a panelist in a Congressional staff briefing on Space Technology Policy, which was attended by over 100 Congressional staffers. This briefing was co-hosted by Senators Mark Udall and Lamar Alexander (R-TN) who serve as Chairs of the Senate Science and Technology Caucus. Abby staffed Dr. Thayer for this event.
- CU-Boulder spearheaded a comprehensive lobbying effort to improve visibility of and support for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Cooperative Institutes. The federal team worked with seven other universities to plan a visit to Washington for the Director of CIRES – CU-Boulder's cooperative institute – and six other CI representatives to meet with senior officials from NOAA and the Office of Management and Budget; members of the House Appropriations Committee; House Science, Space, and Technology Committee; and Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; as well as several members of the Colorado delegation.

- Congressman Coffman and Senator Udall convened a working group to study Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in veterans and treatment protocols for veterans. The first meeting was held at CU-Anschutz, and Lynne and Jack staffed the meeting and worked with staff from the offices of Udall and Coffman to ensure that PTSD experts from CU-Anschutz and UCCS are members of the group. Arapahoe County Commissioner Bill Holen chaired the first meeting of the working group.
- Jack staffed representatives from the offices of Senators Bennet and Udall and Congressman Perlmutter at the United Veterans Committee Awards, a state-wide coalition of veteran organizations on the forefront of addressing issues impacting all veterans.
- Lynne staffed Judy Regensteiner, Ph.D., Founder and Director of the Center for Women's Health Research and member of the Scientific Council on the Hill. Dr. Regensteiner met with staff from the offices of Congressman Coffman and Senator Bennet. They also attended a Diabetes Caucus Briefing; "Diabetes 101: Disease and Policy Briefing." The briefing was held by Congresswoman DeGette, and Dr. Regensteiner was a facilitator and a presenter.
- Abby participated in CU-Boulder's planning team for the Boulder Economic Council Summit in Boulder which featured Senator Udall, Congressman Polis, and staff from Senator Bennet's office.
- Abby participated in the Front Range Aerospace Bus Tour with Senator Bennet, which was attended by CU-Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano, LASP Director Dan Baker, and UCCS Executive Director of University Advocacy and Partnerships Stephanie Finley. In addition, staff from Senator Udall and Representatives Perlmutter and Coffman attended the Bus Tour.
- David and Jack met with several staff and faculty members to discuss their federal goals of the UCCS campus, including the development of Peak Vista and the National Strategies Program.
- The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) honored CU-Boulder Professor Steven Pollock as Professor of the Year for doctoral and research universities. Pollock was chosen from a field of more than 350 distinguished nominees from across the country and honored at a luncheon in Washington, DC. During his visit to DC, Abby accompanied Professor Pollock and his family as they met with Congressman Jared Polis and staff from Senator Michael Bennet's office and received a tour of the U.S. Capitol.
- Staff from Senator Bennet's office met with student Veterans at CU-Boulder and CU-Denver. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss their experience when the VA charges students for an overpayment of benefits, which ultimately led to Senator Bennet introducing legislation on this issue at a press conference held at the student veteran center at CU-Denver.
- Abby arranged for and accompanied Chris Koehler, Director of the Colorado Space Grant Consortium at CU-Boulder, to meet with several members of the Colorado Delegation and their staff to discuss the positive impact the Colorado Space Grant program has on higher education and the technical workforce in Colorado.
- Abby arranged for and accompanied CU-Boulder Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. John Stevenson, in meetings with staff from Senator Mark Udall, Senator Michael Bennet, and Representative Jared Polis to discuss priorities of the Council of Graduate Schools, of which he is a member of the Board.
- Roger Pielke Jr., Professor in the Environmental Studies Program at CU-Boulder and a Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES),

testified in Washington, D.C. before the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) and the U.S. House Science, Space, and Technology Committee on climate change policy. Abby assisted Professor Pielke with logistics related to the hearings.

- Tanya and Jack participated in a roundtable in Denver by Senator Bennet's education team to discuss the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Authorization Act, which oversees important Department of Education programs on financial aid, campus reporting, accreditation, and others.
- Our office arranged for Lt. Governor Garcia – who also serves as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education – and Representative Polis to attend the CU-Boulder Center for STEM Learning's 5th annual Symposium on STEM Education. Abby and Kirsten from the State team staffed this event.
- CU-Boulder Professor Karl Linden and graduate student Jessica Dehart participated in the Coalition for National Science Funding annual Exhibition & Reception on Capitol Hill to highlight their work on the National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded Air-Water-Gas Sustainability Research Network. The event was attended by over 285 people including several members of Congress and their staff, and NSF officials such as Acting Director Dr. Cora Marrett. Abby coordinated logistics and staffed this event.
- Abby attended The Science Coalition "Breakfast of Champions" event on Capitol Hill which honored Senator Mark Udall as a Champion of Science, and was attended by his staff.
- Abby arranged for CU-Boulder Professor Diane McKnight and graduate student Garrett Rue to exhibit on joint CU-Boulder/U.S. Geological Research (USGS) research at the annual Capitol Hill reception to honor the USGS which was attended by several members of Congress.
- Abby staffed Chancellor DiStefano in a meeting at the White House with Gene Sperling, Director of the National Economic Council, and James Kvaal, Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council, to discuss efforts to increase accessibility in higher education.
- Connie Johnson, working with the federal relations team, set up lobbying workshops on all four campuses. The workshops were led by Randy Nuckolls of McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP and served to educate our faculty and administrators on compliance with the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act.
- Lynne arranged a CU-Anschutz Deans roundtable in March with Representative Coffman to discuss Congressional issues of concern for academic medical centers, particularly National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding and sequestration. Lynne worked closely with the School of Pharmacy on their efforts to obtain provider status for pharmacists. This included meetings with staff from Senator Bennet's office, as well as Representative Coffman. In July, Lynne staffed a group of pharmacy students on Hill visits to discuss this issue. Individual meetings between the Deans and Congressman Coffman followed the roundtable and were staffed by Jack and Lynne.
- Congressman Mike Coffman toured the Program for the Evaluation of Targeted Therapy (PETT) lab, under the directorship of Dr. Gail Eckhardt at CU-Anschutz. The focus of PETT is colorectal cancer (CRC) and melanoma, diseases for which there are few therapeutic alternatives. Jack staffed this tour.
- Lynne and Abby attended the second annual Golden Goose Award Ceremony, where six scientists were honored. The event honored researchers whose seemingly odd or obscure federally funded basic research turned out to have significant benefits for society. This event was well attended by members of Congress and their staff.

- Jack participated in the Colorado Space Coalition (CSC) meetings attended by both Congressman Perlmutter and Gardner. These meetings were held at the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, and provided an opportunity for CSC members to provide updates and share the important work being done in Colorado's aerospace sector.
- Representative DeGette toured the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center and discussed the Center's efforts surrounding tackling obesity through exercise and improving nutrition.
- Representative DeGette met with leadership of the Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology for an update on the Center's work with stem cells and regenerative medicine, as well as to tour the future site of a Good Manufacturing Practice Facility at CU-Anschutz.
- Lynne and Jack staffed a CU-Anschutz tour for General William L. Shelton, Commander, Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base. This tour was requested by University of Colorado Board of Regent Sue Sharkey. During his visit, General Shelton had an opportunity to meet with both campus and hospital leadership, as well as meet with Dr. Richard Weir whose research specializes in prosthetics, specifically hand and arm replacement, as well as Dr. Robert Roach who is the Director of the Altitude Research Center.
- Congressman Gardner, Congresswoman DeGette, Congressman Coffman, and Stephanie Cross from the office of Senator Udall, each toured the new Second Inpatient Tower at University of Colorado Health at the Anschutz Medical Campus. Jeff Thompson coordinated the tours and also staffed them with Lynne and Jack.
- Jack staffed the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Rocky Mountain Section's Second Annual Technical Symposium held at UCCS and was attended by several congressional staffers from the Pikes Peak Region. Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak also attended a portion of the symposium.
- Miranda Egger, Richard Argys and Jessica Keigan of the Denver Writing Group did Hill visits with Congressional delegation staff about the impressive work they have done in regards to the professional development of teachers from all disciplines and grade levels.
- Lynne and Jack staffed several First Friday Breakfasts held by the Buechner Institute for Governance within the School of Public Affairs at CU-Denver. These monthly breakfasts are regularly attended by congressional staff and provide guest speakers on current issues facing Colorado's population.
- Jack staffed Waleed Abdalati, Director of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), in meetings with the congressional offices of Senator Bennet, Congressmen Polis and Perlmutter to update members on the important resources at CIRES.
- Jack staffed Kate Tallman, Interim Associate Vice President for Technology Transfer, at a roundtable discussion hosted by the Colorado BioScience Association attended by Congressman Jared Polis in Fort Collins.
- Congressman Coffman and his staff toured the Gates Center to learn about their research and federal funding priorities.
- David Sprenger and Jack Waldorf worked to schedule multiple visits at UCCS for Senator Bennet's lead education staffer to discuss the Higher Education Reauthorization Act, STEM education, early childhood education and the bachelors of innovation program.

MAVEN Launch

The Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) mission launched during mid-November in Florida. Prior to the launch, the CU-Boulder Alumni Association hosted an event for over 200 people in Washington, DC on October 22 to celebrate the upcoming MAVEN mission to Mars. Joining CU-Boulder Chancellor DiStefano and MAVEN lead professor, Bruce Jakosky at this event were NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Colorado Representatives Polis and Perlmutter, staff from the offices of Senator Udall and Senator Bennet, and representatives from MAVEN's corporate sponsors. Abby helped coordinate this event, and both she and Lynne attended.

Chancellor DiStefano, members of the CU-Boulder cabinet, and several LASP faculty including Director Dan Baker and MAVEN Principal Investigator Bruce Jakosky, participated in activities surrounding the launch. Also attending the launch activities were Colorado State legislators Nancy Todd, Lois Landgraf, Frank McNulty, and Bob Gardner; CU regents Jim Geddes, Sue Sharkey, Glen Gallegos, Steve Bosley, and Michael Carrigan; Monisha Merchant from Senator Bennet's office, and several hundred CU alumni. Before the launch, the group heard from NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden and Jim Green, head of NASA's Division of Planetary Sciences. Both Senator Bennet and Senator Udall issued congratulatory statements after the successful MAVEN launch. Abby was key in coordinating many of these activities and she also attended the launch in Florida. Jack staffed the MAVEN Launch Watch Party at LASP in Boulder. A staff member from the office of Senator Udall participated.

Colorado Capital Conference

The first week of June, the University of Colorado co-hosted the Colorado Capital Conference in Washington, DC, with Senator Mark Udall and Colorado Mesa University. This year, CU-Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano served as CU's host and Abby, Lynne and Connie Johnson coordinated and staffed the three day conference. The Colorado Capital Conference provides 100 Coloradans the opportunity to hear from members of Congress from Colorado and beyond. Policy leaders such as Senator John McCain, Senator Lisa Murkowski, and senior Administration officials, including the Secretaries of Energy, Interior, and Treasury, were just a few of this year's speakers. While in DC, Chancellor DiStefano met with the entire Colorado Congressional delegation and participated in a panel discussion on higher education issues with Department of Education Under Secretary Martha Kanter. Also during this visit, Abby coordinated a Science Coalition "Headliner Breakfast" featuring Congressman Polis who provided his views on Congressional support for federally-funded research. This breakfast was attended by Chancellor DiStefano, Vice Chancellor Frances Draper, and representatives from over 20 other universities.



Tanya Kelly-Bowry
Vice President

Tanya Kelly-Bowry was selected by President Benson and confirmed in October, 2008 by the Board of Regents, as vice president of government relations. She was chosen to lead the university's efforts to increase funding at the state and federal levels. Kelly-Bowry has more than 20 years of advocacy experience, having lobbied on behalf of higher education, human services and health care issues in both Colorado and Washington, D.C. She earned bachelor's degrees in international affairs and political science at CU-Boulder and a master's degree in nonprofit management from Regis University as a Colorado Trust Fellow. Kelly-

Bowry also studied at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government as a member of the senior executives in state and local government.



Abby Benson
Assistant Vice President for Research and Federal Relations

Abby Benson is the Assistant Vice President for Research and Federal Relations at the University of Colorado. In this role, Abby ensures the flow of information between the university and relevant stakeholders in Washington, DC, and advocates for increased federal support of research and higher education priorities. Abby serves in several leadership roles in the higher education federal relations community,

including as a member of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) Council on Government Affairs Executive Committee and as 2013 Chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Council on Federal Relations. In 2012, Abby also served as President of the Science Coalition, an organization dedicated to strengthening the federal government's investment in university-based scientific, medical, engineering and agricultural research. Prior to joining CU, Abby served as Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Washington, DC Office, and as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. Abby earned a BS in geology and geophysics from Yale University and a MS in transportation and a MEng in Logistics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).



Natalie Ellis
Executive Assistant of Federal Relations

Natalie Ellis is the Executive Assistant of Federal Relations. She supports a broad range of administrative, research, writing, and analytical duties that are designed to support CU's federal relations efforts. She also works closely with each congressional office to schedule Hill visits and assists with constituent requests regarding issues on campus. Natalie helps plan and coordinate federal events on CU campuses. Additionally, she makes travel arrangements, drafts

correspondence, and prepares department expense system reports. Natalie has a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Heather Fields

Associate Director of State and Federal Relations

Heather Fields is the Associate Director of State and Federal Relations. She is responsible for analyzing and tracking legislation during the state session, as well as preparing fact sheets for use with legislators. She also organizes state legislator tours and events and works with state legislative offices on constituent issues. Additionally, helps prepare correspondence and updates to the university community on legislation. She assist the lobby team with coverage of committee hearings and floor work at the Capitol. Heather worked in the office as a student assistant for three years. She also served as Executive Assistant to our state and federal lobbyists, and Special Assistant to the Executive Director and Policy Analyst of State Relations. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder and is pursuing a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs. In FY 2012, Heather was a fellow in the CU Emerging Leaders Program.



Connie Johnson

Senior Policy Analyst and Assistant Director

In 2007, Connie Johnson joined the Office of Government Relations as the Senior Policy Analyst and Assistant Director. She is responsible for managing the day-to-day office operations, managing the department's budget and website, providing support to the Vice President and supporting state and federal activities. She monitors the healthcare legislation during the State session, and coordinates the Colorado Capital Conference for CU. Prior to CU, Connie served for over 18 years in higher education in Washington State. She has a B.S. in Accounting from Central Washington University, a Master of Public Administration from the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington, and was a fellow in the 2008 CU Emerging Leaders Program.



Lynne Lyons

Assistant Vice President of Research and Federal Relations

Lynne Lyons serves as Assistant Vice President of Research and Federal Relations. She is lead on Federal issues for the University of Colorado Denver Campus, the Anschutz Medical Campus and the University of Colorado Hospital. Lynne represents UCD and UCH on issues ranging from research funding, academic health and workforce issues, Medicare and Medicaid funding, and higher education issues, including student federal financial aid. She is active in the AAMC Government Relations Representatives, the APLU Council of Federal Relations, as well as NAPH and AHA. Lynne has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Colorado Boulder and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver.



Kirsten Schuchman
Senior Director of State Relations

Kirsten Schuchman serves as Senior Director of State Relations. She serves all four institutions in the CU system by taking the lead on much of the legislation affecting CU, as well as being the lead on system-wide capital construction funding and health care policy issues for the University of Colorado Hospital, University of Colorado Denver School of Nursing, and the CU Colorado Springs Beth El College of Nursing and Health Sciences. She also takes special interest in CU’s issues related to research, technology transfer, academic programs and administration.

Kirsten is an alumnus of the 50 for Colorado 2005 program and is active in the Denver metro non-profit community. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her husband, daughter, family and friends, hiking, camping, traveling to exotic places and enjoying Denver. Kirsten has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia and a Master of Arts in Higher Education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



David Sprenger
Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations

David Sprenger, Assistant Vice President for Federal Relations is based in Washington, DC, and has expanded the presence of the University of Colorado by developing strong and effective relationships with Congressional offices, legislative staff, federal departments, professional organizations, industry and key advocacy groups within the federal departments and with the Congressional offices. He brings over 10 years of firsthand professional experience in Washington, D.C. both from both Capitol Hill and in federal relations consulting with an extensive background on public policy and direct advocacy. David, represents

several interest at the University of Colorado on both a system and campus level. David, a Colorado-native, received Bachelor degrees in Political Science and History from Regis University, and hold a Masters degree in Public Policy from George Mason University.



Jack Waldorf
Associate Director of Federal Relations

Jack Waldorf serves as Associate Director of Federal Relations. Based in Denver, Jack is responsible for federal activities here locally and works with our Washington, DC-based team on federal policy issues impacting the University of Colorado System and its campuses, as well as the hospital. Prior to joining CU, Jack worked in both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate serving as a policy advisor for both education and health care issues, and comes to CU with a deep understanding in public policy and the legislative process

at the federal level. Jack holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder. A Colorado native, Jack enjoys spending time with his wife, enjoying Colorado’s outdoors, and cheering on Colorado’s sports teams