



Office of Government Relations Annual Report 2015

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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, 2015.

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 seventieth session of the Colorado General Assembly convened on January 7, 2015 and ended on May 6, 2015.

H.B. 15-1295 **Electrical and Plumbing Inspections by** **(Priola & Melton/Holbert)**
CU

Current law authorizes the University of Colorado (CU) to conduct electrical and plumbing inspections for its buildings on the Boulder campus. The act extends this authorization to the Denver campus and the health sciences campus and to buildings on property owned by the Boulder, Denver, or health sciences campuses but excludes contiguous buildings at the Auraria higher education center.

Current law also requires CU or any local government to start or cease inspections as of July 1 of any year and requires them to notify the state electrical board or the state plumbing board of its intentions by October 1 of the preceding calendar year. The act allows CU to start its inspections on July 1, 2015, without having given the required notice.

APPROVED by Governor April 24, 2015

EFFECTIVE April 24, 2015

H.B. 15-1373 **Provisional Speech-language Pathology** **(Singer/Aguilar)**
Certificate

The act allows applicants seeking a certification in speech-language pathology who have completed the educational requirements and passed the national examination to apply for a provisional certification before completing a clinical fellowship.

A provisional certificate holder may practice speech pathology only under the general supervision of a speech-language pathologist who holds a certificate of clinical competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

The provisional certification expires after 24 months or when the director issues the provisional certificate holder a full certification, whichever occurs first.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2015

EFFECTIVE May 29, 2015

H.B. 15-1366 **Expand Job Growth Tax Credit for Higher** **(Pabon & Willett/**
Ed Project **Balmer)**

The act allows a taxpayer to receive an income tax credit through the existing job growth incentive tax credit commencing on or after January 1, 2015, but prior to January 1, 2018, if the project will be a qualified partnership between the taxpayer and a state institution of higher education, is located on or within one mile of the campus of or on other property owned by the state institution of higher education, and brings a net job growth of at least 5 new jobs to the state with an average yearly wage of at least 100% of the statewide average yearly wage.

The act specifies that if the project is a qualified partnership then:

- The Colorado economic development commission need not determine that the credit is a major factor in the taxpayer's decision to locate or retain the project in Colorado;
- The taxpayer need not identify the cost differential in the projected costs of the project compared to the projected costs if the were project commenced in a competing state; and

- The taxpayer need not provide documentation to demonstrate that the credit is a major factor in the decision to locate the project in the state.

The act also makes the following appropriations:

- For the 2015-16 state fiscal year, \$94,251 and 1.0 FTE is appropriated to the office of the governor; and
- For the 2015-16 state fiscal year, \$36,000 is appropriated to the department of revenue for use by the taxation business group.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2015

EFFECTIVE June 5, 2015

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

H.B. 15-1170 **Increasing Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness** **(Kraft-Tharp & Wilson/Hill & Heath)**

Postsecondary and workforce readiness and closing the achievement gap are 2 of the performance indicators that the department of education (department) must use to measure a public school's, a public school district's, the state charter school institute's, and the state's level of performance. The act adds as a measure for each of these indicators the percentages of high school graduates who enroll in a career and technical education program, community college, or 4-year institution of higher education in the school year immediately following graduation. The department must give each postsecondary enrollment option equal weight in calculating performance. Currently, each school district accountability committee must include a person from the community who is involved in business, and each school accountability committee must include a person from the community. The act clarifies that the community person on the school district accountability committee must be involved in business or industry and that the community person on the school accountability committee must be involved in business or industry in the community.

The act clarifies that the state board of education will issue career and technical education authorizations based on the qualifications that the state board for community colleges and occupational education adopts.

The act creates the position of postsecondary and workforce readiness statewide coordinator (statewide coordinator). The statewide coordinator is responsible to the state work force development council (council) in the department of labor and employment. The executive committee of the council and the commissioner of the department of education will enter into a memorandum of understanding as necessary to enable the statewide coordinator to collaborate with appropriate offices within the department of education. The statewide coordinator will work with local education providers, college preparation programs, apprenticeship programs, area vocational schools, community colleges, businesses, industry, the departments of education and labor and employment, and the work force development council to raise the level of postsecondary and workforce readiness that Colorado high school graduates achieve, especially with regard to obtaining skilled career positions in business and industry upon high school graduation. The statewide coordinator, collaborating with the departments of education and higher education and community colleges, will develop electronic tools and a support network to assist local education providers in providing workforce readiness programs and initiatives. The council and the department must annually review the work of the statewide coordinator and include a summary of the coordinator's work in the annual Colorado talent report.

For the 2015-16 fiscal year, the act appropriates \$92,934 to the department of education for longitudinal analysis of student assessment results and \$118,969 to the department of labor and employment to implement the act.

APPROVED by Governor May 26, 2015

EFFECTIVE May 26, 2015

H.B. 15-1215 **In-State Tuition Dependents of Military Members** **(Priola/Johnston)**

The act expands existing law that permits in-state tuition status to the dependents of active duty members of the armed forces of the United States if the member moves to Colorado on a permanent duty assignment. The act increases by two years the length of time during which a dependent retains in-state tuition status to include dependents who are under twenty-three years

of age and who enroll in a Colorado institution within twelve years after the member was stationed in Colorado. The act repeals an obsolete tuition status for active duty military members who are covered pursuant to the presumptions in statute relating to granting in-state tuition status.

APPROVED by Governor May 4, 2015

EFFECTIVE August 5, 2015

H.B. 15-1274

Creation of Career Pathways for Students

**(Melton & Garnett/
Kerr & Woods)**

Based upon the model developed for creating the manufacturing career pathway, the act directs the state work force development council (state council) to coordinate multiple agencies and industries in the design of industry-driven career pathways for critical occupations in growing industries. The state council will work with partners through the talent pipeline work group to define critical occupations and growing industries to determine which career pathways to design and in what order.

The act includes the initial time frame for the development of career pathways and specifies that the first 3 career pathways will be in construction and related skilled trades, information technology, and health care. At least one career pathway must be designed and ready for implementation in the 2016-17 academic year, and at least 2 career pathways must be created annually in subsequent years. Industry, through regional sector partnerships, and statewide trade associations shall review each career pathway to ensure that the career pathways remains relevant to the industry. The career pathways must include provisions that allow students to learn industry-related skills and obtain employment in the industry sector, including internship and apprenticeship opportunities when relevant and available, as well as advance to higher levels of employment or education. The state council will provide outreach and training to agency partners and industries related to advising students on the career pathways.

The act requires the state board of community colleges and occupational education to collaborate with the state council in the design of the career pathways and to use the development model created for the design of the manufacturing career pathway.

The act requires information about the career pathway to be posted on-line.

The act appropriates:

- \$485,043 of general fund moneys to the department of labor and employment for use by the division of employment and training, based upon the assumption that the division will require an additional 2.5 FTE to implement the act. The division may use the appropriation for the work force development council.
- \$86,960 in re-appropriated funds from the college opportunity fund program fee-for-service contracts with state institutions for use for the state board for community colleges and occupational education state system community colleges.
- \$200,000 in re-appropriated funds to the department of higher education from the funds received by the department of labor and employment. The department of higher education may use the funds for administration for the Colorado commission on higher education.

APPROVED by Governor May 18, 2015

EFFECTIVE August 5, 2015

S.B. 15-290

Colorado Student Leaders Institute

(Wilson/Todd)

The act creates the Colorado student leaders institute (institute) in the office of the lieutenant governor to operate as a pilot program through the summer of 2019. The institute is an annual, 4-week, summer residential educational program for students who are entering tenth or eleventh grade. The institute is hosted by an institution of higher education in Colorado (host institution).

The institute combines courses, lectures, and seminars with enrichment classes in music, art, and theater. Students who participate in the institute must also complete a history research project as part of a competition held during the institute and complete a public service practicum. Each student who successfully completes the institute will receive 3 hours of postsecondary academic credit from the host institution. To apply to the institute, a student who attends a public school that is not a charter school must be nominated by the superintendent of the school district in which the student is enrolled. A student who attends a charter school or a private school must be nominated by the school principal. A student who participates in a nonpublic home-based educational program may apply without being nominated.

The institute is overseen by an executive board consisting of educators and persons from the community, appointed by the governor, and the chief executive officer of the host institution, the commissioner of education, and the executive director of the department of higher education, or their designees. The executive board reviews applications and selects students to participate in the institute, selects the faculty and courses for the institute, and contracts with the host institution to manage the institute. The executive board may also appoint an advisory board to assist in raising funds and marketing for the institute.

Under its contract, the host institution must create the application and establish timelines for submitting applications and selecting participants, review the applications and make recommendations to the executive board, and solicit faculty members for the institute, as well as provide meeting and living space and food service for institute participants.

Beginning in the 2017 legislative session, the executive board must report to the joint education committees regarding the success of the institute, which at a minimum is measured by the success of institute alumni in postsecondary educational programs.

A student who participates in the institute is encouraged to donate up to \$400 to the institute. The institute is funded by appropriations, which may include appropriations from the state education fund. In addition, the executive board may accept gifts, grants, and donations for the operations of the institute. Each year, operation of the institute is conditional on receiving at least \$40,000 in gifts, grants, and donations.

The institute is repealed, effective July 1, 2019.

For the 2015-16 fiscal year, the act appropriates \$218,825 from the state education fund to the department of education. The department of education must transfer the moneys to the office of the lieutenant governor for the institute.

BECAME LAW June 6, 2015

EFFECTIVE June 6, 2015

H.B. 15-1220

Campus Sexual Assault Victim Medical Care

**(Ryden & Danielson/
Martinez Humenik &
Cooke)**

The act requires all public institutions of higher education and private institutions of higher education that enter into a performance contract with the state (institutions) to enter into at least one memorandum of understanding or other agreement with a nearby medical facility or other facility that employs persons trained in sexual assault patient care and sexual assault forensic evidence collection. Additionally, the act requires institutions to:

- Post information on the institution's web site concerning where a sexual assault medical forensic examination may be obtained; and
- Have a sexual assault training and response policy that includes training for staff, referral to victim advocates, and information concerning transportation or assistance in transportation to the facility.

APPROVED by Governor May 4, 2015

EFFECTIVE May 4, 2015



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key State Health Care Legislation

H.B. 15-1029

**Health Care Delivery Via Telemedicine
Statewide**

**(Buck & Ginal/Kefalas
& Martinez Humenik)**

Under current law, health benefit plans issued, amended, or renewed in this state cannot require in-person health care delivery for a person covered under the plan who resides in a county with 150,000 or fewer residents if the care can be appropriately delivered through telemedicine and the county has the technology necessary for care delivery via telemedicine.

Starting January 1, 2017, the act removes the population restrictions and precludes a health benefit plan from requiring in-person care delivery when telehealth is appropriate, regardless of the geographic location of the health care provider and the recipient of care. A provider need not demonstrate that a barrier to in-person care exists for coverage of telehealth under a health benefit plan to apply. Additionally, the act specifies that delivery of care via telehealth is not required when a provider determines that telehealth is inappropriate or if the covered person chooses not to receive care through telehealth.

The act also specifies that carriers:

- Must reimburse a participating provider who delivers care through telehealth on the same basis that the carrier is responsible for reimbursing that provider for providing the same service in person;
- Cannot deny coverage of a health care service that is a covered benefit because the service is provided through telehealth if delivery of the service via telehealth is appropriate;
- Must include in the payment for telehealth interactions reasonable compensation for the transmission costs to the site where the covered person is receiving services, unless the covered person is located at a private residence when receiving services;
- Must charge the same deductible, copayment, or coinsurance amounts and durational benefit limitation or maximum benefits under the health benefit plan to the health care services delivered via telehealth that the carrier applies to the same health care services when performed through in-person care; and
- Cannot impose an annual or lifetime dollar maximum that applies separately to health care services delivered through telehealth.

"Telehealth" is defined as a mode of delivery of health care services through telecommunications systems to facilitate the assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, or self-management of a covered person's health care while the covered person is located at one site and the health care provider is located at a distant site. The term excludes delivery of health care services via telephone, facsimile machine, or electronic mail systems.

APPROVED by Governor March 20, 2015

EFFECTIVE January 1, 2017

S.B. 15-197

Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriptive Authority (Fields & Willett/Crowder &Jahn)

The act reduces the number of mentorship hours that an advanced practice nurse must complete to achieve full prescriptive authority from 3,600 practice hours to 1,000 practice hours. The practice hours must include at least 3 years of combined clinical work experience as a professional or advanced practice nurse. The act allows the role of mentor to be filled by an advanced practice nurse with prescriptive authority and the same role and population focus as the applicant.

APPROVED by Governor May 18, 2015

EFFECTIVE September 1, 2015

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Other Legislation

S.B. 15-234 **2015-16 Long Appropriations Bill** **(Hamner/Lambert)**

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, the act provides for the payment of expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state of Colorado, and of its agencies and institutions, for and during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015. The grand total for the operating budget is set at \$26,280,342,056 of which \$7,021,502,865 is from the general fund portion of the appropriation, \$2,489,355,187 is from the general fund exempt portion, \$7,318,615,401 is from the cash funds portion, \$1,450,482,289 is from the re-appropriated funds portion, and \$8,000,386,314 is from the federal funds portion.

The grand total for fiscal year 2015 capital construction projects is \$396,231,034 of which \$249,945,429 is from the capital construction fund portion of the appropriation, \$166,938,201 is from the cash funds portion, \$13,911,135 is from the re-appropriated funds portion, and \$15,436,269 is from the federal funds portion.

The 2013 general appropriation act is amended to balance and make adjustments to the total amount appropriated to the departments of education and health care policy and financing. The general fund portion is decreased and the general fund exempt is increased resulting in no change in the overall funding for either department.

The head notes to the 2014 long bill are amended to include the human services building in the definitions and general provisions portion.

The 2014 general appropriation act is amended to balance and make adjustments to the total amount appropriated to the departments of education, health care policy and financing, higher education, human services, judicial, local affairs, public health and environment, public safety, and revenue and the offices of the governor, lieutenant governor, and state planning and budgeting.

Appropriations made in House Bill 14-1156, concerning extending the age of eligibility for the child nutrition school lunch protection program, is amended to reduce the amount appropriated to the program.

Appropriations made in Senate Bill 14-151, concerning the use of moneys derived from civil penalties imposed on nursing facilities to fund innovations in nursing home care, is amended to clarify where to appropriation is allocated.

Appropriations made in House Bill 14-1045, concerning the continuation of the breast and cervical cancer prevention and treatment program, is amended to make adjustments in the total amount appropriated.

Appropriations made in Senate Bill 14-001, concerning making college education more affordable by imposing further restrictions on tuition increases, increasing financial aid, and increasing operating support for each governing board of a state-supported institution of higher education by eleven percent, is amended to clarify that moneys are appropriated from the general fund exempt account rather than the general fund.

The act clarifies that a specified amount of money appropriated to the child care automated tracking system by House Bill 14-1317 remains available until June 30, 2016.

The act clarifies that a specified amount of money appropriated economic analysis and analytical work for regional tourism projects by House Bill 14-1350 remains available until June 30, 2016.

The act clarifies that a specified amount of money appropriated CITA annual maintenance and support by House Bill 14-1350 remains available until June 30, 2016.

APPROVED by Governor April 24, 2015

EFFECTIVE April 24, 2015

H.B. 15-1063 Prohibited Communications Concerning Patents (Pabon/Balmer)

The act prohibits a person from making a written or electronic communication with another concerning a patent if the communication is in bad faith. In finding bad faith, a court may consider if:

- The communication falsely states that litigation has been commenced against the recipient or an affiliated party; or
- The allegations in the communication lack a reasonable basis because of specified deficiencies.

The act contains specified exclusions from the prohibition. The act authorizes only the attorney general to file an action to enforce the prohibition and authorizes specified damages.

The act appropriates \$94,441 to the department of law to investigate and enforce the prohibition.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2015

EFFECTIVE August 5, 2015

H.B. 15-1392 Payroll System to Pay State Employees Twice a Month (Young & Tate/Newell & Neville)

Beginning July 1, 2017, state employees who are paid through the state's payroll system will be paid twice a month rather than once a month. For work performed from the first day of the month through the 15th day of the month, employees will be paid on the last day of the same month, and for work performed from the 16th day of the month through the last day of the month, employees will be paid on the 15th day of the next month; except that, for work performed from the first day of June through the 15th day of June, employees will be paid on July 1.

Any state employee may apply to the department of personnel for a one-time loan to assist the employee in July 2017. The amount of the loan cannot be more than an amount equal to the employee's net pay for a half-month pay period. There are 2 repayment options for employees who choose to take advantage of the loan and an employee may repay the loan early with no prepayment penalty. If an employee separates from state employment prior to the full loan repayment, the balance of the loan will be deducted from the employee's last paycheck.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2015

EFFECTIVE June 5, 2015

S.B. 15-082 County Workforce Development Property Tax Incentives (Lawrence & Moreno/Hodge & Marble)

Each county is authorized to establish a workforce development program to be known as "bright future Colorado" to provide financial assistance to county residents who pursue post-secondary education or training from an accredited institution of higher education or certified training program. A county workforce development program may include, but need not be limited to, county residents who are high school graduates, county residents who have successfully completed a high school equivalency examination, or county residents who are veterans. Any county that establishes a workforce development program may also establish a workforce development fund to accept contributions for the purpose of the program.

Each county that has established a workforce development program is authorized to offer an incentive, in the form of a county property tax credit or rebate, to a residential or commercial property owner in the county who contributes to a county workforce development fund. A county cannot give a credit or rebate unless the board of county commissioners approves the total program amount annually at a public budget hearing.

APPROVED by Governor March 13, 2015

EFFECTIVE August 5, 2015

The act specifies that for every appropriation in the capital construction section of the 2015-16 annual general appropriation act and every appropriation in the capital construction section of each annual general appropriation act thereafter, not including appropriations for information technology projects, additional funding must be set aside as follows:

- If the funding source for the appropriation is from a cash fund, not including the lottery fund or the limited gaming fund, the state agency is required to annually calculate an amount equal to the depreciation of the capital asset acquired, repaired, improved, replaced, renovated, or constructed with the appropriation based on the depreciation period, and on June 30 the state controller is required to credit such amount from the cash fund that was the source of funding for the appropriation to a capital reserve account established by the state agency in such cash fund;
- If the funding source for the appropriation is from the general fund, the capital construction fund, or the controlled maintenance trust fund, the general assembly is required to include an annual depreciation-lease equivalent payment line item payable from the general fund in the operating section of the annual general appropriation act for each state agency or state institution of higher education equal to the depreciation of the capital asset acquired, repaired, improved, replaced, renovated, or constructed with the appropriation based on the depreciation period, as calculated by the state agency or state institution of higher education. The state controller is required to credit the depreciation-lease equivalent payment to the capital construction fund on June 30; except that, of such payment, an amount equal to 1% of the project cost will be deducted from the payment and credited to the principal of the controlled maintenance trust fund.
- If the funding source for the appropriation is a financing arrangement and the source of the funding for the financing payment is:
 - From a cash fund, then the state agency is required to annually calculate an amount equal to one percent of the project cost and the general assembly is required to include an annual controlled maintenance line item payable from the cash fund in the operating section of the annual general appropriation act for each agency equal to such amount. The state controller is required to credit such amount on June 30 to a capital reserve account established by the state agency in such cash fund; and
 - From the general fund, the capital construction fund, or the controlled maintenance trust fund, then the general assembly is required to include an annual controlled maintenance line item payable from the general fund in the operating section of the annual general appropriation act for each state agency or state institution of higher education equal to one percent of the project cost, as calculated by the state agency or state institution of higher education. The state controller is required to credit such amount on June 30 to the controlled maintenance trust fund.
- If the funding source for the appropriation is a combination of the funding sources, then the annual set aside must be made in proportion to the funding source.

The act also specifies that moneys that are credited by the state controller from the general fund to the capital construction fund or to the principal of the controlled maintenance trust fund are not part of the basis for the calculation of the general fund reserve.

APPROVED by Governor May 11, 2015

EFFECTIVE May 11, 2015

S.B. 15-270

Create the Office of State Architect

(Waller/Morse)

The act statutorily creates the office of the state architect (office) within the department of personnel (department). The act makes conforming amendments to replace the office as the responsible party for duties attributed in current law to the department. The office is already managing these responsibilities in practice. The act adds a new responsibility to the office for statewide planning. With respect to the planning responsibilities, the office must:

- Work with the office of state planning and budgeting, the Colorado commission on higher education, the department of higher education, and a representative from a state institution of higher education to develop and establish criteria for recommending capital construction projects;
- Review and make recommendations to the office of state planning and budgeting regarding all capital construction budget requests and supplemental budget requests submitted by a state agency;
- Review each state agency's operational master plan and approve each state agency's facilities master plans, facilities program plans, and 5-year plans;
- Provide the capital development committee with a report regarding the approved facilities master plans, facilities program plans, and 5-year plans of each state agency;
- Develop, after consultation with the office of state planning and budgeting, standards for the preparation of current facilities master plans coordinated with operational master plans, and facility program plans coordinated with operational program plans for each state agency, except state institutions of higher education;
- Coordinate the preparation and maintenance of long-range master plans that recommend executive and legislative actions for achieving desired state objectives and that include recommended methods for evaluation.

The act makes clear that the acquisition of a capital asset or a capital construction project for any state agency may not be authorized unless the facilities program plan has been approved by the state architect. The act also clarifies that it is the policy of the general assembly to only appropriate funds for capital construction projects if such projects have been approved by the office.

The act also specifies that the office of state planning and budgeting's plan for capital construction expenditures must consider recommendations made by the office of the state architect for state agencies and by the Colorado commission on higher education for state institutions of higher education.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2015

EFFECTIVE June 5, 2015



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Research Federal Legislation

114th Congress, 1st Session

H.R. 2 Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (Burgess)

Advocated in support for this bill.

Status: 4/16/2015 Became Public Law No: 114-10.

S. 590 Campus Accountability and Safety Act (McCaskill)

Amends provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) known as the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to require institutions of higher education (IHEs) that participate in title IV (Student Assistance) programs to include in their annual campus security reports provided to current and prospective students and employees:

- the memorandum of understanding that this Act requires IHEs to enter into with local law enforcement agencies (and update, as necessary, every two years) to clearly delineate responsibilities and share information about certain serious crimes, including sexual violence, occurring against students or other individuals on campus; and
- specified information regarding the number of sex offenses reported to the IHE and the IHE's disposition of sex offense cases.

Discussed the reintroduction of the Campus Accountability and Safety Act.

Status: 07/29/2015 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Hearings held.

H.R. 1310 Campus Accountability and Safety Act (Maloney)

Amends provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) known as the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to require institutions of higher education (IHEs) that participate in title IV (Student Assistance) programs to include in their annual campus security reports provided to current and prospective students and employees:

- the memorandum of understanding that this Act requires IHEs to enter into with local law enforcement agencies (and update, as necessary, every two years) to clearly delineate responsibilities and share information about certain serious crimes, including sexual violence, occurring against students or other individuals on campus; and
- specified information regarding the number of sex offenses reported to the IHE and the IHE's disposition of sex offense cases.

Discussed the reintroduction of the Campus Accountability and Safety Act.

Status: 4/29/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

H.R. 9 Innovation Act (Goodlatte)

Directs a party alleging patent infringement in a civil action to include in the court pleadings, if the information is reasonably accessible, specified details concerning:

- each claim of each patent allegedly infringed;
- for each claim of indirect infringement, the acts of the alleged indirect infringer that contribute to, or are inducing, a direct infringement;
- the principal business of the party alleging infringement;
- the authority of the party alleging infringement to assert each patent and the grounds for the court's jurisdiction;

- each complaint filed that asserts any of the same patents; and
- whether the patent is essential or has potential to become essential to a standard-setting body, as well as whether the United States or a foreign government has imposed any specific licensing requirements.

Discussed patent legislation.

Status: 07/29/2015 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 177

S. 632 STRONG Patents Act of 2015 (Coons)

Directs the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to prescribe regulations requiring the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) to construe patent claims in post-issuance proceedings for inter parties or post-grant review in the same manner as a court in a civil action is required to construe claims regarding the validity of a patent in accordance with the ordinary and customary meaning.

Discussed patent legislation.

Status: 3/19/2015 Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.

H.R. 6 21st Century Cures Act (Upton/DeGette)

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through FY2018. The NIH Innovation Fund is established to fund a strategic plan, early stage investigators, and high-risk, high-reward research.

The NIH may require scientific data to be shared if the research is fully funded by the NIH.

The NIH and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) must implement a system that allows further research on clinical trial data.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must expand surveillance of neurological diseases.

The Council for 21st Century Cures is established to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of innovative cures, treatments, and preventive measures.

The Department of Health and Human Services must monitor the use of antibacterial and antifungal drugs and resistance to these drugs.

Requirements are established for interoperability and certification of health information technology. Practices that discourage the exchange of electronic health information are prohibited.

This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise the drug approval process, including by: (1) allowing patient experience data to be considered in the risk-benefit assessment of a new drug, (2) requiring the FDA to qualify drug development tools, (3) allowing the FDA to rely upon data previously submitted for a different purpose to expedite the development of certain drugs, and (4) establishing a streamlined data review program for approval of a drug for an additional indication.

Manufacturers and distributors of investigational drugs for serious conditions must publish their policies on compassionate use requests.

The marketing exclusivity period is extended by six months for a drug approved for a new indication that is a rare disease or condition.

The priority review voucher program for rare pediatric diseases is revised and extended.

The FDA must: (1) establish a program for priority review of breakthrough medical devices, (2) identify types of devices that do not require a report preceding introduction, and (3) rely on a third-party to determine the safety and effectiveness of changes to medical devices.

Regarding medical devices, this bill defines “valid scientific evidence” and makes changes to classification panels and the humanitarian device exemption.

“Health software” is defined and, with certain exceptions, exempted from FDA regulations. This bill amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to require the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to: (1) increase certain payments for new antimicrobial drugs, (2) establish a payment methodology for certain medical devices, and (3) publish online estimated payments for certain outpatient items and services.

A pharmaceutical and technology ombudsman within the CMS must respond to complaints from manufacturers of medical products.

Medicare prescription drug plan sponsors may limit the access of certain beneficiaries to frequently abused drugs.

This bill amends the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to allow exported controlled substances to be re-exported within the European Economic Area.

Engaged in discussions regarding this bill. Expressed support for the legislation

Status: Passed House and now in Senate.

H.R. 1735 National Defense Authorization Act for (Thornberry)
Fiscal Year 2016

This bill authorizes FY2016 appropriations and sets forth policies for Department of Defense (DOD) programs and activities, including military personnel strengths. It does not provide budget authority, which is provided in subsequent appropriations legislation.

The bill authorizes appropriations to DOD for: (1) Procurement, including aircraft, missiles, weapons and tracked combat vehicles, ammunition, shipbuilding and conversion, space procurement, and other procurement; (2) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation; (3) Operation and Maintenance; (4) Working Capital Funds; (5) the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund; (6) Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction; (7) Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities; (8) the Defense Inspector General; (9) the Defense Health Program; (10) the Armed Forces Retirement Home; (11) Overseas Contingency Operations and; (12) Military Construction.

The bill also authorizes the FY2016 personnel strength for active duty and reserve forces and sets forth policies regarding military personnel, compensation and other personnel benefits, acquisition policy and management, DOD organization and management, financial matters, naval vessels and shipyards, civilian personnel matters, and matters relating to foreign nations.

Advocated for US Army Reserve P3i Cyber Security Partnership Authorization within the bill.

Status: 10/22/2015 Vetoed by President.

S.1118 National Defense Authorization Act for (McCain)
Fiscal Year 2016

This bill authorizes FY2016 appropriations and sets forth policies regarding the military activities of the Department of Defense (DOD) and military construction. The bill authorizes appropriations, but does not provide budget authority for discretionary programs, which is included in subsequent appropriations legislation.

The bill authorizes appropriations to DOD for Procurement; Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation; Operation and Maintenance; the Revolving and Working Capital Funds; the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund; Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction; Defense-Wide Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities; the Defense Inspector General; the Defense Health Program; and Overseas Contingency Operations.

The bill also authorizes the FY2016 personnel strengths for active duty and reserve forces and sets forth policies regarding military personnel, compensation and other personnel benefits, health care, acquisition policy and management, DOD organization and management, civilian personnel matters, and matters relating to foreign nations.

Advocated for US Army Reserve P3i Cyber Security Partnership Authorization within the bill.
Status: 4/28/2015 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 2039 **National Aeronautics and Space** **(Palazzo)**
Administration Authorization Act for 2016
and 2017

Advocated in support of programs within the bill.
Status: 4/30/2015 House committee/subcommittee actions. Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 19 - 15.

H.R. 1806 **America COMPETES Reauthorization Act** **(Lamar)**
of 2015

Engaged on issues related to the bill.
Status 05/21/2015 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2820 **Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research** **(Smith)**
Reauthorization Act of 2015

This bill amends the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 to reauthorize the National Cord Blood Inventory program and the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program through FY2020. (These programs help match patients in need of a transplant with unrelated bone marrow and cord blood donors.)

Discussed this bill.
Status: Became Public Law No: 114-104

S. 1137 **PATENT Act** **(Grassley)**

This bill amends federal patent law to add pleading and disclosure requirements for patent infringement actions.

The bill sets standards for a court's consideration of a motion to stay an action against retailers or end users that agree to be bound as to issues determined in an action to which the manufacturer is a party.

The bill provides for a stay of discovery during the pendency of a motion to dismiss, transfer venue, or sever accused infringers. The Judicial Conference of the United States must develop rules regarding whether a party seeking additional discovery beyond core documentary evidence should bear the costs for the additional discovery.

Prevailing parties may seek an award of attorney's fees. Parties defending against infringement may require a party alleging infringement whose primary business is the assertion of patents to identify other parties with a financial interest in the proceedings that may be held accountable for

an award of attorney's fees if the party alleging infringement cannot satisfy the full amount of such an award.

The Federal Trade Commission is authorized to enforce against demand letters that falsely represent that the recipients bear liability or owe compensation for infringing a patent.

The bill also requires a pre-suit notification to meet certain standards before it may be used as evidence of willful infringement, revises procedures for post-issuance proceedings at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), sets forth standards for intellectual property license elections in foreign bankruptcy proceedings and the treatment of trademarks under the bankruptcy code, allows transfers of entitlements to accelerate USPTO proceedings for humanitarian purposes, and makes institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations eligible for reduced patent fees.

The USPTO's authority to set or adjust its own fees under the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act is extended an additional seven years.

Advocated in support of this bill.

Status: 9/8/2015 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 203.

H.R. 2029 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Dent)

The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 provides FY2016 appropriations to the Department of Defense (DOD) for military construction, military family housing, the U.S. share of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program, and base closures and realignments.

The bill also provides appropriations to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for veterans benefit and health care programs, Departmental Administration, and the National Cemetery Administration.

Related agencies and programs funded in the bill include the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; the Armed Forces Retirement Home; and the Cemeterial Expenses of the Army, including Arlington National Cemetery.

The bill increases overall FY2016 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs funding above FY2015 levels and includes increases for both DOD and the VA.

Within the DOD budget, the bill includes increases for the Military Construction and the Family Housing accounts compared to FY2015 levels.

The VA budget includes increases for the Veterans Benefits Administration, the Veterans Health Administration, the National Cemetery Administration, and Departmental Administration compared to FY2015 levels.

The bill includes a provision prohibiting the VA from interfering with or denying services to veterans participating in state-approved medicinal marijuana programs.

The bill also prohibits the Administration from renovating, expanding, or constructing facilities in the United States to house individuals held in the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: Became Public Law No: 114-113

H.R. 3594 Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2015 (Bishop)

This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend by one year, through FY2016, the term of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

The legislation extends the authority of institutions of higher education (IHEs) to make loans to new borrowers under the Federal Perkins Loan program through September 30, 2016. IHEs may continue to disburse Perkins Loans through March 31, 2018, to enable students to continue or complete an academic program if the student received a Perkins loan prior to October 1, 2016, and the student has exhausted Federal Direct Stafford Loans.

The bill prohibits any further automatic extensions of the Perkins Loan program.

It also prohibits authorization of additional appropriations for the Federal Perkins Loan program beyond FY2015.

Beginning October 1, 2016, each participating IHE must pay to the Department of Education a certain portion of: (1) the federal share of the balance of its Perkins Loan funds; and (2) the Perkins student loan payments, including principal and interest, received by the institution.

The bill extends by one year, through FY2016, the term of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

Advocated in support of this bill.

Status: Became Public Law No: 114-105

H.R. 848 Great Teaching and Leading for Great (Polis)
Schools Act of 2015

Amends part A (Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund) of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require states to use at least 50% of their part A grant funds that are reserved for state activities for programs and activities to improve principal effectiveness.

Adds to the state activities those grants may fund, the development and implementation of:

- teacher and principal licensure systems that provide a single license for entry into the profession for candidates who complete a state-approved teacher or principal preparation program;
- a teacher evaluation system that has at least three different performance ratings and is based on student academic outcomes and observations of teacher performance; and
- a school principal evaluation system that has at least three different performance ratings and is based on student academic outcomes, principal leadership practices, and the recruitment, development, evaluation, and retention of effective teachers.

Requires local educational agencies (LEAs) that receive a subgrant under part A to use at least 10% of the subgrant for programs and activities to improve principal effectiveness.

Adds to the educator training, retention, and recruiting efforts those subgrants may fund:

- the development of strategies that provide differentiated pay and recognition for teachers and principals based on effectiveness and increased responsibilities;
- efforts to increase the knowledge and skills of principal managers, principals, assistant principals, coaches and teacher leaders;
- the implementation of the teacher and principal evaluation systems developed by their state; and
- the implementation of a formal evaluation system to determine the effectiveness of the programs carried out under such systems.

Redefines "professional development" as a comprehensive system of professional learning to increase educator effectiveness in improving student learning and achievement that:

- fosters collective responsibility for improved student performance;
- is aligned with rigorous state student academic achievement standards and related LEA and school improvement goals;
- is conducted among educators at the school and facilitated by well-prepared school principals and school-based professional development coaches, mentors, master teachers,

or other teacher leaders who have demonstrated success with the given student population;

- primarily occurs several times per week, or the equivalent of several hours per week, among established teams of teachers, principals, and other instructional staff members that engage in a continuous cycle of improvement; and
- may be supported by activities such as courses, workshops, institutes, networks, and conferences that are provided by entities outside the school.

Discussed this bill.

Status: 4/29/2015 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

 **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.

- The groups who came to the capitol included, but were not limited to: Emerging Leaders Program and CU-Boulder Staff Council.

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

- Staffed the Higher Education Success Task Force meetings throughout the year.
- 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 2015 session (January-May).
- Attended bi-weekly Higher Education Lobbyist Meetings during the session coordinated by the Department of Higher Education to discuss legislation impacting Higher Ed.
- Legislative Delegation Luncheons were held with campus leaders and legislators serving near their respective campuses.
- Heather and Tanya met with Kathleen Bollard, other higher education leaders and Dr. Meade, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico on April 7th.
- Chancellor Shockley Presentation to the Senate Education Committee on April 16th.
- On April 20, 2015, Dr. Brian Argrow, Director of the Research and Engineering Center for Unmanned Vehicles presented at the University of Colorado Boulder.
- Heather attended DCLF on April 23, 24 and May 14, 15.
- Abby, David, Tanya, Kent, Natalie, Jack, Kirsten, Heather, and Connie attended the UCCS Appreciation Lunch on May 27th
- Representative Joseph Salazar was the Inspirational Speaker at the Roaring Fork/Summit/Lake County Pre-Collegiate Program on June 25th.
- UCCS celebrated the ground breaking of the Ent Center for the Arts on August 13th. The five-venue center will include theaters, studio space, a recital hall and more. Several members of the Colorado Springs delegation attended the groundbreaking ceremony, including Representatives Terri Carver (R-HD 20); Kit Roupe (R-HD 17); Janak Joshi (R-HD 16); Dan Nordberg (R-HD 14); Paul Lundeen (R-HD 19); and Pete Lee (D-HD 18); and Senator Kent Lambert as well as former Representative Larry Liston. All of the legislators participated in the groundbreaking ceremony and UCCS Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak honored Representatives Nordberg and Lee, and Senator Lambert for their efforts to secure funding for the Visual and Performing Arts Complex during the State budget process.

- Representative Bob Rankin met with Chancellor DiStefano and Pre-collegiate campus stakeholders on August 14th in Carbondale to discuss program opportunities. Representative KC Becker and Senator Matt Jones of the Boulder Delegation met with Chancellor DiStefano.
- Sue Birch, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing along with State Representative Susan Lontine (D-Littleton) and local Congressional staff joined the CU Denver College of Nursing and community partners for the Sheridan Health Services ribbon cutting ceremony in August. Sheridan Health Services is a 501(c)(3) federally-qualified nurse-managed primary care clinic operated by the University of Colorado's College of Nursing to meet the needs of Sheridan's low income population. The ceremony celebrated a grant from the Colorado Health Foundation that allows the Center to triple in size – ultimately accommodating up to 15,000 patient visits per year when it reaches full capacity. Sheridan Health Services is a clinic focused on a patient-centered medical home philosophy and a variety of services to encompass all of a patient's needs.
- CU-Boulder Chancellor DiStefano hosted a series of outreach events around the state in August to showcase the far-reaching impact of the CU-Boulder campus. During the Fort Collins, Carbondale and Grand Junction events, the Chancellor, campus representatives and local community members were welcomed by state legislators including Representatives Jeni Arndt (D-Fort Collins), Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale), and Yeulin Willett (R-Grand Junction). The events were well received by the legislators and community members and highlighted CU's local impact in communities across the state.
- Members of the General Assembly's Capital Development Committee and Colorado Department of Higher Education staff toured the CU-Boulder campus in August. Attendees included Senators Randy Baumgardner (R-Cowdrey) and Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling), and Representatives Ed Vigil (D-Fort Garland), KC Becker (D-Boulder) and J.Paul Brown (R-Ignacio). The group participated in a hard hat tour of the Ketchum renovation that they helped fund, learned about the campus' controlled deferred maintenance programs and were briefed by CU-Boulder Chancellor DiStefano and Vice Chancellors Kelly Fox and Steve Thweatt on important updates at the campus.
- A series of legislative briefings were held at the Anschutz Medical Campus as part of a summer "Exploring Anschutz" outreach program. Over 30 state legislators, candidates and their constituents along with health care policy stakeholders attended briefings throughout the summer given by expert faculty at the Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine; Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority; Alzheimer's Disease Center; CO Molecular Correlates Lab; Bioengineering Program; CU Eye Center; and CU Cancer Center, on the terrific value that is returned to our State via workforce development, groundbreaking research, world-class treatment and the creation of companies that flow from faculty research.
- CSBR Tour: We co-sponsored the Colorado Space Business Roundtable Aerospace Business Development Road Trip this summer across the Northeast and Southeast sections of the State to promote Colorado's Aerospace industry and make connections with local communities and business. Scott Palo, Associate Dean for Research in CU Boulder's Aerospace Engineering Sciences and Maura Schneider from CU Boulder's Aerospace Ventures attended the tour.
- Legislative Champion Awards: State Representatives KC Becker (D-Boulder), J. Paul Brown (R-Ignacio), Dan Pabon (D-Denver), and Yeulin Willett (R-Grand Junction) received the University of Colorado's 2015 Legislative Champion's Award for their support of CU and higher education. They were publicly recognized for the award at the September 12th CU football game.

- Sexual Assault Forum: We helped organize the state-wide Let's Talk: Forum on Sexual Assault Best Practices and Prevention on September 25th. Over 100 stakeholders from across the state attended. We had three legislative sponsors, Representatives Rhonda Fields, Kevin Priola, and Senator Owen Hill.
- Lt. Governor Joe Garcia, Associate Dean for Research Scott Palo, and the CU Space Team attended the October 14th's Dream Big Event for the Revere School District in Ovid, CO. 400 students from surrounding school districts, 50 staff, and 50 Aerospace industry leaders participated, along with several key STEM industry leaders and role models. The Dream Big Revere event was an opportunity for students to learn about aviation and aerospace, engage in hands-on learning activities, and inspire them to pursue aerospace and STEM careers.
- CU Boulder in Logan County: Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano and special guests Brian Domitrovic, Visiting Scholar in Conservative Thought & Policy, and Alumni Association Executive Director Ryan Christ held a luncheon and program on Thursday, November 12th. Senator Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling) and Regent Sue Sharkey were also in attendance. Senator Sonnenberg was so impressed with the visit, he sent out several tweets recognizing the campus for its efforts with the Visiting scholar in conservative thought & policy program.
- Incoming Chancellor Horrell hosted Representatives Susan Lontine (D-Littleton) and Paul Rosenthal (D-Denver) on campus on November 23rd for the first of two legislative briefings with members of the Denver legislative delegation. The first briefing was a great opportunity for the legislators to meet with the incoming Chancellor in her new capacity and discuss exciting endeavors taking place at the campus. The second briefing will be held in January for the rest of the Denver delegation members.

2015 CU Advocates Events

- On January 23, 2015, the National Institute for Civil Discourse (NICD), the University Of Colorado Office Of Government Relations and the CU Denver School of Public Affairs held a civil discourse workshop for Colorado's elected officials. The Institute provided an introductory workshop tailored for elected officials entitled *Building Trust through Civil Discourse*, which uses active learning exercises to convey knowledge of and explore attitudes about civil engagement. Throughout the workshop participants were encouraged to apply the material to practical examples from the legislative setting. As a group, workshop participants developed an action plan for advancing civil discourse in their own legislature with the goal of increasing legislative productivity. A team of bipartisan and former legislators from across the country facilitated the workshop.
- CU Advocates Program and National Institute for Civil Discourse co-hosted a cocktail reception for attendees and CU Advocates after the workshop.
- CU Advocacy Day at the Capitol was held on March 20, 2015. There were more than 100 attendees at the event including CU Advocates, alumni, donors, legislators, regents and friends. Regents Irene Griego, John Carson, Glen Gallegos, Representative Kevin Priola, Former Senators Norma Anderson and Gail Schwartz, and Bruce Benson were in attendance.

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 President Benson, Chancellors Elliman, DiStefano, and Shockley-Zalabak, and Hill visits for University of Colorado Health (UC Health) leadership including President and Chief Executive Officer Elizabeth Concordia, William Neff, MD, Chief Medical Officer, and Jeff Thompson, Director of Government & Corporate Relations. In addition, we set up and staffed Hill visits for key campus professionals including John Reilly, CU Anschutz Medical Campus Dean of School of Medicine, Dane Theodorescu and Mark Kochevar of the CU Cancer Center, Joseph Polman, CU Boulder Associate Dean for Research at the School of Education, 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 and from the Colorado congressional delegation. Tanya Kelly-Bowry, Abby Benson, David Sprenger, Jack Waldorf, Kent Springfield, and Heather Bené represented CU at several of these events in DC and Colorado throughout the year.

Abby and Heather actively participated in federal relations briefings and conferences hosted by the Association of American Universities (AAU), and Kent attended the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Government Relations Representatives meetings. Heather and Kent attended several briefings on the Hill with professors from the Boulder and Anschutz Medical campuses.

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. Heather attended the APLU Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN where the sessions revolved around the theme of “Delivering the Future.” Higher education issues such as access, affordability, transparency, and accountability in public institutions were discussed.

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. She facilitated participation of Congressman Polis at a TSC headliner breakfast in DC to discuss the importance of sustaining strong federal funding for basic scientific research. Abby and Heather 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).

Jack facilitated and staffed Congresswoman Diana DeGette for a student loan discussion roundtable at CU Denver. Students and staff attended, as well as recent graduates. Congresswoman DeGette heard about attendees’ personal experiences with student loans, and she discussed her support for recently-introduced legislation – Bank on Student Emergency Loan Refinancing Act of 2015 (H.R.1434) – which, if passed, would allow borrowers with high interest rates on existing student loans in both the public and private markets to refinance these existing loans to lower interest rates. Jack also staffed DeGette at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus with the Global Down Syndrome Foundation at a town hall to discuss the 21st Century Cures initiative. The initiative is being co-led by DeGette and is a bipartisan effort to take a comprehensive look at steps that can be taken to accelerate the pace of cures in America from

basic science and streamlining the drug and device development process, to unleashing the power of digital medicine and social media at the treatment level.

Kent and Jack joined Dr. Mark Deutchman, who oversees School of Medicine Rural Track (CU Anschutz Medical Campus) on a state-wide tour to educate local Congressional offices about the Rural Track's impact on rural Colorado. The aim of the Rural Track program is to increase the number of physicians who enter and remain in practice in rural Colorado. The tour included stops in Grand Junction, Pueblo, and Castle Rock, to meet with Congressional staff from the offices of U.S. Senators Bennet and Gardner and Representatives Tipton and Buck.

David worked with UCCS leadership to bring the campus into the Army Reserve Cyber Private Public Partnership (Cyber P3), which brought together leaders of industry and academia with lawmakers on Capitol Hill to address a critical need for expertise in the cyber domain. The goal of the program is to train and educate Army Reserve Soldiers to be elite cyber security professionals through classroom work and field experience. University partners are: University of Washington, Norwich University, George Mason University, Drexel University, UCCS, and University of Texas at San Antonio. Corporate partners include: Rackspace U.S. Inc., Verizon Communications Inc., Microsoft Corp., Professional Project Services Inc. (Pro2Serve), Chevron Corp. and CALIBRE Systems. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is also a partner in this effort. Retired Army Lt. General Edward G Anderson III, who leads grant and contract development for the National Institute of Science, Space and Security Centers at UCCS, and Martin Wood, Senior Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and Development, represented UCCS at the signing in Washington, DC. Congressman Doug Lamborn spoke at the event and supported the initiative.

David and Jack also staffed Senator Michael Bennet and Regent Chair Kyle Hybl at UCCS for the Senator's 2015 Veteran's conference, titled "Connect to Thrive." The event was a follow up to a 2011 conference, which resulted in the "Better Serving Those Who Have Served" report. The report covered an extensive list of recommendations to make Colorado the best place in the country for veterans to live and work. The 2015 conference focused on topics such as rural veterans and access to health care, behavioral health, community networking and collaboration, and veterans in transition. UCCS Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak attended this important discussion and made remarks. CU Board of Regents Chair Kyle Hybl also attended.

Senator Cory Gardner held several roundtables where the University of Colorado was well represented. Gardner is the co-leader of the working group with Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) that will lead the America COMPETES Act reauthorization effort in the U.S. Senate. The discussions were held to inform Senate policy priorities for the reauthorization of the COMPETES Act, legislation authorizing research, engineering, and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education programs at the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. CU Boulder Provost Russ Moore participated in a roundtable with members of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee on "Maximizing the Impact of Basic Research" in Washington, DC. CU Boulder's Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement, Robert Boswell, and the CU Boulder Executive Director of Student Success, David Aragon, participated in another stakeholder discussion held in Denver regarding STEM education provisions in the America COMPETES Act. CU Boulder professors Valerie Otero and Waleed Abdalati and CU's Associate Vice President for Technology Transfer, Kate Tallman, participated along with representatives from Colorado's institutions of higher education in a third roundtable held in Denver. The discussion focused on maximizing basic research,

STEM education and technology transfer. Finally, CU Boulder Professor Carl Lineberger participated in a fourth COMPETES roundtable discussion that focused on national labs. Professor Lineberger participated in this discussion in his role as a member of the National Science Board. Abby and Heather staffed these meetings.

Kent worked with the Association of American Cancer Institutes to coordinate an award ceremony to give Congresswoman Diana DeGette the association's 2015 Champion for Cures award. CU Cancer Center Director Dan Theodorescu presented the award to the Congresswoman along with AACI Board Chair, George Weiner and Executive Director Barbara Duffy Stewart, and CU Cancer Center's Mark Kochevar.

Highlighted below are just a few of the many events our office helped to arrange and/or participated in in 2015:

- Abby staffed Myron Gutmann, Professor of History and director of the Institute of Behavioral Sciences at CU Boulder on the Hill.
- David staffed Retired Army Lt. Gen. Ed Anderson and Martin Wood, Senior Vice Chancellor of UCCS in DC.
- Kent and Mark Kochevar presented to the Association of American Cancer Institute (AACI's) Government Relations forum on advocacy at the CU Cancer Center.
- Abby attended the Science, Space and Technology Committee Meeting held in Colorado held by Congressman Perlmutter
- Tanya and David staffed and helped arrange a tour for Senator Cory Gardner of the UCCS campus and a telepresence summit the presidents of Pueblo Community College, Lamar Community College, and Otero Junior College to discuss the coordinated efforts within the Southern Colorado Higher Education Consortium (SCHEC) about increasing student participation and success.
- David worked with UCCS to partner with the Army Reserve to host a Cyber Private Public Partnership (Cyber P3) Design Workshop at UCCS. Representatives from more than 30 universities, corporations and military organizations participated. In addition to UCCS, the Cyber P3 includes Drexel University, George Mason University, Norwich University, the University of Alabama at Huntsville, the University of South Florida, the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Washington. UCCS Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak said all eight schools already have cybersecurity curriculum certified by the National Security Agency's Committee on National Security Systems and used the three-day workshop to devise a common curriculum. She said parts of the program may launch in the fall semester, after the schools determine how many reservists will need to be trained - between 100 and 1,000, officials say. Congressman Doug Lamborn worked to secure a \$6 million authorization for the program. If appropriated, this would fully fund the program in its inaugural year.
- Heather staffed Hill visits for the Colorado Space Grant Consortium (COSGC). Chris Koehler, Director of the COSGC headquartered at CU Boulder, met with staff from Colorado's Congressional delegation. Koehler discussed NASA's National Space Grant College and Fellowship program, which supports an average of 600 undergraduate students in Colorado each year. COSGC provides students with hands-on experience on real-world space projects and prepares them to join Colorado's STEM workforce.
- David staffed Hill visits for the Colorado Geographic Alliance Coordinators.
- Heather staffed Kathleen Tierney, Ph.D., Director of the Natural Hazards Center and Professor of Sociology in the CU Boulder Institute of Behavioral Science, and Nnenia Campbell, Research Assistant at the Natural Hazards Center when they participated in the

21st Annual Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) Reception and Exhibition. The event featured 37 presentations on NSF-funded research by universities and scientific associations. They presented on their research, “A Clearinghouse for Natural Hazards Research Applications,” which is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Directorate for Engineering. During the reception, Tierney and Campbell made important agency connections, including Director France Córdova, as well as staff from NASA and the Department of Energy. During their visit, they met with science staff from the offices of U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and Cory Gardner and Congressmen Jared Polis and Ed Perlmutter to discuss their research. Frances Draper, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Relations at CU Boulder and Stein Sture, CU Boulder Vice Chancellor for Research, played key sponsorship roles in this exciting D.C. visit.

- Abby staffed Hill visits for Scott Palo, Associate Dean of Research at CU Boulder.
- Jack staffed Hill visits for Barb Paradiso from the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs Center for Domestic Violence.
- Jack staffed a tour for staff from the office of Congressman Perlmutter of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus including the Rocky Mountain Prevention Center, the Schwartz/Yang Laboratory, the Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Bioengineering Lab.
- Abby staffed a tour of the CU Boulder campus for staff from the office of Congressman Perlmutter of the CU Boulder campus including BioFrontiers, A&S, IBS, CASA, and INSTARR.
- Heather attended an awards ceremony for Senator Bennet in DC. Larry Bell, Executive Director of International Education at CU Boulder presented the Senator with the NAFSA Global Leader Award for his leadership in advancing the international education issues and, in particular, through his key role as a member of the "Gang of 8" in the Senate which drafted the 2013 comprehensive immigration reform legislation, ensuring that provisions favorable to international students and scholars were included.
- Abby staffed a welcome reception for the Australian Ambassador to the United States on the CU Boulder campus. Congressman Polis also attended.
- Abby and Heather staffed Congressman Jared Polis at a Higher Education Act (HEA) Roundtable at the CU Boulder campus.
- Abby staffed Congresswoman DeGette at BioFrontiers.
- Jack attended an event featuring U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan for a Town Hall on the CU Denver campus, hosted by CU Denver's School of Education and Human Development (SEHD). The roundtable discussion focused on teacher preparation programs. Participating in the discussion was Denver Public Schools (DPS) superintendent Tom Boasberg, as well as SEHD student Linda Abeyta and SEHD alum and current DPS teacher Tania Hogan. The visit was part of a SEHD town hall discussion on “Partnerships & Pathways for Preparing Teachers.” About 145 educators from across Colorado attended, including district officials, foundation leaders, and Teach for America representatives. The panel discussion was followed by roundtable discussions on several issues, including Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) preparation, special education, and digital learners. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said the SEHD is “way ahead of the curve” in giving student teachers real-world classroom time and support. Duncan also praised SEHD’s Student Teacher Residency program as well as its NxtGEN, a first-of-its-kind undergraduate four-year residency developed in partnership with DPS.
- Tanya staffed Congressman Mike Coffman and staff for a tour of the CU Anschutz Health and Wellness Center. CU Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman also joined. During the visit, the Congressman learned about the Center’s

multidisciplinary approach to health and wellness, including both behavioral and physical elements, while touring the Center's facilities and laboratories.

- Abby staffed Senator Cory Gardner when he visited the CU Boulder campus for the first time since being elected to the Senate. The visit included meetings and discussions aimed at educating the Senator about the breadth of federally-funded research conducted on campus and its importance to Colorado and the nation.
- David and Kent staffed Mark Kochevar, Associate Director for Administration and Finance at the University of Colorado Cancer Center for Hill visits.
- Abby staffed Waleed Abdalati, director of CIRES at CU Boulder, for Hill visits.
- Heather staffed Professor Dan Baker (CU Boulder) when he testified for the Hill briefing "Examining Vulnerabilities of America's Power Supply" for the Subcommittee on Oversight and Subcommittee on Energy Hearing.
- Jack provided a tour of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus to a group of staff for Congressman Coffman.
- Jack staffed a ribbon cutting ceremony at Sheridan Health Services, a 501(c) (3) federally-qualified nurse-managed primary care clinic operated by the University of Colorado's College of Nursing to meet the needs of Sheridan's low income population. The ceremony was attended by Senator Irene Aguilar, Representative Susan Lontine (D-Littleton), and Sue Birch, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, and staff from the offices of Senators Gardner and Bennet. The ceremony celebrated a grant from the Colorado Health Foundation that allows the Center to triple in size – ultimately accommodating up to 15,000 patient visits per year when it reaches full capacity. Sheridan Health Services is a clinic focused on a patient-centered medical home philosophy and a variety of services to encompass all of a patient's needs.
- Tanya staffed the ENT Performing Arts Ground Breaking Ceremony at UCCS, which was attended by Regents Hybl, Bosley, Ludwig, Sharkey and a staffer from the office of Senator Bennet.
- David staffed Congressman Mike Coffman for a tour of the UCCS campus. Chairman Kyle Hybl and Regent Sue Sharkey also attended. The tour focused on how the UCCS campus supports the veteran and active duty community in Colorado Springs, including veteran and military student support and services provided by the Veterans Health and Trauma Clinic on campus.
- Jack staffed a tour of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus for staffers from the offices of Congressmen Buck and Coffman.
- David and Heather staffed the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) Chinese Delegation during their visit to Washington, DC at the Government Relations DC office. University of Colorado Regent Chair Kyle Hybl hosted the delegation, which was on exchange to the U.S. as part of the ACYPL, a program designed to introduce next generation leaders to governance, politics, policy making, bilateral relations, history, culture, and geographic diversity of countries around the world. The delegation hailed from a variety of industries including the All-China Youth Federation, Anhui Provincial Youth Federation, People's Daily newspaper, and the Ministry of Finance. Chair Hybl discussed current CU partnerships with China across its campuses, which was well-received by the visiting delegation, as they learned more about the important relationships CU has with Chinese academic institutions.
- Abby staffed Senator Cory Gardner and noted celebrity scientist Bill Nye to announce the CU Boulder Grand Challenge initiative. The event took place at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

- Abby staffed Congressman Jared Polis when he hosted a climate roundtable with Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz and retired U.S. Coast Guard Vice Admiral Manson Brown, Assistant Secretary for Observations and Prediction at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, on the CU Boulder campus. The topic of the event was climate change and the resources available for study and application. Three main topics were covered at the roundtable: the Colorado Climate Change Report, Regional Climate Resources, and the Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory. CU Boulder was well-represented as were Colorado State University, the U.S Forest Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Also in attendance were former U.S. Senator Tim Wirth and State Senator Matt Jones (D-Louisville). After the climate roundtable, Secretary Moniz gave a public lecture at Wolf Law and gave the keynote address at the CU Denver Wirth Chair annual luncheon.
- Abby and Kent staffed Robert McGrath, Director of RASEI at CU Boulder, during his Hill visits.
- Heather staffed Dr. Jennifer Kay, Professor with the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences when she was a panelist at the UCAR Congressional Lunch Briefing.
- Kent staffed Dr. Lee Newman, Director of the Center for Health, Work and the Environment from the CU Anschutz Medical Campus during his Hill visits.
- Abby staffed Congressman Jared Polis during his informal round table to discuss international trade issues, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). U.S. Trade Representative Counselor Luis Jimenez and CU Boulder Professor Keith Maskus also attended.
- Tanya, David, and Kirsten Schuchman staffed Gov. Hickenlooper, Secretary of State Wayne Williams, members of Colorado Legislative Delegation, Mayor John Suthers, Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak, former Chancellor Neal Lane, and staff from the offices of Senator Gardner and Congressman Tipton.
- Abby, Kent, and Heather attended the fourth annual Golden Goose Award Ceremony, where three 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 and Abby staffed CU Boulder Athletic Director Rick George on Hill Visits with members of Colorado's congressional delegation. During the visits, George discussed updates within the Athletic Department and offered himself as a resource. In addition to the hill visits, Jack and Abby helped worked with the Athletic Department to host an alumni event the evening prior to the Hill visits.
- Jack staffed CU Denver College of Arts and Media (CAM) Dean Larry Kaptain on Hill visits to meet with congressional staff. During the visits, Dean Kaptain provided key updates on the National Center for Media Forensics, which is housed within CAM.
- 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.
- Natalie Ellis, Executive Assistant of Federal Relations, spearheaded and collaborated with the Office of Government Relations team to create the new Government Relations newsletter, which goes out to CU employees on a quarterly basis.

Colorado Capital Conference

The 2015 Colorado Capital Conference, co-hosted by the University of Colorado, Colorado Mesa University, U.S. Senator Cory Gardner, and U.S. Senator Michael Bennet, took place the first week of June. This year, CU Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman served as CU's host, and Heather Fields, Connie Johnson, and Kent Springfield, coordinated and staffed the conference. The Colorado Capital Conference provides 100 Coloradans the opportunity to hear from members of Congress from Colorado and beyond. Attendees this year participated in a conference with a packed agenda which included Federal elected officials, policymakers, and political pundits. Speakers included Frank Luntz, political consultant; Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform; Charlie Cook, Editor of the Cook Report; William Kristol, The Weekly Standard; Senator Cory Booker, U.S. Navy Admiral Michelle Howard; U.S. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy; U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell; Denis McDonough, White House Chief of Staff; Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy; Steve Ricchetti, Chief of Staff to U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, members of the Colorado Congressional delegation, and many others. This year's conference kicked off with a unique experience for attendees; a private tour of the U.S. Capitol led by Senators Gardner and Bennet, which included a visit to the floor of the U.S. Senate. The conference wrapped up with participants attending the U.S. Marine Corps Evening Parade.



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
Associate Vice President of Government Relations

Abby Benson is the Associate Vice President of Government Relations. In this role, Abby ensures the flow of information between the university and relevant stakeholders in Colorado and Washington, DC, and advocates for increased support for CU priorities, including research and higher education funding and policies, at both the state and federal levels. Abby has served in several leadership roles in the higher education government relations community, including as a past Chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Council on Federal Relations and as a member of the Association of Public and Land Grant

Universities (APLU) Council on Government Affairs Executive Committee. 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 held the position of Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Washington, DC Office. Abby also served for over nine years as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, with specialties in maritime safety, security, environmental protection, planning, and budgeting. Earlier in her career, Abby worked as an earth scientist for Tetra Tech and Arthur D. Little. Abby earned a BS in geology and geophysics from Yale University; earned a MS and MEng in transportation and logistics from MIT; and served as a Marshall Memorial Fellow in 2009.



Heather Bené
Assistant Director of Federal Relations

Heather Bené is the Assistant Director of Federal Relations for the University of Colorado and represents CU in Washington, DC. Bené specializes in higher education policy, which encompasses issues such as student financial aid, accreditation, campus safety, graduate education, etc. Other policy focuses in her portfolio include immigration, humanities, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Bené currently serves as co-chair on immigration issues for the

Association of American Universities' (AAU) Council on Federal Relations (CFR). Previously,

Bené worked for eight years in the Government Relations Office at her alma mater Oregon State University (OSU) on state and federal policy and advocacy. Bené managed legislative affairs for Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) during the 2014 legislative session and served as administrator to two HECC subcommittees. Bené has a master of public policy degree from OSU. Her graduate thesis analyzed university student voting behavior over six diverse election cycles. She also has bachelor of arts degrees from OSU in English and Political Science. As an undergraduate, Bené was recognized as student employee of the year by both OSU and the State of Oregon. She is the recipient of numerous scholastic awards for academic excellence, most notably the Waldo-Cummings Outstanding Student Award and the Oregon Laurels Graduate Scholarship.



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 prepares and sends out the quarterly Government Relations department newsletter. 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
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 assists 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 a Master 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
Chief of Staff

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.



Angela Rennick
Executive Assistant of State Relations

Angela Rennick is the Executive Assistant for State Relations. She supports a broad range of administrative duties that are designed to support CU's state relations efforts. She also assists with the state legislative session by drafting and updating legislator biographies, running reports on legislation being tracked, filing lobby reports and assisting with research requests. Angela has a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Colorado State University and a Master in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs.



Kirsten Schuchman
Assistant Vice President of State Relations

Kirsten Schuchman serves as Assistant Vice President of State Relations for the University of Colorado. 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 UHealth, 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 community. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her husband, daughters, 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 holds a Master degree in Public Policy from George Mason University.



Kent Springfield

Assistant Vice President of Research and Federal Relations

Kent serves as Assistant Vice President of Research and Federal Relations. He is the lead on all federal issues for the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and the University of Colorado Hospital. Kent represents Anschutz and UCH on issues including biomedical and healthcare research funding and policy, student financial aid, healthcare workforce issues, and healthcare delivery. He represents the University of Colorado System on issues related to intellectual property. Kent is active in the AAMC Government Relations Representatives, the AAU Council on Federal Relations, the AAHC Steering Committee and the American Association of Cancer Institutes. Kent serves at the Biomedical Task Force lead for the APLU Council on Governmental Affairs. Prior to joining the University of Colorado, he spent five years as the Director of Government Relations for the George Washington University. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Communications and Master of Business Administration from GW.



Jack Waldorf

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.