Howdy Folks!

It’s hard to believe that another school year has come to an “end.” In reality, “end” is really a misnomer. Those of us working at the University have already initiated our efforts to welcome a new class of Buffs and we are excited about beginning a new annual cycle.

Of course, those students who graduated last Saturday have reached a conclusion and are starting a new phase in their lives. Congratulations to all of the graduates. We wish them only happiness and success in future pursuits! I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the spring commencement. It was quite remarkable and the rain didn’t seem to dampen anyone’s spirits! It’s a good thing that the snow didn’t arrive until Saturday night/Sunday morning! The University honored candidates for 5,927 degrees, including 4,545 bachelor’s degrees, 908 master’s degrees, 149 law degrees and 325 doctoral degrees. Again, congratulations to all of the graduates and their parents!

I have some wonderful news to pass! Dr. Elizabeth Fenn, chair of CU-Boulder’s history department, recently won a Pulitzer Prize in history! Fenn won the Pulitzer for her 2014 book *Encounters at the Heart of the World: A History of the Mandan People*, a 10-year project detailing the history of the Mandan people, a Plains Indian tribe who lived in what is now North Dakota. Congratulations to Dr. Fenn!

Now that the semester has concluded, I suspect that many of you are wondering about grades. One of the big differences between high school and college is how final grades are handled. At CU Boulder, grades are not
mailed out in the form of a report card. Faculty enter students' final grades into an on-line grade book and students must log into their MyCUInfo portal (where they go to retrieve their degree audit, register for classes, etc.) to see their grades. Students can expect to view their grades by approximately May 22nd. A couple of issues that often arise around grades:

**Grade disputes**: if students feel their grade in a particular course is not what they expected, they should reach out via e-mail to their instructor immediately. Students only have 60 days in which to raise a concern about a grade.

**Academic probation**: Policies related to academic probation and dismissal vary among each of the schools/colleges: College of Arts & Sciences, Leeds School of Business, College of Engineering and Applied Science, Program in Environmental Design.

**Academic advisors**: Please remember, the best source of information for your student regarding academic standards and expectations is their academic advisor. This fact pertains to all schools/colleges.

**Reviewing your student's grades**: If you would like to view your student's grades, the best place to start is with your student! Sit down with them and review both their grades and their degree audit. Another option is to ask your student to submit a FERPA release to the Office of the Registrar. When they do so, they will establish a password which they will need to share with you. Once your student has shared the password with you, contact the Office of the Registrar and state the password in order to gain access to their grades. Students must submit the FERPA release in person.

Finally, I'm sure that you are all aware of the tragic earthquakes in Nepal. A group of CU students has launched a campaign called “CU Stands with Nepal.” The mission of the campaign is to unify the CU community in raising funds and sustaining the dialogue about Nepal. The goal is to raise over $30,000 in the next three weeks. If you or your student are interested in supporting the relief effort by donating or volunteering, please visit the [CU Stands with Nepal](#) website or contact them at [CUSTandsWithNepal@gmail.com](mailto:CUSTandsWithNepal@gmail.com).
Thanks folks…that’s all for now! We’ll be back in touch in a couple of weeks!

All the best… Barney, Caro and Lynn

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