Contents

FEATURES
20 HOME-COURT ADVANTAGE
Rodney Billups returns to DU as head coach of men’s basketball
By Kathryn Mayer

24 WHERE ART AND TECH INTERSECT
Emergent Digital Practices program prepares students for the brave new world
By John Wenzel

DEPARTMENTS
6 NEWS
10 RESEARCH
12 ACADEMICS
14 Q&A
16 PEOPLE
18 ARTS
31 ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Cover photo by David Tejada
Once upon a time—way back in the 20th century—attaining a college degree meant accumulating knowledge. That was the end game for students and the basis for the development and advancement of faculty members. Knowledge was divided into fixed disciplines—history, biology, mathematics, psychology—and professionals were specifically trained for such fields as law, business or social work.

Today, the nation and world demand a radically different approach. Employers and civic leaders look to colleges and universities to be forces not only for the public good, but also for positive change. The nature of higher education is rapidly shifting from what I call a “bounded bureaucracy,” defined by academic tradition, to a “porous network” in which knowledge is fluid and collaborative. A byproduct of this shift is that individuals are finding new ways to organize and form communities, as well as to discover, teach and learn. This form of social learning is nonlinear, and the University of Denver faculty and students I’ve come to know are ready for this form of engagement. In fact, they demand it.

The problems we face require solutions that bring together experts from a variety of fields. The University of Denver combines a liberal arts undergraduate program with professional graduate programs in education, law, business, social work, psychology and international studies. This positions us very well to shed the traditional, often arbitrary boundaries of the past and to be a model for a practical liberal arts education designed to meet the needs of the 21st century. Our strategic plan, DU IMPACT 2025, invites us to rethink our structures while building on the strengths that have defined us for more than 150 years.

The strengths of a liberal arts education lie in three basic principles: critical thinking, ethical character, and using knowledge to improve the world. Students who can learn to think critically and who learn the value of community are the students who can make a difference.

DU’s blended model of theory and practice fosters students who are well adapted to the dynamic global landscape. With the help of our academic leaders and innovative faculty-scholars, we are creating a culture that combines 21st-century pedagogies with the drive to address societal needs. That is where the future of liberal arts education is headed.

Creating this culture requires a number of changes and innovations. One critically important change can be seen in the demographics of our DU community. A campus that is diverse ethically, culturally, ideologically, geographically and socioeconomically promotes a culture in which ideas flow freely. Exposure to diverse perspectives challenges current thinking, making students receptive to new ideas and new ways of thinking and learning. And employers continue to emphasize the need for college graduates who are prepared to lead diverse teams and organizations.

Diversity of curricula and pedagogies—what and how we teach—is also paramount today and for the future. Ideally, students will develop a strong foundation of knowledge across myriad disciplines. They will learn how to learn—because their ever-evolving careers in fields we cannot yet fathom will require that they be able to learn and adapt over time. Facilitating collaborations between traditional departments and academic fields will help establish the networks of ideas and information that are crucial for innovation. Our graduates must be curious and resourceful.

We must innovate in the way we teach. Classes based only on lectures and tests will not adequately prepare students to become agents for change and don’t represent the ethos of a 21st-century liberal arts institution. We will immerse our students in the experiential learning, research projects and community-engaged work that have long been offered at DU.

The future of higher education rests both on its traditions and its relevance to the 21st century. The University of Denver is built on more than 150 years of history and tradition that have long served Colorado and the world. The idea behind a truly innovative university is not to replace the old with the new, but to evolve our practices to meet modern needs: ethical leadership, diverse teams, civil discourse and sustainable living.
Chancellor Emeritus Dan Ritchie was on campus for the Oct. 14 opening of the new home for the Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science and the Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging. Ritchie gave $27 million for the construction of the five-floor, 130,000-square-foot facility. Gov. John Hickenlooper declared the day—which was part of Homecoming & Family Weekend—"Dan Ritchie Day" in the former chancellor's honor.
Visit from the vice president

By Jon Stone • Photo by Wayne Armstrong
Vice President Joe Biden delivered the keynote address at the 19th annual Korbel Dinner on Sept. 15. The yearly event benefits programs, scholarships and centers at the University’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies and honors individuals whose leadership and commitment embody the goals established by school founder Josef Korbel.

Biden discussed a wide variety of issues, both international and domestic, at the dinner. He said the U.S. cannot move forward in the eyes of the world without the support of the American people. “Sometimes those of us who focus on international relations and foreign policy lose sight of the need for a broad consensus among the American people for success around the world,” Biden said.

The vice president also had a message to students about the role they will play in making sure the country continues to engage with the international community. “We need leaders like you to make the intellectual case, with rigor and conviction, that the benefits of global engagement far outweigh the cost,” he said.

After addressing the audience in Magness Arena on campus, Biden spent about 15 minutes in nearby Hamilton Gymnasium, visiting with more than 200 students who had gathered there for a watch party of the vice president’s address.

The evening also honored Carrie and John Morgridge, of the Morgridge Family Foundation, as well as Kent Thiry, chairman and CEO of Denver-based DaVita HealthCare Partners.

The Morgridges were presented with the Josef Korbel Humanitarian Award for their longstanding philanthropy and the work they have done around global education, health and wellness, poverty, and the arts. The couple has supported numerous programs and initiatives at DU, including the college of education, which was renamed the Morgridge College of Education in 2007.

Thiry received the University’s International Bridge Builders Award, which recognizes a local community member for achievements in building ties between Colorado and the international community.
Two campus art exhibits this fall explored issues around diversity and cultural heritage.

At the Vicki Myhren Gallery in the Shwayder Art Building, “The Wall/La Pared: Immigration and Identity” examined “the wall” as a metaphor, redefining its meaning in the context of the 2016 election. Artists with direct links to immigration used the exhibit “to explore their identities, to react to the wall, or to leave it behind,” according to a gallery press release. Sponsored in part by Denver’s Museo de las Americas, “The Wall” featured work from 10 Denver artists, including Miguel Tarango (MFA ’05), an alumnus of DU’s Emergent Digital Practices program.

At DU’s Museum of Anthropology, meanwhile, “Tsitsistas: Our Cheyenne Family,” featuring work by Southern Cheyenne artist George Curtis Levi, was on display in October and November. The exhibit was presented as part of Denver’s Indigenous Film and Arts Festival.

“George’s ledger drawings and beadwork tell stories of where the Cheyenne come from, where they are today, and where they are going in the future,” says museum director Anne Amati. “The art and history of the Cheyenne people and the ordeals the Cheyenne people have endured provide George with inspiration and motivation for creating his art.”

Levi was in attendance at the exhibit’s opening reception in October; he also led a drawing workshop for high school and DU students during his time in Denver.

The University of Denver’s Morgridge College of Education has been selected to participate in a national effort to improve principal-preparation programs.

The New York-based Wallace Foundation, which works to foster improvements in learning and enrichment for disadvantaged children, selected seven universities to redesign their principal-preparation programs. Each of those universities then selected a partner program to provide mentorship and support the redesign process. Florida Atlantic University and North Carolina State University both selected the Morgridge College’s Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department (ELPS) to help in their redesign processes.

“This is a great honor, and we are thrilled to be acknowledged by the Wallace Foundation, as well as by our colleagues across the nation,” says Karen Riley, dean of the Morgridge College. “Preparing and supporting leaders in education is one of the most important things that we do.”

The Wallace Foundation’s University Principal Preparation Initiative is committing $47 million to the redesign effort over the next four years. With the funding, the seven universities will review their policies pertaining to university-based principal training and determine if changes would encourage the development of more effective preparation programs.

“School leadership is a powerful driver behind school improvement, with impact on both student and teacher outcomes,” says Susan Korach, department chair of ELPS. “The preparation of our school leaders is a critical lever, and we are very excited to be part of this national project focused on improving principal preparation and district/university partnership.”

As part of the initiative, each university will also partner with at least three school districts to make sure the changes made keep local schools in mind.
NEWS
Daniels College hosts discussion on Denver’s smart city

A Sept. 19 Voices of Experience event hosted by the Daniels College of Business brought Denver Mayor Michael Hancock and Jim Doyle, president of Panasonic Enterprise Solutions, to campus for a discussion about the smart city initiative planned for the area surrounding Denver International Airport.

The city has partnered with Panasonic to create a 400-acre, sustainable, mixed-use, transit-oriented development that will require 20 to 30 years of planning, design and construction—and an investment of roughly $5.6 billion. The vision for the area includes retail and residential spaces powered by a mix of battery storage and solar panels, plus smart lighting, smart parking, interactive digital signage and a move toward autonomous vehicles.

Calling it “one of the most exciting, if not the most exciting, endeavors our company has embarked upon,” Doyle provided context for Panasonic’s partnership with Denver. The company has smart-city initiatives all over the globe, including a community in Fujisawa, Japan, that houses 400 families. As Panasonic sought to expand its efforts to North America, he said, Denver stood out as the logical location for the country’s first smart city.

“Having such a powerful, global transportation hub of this magnitude is extremely important,” Doyle said.

While technology is key to the initiative, both Doyle and Hancock emphasized the human element of the equation.

“At the end of the day, smart cities are about people,” Doyle said. “You have to start with community, mobility, energy, security and safety.”

COMMUNITY
Helping expectant mothers

Through a five-year, $4.2 million grant from the Administration for Children and Families, the University of Denver is partnering with Denver Health to create a new program called MotherWise. Directed by Galena Rhoades, research associate professor of psychology, the program will provide healthy relationship education to expectant mothers.

“Pregnancy and the months following the birth of a new baby are exciting—and they can be hard on parents’ relationships,” Rhoades says. “MotherWise aims to support mothers and their romantic and family relationships through this big event and transition.”

Rhoades has partnered with the Women’s Care Clinic at Denver Health to offer the new program, which will enroll 200–300 women each year for a six-week class on healthy relationships, infant care and parenting. All English- and Spanish-speaking women receiving prenatal care at Denver Health or one of its satellite clinics are eligible for the program. All services are free, including transportation, food and additional support.

Comprehensive case-management services will be offered as well, providing expectant mothers access to a range of other community services including mental health and workforce development training and counseling. Women in the program also will have the opportunity to attend a separate healthy relationship education workshop with a romantic partner.

“Thanks to this grant and the great work being done by Dr. Rhoades and the MotherWise team, hundreds of families in our community will find the support they need,” says DU Chancellor Rebecca Chopp.

A Sept. 19 Voices of Experience event hosted by the Daniels College of Business brought Denver Mayor Michael Hancock and Jim Doyle, president of Panasonic Enterprise Solutions, to campus for a discussion about the smart city initiative planned for the area surrounding Denver International Airport.

The city has partnered with Panasonic to create a 400-acre, sustainable, mixed-use, transit-oriented development that will require 20 to 30 years of planning, design and construction—and an investment of roughly $5.6 billion. The vision for the area includes retail and residential spaces powered by a mix of battery storage and solar panels, plus smart lighting, smart parking, interactive digital signage and a move toward autonomous vehicles.

Calling it “one of the most exciting, if not the most exciting, endeavors our company has embarked upon,” Doyle provided context for Panasonic’s partnership with Denver. The company has smart-city initiatives all over the globe, including a community in Fujisawa, Japan, that houses 400 families. As Panasonic sought to expand its efforts to North America, he said, Denver stood out as the logical location for the country’s first smart city.

“Having such a powerful, global transportation hub of this magnitude is extremely important,” Doyle said.

While technology is key to the initiative, both Doyle and Hancock emphasized the human element of the equation.

“At the end of the day, smart cities are about people,” Doyle said. “You have to start with community, mobility, energy, security and safety.”

COMMUNITY
Helping expectant mothers

Through a five-year, $4.2 million grant from the Administration for Children and Families, the University of Denver is partnering with Denver Health to create a new program called MotherWise. Directed by Galena Rhoades, research associate professor of psychology, the program will provide healthy relationship education to expectant mothers.

“Pregnancy and the months following the birth of a new baby are exciting—and they can be hard on parents’ relationships,” Rhoades says. “MotherWise aims to support mothers and their romantic and family relationships through this big event and transition.”

Rhoades has partnered with the Women’s Care Clinic at Denver Health to offer the new program, which will enroll 200–300 women each year for a six-week class on healthy relationships, infant care and parenting. All English- and Spanish-speaking women receiving prenatal care at Denver Health or one of its satellite clinics are eligible for the program. All services are free, including transportation, food and additional support.

Comprehensive case-management services will be offered as well, providing expectant mothers access to a range of other community services including mental health and workforce development training and counseling. Women in the program also will have the opportunity to attend a separate healthy relationship education workshop with a romantic partner.

“Thanks to this grant and the great work being done by Dr. Rhoades and the MotherWise team, hundreds of families in our community will find the support they need,” says DU Chancellor Rebecca Chopp.
Hope for aging brains

By Jon Stone
Kim Gorgens, a clinical associate professor in DU’s Graduate School of Professional Psychology, has been making headlines for years for her research on traumatic brain injury (TBI). Her 2010 TEDxDU talk on youth sports concussions went viral, and she was involved in drafting and supporting the 2011 Jake Snakenberg Youth Concussion Act for the state of Colorado.

For her latest research project, Gorgens has partnered with Dan Linseman, an associate professor in DU’s Department of Biological Sciences, to study the impact of traumatic brain injuries on aging adults. Together, the researchers hope to uncover the reasons older adults take longer to recover from concussions—and why they suffer more severe consequences than younger people.

“Falls are a huge public health crisis and one of the leading causes of injuries among aging adults,” Gorgens says. “The more we can do about brain injury and reducing the severity, the greater improvement we can provide in terms of quality of life.”

The two theorize that some of the difference in age-dependent recovery is due to aging-related oxidative stress and the depletion of a critical antioxidant in the brain called glutathione. “We are testing a nutritional supplement in mice that will boost levels of glutathione,” Linseman says. “We want to see if we can make them recover more like a younger mouse.”

The project is funded by a pilot grant from DU’s new Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging, which focuses on finding ways to increase the healthy years of life through interdisciplinary coursework, research and collaboration with community partners.

For the first phase of their TBI project, Gorgens and Linseman have partnered with Denver’s Craig Hospital, one of the country’s best hospitals for the rehabilitation of patients with spinal cord and brain injuries.

“If we are able to generate proof that levels of this particular antioxidant are different depending on age and severity of injury, then we can press forward for larger funding,” Gorgens says. “The hope is we can design interventional studies, perhaps a nutritional supplement, that people could take to reduce the severity of a brain injury.”

Learn more about the Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging at du.edu/knoebel-institute-healthy-aging
Every winter since 2002, a group of DU students has made a trip to Dharamsala, a city in India’s Himalayan region that is home to the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government in exile.

International Service Learning (ISL) Dharamsala, one of DU’s longest-running international programs, engages undergraduate and graduate students across disciplines. While in Dharamsala, students learn about the Tibetan sovereignty debate firsthand and hear from former political prisoners and Tibetan advocates about their experiences, which often included torture and hard labor.

It’s a trip that nearly every returning student describes as the most impactful experience of his or her time at DU, says Jordan Farrar, the program’s coordinator.

“Students come away from this program understanding what it means to be a global citizen,” she says.

Tiffany Wilk (BA ’15), who was a senior majoring in international studies and political science during her 2014 trip, says the experience forced her to examine moral and ethical issues.

“This trip helped me work through the delicate issue of ‘voluntourism’—students traveling abroad for volunteer causes,” she says. “And the discussions we had as a group helped us all to process the incredibly difficult and painful things we were seeing on a daily basis.”

The students begin confronting those delicate issues during fall quarter in the course that prefaces the trip. Tibet and the Power of Nonviolence is taught by Farrar and Alan Gilbert, a professor at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies. As part of the class, students complete a research project relevant to their academic interests and to the course topic. In her project, Wilk used Tibet as a basis for comparison in her research on the history of the Palestinian movement for human rights and freedom.

When fall quarter ends, the students head for Dharamsala, where they spend three weeks immersed in Tibetan history and culture. Kristin Kirlew-Bent (MA ’15) participated in the course during her second year in the Korbel School’s Global Finance Trade and Economic Integration program. While in Dharamsala, she worked at the Gamru Village School, which serves the city’s underprivileged Indian children. “My responsibility was to plan lessons, review previously taught
information and grade assignments,” she says. “However, I feel like my most important responsibility was having positive, joyful interactions with the children, many of whom come from poverty and face domestic abuse.”

The DU group typically spends most of its afternoons at Gu Chu Sum, an organization that supports former political prisoners seeking refuge in India after fleeing Tibet. The students meet individually with the newly arrived Tibetans as language partners, listening to their stories and helping them practice English.

“One of the most important roles I had as a student volunteer was to listen,” Kirlew-Bent says. “The Tibetan people wanted us to know the struggle they have faced—and continue to face—and share it with others so that acknowledgement, awareness and support can be brought to their cause.”

Students benefit from the chance to put their learning into practice, Farrar says. “That’s really what service learning is—it’s taking that classroom piece and putting it into practice in some kind of community.”

The trip may only last three weeks, but students say they are profoundly changed by their time in Dharamsala. “The most significant aspect of the trip was studying a particular social justice movement, and then being on the ground with the movers and shakers of that movement,” Wilk says. “We studied Tibetan nonviolence and met daily with representatives from various advocacy groups experiencing the movement daily. That’s an experience you never forget.”

“Apart from being on the ground, people did a lot of work with us,” Kirlew-Bent says. “They read our work and told us about their experiences.”

Upon returning home, I was more committed to my activist work in Denver,” Wilk says. “This trip certainly helped me to have a more balanced and more well-rounded worldview.”
Q&A
A new age of research at DU

By Greg Glasgow • Photo by Wayne Armstrong
From engineering to psychology, biology to social work, mathematics to law, University of Denver faculty members bring in millions of dollars each year to conduct research on behalf of federal, state and local governments, as well as corporations and foundations. The money is a boon not just to faculty members, but to the undergraduate and graduate students who play a vital part in the research process.

Under Corinne Lengsfeld, DU’s associate provost of research, the University has gone from approximately $19 million per year in research funding to $25.5 million last year.

Q: DU’s research funding is at a 15-year high. What types of opportunities do these grants provide for students?
A: It’s an incredible, life-changing experience for them, especially if they are engaged in a project for multiple years. Two years ago, when we were developing the University’s strategic plan, DU IMPACT 2025, one of the things that really struck me when we were meeting with students—graduate or undergraduate—was that the No. 1 thing they would talk about as being the best part of their education was being involved in research. It is a really impressive way for a student to learn different things.

Q: Are there more research possibilities for students at DU than there would be at a larger school?
A: I think the quality of the interaction is different. I came from a larger-background school myself, and when we did undergraduate research, a lot of the students were given more menial tasks in the research activities. A lot of the time it was lower-level tasks that didn’t allow them to be creative or innovative. At DU, because we have a balanced undergraduate-graduate population, faculty can’t do all their research just with graduate students. They must bring undergraduates in and demand of them almost master’s-level activity.

Q: How would you describe our research expertise? Are there certain areas that DU is known for?
A: We’ve had an amazing diversification of our research portfolio over the last 10 years. We used to be very heavy in sciences, psychology and engineering, but over the last decade or so, we’ve expanded our funding to include almost every division. Among our areas of specialty are child and family welfare and mental health, early childhood education, biophysics and biomechanics, robotics, international forecasting, and peace building.

Q: What about our research facilities? How do those measure up?
A: We’ve been able to invest more in infrastructure recently than we have in the past 15 years. Not just in facilities, but in equipment. In the Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science, where they just opened a phenomenal new building, we’ve been able to invest in some critical equipment that allows the faculty to operate one of the best facilities in the country. Our facilities also play a huge role in attracting faculty and students.

Q: What is your ultimate goal for DU as a research university?
A: By 2025, I would like our annual research expenditure volume to increase to a level between $30 million and $40 million during the same period of time. If we can approach or break $40 million, we will be in a very unique field of schools, especially among private universities.
The voice

By Madeline Phipps (MA '16) • Photo illustration by Wayne Armstrong
For most Coloradans, autumn Sundays are synonymous with one thing—Denver Broncos football. DU alumnus Conor McGahey (BA ’07), who this year became the public-address announcer at Broncos home games, has a unique perspective on the blue-and-orange mania that overtakes Denver each weekend.

In the booth for all of the Broncos’ home games, McGahey announces the results of each play—from yardage gained to the players involved to the famous “IN-COM-PLETE” chant that gets the crowd going. While McGahey’s announcement of each play sounds effortless, it actually involves a lot of attention. He keeps track of the action with the help of a spotter. They work as a team—McGahey observes the offense, while his spotter focuses on the defense and the yardage.

“With all the factors involved, usually between the two of us we can get the action announced pretty easily,” he says. “All of these different gears are working together, and hopefully it comes out OK.”

McGahey’s path to becoming the voice of one of the NFL’s most successful franchises started early. His family had season tickets to the Denver Nuggets and the Colorado Avalanche and also attended DU hockey games, traveling from their home in Breckenridge to cheer for the Pioneers. He was 9 years old, watching a Denver Grizzlies hockey game with his dad in 1994 when, McGahey says, he was mesmerized by the voice of longtime Denver sports announcer Alan Roach, who was calling the game. “The fact that that kind of voice was live in the building fascinated me,” he says. “I remember thinking for the first time that this line of work might be a possibility.”

While the Grizzlies lasted only one season in Colorado, McGahey’s passion for sports and broadcasting continued. He started calling high school games at age 14, and his future career started taking shape when he came to DU to study journalism. “I arrived at DU, and I just started asking if they needed any sports announced,” McGahey says. His persistence paid off, and he ultimately connected with assistant athletic director Angel Field. Field arranged for McGahey to announce a range of DU games, from women’s lacrosse to hockey. “I owe her a lot,” he says. “It sounds so clichéd, but usually all you need is a chance.”

McGahey also eagerly took on any chance to announce that happened to come his way. At one basketball game during his sophomore year, the scheduled announcer failed to show. “I was playing in the pep band at the time,” McGahey remembers, “and they literally looked around and said, ‘Can anyone fill in?’ I took off my saxophone and said, ‘I got it!’”

McGahey also credits his idol, Roach, with mentoring him and helping him in his career. They met when McGahey wrote a profile of Roach for the Clarion. Roach, who announced for the Broncos until 2015, called Pioneer hockey games while the NHL was on strike in 2004. When he had to miss DU hockey games because of his commitments with the Broncos, he recommended McGahey for the challenge.

As McGahey puts it, his success at an early age was “mostly dumb luck.” When the Avalanche played an intersquad exhibition game at DU in 2005, McGahey was invited to announce. That led to a meeting with the team’s game director, and then an announcing job. McGahey continued announcing for the Avalanche after graduating and also announced for the Denver Outlaws and the Colorado Rapids. When Roach left the Broncos to work for the Minnesota Vikings last summer, McGahey took over his role.

Despite working for one of the game’s powerhouse teams, McGahey says he doesn’t feel too much pressure. “I know what the Broncos mean to this town, but at the same time I have to look at every event the same way,” he says. “Extra pressure just creates more mistakes.”

“I’ve tried to imitate other announcers, but it didn’t work out as well. I just try and sound like me.”

Video: Conor McGahey on the mic at a Broncos game: magazine.du.edu
Linda Wang, a violin professor at the Lamont School of Music, works with one of the winners of a competition for young musicians that she judged this year in China. Wang received the United Methodist Church University Scholar/Teacher of the Year Award at the Oct. 26 Faculty and Staff Awards Luncheon, where six faculty members, three staff members and one department were recognized for their contributions to DU.

photo by Wayne Armstrong
Pioneer Rodney Billups returns to his alma mater as head coach of the men’s basketball team

Rodney Billups never expected his career to turn out the way it did.

He dreamed about playing professional basketball. He wanted to be a business owner. Retire early. Follow in the footsteps of his brother Chauncey Billups—the former NBA star and arguably the best player to ever come out of Denver.

Coaching never figured into the equation.

BY KATHRYN MAYER (BA ’07, MA ’10)
“It was never one of the things I wanted to do,” says the former University of Denver star, who served as the Pioneers’ starting point guard from 2002–05. “When you’re young and you have some celebrity and you think you’re good, you think you can play forever.”

But life took unexpected turns: His mother’s cancer diagnosis cut his professional playing career in Europe short after two years. He returned to Denver, replacing basketball with business, serving stints at an investment firm and a personal lifestyle company. He was good at it, he says, but his heart remained with hoops.

He returned to the game in a different way in 2010, when he joined the coaching staff at the University of Colorado as director of basketball operations. He was responsible for a lot of the team’s grunt work: compliance, travel, organizing summer camps, acting as the team’s liaison in academia.

“That experience was fun and frustrating because I wanted to be on the floor; I wanted to coach,” he says. “Coach [Tad] Boyle saw something in me and bumped me up to assistant coach.”

After four years at that post, Billups got a call from the University of Denver. And just like that, he returned to his alma mater in March 2016 as head coach of the men’s basketball team.

“It’s surreal,” he says. “It means the world to me to be back here and have this opportunity. There’s nothing I want to do the rest of my life except coach.”

At 34, Billups is one of the youngest head coaches in Division I history. It’s a fact he acknowledges could have worked against him: “I have no head coaching experience. They went out on a limb to hire me,” he says. “I’m going to prove to everyone who doesn’t think I should have this position that I’m worthy of it.”

Billups has the stats to support his argument. The former Pioneers standout and Denver native remains among DU’s all-time leaders in assists and steals, and he helped DU end a 46-year NIT drought in 2005. He earned three all-team Sun Belt Conference honors his senior year. And with Billups on the sidelines in Boulder, the CU Buffaloes had six straight seasons of postseason play and made the NCAA Tournament every season except one.

Peg Bradley-Doppes, vice chancellor for athletics and recreation, says Billups’ energy and “passion for the collegiate game” makes him the right man for the job—one with the potential to lead the team into “an exciting new era.”

“Rodney was an outstanding student-athlete who embodied the characteristics of a successful Pioneer,” Bradley-Doppes says. “He has taken those traits with him into his coaching career. We’re confident in his ability to create and develop a winning environment here.”

Billups has the chance to make a significant impact on DU’s program, which suffers a less-than-stellar history. The team, which finished last in the Summit League in scoring in 2015–16, has never made it to the NCAA Tournament. Perhaps more significantly, lackluster fan support has
plagued the program. Attendance at games last year averaged just 1,675—a 67 percent decrease from 2012. The sport consistently has been in the shadow of DU’s hockey team—seven-time NCAA champions—and, more recently, the Pioneers lacrosse team, which has made four Final Four appearances since 2010 and took home its first national championship in 2015.

Billups knows he faces a big challenge. “It’s really hard to change the culture,” he admits. “Everyone in the city loves coming to hockey games. But there’s no reason we can’t share it. And that all comes with success. Denver’s a city where, when you’re winning, everything’s great and people are showing up and it’s exciting. But when you lose, no one is around. We have to do our job as a staff to recruit good players and create some energy and make the fan experience better than it’s been.

“If we don’t win, I can’t expect people to start talking about it,” he continues. “It takes a village: It takes the students coming to the games, it takes the community coming to the games, it takes us to put a good product on the floor and the student-athletes playing really hard. It’s a chain effect.”

Billups has advantages—in addition to his recognizable last name—when it comes to connecting with current and potential players. He has his own personal DU experiences to share, which makes it easy for players to relate to him.

“It was fun,” he says of his three years playing at DU. “I still have the relationship with my teammates. I would do it 10 times over.”

His experience off the court was just as significant, he says. “A lot of people want the big-school experience, but small schools are where it’s at,” he says. “You have relationships with your professors, and you know everyone. It’s easier that way. It’s really a family.”

A graduate of the Daniels College of Business, Billups credits DU with introducing him to a whole new culture—one much different than that at George Washington High School in northeast Denver, where Billups led the state in steals and assists for three seasons.

“Going to management classes, learning about different personality types and learning how to interact in professional atmospheres … it’s priceless,” he says of his business education. “I would have never thought being a business major and focusing on management would help me become a basketball coach, but I reflect on things I learned every day.”

Perhaps the biggest asset Billups brings to DU’s program is his pure, unadulterated love of the game—one he inherited when he was just a toddler.

“My dad put basketball in the house [when I was] very, very young,” he says. “I would watch my brother and my dad play when I was very little, and I always wanted to be like both of them. Basketball was the common thread. It’s always been a part of our life.”

Does he look at the game differently now as a coach? “Absolutely,” he says. “When you’re a student-athlete, you love the competition of it. It’s a good stress reliever for the kids; you can go out there and talk some smack and forget about every adversity. There are no cell phones; there are no parents; it’s just you and your guys.”

But now, as a coach, “I love the preparation of it,” he says. “I’m preparing our guys to compete in practice, to compete in games, to compete in life. When you’re in the moment, you kind of have tunnel vision. But as a coach, it’s a little more fun to sit back and say, ‘OK, I taught them that, and it works and it feels really good.’ That’s the fun part of it.”

Age: 34
Hometown: Denver
High School: George Washington
Hired: March 2016
Prior to DU: Served six seasons at the University of Colorado Boulder, first as director of basketball operations, then as assistant coach.
He has become a familiar sight around campus—a lanky guy in sunglasses and cap who waits until dark, rides his giant tricycle up to a building, busts out a projector and starts blasting colorful, eye-catching 3-D images onto the existing architecture.

Travis Powell, 23, a student in DU’s Emergent Digital Practices (EDP) program, is the mastermind behind the traveling exhibit known as Mobile Projection DU. His vehicle mashes 19th and 21st century together in a bizarrely practical whole. Black matte-painted 2x4s have been measured, sawed and nailed together to support sophisticated mechanical equipment and software. Powell, who endlessly tinkers with the contraption, is hoping to add a mobile generator, having found himself without access to electrical outlets on more than one occasion.

“He just needs little feathers to make it look like a flight simulator. That would totally complete the Leonardo da Vinci aspect,” says Laleh Mehran, a professor and graduate director for the five-year-old EDP program. “It’s quite a funny sight to
see this 6’5” guy on this thing, which is basically like a Pee-wee Herman bike. People always ask me, ‘Is he one of your students?’”

Elegance and tradition have their places in more established disciplines. Emergent Digital Practices—which embraces everything from socially conscious video games to public art and scholarly critique—is another beast entirely. A fusion of DU’s former Digital Media Studies and Electronic Media Arts & Design programs, EDP has evolved just about as rapidly as the tools and theories it builds upon, forcing students and teachers to constantly update their thinking about the ways in which art and technology interact.

“Failure is deeply embedded as a part of our process,” says Rafael Fajardo, an associate professor and director for EDP. “We want folks to fail, or we expect them to fail at first—to fail fast, fail often, and then, to quote Beckett, ‘Fail better.’”

**Digital dimensions**

Fajardo, Mehran and Associate Professor Christopher Coleman are among the EDP program’s small core of faculty members. All three are accomplished artists and engineers who have worked with major civic organizations, galleries, museums and international software groups on innovative art projects that often involve students. EDP has been a collaborator on several downtown Denver events, including 2016’s SuperNova, an outdoor festival of digital animation and art, and 2014’s OhHeckYeah, a series of interactive video games designed to build community.

“My experience of the projects that have come out of [EDP] is that there is incredible fluidity between their role as art, invention and idea generators,” says Adam Lerner, director and “chief animator” at the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. “Art truly becomes a form of research, and projects always intersect with practical issues.”

The second floor of the Shwayder Art Building is home to a cluster of EDP workspaces with names like the Cloud, C-Cubed Studios, the Nexus and the Node. The spaces graft tech sensibilities onto fine art and design practices, providing hands-on experience with the technology that is increasingly defining global commerce, culture and politics. A configurable space for installation and performance art, featuring 12 speakers and eight projectors, adjoins a workspace for wearable technology and 3-D printing. A computer lab with the latest in Apple hardware overlooks a lounge area where students and faculty gather to discuss their work.

“I like that [EDP has] an all-encompassing approach to media and culture studies, including historical and philosophical theory,” says Alessandra Pearson, a 27-year-old graduate student in the program. “We’re getting hands-on
with all sorts of different things. I have no idea exactly where this is going to lead. But I’m under the impression, based on the amount we’re being exposed to, that whatever you come into it thinking you’re going to do will definitely evolve.”

**Reality bytes**

Granted, most college programs are designed to lead students through a mixture of the practical and the abstract. But EDP tosses them a machete to cut through fertile yet uncharted fields, including data visualization, “humane” video games, open-source educational software, nonprofit smartphone apps and disruptive social media.

Alumni and current students include entrepreneurs like Gabriel Walford, who founded the hip digital marketing company BausCode; Bryan Waddell, a partner and creative director at Cleveland tech company CivitasNow; Matilda Asuzu, technology specialist for Denver’s Arapahoe Library District; and working artists Cory Metcalf and Sarah Richter.

“I’m doing a bachelor of fine arts, so all of my time is spent in EDP,” says 21-year-old Ben Efrem, who plans to graduate in 2017 with plenty of real-world experience in interactive art installations. “We’ve done pieces that try to make spaces more lively and active, like during winter quarter last year, when we 3-D modeled a mountain outside the Ellie Caulkins Opera House [in downtown Denver]. We had a webcam booth set up, and people could get their faces projected up onto this giant structure along 14th Street.”

The classroom dynamic—projects, essays and grades—is still present in EDP, but so is a collaborative push that introduces students directly to real-world nonprofits and software companies.

“I really like how EDP gets you face-to-face with clients,” says Efrem, who started at DU as a theater major before switching to EDP. “And the classes deal with diverse forms of art, so that enables us to get diverse clients. It definitely motivates you to do your best.”

Despite its relatively low mainstream profile, EDP is already well established in the Rocky Mountain region’s academic, artistic and tech circles. Count Ivar Zeile, director of Plus Gallery and Denver Digerati, among the program’s proponents.

“EDP is the only focused program that I know of in the state that’s really pushing the intersection of technology and art in ways that are concurrent with today’s most progressive new-media movements,” Zeile says. “Their impressive faculty is not only constantly gaining international recognition for their efforts, but paving the way for students who are proving themselves across state and national lines. I’ve learned so much through my intersections with their students the last five years, and I am thankful for the tremendous role they play in our community.”

[Video: Mobile Projection DU takes to campus: magazine.du.edu]
Denver’s first snowfall of the 2016 fall-winter season came on Nov. 16, close to tying the record for latest first snow—Nov. 21, 1934. The snow came just in time for students to get a taste of Colorado winter before finishing finals and heading home for break.

photo by Wayne Armstrong
A seed today, a legacy tomorrow.

Change a student’s life, leave an enduring legacy, shape DU for future generations. Establish a scholarship in your estate, and your generosity can be matched today through DU’s Momentum Scholarship Challenge.

For more info, contact Steve Shineman, Senior Director of Gift Planning, at 303-871-2315 or Steve.Shineman@du.edu.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 VENDORS!

5280 Sliders
Arepas
Asbury Provisions
Ben and Jerry’s
Carve
Crimson and Gold Tavern
DUGS
Duffeyroll
Famous Dave’s Bar-B-Que
Fat Shacks
Illegal Pete’s
Jimmy Johns
Little India
Mustard’s Last Stand
Nishi
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Pasquini’s Pizzeria
Patxi’s Pizza
Redbird Farms
Redford’s Tavern
Repici’s
Spokey’s Roadhouse
Spooked Rabbit Waffles
Trader Joe’s
Xing Tea
Yours Truly Cupcakes

SEE YOU AT HOMECOMING 2017

Vendor interested in next year? Contact us at ua.events@du.edu or 303-871-2777
A group of people walk out of DU’s Foreign Student Center—later renamed the Center for International Education—in this photo from October 1971. Do you recognize anyone in this picture or have memories of international educational experiences at DU?

Email us at du-magazine@du.edu
1950  
Ronald “Ronnie” Zall (BS ’50, JD ’52) of Denver authored the chapter on “Succession of Leadership in a Family Business” in “The Handbook of Board Governance” (Wiley, 2016). Ronald—who served as an adjunct professor at DU’s Daniels College of Business for nine years—also was honored by the National Association of Corporate Directors in Washington for his service as a founding member, director, author and lecturer since 1978.

1957  
Sheldon Friedman (BSBA ’57, LLB ’60) of Cherry Hills Village, Colo., is a writer, playwright and retired lawyer whose new book, “The Velvet Prison,” recently was published by Custom Books Hong Kong. The work of historical fiction traces the lives of a young man who wants to be an artist and a young woman aspiring to be a Broadway star.

1963  
Marlow Ediger (EDD ’63) of North Newton, Kan., has co-authored 31 textbooks in teaching curriculum, supervision and administration for Discovery Publishing House. He also has had more than 1,000 manuscripts published in educational journals around the world.

1966  
Robert “Bob” Gray (BSBA ’66) and his wife, Vicki Adler Gray (BSBA ’62, MPA ’66), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with friends at their home in North Tustin, Calif., on Aug. 27, 2016. The Grays are annual contributors to DU’s James and Jean Johnston and Lee and Virginia Evans Scholarship Funds.

1969  
Joe Andrade (PhD ’69) of Salt Lake City is the author of the political novel “State Change.”

Heidi McNamar (BSBA ’69) of Westbrook, Conn., is serving a two-year term on the board of directors for Soroptimist, a global volunteer organization of women who work to improve the lives of women and girls around the world through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. Heidi, who is the co-owner of Krause Caterers Inc., also volunteers with theYWCA.

1975  
Richard Rose (BA ’75) of Tucson, Ariz., was inducted into the American Advertising Federation’s (AAF) Hall of Fame in September. His previous AAF awards include Advertising Professional of the Year in 2011 and the Silver Medal in 2014. Richard is president and CEO of Film Creations Ltd., a full-service film and video production company.

1976  
William “Bill” Hildenbrand (MSW ’76) stepped down in June from leading Denver’s Savio program for children and families. Bill led the nonprofit organization—which offers 14 different family-based programs throughout Colorado—for 37 years. Bill and his wife, Maggie, have two sons, Simon and Nevin.

1976  

1982  
Peter Clothier (BA ’82) of Colorado Springs, Colo., has practiced medicine at Dublin Primary Care and other locations in Colorado Springs for 27 years. In 2016, Colorado Springs Style Magazine named him one of the Top Docs in Family Medicine for the second year in a row.

1985  
Tom Segady (PhD ’85) of Colorado Springs, Colo., is professor emeritus of sociology at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Tom, who served as a professor in the university’s Department of Anthropology, Geography and Sociology for 27 years, delivered the commencement address at the school’s summer graduation ceremony in August 2016.

1986  
Stefan Kruszelnyckyj (BS ’86) of Lakewood, Colo., was recognized as part of a two-person team and as an individual contributor at the 2016 Colorado Press Association convention. Stefan, a photographer at the Denver Herald Dispatch, received first-place honors for Best Photo Essay and Best News Photograph.
1989

Annie Dawid (PhD ’89) of Monument, Colo., is author of the novel “York Ferry,” which won the 2016 international fiction division of the U.K.-based Rubery Book Award. Her poetry chapbook, “Anatomie of the World,” will be published by Finishing Line Press in 2017. Annie is also an artist and had two pieces on display at the Cottonwood Center for the Arts in Colorado Springs in fall 2016.

1991

Michael Moberg (BSBA ’91) of Saint Paul, Minn., is a principal at workplace law firm Jackson Lewis P.C. In September, he was appointed to the Minnesota State Bar Association Labor & Employment Law Certification Board.

1997

Michelle Geter (BSBA ’97) has joined the New York City office of law firm Rawle & Henderson LLP, focusing in the area of medical professional liability. Michelle clerked for New York Supreme Court Justice Alexander Hunter Jr. from March 2013–May 2014 and served as an honors prosecution extern with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York from January to May 2012.

Patrick Heck (BA ’97) is chief commercial officer-executive vice president for global development at Denver International Airport, where he is in charge of commercial properties, concessions, parking and ground transportation, air service development, airline affairs, and strategic partnerships and economic development.

PROFILE
DIRECTOR
Regan Linton (MSW ’10)

Regan Linton, who received a master’s degree from DU’s Graduate School of Social Work in 2010, made theater history this fall when she became the first person in a wheelchair to be named artistic director of a major U.S. theater company.

And it makes perfect sense that the company in question is Phamaly, a Denver-based professional troupe that produces plays and musicals cast entirely of performers with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. It’s a company that Linton first encountered in 2005 as a longtime actress looking to return to the stage after a severe spinal cord injury.

“I’ve always performed—I was in musicals in high school—but in college I discovered theater for social change. I was doing theater in a way that was not just entertainment, but can also make a social impact,” Linton says. “Then, when I was injured, it was kind of like this weird blessing in a way. It was like, ‘I see a greater purpose here.’ I’ve been given a greater purpose by virtue of what my body is now, and I’m creating social change just by getting on stage. Acquiring a spinal cord injury changed the nature of how I engage with theater and what I see the purpose of theater to be.”

She discovered part of that purpose at DU, where her interest in social work found its truest expression through her passion for theater. A performer with Phamaly while she was in grad school, Linton began to see how the two fields were connected.

“One of the biggest things that I discovered was that social work was largely about empathy and being able to put yourself in someone else’s shoes, and that’s exactly what I do as an actor,” she says. “I made the connection that in some ways theater can be social work—it is one of the greatest forms of creating empathy.”

—Greg Glasgow

phamaly.org
The 50-year reunion of the Class of 1967 will take place on campus June 9–10. Attendees can take part in campus tours, faculty and student panel discussions, a visit with Chancellor Rebecca Chopp, participation in the Class of 2017 Commencement ceremony and more. Visit du.edu/alumni/reunion for details.

The rho chapter of the Delta Zeta sorority was founded at the University of Denver on April 14, 1917. The chapter will celebrate its 100th birthday over the course of three days in April with events including a cocktail reception, a banquet and a brunch. Visit deltazetadu.com/centennial-celebration or call alumna Lindsay Fryer at 720-244-0413 for more information.

On Sept. 15, members of the law school’s Class of 1964 gathered for a reunion celebration. The group toured the law school and campus, enjoyed lunch with law school Dean Bruce Smith and Chancellor Rebecca Chopp, sat in on a torts class taught by Associate Dean and Professor Catherine Smith, and ended the day with a social hour and dinner at the Cactus Club.

Lars Lund (BSBA ’74) reports that the Norwegian alumni chapter had its annual golf tournament outside Oslo in September. Fourteen former DU students participated in the event, which raised $1,500 for the Willy Schaeffler Norwegian Endowed Scholarship Fund at DU.
1998

David Harston (JD ’98, MA ’99) of Louisville, Colo., was selected as Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers in Immigration Law. David is managing partner at Denver-based immigration law firm Elkind Alterman Harston.

Mary Rhinehart (MBA ’98) of Denver is president and CEO of insulation and roofing supply company Johns Manville. She received the Spirit Award from the Colorado-Wyoming chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in September. The award is presented annually in recognition of service to the MS community and contributions to society and the common good.

1999

Joy Armstrong (BA ’99) of Colorado Springs, Colo., was named curator of modern and contemporary art at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Joy previously was the center’s acting museum director and chief curator. Before that, Joy served as assistant director of galleries for the Kent State University School of Art, as director of the Eells Gallery in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and as senior exhibition technician at the Akron Art Museum.

2000

Misti Klarenbeek-McKenna (MSW ’00) of Wheat Ridge, Colo., is program director at Denver Family Institute (DFI). Misti and Robert Allan, assistant professor at the University of Colorado Denver, presented results from their DFI research study, “The Impact of a Reflecting Team on Hope in Couples,” at the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy conference in Indianapolis in September 2016. She and Robert will present further findings at the International Family Therapy Association conference in Spain in March 2017.

Everything he needed to know about opening a brewery, Wyatt Patterson learned in business school.

That’s because Patterson, like many graduate students at DU’s Daniels College of Business, entered his MBA program with a specific business idea in mind. For Patterson, that idea was Storm Peak Brewing Co., which he and his brother Tyler opened in Steamboat Springs, Colo., in June 2014.

“We had spent a long time in the garage, toiling away making beer, and when I decided to come to DU and get my MBA, there were a lot of classes and projects based around entrepreneurial stuff,” Wyatt Patterson says. “I took a business plan class, and I wrote the business plan for the brewery in the class. I spent the whole two years of grad school focused on learning how to run and manage this business.”

His dedication paid off—after two and a half years, Storm Peak already has plans to increase production and to enlarge its tasting room, which is one of just a few places in Steamboat for beer geeks to gather. Storm Peak quickly has become a favorite spot both for locals and for tourists in town during ski season.

“We really feel like we’re part of the community up there,” Patterson says. “We’re very involved in everything going on in the town. You don’t get that in a bigger city.”

In October, the Patterson brothers were in Denver for the Great American Beer Festival (GABF), one of the country’s largest beer fests and expos. It’s a chance for brewers to get their beers in front of new potential customers—and an opportunity for them to share stories and advice with other small breweries from around the country, many of which share the same struggles.

“It’s great seeing people who you might only see once a year during GABF. It’s good to connect back with them and see what’s going on in their world,” Wyatt says. “We’re all artists in our own right, so we enjoy sharing our product and talking about it. Everybody’s passionate about what they do.”

—Greg Glasgow

stormpeakbrewing.com

**ALUMNI CONNECTIONS**

**PROFILE**

**BREWER**

Wyatt Patterson (MBA ’13)

**2003**

**Gregory Shoss** (BSEE ‘03) of Littleton, Colo., is an electrical engineer in the Denver office of S-E-A, which provides forensic analysis, investigation and product testing. Prior to joining S-E-A, Shoss worked as a product manager, application engineer, senior power systems engineer and field service engineer for Eaton Corp.

**2004**

**Hannah Seigel Proff** (BA ’04) of Denver founded and operates Learn Your Rights in Colorado, a nonprofit that teaches kids about their constitutional rights in the classroom. Hannah was awarded a Public Television American Graduate Champion Award for her work in the community.

**2005**

**Rebecca Kelley** (BSAC ’05) of Aurora, Colo., helps lead the accounting solutions group at Denver accounting, audit and tax firm EKS&H. She also is a member of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

**2006**

**Danielle Gibson** (BSBA ’06) is events and promotions manager for the Concept Entertainment Group (CEG) and Grand Central Bowl in Portland, Ore. CEG is a Portland-based restaurant group with locations in Oregon, Texas and Colorado, including the Thirsty Lion Gastropubs in Denver.

**2007**

**Allison Jones** (BSME ’07) of Colorado Springs, Colo., competed in her eighth Paralympic Games in September in Rio de Janeiro. Allison, who was born without a right femur, was the U.S. flag bearer at the opening ceremonies of the games, where she competed in four cycling events.
Emily (Hungerford) Rubin (BA ’07) married Andrew Rubin (LLM ’13) on Jan. 2, 2016, at Temple Emanuel in Denver. The couple resides in Denver.

2008

Marjorie Eastman (MA ’08) of Pleasant View, Tenn., is author of “The Frontline Generation: How We Served Post 9/11.” Marjorie served as a U.S. Army intelligence officer and commander for 10 years, including combat deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. Her book captures the leadership lessons she learned serving in the military after 9/11.

Jessica Noffsinger (MA ’08) of Pleasant View, Tenn., is author of “The Frontline Generation: How We Served Post 9/11.” Jessica was one of 213 recipients of the 2016 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She was honored in a ceremony in Washington in September. Jessica teaches eighth-grade science and engineering at STEM Magnet Lab School in Northglenn, Colo.

2009

Hillary (Prag) Frances (MA ’09) of Denver is co-founder of Prodigy Coffeehouse, a nonprofit social enterprise coffee shop and youth apprenticeship program that teaches self-direction and barista skills to young adults. Apprentices receive financial-literacy training, career guidance and directed activities designed to improve their skills in communication, creativity and collaboration.

Philip Pauli (BA ’09) of Lakewood, Colo., is policy and practice director at RespectAbility, a nonprofit organization working to empower people with disabilities to achieve the American dream. He communicates with state leaders and workforce agencies on best practices for employing people with disabilities under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and addressing issues related to competitive integrated employment. Prior to RespectAbility, Pauli spent several years working on advocacy and policy at a nonprofit focused on traumatic brain injury.

Koby Polaski (JD ’09) of Edwards, Colo., has joined Denver-based immigration law firm Elkind Alterman Harston PC as senior attorney.

2010

Greg Sullivan (MBA ’10) in September became retail chief operating officer of Vail Resorts Inc., based in Broomfield, Colo. Greg previously held executive-level positions at Crocs and Walmart.
Frederic Hamilton, whose generosity helped transform the University of Denver campus, died Sept. 30 at the age of 89. Along with his wife, honorary life trustee Jane Hamilton, Hamilton did much to transform Denver and DU. On the north side of campus, the Hamilton Gymnasium serves as a practice facility for a number of varsity teams, while on the south side of campus, the Frederic C. Hamilton Recital Hall is one of three performance venues at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts. Inside the Anderson Academic Commons, which houses the University’s main library, the Hamilton Atrium provides a bright, open area where students can gather. And in the new home for the Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science, an auditorium on the fourth floor has been named after the Hamiltons.

The Hamiltons’ impact extends well beyond DU. Fred Hamilton was appointed to the Denver Art Museum’s (DAM) board of trustees in 1977. He became chairman of the board in 1994 and led the DAM through its largest expansion project. The 146,000-square-foot Frederic C. Hamilton building bears his name. In 2014, he bequeathed 22 Impressionist artworks from his personal collection. The collection, on display on the museum’s sixth floor, is the largest gift of art in the museum’s history.
2011
Shane Eric-Eugene Hensinger (MA ’11) of Fairfax, Calif., was elected to the board of the Shanti Project, a San Francisco nonprofit that provides support and services to people suffering from terminal, life-threatening or disabling illnesses or conditions. Shane also is honorary consul for the Republic of Seychelles.

Rafael Hernandez (MBA ’12) of New York is an analyst at Bellwether Enterprise Real Estate Capital (BWE), where he sizes and screens commercial multifamily loans. Before BWE, Rafael was at Cushman & Wakefield’s global headquarters in Manhattan.

Joanna Foss (MA ’14) of Columbia, Mo., has been elected executive board student representative for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology, an international organization that promotes the field of sport psychology. Joanna is a doctoral student in counseling psychology at the University of Missouri, where she works with athletes and coaches in the athletic department as a mental performance coach.

2012
Jesse Fishman (JD ’12) of Cheyenne, Wyo., has been elected to serve a one-year term as president of the young lawyers section of the Wyoming State Bar. Jesse is an attorney at Hathaway & Kunz, where her practice focuses on business formation, commercial litigation, property disputes and personal injury matters. She also worked for an organization that recruited and trained women to run for political office.

2014
Evette Allen (PhD ’14) of Price, Utah, is director of student life, leadership and involvement at Utah State University Eastern. She recently was named one of 30 Women to Watch in Salt Lake City by Utah Business magazine. Evette, whose research focuses on social justice and the experiences of students of color, is involved in various community projects, including a college- and career-preparation program for students of color in Salt Lake City.

2016
Pamela Gray (MPS ’16) of Lexington, Ky., was named senior director of philanthropy for the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Pamela, who previously was director of development and gift planning at Rice University in Houston, has experience in all levels of fundraising and has served in many roles throughout her career.
Parting shot

On the road to its first-ever NCAA Semifinals appearance in December, the Pioneers men's soccer team played a key game against Washington on Nov. 26. The Pioneers—who in November became the first team to play two undefeated regular seasons in a row since Clemson in 1978—lost 2-1 in double overtime to Wake Forest in the Semifinals.

photo by John Baker
CLASS OF ’67
Pack your bags!

50th Reunion, June 9-10, 2017
Smart cars are replacing VW Bugs on the road, but some things never change. Return to campus and experience the indomitable Pioneer spirit, relive favorite DU moments with friends and send the Class of 2017 out with fanfare. Visit du.edu/alumni/reunion for all the details.
*Photo from the 1967 yearbook

2017
FOUNDERS
CELEBRATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 1, 2017
FOUNDERS FORUM

March 2, 2017
FOUNDERS GALA

COME CELEBRATE DU • EST. 1864 • DU.EDU/FOUNDERS
Chancellor Rebecca Chopp and select deans will be crossing the country bringing you the best of DU. Thinkers and doers, together with local alumni visionaries, will share critical insights on a wide range of relevant topics. Don’t miss this evening of intellectually stimulating conversation and reconnection with the DU family.

Atlanta – November 30, 2016
Los Angeles – January 12, 2017
Chicago - February 15, 2017
New York - March 2017
Washington DC - March 2017
Boston – May 2017
San Francisco - May 2017
Los Angeles - May 2017
Colorado Springs - Spring 2017
Boulder - Spring 2017
Fort Collins - Spring 2017

details at du.edu/alumni/insights
**Miscellanea**

**DOWNHILL FAST**

This post-art-deco-style illustration, from Slovenian artist Robert Kump’s book “Ljubljana,” is one of many treasures to be found at DU’s Center for Ski History, housed at the Anderson Academic Commons. The collection features books, periodicals, photographs, memorabilia and related material on the history and evolution of skiing, with a particular focus on Colorado and the American West.