

# Parents Association

Office of Parent Relations  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
A-4 University Club  
972 Broadway  
120 UCB  
Boulder, CO 80309-0120

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**Office of Parents Relations:**  
303-492-1380

Director: George "Barney" Ballinger  
Program Assistant: Jennifer Hudson

**CU Publications & Creative Services staff:**

Editor: Linda Besen  
Editorial Assistant: Corey Reynolds  
Design and production: Polly Christensen  
Photography: Casey Cass and Larry Harwood



[www.colorado.edu/parentrelations](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations)

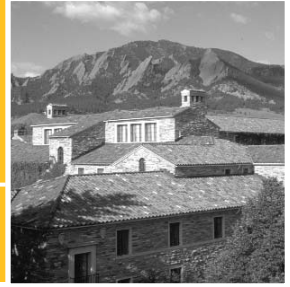
# Fall greetings!



# CU Parent

PARENTS SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Volume 12, Number 3 🐼 Fall 2006



## CU-Boulder welcomes new chancellor

New Chancellor G. P. “Bud” Peterson, *center*, pictured here with Jennifer Hudson and George “Barney” Ballinger from the Office of Parent Relations, took the helm at CU-Boulder on July 15. Chancellor Peterson is looking forward to talking with parents around the country about important topics such as student safety, building strong community relationships, and improving communication. You can read his welcome to the campus on the chancellor’s web page at [www.colorado.edu/Chancellor](http://www.colorado.edu/Chancellor).

## Join us for Family Weekend 2006, October 13–15

**A**S THE COLORS OF FALL settle on campus, it’s time to head to Boulder to visit your student for Family Weekend 2006. Take a swing in our golf tournament; attend tours, stimulating lectures, and presentations about campus life; participate in the grand opening of the new Alliance for Technology, Learning, and Society (ATLAS) Building; attend CU’s inaugural Fall Convocation; cheer the football team to victory against the Texas Tech Red Raiders; listen to CU’s jazz stars; and stretch your legs in the Wardenburg Health Center Family Fun Run/Walk.

CU’s Family Weekend is one of the largest in the country, attracting nearly 4,000 family members each year. To register and get all the information you’ll need, visit our web site at [www.colorado.edu/parentrelations/weekend.html](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations/weekend.html).

Don’t wait too long! The deadline to register is Monday, September 25. For recorded information, call the Family Weekend Information Line at 303-735-4020.

NOTE: If you did not receive a brochure for Family Weekend, you can download a copy and also register at [www.colorado.edu/parentrelations/weekend.html](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations/weekend.html), or contact our office at 303-492-1380 and we will send you one in the mail. 🐼

## Reward an Exceptional CU Faculty or Staff Member

Has your student ever mentioned a CU faculty or staff member who is making her or his university experience special? Nominate that person for the Marinus G. Smith Recognition Award, given to faculty and staff members who play an important role in the success of your CU student. The award is sponsored by the CU Parents Association and is named for the famous pioneer whose gift of land and financial contributions helped establish a base for the university in Boulder. The nomination form is available from the Office of Parent Relations ([parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu) or 303-492-1380) and will be in Family Weekend registration packets.

Nominations are due by December 31, 2006. A ceremony will be held in the spring to honor winners of the award.

## Making Connections at CU



### Financial aid dates to keep in mind

It's not too late to apply for financial aid. Your student must submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to the federal processor—the quickest way to do this is online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). We may ask you to provide our office with signed copies of the first two pages of your 2005 federal tax returns. Please respond promptly to any requests from our office for additional information, and call us if you have questions about applying.

For parents of Colorado resident undergrads, if your student has not already applied for the College Opportunity Fund stipend (to help cover the cost of their tuition), please see [www.cu.edu/ums/cof/faq.html](http://www.cu.edu/ums/cof/faq.html) for an explanation of the program and instructions on how to apply.

After November 1, your student can apply for 2007–08 CU-Boulder scholarships online at [www.colorado.edu/finaid/scholarships.html](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid/scholarships.html). Using their student identification number and CU-Boulder personal identification number (PIN), students can submit their application, résumé, and essays online. Let your student know about this convenient resource.

January 1, 2007, will be the first day you can submit the 2007–08 FAFSA to the FAFSA processor. The FAFSA is required to apply for financial aid, including scholarships, from CU-Boulder.

For more information about the above or any financial aid questions you may have, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 303-492-5091, [finaid@colorado.edu](mailto:finaid@colorado.edu), or visit our home page at [www.colorado.edu/finaid](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid).

*By Gayle Lalich, Office of Financial Aid*

*The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities.*

**Y**OU'VE ALL HEARD THE CLICHÉ—“It's not what you know, it's who you know.” For your student at CU, making connections with the people around campus and maintaining those relationships are key ingredients in being successful. Your student has a lot of choices to make meaningful connections.

While CU-Boulder offers a wide variety of organized campus activities—student government, clubs, sports, organizations, and sororities—connections start in the residence halls. Suggest to your student that he or she attend all dorm functions; this creates his or her inner circle and often needed relief from the academic rigors. Study groups can be formed very conveniently from your student's floor mates, and are a great way to meet more people and learn while they do. Next, try a club sport on campus. There are over 30 club sports at CU and more information can be found at [www.colorado.edu/sacs/rec-center/programs/club-sports/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/sacs/rec-center/programs/club-sports/index.html). If intramural sports are a better fit, find them at [www.colorado.edu/rec-center/programs/intramurals/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/rec-center/programs/intramurals/index.html).

A short list of recognized social and professional clubs and organizations can be found at [umc.colorado.edu/groups/sgoffices.html](http://umc.colorado.edu/groups/sgoffices.html). Students can go to the offices of SOFO, the Student Organizations Finance Office, [www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/sofo](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/sofo), in the University Memorial Center to get information on any of the recognized 100+ campus groups.

The Herd is the student arm of the CU-Boulder Alumni Association, and the largest of its kind in the country. More information can be found at [www.cualum.org/theherd](http://www.cualum.org/theherd).

Most CU students are born leaders and may want to participate in the many levels of student government here. Starting at the top with the office of the Tri-Executives of the UCSU Student Government, [www-ucsu.colorado.edu](http://www-ucsu.colorado.edu), on down to the individual college and residence hall levels of student government, involvement is encouraged. At CU, this is just the beginning of where your student can get connected—in life. 🐾

*By Joyce and Dennis Kinde, Parents Association Board Members*

## Sign up for the CU Parent E-Connection!

Do you want to receive regular e-mail updates on CU policies, programs, and news of interest to parents? If you do, you may subscribe by simply sending your e-mail information to [parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu). There are already more than 1,000 subscribers.

Your contact information will remain in the Office of Parent Relations and will not be shared or used for any other purpose than providing you e-mail updates.

If you have any questions about the program, don't hesitate to contact George “Barney” Ballinger or Jennifer Hudson at [parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu) or via telephone at 303-492-1380.

## Important Dates for 2006–07

### Fall Semester 2006

Residence halls open (10:00 a.m.)	Aug. 24
Classes begin (8:00 a.m.)	Aug. 28
Labor Day	Sept. 4
Tuition due	Sept. 6
Family Weekend	Oct. 13–15
Fall Break	Nov. 20–22
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 23–24
Last day of classes	Dec. 15
Final exams	Dec. 16–21
Commencement	Dec. 22
Residence halls close (10:00 a.m.)	Dec. 22

### Spring Semester 2007

Residence halls open (10:00 a.m.)	Jan. 10
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Jan. 15
Classes begin (8:00 a.m.)	Jan. 16
Tuition due	Jan. 24
Spring Break	March 26–30
Last day of classes	May 4
Final exams	May 5–10
Residence halls close (1:00 p.m.)	May 11
Commencement	May 11

# An academic advisor: your student's best resource

**W**HAT IS A MAPS DEFICIENCY? Which core credits do I still need? Can this class count toward my major?

It's easy to imagine that registration is overwhelming for students entering CU—and sometimes even for those on their last year of the six-year plan. With over 3,400 courses offered, seemingly endless requirements to fulfill, and the thought of graduation looming on the horizon, students (and their parents) can rest assured that an academic advisor is there to help.

Though academic advising in each college and school does differ slightly, all CU advisors can help students review their academic records, address degree requirements, solve transfer credit issues, discuss goals, plan the upcoming semester, and talk about academic difficulties. Advisors are valuable resources for many other academic and scheduling issues, but students must use their advisor wisely and come prepared with questions and discussion points.

“Advisors cannot make decisions for students,” said Peter Freitag, associate director of advising for the College of Arts and Sciences. “They will provide useful information, but won't tell students what courses to take, what professors to choose, what classes are easiest or most demanding.”

Advising for the College of Arts and Sciences—the largest college or school at CU-Boulder with over two-thirds of the undergraduate student body—is managed by the Academic Advising Center (AAC), in which there are about 60 academic advisors.

Students are assigned an advisor in their major upon entry into the College of Arts and Sciences. Students cannot choose their advisor, nor can they be assigned an advisor from outside their major, Freitag said.

About half the students entering the College of Arts and Sciences come in as open-option majors, and they are assigned a specific open-option advisor. Once they declare a major, students are given an advisor specific to their major.



The center is quick to note that in registering for courses and seeking out helpful information, the ultimate responsibility lies with the student. Each adviser is responsible for between 350 and 400 students, so planning ahead to meet is a must. Students can schedule appointments with their advisors only through the AAC's online appointment system, accessible at [advising.colorado.edu](http://advising.colorado.edu).

“Students are advised to make appointments well in advance,” Freitag said. “Often, advisors' schedules fill up quickly, particularly at registration time.”

The AAC recommends that students meet with their advisor at least once per semester and asks that students use the technology available to become well informed. The Schedule Planner in CUConnect and the Course Search function on the registration page are valuable resources.

Students in other colleges and schools are advised to also take advantage of the technology, meet with their advisor regularly, and understand the importance of planning ahead to accommodate busy schedules.

In the College of Engineering, continuing students are assigned one of seven staff advisors; incoming students have an assigned faculty advisor, according to James Sherman, assistant dean for the college.

Business students are assigned a staff adviser, but they are allowed to change if they wish, said Eve Leedy, Leeds School of Business undergraduate student services coordinator.

Students in the College of Architecture and Planning, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and

## Campus Planning for Avian Flu

CU-Boulder is developing a pandemic response plan to address the possibility of a widespread flu pandemic, commonly referred to as bird flu or avian flu. A pandemic flu planning web site, [www.colorado.edu/safety/pandemicflu](http://www.colorado.edu/safety/pandemicflu), is now online with key elements of the plan, including international travel cautions and a variety of resources. Campus health officials are emphasizing the importance of seasonal flu vaccines this year as a significant way to maintain a healthy immune system. For more information on the avian flu, or for inquiries on flu shots, visit the Wardenburg Health Center web site, [www.colorado.edu/healthcenter](http://www.colorado.edu/healthcenter), or call 303-492-5101.

### THE NUMBERS: Fall 2006 confirmed first-year students

Total incoming first-year students . . . . .	5,550
Number 1 in high school class . . . . .	116
International students . . . . .	127 students from 34 countries
4.0 GPA in high school . . . . .	943
75–100 percentile in high school . . . . .	2,286
Average SAT score . . . . .	1,167
Average ACT score . . . . .	25
1500 or more on SAT . . . . .	37
33 or more ACT . . . . .	124
Largest high school graduating class . . .	1,250 Plano Senior High School, TX
Smallest high school graduating class . . . . .	5 Rocky Mountain Int'l Academy, CO
Under-represented students . . . . .	864/5,550
Gender . . . . .	2,664 females, 2,886 males
High school sending most out-of-state students . . . . .	New Trier High School, IL
High school sending most in-state students . . .	Cherry Creek High School
Country sending most international students . . . . .	20 Republic of Korea
Top 5 states sending students . . . . .	CA (630), IL (223), TX (168), MA (124), NY (120)
Average high school GPA . . . . .	3.51

*Compiled by Kevin McLennan, director of admissions*

# Parent Fund frequently asked questions

Did you know that CU's Parent Fund, overseen by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Ron Stump and the Parent Fund staff, supports much of your student's experience on campus? Here are answers to some of our most frequently-asked questions:

## Q: When was the Parent Fund started?

A: The Parent Fund was started 10 years ago in an effort to create a support system for programs on campus that were potentially threatened by state budget cuts, in hopes of not just maintaining but improving every student's experience inside and outside of the classroom.

## Q: How are the Parent Fund-supported programs determined?

A: The vice chancellor of student affairs, Ron Stump, determines the student affairs priorities throughout the year and distributes the Parent Fund dollars as needed. Therefore, an unrestricted gift of \$150, for example, could help support many different on-campus programs that are an important part of life on campus.

## Q: What programs does the Parent Fund support?

A: More than 50 programs. Some that were supported this year include: Career Services (remember, Career Services is available for every student at every level—students can get help building their résumé, looking for internships, and making post-graduation career plans), Honor Code, the Center for Students in Recovery, Norlin Scholars, Women's Resource Center, Diversity Initiative, CU Night Ride, and Tutoring and Academic Support, just to name a few!

## Q: Is the Parent Fund successful?

A: Yes, thanks to your help! In its first year, the Parent Fund brought in \$50,000. During the last school year, parents gave more than \$825,000 in support. The 2006–07 goal is \$850,000, and every dollar helps! (Please see the growth chart below.)

## Q: How can parents help?

A: Please consider making a gift to the Parent Fund. You will be receiving a letter this

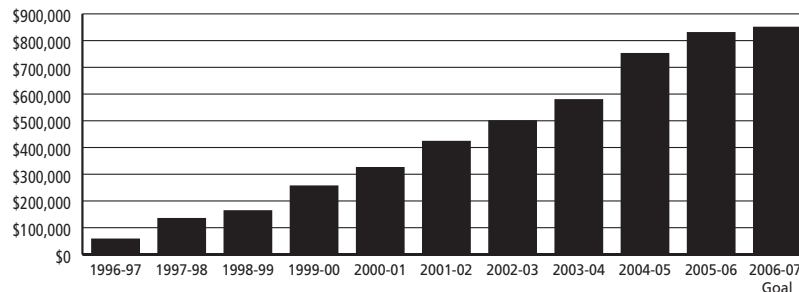
fall from a current parent outlining the objectives of the Parent Fund and explaining why they have chosen to give. After receiving the letter, you will receive a call from an on-campus student caller to follow up and answer any questions you might have. If you would like to help the Parent Fund and the critical programs it supports on campus, please make a gift! Every dollar helps, and we would love to count you as a Parent Fund supporter.

## Q: Who can I contact to learn more about the Parent Fund?

A: Contact Eric Doepel, the founder of the Parent Fund and associate vice president of development at the CU Foundation. He can be reached at [eric.doepel@cufund.org](mailto:eric.doepel@cufund.org) or **303-492-5687**. 📞

*By Laura Marlow, former development associate for campus programs, University of Colorado Foundation*

CU-Parent Fund Growth



## Career Services: Not just for seniors

CAREER SERVICES PROVIDES invaluable guidance for students in every stage of their college education:

### Freshman Year

We recommend that first-year students join Career Services Online (CSO) to learn about events, activities, and services. A student may register for CSO by accessing the Career Services web site, [careerservices.colorado.edu](http://careerservices.colorado.edu). Additionally, we suggest a counseling appointment for first-year students to learn about the career possibilities available to different majors and explore or confirm their direction through interest surveys and career exploration. We also discuss how to conduct informational interviews to learn first-hand about various occupations.

### Sophomore Year

With the guidance of a career counselor, a student now begins to explore internship possibilities, develop a résumé and upload it on CSO, as well as attend career/internship fairs and develop skills to successfully follow up with employers.

### Junior Year

Career Services assists a junior level student with CSO updates, refined résumé, and job search. The student also learns interviewing skills in order to secure an internship that relates to their major and field of interest. Attending the career/internship fairs and employer presentations allows the student to develop networking contacts with employers. We recommend a weekly review of CSO internship listings and a plan to secure an internship at least by the junior year. We

also suggest attending an etiquette dinner, which is held both during the fall and spring semesters.

### Senior Year

During their final year, students update their CSO profile and résumé, review job listings weekly, research employers, attend the career/internship fairs, host an employer presentation, conduct a video practice interview with a career counselor, apply online for on-campus interviews with visiting employers, establish a file of recommendation letters, learn about the job search outside of campus connections, and prepare and arrange for testing services, if needed for graduate school. 📞

*By Ann Herrmann, career counselor and coordinator of student programs*

# CU-Boulder Alcohol Initiatives:

## Meeting our campus alcohol challenges comprehensively

**S**INCE 1996, CU-Boulder has been on the cutting edge of national efforts to reduce the high-risk use of alcohol and its impact on some students. This year CU will implement approximately 20 new or improved programs in this area. Here is a description of one program from each of the following themes:

1. Education
2. Prevention
3. Treatment
4. Setting Clear Standards and Achieving Consistent Enforcement of Policies

### Education

This fall, all entering first-year students will complete a web-based program called “e-CHUG.” This program, created at San Diego State University and used by several hundred colleges and universities nationwide, provides both drinkers and non-drinkers with important information and feedback about alcohol use by college students.

### Prevention

This summer, all parents and guardians of entering first-year students had the opportunity to participate in the Parents’ Project. This program facilitates a structured conversation between parents and their sons and daughters about alcohol and other important issues before students begin classes in the fall. It was carried out with help from Penn State University and the National Institute for Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse. Study results from other universities indicate a significant reduction in harmful drinking when these techniques are used.

### Treatment

CU’s Center for Students in Recovery began operating in May 2006. It provides a safe, nurturing, peer-based community and paves the way for students recovering from addictive disorders to achieve academic, social, and professional success. This is one of six such programs at universities in the United States. Attracting students and fundraising are the primary goals of the center this fall semester.

### Setting Clear Standards

The Striving To Achieve Real Success (STARS) program is designed to serve a small group of students who experience serious difficulties due to their use or abuse of alcohol. In the past, these students have either failed out of school or have been suspended for disciplinary reasons. As an alternative to these outcomes, CU will offer this group of students an opportunity to participate in a highly structured program that includes individual assessment, testing, and group therapy sessions.

For more information about these and other initiatives, and about the university’s two- and three-strike standards regarding alcohol use, its Good Samaritan Policy, and the expanded role of our Restorative Justice Program in the work of the Boulder Municipal Court, see [www.colorado.edu/alcohol](http://www.colorado.edu/alcohol). 🍷

*By Stephen Bentley, coordinator of substance abuse services at the Wardenburg Health Center; Jack Lavino, coordinator of the Center for Students in Recovery at CU-Boulder; and Bob Maust, chairman of the Standing Committee on Substance Abuse, a campus/community coalition formed to monitor substance abuse issues.*

*Advising, continued from page 3*

the College of Music are assigned a faculty advisor—a member of that school’s faculty who can assist students in registering and perform all the functions of a staff advisor.

Advising for pre-professional study in health or law is conducted through the PreProfessional Advising Center, where students can get answers to questions about professional study.

Advising in each CU-Boulder college and school, and in each major and field of study, is approached differently. But every CU advisor is a valuable resource to help each student accomplish his or her goals in the best way possible. 🍷

Online resources include the following: arts and sciences advising at [advising.colorado.edu](http://advising.colorado.edu); pre-professional advising at [www.colorado.edu/aac/prepro](http://www.colorado.edu/aac/prepro); engineering advising at [engineering.colorado.edu/academics/advising](http://engineering.colorado.edu/academics/advising); journalism advising at [www.colorado.edu/journalism/services/advising](http://www.colorado.edu/journalism/services/advising); and music advising at [www.colorado.edu/music/classes/ugradadvising/index](http://www.colorado.edu/music/classes/ugradadvising/index).

*By Corey Reynolds, senior, School of Journalism and Mass Communication*

## Changing your address

If you are currently listed on your student’s record, your student can change your address using CUConnect. To add a parent name or an additional address not currently on their record, your student must e-mail Judy Myers in the Office of the Registrar at [judy.myers@colorado.edu](mailto:judy.myers@colorado.edu). Students need to provide the following:

- The name and address of the parent(s) they wish to add
- The last 4 digits of their student ID number

