

# FOCUS ON CU FACULTY



## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2018

### UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



#### [Hickenlooper picks CU professor for vacant Colorado Supreme Court seat](#)

The Denver Post

(Dec. 14, 2017) -- Gov. John Hickenlooper named CU Boulder law professor [Melissa Hart](#) to a vacant seat on the Colorado Supreme Court. Hart devotes her teaching and scholarship to employment discrimination, access to justice and constitutional law. She replaces Allison Eid.



#### [This Colorado school district was supposed to be a model for advancing biliteracy](#)

Chalkbeat

(Dec. 20, 2017) -- Adams 14 leaders now say it's not the district's primary goal or responsibility to develop a student's native language.

"There is a shortage of bilingual teachers," said [Kathy Escamilla](#), director of the BUENO Center at CU Boulder. "But you are not going to expand a program if you've created hostility. You have to have some initiative to recruit and retain these teachers."



#### [NASA is picking finalists for a space mission: Here are its options](#)

The New York Times

(Dec. 19, 2017) -- Venus In Situ Atmospheric and Geochemical Explorer, or Visage, led by [Larry W. Esposito](#) of CU Boulder, would put a lander on Venus, drilling into the rocks and taking pictures. In the inhospitable environment — temperatures of hundreds of degrees and clouds of sulfuric acid — Visage would survive for only a few hours.



## **[There's a scientific reason some people are more motivated than others — it's possible to change](#)**

**Business Insider**

(Dec. 19, 2017) – One way of getting and staying motivated is to turn setbacks around. “You’re going to go off track sometime — everyone does. But that can provide valuable information on how to change what you’re doing so you’ll be successful next time around,” said [Sona Dimidjian](#), an associate professor of psychology and neuroscience at CU Boulder.

**Also:** [More than the baby blues: Peers help moms with postpartum depression](#), Westword, Dec. 19

---



## **[Three reasons why California's fire risk won't dampen anytime soon](#)**

**National Public Radio**

(Dec. 13, 2017) – “Temperatures haven’t dropped as much at night as they did years ago, which keeps the humidity low and allows the fire to rage through the night rather than ‘laying down,’” said [Michael Kodas](#), a fire researcher at CU Boulder. He says that in the past, firefighters made headway overnight and early in the morning.

---



## **[Saturn's rings are a recent addition to the solar system, Cassini observations show](#)**

**Science**

(Dec. 12, 2017) -- If astronomers had gazed at the sky in the time of the dinosaurs, they might have seen a bare and boring Saturn. After 12 years of painstaking measurements and analysis, the Cosmic Dust Analyzer, a Cassini experiment that measures small particles, has pinned down the micrometeorite flux—and it is “inconsistent with an old ring,” said [Sascha Kempf](#), a space physicist at CU Boulder. This flux, which runs about 10 times higher than thought before Cassini’s findings, suggests a ring age of between 150 million to 300 million years, or even younger.

---



## [Is Planet Nine even real?](#)

The Atlantic

(Dec. 8, 2017) -- A year and a half after it was proposed, astronomers are still debating whether a giant mystery planet actually exists. In the case of Planet Nine, [Ann-Marie Madigan](#), an astrophysicist at CU Boulder, believes everyone has missed a key suspect. The gravitational forces in the outer solar system could be more complicated, and the unlikely alignment of those icy bodies could all be a temporary coincidence.

---



## [Potatoes saved the world from constant war because they are delicious](#)

Newsweek

(Dec. 11, 2017) -- “Once potatoes were imported to the old world starting in the late 17th century, they seem to have dampened conflicts localized in regions that were relatively more suitable for potato cultivation and growth,” said lead researcher [Murat Iyigun](#), a professor of economics at CU Boulder. “This effect was pretty long-lasting, spanning nearly two centuries.”

---

# UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS



## [The adults playing teens on TV](#)

Slate

(Dec. 13, 2017) -- [Beth Daniels](#), a developmental psychology professor at UCCS, remembers that some teen shows used to feature actors who, while still older than the characters they were playing, could actually pass for high schoolers—like baby-faced Alexis Bledel, who was 19 when *Gilmore Girls* premiered. “In contemporary teen shows today, they have actors who don’t even physically resemble teenagers,” Daniels said.

---



## [Colorado’s rapid growth sets stage for political war](#)

Colorado Springs Gazette

(Dec. 20, 2017) -- The Democrats and the GOP will go to war to protect their incumbents and set boundaries that will swing the new seat into their camp.

“It won’t be World War III, but it could be close,” predicted [Josh Dunn](#) who teaches political science at UCCS.

---



### [Tatiana Bailey: Educational attainment of women and the wage gap](#)

The Gazette

(Dec. 17, 2017) -- Since 1982, women have earned more bachelor's degrees than men in the United States, and by 1987, women have also earned more master's degrees, said [Tatiana Bailey](#), director of UCCS Economic Forum in the College of Business. In the 2017 graduating class, there were 140 females per 100 males earning master's degrees and 109 females for every 100 males earning doctoral degrees. It is striking that despite these changes, a wage gap still exists with women earning about 80 cents for every dollar earned by a male.



### [Plan forms to address Colorado's statewide teacher shortages](#)

The Gazette

(Dec. 16, 2017) -- The College of Education at UCCS recorded a 33 percent increase in student credit hours this fall semester over the fall of 2016, said [Valerie Conley Martin](#), dean of the college. "It was significant," she said. "We saw proportionately more than any other school or college on our campus, which was amazing."



### [Hurry, sculptures by Starr Kempf installed at UCCS Ent Center won't be there long](#)

The Gazette

(Dec. 19, 2017) -- "The legacy of this artist is really significant to this community," said [Daisy McGowan](#), director of UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art and curator of the public sculpture program. "Starr Kempf died in 1995. His family is very proud of his work, and I think this has been very healing for them."

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



### [Salazar Family Foundation gives \\$10 million to build CU Denver campus wellness center](#)

The Denver Post

(Dec. 11, 2017) -- The Salazar Family Foundation, which was formed by [Rob and Lola Salazar](#), has given CU Denver a \$10 million gift that will be used to establish the school's first named building. The Lola & Rob Salazar Student Wellness Center will be an 85,000-square-foot facility with a climbing wall, gymnasium, six-lane pool,

weight room and other amenities. It is expected to open in the spring.

---



## [Private companies address sexual misconduct with speed compared to politicians](#)

KDVR

(Nov. 29, 2017) -- In recent months, dozens of politicians, journalists and businessmen have made headlines after allegations of sexual harassment or assault. Some were fired, others still hold titles.

“In both situations there usually is a process in place,” said [Barbara Paradiso](#), director of the Center on Domestic Violence at CU Denver. “In a private corporation, you can set down a rule around what is appropriate behavior and what is inappropriate behavior and act fairly quickly because you are essentially their boss.” But it doesn't work like that at the Capitol.

---



## [Eleven reasons why failure is essential for self-development](#)

Huffington Post

(Dec. 28, 2017) You can learn from success, and you can learn from failure - but the latter will teach you far more, and is therefore more valuable. [Vinit Desai](#), assistant professor of management at the CU Denver Business School, ran a study looking at which was more helpful. “We found that the knowledge gained from success was often fleeting while knowledge from failure stuck around for years,” he said.

---



## [Education report: Degrees of certainty](#)

Colorado Biz

(Dec. 13, 2017) -- Writing skills are important, says [Sue Wyman](#), director of Business Career Connections at the CU Denver Business School. She says there is strong demand for accounting, finance, information systems, business analytics and marketing students who know how to write.

“When we say, ‘What can we do to make our students more relevant?’ we hear, ‘Could you help them with email-writing skills?’” she said. “It's very different from writing a report for class.”

---



## ['Living with Wolves' exhibit to debut at Aspen Airport](#)

Aspen Daily News

(Dec. 5, 2017) -- A photographic exhibit that advocates the reintroduction of wolves into western Colorado premiered in early December at the Aspen Airport. [Diana Tomback](#), a professor of ecology at CU Denver, said the exhibit serves a twofold, interrelated purpose.

"The first is to document the lives of wolves to show that they are not the evil creatures they have been made out to be throughout history and, second, to talk about how well-suited western Colorado is for wolf reintroduction," Tomback said.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



## [Study explains how exercise can slow Parkinson's disease](#)

Newsline

(Dec. 29, 2017) Scientists at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus conducted a study that suggests why exercise can help Parkinson's patients slow the disease's progression. The critical components are the DJ-1 protective gene and the alpha-synuclein protein. The study was led by [Wenbo Zhou](#), assistant professor of medicine, and [Curt Freed](#), right, professor of medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.

---



## [Emergency dialysis for undocumented immigrants tied to more deaths](#)

Reuters

(Dec. 20, 2017) -- "To receive emergency-only hemodialysis, undocumented patients with kidney failure must be near death," said lead study author [Lilia Cervantes](#) of the CU School of Medicine. When people with end-stage renal disease can't get dialysis, "fluid builds up in their lungs making them feel like they are drowning and the waste will cause nausea," Cervantes said. "In addition to the fluid and waste, potassium reaches dangerously high levels causing abnormal heart rhythms leading to cardiac arrest."

---



## **Scientist at CU School of Dental Medicine is a 'Wonder'**

CBS

(Dec. 5, 2017) -- The movie Wonder tells the story of a young boy born with severe facial deformities. It hits close to home for a researcher at the CU School of Dental Medicine. [Francis Smith](#), Ph.D., has the same rare disorder as the boy in the movie and entered the world with no ears, eye sockets or cheek bones, a severe cleft palate and a malformed jaw.

---



## **In rural Colorado, doctors are retiring and dying — and no one is taking their place**

Denver Post

(Dec. 10, 2017) -- [Mark Deutchman](#), a professor at the CU School of Medicine, runs the school's Rural Track. The program takes about 20 students per medical school class and prepares them to work in rural settings, giving them early clinical experience in out-of-the-way places. But it also means teaching them about navigating small-town life, where patients are neighbors.

"If you didn't want to be friends with your patients, you'd never have friends," Deutchman said.

---

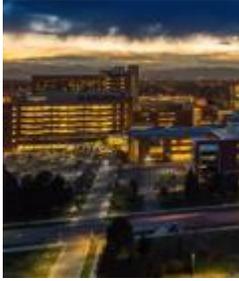


## **How one teen battled obesity with medicine's best — and most underused — tool**

Vox

(Dec. 18, 2017) -- Some doctors are even now arguing it would be cruel not to recommend a weight-loss operation to teens with severe obesity. As [Thomas Inge](#) sees it, the effects of obesity are far more damning than the risks of surgery. Inge is a pediatrician at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus who leads an ongoing study on adolescent bariatric surgery. Its potential benefits are great. Lives are "destroyed by severe obesity," Inge said. "I'm much more worried about the consequences of not operating [on young people]."

---



## [Why autism seems to cluster in some immigrant groups](#)

Scientific American

(Dec. 7, 2017) -- Developing better tools takes a lot of time and effort, says [Bruno Anthony](#), a child clinical psychologist at CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Anthony led the meta-analysis of autism screening tools. When he started working with a health center that serves a primarily Latino population in Washington, D.C., his team did an exhaustive search of the literature on Spanish-language screening tools.

---

University of Colorado | Focus on CU Faculty  
[www.cu.edu/focus-on-faculty](http://www.cu.edu/focus-on-faculty) | [cunews@cu.edu](mailto:cunews@cu.edu)  
1800 Grant Street, Suite 800, Denver CO, 80203