



YOUR TICKET TO PRIDE - A YEAR IN REVIEW

It is time to *paws* and take pride in our mountain lion research community with this sampling of highlights from this past year.

CELEBRATING RESEARCH



ACADEMIC YEAR

202  - 2  22

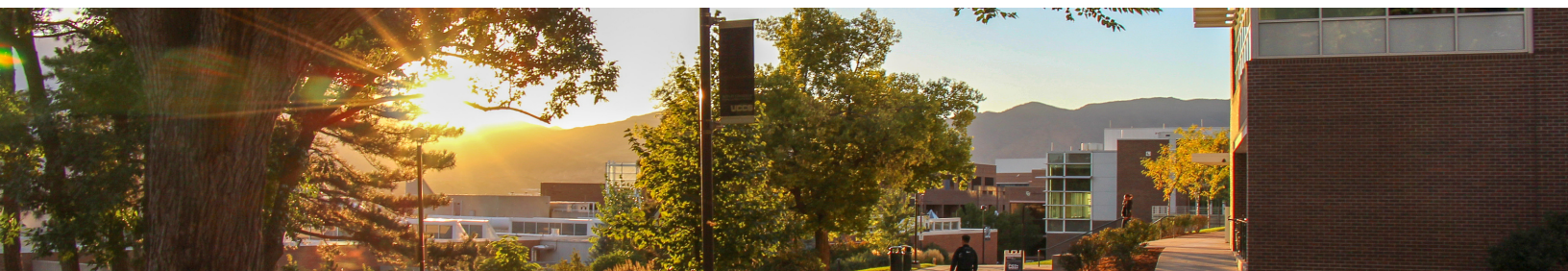




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WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING?

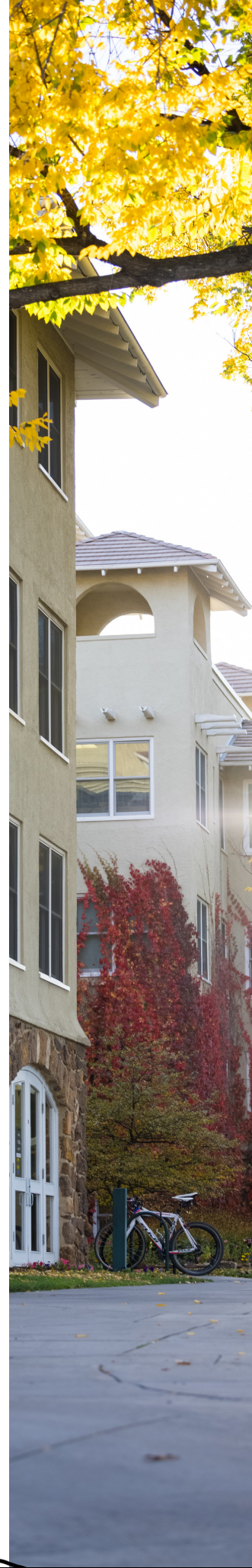


**Vice Provost &
Associate Vice Chancellor
for Research**
Jessi L. Smith Ph.D.

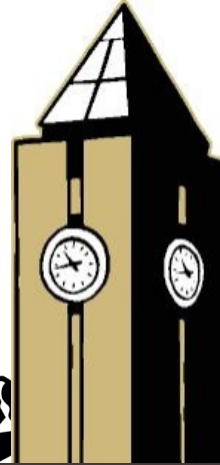


Every now and again, we need a booster shot - whether to protect us from a virus or recharge our motivation. This year in review is a great elixir to inspire. Our faculty, students, and staff are engaged in innovative discovery, remarkable partnerships, and transforming the planet with their knowledge production.

This brief booklet cannot do justice to the range of accomplishments of our UCCS community during this remarkable year. We present some exemplary achievements here to revisit, celebrate, and inspire. Join us now as we look back at the 2021-2022 academic year.



THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH



The UCCS Office of Research is here to support the surging research agenda at UCCS and is committed to fostering research and creative excellence among our entire campus. In 2019, UCCS was classified as a "High Research Activity" university by the Carnegie Foundation. UCCS takes pride in being the only higher education institution in Southern Colorado that explicitly includes research as part of its mission. To support this mission, The Office of Research and the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research

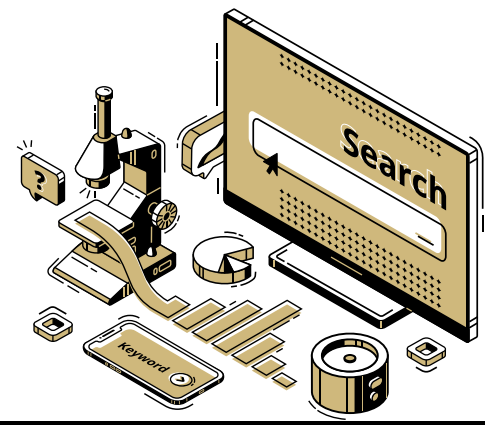
Integrity work to support your research and to support your research and creative works to help you achieve your goals.



Find out more at the Office of Research Website!
Click or Scan the QR Code to find out more.

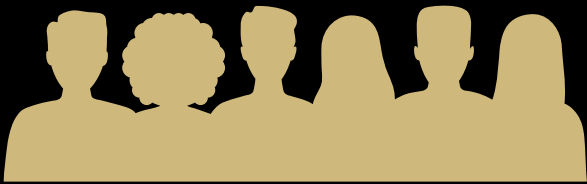


RECENTLY FUNDED RESEARCH



12% OVERALL INCREASE IN IRB APPLICATIONS

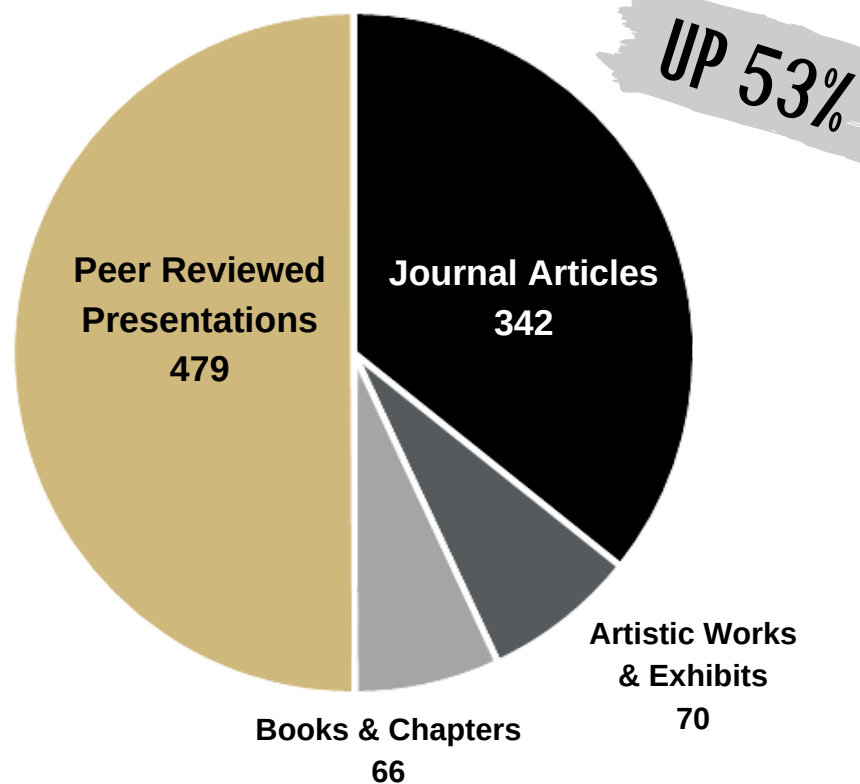
Participation of humans in research projects may raise fundamental ethical and civil rights questions. All such research carried out by UCCS students, faculty, or other University employees shall be covered by the UCCS Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the Protection of Human Research Participants.



Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



FACULTY RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY



Total Sponsored Awards

\$7.67 Million



32%

Success rate of submitted proposals



114

Number of unique faculty submitting a proposal



\$83,000

Awarded to faculty in CRCW seed grants



\$119,000

Supported the Undergraduate Research Academy



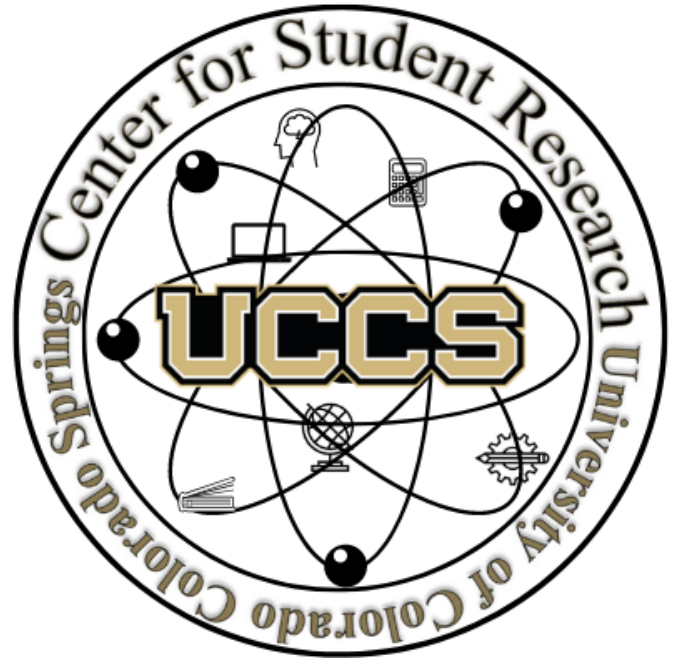
36

Number of Ph.D. and DNP Students Graduated in 2021-22

CENTER FOR STUDENT RESEARCH

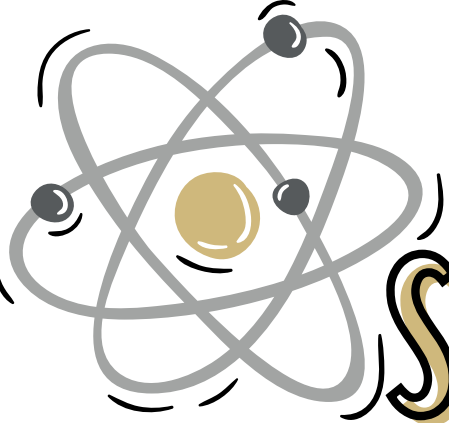
Our Mission

The mission of the Center for Student Research (CSR) is to prepare and support undergraduate and graduate student researchers as well as their faculty mentors across disciplines. The Center oversees the Undergraduate Research Academy and the new Graduate Research Academy. The Center is devoted to all students, with a mission to especially serve marginalized/minoritized, first-generation, and other at-risk or under-served students.



For more information about the Center for Student Research, [Click](#) or Scan the QR Code





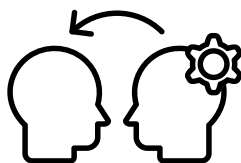
CENTER FOR STUDENT RESEARCH

OUR LONG-TERM GOAL IS TO CATALYZE RESEARCH CAREER
PATHS FOR OUR STUDENTS BY



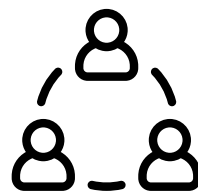
1

Utilizing an
apprentice model
of student-faculty
collaboration



2

Providing an
aspirational peer-
mentoring model with
a graduate student
near-peer mentor



3

Fostering a campus
community of student
researchers and
faculty mentors.

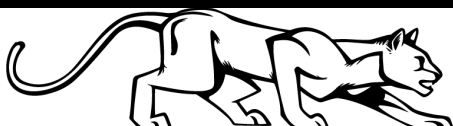
CURRENTLY OUR MEMBER STATISTICS TOTAL



326 CSR STUDENT MEMBERS

100 FACULTY AFFILIATES

12 NEAR-PEER MENTORS



UCCS FUELS SUCCESS

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ACADEMY



The Undergraduate Research Academy encourages students to expand their education beyond the classroom through participation in research and creative projects mentored by UCCS faculty. Academy students act as research assistants on meaningful projects identified by their faculty mentor. Our Undergraduate Research Academy students receive funding, mentorship, and a community of

collaborative support as they engage in the high impact practice of Undergraduate Research. To date, our nine URA cohorts routinely demonstrate greater retention, grades, and are more likely to apply for Graduate school compared to others. Lastly, these students are learning lifelong research and professional skills!



OUR 2021-2022 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ACADEMY MEMBERS



Learn More About the 2021 URA Cohort and Their Research Experiences

"The experience of working with my faculty mentor has been enlightening, inspiring, enjoyable and meaningful. I have learned so much about both our research topic and nursing research as a whole. Through URA workshops, I have learned about presenting research, verbal communication skills, research posters, career planning, networking, graduate school and much more. I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the URA program and have discovered a new interest in nursing research and evidence-based practice." – URA 2021



[Natalie Church](#)



[Naila Tagoilelagi](#)



[Brianna Santos](#)



[Riley McGrath](#)



[Brendan Gould](#)



[Madison Fox](#)



[Alexis Rayburn](#)



[Hadeel Khammash](#)



Click or scan the QR codes below to find out what our students worked on with their faculty mentors!

The experience that I gained from leading my own research project prepared me for research at the graduate level.

– URA 2021

This project has allowed me to get a foot in the door for doing research in the future. I could not be more grateful for this opportunity. Through this project, I have been able to find things that excite me in the science world and would consider pursuing after my undergraduate degree, as well as eliminate some career paths. This has made me feel more certain about my path in life. – URA 2021

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022-2023 URA COHORT

Awardee: Laurique Hughes
Faculty Mentor: Kevin Tvrdy

Awardee: Kyrie Milliron
Faculty Mentor: James Kovacs

Awardee: Ana Barovic
Faculty Mentor: Allen Schofffall

Awardee: Advita Bhatia
Faculty Mentor: Crystal Vander Zanden

Awardee: Abigail Shultz
Faculty Mentor: Aaron Corcoran

Awardee: John McCoy
Faculty Mentor: Jeremy Bono

Awardee: Victoria Toscano
Faculty Mentor: Andrew Klocko

Awardee: Audrey Fahland
Faculty Mentor: Emily Mooney

Awardee: Natalie Bondarchuk
Faculty Mentor: Amy Klocko

Awardee: Jason Cuthbert
Faculty Mentor: Omid Semiari

Awardee: Sam Peters
Faculty Mentor: Byeong Lee

Awardee: Kaylie Maddux
Faculty Mentor: Scott Trimboli

Awardee: Lauren Clarke
Faculty Mentor: Diep Dao

Awardee: Tyler Ingram
Faculty Mentor: Cerian Gibbes

Awardee: Michael Nameika
Faculty Mentor: Justin Cole

Awardee: Cecilia Knight
Faculty Mentor: Lynnane George

Awardee: Duncan Schlueter
Faculty Mentor: Matt Quinlan

Awardee: Christian Lewis
Faculty Mentor: Lynnane George

Awardee: Anna Carrier
Faculty Mentor: Nathan Morris

Awardee: Alix Walters
Faculty Mentor: Kathrin Spendier



Awardee: Kaitlin McAllister
Faculty Mentor: Dmytro Bozhko

Awardee: Naila Tagoilelagi
Faculty Mentor: Beth Daniels

Awardee: Isabella Arsenault
Faculty Mentor: Tom Francis

Awardee: Lily Herlihy
Faculty Mentor: Lori James

Awardee: Katie Agenbroad
Faculty Mentor: Rachel Weiskittle

Awardee: Grai Calabro
Faculty Mentor: Diana Selmeczy

Awardee: Alyssa Premovich
Faculty Mentor: Dan Segal

Awardee: Aja Zamundu
Faculty Mentor: Heather Littleton

Awardee: Maddie Vickroy
Faculty Mentor: Stephanie Gangemi



Awardee: William Smith
Faculty Mentor: Jefferey Montez de Oca

Awardee: William Ross
Faculty Mentor: Monica Yoo

Awardee: Courtney Cowling
Faculty Mentor: Tre Wentling

Awardee: Melissa Mikolaitis
Faculty Mentor: Giles David
Arceneaux



DID YOU KNOW?

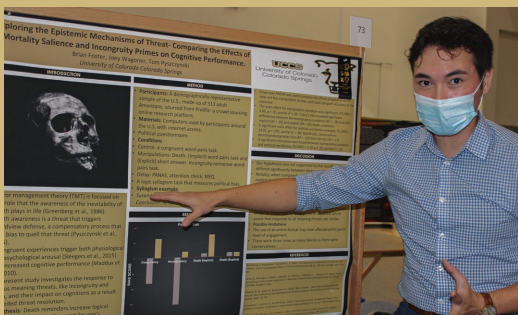
25% OF THIS COHORT
IDENTIFIED
THEMSELVES AS A
FIRST GENERATION
STUDENT!



MOUNTAIN LION RESEARCH DAY



The 13th annual Mountain Lion Research Day showcased research from more than 80 students and faculty in the Gallogly Event Center. The in-person event was an opportunity for attendees to experience high-caliber research conducted by members of the UCCS community and celebrate the innovation, mentorship, and outstanding scholarship happening on our campus. In addition to the research presentations, the Office of Research celebrated the winners of the Research Faculty Advisory Board's Top Scholar Awards, the Outstanding Research Mentorship Award, and inducted the 8 new members of the \$1 Million Club.



UCCS FUELS SUCCESS

TOP SCHOLAR WINNERS

THE TOP SCHOLAR AWARD RECOGNIZES STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATIONS CHARACTERIZED BY EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP, CLARITY IN VISUAL AND ORAL PRESENTATION AND DEMONSTRATED KNOWLEDGE IN A DISCUSSION WITH THE JUDGES.



Undergraduate Top Scholar:

Ally Vair

Project Title:

"Whimsical Tales of Darkness: Julie Buffalohead's Visual Storybook of Animals and Trauma"

Undergraduate Top Scholar Mentor:

Kristen Galvin

Graduate Top Scholar:

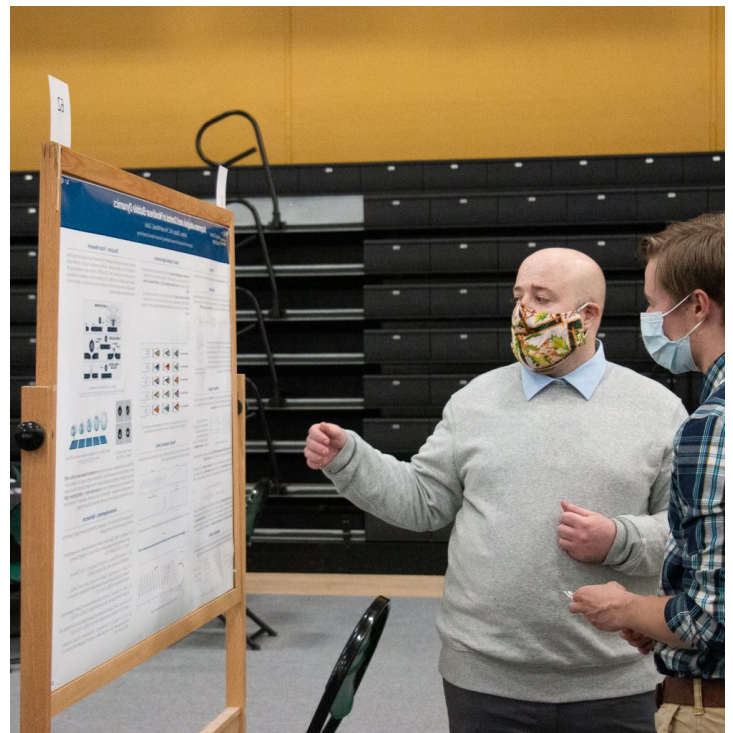
Andrew Gibson

Project Title:

"Application of Koopman theory to the control of nonlinear bubble dynamics"

Graduate Top Scholar Mentors:

Michael Calvisi & Cindy Yee



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR \$1M CLUB INDUCTEES



Research takes a *lot*. Passion, time, and of course, funding. During the 2021-2022 year, eight of our researchers hit career milestones! Let's celebrate them!

Elizabeth Daniels,
Department of
Psychology



Russell Elsberry,
Lydia Hill Institute for
Human Resilience



Gary Klein,
Information Systems



Magdalene Lim,
UCCS Aging Center



Pat McGuire,
Department of
Teaching & Learning



Sylvia Mendez,
Leadership, Research,
and Foundations



Jessi L. Smith,
Associate Vice
Chancellor of
Research; Department
of Psychology



Heather Song,
Department of Electrical
& Computer
Engineering

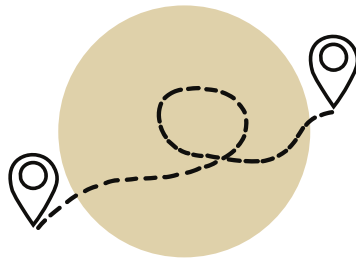


DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR LECTURE SERIES

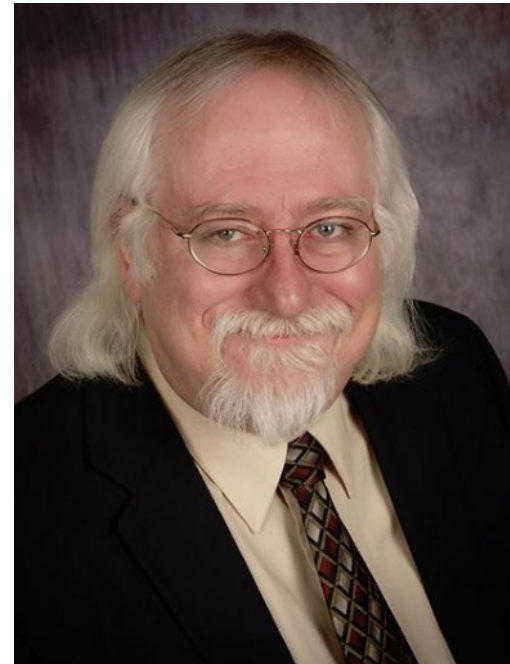


Dr. Robert Camley, Distinguished Professor
Department of Physics and Energy Science

"How A Series of My Mistakes Led Me to
Explaining A Nobel Prize Winning Effect"



To date, UCCS has had 9 faculty achieve this highest rank and recognition, 7 of whom are still actively engaged in our campus today. The Distinguished Professor Lecture Series started in Fall of 2021 and gives our UCCS honorees the opportunity to share their research and career journeys to the campus-at-large. Drs. Robert Camley and Tom Pyszcynski kicked off our series and you can watch their presentations [here](#).



Dr. Tom Pyszcynski, Distinguished Professor
Department of Psychology

"The Rocky Road to Experimental Existential
Psychology: A Case Study in the Evolution of a
Psychological Theory"

For more information about the Distinguished
Professor Lecture Series and to watch the video
lectures, [Click](#) or Scan the QR Code





ADVANCE PROJECT CREST

Pictured: Jessi Smith, Elizabeth Daniels, Kelli Klebe, Sylvia Mendez, Emily Skop, Heather Song Kelly McNear, Jennifer Poe, Lindsay Coppa. (Not Pictured: Tom Christensen and Jeffrey Montez de Oca)

Changing Research Experiences Structures and (in)Tolerance through the Adaptation of Promising Equity Practices



Change

Change the research policies and evaluation structures within the institution to more fully support the research participation of women- and minority-identifying faculty



Impact

Positively impact the research experiences and productivity of women- and minority-identifying faculty



Mitigate

Vigilantly mitigate biases within UCCS research spaces and research processes

ADVANCE PROJECT CREST

Changing Research Experiences Structures
and (in)Tolerance through the Adaptation
of Promising Equity Practices



About Advance Project Crest

Funded from the National Science Foundation's ADVANCE Awards, Advance Project CREST aims to change structures that impede women and minority-identified faculty members from fully participating in research at UCCS. Together, they aim to galvanize the entire campus community to collaboratively increase equity, productivity and positive experiences for marginalized and minoritized researchers at UCCS.

For more information about Advance Project CREST, [Click](#) or Scan the QR Code



CREST Fest

In their first grant year, the Project CREST team hosted the CREST Fest celebration! This celebration gathered all of its members to showcase the activities and accomplishments from their first grant year. Thank you to all of our supporters and we hope to see you for CREST Fest 2023!





COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORKS WINNERS



WHAT IS THE CRCW SEED GRANT AWARD?

This grant award is the re-investments of F&A funds that directly support our UCCS faculty (and often their students). This allows them to collect pilot data, travel to archives, buy equipment and more. As a result, our researchers have become more competitive when seeking external funding.

**Watch our 2019 CRCW Cohort present their
works Here!!**

See what your colleagues are up to with their CRCW awards in these short presentations. Who knows, maybe you will find a new collaboration!!

If reading digitally, please [click](#) on the QR code to be taken to the video presentations!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 AWARDEES!

**Kate Angulski, Criminal Justice & Jessica
Berrett, Public Administration**

Adham Atyabi, Computer Science

Katie Busby, Nursing

Ezio Iacocca, Physics & Energy Sciences

James Kovacs, Chemistry & Biochemistry

Colin Mahoney, Psychology

Colin McAllister, VAPA/Music

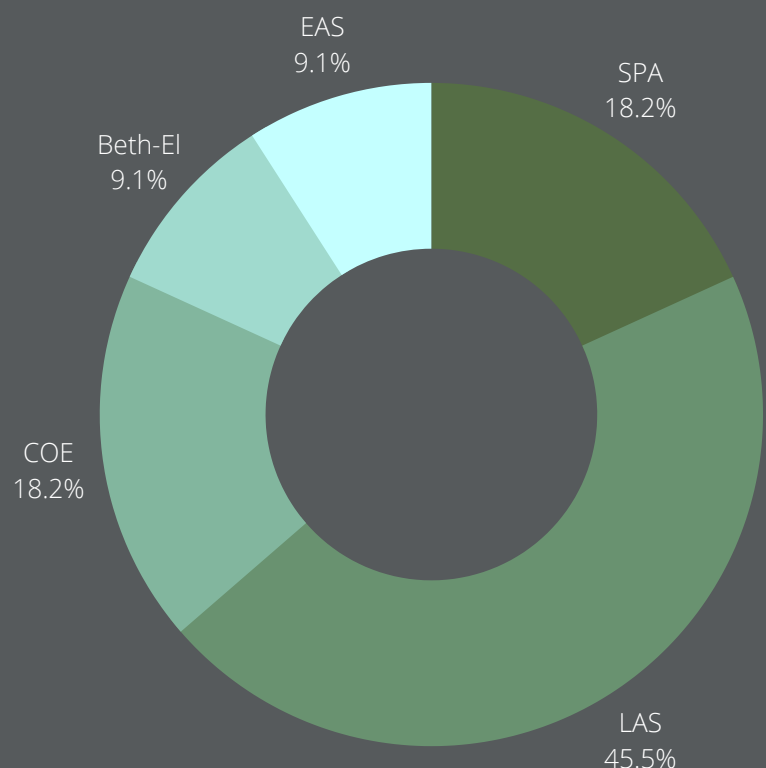
Katie McCabe, Teaching and Learning

Janel Owens, Chemistry & Biochemistry

**Nicholas Tapia-Fuselier, Leadership,
Research, and Foundations**



Colleges of Awardees



BOOK AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

Did you know that reading a book has health benefits? Here is just a handful of new books by our faculty and staff published this past year.

Paul
Harvey,
History

Martin Luther King: A Religious Life



Johanna
Báez,
*Public
Affairs*

*30 Essential Skills for the Qualitative
Researcher*



Jennifer
Kling,
Philosophy

*The Philosophy of Protest: Fighting for
Justice Without Going to War*



Max
Shulman,
Theatre

*The American Pipedream: Performance
of Drug Addiction, 1890-1940*



Susan
Vandagriff,
Librarian

*Reading Hemingway's 'Winner Take
Nothing'*



Colin D.
Wren,
Anthropology

*Agent-Based Modeling for Archaeology:
Simulating the Complexity of Societies*



Dorothea
Olkowski,
Philosophy

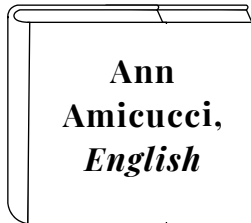
*The Logic and Pragmatics of Creation,
Affective Life, and Perception*



BOOK AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

Spencer Harris,
Sports Management

Sport Participation and Olympic Legacies: A Comparative Study



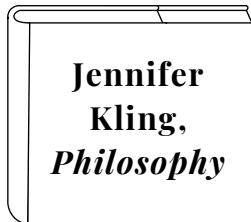
Ann Amicucci,
English

Dear Professor: Forging Student-Teacher Relationships through Course Letters



Larry Eames,
Instruction Librarian

The Depository is Large. It Contains Multitudes



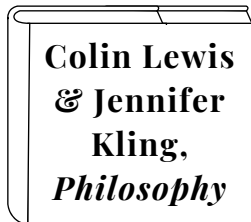
Jennifer Kling,
Philosophy

The Semantic Foundations of White Fragility and the Consequences for Justice



Yougjei Lee,
SPA

Bayes Statistical Analysis



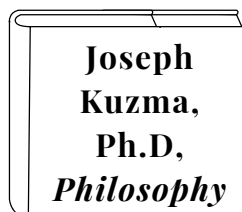
Colin Lewis & Jennifer Kling,
Philosophy

Justified Revolution in Contemporary American Democracy: A Confucian-Inspired Account



Elena Svetieva,
COMM

The What and How of Positive Feedback: A Review and Experimental Study of Positive Feedback 'Best Practices'



Joseph Kuzma,
Ph.D,
Philosophy

Philosophy in the Holodeck: Thinking Critically About the Emerging Technology



UCCS FACULTY CYBERSECURITY SEED GRANT AWARDEES



Congratulations to the newest round of Cybersecurity Seed Grant winners! With funding from the Cybersecurity Initiative, the objectives of this investment program are to promote research excellence in cybersecurity, to help pre-tenure faculty members establish research programs, and to assist faculty members in becoming nationally competitive when seeking cyber-related funding from sources external to UCCS. [Cybersecurity](#) is inherently an interdisciplinary effort and we are excited to share the winners from across campus.

David Kocsis, Information Systems & Daniel Segal, Psychology

The Behavioral and Management Side of Cybersecurity - Cyberhygiene, Cyberpsychology, and Impacting the Future Workforce

Morgan Shepherd, Information Systems &

Tejay Gurvirender, Information Systems

Improving Cybersecurity Training Through Andragogical Approach: A Design Science Study for Secure Cyberspace

Hui Wan, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Partial Differential Equations Approach to Modeling and Controlling Cybersecurity Dynamics: Dimension and Non-Linearity Reduction

Yanyan Zhuang, Computer Science

Curating an IoT Firmware Update Dataset

KEVIN W. O'NEIL CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER UNVEILING

In the beginning of the 2021 school year, UCCS was honored to unveil the new Kevin W. O'Neil Cybersecurity Education and Research Center developed largely due to Kevin W. O'Neil himself and his generous donations. UCCS has now cemented itself as the top Cybersecurity educator in the Pikes Peak region opening the doors to greater development in both aerospace and cyber ecosystems.

Read more by [clicking](#) or
scanning the QR Code



FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS AMONG US



Scott Kupferman Ph.D., Teaching & Learning, is awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholar Award to research and teach about accessible technology for individuals with disabilities. He will be hosted by the University of Tokyo in Tokyo, Japan for five months, beginning in fall 2022.



Kupferman is an internationally recognized scholar in the field of accessible technology for people with disabilities. Examples of accessible technology include video captions for people who are deaf, alternative text that describes images for people who are blind, and wheelchairs for those with physical disabilities.

Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



Robert Camley Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Physics and Director for the BioFrontiers Center is also awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholar Award to research innovative techniques for non-invasive cancer treatments for the future.

Camley plans to temporarily relocate to the University of Newcastle in New South Wales, Australia in the Spring of 2023 to conduct his research with the help of Professor Livesey. Camley plans to look at the technique of using localized magnetic nanoparticles to heating cancer cells to the point of death without harming any surrounding healthy non-cancerous tissue.

Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code

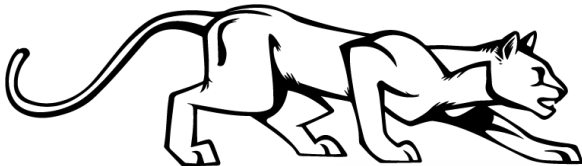


A FEW RESEARCH PRIDE HIGHLIGHTS

UCCS named third-most sustainable university in Colorado. For the fourth consecutive year, UCCS is one of Colorado's most sustainable higher education institutions according to the Sierra Club's national magazine.

The Sierra Club tallied "Cool School" rankings for a record 328 institutions this year, using data from recent submissions to the STARS program - the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System implemented by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). The organization awarded UCCS a Gold ranking in 2021.

Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



"Our ranking shows that campus partners are working hard to improve their processes and programs, and commit to a more sustainable UCCS." - Kimberly Reeves



The Ent Center for the Arts was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Colorado Arts Relief Fund to help the center continue to support the arts in the Pikes Peak Region - and the livelihoods of Colorado artists. The grant will aid in economic relief related to the COVID-19 pandemic



The Centers of Academic Excellence (CAE-C) launched a variety of free and partially funded offerings to train existing faculty, cyber industry professionals, transitioning military/service personnel, and graduate students for faculty and teaching roles in cybersecurity.



The Lyda Hill Institute for Human Resilience received nearly \$400,000 in funding to expand the Greater Resilience Information Toolkit (GRIT) program. The program was created as a way to foster resilience, by training individuals as GRIT Coaches, thus allowing them to spread resilience within their social circles.

RESEARCH AWARDEES & HIGHLIGHTS

The UCCS Department of Sociology was awarded by the CU system the President's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Award for imbedding and embodying DEI throughout its research, teaching, service and strategic actions. The department centers DEI in its curriculum and teaching; approaching the history of marginalization and oppression with an intersectional lens.



Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



Laurel Hartley Ph.D., CU Denver;
Valerie Otero Ph.D., CU Boulder;
David Weiss Ph.D., Chemistry and Biochemistry UCCS will be the project team leaders working under the CU Next Award to pilot a Learning Assistants peer tutoring program within the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry with plans to expand to other departments in the next few years. In this program, students will be trained to help their fellow students in tutoring sessions, mentoring, and lecture and lab assistance to further the educational value of undergraduate students.

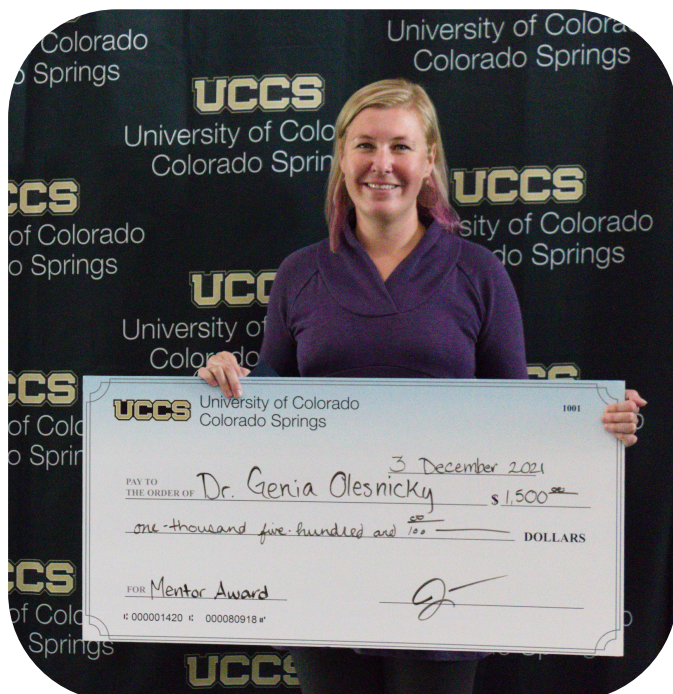
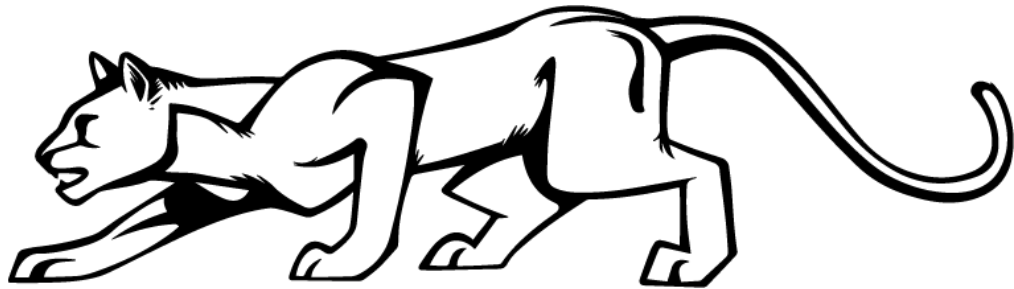
RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS: AWARDEES

Laith Al-Shawaf Ph.D.

Psychology wins Faculty Award for Excellence in Research. Laith joined UCCS in 2017 in the Psychology Department. His areas of interest include analyzing emotions, personalities and individual differences, Error Management Theory, the evolution of cognitive bias, and Evolutionary approaches to psychopathology.



Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



Genia Olesnicky Ph.D. Biology, a developmental biologist and mentor to dozens of undergraduate and graduate students has been named the winner of the third annual UCCS Outstanding Research Mentorship award. Olesnicky joined UCCS in 2011 and has trained more than 40 undergraduate and graduate students with intensive laboratory experience and hands-on mentorship.

Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



A FEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Lesley Ginsberg Ph.D., English and **Larry Eames, Kraemer Family Library** were recognized for their efforts to promote information literacy among college students with the first annual Collaboration for Information Literacy Prize, awarded by the Modern Language Association of America. They were honored for their collaboration on "American Literature from 1820 to 1900: Print Cultures," an English 3350 course taught at UCCS during the fall 2020 semester and offered again in fall 2021.



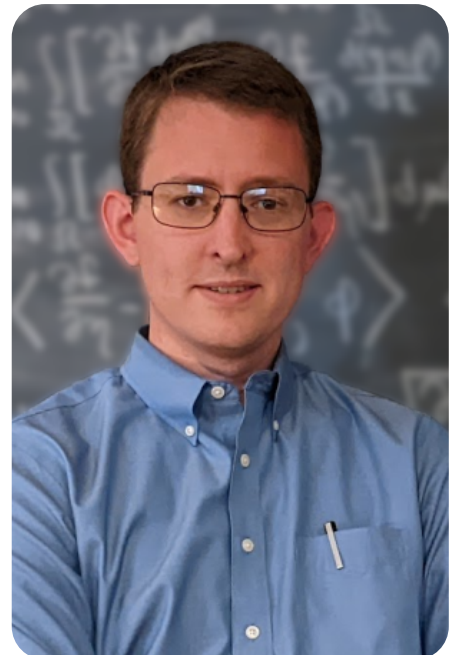
Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



Dr. Brandon Runnels, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, earns NSF CAREER Award to look at developing faster and more reliable techniques for assessing damage likelihood in materials. The project is titled "CAREER: A Multichannel Convolutional Neural Network Framework for Prediction of Damage Nucleation Sites in Microstructure." This research could eventually provide a way to rapidly screen materials to assess safety.



Read more by [clicking](#) or scanning the QR Code



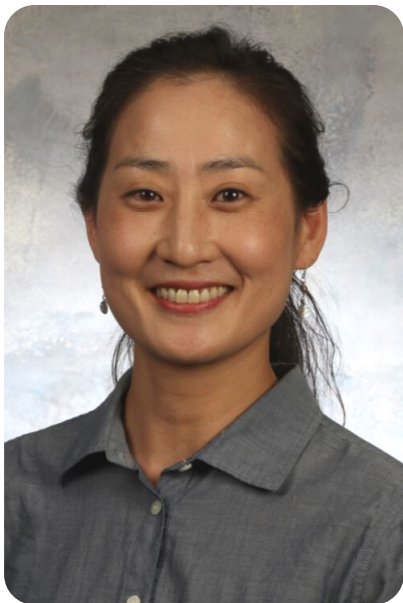
A FEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Anna Kosloski, Ph.D. Public Affairs, will be working in partnership with the University of South Dakota and leaders of the Native Women's Society of the Great Plains to examine the scope and forms of violence felt by Native youths in the Great Plains region. They also plan to explore the sources of resiliency

to this violence learned in youths. Over an 18-month period, the research team aims to analyze the factors that cause Native youths and young adults to become susceptible to violence in Indigenous communities, and what resources they have to increase their resilience. Kosloski hopes that the research will shed light on the resources and services that help to make young people resilient in the face of violence, and the ways in which they could be better supported.

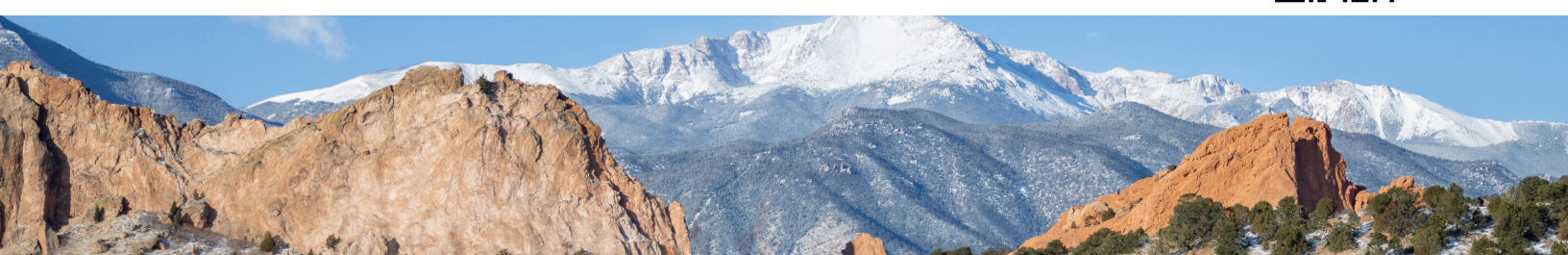


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Kay Yoon, Ph.D. Communication, and co-author Yaguang Zhu from the University of Arkansas examine the different ways that individuals in fully virtual teams use technological tools to accomplish their goals - and how successful they perceived their teams to be. The study looks to maximize virtual communication tools for effective teamwork.

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A FEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



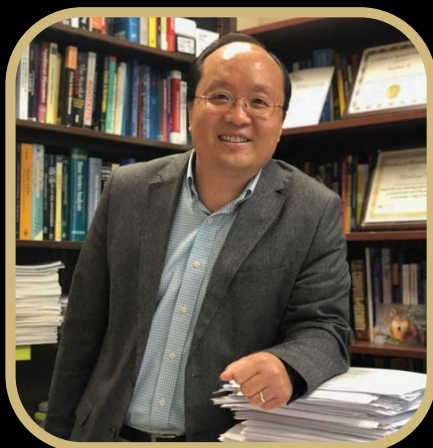
Diep Dao Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Geography, co-created a new analytical framework for crime research called CrimeScape. The tool has far-reaching applications for social science research. While the published paper focuses on urban residential motor thefts, its innovative analytical method that adds geospatial variables to research data science is a leap forward in social science research.

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Dr. Shouhuai Xu, EAS; Charles Benight Ph.D., Psychology; and Yanyan Zhuang Ph.D., Computer Science, have received an NSF award to combine cybersecurity and resilience research efforts. Together, they aim to create a secure, practical, end-to-end cyberinfrastructure that could accelerate the pace of scientific discovery in human resilience research by collecting worldwide data into one central database while maintaining a priority in privacy-protection.

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A FEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



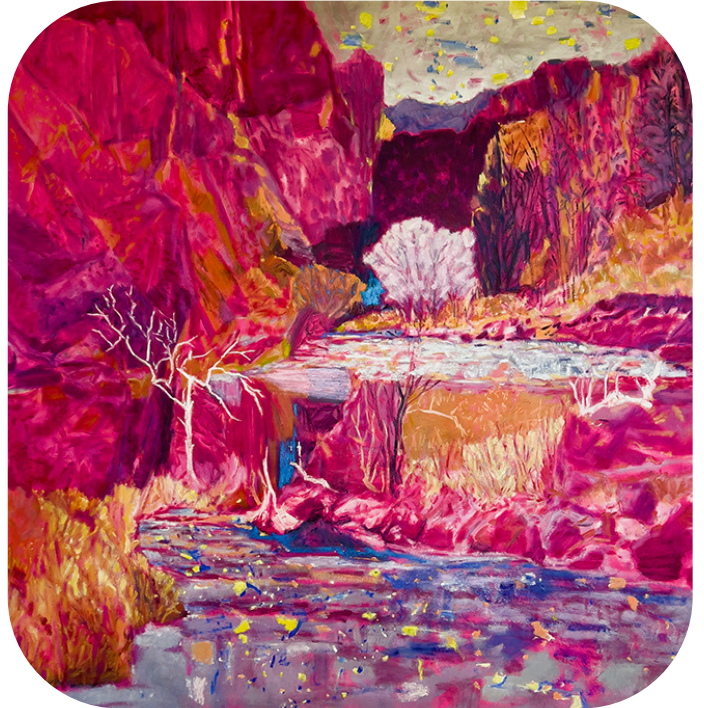
Department of Counseling and Human Services Cortny Stark, Ph.D., LPC, LAC, CRC; Joe Wehrman Ph.D.; Diane Stutey Ph.D.; Alfredo Palacios Ph.D.; Kim Severn MA, LPC, NCC; Lori Notestine, Ph.D.; Molly Cammell MA, Campus Connections, and Graduate Assistants Hailey Gloden, Abby Solis, and Kodi Enkler is focusing on how to better serve marginalized youths in a virtual format, especially analyzing the time period of the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. These mentors researched the affects of a dramatic change from in person interactions to virtual and their affects on both the mentors and mentees involved. Over the course of the pandemic, these researchers studied how each group adapted to their new circumstances to overcome adversity and maintain a successful partnership throughout the pandemic and to now.

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A FEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

UCCS Gallery of Contemporary Art hosted Jo Bertini with her new art exhibition "Deep in Land" exploring the unique and fragile beauty of remote desert landscapes and the peoples and cultures that have flourished there. Bertini focused on researching the vastness of space and a personal intimacy while focusing to retaining a fierce, unexpected wildness in a seemingly harsh and inhospitable environment.



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Haleh Abghari M.M., Interdisciplinary Arts; Eugenia Olesnicky Ph.D., Biology; and Dmytro Bozhko Ph.D., Physics.

In support of Ukraine, UCCS hosted a benefit concert at the UCCS Ent Center for the Arts with internationally renowned Ukrainian and American artists from the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, the Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble, Colorado College Chamber Chorus, Women's Reflection Quintet, and UCCS Faculty. This benefit aimed to respect and honor the Ukrainian culture and bring the community together to respond to this humanitarian crisis.

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Joey Lee, Health Sciences

Is focusing his academic and professional career on studying how to increase health and wellness opportunities for school-aged kids. Lee intends to understand why it is easier for some schools to prioritize student health and why some school struggle and ways to break these barriers to increase wellness opportunities for young students.

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The UCCS Men and Women's Cross Country team in collaboration with the William J. Hybl Sports and Medicine Performance Center were able to meet and set new records at their national meet. The team, through guided training programs, used the Hybl Center's altitude and environmental chambers to acclimate their runners to the national meet location weeks before they were there. This allowed for a higher performance in both teams and a faster acclimation period.



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A FEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Colin Wren Ph.D., Anthropology, illustrates a new, multidisciplinary approach to studying how humans have responded to climate threats in the past, and demonstrates that these strategies can be adapted to a modern context. By researching the natural climate archives for a multidisciplinary examination of the past, this approach presents an opportunity to illuminate the environmental "tipping points" that have prompted the reorganization of human systems and ecosystems.



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Roger Martínez-Dávila Ph.D., History is currently working on the Immersive Global Middle Ages program to teach participants to use advanced computer modeling and virtual reality tools to reconstruct global societies from 500-1500 C.E. His aim is to create new ways of experiencing medieval history on a global scale, even though these societies have faded from existence.

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Matthew Jabaily and Tabatha Farney look into the meaning of "The Library Never Closes", either through the thought of never shutting the doors to resources or looking into online availability of resources for 24 hour access from anywhere. The Kraemer Family Library is taking part in a multi-university research study to assess how library service and accessibility has changed after the COVID-19 pandemic and what people can do to have the access to information bounce back faster.



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THANK YOU

- each and every one -

for helping us create a thriving, inclusive culture of research at UCCS. We cannot wait to see what next year brings us.

KEEP UP WITH US **HERE!**



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Research



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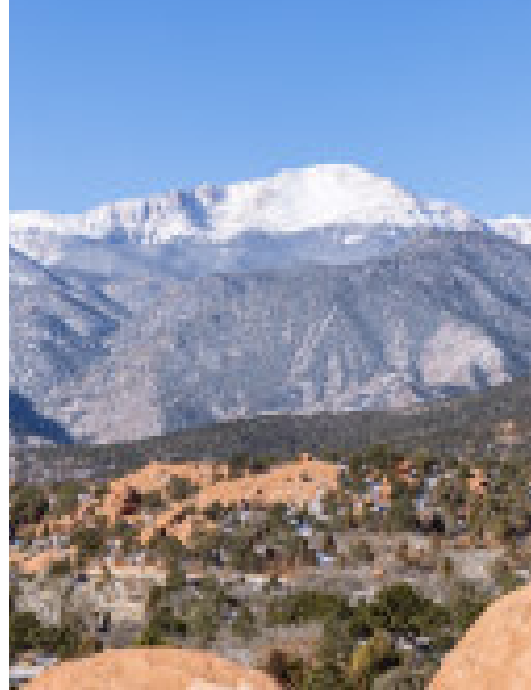
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