dear alumni,

it's an exciting time to be at CU Denver. We recently welcomed our first undergraduates in education and architecture, and more people earn their master's degrees here each year than at any other public university in the state. Our new advertising campaign tells the world how our students “Learn with Purpose.” And near the corner of Speer and Larimer, construction is wrapping up on our new academic building, slated to open this fall.

To continue to foster our students' success regardless of their background, we recently launched CU Denver's largest scholarship initiative ever. Through the “1,000 More” campaign, we hope to provide financial support for an additional 1,000 CU Denver students every year, tripling private support for scholarships by the year 2020.

Your CU Denver Alumni Association is contributing to the 1,000 More campaign through alumni events such as the annual Rock Bottom Ruckus annual fundraiser held in February. In fact, since the inception of its scholarship program in 1990, the association has disbursed more than $1.2 million in scholarships to CU Denver students.

Having been a CU Denver student yourself, you know that although our students' stories are all unique, they share common threads: perseverance, a commitment to learning, and the desire to follow through on a dream. For those who lack financial resources, scholarships provide the one missing element they need.

We’re proud of the many accomplishments of our alumni, and also for the way our alumni give back to CU Denver. To be a part of the 1,000 More campaign or to contribute, visit www.cufund.org/alumnischolarship.

Best,

Don Elliman
Chancellor
Rodriguez transformed the paper into an opportunity to map out his future career goals.

“It became a blueprint for the next five to 10 years of my life,” he said. “I researched local radio and record labels and laid out how I would start a record pool. Without me writing it like that, it probably wouldn’t have just been ideas in my head. Everything I said in that paper, I’ve done.”

While a CU Denver student, Rodriguez got an internship with Cali Kings, a music promotions company in Los Angeles, before landing the DJ job with Denver’s KS 107.5.

Among the things Rodriguez has done is build a stronger DJ culture and community in his home city. While working with big record labels in California, he witnessed the impact of record pools, which are grassroots music-sharing groups that empower DJs to develop their careers.

“I wanted to do the same thing in Denver,” he said. So, he created Radio Bums, a record pool that has since developed into a worldwide DJ network and non-profit foundation.

After he became the first Denver DJ to perform live on commercial radio, he began helping others do the same.

“I opened the door for DJs like myself to be heard commercially,” he said. “I’m good at introducing people who I think could work well together. It’s all about relationships.”

To increase his networking and communications skills, Rodriguez returned to CU Denver this year to study public relations in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Being a student again has been a challenge for him—especially (this may come as a surprise) the public speaking.

“At five o’clock, I talk to [an audience as large as] three Invesco Fields at one time,” he said of his radio station work, “but when I have to speak in class and I’m being critiqued, I still get nervous. I don’t want to leave out any details.”

Not everyone with Rodriguez’s success would make the choice to go back to school, especially with a well-established career, a wife and two kids. But this CU Denver student is not just anyone—he’s DJ Chonz.

“I’m at the top of my game, but I don’t like to be complacent or lazy,” he said. “I’m always looking to challenge myself, both personally and professionally.”
The target structure are the x, y, and z coordinates in this frame is obtained and imaging of the patient's brain then, through an MRI or a CT scan. This frame, which serves as a coordinate system, is attached to the patient. Because of the complex location of these targets, surgeons use a technique known as stereotaxy to determine the placement of the node. Stereotaxy is based on the premise that all points in three-dimensional space can be defined by an x, y, and z coordinate.

To prepare for DBS, a head frame, which serves as a coordinate system, is attached to the patient. Then, through an MRI or a CT scan, imaging of the patient's brain in this frame is obtained and the x, y, and z coordinates of the target structure are determined. These coordinates allow the neurosurgeon to place the tip of the DBS electrode into the brain target. To achieve the best image possible, the patients need a head restraint during the MRI or CT scan—something to connect the existing brace to the table. “Any movement of the patient's head during stereotactic imaging, i.e., an MRI and CT of the brain in the head frame, can lead to inaccuracies of the target coordinates,” says Abosch. “This, in turn, results in the DBS electrode being placed in the wrong location in the brain, resulting in side effects or diminished efficacy.” The development of this new adapter would greatly reduce the chance for movement during the imaging process.

“When Dr. Abosch and I first discussed this project, I estimated that it would take approximately three to four months to complete,” says Yakacki. “However, she explained there was an immediate need for the device and would like it in three to four weeks.” To complete this project so quickly, Yakacki turned to two mechanical engineering students for help: Eric Losty, a senior, and Sean McDonough, a graduate student. “I chose Eric and Sean for their individual strengths and skill sets,” says Yakacki. “Sean does really well with design, and Eric has great machining skills.”

Losty and McDonough met with Abosch and her team to get measurements of the MRI table and the existing head frame. They used rapid prototyping techniques, such as laser cutting and three-dimensional printing, to test their designs quickly. “We started with one design, but had to make minor changes once we began machining the parts,” says McDonough. “We went with a modular design that breaks down into pieces,” adds Losty. “That way, it's easier to machine, test and iterate on the design, if needed.”

Because of the nature of the imaging process, there were some limitations and challenges to developing a solution. “MRIs use magnetic waves, which limits the materials that can be used for such an apparatus,” says Losty. “The final product is made with aircraft-grade aluminum, titanium and brass.” Other challenges included creating a system that was lightweight yet robust enough to prevent movement in a patient with a significant head tremor. The students were able to perform stress analysis tests through their SolidWorks design software.

The project took just over 100 hours to complete, and was finished within a month. The adapter has been used successfully in more than a dozen DBS cases to date. In January, the University of Colorado Technology Transfer Office filed a patent application for the adapter designs. In February, Losty and McDonough also designed and built a similar adapter for the CT scan table, and those concepts are also covered in the patent application filed by the university.

Abosch and Yakacki plan to continue their collaboration and develop solutions for pediatric DBS. “Projects like these are great opportunities to build relationships with the CU School of Medicine,” Yakacki says. “They also enable our students to work on interdisciplinary projects in a way that advances their education beyond the classroom.”

Yakacki believes this project is a prime example of CU Denver becoming a premier institution. “The rate at which this project was completed is unprecedented in my experience,” says Yakacki. “I don't think that there is a group in America, either in academia or industry, that could design and manufacture a medical device faster than we did.”

Editor's note: In March, Children's Hospital Colorado approved a one-year stipend for Sean McDonough to continue making these devices, and potentially more, for pediatric deep brain stimulation cases.

An adjustable adapter that attaches to the MRI table and secures the head frame on the patient to prevent any movement caused by tremors.
ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

Born again:
The metamorphosis of South Lincoln Homes

On Sept. 25, 2004, TIM GELSTON, BA English and Political Science ’91 and MA Urban and Regional Planning ’97, a native Coloradan, flew into Orlando. It was the same day Hurricane Jeanne, the deadliest hurricane in what had already been a devastating season, made landfall. He was starting his first planning project for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

At the time, Gelston was working for the planning division of URS, a global engineering, design and construction firm that did contract work for FEMA, among other agencies. Much of his career to that point had involved public sector planning work and, he says, he was looking for something more compelling than whether “someone’s Porta-Potty was in the wrong place.”

In Florida, Gelston served as part of a team of FEMA planners who helped the town of Arcadia and DeSoto County develop a recovery plan. Since then, he has been deployed to Mississippi to help with planning in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, to New York post-Sandy, and he also shepherded the town of Minot, North Dakota, in its post-flood planning efforts.

Today, as FEMA’s Region 8 Community Planning Capacity Building Recovery Support Function regional coordinator, Gelston is spearheading the FEMA-sponsored community planning for the towns of Lyons and Jamestown, Colorado, both of which were devastated by the 2013 Colorado floods. Helping communities identify their priorities and even reinvent themselves involves countless stakeholders, agencies and experts, Gelston explains. Though Colorado recovery plans are just getting under way, they will involve everyone from individuals who lost homes to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs to the CU Denver College of Architecture and Planning, which has launched the Resilient Colorado initiative to help.

“There aren’t many silver linings when there’s a disaster,” Gelston explains. “But these events have the power to bring communities together and strengthen community bonds.”

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Global Energy Management: Alums working around the world

IN EAST AFRICA, Oscar Ngaiza managed a major upgrade project for a Kenya refinery. In Australia, Eryn Bergin is helping her company appraise its assets for a project that will liquefy natural gas for export. In Washington, D.C., Julie Hughes directs special clean energy initiatives for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). And in Denver, Joel Poppert is pioneering innovative clean energy solutions and helping to put geothermal on the table. All turned to CU Denver’s Global Energy Management (GEM) program for the business skills they needed to excel in the global energy industry.

OSCAR NGAIZA, MS GEM ’10, and a native of Tanzania, has spent 30 years as a chemical engineer in the oil and gas industry, most of it advising energy companies on ways to improve the performance of capital projects. While working with CH2M Hill to improve the performance of projects in Abu Dhabi’s onshore oil fields, he enrolled in the GEM program and spent the next 18 months taking courses, completing assignments and meeting with classmates, all online, and every three months traveling to Denver for three-day classroom sessions. The commute was challenging, he admits, with day-long flights on Thursdays, classes Friday through Sunday afternoon and day-long return flights to be back in Abu Dhabi Tuesday morning. But he also knew that if he wanted to move from advising to executing energy projects, “a business-related degree would be necessary.”

Armed with an industry specific Masters in Business, Ngaiza returned to East Africa with a contract to help Kenya Petroleum Refineries Limited upgrade its crude oil refinery in Mombasa. After three years, he is considering a job with a multinational company interested in expanding in the region.

ERYN BERGIN, MS GEM ’12, missed her graduation because she had already taken a job with Santos in Australia. Soon after, she was made responsible for appraising its assets in Queensland, determining how much natural gas is in them and identifying new opportunities. Bergin is a geological engineer, with bachelors and masters degrees from the Colorado School of Mines, and entered the GEM program to gain business skills.

“The courses that really opened my eyes were Global Energy Economics by DR. JANIE CHERMAK and the 21st Century Global Energy Issues and Realities taught by DR. MATTHEW CLARKE,” she said. “They make you think about the industry as a whole.” The program also helped her understand the global context. “Each course emphasizes not just the American experience, but how the industry is evolving all over the world. I am now able to intelligently discuss the global energy sector and my company’s role within it.”

JULIE HUGHES, MS GEM ’11, represents the intersection of energy, business and government, working as a policy advisor for the deputy assistant secretary of DOE’s office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). Put simply, her job is ensuring that EERE’s customers are served well, especially states and the private sector. Among her assignments is overseeing a federal advisory board of energy experts who recommend ways DOE can help state and local governments accomplish their clean energy goals. As a liaison, she gathers feedback, communicates it to DOE and facilitates action. For DOE’s Better Buildings Challenge, she helps private companies set public goals for improving energy use in their buildings, then ensures DOE provides the right assistance.

She honed her energy policy skills while working for New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s administration. Experienced in policy, Hughes wanted an energy-focused graduate program that would enhance specialized business and organizational skills she uses to get things done at DOE. “The professors were energy professionals, so they talked about concepts they practice on a day-to-day process,” she said. With a strong, interesting group of classmates, Hughes found her husband, Camilo Lopez, who works for the World Bank. “In many class discussions, we were the only ones coming from a clean energy perspective, compared to others from the oil and gas industry,” Hughes said, “but the most useful thing for me was getting a sense of the energy sector as a whole and how it works together.”

JOEL POPPERT, MS GEM ’13, started his nine-year energy career with a drilling company but soon found himself focused on the geothermal heat pump industry. “It’s a mature energy technology that addresses many 21st century energy problems,” he said. Poppert co-founded Alpine Geothermal Drilling, led the State Geothermal Association and has become active in clean energy policy. For his work with renewable energy, he was featured in the Denver Business Journal’s 2012 and 2013 “Who’s Who in Energy” issue.

An entrepreneur at heart, Poppert says he came away from the GEM program with the knowledge and network necessary to prosper in the energy industry. With classmates, he launched GEMM7, LLC, a collective of professionals determined to develop profitable strategies that address the complex and continually changing energy market.

“The courses that really opened my eyes were Global Energy Economics...and the 21st Century Global Issues and Realities...”
Alums in emergency management aid in flood recovery

IN SEPTEMBER 2013, some Colorado counties received more rain in a matter of days than they typically get the entire year. Colorado flooding made national headlines with what some experts called a 1,000-year rain and a 100-year flood.

Behind the scenes, state, local and federal experts in emergency management worked to respond to crises, assess damage, prioritize resources and advise communities on recovery. Many of those experts serving in key positions are CU Denver alumni and graduate students.

“Our students learn technical skills, which they blend with emergency management know-how,” said Deborah Thomas, associate professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences and co-director of the School of Public Affairs program in Emergency Management and Homeland Security. “Their skills are so marketable.”

Traditionally, emergency managers have come from military backgrounds, but in the past two decades, the field has been professionalized, with more people seeking degrees specializing in emergency management. For interested students, CU Denver has several options:

- The Master of Public Administration (MPA) with a concentration in Emergency Management and Homeland Security prepares students for non-profit, government or private sector jobs handling all phases of hazards and disasters.
- The Bachelor of Arts in geography with the Geographic Information Science (GISci) Certificate prepares students to work with geographic information systems (GIS) similar to Google Earth.
- The GISci Certificate is also an interdisciplinary option for graduate students from all schools and colleges.

“Disasters can be depressing—it’s disease, injury, death—but we prepare students who can then go out and change the world,” said Thomas. “They do amazing things.”

Meet four alumni and current students who are making a difference in the lives of Coloradans in the aftermath of the 2013 floods.
"Disasters can be depressing—it’s disease, injury, death—but we prepare students who can then go out and change the world,” said Thomas. “They do amazing things.”

Amy Danzl

“How are we going to get resources to Boulder?”

DEGREE: MPA with concentration in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (in progress)


What did you do during the floods?

Well, the response was quick and intense, and it didn’t let up for nearly two weeks. We ran our emergency operations center 24 hours a day for the first eight days, then moved to 16- to 18-hour days for another six. The rains started three years ago, the week after the Fourmile Canyon fire. With burn scars in two steep canyons, we knew to expect flash floods and had been planning for them, but flash flooding typically comes quickly and then subsides. This time, the repeated flash flooding over four days was more serious than anything we had expected, and it hit every single drainage system in our county.

I was working as logistics section chief, mobilizing resources into Boulder County. My husband was in Denver, and he called to say he was stranded because all the roads into Boulder were closed. Suddenly, I thought, “If he can’t get in, how are we going to get resources into Boulder?” But we did it. We brought in rescue teams, aircraft, generators, water, [portable restrooms], shelter supply trailers, cots, blankets and meals.

What’s rewarding about your job?

I love that we actually make a difference. We are doing things that potentially save lives. I also love that we are quiet and behind the scenes. We aren’t on the front lines like law enforcement and firefighters, but we have broad and great impact.

Nikki Robles

“It’s always haunting to look at the images that come in.”

DEGREE: BA Geography and GISci Certificate ’09

CURRENT POSITION: Geospatial Analyst, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region VIII

What did you do during the floods?

As the lead GIS coordinator with FEMA during the flooding event, I was coordinating the gathering of data as the flood moved across the state. I worked with the State of Colorado to determine locations where we should send planes to take pictures of flooded areas, and as the flood moved downstream, I worked with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to task satellites to give us the best picture of what was happening on the ground. From those images, we could get a bigger picture of what areas had more damage so we could prioritize our assets to provide assistance. One day, we would say, “Jamestown needs help” or “Lyons needs help.” Another day, it was “Boulder needs help.”

It’s always haunting to look at the images that come in. I spent three and a half months working on GIS on the East Coast after Hurricane Sandy, but this event hit [me] harder because I was born and raised here. I remembered an Estes Park coffee shop I liked, and then I could see from the images that it was really flooded. This hit in my backyard.

What’s rewarding about your job?

By providing scientific information to decision makers, I can help them make better decisions for the future. If I can show policymakers with my data that an area is vulnerable—that perhaps people should mitigate their risk by adopting better building codes—then I help these communities. I can’t lift walls of homes or dig holes, but this is my way of helping the community.

Iain Hyde

“All disasters are local.”

DEGREE: MPA with a concentration in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (in progress)

CURRENT POSITION: State Disaster Recovery Manager, Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

What did you do during the floods?

I started my position the day before the Waldo Canyon fire began, in June 2012. With the floods in 2013, we have had back-to-back disasters. There was a lot that was surprising about the floods. We saw rivers moving into new channels, we saw entire neighborhoods cut off because roads were washed out, and the sheer duration of the storm was something I had not seen in my lifetime. Our focus at the state level is to provide support with many other state agencies, to local communities in the midst of a disaster, support that will help both short-term and long-term recovery.

All disasters are local. They start local, and they end local. The true champions of disaster recovery are local—the nonprofits, the citizens, local governance. Our role at the state level is to support them in any way we can. We attend meetings, work through the multitude of recovery issues that arise throughout the process, help communities with grant applications, coordinate other agencies and resources that are needed and support planning for the future. The community that has gone through the disaster has to drive the vision of what it can be in the future. Our goal is to help a community realize that vision.

What’s rewarding about your job?

Everything is rewarding. We have the tools to provide support, and we’re in a position to help folks’ lives get better. That’s what gets you up every day.

Jesse Rozelle

“We’re using cutting-edge technology to help people.”

DEGREE: BA Geography and GISci Certificate ’07

CURRENT POSITION: Risk Analyst/GIS Coordinator, FEMA, Region VIII

What did you do during the floods?

We watched reports from the weather service very carefully, and when we saw flooding, we started mapping the extent of the flood inundation. Our main goal was to paint a comprehensive picture of the extent of damage from community to community. That helps provide decision makers with the best information possible on communities impacted so they can triage, do search and rescue, start recovery efforts and fix roads. We were very busy, and we still are.

These floods were challenging because for two weeks we had significant cloud cover, and that made it difficult to gather plane and satellite imagery. When we finally got the images, there were many shocking ones, but the sheer extent of the flooding damage in Lyons really stood out.

I live in Golden, and there was a stream near my house that rose to high levels. I was working the flood all day and then going home and keeping an eye on the river by my house.

What’s rewarding about your job?

We provide decision makers with information on the impact of disaster as quickly and efficiently as possible to help them respond with staff and supplies. We’re using cutting-edge technology to help people.
New BA in education offered

In January 2014, Tina Smith was one of the first students to begin work toward a BA in Teaching, Learning and Development, the first undergraduate degree offered by the School of Education & Human Development (SEHD).

“This program… was exactly what I was looking for,” Smith said. “To have a BA from a school like CU Denver is outstanding.”

The degree trains undergraduate students to become teachers in three areas: early childhood education (birth through age 8), elementary education (ages 5 through 12) and special education (ages 5 through 21). A fourth area (ages 5 through 12) and special education (ages 5 through 21). A fourth area of specialty, in human development and family relations, will begin in the fall of 2014. The Colorado Board of Education unanimously approved the new four-year, 126-credit-hour degree in August, calling it “extremely high-quality.”

Even though she had taught at a Montessori school for more than a decade, Smith needed a degree to maintain her status as a lead teacher. She will get a head start in the program by transferring credits earned back in what she calls her hippie days at CU-Boulder, along with credits she has earned at the Community College of Denver.

“CU Denver has a long history in education, and you are supported in the classroom as you learn to teach. They will do everything in their power to help you succeed, and that makes a huge difference.”

Finally, I am getting both the university and the degree I wanted,” she said. “CU Denver has a long history in education, and you are supported in the classroom as you learn to teach. They will do everything in their power to help you succeed, and that makes a huge difference.”

U.S. News & World Report has ranked SEHD as one of the top education schools in the nation. The undergraduate program adds dimension to an already well-regarded school.

“We are now able to leverage the incredible strength we have always had at the graduate level in the undergraduate experience,” said Barbara Seidl, PhD, SEHD associate dean for academic programs and undergraduate experiences.

The school’s Urban Community Teacher Education program has already established rich partnerships with local schools and teachers during the past 20 years.

Participants in this new BA program will benefit from strong school and community partnerships that are unmatched in the state,” said Rebecca Kantor, SEHD dean. “In a state and country that are becoming more and more diverse, the skills that we provide are extremely valued by employers.”

Unlike many traditional undergraduate teacher education programs, which consign student teaching to 12 weeks in the fourth year of preparation, the clinical education experiences in this program are threaded throughout the four years. Graduate students are required to have 800 clinical hours; undergraduate students will be required to have even more than 800 hours, starting in their first year.

“This program is a fusion of theory and practice,” said Seidl.

The BA in Teaching, Learning and Development is also distinguished from other programs by its focused sense of what kind of students you are supporting.

“We recognize that children come from different cultural, linguistic and socioeconomic backgrounds, and our students learn to teach in the context of diversity,” said Seidl. “We don’t just pay lip service to these differences. Our students get real-life experiences in diverse communities, and they are changed by the experience.”

Elysia Vigil, who is midway through her freshman year in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), will be one of the first current students to move into the program.

Inspired to become a teacher by her aunt who was a kindergarten teacher in Denver Public Schools, Vigil could see the difference teachers make during her high school years at St. Mary’s Academy.

“Teachers have so much impact,” Vigil said. “The support I got from teachers helped me learn to stand up for myself and gave me so much confidence.”

The experienced SEHD faculty know what happens to ill-prepared teachers who are not ready for the real demands of teaching. They quit. SEHDs goal is to turn out first-year teachers who behave more like second- or third-year teachers.

Ultimately, the new program will build its reputation through students like Vigil and Smith. Listen to them talk about their love of teaching and you have a sense of what kind of students will make this program a success.

“When I would help my aunt in the classroom, children would come and ask me questions,” said Vigil. “Their eyes would light up when they finally understood a concept. That’s so amazing to watch.”

“You get a child young and build on their enthusiasm, and you’re opening doors for them,” said Smith. “You can show them anything they want to do is possible.”
IVETHE KENKEL learned that she shares a birthday with a cool downtown cat: Milo the Lynx. She already feels a special kinship—not to mention pride in her new school—thanks to the young and spry CU Denver mascot.

Kenkel, a transfer from Southern California, started at CU Denver this semester to study criminal justice. She wasn’t about to miss Milo’s 1st birthday celebration, which drew about 300 students, faculty and staff for everything a first birthday should have: hats, cupcakes, popcorn, piñatas, cotton candy, cookies, face painting, gifts and balloons.

“I had to come and share my birthday with him,” said Kenkel, who was turning 27. “I love it here at CU Denver. I love the downtown location and everybody is really friendly. I’m from Los Angeles, so I’m used to the city life. I fit right in.”

And so does Milo, who was created by the Student Government Association as a way to give CU Denver a sense of its own community, identity and spirit.

As the loudspeakers in Tivoli Turnhalle blared the Beatles’ “Birthday,” the CU Denver Cheer and Dance team danced with Milo while students, faculty and staff checked out the party-style booths filling the room. Raul Cardenas, associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs, gave the furry critter a big birthday hug on the Turnhalle stage. “This is a historic moment for us,” Cardenas said. “Milo, you’re tremendous, a little furry, and really cute. What we heard from our students was that they wanted something to be a part of, something that represented our community, something that represented CU Denver.”

Other mascots from the Auraria Campus joined in the celebration. Swoop (Community College of Denver) and Rowdy (Metropolitan State University of Denver) presented gifts and danced with Milo before attendees cut his cake, adorned with a large glitter-spangled No. 1, and sang a boisterous “Happy Birthday.”

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

The world moves at lightning speed these days, and we’d like to keep up with you. Share your news—promotions, awards or anything you find noteworthy—and let us know where you’ve been. You may also submit Class Notes online at www.ucdenver.edu/classnotes.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY
STATE/ZIP
TELEPHONE (DAY)
TELEPHONE (EVENING)
EMAIL
MAJOR
GRADUATION YEAR
NEWS

I’d like to join other alumni by:
☐ Selecting alumni award recipients
☐ Assisting with commencement
☐ Working on legislative issues and promoting the university as a CU Advocate
☐ Volunteering for special events
☐ Providing information about my career field to students and alumni
☐ Selecting scholarship recipients
☐ Raising funds for scholarships
☐ Calling and welcoming new students

MAIL TO:
CU Denver Alumni Relations
Campus Box 189, P.O. Box 173364
Denver, CO 80217-3364
EMAIL to UCDalumni@ucdenver.edu
CALL 303-315-2333

Stay involved!
1970s

DIANA FLAHIVE, MA Education ’76 and Denver Community Leadership Forum Certificate ’92, is a community minister for Capitol Hill United Ministries. Among other accomplishments, Flahive helped create the community schools for Denver Public Schools, started the after school and childcare program for Kaleidoscope Korner, and created Escuela de Guadelupe, a dual language school for low income, Latino children. Other life experiences include dancing with the Dali Lama and having an art show in Thailand.

1980s

SANDRA L. HUSK, PhD Education ’89, is the chief executive officer for AVID, a nonprofit corporation which prepares students for four-year college eligibility. Prior, Husk was superintendent of both Salem-Keizer Public Schools in Salem, Ore.

1990s

SARAH AURICH, BS Accounting ’95, has been appointed deputy director of the Office of Long Term Care for the Colorado Department of Human Services. Aurich streamlines services and implemented recent state audit recommendations in addition to developing new performance measures related to services.

MICHAEL KOUNTZE, MBA ’93, is vice president, business development officer with Wells Fargo Bank in San Antonio, Texas. Kountze is responsible for providing real estate and equipment financing, treasury management, payroll, insurance and merchant services for companies in the San Antonio metro area.

2000s

SANDRA L. JOHANSSON, BA International Studies with an emphasis on Latin America ’06, is obtaining her PhD in political science at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia. She has been working on peace and conflict issues in Colombia, completing research projects, working for non-government organizations and teaching university classes since 2009. She plans to write her dissertation on mining, the private sector and conflict in Colombia. Her other research interests include child recruitment into armed conflicts, gender issues in cultures of violence, and primary commodities and conflict duration.

KAREN MAESTAS, MS Civil Engineering ’01, was honored by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Colorado as the 2014 Outstanding Woman in Engineering. Maestas was recognized as a woman in a leadership role with outstanding achievements, as well as being a role model for young engineers.

SARAH SILLS, MS Technical Communications and MPA ’08, is the director of Budget and Policy for the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS). Sills was the legislative liaison for CDHS, and prior, was the government and community relations manager for Denver Health and Hospital Authority.

NANCY STOHLMAN, BA English Writing ’01, released a second novel, The Monster Opera. Her other books include Searching for Suzi (2009), Live From Palestine (2003) and three anthologies of flash fiction, including Fast Forward: The Mix Tape (2010), which was a finalist for a 2011 Colorado Book Award. She is a founding member of Fast Forward Press, the creator and curator of The F Bomb Flash Fiction Reading Series in Denver, and her work was nominated for The Best of the Web.

2010s

CORRÊA D’ALMEIDA, PhD Public Affairs ’10, adjunct associate professor at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, created the new Development Practice Lab to give public affairs students hands-on learning opportunities.

MARK GOLDFARBE, MBA ’13, accepted an accounting position with the global nonprofit, Water for People.

In memoriam

1970s

B. CAROL ADAMS, BFA ’76, died January 13, 2014.

MARIE L. R. LACY, PhD Education ’74, died February 19, 2013.

1980s

NINA FORGO, MBA ’86, died November 1, 2013.

JANYCE ANNE LINDEGREN (WOODY), MA Education ’81, died February 18, 2014.

1990s


JOSEPH DALE FARMER, BS Chemistry ’94, died August 19, 2013.

REBECCA LYNN GREEN (SCAMMAN), MBA ’98, died February 2, 2014.

PAUL EVERETT GROTH, XMBA ’93, died September 4, 2013.

THOMAS F. KERSHISIN, XMBA ’95, died September 23, 2013.

KAREN G. KNUTSON, BA History ’84 and MBA ’90, died February 3, 2014.

DAVID CLARENCE MASTIN, MArch ’92, died September 3, 2013.

RICHARD L. SIMPSON, MBA ’94, died October 6, 2013.

2000s

BETH MARIE RENNINGER, MA Special Education ’03 and Specialist in Education ’08, died December 24, 2013.

2010s

MARGARET E. MISTRY, PhD Education ’12, died September 13, 2013.

TREVOR ROWLEY, Accounting Degree in Process, died September 8, 2013.

Submit your class notes online: www.ucdenver.edu/classnotes
Alumni Award Winners

THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION honored at Spring Commencement three remarkable Coloradans whose contributions have directly benefited the university and Denver community.

Alumni Leadership Award winner DR. MARIA URIBE has affected thousands of lives through her outstanding leadership and service in the Denver Public Schools and with the teacher candidates from CU Denver. Her connection to the university runs deep: she earned her doctoral degree in 2004 and is currently a senior instructor in the university’s School of Education & Human Development.

For the past 22 years, Dr. Uribe has worked in the Denver Public Schools at Goldrick Elementary School, as a bilingual teacher, assistant principal and principal. Goldrick is an urban, largely bilingual school, where over 68 percent of the children are English language learners; it has partnered with CU Denver for 20 years. Dr. Uribe was the coach and the site coordinator for CU Denver for 20 years. Dr. Uribe attended the University of Colorado Denver’s Office of Disability Resources and Services. The comprehensive new suite, to be named after Nancy Lacey, will be located on the second floor of the new Academic Building, scheduled to open in August. The center is expected to make a difference in hundreds of lives, now and into the future.

Finally, Alumni Legislative Award winner and State Representative DAN PABON is a champion for CU, often working behind the scenes to advance the university.

Representing Colorado’s District 4 in northwest Denver, Rep. Pabon is assistant majority leader of the Colorado House of Representatives, and serves on the appropriations and finance committees, as well as the legislative council. In his leadership position he has worked to influence the caucus to support higher education and the University of Colorado in particular.

Rep. Pabon grew up in the same community he is now serving in the Colorado House of Representatives. Pabon attended CU-Boulder, where he was elected student body president his senior year, and class president while in law school. Rep. Pabon also worked on higher education issues as the vice-chair of the Auraria Higher Education Center Board.

To nominate someone for an award, contact the Alumni Association at 303-315-2333 or ucalumni@ucdenver.edu.

ALUMNI ONLINE COMMUNITY
alumnilink.ucdenver.edu
- Receive periodic e-newsletters and updates from the school or college you attended
- Search for former classmates in the online directory
- Register for Alumni Association events

CU ADVOCACY PROGRAM
303-860-5600 | cuadvocates@cu.edu
www.cu.edu/cuadvocates
- Promote CU’s value and contributions around the state with elected officials, media, businesses and civic groups in Colorado and across the country
- Share your story of CU’s importance—these stories help put a face on the university and will provide compelling evidence for state investment

CAMPUS RECREATION
303-556-3210
www.ucdenver.edu/campusrec
- Enhance your level of fitness at the Campus Recreation Center for $100 per semester

CAREER CENTER
303-556-2250
www.ucdenver.edu/careercenter
Take advantage of the Career Center’s Just Ask! Job Link for free during 2013. Benefits for this service and more include:
- Access to all available job announcements
- Two resume reviews through the 15-minute Quick Tip Appointments
- Access to the on-campus interviewing program
- Notification of all Career Center job fairs, networking events and workshops
- Access to the career resource library, including Focus2, GoingGlobal, Career Briefs and CareerSpots videos

LIBRARY
www.ucdenver.edu/downtownalumni/benefits
The Auraria Library is pleased to offer CU Denver alumni access to SAGE Publications
- Includes more than 645 scholarly and professional journals
- Access is available online, on any time, any place basis

CU LICENSE PLATES
303-315-2333
www.ucdenver.edu/licensesplates
- Cost includes a mandatory $50 donation to the Alumni Scholarship Fund
- CU plates may be purchased upon completion of an application and receipt of an approval certificate from the Alumni Association
- An additional $50 county clerk fee and your standard vehicle registration fees are applicable

FINANCIAL SERVICES*
www.ucdenver.edu/downtownalumni/benefits
- BANKING
  - Checking, money market accounts, CDs and IRAs
  - Auto and mortgage loans and HELOC
  - Home banking and bill pay
  - Branches throughout the metro area
- HEALTH/DENTAL
  - GradMed – Short-term major medical insurance
  - AlumniMed – Renewable major medical insurance
  - AlumniDent – Dental Insurance
  - Alumni Disability Income – Long-term disability insurance
  - AlumniTLC – Long-term care insurance
  - SupplMed65+ – Medicare supplement
  - AlumniHIP – Hospital indemnity insurance
  - AlumniAbroad – Travel health and trip cancellation insurance
  - Custom Travel – Travel health and trip cancellation insurance for groups
  - Alumni PetHealth – Accident and illness protection for cats and dogs
  - Travel Assist – Emergency travel assistance
  - Alumni ID Recovery – Service for identity theft victims
  - AlumniAnnuity – Fixed annuity for retirement planning
  - AlumniTerm – Group term life insurance
  - AlumniTerm 10/20 – Level 10- and 20-year group term life insurance
  - AlumniTerm 50+ – Group term life insurance renewable to age 95
  - AlumniAD&D – Group accidental death and dismemberment insurance
- AUTO/HOME
  - Exclusive offering to alumni for auto, home and renter’s insurance
- ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
  - The Ultimate Roadside Assistance emergency benefits include:
    - Extended Towing Service – up to 25 miles from point of pick-up
    - Delivery of Supplies (water, oil, gas)
    - Services for Flat Tires
    - Battery and Locksmith Service
    - Unlimited Occurrences (one emergency road service every 72 hours)
  - The Ultimate Roadside Plus offers the above benefits plus:
    - Automobile Deductible Reimbursement – up to $500 (comprehensive/collision claim)
    - Key/Key Fob Replacement
    - Medefile Basic Membership – Maintain your personal medical records online
- LIBRARY
- Using Miles Membership
  - Register for a FREE lifetime membership (retails at $29.99/yr.) to the service that helps save time and money...
  - Easily track all your loyalty programs in one place, from airlines to Groupon to REI
  - Find ways to get free travel and more with your miles, points and credits. Earn more points with access to thousands of bonus deals in all of your favorite loyalty programs

*These affinity partnerships benefit Alumni Association programs and scholarships, including CU on the Horizon.
ALUMNI EVENTS

RECRUIT DENVER ALUMNI ONLY CAREER EXPO

Wednesday, June 18, 2014
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Denver Marriott Tech Center

Alumni and career offices for colleges and universities are teaming up with MyWorkster for the Recruit Denver Alumni Only Career Expo for their graduates. Employers from a variety of industries will be present to meet outstanding alumni to fill professional positions.

Registration is required, but the event is free. Please register by June 13. Questions? Contact the Career Center at 303-556-2350 or www.ucdenver.edu/UCDalumnievents.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 22, 2014
4 p.m.
Palm Restaurant,
Downtown Denver

Meeting: Free and open to all alumni
Agenda: Election of officers and board members, committee reports, bylaws amendments and other business that may come before the members.
Optional dinner following: $15 per person.
Register by June 16.

A ROARIN’ GOOD TIME

Wednesday, July 23, 2014
6:30 – 9 p.m.
Denver Zoo

What’s more fun than a barrel of monkeys? The whole zoo, of course! Imagine frolicking with your family, playing with the pandas and cavorting with the carnivores.

The Denver Zoo will open its doors to CU alumni, friends and their families on Wednesday, July 23, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Cost: $15 for adults, $10 for children 3 – 12, free for kids under 3
Register by July 14, 2014

QUESTIONS/MORE INFORMATION:
303-315-2333
www.ucdenver.edu/UCDalumnievents

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
CU Denver Alumni Association

MAIL TO:
CU Denver Alumni Relations
Campus Box 189, P.O. Box 173364
Denver, CO 80217-3364