THE STATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION
The impact of colleges and universities on life in Colorado

MEN’S LACROSSE WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP! page 22
Dear Friends,

The University of Denver is on the move. We are doing great things, and we are poised to build upon our core strengths and accomplish even more—together—for our students and for the public good.

This issue chronicles just a few examples of our momentum. The men’s lacrosse team’s Memorial Day win over the University of Maryland—earning us the NCAA Division I men’s lacrosse championship title for the first time ever—was one of the greatest moments so far in my time as chancellor. To me, the championship represents not only the incredible talent of coach Bill Tierney and our fabulous student-athletes, but also the return on years of investments in building world-class programs at DU.

Across the University, our students, faculty and staff are making an impact on Denver and the world beyond. The new Knoebel Center for the Study of Aging, for instance, will bring together faculty and students from across disciplines to address one of the most pressing issues American society faces in the years to come.

And in an interview, I join Miriam Tapia Salinas, executive director of diversity enrollment and community partnerships, to discuss DU’s efforts to ensure broader access to qualified students in order to provide opportunity, build a strong class and to prepare leaders for the future of organizations, communities and our democracy.

This fall, we will share a draft of our strategic plan—informed by input from more than 2,500 alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents and friends—with our campus community. With their feedback, we hope to have a finalized plan approved by January 2016.

As we envision our future, we will build upon our strengths: a strong liberal arts undergraduate program; well-respected professional and graduate programs; renowned faculty who are as committed to their scholarship as they are to transformative teaching; and a deep commitment to the public good. We must maintain DU’s path-breaking spirit, drawing upon our strengths and creating a model for a 21st-century global university.

I look forward to sharing more news of our successes in the months and years to come. And I welcome you to visit imagine.du.edu, where you can follow the progress of our planning efforts.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Chopp
Chancellor
FEATURES

18 Focus on aging
A new DU center takes a multifaceted approach to a critical issue
By Scott Wooldridge

22 That championship season
The Pioneers make men’s lacrosse history
By Caleb Hannan

26 How important is higher education?
The September inauguration of Chancellor Rebecca Chopp puts a spotlight on issues of impact and access
By Nelson Harvey

DEPARTMENTS

8 Betting on initiative
Denver entrepreneur JB Holston named new dean of engineering school

9 Best in the field
Individually and together, Pioneers dominate in 2014–15 season

11 One to watch
Passion for public policy guides Jessica Davidson’s DU experience

12 Cross-cultural connections
Art, dance and music make up the University’s contribution to Denver’s Biennial of the Americas

14 Welcome to the real world
Business student’s summer internship pays off with a job after graduation

16 Stressed mom, stressed baby
DU research examines the effects of stress during pregnancy

35 Alumni Connections

On the cover: Higher education touches every aspect of life in Colorado; read the stories starting on page 26.

This page: The DU men’s lacrosse team won its first NCAA championship in May; read the story on page 22.
Raised on radio

Your 150th anniversary timeline [spring 2014] brought back memories of my time at the campus radio station.

I came to DU in 1966 from Du Quoin, Ill., because of the reputation of the mass comm school, and immediately started working at KVDU. My freshman year I co-hosted a morning hour with a senior whose name, I believe, was Boyd. I’m pretty sure we were the first station in Denver to play Jefferson Airplane’s “Somebody to Love.” I became the sports director my sophomore year and kept the job for three years. I did play-by-play of DU home basketball games, many of which we had to record on-site and then bring the reels back to the studio. Some of the many people I remember working with include Peter Funt, RT Simpson, Larry Jacobs, Larry Hots, Bill Saul and Trip Reeb. In the summer of 1969 I hosted the morning show, pop country, for Denver radio station KQXI, 1550 AM.

Bob Appuhn (BA ’70)
Logan, Utah

Remembering Willy

I enjoyed the article about Willy Schaeffler, the DU ski coach [winter 2015]. I started at DU in 1947 and thought I was a fair skier. Willy took up a rope tow to the top of Balch (now part of Mary Jane). He said, “Follow me,” and skied down the edge on one ski in fresh powder. That was done so we could not follow. We also tried running up the stairs of the old football stadium with leather ski boots. Willy kept us working! I spent a couple of years improving my skiing skills.

Studying and trying to graduate ended my competitive skiing, but I did progress to teaching downhill skiing at Winter Park. In 1958–59, when I was ski patrol leader at Loveland Basin, the patrol was awarded “outstanding ski patrol in the U.S.”

Stanley Davies Jr. (BS ’51, MBA ’58)
Longmont, Colo.

Join the discussion!
Send your letters to the editor:
du-magazine@du.edu
Celebrating their time at DU, 1,019 graduate and 993 undergraduate students walked in the 2015 spring Commencement ceremonies on June 5 and 6, respectively. Michael Bennet, United States senator for Colorado, delivered the undergraduate Commencement address, and Carol Geary Schneider, president of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, spoke to graduate students.
Sturm College of Law professor **Catherine Smith** co-authored an amicus brief cited by the Supreme Court in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the decision in June that recognized the constitutional right of same-sex couples to marry. In the friend-of-the-court briefs filed in *Obergefell* and in an earlier case that struck down the Defense of Marriage Act, Smith and her co-authors argued that if the government insists that marriage is good for children of opposite-sex parents, then marriage is also good for children of same-sex parents.

Two University of Denver deans will soon step down from their posts to resume teaching at DU: **Martin Katz** (left), dean of the Sturm College of Law, and **James Herbert Williams**, dean of the Graduate School of Social Work (GSSW). Both will step down at the end of the 2015–16 school year. During Katz’s tenure, which began in 2009, the Sturm College has risen more than 20 places in the U.S. News & World Report law school rankings. The school now has six specialty programs ranked in the U.S. News Top 25 and has been ranked No. 10 on the National Jurist’s list of Best Schools for Practical Training. Williams’ leadership has similarly transformed GSSW. Student and faculty quality, enrollments and community outreach have grown enormously during his tenure. After a planned year of leave, Williams will return to GSSW as the Milton Morris Endowed Chair.

**Ed Estlow**, a 1942 graduate of the University of Denver who was recognized by the institution as an honorary life trustee in 2014, died May 9 at age 95. A standout athlete and scholar during his time at DU, Estlow went on to a long and successful career in the newspaper industry, working as an executive at the Rocky Mountain News and serving the E. W. Scripps Co. as its CEO. Estlow retired from the media giant in 1985 and returned to his home state of Colorado, where he chaired DU’s Board of Trustees for five years, ending his term in 1990. Estlow and his wife, Charlotte, whom Estlow met when they were both DU students and who died in 2013, founded the Edward W. and Charlotte A. Estlow International Center for Journalism and New Media at DU.
The Anderson Academic Commons building on the University of Denver campus has received the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification. The major renovation of Penrose Library into the Anderson Academic Commons was completed in 2013. DU purposefully designed the project to increase efficiency, to reuse or recycle materials and to make the building healthier for its occupants. The AAC earned Silver—the LEED program’s third highest category—for “green” qualities, including a new high-efficiency heating and cooling system, water-conserving faucets and toilets, high-efficiency light fixtures and use of low-e glass windows.

In May, the University announced two new initiatives that demonstrate the institution’s ongoing commitment to veterans: the Sturm Specialty in Military Psychology at the Graduate School of Professional Psychology, which will help create more knowledgeable and skilled mental health care providers for veterans; and the Veterans Advocacy Project at the Sturm College of Law, which will provide legal advice and services to assist with the myriad legal issues many veterans face.

Two-thirds of University of Denver undergraduates who qualify for financial assistance do not have their full need met, leading to higher student loan debt. The University is matching private philanthropy with its own resources to increase endowed scholarship funding. The Momentum Scholarship Challenge will help solve the pressing problem of rising educational debt and will better prepare our students for lives and careers of purpose.

Join us in changing the lives of high-quality students who will transform their communities — here on campus and around the globe.

Build momentum toward our future.

Call today to learn how the University can match a portion of your gift.
Betting on initiative

Denver entrepreneur JB Holston named new dean of engineering school

By Tamara Chapman

Noted Denver entrepreneur and scale-up CEO JB Holston took the helm of the University’s Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science on July 1.

Holston brings more than 25 years as a senior executive at Fortune 500 companies, as a venture capital-backed CEO, and as a startup entrepreneur of six highly successful enterprises to his new role as dean of the Ritchie School. Holston’s appointment is expected to propel the school in a new direction that emphasizes innovation and collaboration with key players in the region’s ideas economy.

“JB has a global reputation with an intentional focus in Denver and Colorado,” Chancellor Rebecca Chopp says. “He will put DU, and through it, the entire Front Range region, at the cutting edge of innovation, knowledge and teaching. His leadership, experience and connections will help to make the Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science an intellectual and economic driver for our growing region.”

Holston was most recently founding executive director of the Blackstone Entrepreneurs Network, an organization launched in 2014 at the behest of Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet and with the support of Gov. John Hickenlooper and the Blackstone Group. The network was created to gather Colorado’s best serial entrepreneurs around the mission of identifying, promoting, connecting and assisting large-scale, fast-growing firms in critical advanced industries in the state. Since its launch, the network has added more than 220 advisors and adopted 47 of Colorado’s highest-potential firms.

Holston’s appointment is part of a major investment by DU to expand research and innovation in engineering and technology and to connect the University to leading technology companies and cutting-edge entrepreneurs.

“I think DU is at the geographic vortex of transformative next-generation creativity,” says Holston, who holds a BA and MBA from Stanford University and was the recipient of the 2014 Colorado Technology Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award. “I’m a total Colorado homer, but if you look at all the trends going on in Colorado around innovation—particularly around technology-related fields, but really in any category, as all industries are being disrupted by technology—it’s an incredibly exciting time. I think we have the best economic conditions I’ve seen in Colorado in the 20-plus years I’ve been here. The fact that we’ve got this platform—this platform that is the University—right in the geographic center of all of this awesomeness is really exciting to me.”

>> JB Holston talks about technology, entrepreneurship and the University’s relationship to Denver’s tech scene in an interview at magazine.du.edu.
The past year was a big one for University of Denver athletics. In addition to capturing its first-ever NCAA men's lacrosse championship (see feature story, page 22), Denver once again claimed the Learfield Sports DI-AAA Directors' Cup, finishing ahead of all non-football schools. It was the seventh time in eight years that DU has brought home the trophy. In the overall standings—including football schools—Denver finished 49th, marking the second straight year in which the Pioneers have finished in the Top 50.

The University of Denver also was highly ranked in the Capital One Cup, an NCAA award that honors the top men’s and women’s college athletics program in the country. Thanks to the men’s lacrosse victory, as well as Top 10 finishes in skiing and ice hockey, the University of Denver men came in at No. 5 in the Capital One rankings—14 points higher than last year, when the men ranked No. 19 in the final standings.

“It’s been a very productive and rewarding year for DU athletics, and these awards are definitely a great way to cap things off,” says Peg Bradley-Doppes, vice chancellor for athletics, recreation and Ritchie Center operations. “While we take great pride in being among the nation’s best athletic departments, the exceptionally high caliber of the young men and women who represent the Pioneers with tremendous aplomb, both in competition and in the classroom, is our greatest accomplishment.”

Individual Pioneers shone in 2014–15 as well, chief among them freshman skier Monica Hübner, who was named National Women’s Alpine Skier of the Year by the United States Collegiate Ski Coaches Association.

Hübner, who came to DU from Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, dazzled in her freshman season for the Pioneers, culminating with a dramatic victory in the women’s slalom at the NCAA Championships in Lake Placid, N.Y., in March.

Another standout was swimmer Samantha Corea (BA '15), who spent her college career rewriting the Pioneer record books. The senior English major left DU with eight school records, more than any swimmer in school history. She finished off her impressive collegiate resumé by breaking three DU records, medaling twice at the 2015 NCAA Championships, being named to the Summit League All-Academic team for the second consecutive year, and being one of only 60 college athletes nationwide to be awarded a $7,500 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship—recognition for her academic success, which includes an impressive 3.71 grade point average.

“For Samantha to be included in this group of student-athletes is a special accomplishment,” says head swimming coach Brian Schrader. “It really embodies the message and mission we are charged with at DU—to succeed with great students who are also great athletes.”

>> Read a fall/winter sports preview at magazine.du.edu
As the University of Denver begins to envision its long-term future by embarking on an in-depth strategic planning process, the University’s Board of Trustees has elected three new members who will spotlight the University’s many connections with the city of Denver and its commitment to the future of higher education and the cultivation of philanthropy.

The three newly elected members are: **Mary Sue Coleman**, former president of the University of Michigan; DU alumnus **Craig Harrison**, an entrepreneur and managing director of a Denver-based investment firm; and **Federico Peña**, former mayor of the city of Denver, who also served as secretary of energy and secretary of transportation under the Clinton administration.

Coleman, who also served as president of the University of Iowa, brings more than 20 years of higher education leadership experience to the DU board. Most recently, in her tenure at Michigan, Coleman led major initiatives to enhance interdisciplinary programs, student residential life, global engagement and the value of innovation and creativity. Her leadership extended to efforts to build the economic vitality of the state of Michigan.

Just a few years after graduating from DU, Harrison (BSBA ’03) co-founded a Young Alumni Scholarship fund at the University of Denver. He most recently helped start the General George W. Casey Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund at the University’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies. Harrison is managing director of Arrowhead Partners LLC, an investment management firm involved with operating companies and water resources throughout the Rocky Mountain region. He also serves as managing director of West Creek Partners, a closely held investment firm, which he co-founded in 2011. Harrison has shared his expertise with the University before, serving most recently on the University Advancement Committee of the DU board and on the 2014 Founders Day volunteer committee.

Peña already serves at DU as a member of the board for the Latino Leadership Institute at the Daniels College of Business. He currently is a senior advisor to Vestar Capital Partners and to the Colorado Impact Fund, a venture capital fund dedicated to supporting local companies that generate consistent investment returns in addition to positive community outcomes.
No one is as surprised as Jessica Davidson that she ended up not only a political science major, but vice president of DU’s Undergraduate Student Government as well.

“When I was a kid, my parents’ friends—as everybody tells children—would say, ‘One day you’ll be president of the United States,’” recalls Davidson, who is pursuing a BA in political science and a concurrent master’s of public policy degree through DU’s 4+1 program. “And because I heard adults say this all the time, I would say, ‘Whatever; I hate politics.’ I had no idea what that meant, but I used to say it all the time as a kid.”

That all changed Davidson’s first year at DU, when a first-year seminar with political science professor Peter Hanson sparked a passion for politics that led her to student government and a possible future career in policy analysis.

“A big part of it also came from the presidential debate being here on campus my freshman year,” Davidson says of her interest in politics. “I actually ended up getting a ticket at the last minute, and on the floor of the debate I met Sen. Mark Udall and I told him I was interested in the law and that I was taking a politics class, and he offered me an internship on the spot. The following fall I interned for his office, and that’s when I really started to become very invested in politics. And I haven’t looked back since.”

Davidson joined DU’s Undergraduate Student Government as a senator her sophomore year and “had a really great experience, but when I ended the year I didn’t really feel satisfied,” she says. “I felt like there was a lot more that could have been done.” So in spring 2015, she and junior Cameron Hickert ran for—and won—the election for USG vice president and president, respectively. Their term begins in fall quarter 2015.

Her passion for politics also has taken Davidson to an internship with a Denver-based lobbying firm, as well as to Uganda, where, thanks to a DU research grant, she traveled in summer 2015 to conduct research for the Global Livingston Institute on the HIV/AIDS crisis.

Davidson says law school may be in her future someday, but for now she aspires to a position as a policy analyst for a senator or a congress member.

“It would be fun to serve as an elected official, but I don’t know that elected officials are always those who are making the most change and are making the most decisions,” she says. “It really is their advisors who are saying, ‘This is exactly what the policy is and how it’s going to impact people.’ That’s what I really get passionate about, is when we can take an issue and we can find a solution and connect the two in a way that utilizes people’s rights through government and is also meaningful and helps communities.”
Since its launch in 2010, Denver’s Biennial of the Americas has sought to forge ties—via art and ideas—among the dozens of countries and two continents that make up the Western Hemisphere. The Biennial’s 2015 edition—held July 14–19—offered a full menu of exhibits, performances and topical discussions. And the University of Denver was part of the mix.

To bring some south-of-the-equator moves to Denver, DU’s Newman Center Presents performing arts series sponsored the regional debut of Brazil’s street-smart Companhia Urbana de Dança. The Rio de Janeiro-based company fuses hip-hop, contemporary choreography and Brazilian social dance with a smattering of sociopolitical commentary. The company kept a busy schedule during its Biennial appearance, offering a number of public workshops around the city and an evening performance with Denver’s Wonderbound dance company at a special Biennial Night downtown.

Companhia Urbana de Dança’s Biennial headquarters was the University of Denver campus, where the dancers offered a free workshop to the University community and performed a ticketed show at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts. The evening featured the troupe’s much-hailed “I. You. We... All Black,” a piece that reflects Rio’s complicated race and class issues.

Meanwhile, the Playground Ensemble, artists-in-residence at the Lamont School of Music, paired four professional composers with four young composers from around the Americas to write short musical “postcards.” Each “postcard” addressed one of the key themes of the Biennial and how it relates to the composer’s life.

Insightful commentary also was on the menu at “Now? Now!”—the Biennial’s central visual arts exhibition, staged at the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. It featured a new media installation by Christopher Coleman and Laleh Mehran, professors in DU’s emergent digital practices program. Known internationally for their innovative use of emerging media, Coleman and Mehran were among the 31 artists from throughout the hemisphere who caught the eye of curator Lauren Wright. Wright personally selected the participating artists and tasked them with exploring present realities.

“They’re such important, really groundbreaking members of the art community, not just here, but internationally,” Wright says of Coleman and Mehran. “They use technology to make us look at things in different ways.”

The Coleman-Mehran submission, titled “Unclaimed,” explored the idea of airspace—the atmospheric zone that a nation claims as its own, though the air in Denver on one day may well be the air in Montevideo the next week.
“It’s space that nobody has domain over. Everybody has the right to use it, but nobody has the right to control it,” Coleman explains. “We were interested in the problems of the commons, something that is owned by everyone.”

In other words, Mehran adds, “nobody can plant a flag on it.”

To communicate this point, “Unclaimed” utilized a full room at the MCA. The ceiling was lined with 200 tiny fans covered by a thin sheet of plastic. When the fans were on, the cover undulated with the airflow—movement that was depicted on two nearby video monitors. Underneath this air system, Coleman and Mehran created an expansive cityscape, with roughly 200 buildings generated by a 3-D printer. A light system showed the city through a 24-hour cycle, with a full day completed every few hours.

Viewers were invited not just to examine the airflow, but to contribute to it. If they leaned over the city and blew, they could get a sense for how air circulates and of where it goes. When several people were blowing at once, it was easy to see how human behavior in one locale can affect the air downwind.

Coleman and Mehran consider the work both a technical and an aesthetic accomplishment. Engineering the installation took months of round-the-clock research, and construction began the minute classes ended in late spring and continued until moments before the opening.

“They were practically residents of the museum for two weeks,” Wright notes.

For their part, Coleman and Mehran were honored to participate in the Biennial, with its growing stature and mix of world-class talent. Although creating the installation left them no sleep time for weeks, Mehran says, “We were crazy excited to be here.”
Welcome to the real world

Business student’s summer internship pays off with a job after graduation
By Greg Glasgow

University of Denver undergraduates know that internships pay off in ways large and small—gaining skills, building a network, getting real-world experience—but every once in a while an internship pays off in a really big way: with a job offer after graduation.

Recent graduate Carly Westerfield, who in March 2015 received a BSBA in finance from the Daniels College of Business, is part of that fortunate group. After interning at global investment firm Goldman Sachs’ Utah outpost in summer 2014, she received an offer to work in the company’s New York office as a junior operations analyst. She started the job in July.

Q: It sounds like this was a pretty intense internship where you were essentially competing with other interns. What was that like?
A: I felt a little bit of competition because you know at the end of the summer you’re either going to get a job offer or you’re not. That’s understood. They tell you, “This is a 10-week job interview.” You’re constantly thinking about how you can differentiate yourself. Sometimes the pressure is a lot.

Q: Did it feel like a real job in that sense? What were your responsibilities? Were you working 40 hours a week?
A: The most I ever worked was 65 hours in a week. It didn’t feel that nuts; it just felt good and right. I wanted to stay late. You’re not just making photocopies or running to get coffee—you’re actually doing work, and it has an impact. It’s very cool for that reason, because it’s the first time you’re ever recognized for your education.

Q: What was it like to see things you had learned about in the classroom come to life in the real world?
A: That happened, but so much more of what made you successful in the internship had to do with how personable you were, how you present yourself. The interviews are so rigorous because they want to make sure that you are a hard worker—that you actually are going to be able to sustain yourself for the duration of the summer. You have to be smart, you have to do well in all your classes, but it’s so much more about what you bring to the table.

Q: Were you immediately aware of what a great opportunity the internship was, or did that take a little while to realize?
A: At the very beginning, I definitely came to it with this whole “sell it to me” kind of attitude; I was like, “This is great, but I want to know what you guys can do for me.” But by the end of the summer, I was smitten with it—the company really does treat you so well, and I was aware of how lucky I would be if I were to be offered a position. The reality of how competitive it was and how lucky I was to even have an internship kind of set in. I remember thinking, “I really don’t know what I would do if they offered me a full-time job. I don’t know if I could say yes fast enough.”

Q: Do you plan to stay at Goldman Sachs for the long haul, or are you looking at this as a springboard to other positions in other companies?
A: During the summer [internship], we would have talks every week from senior managers who would talk about when they were an intern 20, 30, 40 years ago and here they are today—they were retiring five years from now. And it hit me that this really could be it for me if I wanted it to be. I know how lucky I would be if that were my story, but I know that there are other interests that I have and there’s more out there. You don’t know what other doors will open, but it’s kind of an amazing thing knowing that this could be my one and only job.
Igniting Thoughts + Discussion

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM

SEPTEMBER 25 - 26

LECTURES • PANELS • LUNCHES • SOCIAL HOUR • $40
SIGN UP AT DU.EDU/PIOSYMPOSIUM OR CALL 303-871-2777

Transforming Passion into Purpose

DU’s personalized education ignited the intellectual passions of Christine and Clayton Powers. Their experiences at the University led to rich careers in marketing and public service. Recognizing that financial support made their own educations possible, the couple partnered with our gift planning experts to fund an endowed scholarship with a gift of appreciated stock. They want to ensure that all DU students of today and tomorrow have access to the customized education that they enjoyed. Their investment will impact students’ lives for years to come.
Don’t eat sushi. Don’t drink alcohol. Ditto for coffee. Steer clear of hot tubs. Your hormones may make you feel like you’re on a metaphorical roller coaster, but you should not get on a literal one.

Pregnant women have grown used to enduring the ever-lengthening list of things they need to avoid to ensure a safe and healthy birth. A new University of Denver study suggests that stress—one of the most natural reactions a mother can have while walking around with a tiny human inside her womb—can be harmful to babies, possibly wiring the fetal brains for worry and anxiety permanently.

Psychology professor Elysia Davis and her colleagues—including undergraduate and graduate students—have spent years studying the effect pregnant women’s stress reactions have on the fetus. One hormone Davis has focused on is cortisol, which the body produces and passes through the placenta to the unborn child.

“Cortisol plays an important role in regulating the maturation of the fetus, such as lung development,” Davis says. “These stress systems in the body aren’t just there to cause damage or harm us.”

A pregnant woman can expect her cortisol level to increase by two to four times. But when Davis and her colleagues studied expectant mothers with cortisol levels consistently higher than normal early in the pregnancy, they made a startling discovery: Their infants displayed a much higher sensitivity to stress than other babies.

“After birth, every baby gets its blood drawn by the hospital,” Davis says. “The babies who had the largest cortisol response to the stress of having their blood drawn were the ones whose mothers had high levels of cortisol when they were pregnant. The babies exposed to higher maternal cortisol before birth had a bigger stress reaction.”

As these babies grew from infancy to toddlerhood, they exhibited heightened levels of anxiety compared to other children. “In our lab, we presented the 2-year-olds a series of challenges, such as exploring a room with toys including a floor-level balance beam or having a stranger enter the room and roll a ball to them,” Davis says. “These toddlers consistently showed more fearful behaviors in response to these moderately challenging situations.”

Instead of enthusiastically engaging in play with the stranger with the ball, for instance, the toddlers would instead stand frozen by the wall or run back to their mothers. “They showed more fearful expressions than normal,” Davis says.

By the time the children were between ages 6 and 9, MRI scans revealed that the children’s amygdala, the section of the brain associated with the human response to frightening stimuli, were larger than normal. “Not only are mothers reporting that the children show anxious behavior, such as
being scared of going to school, but we can see differences in the way their brains have developed,” Davis says.

The next step for Davis and her colleagues is to observe the children as they enter adolescence, when many mental health disorders, such as depression, begin to emerge.

The study highlights the importance of keeping both a healthy body and a sound mind for expectant mothers. “We don’t pay attention to women’s mental health during pregnancy the same way we do to other areas, such as their nutrition,” Davis says. “We know that women with strong social support, whether from their partner or their sister or their friends, are protected.”

The best advice Davis can give worried pregnant mothers is to take care of their mental health by carrying on with the activities they normally enjoy.

“Whether it’s going out for a walk or hanging out with friends, we all know what we can do to take care of our mental health,” she says.

>> This article first appeared in the Newsweek Special Edition “Your Baby’s Brain: How New Science is Unlocking the Secrets of the Infant Mind.”
A new center at the University of Denver is encouraging faculty and students from across campus to come together to study an issue that will directly affect millions of Americans over the coming decades.

Funded in part by a $10 million naming gift from Betty Knoebel, widow of Denver food-service pioneer Ferdinand “Fritz” Knoebel, the new Knoebel Center for the Study of Aging will pull together experts from a wide range of disciplines to focus on the challenges associated with aging—studying not just medical issues around growing older, but addressing questions around law, lifestyle, housing and psychology, to name just a few. It also will provide new areas of focus for DU faculty and students.

“With 10,000 people turning 65 every day in this country, the study of aging is critically important,” says University of Denver Chancellor Rebecca Chopp. “The Knoebel Center for the Study of Aging will bring together the University of Denver’s many academic and professional programs, research faculty and students to make a positive impact on the Denver metro area and on society at large. A holistic approach to how we age well is one of the greatest frontiers for research, support and engagement at DU.”
THE ORIGINS OF A NEW CENTER

The story of the Knoebel Center began more than 10 years ago, when University officials started looking for a signature project, one that could become a regional center of excellence as well as a focus of the institution’s research and academic talent.

Lynn Taussig, past president and CEO of the Denver-based National Jewish Medical and Research Center and a current special advisor on life sciences at DU, was asked by the University to lead an effort to find a life sciences focus that would be unique to the institution.

“It became apparent that aging was a good focal point for moving forward,” Taussig says. “Robert Coombe, who was chancellor at the time, said it should be a campus-wide initiative. And there really has been tremendous interest. This is such a huge issue for the country. There are so many different aspects to our aging population. We can’t cover them all, but we can focus on a number of areas with the expertise we’re developing.”

Scheduled to open this fall, the Knoebel Center will be located on the fifth floor of the new engineering facility currently under construction on the south side of campus. The building, which was funded by a $27 million gift from Chancellor Emeritus Dan Ritchie, will have four floors dedicated to the newly renamed Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science.

FINDING THE RIGHT LEADERSHIP

DU officials also conducted a national search to find the right leader for the new effort. In April 2015, the University named internationally known neurobiologist Lotta Granholm as the center’s executive director.

Most recently director of the Center on Aging at the Medical University of South Carolina, Granholm also earned her PhD at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. She officially began her duties at the Knoebel Center on Sept. 1.

“We wanted to bring someone in who knew what needed to be done,” says Corinne Lengsfeld, associate provost for research at DU. “Lotta is from a medical background, but what she’s really excited about is this idea of not just preventing disease, but helping people live the fullest, most independent lives.”

For her part, Granholm says the 15 years she spent at the University of South Carolina taught her a lot about building a program from the ground up. “I have had to be very resourceful and collaborative, due to the lack of resources at the university and in the state of South Carolina,” she says. “I’ve learned that nothing is impossible.”

In her new role at DU, Granholm says, she is looking forward to bringing together several strong programs to address issues around aging. “For me, this was a unique opportunity to tie widely different lines of research together, such as engineering, law, biology and business,” she says.

We’ve put more effort into helping folks reach old age than into helping them enjoy it.

—Frank A. Clark, American author and cartoonist

“If we are to design a better future for older individuals, we must think about all aspects, including not only health, but also elder law, social work and clinical psychology,” she says. “DU appears to be ready to take on novel ideas in education and also in research, so I think it is a place where this kind of interprofessional project has a chance to succeed.”

Shelly Smith-Acuña, dean of the Graduate School of Professional Psychology, expects that the center will not only give faculty across campus the chance to work together in a whole new way, it will allow the University to work with the Denver community in a new way as well.

“This topic area is going to give us such an opportunity for the kind of seamless integration of research, service and training that the University wants to be known for,” she says. “For example, [the Graduate School of Professional Psychology has] faculty members who are interested in stroke recovery, so our faculty and students can be involved in assessment of post-stroke functioning, with the understanding that...”
they’ll be providing a service and also collecting data on what interventions are possible to aid stroke recovery.

“I think it’s great that we’ll be pulling together faculty members with different areas of expertise,” Smith-Acuña says, “and knowing we’re going to amplify our impact by having them work together.”

BRINGING THE PIECES TOGETHER

According to David Greenberg, the University's vice chancellor of institutional partnerships, DU is well equipped to begin exploring aging issues. “DU is the oldest and largest private research university in the Rockies. We have a wide group of graduate programs, all of which fit well with aging issues,” he says. “It’s just a good set of departments and colleges we have here that lends itself to being able to do cooperative work.” He notes that issues such as housing, mobility and independence are all areas that researchers at DU can work together to address.

One project that already has demonstrated the promise of the interdisciplinary approach is a research initiative by Leslie Hasche, of the Graduate School of Social Work, and Anne DePrince, chair of the Department of Psychology. The two collaborated on research into risk factors for elder abuse—a study that drew $500,000 in funds from the U.S. Department of Justice.

DU can provide research that goes beyond medical geriatric care or other health care-related issues, Lengsfeld says. It’s quality of life that matters to seniors.

“It’s not just about living longer anymore; it’s very much about living longer and living to the full capacity that’s possible,” she says. “This center is needed because there needs to be a place where people think about that aspect. What should the expectations be—how long can we push independence, and how do we define what people need to make them truly independent?”

THE FUTURE OF THE CENTER

Lengsfeld says the center will allow graduate and undergraduate students to expand their research to topics that will be of interest to those in other departments and divisions. “We know from the University’s recent strategic planning process that students want these opportunities,” she says. “We also intend to leverage the activities of the faculty to move the age-related work they do into the classroom more often, which is already happening, but we want to do more of it. As the number of course opportunities grows, options for minors and degree specializations will naturally spring up.”

Granholm notes that community involvement also will be part of the center’s work. “We are planning to organize many community events, including going into area churches or senior centers, and we’ll develop a resources website and newsletters with information,” she said.

The center also will reach out to international institutions, as well as the business community. “An important area is to enhance entrepreneurialism in the aging field,” Granholm says. “DU has researchers who have designed novel drugs, tools, applications or engineering equipment that should be developed into future businesses. Providing incubator space and business know-how will be extremely important.”

Lengsfeld also is interested in how research on aging will translate into new enterprises and business opportunities. “If you look around, over the last five years, companies that are dedicated to assisting seniors and caregivers have seen tremendous growth,” she says. “The only reason that companies would be growing in this area is if the general public had been demanding it.

“People are more and more aware of aging issues,” she continues. “I’ve heard people say, ‘I’m not just interested in preventing disease; I want to be skiing in Aspen when I’m 85.’ So the expectation is not just getting up in the morning. They want to maintain the lifestyle they have.”

Granholm says she is looking forward to seeing where the work of the new center leads. “This will be an experiment, in that DU does not have any other interdisciplinary centers that span such wide areas,” she says. “I am excited to get the opportunity to help develop this center—I think we have a real chance of developing something unique.”
The Pioneers make men’s lacrosse history

By Caleb Hannan
For coach Bill Tierney, the secret to getting his University of Denver men’s lacrosse team to stay focused and relaxed before the program’s first national championship game was to do nothing at all.

On May 25, Tierney’s Pioneers faced off against the University of Maryland Terrapins at Philadelphia’s Lincoln Financial Field. It was the third straight year that Tierney and the Pioneers had reached the Division I tournament’s Championship Weekend. In each of the prior tournaments, the Pioneers had come up just short. So Tierney resolved to make a change by not changing anything at all.

“This year we just said, ‘nothing different,’” he says. “We just treated it like any other trip.”

That meant ditching previous gimmicks Tierney had used to fire up his team. Gone were motivational speakers like then-Denver Broncos wide receiver Wes Welker. Gone too were the beards the players grew last year before losing in the semifinals. Or the superstition that they shouldn’t touch the Big East tournament trophy in fear that it might jinx their chances of winning the bigger one that goes to national champions.

Tierney’s insistence on boring routine even filtered down to the team’s meals—the players ate breakfast nearly every day at the same restaurant across the street from the hotel.

That emphasis on normalcy had paid off one game earlier, when the Pioneers were tested by Notre Dame in the semifinals. Despite blowing a big lead and being forced into overtime, Tierney says his players weren’t rattled. “The huddle was very calm,” he says. “We knew all we needed to do was score one goal.”

Which they did. Which led to the showdown against No. 6-seeded Maryland, a game watched by students in a half-dozen sponsored parties near campus and by alumni at get-togethers in a dozen cities around the country, from Atlanta to Seattle.

In contrast to the nail-biter against Notre Dame, the Pioneers were dominant in the final. The tournament’s most outstanding player, Wesley Berg, scored five goals, while senior goaltender Ryan LaPlante registered 13 saves in the 10-5 victory, a game in which the Pioneers never trailed. After the final whistle sounded, the Pioneers mobbed each other on the field, then took turns cutting off parts of the net and tucking the souvenirs into their shorts for safekeeping as the celebration continued.
Among the many spectators in the stands was Chancellor Rebecca Chopp, whose first year at the DU helm ended with the Pioneers becoming the first school west of the Appalachians to claim the men’s lacrosse title.

“Being in Philadelphia and watching Coach Tierney lead our team to victory was an absolute highlight of my first year as chancellor,” Chopp says.

Chopp was joined by Tierney, Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, Chancellor Emeritus Dan Ritchie and hundreds of Pioneers lacrosse fans at a May 26 campus rally celebrating the victory. Hancock’s enthusiasm about the win extended to taking a selfie with members of the team.

“This achievement helps to bring together the whole DU community—students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends,” Chopp says.

Alumnus Charles Dorison (BA ’72) agrees. “For many of the alums I joined in Philly, it was the best DU sports weekend of our lives,” he says. Adds fellow alumnus Tom Douglass (BA ’86), “Some of the students told me it was not only one of their best days at DU, but one of the best days of their lives.”
On Sept. 18, Rebecca Chopp will be inaugurated as the University of Denver’s 18th chancellor. The day will involve the expected amount of pomp and circumstance, but amid the festivities, Chopp has a serious point to make: Higher education really matters, especially in Colorado.

To help underscore the role higher education plays in the Centennial State, Chopp has invited leaders from colleges and universities around Colorado to take part in the day, along with Denver Mayor Michael Hancock and Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper.

The daylong inauguration event ends with Chopp’s installation ceremony, but earlier in the day, a pair of panel discussions will focus on two key issues: the effect of research institutions on the state’s economy; and the importance to Colorado of increasing access to higher education.

“Education should do three things,” Chopp says to the latter point. “First, it should prepare you for a lifetime of work and career success. Today’s graduating high school seniors are expected to have between 10 and 15 different jobs over the next 20 years in three totally unrelated fields, one of which hasn’t come into existence yet because technology is changing so quickly. Second, since the founding of this country, education has been about educating people for citizenship. Citizenship isn’t just voting; it’s also understanding policy and being able to debate our complex problems.

“Third,” she says, “[education] should enlarge your interior. It should give you capacity to understand and see the world. All parents want their kids to be successful, and all parents want their kids to contribute to community. But all parents also want their kids to flourish, to be happy in a classic sense: To drink deeply from the wells of life.”

The inauguration of Chancellor Rebecca Chopp is scheduled for September 18 on campus. Visit inauguration.du.edu/magazine for more information about the day, including a live stream of the ceremony.
One major topic of discussion at the inauguration will be how to ensure access to higher education for a broad and diverse range of Colorado students. Denver Mayor Michael Hancock is scheduled to moderate a panel discussion on the issue, leading a conversation with Chancellor Chopp; Tim Foster, president of Colorado Mesa University; Stephen Jordan, president of Metropolitan State University of Denver; and Nancy McCallin, president of the Colorado Community College System.

Recently, Chopp and Miriam Tapia Salinas (MA ’12), DU’s executive director for diversity enrollment and community partnerships, sat down with the University of Denver Magazine to discuss that issue, reflect on their own experiences as first-generation college students, and examine the role of higher education in our rapidly changing economy.

This transcript of their conversation has been edited for length. Read the entire discussion at magazine.du.edu.

University of Denver Magazine: You were both first-generation college students. What was it that kept your parents before you from going to college, and what was it that allowed you to go?

Chancellor Chopp: I don’t think anybody in my parents’ world went to college. Girls grew up and got married, and the guys worked as carpenters or plumbers or good working-class professionals. I don’t think it was really in their imaginations to go to college. I grew up in rural Kansas, and that wasn’t a place where college was seen as necessary back then in the way it is now. There especially wasn’t support for women to go to college—all the women my parents knew all grew up and got married.

Miriam Tapia Salinas: I come from a family of immigrants. My mother came from Mexico, and she had a fifth-grade education. My father came from Bolivia, from a family of educated engineers, bankers, teachers and nurses. My stepfather was also a Mexican immigrant, and he moved to Denver and built a marble and granite business. Before you knew it, we went from being at the lowest level to being upper middle class, and I was a full-pay college student. Although we had funding, people didn’t understand that our family didn’t have the navigational skills or the understanding of how to select a college, and so that barrier [to higher education] truly existed. We had no idea where we could have gone to college. We often talk about what could have been if we’d had better advising. That’s why I’m so passionate about college access—to ensure that others don’t face the barriers I did.

University of Denver Magazine: Obviously, lack of income is a huge barrier for many low- and middle-income families seeking to send their children to college. What is DU doing to make its programs more financially accessible?

Chancellor Chopp: My top priority is providing financial assistance to our students. Having had the experience myself of working full time and going to college, I don’t want our students to have to do that. I was in the second year of my PhD when I was finally able to
I cannot tell you the difference that made. You can’t do your best academic work or contribute to building a rich academic community when you are worried about money.

**MTS:** DU went from offering $66 million in total aid in 2007 to a projected $146 million in 2016. But the challenge lies in our ability to attain and utilize endowment funds (as opposed to DU’s operations budget) for financial aid, so that we can launch creative initiatives to attract a more diverse student body and then support those students once they’re here.

**UDM:** What are some of the other issues around access to higher education in Colorado that get less press than the income barrier, and what is DU doing to address those?

**CC:** As our public schools have experienced funding reductions, they no longer have the counselors and advisors they used to have to let students know about college. And once first-generation students like myself get into college, they have a hard time getting on the information highway: going to the dean’s office if they have a question, or seeking out counseling if they’re struggling, or visiting a faculty member. They are trying so hard to adapt to a new environment that the last thing they want to do is admit they are struggling.

**MTS:** To help remedy some of this, we run the Pioneer Prep Leadership Institute, two programs that help incoming black and Latino students adapt to college life at DU and elsewhere. The persistence level of students in those programs who attend DU [meaning the likelihood of staying from one year to the next] has been close to 100 percent over the last four years, and that is unheard of. We also partner with groups like the Denver Scholarship Foundation, which has helped send over 100 of our current students to DU.

**UDM:** How does making DU more diverse turn the school into a richer place for its students and faculty? And what’s at stake if universities like DU can’t increase access?

**CC:** Financial aid and access to higher education have certainly provided people like Miriam and myself with opportunities. But the benefit is not just the opportunity for the aided students—it’s the fact that Miriam’s comment in class may be the single thing that gets through to the whole group, or that Rebecca may be a wonderful debater. Aid and access have always been about three things: giving opportunities to individuals, building the community that students need to learn, and identifying the merit pool for democracy—the very best possible leaders.

**MTS:** There is also an industry focus. By 2020, experts project that nearly three-quarters of all jobs in Colorado will require some level of postsecondary education. And there’s the fact that companies with more gender and racial diversity have been shown to outperform their less diverse competitors. Beyond industry, it’s an issue of democracy and equity. It’s a responsibility and a privilege for us to prepare a group of dynamic leaders that reflects our evolving nation.

---

**By the Numbers: ACCESS AT DU**

- **84%** of DU students receive some form of financial aid
- **$125.2 million** is awarded to undergraduates each year
- **74.8%** is in the form of grants or scholarships
- **18.7%** of undergraduate and graduate students are students of color
- More than **1,200** international students are enrolled from **87** different countries
From science and technology to education and health care to arts and entertainment, Colorado’s colleges and universities make invaluable contributions to the state’s economy. Yet their impact doesn’t stop there. As this quick survey shows, higher education touches virtually every aspect of life in the Centennial State.

**AERONAUTICS**

**AT DU:** The Unmanned Systems Research Institute, housed within the Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science, focuses on designing and building the next generation of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, commonly called drones) for use in everything from monitoring crops to surveying oil and gas pipelines. Research conducted at the institute already has led to innovations like a self-leveling landing platform that extends the range of small UAVs, cementing Colorado’s place as a center for aeronautics research.

**ACROSS COLORADO:** NASA’s Global Precipitation Measurement satellite and Orbiting Carbon Observatory-2 gather reams of data about precipitation patterns and levels of climate-warming gases in the atmosphere. Researchers at Colorado State University developed the algorithms that transform that information into a form usable by scientists around the world.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

**AT DU:** Whether it’s ensuring that Colorado’s cities grow in a planned and sustainable way, protecting the state’s air from power-plant emissions or advocating for residents of low-income, polluted neighborhoods, environmental lawyers help keep Colorado a desirable place to live. The Environmental and Natural Resources Law program at the Sturm College of Law produces some of the top environmental lawyers in the state—students in the Environmental Law Clinic even gain practical experience by representing environmental advocacy organizations in state, federal and foreign courts.

**ACROSS COLORADO:** With its agrarian economy of small farms, vineyards, dairies and agri-tourism operations backlit by spectacular scenery, Colorado’s North Fork Valley has been compared to places like the south of France. Yet keeping such a place vital requires a new generation of well-trained farmers and ranchers. In 2014, Colorado Mesa University and Western Colorado Community College began offering sustainable agriculture classes to students at Hotchkiss High School, to help future residents of the North Fork Valley make a living while preserving and caring for the land.
ENERGY

AT DU: The electric power industry is facing a major shortage of skilled engineers, even as the dual challenges of updating our aging power grid and incorporating more renewable energy loom large. To fill the gap, DU’s Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science launched an electric power and energy systems program in the spring of 2014. Participating students gain the skills to bring our electrical grid into the 21st century through hands-on research projects, internships at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden and more.

ACROSS COLORADO: Nuclear power plants may be low on carbon emissions, but safely storing their spent nuclear fuel remains a major challenge. In June 2015, Colorado School of Mines physics professor Zeev Shayer won a $3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to study what causes corrosion and cracking of spent nuclear fuel canisters, so that damaged canisters can be discovered and repaired before they pose a health risk.

HOSPITALITY

AT DU: Few things benefit newly resettled refugees more than training that will help them land steady jobs. Since 2012, that’s exactly what DU’s Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management has provided to African refugees in Denver, partnering with the Ethiopian Community Development Council’s African Community Center to offer a Commercial Food Safety and Service Training program that readies refugees for jobs in the food-service industry. The Knoebel School and the African Community Center host an annual Public Good Gala to raise funds for the program; this year’s event featured award-winning guest chef Paul Reilly, of the Denver restaurant beast + bottle.

ACROSS COLORADO: It’s a time-tested adage that the best way to learn a skill is simply by doing it. With that in mind, Metropolitan State University of Denver trains students in its Hospitality, Tourism and Events program in a functioning and thriving hotel: the SpringHill Suites Denver Downtown, operated by Sage Hospitality. The hotel is more than a living laboratory: In 2015 it beat out 63 other hotels that Sage operates nationwide to win the company’s property of the year award.

DID YOU KNOW?

Colorado’s 28 public colleges, universities and community colleges educate 213,956 students, more than 190,000 of whom are Colorado residents. Higher education in Colorado supports 97,563 jobs, which contribute $4.25 billion in wages and salaries and almost $387 million in state and local taxes to the Colorado economy annually. [source: Colorado Department of Higher Education, 2007]
EDUCATION

AT DU: Training leaders who can transform schools around Colorado and the nation is the mission of the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) Program at DU’s Morgridge College of Education. Widely considered one of the top principal training programs in the country, ELPS places students in internships with mentor principals at public, private or charter schools throughout the Denver metro area. Program graduates have gone on to become successful principals, district administrators and education researchers.

ACROSS COLORADO: It takes more than technical prowess to be a great music teacher—you also need passion, people skills and plenty of patience. The music education program at the University of Northern Colorado instills all of these qualities in its students, educating some of the best music teachers in Colorado and beyond.
HEALTH CARE

AT DU: In a highly active state like Colorado, it’s critical that doctors have the expertise to help patients recover quickly from sports-related injuries. That’s precisely what the Human Dynamics Lab at DU’s Center for Orthopaedic Biomechanics helps to develop. The lab uses cameras, motion-capture systems and other technologies to precisely measure how human bones and muscles move—information that researchers can use to develop more effective rehabilitation techniques.

ACROSS COLORADO: Scientists at the Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine on the University of Colorado-Denver’s Anschutz Medical Campus develop breakthrough stem-cell and protein-based therapies for treating cancer and other diseases. Yet until recently, they lacked a quick way to move their breakthroughs from the lab bench to the clinical trial stage that precedes the launch of any new medical product. That changed with the 2015 launch of the Gates Biomanufacturing Facility, where scientists can now mass produce new therapies and simply walk them across the street for clinical trials at the University of Colorado Hospital, helping breakthrough treatments reach sick patients faster than ever before.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

AT DU: These days, it seems like there’s an app for just about everything, and if there’s not, there may be a business opportunity. To help young business students launch headfirst into the app economy, the Daniels College of Business launched the Madden App Challenge in 2012, pitting teams against one another in a quest for the most innovative or useful mobile phone or tablet application. Faculty advisors, professional entrepreneurs and 12- to 18-year-old app consumers judge the contest, whose most recent winner this spring was TrekK, a travel app that allows users easy access to information on health care and transportation and translation of basic phrases in a selected country. Other early standouts included Airnotes, which allows students to combine their class notes into a cloud-based document, and an app enabling domestic violence victims to quickly call for help.

ACROSS COLORADO: The Innovation Institute at Colorado College serves as a clearinghouse for social entrepreneurship on campus, helping students, faculty, staff and alumni launch projects and companies that benefit the greater good. The institute runs a boot camp for startups, along with workshops, presentations and a program called the Soup Project Challenge, which funds efforts to alleviate poverty, hunger and homelessness in Colorado Springs.
CherryArts Festival at Stanley
produced by the Cherry Creek Arts Festival!

CherryArts is excited to partner with Stanley Marketplace in its opening year to create an event that will grow and thrive within this unique urban marketplace. CherryArts Festival at Stanley will feature 100 exhibiting artists, entertainment and a children’s Creation Station, as well as culinary and beverage experiences.

Stanley is a creative venue with grand ambitions and is like no other marketplace. It is a former aviation facility with mixed indoor and outdoor spaces located in the Stapleton neighborhood. www.stanleymarketplace.com

Don’t miss the big opening night event Friday, October 23, as we kick off the full weekend of national art, local flavor and creative living, as well as a preview of Stanley Marketplace!

CherryArts.org/Stanley
In this photo from the archives, Pioneers football fans participate in a cheer (an early version of the wave, perhaps?) from the stands near the 45-yard line during a game held sometime between 1945 and 1960. Can you help us ID this photo or do you want to share your memories of DU football games? Email us at du-magazine@du.edu.
The classes

1942
**Virginia Lacy** (BA ‘42) of San Diego, Calif., is retired and spent August of 2014 traveling through Turkey and Greece with her daughter. When she isn’t traveling, Virginia spends her time cooking, exercising and volunteering.

1965
**Robert Eberlein** (BSBA ’65) of Los Angeles is a director of photography and executive producer. Through his company, Image Streams, Robert focuses on preproduction and production of live-action sequences for visual effects compositing in feature films.

1968
**Eduardo Domingues** (BS ’68) of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is head of marketing at Brasil Solair. The company is pioneering alternative on-site electric energy systems with solar- and wind-powered generators. Eduardo has been working at advertising agencies in Brazil for nearly 40 years.

1969
**Charles Socha** (BA ’69, JD ’71) of Greenwood Village, Colo., was named to the 2015 list of the Best Lawyers in America. Charles works for the law firm Tucker Ellis LLP, where he specializes in mass tort litigation and class action lawsuits.

1970
**Freddy Bosco** (BA ’70) of Denver, who served as the city’s poet laureate in the 1980s, bequeathed his archives to the Denver Public Library’s Western History Division. The collection includes dozens of journals, drawings and letters in correspondence with Hillary Clinton, Kate Middleton, Anne Waldman and others.

1972
**Robert Seal** (MA ’72) of Evanston, Ill., was named Academic/Research Librarian of the Year for 2015 by the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. Robert is dean of University Libraries at Loyola University in Chicago.

1976
**Charles Lilley** (BSBA ’76, JD ’79) of Denver retired from his career as an attorney after 36 years. Charles is working for 27 months in Uganda as a small business advisor for the Peace Corps.

1980
**Ricardo Dadoo** (BSBA ’80) of Mexico City is an operating partner for the Clarendon Group, a privately owned company focused on developing investment opportunities and providing strategic advisory services for transportation, distribution and logistics sectors. Ricardo is founder and president of Logistics Dadoo and has been in the transportation and logistics business for more than 30 years.

**Erik Prenzler** (BSBA ’80) of Bloomington, Ill., sold Prenzler Outdoor Advertising and now concentrates on commercial real estate. Erik also is project director for Habitat for Humanity McLean County and a board member at Home Sweet Home Ministries.

1984
**Robert Margolis** (BSBA ’84) of Bethesda, Md., is CEO of TM Associates Management Inc., the seventh largest affordable rural management company in the United States. Robert’s company won the Spectrum Excellence in Management Award in 2012 and has since won the Earthcraft Virginia Award at the Virginia Governor’s Housing Conference.

1985
**Gregory Holt** (MA ’85) of Cedar Falls, Iowa, is artistic director of the Waterloo Community Playhouse.

**Linda Shea** (BME ’85), previously the instrumental music director at Summit High School in Breckenridge, Colo., moved to Prague, Czech Republic in July 2015 to pursue the study of Central European clarinet music through the prestigious Fulbright Program.
Justin Gitlin is all about community.

As one of seven founders of Denver-based social-media network Ello, Gitlin and his company—creative computation studio Mode Set—are making headlines as the team behind the latest and greatest online community. The site’s claim to fame is that it’s ad-free and has pledged never to sell its users’ data.

“We’re not another Silicon Valley site. We’re homegrown out of Denver,” Gitlin (BA ’02) says. “We’re taking a stance against the current industry model of selling advertisements. People really seem to love that.”

Offline, Gitlin is connecting people the old-fashioned way—in person. He’s the brains behind OhHeckYeah, a series of community-building, interactive video games that launched in downtown Denver in summer 2014. On 15 different nights spread over the course of two months, the project took over the giant LED screens at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts and turned them into a gaming street festival. Mode Set is continuing the project and taking it to multiple cities, including Boston, where OhHeckYeah launched in May 2015 as a partnership with Northeastern University.

“I like to refer to it as making magic in the street,” Gitlin says. “We’re providing a safe place where people of all types play games together. It’s using the same technology we can build a social network with, to a large degree, but rather than online, we’re using it to bring us together in real life to have a shared experience.”

At DU, Gitlin was a double major in computer science and Emergent Digital Practices (EDP)—a DU-specific major that brings together art, design, media, culture and technology studies in a hands-on, collaborative environment.

“I’m using everything I learned in my double major today,” he says. “The EDP and computer science degrees were the precursor to the work I do every day, both for my day job and my digital art side projects.”

And he feels especially fortunate, he says, to have studied in Denver, where tech-savvy startups are launching on a near-daily basis.

“Starting my career in Denver and having the opportunity to work with so many talented people has brought me to my current place,” he says. “All of the people you meet along the way may become your boss, give you a referral, or even just spark an idea that leads you to your next chapter. It’s all about working hard in your field and being a good community member. Share the wealth and treat people right, and you’ll go as far as you can dream.”

—Kathryn Mayer (BA ’07, MA ’10)
Olga Garcia has found a second home at Museo de las Americas, the Denver-based museum and community center dedicated to Latino art and culture. Situated in the museum’s gallery, surrounded by the colorful, geometrically precise paintings of Mexican artist Gunther Gerzso, she talks about the importance of the museum to her personally—she is a longtime board member who met her husband at the Museo—and to Denver’s young Latino community.

“It’s much more than a museum; the backbone of this organization really is education,” says Garcia, who was involved in the institution’s founding in 1991. “[The staff creates] curriculum and works with Denver Public Schools, they have a team of teachers who go out to communities in our six-county area, and there are school tours that come in. We have a three-week summer camp program, and it’s more than just learning about art. It’s more about career aspirations—what does it take to run a business like this? There’s a business behind everything. We need accountants, we need lawyers; we need everybody to come together and do what they love.”

Connecting with diverse communities is nothing new to Garcia—she has made a career out of it. She worked for 25 years at Coors Brewing Co. in Golden, Colo., serving from 2006–10 as manager of diversity and inclusion in the company’s human resources department. A master’s degree in applied communications from DU’s University College helped her hone her skills.

“We worked with the Latino, African-American and LGBT communities, women’s organizations—we had specific programming that resonated with those communities, and I think that helped us build a strong foundation to go forward with,” says Garcia, pointing to the National Hispana Leadership Institute and other organizations for which Coors was a founding corporate sponsor. “It was about getting to the root of, ‘How do you make a positive impact? What are the issues in the community?’ It’s a work in progress, because communities are always changing.”

For her work at Museo, Denver Health and elsewhere, Garcia was honored in May by Denver’s Latina First Foundation, which named her one of four “Unsung Heroines” in the local Latino community.

“I was very honored to be in the company of such great leaders,” she says. “I think it’s an opportunity for the foundation to highlight what Latina leaders are doing in our community, and that no matter the area, we’re contributing and making a difference in a way that can be appreciated. It’s good to spotlight what has been done and what still needs to be done.”

—Greg Glasgow
1986

**John Pestovich** (BS ’86, MEPM ’94) of Kennewick, Wash., retired as a lieutenant colonel after 28 years of service in the U.S. Army Reserve, where he worked as a military analyst with the J83 Strategic Assessment Division.

**Steven Zahorik** (MBA ’86) of Castle Pines, Colo., received the 2014 Five Star Wealth Manager award. Recipients are selected by nomination from peers or firms, and awards are based on 10 objective criteria, including client retention rates, client assets administered, firm review and favorable regulatory history. Steven works as a financial advisor at Wells Fargo.

1990

**Marlene Casini** (MA ’90) of Columbus, Ohio, earned the chartered advisor in philanthropy professional designation from the American College of Financial Services. Marlene is president and CEO of the Delaware County Foundation.

1993

**Kerry Lombardi** (JD ’93) of Denver was appointed judge in the Denver County Court by Mayor Michael Hancock. Lombardi currently is chief deputy district attorney and has served in the Denver District Attorney’s Office for 20 years.

1996

**Kristin Ovens** (BA ’96, MBA ’99) of Lafayette, Colo., co-founded the Confluence Small Business Collective. The company offers small business and professional education programming in addition to co-working space.

1997

**Jeff McClelland** (BA ’97, JD ’12) of Denver has joined Kutak Rock LLP as an associate in the firm’s litigation group. He focuses his practice on commercial and civil litigation.

1998

**Patricia Aaron** (MFA ’98) of Greenwood Village, Colo., exhibited new paintings in summer 2015 at William and Joseph Gallery in Santa Fe, N.M., the SPACE Gallery in Denver and the Curtis Arts and Humanities Center in Greenwood Village, Colo.
Efe Poturoglu (BSBA ’00) of Bethesda, Md., received the Lawyer of the Year Award from the American-Turkish Association of Washington, D.C. Efe’s practice focuses primarily on business and family immigration matters, as well as civil litigation.

Jeremy Weltman (BS ’01) of Boston is a partner at law firm Kerstein, Coren & Lichtenstein LLP. Jeremy received his JD from Northeastern University School of Law and has been named to the Massachusetts Super Lawyers Rising Star list for the past two years.

Travis Maynard (MBA ’02) of Fort Collins, Colo., an associate professor in the department of management at Colorado State University, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar Award and is currently working with faculty members and PhD students at the ISCTE Business School at the Instituto Universitario de Lisboa in Lisbon, Portugal.

Ben Jones (BA ’04) of Santa Monica, Calif., is director and co-founder of Fugitive Games, a company dedicated to creating quality entertainment for players of all ages. The company’s first game, Into the Stars, is available on PC and Macintosh.

Angela Dykema (MRLS ’06) of Reno, Nev., has been appointed deputy director of the Nevada Governor’s Office of Energy, bringing to the office years of experience in wind, solar and geothermal energy development. Before her appointment, Angela worked for Ormat Technologies Inc., where she managed project development, including transmission and interconnection processes, power purchase agreements, bid management and permitting.

Kathryn Troyer (MA ’06) of Denver is assistant director of Global Dental Relief, a Denver-based nonprofit that provides free dental care and oral hygiene care to children in Guatemala, India, Nepal, Cambodia and Kenya.

Carolyn Anders (MBA, MS ’07) of Newtown, Conn., was promoted to sales development manager for New York Life Insurance Co.’s Jacksonville, Fla., general office. She previously was a New York Life agent in the Washington, D.C., area, where she also served as president of the city’s DU alumni chapter.

Adam Becker (BSBA ’07) of Denver was promoted to senior director of marketing, Colorado Avalanche and Colorado Mammoth, at Kroenke Sports & Entertainment.

Lindsay Fryer (BSAC ’07, MACC ’07) of Centennial, Colo., is internal audit principal at Nordstrom FSB, a subsidiary of Nordstrom Inc.

Charles Smith (BSBA ’07, JD ’12) of Highlands Ranch, Colo., was appointed to the associate board for ACE scholarships by Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. Charles, an associate in the Denver office, will advocate for education reform and school choice, host organizational events and work with scholarship recipients.

Spencer Hellmuth (BSBA ’09) is a commercial banking representative at MB Financial Bank in Chicago.

Tommy Miller (BSBA ’09, MBA ’11) of Chicago joined Speedwagon Properties, a private real estate investment firm.

Joe Pellar (BA ’09) of Vail, Colo., is CEO and founder of mywinedeal.com, a website that distributes wine from small boutique wineries at discount prices.

Matthew Contos (MA ’10) of Brooklyn, N.Y., was awarded several grants during his time at DU that helped fund community projects through Kinda Collective, an arts and education community group. Today, Matthew is based in Brooklyn, where he is continuing his artist practice as part of a new company called CONTOS+WIKSWO. The company combines the use of literature, multi-disciplinary art, performance and community research to explore the power dynamics and construction of cultural narratives.

Mila Gates (MA ’10) of Lakewood, Colo., has started her own event and wedding-planning business, Belle du Jour Events.

Sol Richardson (MBA ’10) of Denver owns Rising Sun Distillery, which makes vodka, gin and brandy using mostly local and organic ingredients.

Ryan Shultz (BSBA ’10) of Chicago in July 2013 joined Sterling Partners, a private equity firm. Ryan is an associate on the investment team. Prior to Sterling, Shultz was an analyst at Piper Jaffray & Co. in the health care investment banking group.

Kelly Urig (BA ’10) of San Diego, Calif., authored “New Mexico Chiles: History, Legend and Lore” (Arcadia Publishing and The History Press, 2015), an examination of the role of chiles in New Mexico’s history. Kelly also directed the documentary film “The Chile Film.”
2011

Amanda Hoberg (BA ’11) of Denver has joined the firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck as an associate. Amanda is a member of the litigation department, and her practice focuses on commercial and complex civil litigation.

Eric Larsen (BA ’11) of Portland, Ore., is currently living and working in New Zealand after first being exposed to the country during a DU study-abroad trip. He is a policy analyst for the Ministry of Justice in the capital of Wellington.

Jeffrey Larson (BSBA ’11) of Santa Clara, Calif., is a sales financial analyst at Filemaker Inc.

2012

Ciandra Jackson-Mills (MPS ’12) of Houston is director of communications for Legacy Community Health.

Zachary Mangelsdorf (IMBA ’12) of Avon, Colo., owns Mountain Ski and Bike, which rents and delivers ski gear.

2013

Josh Pinkert (MBA ’13) of Denver was promoted to CIO and vice president of EnCana Corp.

Michael Pugh (MBA ’13) is senior CRM developer/analyst and technical lead at Vail Resorts’ corporate office in Broomfield, Colo. He also is a member of the Daniels Alumni Giving Committee.

2014

Daniel Rosenblum (BSBA ’13) of Littleton, Colo., is managing director of Group One Ventures and a broker with 5th Avenue Properties.

Katelynn Johnson (BS, MAcc ’14) of Denver is an assurance associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Adam Rosen (BSBA ’14) of Denver is lease administrator at CoreSite Realty Corp.

CAREER WEBINARS

DU can help you advance your career with customized life-stage career programming — free for all alumni and available when you need it!

Participate in 90+ live and recorded career webinars featuring nationally recognized experts in these areas:

• CareerSearch: learn the skills you need to get a job
• CareerCamp: geared to the new graduate job search
• CareerDiscussions: topics important to your work experience like diversity, handling difficult people and salary issues
• CareerSkills: soft skills including leadership, teamwork and ethics
• CareerEncores: designed especially to help Baby Boomers prepare for their retirement years

Find out more at alumni.du.edu/careers
In Memoriam

1930s
Harold Dryden (BA ’38), Woodland, Calif., 3-14-15

1940s
George Yasui (BSCHE ’44), Folsom, Calif., 8-16-14
Helen Driscoll (BA ’46, MA ’64), Denver, 4-15-15
Norma Holder (BS ’47), Livermore, Calif., 4-17-15
Patrick Gallavan (BA ’49, MA ’50), Denver, 3-3-15
Vern Klingman (BA ’49), Spokane, Wash., 2-12-15
John Mosley (MSW ’49), Aurora, Colo., 5-22-15
Robert Patten (MA ’49), Brunswick, Maine, 2-21-15

1950s
Donald Day (BA ’53, MA ’58), Denver, 4-9-15
Ronald Barkdoll (BS ’54), Denver, 12-28-14
Cynthia Krueger (attd. 1958), Leawood, Kan., 5-3-14

1960s
Alton Ford (MA ’61, PhD ’68), Denver, 5-12-15
Alicita Hamilton (MA ’68), Denver, 1-21-15
Nancy Colbert (BA ’69), Seattle, 5-6-15
James Smith (BSBA ’69), Centennial, Colo., 3-28-15

1970s
Douglas Bates (JD ’74), Aurora, N.Y., 5-13-15

1980s
Ellen Toll (JD ’82), Anchorage, Alaska, 1-19-15
James McAndrew (BA ’84), Wichita, Kan., 5-1-14
Elsa Haworth (MS ’86), Denver, 3-25-15

1990s
William Beardslee (BA ’93, JD ’97), Arlington, Va., 3-24-15

2000s
Ruth Libby Chaikin (BA ’07), Denver, 4-29-13
Nathan Howells (BA ’08), Portland, Ore., 3-1-15

FACULTY AND STAFF
Deborah Bradford, Office of Sponsored Programs, Denver, 10-14-14
Ralph Fisch, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, Denver, 1-12-15

Alumnus, historian Peter Gay dies at age 91

Renowned intellectual historian Peter Gay—author of more than 25 books, including a much-heralded history of the Enlightenment and a bestselling biography of Sigmund Freud—died May 12, 2015, at the age of 91.

A 1946 graduate of the University of Denver, Gay was born as Peter Fröhlich to a family of Jewish ancestry in Berlin in 1923. With the rise of the Nazis, the Fröhlichs emigrated to Cuba in 1939 and later to the United States, where they changed their name to Gay, the English translation of their surname. The family eventually moved to Denver so that Gay’s mother could be treated for tuberculosis.

After completing his undergraduate studies at DU, Gay received a master’s and PhD from Columbia University in New York. Gay taught history at Columbia from 1962–69, then joined the Yale faculty as a professor of comparative and intellectual European history. Over the years, he turned his scholarly eye to a vast array of topics: a study of Mozart; a history of modernism; an examination of Weimar culture; and what has been called a “revisionist psychohistory of the Victorian middle classes,” the five-volume “The Bourgeois Experience: Victoria to Freud.”

Gay’s work was internationally recognized for its originality and erudition. He won the National Book Award in 1967 for the second volume of “The Enlightenment: An Interpretation.” In 2004, the American Historical Association saluted his achievements with its lifetime distinction award. He also won the prestigious Geschwister-Scholl prize in 1999 for his memoir, “My German Question: Growing up in Nazi Berlin.”

—Tamara Chapman
JOIN
ALUMNIFIRE
THE NETWORK OF DU ALUMNI

Move your career forward with the help of more than 1,100 Pioneers

930 Pioneers are willing to review your resume

Shadow one of 850 Pioneers for first-hand work experience

Find one of thousands of jobs offered by 275 Pioneer employers

Pioneers helping Pioneers

Find help
Make yourself available
Continue to grow our network
du.alumnifire.com
Will This Be Your **first fall?**

YOUR FIRST FALL SINCE GRADUATING FROM DU, THAT IS.

Now is the time to connect (or reconnect) with other Pioneers, right in your own city. DU alumni live in every state and 145 countries. Find your local alumni chapter at alumni.du.edu/chapters, and join fellow alumni in networking, lifelong learning, serving your community and cheering on your favorite Pioneer teams!

Not your first fall? Help welcome new alumni as they become involved in your local chapter and continue the Pioneer experience.

ALUMNI.DU.EDU  ALUMNI@DU.EDU  303.871.2701