LEADERSHIP PROFILE

DEAN OF THE
COLORADO SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC HEALTH
INTRODUCTION

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus invites nominations for and expressions of interest in the position of Dean of the Colorado School of Public Health.

Built on the collective expertise of faculty and staff from the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Northern Colorado, the Colorado School of Public Health (ColoradoSPH) stands at the forefront of public health in the Rocky Mountain Region.

The school, which offers eight degrees across the five core areas of public health, is well-positioned to improve health in the communities it serves, both locally and globally. Each campus offers a unique identity and student life experience, robust academic learning opportunities, access to renowned faculty and a network of community partners and future employers.

ColoradoSPH was founded in July 2008 and operates at three distinct campuses:

» University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (CU Anschutz) in Aurora, Colorado
» Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins, Colorado
» University of Northern Colorado (UNC) in Greeley, Colorado

In Fall 2016, ColoradoSPH faculty were awarded $28.8 million in direct research funding and the school had 594 degree-seeking students across its MPH, MS, PhD and DrPH programs, with an additional 77 students enrolled in certificate programs.

Although each campus offers a unique identity and student life experience, all ColoradoSPH students have access to more than 170 public health courses, 18 areas of study with 42 possible concentrations, 10 research centers and programs, and more than 470 researchers, instructors, lecturers and professors across its five academic departments.

The school recently received re-accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health through July 2023.
MAJOR AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT / EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

The dean serves as the chief academic officer of the college and has full responsibility for academic programs and curriculum matters, the budget and development activities.

VISION

» Develop a shared vision with ColoradoSPH faculty, staff and students based on open communication and trusting relationships.

» Further the strategic objectives of the ColoradoSPH, including creating collaborative and innovative programs and opportunities for faculty, students, alumni, and public health practitioners.

» Lead the ColoradoSPH in building alliances with off-campus constituencies, businesses, government agencies, and the not-for-profit community to enhance the school’s stature, its research productivity, and its funding and grant opportunities.

» Advocate for and actively lead efforts and activities to build a diverse and inclusive community among the school’s students, staff, faculty, and community partners.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF TALENT

» Identify, recruit, and retain outstanding and diverse talent at the faculty, staff, and student level with specific emphasis on skills and background consistent with the strategic objectives of the school.

EDUCATION

» Lead the further improvement of relevant career focused educational programs in research, teaching and public health practice, including the delivery of off-campus programs.

RESEARCH

» Increase the breadth and vitality of the ColoradoSPH by promoting the recruitment, retention and collaboration of distinguished faculty.

» Work with partners to assure sufficient space for faculty, staff and students on each campus.

PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

» Foster and enhance relationships with, and identify opportunities for strategic partnership, with practice community and public health organizations

» Provide intellectual leadership and strong commitment to workforce development for the public health profession.
MANAGEMENT

» Work closely with senior leadership at the collaborating institutions to advance the interests of the ColoradoSPH, including serving on university-wide and cross-university committees and taskforces.

» Ensure the school is run efficiently and effectively, and assure school-wide financial stability and growth, including oversight and participation in the budget, fundraising, and strategic planning of the school, in cooperation with the ColoradoSPH administrative directors.

» Represent the school to external constituents throughout Colorado, the region, nationally, and internationally, including alumni, public health professionals, members of the media, elected officials, boards, and donors, in cooperation with the ColoradoSPH external relations and public health practice staff.

» Meet agreed-on objectives for the school within the established budget.

DEVELOPMENT

» Increase the school’s resource base by facilitating fundraising activities in and for the school.

» Work in consultation with the provost and in collaboration with other deans and partners to ensure a cross-university perspective on broad institutional matters.

» Shape and lead initiatives described in the university, campus, and school strategic plans.

Appointed by the Chancellor on the recommendation of the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, the Dean reports directly to the Provost. The responsibilities assigned to this position are by broad directive and generally accomplished without direct supervision.

The Dean’s performance in this position is judged holistically—by the quality of overall results rather than by conformation to pre-established specific standards.
OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP

The dean of the Colorado School of Public Health is responsible for leading the teaching, research, public health practice, and service mission of ColoradoSPH. The dean works collaboratively with the faculty and staff to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive strategic plans for all efforts of the school.

S/He will work to identify, facilitate, and promote multi-disciplinary, inter- and intra-college/school, and international educational, service, research, scholarly, and creative activities. The dean ensures successful fulfillment of the school’s mission “to promote the physical, mental, social and environmental health of people and communities in the Rocky Mountain Region and globally.”

The dean of ColoradoSPH is a key member of the university’s leadership team, serving as a strategist, advocate, leader, and effective spokesperson for academic and constituent concerns, as well as other matters related to the well-being of the school, consistent with the school’s vision and mission.

The dean provides vision and guidance in all aspects of the school’s educational programs, research endeavors, outside funding efforts, and community outreach and service programs. S/he needs to recruit and retain a diverse pool of excellent faculty, staff, and students, enhance funded research, inspire philanthropy, and continuously improve the teaching and learning environment for students.

The new dean will also be expected to encourage effective collaborative relationships within the school, with the partner institutions, and among schools and colleges within the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus, especially those on the Anschutz Medical Campus where the administrative home of the school resides. The dean is expected to interact effectively with Colorado public health agencies and external advisory groups in promoting all aspects of the school.
PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES
A successful candidate will be required to demonstrate:

» A strong record of excellent scholarship, teaching, and service/practice
» Intellectual leadership skills.
» Excellent oral and written communication skills.
» The ability to build and work with teams.
» The ability to think and act creatively and strategically.
» Demonstrated track-record of organizational leadership:
  » Vision setting
  » Initiative, leading by example
  » Influence, particularly in a distributive, organizational structure.
  » Impact creation, real and lasting change
  » Integrity -- value-based, honest relationships and transparent decision making.
  » Credibility with public health leaders as a thought leader in public health education, research, and practice

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
» Doctoral or equivalent terminal degree from an accredited institution (MD, PhD, DrPH, or similar) in a public health related field.
» Academic qualifications compatible with an appointment to the rank of full professor with tenure in ColoradoSPH at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus.
» Demonstrated experience in administration and leadership at an academic institution (e.g., at the level of chair, associate dean, or dean), government agency, or other organization devoted to the promotion of health.
» Deep understanding of contemporary public health issues and systems.
» A record of accomplishments in public health research, practice and teaching.
» Demonstrated effective leadership in teaching, scholarship, and public service.
» Commitment to and a record of building a diverse and inclusive organization.

ADDITIONAL PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS
» Accomplishments in working with faculty groups, senior campus leadership, and executive-level leadership personnel from government, business, and not-for-profit communities as well as other internal and external constituencies.
» Successful experience in fundraising, building a stronger program of funded research, and other mission-aligned revenue generation.
OUR LOCATIONS

Colorado School of Public Health faculty, staff, students and alumni call three Colorado universities home. Although each campus community offers something different, collectively they represent the best of Colorado’s higher education communities.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (CU Anschutz) is the only comprehensive academic health sciences center in Colorado, the largest academic health center in the Rocky Mountain region and one of the newest education, research and patient care facilities in the world.

Located in Aurora, Colorado, just east of downtown Denver, CU Anschutz is the lead campus of the Colorado School of Public Health, and home to its administrative offices alongside the university’s professional health schools, programs and clinics.

All interconnected, these organizations collaboratively improve the quality of health care delivered, research conducted, and health professionals trained. The majority of ColoradoSPH’s academic programs, research, faculty, staff and students are based here.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Colorado State University (CSU) is located in Fort Collins, Colorado, along the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Just a one-hour drive north of Denver, our CSU location offers five MPH concentrations and three dual-degree programs.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

The University of Northern Colorado, located in Greeley, Colorado, offers three, engagement-focused programs that prepare our students to improve individual and community health. It is a campus big enough to offer a variety of opportunities in a community small enough to make you feel at home.
CENTERS FOR AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HEALTH

The Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health (CAIANH) is a flagship center of health research, training and technical assistance working with communities across the country. CAIANH is home to the nation's only oral health disparities center focused on American Indian and Alaska Native populations, the Journal for American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research, and many other health and medical programs.

CENTER FOR HEALTH, WORK & ENVIRONMENT

From the safety of industry workers, to supporting workplace wellness initiatives, a healthy and safe workplace can be a productive one. As one of six national NIOSH-funded Centers for Total Worker Health, the school’s Center Health, Work & Environment is an emerging leader in helping Colorado and regional business integrate this theme into their everyday business practices.

As Colorado aims to become the healthiest state in the nation, we believe that a strong partnership with the business community will result in improved health and economic vitality of our state. Beyond the immediate health of individuals, we expand our understanding of the environmental health challenges arising from chemical exposures, air and water quality issues, and urban planning and development.

CENTER FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

Globalization changed the way that governments and nongovernmental organizations tackle challenging health issues like HIV/AIDS prevention, the spread of communicable diseases, access to basic medical care, and malnutrition among many other issues. In partnership with Children’s Hospital Colorado, our Center for Global Health is a World Health Organization Collaborative Center for Promoting Family and Child Health and is building educational and research partnerships in communities around the world.

CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

The field of public health is constantly evolving. Every day as we make positive changes and advancements in one area, newer problems arise as a result of the ever-changing world around us. As home to one of 10 HRSA-funded regional Public Health Training Centers and the State of Colorado’s designated hub for ongoing public health workforce professional development, our Center for Public Health Practice collaboratively develops and offers a wide variety of in-person and online learning opportunities that improve public health practice.
LATINO RESEARCH & POLICY CENTER
The Latino Research and Policy Center (LRPC) fosters and engages in collaborative work to promote innovative, effective approaches to improve the health and well-being of Colorado Latinos. The LRPC addresses Latino health and well-being in education, economics, policy, legislation, environment, and healthy lifestyle through collaborative partnerships with community-based organizations, higher education researchers, and state and city elected officials to work toward eliminating health and education disparities affecting Latino communities in Colorado and the nation.

LIFECOURSE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF ADIPOSITY AND DIABETES CENTER
While Colorado may be the skinniest state, reports indicate that our state’s residents, both adults and children, are growing more and more obese each year, while both type 1 and type 2 diabetes have increased exponentially in our nation’s youth over the last decade. Research is now honing in on human developmental periods (in utero, neonatal, and early childhood) and environmental factors as possible culprits. To further investigate and understand the complex interplay of developmental exposure(s), genetic and epigenetic processes, and critical developmental periods in life, ColoradoSPH, in partnership with the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Colorado, created the Lifecourse Epidemiology of Adiposity and Diabetes (LEAD) center, where scientists help understand the causes and identify population approaches to preventing obesity and diabetes.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER
The Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center conducts research in partnership with schools and communities focusing on the promotion of social and physical environments that support active, healthy lifestyles. The center’s expertise is especially strong on issues including school nutrition, physical activity, youth engagement, and school environments and policies. The RMPRC has worked with local communities on projects including school and family based interventions, surveillance, program evaluation, and the provision of training programs in evidence-based health promotion and community-based participatory research.
OTHER PROGRAMS & SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

COLORADO INTEGRATED FOOD SAFETY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Colorado School of Public Health formed the Colorado Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence (CoE), one of six Integrated Food Safety Centers of Excellence designated by the CDC. The center is dedicated to identifying and developing model practices in foodborne disease surveillance and outbreak response, and provides trainings, continuing education opportunities, and serves as a resource for local, state and federal public health professionals who respond to foodborne illness outbreaks.

COLORADO BIOSTATISTICS CONSORTIUM

The Colorado Biostatistics Consortium along with the ColoradoSPH Biostatistics and Informatics department is the umbrella organization for the biostatistics consulting activities of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, its affiliates, and surrounding community and creates synergies and partnerships with other biostatistics resources and groups on campus. The CBC provides researchers with needed expertise for biostatistics consultation as well as seed collaboration development.

HRSA ROCKY MOUNTAIN PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING CENTER

ColoradoSPH is home to one of 10 regional, federally-funded Public Health Training Centers dedicated to building the capacity of the nation’s public health workforce. The Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center serves Region VIII of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service, a six-state region comprised of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and 32 Tribal Nations. In addition to providing state-of-the-art general health workforce development, each of the 10 regional centers offers a specialty area of expertise—and the focus at ColoradoSPH is cancer prevention and control, one of the school’s defining strengths.

NIOSH ROCKY MOUNTAIN CENTER FOR TOTAL WORKER HEALTH

In 2016, ColoradoSPH was designated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as one of six national Centers of Excellence to research the concept of Total Worker Health in Colorado, Utah, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. Total Worker Health is the concept that the workplace is itself a medium within which overall health interventions should take place, expanding the current norm in which businesses focus efforts on safety. Keeping safe on the job remains a priority, but Total Worker Health also recognizes that workplace wellness can be addressed. The Rocky Mountain Center for Total Worker Health focuses on particular regional concerns including stress, work-related injuries and fatalities, aging workers and the needs of workers with chronic illnesses – all of which affect the health, performance and productivity of workers in Colorado and the region.
PROGRAM FOR INJURY PREVENTION, EDUCATION & RESEARCH (PIPER)

The Program for Injury Prevention, Education and Research (PIPER) launched in 2011 and aims to reduce injury and its outcomes in Colorado and around the world through high quality research and effective practice. The program is a collaborative initiative of the Colorado School of Public Health and the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Current projects include prevention research in autism, suicide, youth violence, high school sports injuries, nurse-family partnerships, and more.

WHO COLLABORATING CENTER ON PROMOTING FAMILY AND CHILD HEALTH

The maternal and child health program within the Colorado School of Public Health’s Center for Global Health is designated as a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Promoting Family and Child Health. The program, which is a partnership between Children’s Hospital Colorado and ColoradoSPH, is the only maternal and child health collaborating center in North America. ColoradoSPH’s maternal and child health program focuses on four major program outcomes:

» Assist countries in reducing health inequity and excessive morbidity and mortality for maternal, infant, child and adolescent resource-limited populations.

» Assist countries in accelerating vaccine research and implementation.

» Train vulnerable communities and countries in disaster preparedness in ways that will prioritize the care of vulnerable children.

» Assist WHO/PAHO in developing and assessing the introduction of mobile technologies that will enhance maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.
BRUCE D. BENSON  
*President, University of Colorado System*

Bruce D. Benson became president of the University of Colorado in March 2008. Since taking the helm of his alma mater, Benson has enhanced CU’s standing as one of the nation’s leading public universities, advancing the economy, health, and culture of Colorado and beyond. He is the longest-serving CU president in more than half a century.

During Benson’s tenure, CU’s research funding has reached record levels ($924 million in 2015-16), supporting the university’s research strengths in biotechnology, health care, energy and aerospace engineering, among others. He has led efforts to promote cross-campus collaboration that have resulted in cooperative academic programs and research initiatives, most notably CU’s Biofrontiers Institute, led by Nobel laureate Tom Cech.

CU has seen its six best fundraising years (including a record $384.5 million in 2015-16) under Benson’s leadership. Benson and his wife, Marcy, chaired CU’s $1.5 billion Creating Futures fundraising campaign, which exceeded its goal in 2013. The campaign, the largest in university history, supported scholarships, academic enhancements (endowed faculty positions), research projects and capital improvements across CU’s campuses.

Benson has guided efforts to successfully institute operational efficiencies, cut bureaucracy, and improve business practices at the university. CU has secured legislation in the Colorado General Assembly that has allowed it to save millions annually in areas such as procurement, insurance and construction. He has also established a number of public-private partnerships to make the university more entrepreneurial and meet the needs of businesses in Colorado and across the country.

Before becoming CU’s president, Benson had already made his mark in business, politics, philanthropy, education and civic endeavors. He founded Benson Mineral Group in 1965, a year after earning his bachelor’s degree in geology from CU. He has been active in a variety of educational, civic and political endeavors. He was the Republican nominee for Colorado governor in 1994. Benson has received many honors recognizing his leadership, but two are particularly notable: CU in 2004 granted him an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, and in February 2009 he was named to the Colorado Business Hall of Fame.

DONALD M. ELLIMAN, JR.  
*Chancellor of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus*

Chancellor of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus since 2012, Don Elliman boasts a successful track record in business and a high-quality reputation in higher education.

A longtime executive in publishing, Elliman worked at Time Warner for 32 years, retiring as an executive vice president of Time Inc. Other positions he held include publisher of People magazine and president of Sports Illustrated.

After Time Warner, Elliman served for four years as CEO of Ascent Sports and then Kroenke Sports Enterprises, overseeing all activities of the Pepsi Center, the Denver Nuggets and the Colorado Avalanche.

He then served four years in Colorado state government, the first two as executive director of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade, and the final two as chief operating officer for Colorado.
More recently, Elliman was executive director of the University of Colorado School of Medicine’s Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Don Elliman became interim chancellor for the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus in April 2012 and chancellor in February 2013. He assumed responsibility exclusively for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus in September 2014.

Elliman has served as chair of the Children’s Hospital Colorado Board of Directors and co-chair of the campaign to raise funds for the new hospital. He continues on that board as well as the boards of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority, University of Colorado Health, University of Colorado Hospital, Colorado Prevention Center and the Higher Learning Commission.

RODERICK NAIRN, PHD  
Provost of the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Roderick Nairn, PhD, was appointed Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs on July 1, 2008. From April 2007 to June 2008 he was Vice Chancellor for University Initiatives. He is also Professor of Biology, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Professor of Immunology and Microbiology, School of Medicine at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus.

Dr. Nairn obtained his PhD in biochemistry from the University of London and the Medical Research Council, National Institute for Medical Research, London, England. After post-doctoral training in Immunology/Immunogenetics at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, New York, Dr. Nairn joined the faculty of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan. While at the University of Michigan, Dr. Nairn established a research program in basic cell and molecular immunology, developed a continuing interest in medical and graduate education, and was Director of the Medical Scientist (MD/PhD) Training Program.

Dr. Nairn was Professor and Chair, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at Creighton University School of Medicine from 1995 through 2003, was Interim Dean, School of Medicine from 1997 to 1998, and then became Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, with responsibility for oversight of research, faculty affairs and development, medical education, student affairs and admissions, graduate medical education and continuing medical education.

Dr. Nairn was Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and Professor of Microbiology & Immunology at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center from 2004 to 2007, where he was responsible for oversight of the academic and research missions, all university institutes, institutional planning and effectiveness, institutional compliance, the health sciences center libraries, and student support services and operations.

He has published widely in several basic science areas, been a reviewer for various scientific journals and funding agencies, and co-authored a textbook for medical students.

As Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs he has responsibility for faculty, academic, and student affairs across the CU Denver and CU Anschutz campuses.
THE DENVER METRO AREA

The dean of the Colorado School of Public Health will have the opportunity to live and work in a world-class metropolitan area with a thriving cultural scene, a strong economy, diverse neighborhoods and 300 days of sunshine a year—a city that benefits from ColoradoSPH’s hard-working faculty, well-prepared graduates and strong community connections and partnerships.

With a metro area population of nearly 3 million people, Denver is Colorado’s largest city and its capital. It boasts the largest city park system in the nation, as well as 85 miles of paved trails and several pedestrian malls, including the famed 16th Street Mall a block from the CU Denver campus.

At 5,280 feet, the city gives residents quick access to Colorado’s major ski resorts and national parks, not to mention a view of 200 Rocky Mountain peaks. Denver has seven professional sports teams, 850 miles of off-road biking trails and the greatest percentage of college graduates of any major metropolitan area in the United States.

DENVER RANKINGS

» #1 for Best Place to Live (U.S. News & World Report 2016)

» #1 Best Place for Business and Careers for the second consecutive year (Forbes 2015 and 2016)

» #3 for Most Popular Destinations for Millennials (Mayflower Company 2016)

Denver’s rich culture, healthy economy, natural beauty and spirit of health and wellness have fueled its growth. The metro population grew 13.8 percent between 2010 and 2015 and is anticipated to increase nearly 50 percent by 2030, with 800,000 new jobs being created.

And Denver’s downtown is growing just as rapidly. According to the publication 5280, the downtown population is projected to increase by 12.6 percent in the next five years (the national average is 3.7 percent).

More information about Denver can be found by visiting the city’s website at denvergov.org.
PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. To apply, please visit cu.edu/cu-careers and attach a cover letter addressing your qualifications relative to the position requirements and a current CV.

Applications will be accepted until finalists are identified. To receive full consideration, please submit application materials to the website listed above, and direct all questions and inquiries to linda.gallegos@ucdenver.edu.

The University of Colorado is committed to diversity and equality in education and employment.