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*\*Stories on pages 11, 18, 21, 29, 34, 36 and 40 originally appeared on CUIndependent.com.*

# CUINDEPENDENT.COM

Your online-only campus newspaper — we've got you covered.

To readers new and old,

**More than ever, in 2017,** CU seemed like a place where news was constantly breaking. We documented the campus-wide discourse about alt-right speaker Milo Yiannopoulos coming to campus; we saw Trump's ban on refugees and people from majority-Muslim countries rip through the nation — and CU; we uncovered more controversy at the infamous Resurrection Church in Boulder; we followed Fossil Free CU's dogged protests against the university; we reacted to former football coach Joe Tumpkin's domestic abuse charges and the failure of Chancellor DiStefano and head coach Mike MacIntyre to respond properly or humanely.

One of our proudest achievements was bringing you an investigative piece on CU's long-mentioned diversity plan, now three years in the making. With little information available publicly, we dug for months into what is — and isn't — happening with the plan. That's here in these pages for you.

And through it all, you've been with us — or maybe you're just becoming acquainted. Either way, this magazine is for you. All of you. Never hesitate to reach out to the CU Independent if you see or hear something we should be reporting, documenting and talking about. Don't stop being informed.

It's been the privilege of my young life to serve you these last four years. Don't stop doing your part.

– Ellis Arnold,  
former CUI editor-in-chief

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# The CUI's Guide to Campus Groups

## Academics

Alpha Epsilon Delta  
Neuroscience Club  
Eta Sigma Phi  
Honors Journal  
Society for Collegiate  
Leadership  
and Achievement (SCLA)

For a full  
directory of  
student organiza-  
tions,  
visit  
[http://sofo.colora-  
do.edu/](http://sofo.colora-<br/>do.edu/).

## Art | Music | Film & Dance

Figure Drawing Club  
Photographic Artists of CU  
In the Buff  
Buffoons | Jam Society  
Music Industry Club | Radio 1190  
Extreme Measures  
Boulder Blues  
Verve Hip-Hop

## Sports

Backcountry Club  
Boulder Freeride  
Climbing Team | Ski Racing  
Trail Team | Flow Arts  
Powerlifting  
Shooting Sports | Skydiving Club  
Slackers (slackline) | Yoga Club  
Club Sports  
Intramural Sports

## Alliances | Politics

BridgeCU | African Student Association  
AID Colorado | American Civil Liberties Union  
Boulder Assets  
Bufs Israel Public Affairs Committee (BIPAC)  
College Democrats  
College Republicans | New Era Colorado  
Student Voices Count  
Nasty Women for Progress  
CU Student Government (CUSG)  
United Government of  
Graduate Students (UGGS)

## Service

Global Medical Brigades  
Student Worker Alliance Program  
Colorado Homeless Assistance with  
Medicine Program  
Habitat for Humanity  
CU Timmy (global health)

## Engineering | Business

BUFF Vex Robotics at CU  
Bridges to Prosperity | Game Developers Club  
Real Estate Club | DECA  
Delta Sigma Pi | Alpha Kappa Psi  
International Business Club  
Women in Computing | Design Build Fly  
Biomedical Engineering Society  
Engineers Without Borders | National Society of Black  
Engineers  
Ethical Hacking | HackCU  
University of Colorado Engineering Council  
Multicultural Business Students Association

## Greek Life

CU sorority chapters:  
[http://www.colorado.edu/  
greeks/panhellenic-sororities](http://www.colorado.edu/greeks/panhellenic-sororities)

CU fraternity chapters:  
<http://coloradoifc.org/>

# *Find Your Way.*

*New to college? Returning but still a bit lost?  
Check out this advice from our seniors – here's  
how we made it through.*

# Life 101: College as a life stage, not school

*by Ellis Arnold,  
former Editor-in-Chief*

You could say I've been around.

Four consecutive years at one of the nation's most famous — or infamous — party schools. Four years at one of the top 100-ranked universities in the country. Four years living through Obama's America, Trump's America and whatever America lies underneath. Four years at one of the more than 200 colleges and universities under federal investigation for wrongly handling sexual violence, part of the it's-only-an-epidemic-because-we-didn't-talk-about-it-before issue that goes unrecognized every time a snide comment about "all the new freshman ass" passes through an ignorant student's lips. Four years at a school where you can have the pleasure of sitting down in a bathroom stall and seeing a swastika carved into the wall next to you.

Four years of close calls, of bloodshot eyes, of terrifying times, national anxieties and small victories. Four years of sitting, waiting and watching people go through it all.

You could say I've been around, and you'd be right.

But before we dive in, let me be honest with you: These problems aren't unique to CU Boulder. They, and so many other issues, are rampant at other schools and throughout America.

But CU Boulder gives you a hell of a lens. And it is the hallmark of college — if four years is enough to make me an expert — that just as

you'll run into many societal problems head-on for the first time in your life, you'll also be going through the most complicated, volatile, sobering, bodys shocking time of your whole personal life so far. It's beatific. It demands attention.

(You excited yet?)

But I promise you, the best advice I can give you is this: College isn't what they tell you it is.

I just got to the end of my college experience — I graduated just seven weeks ago. (Yeah, I'm still sitting here in the journalism building as I type this. You're in for a ride, CMCI majors.) And the more I look back, the more I realize that college was an absolute clusterfuck. If there was a more articulate way to say it, I would. But the fact is that the conditions that college puts you in — the rush of unbounded freedom, combined with your heaviest load of responsibilities yet, combined with the easiest access you've ever had to alcohol and drugs, combined with a foreboding sense that you're almost going to have to be a real adult — those things alone are enough to topple some people. And you're not going to hear that at orientation, or on your first day meet-and-greets. You're not going to see "Hey man, watch the fuck out" written on the free T-shirts. You're not going to see a tattoo that says "I'm going to ruin your life for the next three months"



Students walk past the recently completed Kitteredge Central residence hall on Sept. 3, 2013. (James Bradbury/CU Independent)



You'll always hear,  
whether in jokes or in  
earnest, that college is the  
best four years of your  
life. Or that you really  
become "who you are" at  
college. Or that you'll find  
your passion and figure  
the rest of your life out.

## LIFE 101

Ellis Arnold wrote the "Life 101" advice column for the CUI. (Josh Shettler/CU Independent)

on that person's skin whose shirt you're gonna try to take off in five days. There aren't warnings.

You see, college, for various reasons — capitalism, American culture, "Animal House," Asher Roth — is an extremely branded thing. It's a concept that you're paying hundreds of thousands of dollars for. And if you can get past the fact that I just made a reference to Asher Roth (I'll wait while you Google), I need you to think about that. It's not a product in the way Cokes with your name on them are products — well, OK, it kind of is — but it's something that we've all produced, together, with the things we project onto it.

You'll always hear, whether in jokes or in earnest, that college is the best four years of your life. Or that you really become "who you are" at college. Or that you'll find your passion and figure the rest of your life out. Or that you'll "broaden your horizons," whatever that means.

Because the truth is, you might. You very well might go through college and have everything click, and if you do, good on you. I wish that for you all the way.

But the truth also is that you might not, and that's what the TV shows and movies and music videos — and, gasp, even books — aren't going to tell you. And I also need you to be prepared for that.

My truth was that I went through college meeting more people than I care to admit who were struggling. Not in school, but in their lives, in themselves. I met people who were fighting to keep their family life together, fighting to feel worthy in a sea of perfect-looking, well-dressed rich people; fighting to try to feel like they had any direction in life under the pressure of success; fighting to keep it together amid the break-ups, the crumbling of friendships and so much else. Often, what we don't realize is that in a sea of 32,000 people, it's easier than ever to feel alone. It's easier than ever to feel like things aren't going to get better.

For me, I went through a period of time when I was functional — and I still have no idea how — even though I felt hopeless. I was this high-achieving student who was dedicated to the school newspaper and tried to be dedicated to friends, but at night I was keeping myself up until 3, 4, 5 a.m. trying to find some way to feel better about the fact that I was always single and, well, lonely. There's no real poetic way to put it. I was always the person who was looking to be in a relationship and make someone happy — and when that's not happening in college, you feel

like the world is spinning without you. The way that several "dating" and semi-relationship situations (notice the quotes, my friends) unraveled was enough to leave me feeling wounded and unable to focus on more days than I'd like to admit.

And for some people, they're feeling that same thing right now on this campus. For others, it's something entirely different. For some people, they're under such pressure to succeed from their parents and continue being that straight-A kid that they were in high school, but it's just becoming too hard. For some people, it's things that have nothing to do with academics at all. For some people, it's political issues that have had a real effect on their lives. And that's why I want you to think of college as a life stage, too — not just a place where you figure out the quickest, most efficient way to get that magical piece of paper. Don't get me wrong, you need a degree in this world. Especially going forward. (Gotta love globalization, am I right?) But you also need to take care of yourself. And that's the thing in college that I didn't really start learning until I was near the end of it.

Sometimes, you have to give yourself a break. And there will be signs from all directions, at some points, that are going to push you away from that. But please, be kind to yourselves.

Sometimes, through all that you'll experience, you'll figure things out and grow as a person. Sometimes you'll pull yourself out. But more often than not, it'll turn out to be a waiting game. That's what it was for me. Eventually, I just got lucky, and I met someone who understood me. If you can guess by the way I'm gushing at thousands of strangers right now, I've got a lot of emotions, my guy. (But I also am a pretty good journalist, so don't put this magazine down yet.)

I met someone who understood me, and we made each other happy. (And if I can do it, so can you! I've gotta be positive somewhere in here.) I met the love of my life here at CU. And not everyone is going to be that lucky, and you sure can't wait on that to be the thing that fixes all your problems. Or whatever else you may be waiting on. But you'll find that in this web of circumstance and ambition and slacking off, once in a while, things will come together. You just have to stick around for those moments. Sometimes, they'll be more than moments. Sometimes, they won't.

But if I know anything after four years of it all, I know that in this life, and this stage, sometimes all you need is a little luck. And sometimes, you get it.

Don't give up before you get there, students. Keep on truckin'.

**G**raduation puts you on top of the world. After four long years of growth, playing teacher's pet, indulging in the catty drama, fostering those flailing grades, trying weed for the first time, having sex, getting in trouble and navigating friendships, you triumphantly walk across the stage in your cap and gown. Parents shed tears, summer jobs begin and the countdown to college is on. You're ready.

For some, you'll want to continue your high school hot streak. The idyllic high school popularity of athletes and cheerleaders will forever be remembered as days of glory, and you'll likely want to keep it up in college. For others, college is a chance at reincarnation. No more mathlete reputation, no more getting stuffed in lockers, no more invisibility ...

Let me stop you right there. It's impulsive to think this way. It's easy to feel bound to the person you were in high school and worry about your former reputation following close behind. But here's the crazy secret: College is not high school, and college you is not high school you. Sorry, cool kids.

College is, without a doubt, a blank slate. Post-senioritis, you're thrown back to the end of the line. For the first few weeks, you might display the baggage you carried around the long halls of your high school corridors, only to realize that this new phase of your life will never be like the old. It's impossible.

The binaries of cool and uncool, and the pressures that define those daunting categories, evaporate in a place like this. You can excel and be "cool" at anything you choose. It's not jocks vs. chess club or cheerleaders vs. mathletes. College has room for all of you. Better yet, the dividing lines completely fade because college is more than an institution — it's an enormous opportunity to better and find yourself.

Your education will take place outside the classroom as much, if not more, as it does inside.

You do get to start over. You can recreate yourself. Over and over and over and over again. Here, you have an infinite number of chances to try new things, to try again.

What does a blank slate mean, anyway? In college, the limitations of your character profile cease to exist. There begins the opportunity to strengthen yourself as an individual, and be lots of things all at once.

*No identity is mutually exclusive.*

Much of this process is absolutely informed by your social experience, and that blank slate is entirely in your hands. But to own that, you kind of have to let the "cool factor" go. High school is a lot of effort to become a person you think you ought to be. College is about actually becoming the person you are. Let. It. Happen.

I graduated high school an eager theater geek, feeling quite rejected from the elite theater programs I was not accepted to. Before locking down my college decision, I had to think long and hard about the kind of experience I wanted for myself these next four years. After visiting CU, I came to realize that at the right school, I could be a theater major and someone else, too. Maybe missing the opportunity to go to a conservatory was for the best. Maybe I'd inherited a chance at a more well-rounded college experience.

A few months into freshman year, theater stopped making me happy. CU's program is rigorous and interdisciplinary, and although I would highly recommend it, it stopped being what I wanted.

Disappointed and confused, I faced the challenge of redefining my future without using my past as a blueprint. I turned to Greek Life. As it turned out, that wouldn't inform my college experience either. After rushing — another



*by Dani Pinkus,  
former  
Assistant Opinion Editor*

experience I highly suggest — I didn't see myself involved in a Greek organization despite mystified fantasies about college popularity. Strike two in Act I of college.

Fast-forward to the end of freshman year. I was an English major with an emphasis in creative writing and a minor in women and gender studies. Sophomore year led to a campus job, and then to a retail job on Pearl Street. I joined clubs that supported my interests, including the CU Independent. Junior year, I went abroad to Madrid, Spain. Come senior year, I was writing a novel, completing my third year as a feminist opinion columnist in the school paper, holding an editing position, an internship and continuing my part-time job downtown. Blank slate after blank slate, I kept drafting who I could be and following paths without high school's ball-and-chain identity holding me down.

Looking back, I still sit in disbelief at my growth over my four years at CU. You've been told college is the "ride of your life," but know it can be an uphill battle and stomach-curdling roller coaster drop all at once. When it stops, your hair stops blowing, and your feet jolt forward. You get off the ride a new person, one you couldn't have imagined four years prior. Take the ride, and know that you'll never be truly stuck.



# Little Fish.



*by Jordyn Siemens,  
former Editor-in-Chief & Syllabus Editor*

**W**hen I received my acceptance letter from CU, my dad smiled and said, “the world is your oyster, kid.”

I thought that meant I had won already, gaining access to a place that would gift me an education and catapult me forward to success.

This is not the case. CU Boulder, as you’ve noticed, is massive. As a freshman tucking myself into the twin XL mattress on Farrand Hall’s first floor, I felt overwhelmed. There were too many clubs, too many resources, too many things to conquer. This place was going to eat me alive.

Think of your transition like that of a growing fish. After spending time in a fishbowl, you’ve grown to the point of needing more space to swim and stretch your fins. You’re moved to a tank, and later on, a bigger tank. At CU, you’re in your biggest environment yet. But I’ll tell you right now, the place is more bite-sized than you think.

Start small. Understand that if you ask, you

shall receive. A quick Google search will provide you with just the office, e-mail, or phone number you need to connect with companies for an internship, find a campus job, get a ride home, see if the climbing gym is open or even see if you remembered to pay for parking. The key to navigating CU Boulder is mobilizing your resources and perfecting your search skills. Let that inner Facebook-stalker fly — you’ll need it.

Clubs are the easiest way to not only feel socially active, but also to strategize your next steps. Walking through doors leads to more, and you can always close them and move on. Forgive the clichés, but the university will NOT, and I repeat, NOT, spoon-feed you. If you want to conquer CU Boulder, you have to go and wring it out for all its worth.

Some will take this as a social call to action, running out to soak up all the hedonism college enables. Don’t. I’m not saying you need to stay solitary or wait on making friends by any means, but the second key to success here is to start in the fast track academically. You won’t regret the time spent maintaining your GPA as a sophomore when you’re debating cutting classes as a post-thesis-defense senior.

Don’t be afraid to ask for help, bug your professors, form annoyingly beneficial group texts with a few classmates or split the cost of a textbook with the person next to you in class. Work the system. Hermione Granger’s time-turner isn’t real, as much as we’d all like it to be, so put in the extra effort right now to set yourself up for success as an upperclassman. Take an extra class, do the extra credit. Volunteer while you have the time. Do an internship for no reason other than to gain experience. Just try it out, even if it’s not a part of your five-year plan you wrote in high school. The rest will fall into place.



# What I wish I knew as a freshman

by Gavin Daugherty, Grapevine Section Editor

College is a culture shock, regardless of your high school experience. Having attended both a small college-prep school and a highly ranked, larger public school, I felt like I had the tools to adapt to the collegiate lifestyle. I was so wrong.

Branded as a time of exploration and self-discovery, articles and adults alike forget to mention how challenging those first couple of semesters can be. Looking back, I can identify three things I wish I would have known before embarking on my journey through higher education (which isn't even over yet...yay grad school!).

## Get ready for academic changes —

Regardless of the quality of your high school, be ready for major academic changes. As I've said, I went to two very good high schools, both of which boast a high rate of sending students to top colleges. However, I have yet to meet anyone who thinks their high school curriculum successfully prepared them to manage college coursework.

For one, you'll be in class for a maximum of 21 hours per week. That amount of free time is extremely rare and feels amazing, especially if you're not working part-time. A 21-credit-hour semester leaves over 140 hours a week to do whatever you please. It took a bit to realize those hours spent outside of class can either be incredibly productive or overwhelmingly wasteful.

Productive time management doesn't necessarily mean doing homework or studying. Go to the gym. Go out for coffee with a friend or professor. Read a book (dare I say it) for pleasure. Find ways to break up your studying and class time to practice self-care. It's so cliché, but moderation is really important. It's really easy to spend weekends stoned, playing Grand Theft Auto with your dorm friends, but that's not a sustainable or enjoyable way to spend your college career. During your time here, you get out what you put in, and I can almost guarantee if you find activities that stimulate you outside of class,

your performance in class will improve.

## Don't waste chances for help!

Use a few hours of that busy schedule to visit a professor's office hours. At CU, every professor is required to hold office hours each week. Take advantage of this! Meeting up with your professor outside of class not only shows you care, but also forges connections with educators who are fountains of knowledge and opportunity. It took me over a semester to realize this, but professors aren't scary mythical beasts that dole out grades. Most of them really care about their students. If you're not convinced, think of it this way: taking advantage of office hours means getting more bang for your tuition buck. Plus, you'll never know what opportunities might arise from those office hours or coffee meetings!

## "Find your passion" isn't just a cliché.

Something I struggled with the most was pursuing my own interests and finding my passions. The beauty of college is that it's the perfect time to do this, fail and do it again. I was definitely one of those people in high school who had to be in the "cool" group (whatever that means), but in college, none of those previous status measures matter. While the friends you make during your first few weeks of school can seem like your ride-or-dies, chances are you'll get tired of spending every waking minute with them and be ready for a change sometime around November. Take note of the student involvement fairs at the start of each semester; they can offer some great alternatives and opportunities to do more than class, parties, and C4C binges at CU. Only partially interested? Put your email down! Maybe that nagging e-mail list will be your light in the darkness, an alternative to the hum-drum dorm drama of freshman year. It led me to the CU Independent. Where will it lead you?

The point is, do your best to enjoy your time here and make this experience your own. College can be a great experience and a really fun four (or six) years. Freshman year can be a challenge, since no one is really prepared for the lifestyle changes that come with attending a large university. There are no parents to badger you into office hours or clubs, or to yell at you when you get stoned and play GTA. But, take it from me. In the long run you really will be better off getting involved. In a school of 35,000+ students, you're bound to find classes, activities, and people that make your world a better place.



## *"All you need is good ingredients and love."*

This mantra, passed down by my mother, carries every morsel of flavor that I cook.

Cooking can be daunting, with the sharp knives, high heat and occasional flame-thrower. But with simple technique, you can master any dish in your college kitchen while maintaining a balanced budget and healthy lifestyle.

### **Prep:**

Stocking your kitchen with the right tools is just as important as picking up textbooks, notebooks and pens.

Here are the must-haves:

- Large pasta pot. You're in college, and pasta will save your life. Get a large, thin pot that can hold enough water to let your spaghetti float free.

- Chef's knife. Hold it in your hand, it's all in the weight and balance. The heavier the knife, the more control you will have.

- Sauté pan. Sauté is a French word that not only sounds fancy, but is the easiest way to make delicious food. Get a nice eight-inch non-stick pan for eggs and personal dishes and a 10-12 inch for cooking veggies, pancakes or the occasional bananas fosters.

- Roasting tray. Roast roast roast! The most surefire way to keep friends around, a tray of roasted cauliflower and carrots drizzled with olive oil and exotic spices

- Cast-iron pan. It is not a requirement, but it will make cooking meat and roasting veggies infinitely easier.

Balancing your day with exercise and food is essential to keeping your mind and body functioning at optimum levels. Here are a few breakfast, lunch and dinner recipes to kick start your creativity.

### **Breakfast:**

Eggs are tricky lil' bastards. The difficult part about them is they cook at a very low temperature and must be taken care of so as not to overcook them into rubbery trash.

- Heat butter and oil (the combination renders the best flavor) on medium high heat. In a separate cup, crack two to three eggs and with a fork, slowly turn them so the yolks and whites look marbled. Add chopped scallions, red peppers, mushrooms or any veggies you have to the hot oil. As they sizzle, swirl the pan around to cover them in the oil and ensure they cook evenly. After a minute of cooking the veggies, add those eggs. Keep the heat on medium high for a few seconds as the bottom sets and then immediately turn it down to medium/medium low. With a spatula, turn the eggs

over and let the other side set. Before the eggs have completely cooked, remove them from the pan. As they rest they will continue to cook since eggs transform at such low heat. If you remove them when they are cooked all the way through, it will be too late and you will start your day with rubber in your tummy.

### **Lunch:**

Pack it up, pack it in! You need some good protein in your belly to keep tapping away at the keyboard. My favorite source comes from the Middle East: hummus. I wrap up my freshly baked bread or naan in a napkin and grab a tub full of hummus for the road. Alternative to fresh bread, pack sticks of carrots or red peppers. You'll thank me later.

### **Dinner:**

Pasta is your best friend. It is as easy to make as boiling water, but if you are going to do it do it, you might as well do it right. Pasta is most nutritious and delicious "al dente." Literally meaning "to the tooth," there should still be a little crunch in your noodles when using this technique.

Cook your spaghetti until it's still quite firm.

Reserve a cup of the starchy pasta water and drain the rest. Immediately put the pasta into a hot pan with your sauce, whether it be a can of San Marzano's, some freshly sautéed onions with parmesan or a Sunday-made bolognese.

Pour the cup of water into the pan to loosen the sauce and allow it to bind with noodles. Toss the pan and cook the liquid back down to thicken the sauce until the noodles are perfectly al dente.

Even though it will never get tired of you, you will get tired of pasta. That is where the magic of the oven comes in.

Whether it be a tray of curry-spiced roasted carrots, cauliflower, brussels sprouts or chicken served over brown rice, the oven is the key to great-tasting, easy meals.

### **Pan-Seared Meats:**

Pre-heat the oven to 400 degrees and heat a pan on the stove top (preferably cast iron) on high heat.

Salt the crap out of the meat and spice to your palate's desire.

Put a "high heat" oil in the pan (grape seed, canola, sesame or a mixture of olive oil and butter), and lay the meat in the hot oil. Let it sizzle away and develop a gold-

en crust for a few minutes. Then, flip to the other side. Keep it on the stove top for about half the time as the first side, then stick the entire pan in the oven.

Cooking time depends on the thickness of the cut. For a normal-sized chicken breast, put it in the oven for five minutes. Check on it by pressing down with a knife. If the juices run clear, it is ready to eat.

# Bufs in the Kitchen: Cooking in college

*by Jackson Barnett,  
Multimedia Managing Editor*



An example of Middle Eastern food, among Jackson's favorite regional types. You might not be cooking this complex right now — we all eat out sometimes. (Kate Burr/CU Independent file)

# *What's the Truth?*

*From insidious churches to Middle Eastern stereotypes to drug norms to CU Boulder policy, we're digging in so you know what's going on.*

# The Trump Effect:

*How travel ban left Mideastern students feeling unwelcome, afraid — and cut off from families*

*By Jackson Barnett, Multimedia Managing Editor, and Carina Julig, Senior News Editor;  
originally published Feb. 23–28*

## Immigrants in the CU community from across the globe

have felt differing effects of President Donald Trump's immigration ban, but one sentiment remains the same among every immigrant interviewed: opposition to the ban.

low green-card holders, but said they may still face extra screening at airports.

There is currently a federal court-ordered hold on the ban, but its announcement continues to cause immigrants to question their place in the United States.

For many, the ban was a shock, and caused even those not directly affected by it to wonder if they were truly accepted in the country.

fairness of this decision,” she said.

The Iranian woman said that she and her husband immigrated from Iran to the U.S. in the 1990s to obtain advanced degrees, and then to work in the medical technology industry. They decided to stay in the country because they could contribute more to their field in the U.S. They are now citizens with two children who were born in the country, and run their own medical device technology business.

The Iranian woman said she thinks the ban is racist, and resents its portrayal of Muslims and Middle Easterners.

“That the president keeps saying ‘Muslim terrorist’ is a very hateful thing,” she said. “Muslims are not terrorists — personally, I’m not a Muslim; I’m a Buddhist. But putting terrorism next to Muslims, next to Iranians — it’s not fair.”

The woman said she understands criticism of the Iranian government, which she described as repressive. However, she said applying the same criticism to ordinary Iranians is unfair. She also said she fears the effects of poor U.S.-Iranian diplomatic relations.

“I have family in Iran — I was hoping to go see my grandmother, my brothers,” she said. “I was hoping to travel, and now I don’t know what to do.”

To Abdulsalam Hindawi, separation from family is the worst part of being a refugee. Hindawi defected from the Syrian Army in 2012 and came to the U.S. to study geography at CU Boulder after some time living in Turkey. He is currently an asylum seeker, and said that when his degree is finished, he hopes to stay in the U.S. and become a professor or work with a refugee aid organization.

Today, his family is scattered across several countries. His sister lives in Istanbul, Turkey,



**A CU student wears an American flag hijab during a protest against President Trump's immigration and refugee ban at Denver International Airport on Jan. 28, 2017. (Jackson Barnett/CU Independent file)**

Announced in late January, the ban prohibits the arrival of immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries — Iran, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Somalia, Libya and Yemen — for 90 days, halts the arrival of refugees from anywhere in the world for 120 days and indefinitely forbids the arrival of refugees from Syria. The administration later reversed to al-

This is especially true for one Boulder-area Iranian woman who wishes to remain anonymous.

“We’ve been law-abiding people paying our taxes, we have never felt scared in this country, but lately we are disappointed about the



and one of his brothers lives in Germany. After the death of his father several weeks ago, his mother is alone in Syria.

“No one can be next to her right now,” Hindawi said.

He hopes to be able to bring her to the U.S. if he obtains permanent settlement, but for the present they remain apart.

### **“Who are we hurting?” Bunga Manurung thought when she heard about the ban.**

Indonesian refugees, her Christian family sought asylum in the U.S. to escape religious persecution in Muslim-majority Indonesia. They came to the U.S. in 2003 and after 10 long years obtained asylum in 2013. They now have their green cards, which means Marunga and her siblings can attend college without having to pay out-of-state tuition.

The travel ban reminds Manurung, who is a CU student, of the way her refugee community was treated under the Bush administration, when many Indonesian refugees were deported under misleading circumstances. She said it paints an inaccurate portrayal of immigrants as a danger to the country, and is inhumane in that it sends people back to countries where they will often face persecution and danger.

“I’m not welcome in Indonesia, and I’m not welcome in the United States, so where am I welcome?” Manurung said. “[The refugees] are not welcome in their own country and they’re not welcome in the United States, so where are they welcomed at?”

South Sudanese refugee Aldo Aldo had similar sentiments about the ban. “You can’t just ban a whole group, especially refugees who are fleeing war-torn nations and trying to help their kids have a better life, and say they’re terrorists,” said Aldo, a CU student.

### **Immigration attitudes changed over the years, one immigrant said**

The overcast, Washington, D.C., sky greeted Fateh Tumia on his first day in America in January 1976. He came to the United States from Libya, an eager student pursuing his master’s degree in systems engineering at the University of Arizona. 41 years later, sitting in the Amante Coffee café on Baseline Road and 28th Street in Boulder, he holds two passports — one from a country which tried to ban entry from residents of the other.

in 2017, Trump’s executive order banning left many of the 75 members of the CU Boulder community from those countries angry, fearful and uncertain of their future.

While not directly affected, many of the



**Thousands gathered in Denver’s Civic Center Park for the Protect Our Muslim Neighbors rally on Saturday Feb. 4, 2017. (Sarah Farley/CU Independent)**

more than 3,000 international students at CU from non-banned countries share similar anxieties about the ability of their families to visit, a rise in anti-immigrant sentiment and for their F-1 student visas to transfer into worker visas to remain in the U.S. after graduation.

When Tumia came to America, he said you could “get a visa before finishing a cigarette.” In the four decades he has lived in America since earning his degree, the international student population in U.S. universities has ballooned from less than 200,000 students to almost 1 million people from all corners of the globe, 5 percent of the 2015 school year’s university student population.

While Trump’s ban has been temporarily blocked by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals over a lack of evidence that it would increase safety, CU international students’ fears still loom over their place in the U.S.

**Covering his face with an old cloth, Ali shoveled stalks of discarded wheat from the screaming flower mill until the sun crossed the sky, dipped below the western horizon and returned to the east the next morning.** It was the 24 hours of the year he most dreaded, the day his parents would rent a motorized wheat mill to grind their yearly grain harvest into flour. Ali, his siblings and his neighbors needed to work around the clock to maintain the Mill’s output for every second their rental allowed. As farmers near the western edge of Iran, 24 hours was all they could afford from their meager income.

Opportunities beyond farming were slim in his village near the Iraq border.

“I wanted to have a job that used by mind, not my body,” he said during an interview in CU’s Gemmill Engineering Library, looking

back at his childhood of manual labor.

Ali eventually would leave his village, earn a degree in Iran’s capitol of Tehran and work in an oil company. But these accomplishments were not enough for the ambitious Iranian. In 2013, Ali came to CU to seek yet another degree. He’s on track to earn his doctorate in electrical engineering this spring.

**Over the snow-capped Zagros Mountains in the neighboring province of Isfahan, Elnaz Beirami grew up** in the Isfahan Technical University housing, where her father taught. Instead of working in the farm fields as Ali did, she spent her childhood listening

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**Ali and Beirami’s stories had never crossed paths until Jan. 27, when the signing of the executive order banning travel from their home country of Iran fused their stories — along with 73 other members of the CU community — together.**

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to her father’s colleagues wax on about their research of the world beyond Iran’s borders.

After earning a degree in English literature in Iran and beginning a doctorate in tourism management in Cyprus, she joined Ali and over 40 other Iranian students in the CU community when she started her master’s in business in fall of 2016.



More international students flock to American institutions every year than anywhere else in the world. To many, America represents freedom and the chance for their once unattainable dreams, limited by their place of origin, to flourish.

"America is built on immigrants," Beirami said, referring to the many friends and family members from Iran who have come to the U.S. and started business and contribute to the U.S. workforce.

In the era when Tumia arrived to study engineering at the University of Arizona, background checks, interviews and long waiting periods were unheard of. By the time Ali, Beirami and other Iranian students began their visa application, their process was much longer and required a determined resolve to come to the U.S.

**Ali had made up his mind to come to the U.S. years before he began any visa application.** Growing up without internet, his only window to the west was through VHS tapes of Arnold Schwarzenegger chasing Linda Hamilton through time in *The Terminator*. He saw a society more liberal than his own and with more opportunity. He shared an affinity for the free culture of the west with many other Middle Eastern and Iranian students that the CUI interviewed while reporting on Trump's effect on the CU community.

"Iranians are in love with Americans," one CU student, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said.

Ali's first steps on American soil were in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Since the 1979 hostage takeover of the U.S. embassy in Iran where over 60 American diplomats were held captive for 444 days, the U.S. has not had an embassy in Iran. To finalize his student visa, he needed to complete an in-person interview at a U.S. embassy, which is technically American territory. Turkmenistan, a neighboring central Asian country, was his answer.

After waiting 26 days for his visa to process, he was granted a single-entry visa into the U.S.

**Iranians were the largest population of**

**international students in the U.S. in 1979, the same year the revolution transformed the country into an Islamic republic.** After the revolution, the Carter administration cancelled U.S. visas for Iranians and imposed immigration restriction on the country. When Iranian students were allowed to study in the country again, they were only allowed single-entry visas.

In 2011, the Obama administration removed the single-entry restriction, trying to again attract Iranian students like Beirami who was granted a multiple-entry student visa in 2016.

Back in Ali's village, his family continued to work on the farm, milling their wheat harvest and cultivating cucumbers. Without internet on the farm, his parents were completely severed from their son.

**"I went a whole year without seeing my mother's face," Ali said.**

Many students interviewed voiced the concern that, under Trump's immigration and refugee ban, they'd be alone in the U.S., unable to reunite with their families. After Trump's order, the State Department cancelled the visa

The Trump administration said the ban, and all foreign policy in the future, will be "America first." White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer repeatedly claimed that the list of seven Muslim-majority countries banned was taken from a law signed under the Obama administration barring anyone who has visited the seven countries from using the visa waiver program, which allows citizens of 38 mostly western countries to enter the U.S. without pre-screened visas.

Although the Obama-era law did not outright ban anyone's entry to the U.S, it required that those who have visited the seven countries after March 2011 have a visa for entry. Trump's ban went further, barring all citizens from the seven countries and leaving green card visa holders subject to rescreening after visiting those countries.

Most uncertain is the ability for students graduating to be able to transfer their student F-1 visas, which only allow them to stay in the country as students, to Optional Practical Training (OPT) visas, which can extend their stay while working in the U.S. without having to reapply for the official workers' H1-B visa. Current news reports have not said that OPT

visas will be denied, but Ali and his friends await confirmation.

"100 percent of our conversations are about the news," said Ali about his talks with other Iranians at CU's Center for Community.

"The International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office will provide guidance to international students who are on visas sponsored by the university," said Scott Pribble, a spokesperson for CU, in an emailed statement. "[The ISSS will] advocate and liaison on their behalf as appropriate with governmental agencies if the students encounter difficulties with their immigration status," Pribble said.

But for Beirami, the legal impact of the ban is secondary to the emotional impact of what it was like to, in her words, "be trapped in a country that doesn't like me."

After waiting 26 days for his visa to process, he was granted a single-entry visa into the U.S.

*This story is a combined piece of one by Julig and one by Barnett. See both in our Trump Effect series at [cuindependent.com](http://cuindependent.com).*



**A man, who identifies as a Sufi Muslim, walks past a Southwest Airlines ad while leaving the DIA arrivals terminal to protest outside on Jan. 28, 2017. (Jackson Barnett/CU Independent)**

interviews Beirami's parents had scheduled for their summer visit, along with 60,000 other visas, as Time Magazine reported. The cancellations were later reversed. Ali had hoped his family could come to watch him earn his doctorate, but he's uncertain if they will be allowed in the country with the U.S.'s tumultuous political climate on foreign policy. He is hopeful they will be able to make their first trip to America.

# *CU's Diversity Plan:*

In the works for nearly three years, CU's plan to increase diversity and inclusion on campus is purportedly moving forward. Discourse on campus about racial issues has been simmering for years. But what's actually in the plan, and will students get what they've been asking for? The CUI spent nine months investigating to find out.

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*reported by CU Independent Staff; written  
and overseen by Ellis Arnold, former Editor-in-Chief*

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Two days after Donald Trump won the presidency, students at CU Boulder walked into their class on race and ethnicity and had an emotional discussion about the election that brought some to tears. That particular day, they were joined by a white male wearing a Trump shirt and American flag shorts. He was not enrolled in the class. He sat silent, in the front row, through several minutes of the discussion. Suddenly, he raised his hand to the mixed-race professor.

"I think I'm in the wrong class, but this is for you," he said, approached her and then walked out. "Build a wall! Build a wall!"

He handed the professor a box of tissues.

Welcome to CU Boulder.

That's the scene a student in CU's Black Student Alliance recounted in spring semester 2017 as the university's administration continued to work on a plan to improve diversity and inclusion that's been in development for nearly three years.

The "comprehensive strategic plan," as Chancellor Philip DiStefano called it, has created dialogue between students, faculty, staff and administrators, but the concrete changes it will bring to the campus remain vague and not obvious to the public.

The plan's website lists dozens of academic reports, research and other writings as resources, but it does not list any specific changes planned by CU Boulder's colleges, schools and other offices on campus. The site also says the plan would be implemented starting summer 2017. Group interviews indicated most students likely do not know about the plan, despite CU telling the campus it would be publicly updated.

Aside from some staff taking a cultural awareness program and a focus on cultural issues in the classroom — and the controversial cutting of a diversity dorm hall program beloved by students for years — the overall scope of CU's strategy remains unclear. A look into the process revealed a lack of public transparency that was promised about the plan and uncertainty about what it will ultimately be.

Students of color said they've experienced treatment in the classroom by students that ranges from uncomfortable to racist and that professors don't do enough to help.

The CU Independent talked to student groups of color and the CU administration to examine students' experiences, what

changes they want to see and what will actually come of CU's plan to address the adverse state of diversity and inclusion on campus.

**'Have you ever been stopped by the police?'**

For many students of color who talked to the CUI, race-fueled incidents in the classroom formed a common thread in which they faced singling out, aggressive tones and stereotyping.

Victoria Dadet, an officer of communications for BSA, told the CUI a white student shouted at a professor during a discussion about police brutality in her Introduction to Africana Studies class.

"I took a class that had a group of white guys who sat in the back and yelled at the professor, 'This is bullshit, this class is bullshit and this professor is bullshit,'" Dadet said.

Other white students in the class did not react to the yelling, Dadet said.

Richardo Bambury, officer of finances for BSA, said he was singled out during his first month at CU in a class conversation about Mike Brown, who was shot and killed by police in 2014.

"A professor asked me, 'Have you ever been stopped by the police?'" Bambury said. "I was the only black person in that class. I think he thought he could get the full explanation from me."

Bambury told the CUI about the Trump supporter giving a professor a racially charged message and leaving tissues. The professor told the CUI she reported the incident and that a CU office identified the male as a student. Bambury heard the story from a friend he had in that class who provided a photo of the box of tissues, which had a quip about Hillary Clinton taped to its side. The CUI did not publish the photo to protect a second friend's identity.

Guadalupe Avalos, a member of UMAS Y MEChA, a Latino CU student group, said she felt pressure from a liberal professor to express how she feels about issues surrounding Trump.

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# Students of color said they've experienced treatment in the classroom by students that ranges from uncomfortable to racist and that professors don't do enough to help.

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"(Trump) comes up every day (in political science) classes ... It's normalized. It's streamlined. It's across classes," said Robert De Mata, an UMAS Y MEChA member who said students of color feel they have to contest stereotypes and other offensive comments when professors won't. "From a person of color's (standpoint), it's exhausting to have to do that."

Multiple students in group interviews said they encountered Trump-like rhetoric about immigrants or Middle Easterners in or out of the classroom.

"I'd agree with (De Mata); there's no effort to defend our side of it," another student at the February UMAS meeting said. "They're trying to remain neutral because they're professors, and I get that, but sometimes, we need a little bit more."

Heraa Hashmi, co-president of Muslim Students Association, said politics came up in class in October and she and her Latino friend felt out of place because their "lives are at stake, and consequences are very real for us."

"One of my classmates and (I) had an argument about terrorism, and



**Students from Black Student Alliance protest the election of President Donald Trump at the UMC, Nov. 15, 2016. (Carina Julig/CU Independent)**

he asked me, 'If Islam is peaceful, why are most terrorists Muslim?' This was a lecture hall," Hashmi said. "It got uncomfortable." She said people were arguing around them, even though it was a talk-with-your-neighbor discussion.

For Garmai Matthew, a student at the BSA meeting, the discomfort came from being asked about race relations in class.

"In many cases, I was the only black person in my Chinese classes," said Matthew, who also said her professors recently asked her questions like "How does it feel to be black in this campus climate?" and "How does it feel being black in your major?"

"I asked my professor, do you have any black friends? Let's start there," Matthew said. "Picking up a book, looking at our philosophers and thinkers (would help), rather than picking us off and thinking, 'You can explain the whole black experience for all black people.' I asked him, 'What if I had asked you, 'How does it feel to be a white male?' and he said, 'I never thought about it that way.'"

Another student said the campus climate has changed in the past two years "in an artificial way."

"My professors are aware, but almost in a (complaining) way," said Ogechi Hippolyte. "Yeah, (school emails about diversity) are annoying, but they don't understand that's making light of what students actually have to go through."

Some professors ask how they can help, she said, "But it's 75/25. Most are the snob comments."

**For one race, just 38 percent felt welcome at CU**

CU conducts a Social Climate Survey, which asks students about their experience on campus, about every four years. The results of the 2014 survey were released January 2016 and showed stark disparities in students' feelings across races.

Sixty-nine percent of white students said they felt welcome at CU, or "like they belong here." The number was 61 percent for Hispanic students, 56 percent for Asian-Americans and 56 percent for Native Americans.

It was 38 percent for black students.

The results came on the heels of talks between BSA and Chancellor DiStefano in November 2015 amid unrest at the University of Missouri — commonly called "Mizzou" — where the school's president and chancellor stepped down after protests over racial incidents on campus.

BSA shared stories of racial incidents and students being called "nigger" at CU in the past, and racist graffiti was found in a CU bathroom months after.



In the midst of the Mizzou unrest, DiStefano sent out in the university newsletter what appears to be the first announcement of CU's diversity and inclusion plan Oct. 9, 2015. He said talks related to the plan — which one administrator calls the “Inclusive Excellence Initiative” — took place in May 2015. According to the diversity plan website, talks related to the plan date back to fall 2014.

The plan isn't directed at racial issues alone, but interviews with administrators and the “resources” pages on the website focused on race and ethnicity more than issues about gender, sexual orientation, sex, religion or socioeconomic status. Panel talks regarding the Social Climate Survey results in spring 2016 largely centered on race, as did three focus groups of black students CU conducted in fall 2015.

Racial minority undergraduate students, especially black students, have generally expressed less positive feelings than white students about the campus through each of the six surveys — generally called campus climate surveys — since 1994.

In group interviews in March, students told the CUI they want more diverse faculty, more sensitivity in class discussions, more communication with the administration and better funding for diversity-related programs. One of the most asked-for ideas has been a required class on multiculturalism — or understanding between different cultural groups — for all students. Students from the Muslim Student Association and the Middle Eastern Students Association said they wanted an adequate prayer room on campus.

Alphonse Keasley, an assistant vice chancellor and part of the steering committee — which partially oversees the plan — said, “Every layer of upper-level administration on the campus” is involved in the plan, officially named the Diversity, Inclusion and Academic Excellence Plan.

DiStefano has said CU is making this kind of effort for the “first time in our history.”

#### **CU is paying \$217,000 for outside help — so what's in the plan?**

Despite DiStefano telling the campus it would be updated on the planning process, few specifics have been released about what changes the plan will make.

In that October 2015 announcement, the chancellor explained that colleges, schools and administrative offices would submit findings — based on talks between deans, chairs, office heads and students — with recommendations to improve diversity and inclusion on campus.

Ideas from those bodies — often called “units” — would be condensed by the committee Keasley mentioned. That committee's combined findings formed the starting point for the “collective CU Boulder plan,” DiStefano wrote.

DiStefano wrote that throughout the planning process, administration would “make the results known to the campus at key intervals through public and internal communications,” but units' reports and recommendations have proved hard to find.

The website for the plan lists dozens of academic reports on criss-crossing issues of culture, racial bias and other forms of discrimination but does not offer a list of steps CU's colleges, schools, administrative or other offices, or the campus as a whole has taken or will take. In the CU Independent's inquiries to the chancellor and Provost Russell Moore for documents or

records related to the plan, the CUI was directed to that site. Its materials appear to be exclusively written by professors and writers from other universities, academic organizations and other groups.

DiStefano and Moore were both interviewed in October 2016 after a report on the plan was privately presented to CU officials. DiStefano seemed to be unfamiliar with that meeting.

When asked about records related to the plan, Moore said certain information would be available on that website.

“The summaries, not the work products, but the summaries,” Moore said. “When we come to the milestone summaries, I believe the intention is to post those on the website.”



**Members of CU's Black Student Alliance and the campus community link arms**

No summaries that involve recommendations — as DiStefano said units' findings would involve — appear to have been posted as of this writing July 3. Instead, the website lists “resource articles, sorted by topic, that may provide useful information” about the concept of inclusivity in general. The articles tend to be dense and esoteric.

Moore did not respond in April when asked again about the summaries.

In October, Moore said he holds monthly meetings with chairs, deans, directors and vice chancellors on campus in which there have been “numerous discussions regarding culture and climate on campus.” He said there are close to 90 people that attend. As part of the plan, individual units would also try to improve diversity and inclusion within themselves, the website said.

A meeting on Oct. 14 included an external consultant who's worked with other universities — CU Boulder has worked with Emeritus Consulting Group LLC, which it is paying \$217,000 over “the next 30 months” to help develop the plan, the Daily Camera reported June 2015.

“What we're trying to do is come up with something that, from the very grassroots on up, we can put together to say, ‘This really represents the campus' priorities,’” Moore said. “It's not just the department chair; it's ... his or her faculty, and they're the ones that contribute to this. And then we're bring the same things together from the student side of the house.”

#### **Amid little information, most students did not know about a plan**

In September, students received an update in the CU newsletter that said a “summary report” was being drafted based on the input from schools, colleges and offices on campus. Vice Chancellor Robert Boswell said the report would be shared in mid-October “beginning at campus governance meetings.”

One group of students saw updates from it, according to the Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, but it was not released in other ways.

Boswell's September letter appeared to be the only public update sent to the whole campus about the process within about three years aside from the initial announcement. A brief mention came in DiStefano's October 2016 State of the Campus address that echoed Boswell's letter, and Boswell sent another short mention of the process in a January newsletter. CU recently invited new employees to an event where they were given some information about the plan May 19.

Boswell, who is black, led two sessions about the plan at CU's fall 2015 Diversity and Inclusion Summit on campus a month after the plan was announced, DiStefano said at the time. He led another session at the February





in solidarity with 'Mizzou' on Dec. 3, 2015. (Andrew Haubner/CU Independent)

2016 summit, where several attendees liked the idea but were unsure of how CU would find consistency if every department creates its own standards.

At the session, a person from the evolutionary biology department said he hadn't heard of the plan and that it wasn't introduced to his department. It was unclear whether CU shared details at those sessions other than those Boswell shared later in September or those DiStefano shared prior.

Of the roughly 50 students in group interviews with the CUI in spring 2017 — the vast majority students of color — less than half were aware of the plan.

When asked why there haven't been more public updates to the whole campus, CU spokesperson Ryan Huff did not directly answer the question and did not point to any other such updates.

Huff mentioned several messages to the campus in recent years about diversity and CU's semesterly Diversity and Inclusion summits, which are not mandatory to attend, but he did not point to any statements that gave the campus substantial information about the plan past what DiStefano's initial announcement and Boswell's letter detailed.

The plan's "old timeline" — which lines up with the current timeline but is briefer — said information would be shared with the campus after units' findings were reviewed, but details have not been publicly released as of this writing July 3. The old timeline's link appeared to have been removed in June.

### **'Put our money where their mouth is' — what CU's done so far**

One student at the UMAS Y MEChA meeting said they want to see the school's plan "put their money where their mouth is." Another, later, emphasized: "(They need to) put our money where their mouth is."

The plan's website does little to identify the handful of concrete steps the administration is in fact taking toward addressing CU's diversity problems. In one case, it appeared to contradict them.

The resources page featured one article written by a person, who is white, described as a blogger and head of a consulting company. It argues that cultural sensitivity training is "ineffective and insensitive" and says it "rubs me wrong."

"First, it indirectly calls out a limiting belief that the solution is that 'we' need to be more 'sensitive' to 'them,'" her piece reads. "This belief is well-intended, but often has negative effects."

The piece equates calling for cultural sensitivity with implying that

people of color "are fragile and need to be handled gently so you don't break" and says it reinforces "a perceived or real power imbalance." Instead, it calls for "intercultural effectiveness" but offers a vague definition of what that is and says little of how that would be achieved without some kind of program.

It continues, "Communities of color and non-dominant groups in general don't want cultural sensitivity training, nor do they want to be the subjects of such training ... Perhaps ... the intended subjects of cultural sensitivity want something else. Have you asked?"

A student at the BSA meeting in March had a different answer.

"I think there should be a cultural sensitivity workshop for all professors," Matthew said. "I could have handled (being singled out) in a much more negative way. I think that can be avoided if Caucasian professors (are more aware)."

A student at the UMAS meeting in February echoed that.

"It (would help if) you had people go through cultural competency training," Adán García said. "That training preludes the actual teaching of (diversity) courses."

### **Training for cultural differences and efforts for more diverse faculty**

One concrete initiative CU has started is using an assessment about adapting to cultural differences, which is called the "Intercultural Development Inventory."

The assessment tells staff how well they're predisposed to adapt to different cultural perspectives. CU has trained some staff to help people who take it improve based on their results, according to Christina Gonzales, a vice chancellor who's involved in CU's use of the outside program.

As of April, CU had 45 of those qualified staff. The IDI is voluntary and has been open to faculty and staff in early 2017 — some students tried it in spring semester, and Gonzales said it will be available to more students in the fall. Top CU officials were passing it down through their teams as of at least Oct. 24, according to Gonzales, but Gonzales' office did not say if faculty and staff were directly given notice of the program.

It's not clear if the IDI is technically part of the diversity plan — it's mentioned separately on some webpages — but it's moving forward concurrently.

In late 2016, DiStefano said CU was "taking a look at" diversity training for new faculty and staff members.

Shifting to students, he said CU already searches for diverse students and staff through the Office of Admissions and under Boswell but said he asked the office to see if it can do more recruitment for non-resident students of color — those who aren't in-state students.

As for faculty and staff, CU is recruiting an official who will focus on recruiting diverse groups of candidates and educating search committees — groups that find new hires — to ensure equity in how CU recruits and hires, Mendez-Wilson said in April.

### **Will CU have a mandatory class on diversity?**

Yes, no and maybe.

In 2015 and 2016, students in BSA were asking for a mandatory undergraduate class on diversity, race relations and microaggressions — subtle instances of offensive behavior or speech.

DiStefano said CU is expanding its diversity class requirement for some students, but several officials said a mandatory multiculturalism class would not happen. They said it's been tried before — on a small scale — to little success. Student leaders have criticized the way CU has outlined diversity requirements in the past.

"One of the things we talked about was, what kind of action, steps, can we take?" DiStefano told the CUI in October.

***This in-depth story was shortened for print. For more, continue reading at [CUIndependent.com](http://CUIndependent.com).***



# ‘We Have Lost Our Daughter’

Parents of Resurrection and Grace Christian church members accuse churches of abuse, financial manipulation

by **Charlotte Bowditch**, *Copy Editor*, originally published April 17

**A**fter former members spoke to the CU Independent about their experiences with the Resurrection Church in Boulder, families of current members from both the Resurrection Church and the Grace Christian Church in Fort Collins spoke out, claiming the organizations severed their relationships with their children.

John Coletta, father of current Resurrection Church member and former CU Boulder student Melanie Coletta (now Abel), has dedicated much of his time to exposing the church's unusually extensive involvement in members' lives — what he calls “tactful manipulation” and “spiritual abuse.”

His opinions have formed throughout his daughter's decade-long membership with the church and his gradual loss of contact with Melanie, who spent much of her college career at CU Boulder as a member. Melanie is now married, and Coletta considers her marriage to be an arranged marriage orchestrated by pastors.

Parents of members in both churches told the CU Independent that their children are experiencing financial coercion through church membership. Their complaints mirror experiences ex-members of Faith Christian Church voiced to the Arizona Daily Star in 2015. Based in the 1970s in Florida, the umbrella group Maranatha Christian Ministries, from which the Faith Christian Church developed, primarily sought out college students but was criticized by former members for its authoritarian leadership structure and causing members to distance themselves from their parents.

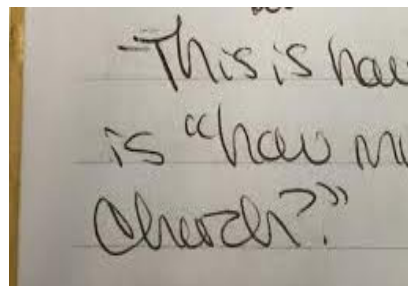
Maranatha Churches shut down around 1990, according to an Arizona Star report. Faith Christian Church, the “parent” church to Resurrection and Grace Christian churches, is linked to Maranatha. Faith Christian was also accused of cult-like behavior by former members who were recruited while attending the University of Arizona, the Star reported. The church was investigated by that university but continues to recruit on campus, and Hope Church, an offshoot of Faith Christian, was under investigation by Arizona State University in December, the ASU student newspaper reported. Aaron Brechtel, lead pastor of Resurrection Church, is a former member of Faith Christian Church, according to a Daily Camera report.

Stephen Hall, founder and pastor of Faith Christian Church, controversially promoted violent child-rearing practices.

An ex-member of Faith Christian, parents of current Grace Christian and Resurrection church members, and a former Resurrection Church member told the CU Independent that pastors are primarily motivated by financial gain.

Coletta said he felt Melanie isolate herself from the family slowly. He noticed several red flags that made him believe the Resurrection Church was not a church, but rather a “cult.”

He said once he began to realize that it may be a “spiritually abusive” ministry, his daughter had already decided to fully “devote” herself to the church.



**Through multiple conversations with Melanie, Coletta became increasingly alarmed.**

She brought up the possibility of switching from her family medical insurance policy to the medical insurance plan of the church and opening up a bank account so the church could have her financial information. While she was still a CU Boulder student, Coletta said his daughter gave up her passions and changed her major to





Melanie Coletta (now Abel) with her father John Coletta in 2005. (Courtesy John Coletta)

something she had never expressed interest in before, communications.

He explained he would offer to financially support her passion for horses, but after initial excitement, she would decline.

"You could tell she was checking in with the pastor," Coletta said. "Anything that's from the parents or by the parents is attachment, and [the church] doesn't want that."

Eventually, Melanie moved into the basement of Resurrection Church pastor Brechtel's house, and stayed for two years even after her father had offered her full-use of their family's 6 horse, 2 acre barn home in

hopes of deterring her from the church.

Coletta's skepticism grew following a conversation with another parent, who had had a child in the Resurrection Church for years.

"Your daughter is one of these basement girls? She's just going to be married off, and you are going to lose her," another parent told me," Coletta said, recounting the conversation.

Coletta said he learned the pastors "cycle" girls into the basement living arrangement to

girls are married off."

Former members Conner Dudrey and Trevor Sweet also told the CU Independent they felt isolated during their membership with the church and that members' contact with others is mostly with other church members. Melanie married someone who was also a church member, her father said. Another member, Esther Peterson, who was "discipled" alongside Melanie in Brechtel's home, also married someone in the church as she moved out of the pastor's living arrangements, Coletta said.

Jeremy Morgan, former college campus pastor for Faith Christian Church in Arizona, said while he was a member, his marriage was "more or less" an arranged marriage.

After both of them left the church, they divorced.

After explaining his ex-wife was living in a room in the house of one of the pastors learning how to be a homemaker in a "Christian household," he said the living situation was exhausting for her.

"The only way out of this living situation is to get married," Morgan said about his ex-wife's thought process.

Eventually, after Coletta had completely lost contact with Melanie, he felt as though he had nothing to lose anymore and went to take the car Melanie usually drove because it was registered in his name. Inside of the car, he found a diary and a financial statement showing how much money she was making to work at the pastor's home and how much went to the church.

"[It's] about two times what I would expect it to cost a normal company," Coletta said in reference to the health insurance fees.

Coletta said Melanie's diary mostly alludes to the church's teachings of a "war on demons." These "demons," the church believes, are all non-members of the church. He also said the entry in which she mentions calling him for her wedding budget and writes "no strings attached" meant she wanted to remind herself that the conversation with him would solely be to get money for her wedding, but not to build any further relationship with her father.

After the Daily Camera published a report in August 2016 about the Resurrection Church that featured multiple CU students and former members, Coletta became extremely alarmed and decided he needed to call the pastor, Brechtel.

After once being assured by Brechtel in person that parents were welcome to call anytime with any concerns, Coletta was taken aback when Brechtel disregarded his multiple contact attempts. He believes Brechtel blocked his number.

Coletta said he thinks that churches like

Resurrection Church arise when pastors seek power and financial gain. Many churches across the country squash suspicions of unethical financial practices by joining the Evangelical Council For Financial Accountability. According to Nicole Wallenfels, ministry relations associate for the council, the Resurrection Church has never joined the EFCA. She also said ministries voluntarily join the ECFA, but all members' finances are reviewed in accordance with standards that the council sets.

"If the IRS audits them, that's their Achilles' heel. They will fall," Coletta said.

Most churches are tax-exempt, as they are

**"Your daughter is one of these basement girls? She's just going to be married off, and you are going to lose her."**

considered non-profit organizations. The IRS will only perform audits on churches if there is reasonable belief suggesting that an organization claiming to be a church does not qualify for tax exemption.

**IRS representatives did not respond to multiple contacts from the CU Independent**, but the IRS website allows anyone to file a tax-exempt organization complaint form.

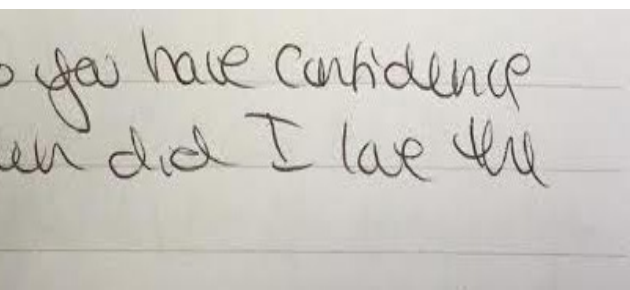
Form 13909 lists criteria that the complainant can mark, such as "Directors/Officers/Persons are using income/assets for personal gain." Coletta and other parents have said they believe pastors from the Resurrection Church, Grace Christian Church and Faith Christian Church are using financial income from church members for their own personal financial gain.

"The IRS has been really 'gun-shy' to audit churches," Coletta said.

The tax-exempt status of the Church of Scientology, which is widely criticized as a cult and abusive, was revoked by the IRS, which deemed it a commercial enterprise, from 1967 to 1993. The organization regained its status after its members and affiliates brought thousands of lawsuits against the IRS.

Aaron and Julia Brechtel own a home in Longmont they bought for more than \$400,000, according to Weld County Property Records. However, Coletta says Melanie has spent a lot of time on a ranch in Colorado with the church, as well as time on multiple properties in Fort Collins that he assumes are tied to leaders at either Grace Christian Church or Resurrection Church. According to state and county records and the Arizona Daily Star, Faith Christian Church's assets value around \$5 million, including a ranch and two cabins.

In 2015-2016, Resurrection Church rented



**Reads as follows: This is how you have confidence, is "how much did I love the church?"** (Courtesy John Coletta)

disciple them. He explained that discipling consists of lecturing girls, requiring them to do house chores and charging them rent.

Lois Kluge, a parent of a current member in Grace Christian Church, said the discipling process is to tire them, so they feel agreeing to marry male church staffers and other male members is their only option.

"It's the way they get them down, tired, and exhausted and relying on them, ultimately to marry them off," Coletta said. "All basement



their New Vista High School meeting space in Boulder for around \$1,526 a month, according to the Daily Camera, but does not own a church building. According to former member Aaron Aragon, the church used to meet in the Hale Science building on the CU campus, until it outgrew the venue.

**Another Fort Collins parent who chose to remain anonymous to preserve what is left of their relationship with their child also said they believe the motives behind the sister-churches may be financial.**

They said all members are coerced into giving a minimum of 10 percent of their net income in tithe. Their child is a member of Grace Christian Church.

"All I see are dollar signs for [the pastor]" the parent said.

The parent said they believe there are clear differences between healthy churches and the Resurrection and Grace Christian churches. Although it is common for churches to tithe 10 percent and ask for financial contributions from all members, the parent says that's considered normal when a church does not control every aspect of a member's life.

The parent continued, saying the constant "pressure" for money is not present in "healthy" churches because "healthy" churches ask for contributions in tithe but recognize that not all members can contribute the same amount.

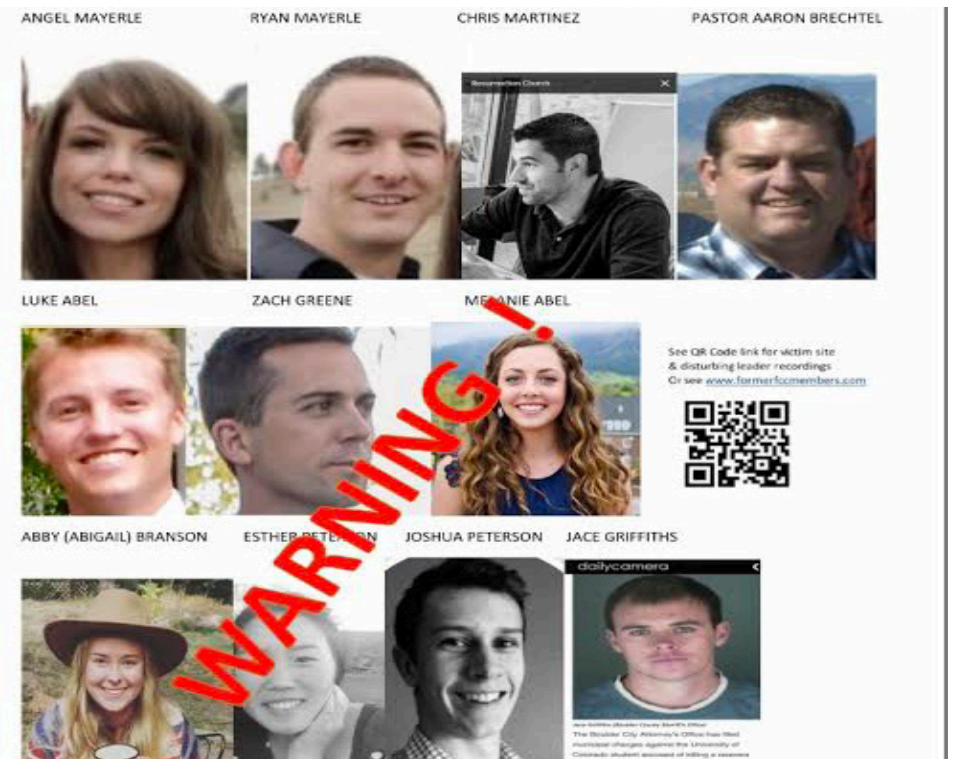
Additionally, many churches use donations for outreach to the community by running charity projects and mission trips. An anonymous former Resurrection Church member said outreach is not a part of the church's activities. She said that after leaving Resurrection Church, she joined a church that was active in financially and physically helping struggling, local communities like the Boulder homeless. Members said the monetary coercion they experienced contributed heavily to the spiritual abuse they said they felt.

The anonymous parent also said many churches use donations for the upkeep of their buildings, but neither Grace Christian Church nor Resurrection Church have designated church buildings except for spaces they rent for service meetings.

"If something feels wrong about a church, and the consensus among former members is that it's wrong, then it is wrong," the anonymous parent said, after saying they believe the churches maintain a firm control on members and ultimately dictate their lives and finances.

Morgan said he believes that none of the ministers or pastors have seminary training or a theological degree, which is atypical for church officials. He said he suspects that higher-ups in the church are making a lot more money than most church pastors do.

"When 80 percent of people who are attending your church are donating 10 percent of



**A flyer made by John Coletta warning students about the Resurrection Church. The flyer has been cropped for print. (Courtesy John Coletta)**

their gross yearly income to the church, and you don't have [your own] building you have to pay for or a mortgage, and you are able to rent school facilities, you got a lot of extra cash for being a non-profit," Morgan said.

**Another ex-member spoke to the CU Independent about her membership with Resurrection Church, but cited her fear of coming forward with her identity.**

"I am scared of what people in the church might do," she said when asked why she wanted to remain anonymous.

However, she said she is unsure if the motives behind Resurrection Church are solely financial.

"I am not sure if they believe they are genuinely doing the right thing, or if they have an ulterior motive," she said.

At one point, she compared the pastors and ministers to robots, saying that while attending church, she thought the pastors were "speaking in tongues."

She left due to severe personal issues, but cited the heavy pressure from the pastors to leave her significant other at the time as a reason for her departure.

**In efforts to deter other students from joining the church, Coletta has created a website and the flyer depicted above showing the pastors of the church. He plans to display the flyer around the CU Boulder campus.**

The poster cites the Religious Campus Organizations, led by pastor Zach Parris. The organization oversees campus ministries at CU

Boulder. It removed the Resurrection Church as a member due to "repeated violations of the code of ethics."

"Where we had some issues [with Resurrection Church] was around honoring human dignity," Parris said. "Part of the standards that you are held to when you are a member of the RCO is that you recognize the students' abilities to make decisions for themselves."

He said a student committing suicide at CU back in the '90s, over a decade before Resurrection Church was founded in Boulder, led to the formation of the RCO, in order to enact a code of ethics that all campus ministries could comply with if they wanted to be a part of the organization.

"When folks joined [Resurrection Church], they were really encouraged to cut off relationships with members outside of their community," Parris said.

**Resurrection Church did not respond to several contact attempts from the CU Independent.**

The CUI also spoke to Ryan Huff, CU Boulder spokesman, about whether the university should have a role in raising awareness about the church.

"We know our students have a lot of off-campus interests, from faith-based organizations to skiing and cycling," Huff said. "We as a university do not have say over what our students do off campus. So there's no jurisdiction for us to take any official action. Any organization has free speech rights to distribute information on campus. We need to treat everyone equally."

# The Heartbreak Drug:

## Xanax at CU Boulder

By Jackson Barnett, Multimedia  
Managing Editor

### A little white pill

flew through the musty, college dorm room air from Lloyd's fingertips. Caught in Cat's awaiting mouth, the pill took effect, and her rising gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) levels began suppressing the firing of neurons in her brain. Cat collapsed. Spread on the floor, mumbles of unintelligible words spilled from her mouth, a zombie-like state that

Since Cat was born in 1996, deaths from drugs like Xanax nationwide have increased five-fold. While Xanax-related deaths remain uncommon in Boulder, Steve Bentley, a substance abuse counselor at CU Boulder's Wardenburg Health Center, said he's seen an upswing in the recreational use of the drug over the past few years.

Before coming to CU in the fall of 2015, Cat grew up in the suburbs of San Francisco, where

*\*Editor's note: names and identities have been changed to protect sources.*

Dreams of forming a life with him – even marriage – advanced her departure from the anxieties about men she inherited from her father, and from reality.

A week before Cat's sorority formal, a sorority-organized dance where she could show off her new boy to the rest of her sisters, Max proved Cat's "lie, cheat and leave" theory.

Her suspicions of his constant flaking – the sporadically timed "lacrosse practices" – added up to her realization of his cheating, lying and leaving her to attend formal alone. Time turned from the eager hours she spent searching the internet for the perfect dress to lonely seconds slowly marching toward Friday.

She couldn't confront formal sober. Her solution came two-fold with her upstairs drug dealer, Lloyd.

While Cat's first few weeks of school were wrapped up in a boy, Lloyd's were consumed with growing his drug business.

**Where the demand for drugs lurk, profit pounces. Across the country, university campus police have found** highly organized drug rings run by students. At University of California Santa Cruz, a police raid uncovered over \$100,000 in drugs being distributed to students, a network that moved cartel-level quantity with pharmaceutical industry-style efficiency.

Frank, Lloyd's roommate, said Lloyd would disappear for hours into the study room down the hall, toiling over his business's spreadsheets.

"He had a system," Frank said. "He would show people the spreadsheets and how much money they could make."

After a violent night of binge drinking early in the semester, court-ordered urine tests made Frank the sober observer to Lloyd's business dealings.

Lloyd started pitching his business to his new friends in the dorm, hiring those he felt he could trust as dealers and using others as investors. One student, who claimed not to be a user or dealer of hard drugs, invested \$5,000 cash in Lloyd's business.

**Cat sat next to Lloyd on his dorm room**



Two Xanax pills sit in the hands of a student drug dealer. February 2016. (Jackson Barnett/CU Independent)

again satisfied her craving to escape reality.

**A prescription sedative, Xanax combats general anxiety and panic disorders with a potent ability to numb.** But on the streets and in the dorm halls of CU Boulder, that potency — amplified by alcohol — has caused a surge in its popularity for those looking to erase their memory for a night. The CU Independent talked to 16 people whose lives have been touched by Xanax — some dealers, some casual users or addicts, some users with addict friends and some who didn't use the drug but were financially involved in the campus market — to get a picture of Xanax use at CU. Some chose to share their stories here.

she watched her father's abuse turn from her mother to herself.

"Him physically hurting me took a toll," she said. "I think that all guys lie, cheat and leave."

What once manifested in years of blocking potential relationships, her deep distrust of men began to waver as she started her new life as a college freshman.

In her first weeks at CU, a boy named Max became the reason she looked forward to every freshman biology class. Their pairing as lab partners soon blossomed into the type of gushy romance she had dreamt of during her self-isolated high school years.

Texts zipped back and forth to her childhood friends, chronicling her new obsession.



**futon.** Perpendicular to them, on Lloyd's treasure-chest style trunk, Cat's sorority sister Carla and her date passed a joint and bottle of booze around the group.

"When we walked out of the room, she was literally falling," Carla said. "I just thought she was just really drunk."

Once at the sorority house, Cat retreated to the bathroom. Fifteen minutes later, Carla found her collapsed on the floor, surrounded by a group of freshmen.

The cold tiles of the bathroom floor, exchanges with security guards outside the house and the Uber ride back to the dorms all disappeared from Cat's memory. Emerging from the blackness the next morning, she lay half naked in Lloyd's bed.

Before leaving Lloyd's room the night before, Lloyd had offered Cat her first taste of Xanax. Billed as a quick-fix for her heart-break, she washed it down with her fifth shot of the night.

In her brain, the alcohol and Xanax combined to a potency more powerful than the sum of each part. Known as "synergizing," the alcohol and Xanax mix impaired her memory, motor function and self-control.

"I woke up so much more sad, I didn't remember anything," Cat said. "I kept on not wanting to remember."

**Even with a prescription, the brain quickly develops a tolerance and dependency** for the GABA increases that the drug creates. Without the synthetic boost, withdrawals cause the same, if not worse, symptoms of panic attacks, anxiety and insomnia the drug originally treats, according to Bentley.

Without the regulation of a prescription, the danger grows. Once obtained through overstocked medicine cabinets, bars of the drug now fall into the mouths of users through the dark web and dealers like Lloyd. According to Bentley, of the students he sees in his office who have taken Xanax, most have taken the larger 3 mg black-market sized pills.

"Anyone who is using regularly will have some form of dependence," said Bentley, noting that the larger the dose, the faster a tolerance develops.

Keeping a constant supply of 3 mg bars to customers like Cat, Lloyd played his "game." Frank, Lloyd's roommate, recalled new users, almost always girls, showing up to catch bars in their mouth as Lloyd threw them from across the room.

"It was kind of demeaning," Frank said about Lloyd's game.



Cat fiddles with her hands during an interview. February 2016. (Jackson Barnett/CU Independent)

**Pulled to Lloyd's room after formal, Cat began to spend her days with Lloyd catching bars, smoking weed and drinking with him.**

Among friend groups, like Cat's, drug use can easily spread. Bentley guesses that for every user that self-elects to receive counseling or gets referred to his Wardenburg office, at least three more don't.

While specific data on how many students use Xanax does not exist, reports from the National College Health Assessment Survey, a study administered to a sample of CU's undergraduate students, show steady prescription drug use over the years. Roughly 8 percent of CU students claimed to have taken a prescription in the past 12 months, according to Wardenburg.

Those closest to Lloyd quickly got drawn

*"I woke up so much more sad, I didn't remember anything. I kept on not wanting to remember."*

into the drugs he pushed. According to Frank and other sources, Lloyd's closest friends, some of whom had never touched drugs before college, quickly became his hard-drug clientele.

"With the access comes the abuse," Bentley said.

With his drug money, Lloyd decorated the cinderblock walls of their dorm with a new flat screen TV and posters, while his closet overflowed with expensive shoes and new toys.

After repeated attempts, Lloyd declined requests for an interview. But Frank, Cat and

those around him all said his money came from his connections with serious people, "cartel types" that would deliver large shipments of Xanax and other drugs for him to distribute.

When Lloyd would return from weekend pre-dawn package pickups, Frank would watch him count out hundreds of little white bars scattered across their table into little baggies, 10 each. Throughout the day, his dealers would roll through to pick up their packages, ready for distribution across campus.

In the winter months, Cat's diet consisted of up to five bars a night, rarely eating or going to class. She found her only happiness at the end of Lloyd's supply chain.

"It completely fucked my grades," Cat said.

Other friends found themselves in similar academic situations. Some were placed on academic probation, while a handful did

not return to CU after freshman year.

While some of the students Bentley sees

are like Cat, drug abusers looking to suppress trauma, a majority use the drug in search of a weekend blackout, he said.

"Using substances to self-soothe — those are no longer recreational [users]," Bentley said.

In the waning days of their first semester, Cat and her friends planned to say goodbye to each other in typical, intoxicated fashion. Departing early the next morning before his urine test, Frank was free to drink and consume all the substances he desired.

*This in-depth story was shortened for print. Read the rest at CUIndependent.com.*



# *Voices, Sports & News*

*Keeping you up-to-date and knowledgeable about  
the campus sphere.*

# Opinion: CU appallingly soft on abuse by former football coach, effective cover-up

CU gravely mishandled  
the Tumpkin ex-girlfriend  
domestic abuse case;  
DiStefano, George and  
MacIntyre must step down

*by Hayla Wong,  
Head Opinion Editor;*

*Justin Guerriero,  
Head Sports Editor;*

*and  
Jake Mauff,  
Editor-in-Chief*

**CU** Boulder's response to the domestic abuse allegations against former assistant and safeties coach Joe Tumpkin is problematic enough to warrant punishment. It should have been clear that the issue with CU's handling of the Tumpkin situation was not whether Chancellor Philip DiStefano, athletic director Rick George and head football coach Mike MacIntyre mishandled the domestic abuse allegations brought against Tumpkin — it was how much.

A report on a months-long investigation by an outside law firm into whether DiStefano, MacIntyre and George acted incorrectly was released June 12, the Daily Camera reported. Ken Salazar, a former senator who presented a summary of that report to the CU Board of Regents, said it showed there was no intent to cover up or break the law, although "mistakes were made."

The regents allowed President Bruce Benson to determine the appropriate punishment, and Benson gave DiStefano little more than a light slap on his financial wrists — 10 days' suspension with no pay. George will pay \$100,000 to a CU Boulder fund addressing domestic violence issues, and MacIntyre will pay the same total amount, split, to the CU fund and a community organization with the same goal. Benson ordered a review of the relevant policies and related training.

The regents voted to approve MacIntyre's \$16.25 million contract extension three days later, the Camera reported.

The report's summary said that all three "should have known that they were responsible for reporting (Tumpkin's ex-girlfriend's) allegations" to the appropriate office so it could determine whether it had jurisdiction to conduct an investigation and offer resources to the accuser, the Camera reported.

But it was abundantly clear long before a report was underway that they all failed in their roles as leaders on this campus. And each needs to face the consequences.

Statements emailed to the student body Feb. 9 about CU's handling of Tumpkin's abuse of his ex-girlfriend — more than 100 times over 21 months, she told police — were almost comical. DiStefano's letter was preceded by the sentence, "Our next steps to improve processes related to reporting abuse." George's was of a similar mold; his letter included the vague opening statement, "What we could have done better."

DiStefano and George know fully well what they could have done better. In regard to what DiStefano said, the university's set process for dealing with abuse allegations is sound. It's the manner in which CU's higher-ups followed the process that needs to be improved. So to address George's points on "What we could have done better," perhaps acting in a timely manner to report such allegations — regardless of whether you think you're required to or not — would be a good place to start.

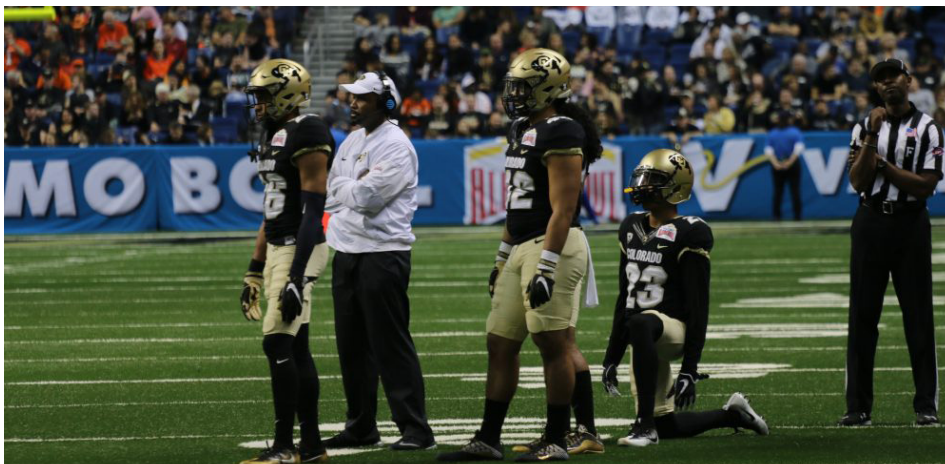
All three knew about the allegations in mid-December before the Alamo Bowl. But CU Boulder did nothing to sideline Tumpkin in the early stages of the situation and instead allowed him to be the defensive playcaller in that game Dec. 29, which was both inappropriate and morally wrong.

Tumpkin's ex-girlfriend told MacIntyre on Dec. 9 that Tumpkin had repeatedly and violently abused her for the last two years, the Camera reported. Soon after, MacIntyre informed George about the allegations, and George informed DiStefano shortly after that.

The victim left a voicemail for MacIntyre on Dec. 15, saying she was taking the allegations to the police and filing for a restraining order, the Camera reported.

The legal report on the debacle confirmed that MacIntyre blocked the victim's calls and initially lied about his reasoning for doing so.

Former Colorado assistant and safeties coach Joe Tumpkin and members of his defense react to a play late in the game on Dec. 29, 2016.  
(Justin Guerriero/CU Independent)



At first, he said he did it because he didn't want his actions to influence the situation, but it later came out that his private legal counsel, Lisa Wayne, advised him to block the number, the Camera reported in June.

**Tumpkin did not resign until Jan. 27 after the university finally asked him to,** to the tune of a \$34,000 severance package, \$29,607 for unused vacation time and \$15,692 as a one-time compensation for coaching in the Buffs' bowl game. On Jan. 31, he was charged with five felony counts of second-degree assault and three misdemeanor counts of third-degree assault. He currently faces ongoing criminal prosecution in Broomfield, the Camera reported, where the first abuse took place.

DiStefano, George and MacIntyre all acted in a manner contrary to the guidelines set by CU's Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance. Section II, subsection C, of the OIEC's Sexual Misconduct Policy states that "Any faculty or staff member who is considered a responsible employee ... who witnesses or receives information regarding any possible sexual misconduct prohibited herein is required to promptly report to the Title IX Coordinator or designee all known details about the alleged sexual misconduct." The policy defines domestic partner violence as sexual misconduct, and a responsible employee is one with "the authority to hire, promote, discipline ... or direct faculty, staff or students."

**The long story short is that DiStefano** should be considered the most in error; George and MacIntyre are also at fault. In a Feb. 9 letter, DiStefano said they regret not reporting to the OIEC.

DiStefano said in a Feb. 3 statement emailed to students that he consulted the office about whether he should have reported — ignoring the key words "required," "promptly report" and "all known details" set forth by the guidelines. (He likely contacted the office during the January–February media fallout.) His explanation for not reporting was that the university believed it was "premature" to take action when there was no restraining order, criminal charges, civil action or other documentation of the allegation against Tumpkin.

**But that claim ignores the key words in the policy: "possible sexual misconduct."** The OIEC's process and procedures rules outline, in section C, subsection 2, that "OIEC's jurisdiction does not depend on whether criminal charges are filed." The office's sexual misconduct policy says, in Section II, subsection A, that the policy applies to all students, faculty and staff. It also says it applies to off-campus conduct if the conduct "occurred in the context of an employment or education program or activity of the University" or "has continuing adverse effects

on campus." That language should have at least prompted the three officials to immediately ask the office whether a report would be necessary.

The Boulder Faculty Assembly, the group that represents CU professors on campus, filed a report with the office saying it believed DiStefano, George and MacIntyre violated the policy. CU Regent Jack Kroll also disagreed with the chancellor's interpretation.

DiStefano is the highest-up on this totem pole of responsibility, and he needs to be relieved of his employment.

George's level of fault probably lies in the same realm, and thus, he should be terminated from his position of athletic director. He and DiStefano withheld information, indicating that they did not care about the consequences so long as the team was succeeding. That is disregard for the victim and shows what the administration will do to preserve its success and status.

That leaves MacIntyre to deal with. He was instrumental in rebuilding Colorado's football program. MacIntyre won several coaching accolades in light of the Buffs' 2016 resurgence, including both the Walter Camp and Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year awards. Yet he was the first one aware of the allegations.

**The state of the football team complicates this matter.** After a decade in the shadows of losing, CU finally had a good season in 2016. Had the Buffaloes been having a season on par with what they've done over the last decade, this debacle would have likely been handled much differently. But the success of the team last season is irrelevant. All three officials failed to report the violence on Tumpkin's hands. These rules apply to all faculty, not just its lesser-known members.

But are we really surprised that a situation of domestic violence was handled so poorly by the athletics department and by the administration? Time and time again, cases of domestic violence crop up in football, and instead of protecting the victim, the NFL — or in this case, the administration — protects the perpetrator. The actions taken by the administration and athletics department contradict everything we as students hear about the school's commitment to equity.

If the University of Colorado is serious about being on the forefront of sexual prevention (considering that it spent \$125,000 to bring then-vice president Joe Biden to campus in 2016 to speak about the subject), then there is no room for excuses. The Washington Post reported that, as of January, the federal Education Department had 304 investigations underway related to sexual violence at 223 colleges and universities. **One of those is CU Boulder.** And although Tumpkin's crimes weren't sexual, they speak to the same issue of violence against women in that Biden and countless others continue to raise.



CU head coach Mike MacIntyre reacts to a foul call on Nov. 12, 2016 (Nigel Amstock/CU Independent)



CU Athletic Director Rick George shakes hands with fans at Coors Events Center on Feb. 24, 2016 (Nigel Amstock/CU Independent)

CU Chancellor Philip Distefano delivers a keynote address to an audience at the Macky Auditorium on April 10, 2017. (Jesse Hughes/CU Independent)





# #*The Rise* *in the*

## What to expect from Colorado football

There's no denying it: the rise was real in 2016. From absolute joke of the Pac-12 to a legitimate championship contender, Colorado Football paved its way toward greatness. Now it's time to shift gears for round two of the rise.

The Buffs picked up their first win over the Oregon Ducks in 18 years, took their first Pac 12-South championship, and faced Washington in the Pac-12 Championship game. Last season had it all: drama, grit, and the perfect underdog story.

Speaking of 'dogs', a key to Colorado's success was senior tailback Phillip Lindsay, a.k.a. The Tasmanian Devil. In addition to rushing for over 1,200 yards, Lindsay moved into 10th place among active NCAA players for all-purpose yards with 4,195. He is also 800 yards shy of Colorado's all-purpose yard record, currently held by Rodney Stewart.

Lindsay's taken large strides (literally) in past seasons at Colorado, and earned the title of captain. With two of the Pac 12's rushing leaders declaring for the NFL Draft — Stanford's Christian McCaffrey and Utah's Joe Williams — we'll argue that it's finally Lindsay's time to shine. And who knows, another breakout season and the Tasmanian Devil just might hear his own name at the 2018 Draft.

Lindsay picked up where Colorado's passing game lacked. Sefo Liufau's nagging knee injury put his efficiency one tackle away from nonexistent. Pair the quarterback's 11 interceptions with 236 completions on 395 attempts, and you've got a bottom-rung Pac-12 offense.

Though some of the struggle came from the receiving core, returners Bryce Bobo, Shay Fields, and Devin Ross recorded career-highs

in 2016 catching passes from sophomore Steven Montez, who will start for Colorado this fall. Yes, quarterback experience is key, but the chemistry between Montez, his receiving core, and the rest of Colorado's offense can only get stronger. They're evidently comfortable, and Montez' reps from last season in lieu of Liufau's injuries give him an underclassman edge.

Though we don't know who will start strong in the Pac-12 this season, several of the conference's elite defensive backs like Washington's Sidney Jones and Budda Baker, UCLA's Fabian Moreau, and Utah's Marcus Williams — ones who gave the Buffs trouble last season — won't be returning in 2017.

Also consider the offensive line, its importance a regular sermon dripping from Coach Mac's lips. Colorado's O-line ranked in conference's bottom four, but played with unmatched heart and grit. Phillip Lindsay, despite being the lone requested player after Colorado's win against Arizona State, brought the entire offensive line to the post-game press conference. The point was, the win was theirs (and Colorado's at large), not his. This cohort also has depth and experience in 2017.

Next season, returners include two-time captain Jeremy Irwin, Jonathan Huckins, Gerrad Kough and Tim Lynott. All except Lynott are seniors, and they seem poised to transition from the bottom of the conference to the top in 2017.

Now for defense. What of the Buffs' secondary, you ask? Concern isn't exactly unwarranted; the Buffs lost three of their elite players to the NFL draft in cornerbacks Chidobe Awuzie and Ahkello Witherspoon and safety Tedric Thompson. Defensive coordinator Jim Leavitt defected to the University of Oregon, and defensive backs coach Joe Tumpkin was fired over domestic violence allegations at the end of last season (Tumpkin's formal charges included five felony counts of second-degree assault, according to the Denver Post).

Despite the drama, Leavitt managed to leave behind a tough-as-nails

defensive strategy and groom four players for the 2017 season: seniors Afolabi Laguda and Ryan Moeller, along with junior defensive backs Nick Fisher and Isaiah Oliver. All four will vie for reps in 2017, making the secondary a place of internal competition. Hopefully this pressure produces some diamonds.

The short story is, there's no reason the 2017 Colorado Buffaloes can't be one of the best in school history. It might be early, but this year's roster presents a lethal combination of experience, depth, talent and the will to rise.

Left:  
Then-junior Phillip Lindsay struggles for yards.  
Next Page:  
Then-junior Shay Fields celebrates.  
Nov. 12, 2016  
(Nigel Amstock/CU Independent)



# Fall

## Men's basketball

For the third straight year, Tad Boyle's 2016-17 Buffaloes were invisible in the postseason. They clinched an NIT berth, but fell to the University of Central Florida in the first round, finishing with a 19-15 record.

In the offseason, Colorado lost Derrick White, who led the team in scoring during his one season at Colorado. Veterans Wesley Gordon and Xavier Johnson also bid their farewells. Add freshman guard Bryce Peters and sophomore guard Thomas Akyazili to the list of departures; Akyazili returned to Belgium to play pro ball, and Peters chose to pursue options "away from the University of Colorado", according to Coach Boyle.

Incoming point guard McKinley Wright, Serbian standout Lazar Nikolic, four-star recruits D'Shawn Schwartz and Evan Battey, and Tyler Bey. ESPN lists Schwartz as the number one player in Colorado and 17th best small forward in the country. Battey is a center from Villa Park, Calif. whose six-foot-seven, 290-pound frame will sure give the Buffs some major inside presence. Come preseason, these newcomers, redshirt freshman Dallas Walton, Deleon Brown, and Lucas Siewert will all be vying for minutes under Boyle.

Key upperclassmen to watch next year include seniors George King and Tory Miller. King is set to lead in 2017, as one of two returning starters alongside guard Dominique Collier. Miller saw a healthy amount of minutes this year and showed steady improvement behind Boyle's go-to Gordon-Johnson duo. Miller's key to success will be maintaining the tenacity we've seen from him while regulating his foul count.

Returners and recruits aside, the Buffs face a perennial problem. Without White to lead the offense, Colorado will spend the preseason looking for its next star. Right now, Boyle expects it to be McKinley Wright.

**The football team is looking to continue its success from last season, while the rest of the athletic department is looking to follow suit.**



Prediction: I think CU basketball will float around the .500 mark, continuing to play hot-and-cold throughout the season. Once they can answer the question, "who will fill White's shoes?", Colorado may just take off in 2017-18.

### Soccer

The women's soccer team had a respectable turnaround campaign in 2016, besting their 7-10-3 2015 record with 15 wins and six losses (one tie). The Buffaloes managed a 8-2 record in conference play.

Sophomore midfielder Taylor Kornieck stole the spotlight as a freshman, starting every game for the Buffs and punching in 11 goals on the way. Kornieck was named to the First-Team All-Pac-12 squad and won the 2016 Freshman of the Year Award. She'll be back, and she'll be firing on all cylinders.

Also returning on defense is redshirt sophomore Jalen Tompkins. Tompkins was a brick wall at goalkeeper in 2016, ranking first in the Pac-12 in saves-per-game. Her save percentage was good enough for fifth-best amongst freshman goalies nationwide.

Colorado looks to fill the void left by Danica Evans and Emily Bruder. Evans led the team in assists this year, and matched Kornieck's 11 goals. She also led the team in points, where Bruder finished third on the team. With Kornieck at the helm on offense in 2017, we'll have to wait and see who falls in behind her.

Prediction: The Buffs clinch another 15 wins (or more) this fall.

### Women's basketball

A new coach seemed like the perfect antidote for an ailing women's basketball program, as Colorado finished 17-16 record and a WNIT berth. They fell to Iowa on the road in the Sweet Sixteen.

*by Jack Stern & Alex Pepper,*

### Sports Writers

Head coach J.R. Payne coached a productive squad to an incredibly hot start last season. The Buffs entered Pac-12 play at 10-0, but only managed 5 wins in the Pac-12. Fortunately, Colorado's only loss is that of senior guard Haley Smith, who averaged 11.2 points per game and led the squad in rebounds with 212.

2017 is the year that youth turns to experience in sophomore guard Kennedy Leonard, a proven star and leader for Colorado. The sky's truly the limit for Leonard; she out-scored her teammates by almost 200 points and recorded 190 assists on the season.

Behind Leonard, one to watch is senior center Zoe Correal. Correal started 31-of-33 games last year, and on limited minutes shot a healthy 56 percent from the field. Correal also happens to be six-foot-four, which should make her a scary rim protector if she can earn more minutes.

The Buffs will also be adding four new players next year – two three-star recruits, one four-star, and a transfer. The four-star recruit is Aubrey Knight, a shooting guard from Ventura, who should give the Buffs another option on offense and some more size in their backcourt.

Prediction: I'm tempering expectations for the women's basketball team in 2018 because of its youth, I expect Leonard to continue to develop into the star that she is as she gets accustomed to high volume usage. The Buffs will finish above .500 in 2018, but in a tough Pac-12 Conference, the questions remains as to whether or not this team is mature enough to punch through the glass ceiling in 2017-18.



# Fall Concerts and Albums

## to look out for



The first half of 2017 has already seen some exciting releases, from *Run the Jewels 3* to Kendrick Lamar's *DAMN*. Fall looks to be equally as promising. Here are some upcoming albums to look out for, as well as some eye-catching local concerts.

### ALBUMS

**Lights:** *Skin and Earth* — Fall 2017  
**Gucci Mane:** *DropTopWizop* — Fall 2017  
**Arcade Fire:** TBA — Fall 2017  
**The Killers:** *Wonderful Wonderful* — 2017  
**Wyclef Jean:** *Carnival III: The Road to Clefication* — 2017  
**Kelly Clarkson:** TBA — 2017  
**Sara Bareilles:** TBA — 2017  
**Modest Mouse:** TBA — 2017  
**Lupe Fiasco:** *The Cool 2* — Winter 2017  
**The Sparks:** *Hippopotamus* — Sept. 8  
**Aretha Franklin:** TBA — 2017

### CONCERTS

**The B52s:** Hudson Gardens — Aug. 27  
**Griz:** Red Rocks — Sept. 1–Sept. 2  
**Gorillaz:** Red Rocks — Sept. 26  
**Big Gigantic:** Red Rocks — Sept. 29–Sept. 30  
**Florida Georgia Line:** Pepsi Center — Sept. 30  
**The Shins:** Red Rocks — Oct. 5  
**Milky Chance:** Fillmore — Oct. 6  
**Weezer:** Red Rocks — Oct. 7  
**Red Hot Chili Peppers:** Pepsi Center — Oct. 16  
**Bruno Mars:** Pepsi Center — Oct. 30



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The CU Boulder marching band, known as the Golden Buffalo Marching Band. (Kelley Maas/Golden Buffalo Marching Band)

*The CU Independent's Austin Willeke is a member of the University of Colorado Boulder's marching band. There are few people better situated to observe #TheRise. Willeke was part of a detachment of band members that traveled to Palo Alto, California, for the game between the Buffaloes and the Stanford Cardinal Oct. 22. The following is his experience from the game.*

College marching bands, particularly the University of Colorado's Golden Buffalo Marching Band, have a separate and unique place in the crowd at a football game. When the team drives for a first down, we launch fast, loud and quick into "Glory Colorado" while the fans lend their support. When the team scores, we play on to add to the excitement, blasting the school fight song after the extra point.

A tenant of the GBMB is heartbeat, meaning the band is the heartbeat of the stadium and of the CU community itself. This means the band is committed to whatever is happening on the field, even when that is difficult (like when a football team loses every single home game).

The Buffaloes have had rough seasons for the past few years. Many home games have been almost unbearable to watch, from blow-outs to heartbreaks. In these events, most fans may begin to leave early with justification, because the game isn't giving them much to stay for. But the band will never leave — the band will always play on.

We occupy a space that is entirely unique. We are attached to and a part of all that goes on in the stadium, win or lose. It is a fun and fascinating anomaly to be a part of. It certainly makes the hard losses even harder, as more investment into each game from each band member is almost a requirement in ensuring

the band lives up to its full potential.

But that level of additional investment can be its own reward, especially when the Buffs bring home a big win. It can be a near euphoric feeling of excitement to be a part of, in regards not only to the game, but in the organization itself.

As an older member of the GBMB, I got to travel with a small pep band to support CU in their away game against Stanford. Before moving into the stadium, excitement for the Buffs had already begun as the band played for a surprisingly large Colorado pep rally on the Stanford campus. With the team finally on its rise this year, more Buffs fans had come out of the woodwork to support their team, even in a game nearly 1,300 miles away.

The band moved on into the stadium and into our appropriate section as the bells on the brass instruments were checked for booze. (The Stanford band may have established that precedent.) To my and many others' surprise, the Buffs had six whole sections in the stands to themselves. Fans had come out — fans who roared loudly as the team entered the field.

Throughout a very defensive and intense game, the band played often, and loudly. When the Buffs' defense got Stanford in a third down situation, we ripped out the third down tune, "Thrabbit," to bombard the stadium with noise and to bring CU fans to their feet. On a successful stop, we played a fan-fare version of the "Rawhide" theme to salute our defense for a job well done. It also doubled as a satisfying tune for the fans.

It always helps the college band experience to have the fans invested. At this game, they brought a lot to the table. In a Stanford Stadium that only seemed half full, six rows were full of CU fans, and more and more seemed to

# I'm in the band — Witnessing #TheRise

*by Austin Willeke,  
Head Arts Editor*

be joining their ranks every minute.

It is in these moments that the band is at the heartbeat of the excitement. CU was struggling to score in the game. There was a great deal of frustration at the kicker position and an offense that just couldn't make a connection in the red zone.

In all these moments of frustration, the GBMB was playing with great gusto and energy that seemingly buzzed through the CU fans. We would lead cheers that all Colorado fans would join into, leaving an echo in the empty Stanford seats.

The ending of the game brought on the fervent excitement I hope for as a band member. Roasting in the hot Californian sun, smelling like sweat and the copper of my trombone, I witnessed the Buffs bring home a victory.

The ending of games in this fashion always sticks in my mind as a reason to be in the band. The team ran over to us in the stands and joined in the fight song with great vigor and passion. Coach Mac even stopped a post-game interview to come celebrate. Pretty freakin' neat.

The band then headed out to the field to jam with the Stanford band, symbolizing our solidarity as band members and recognition of the experience that comes in band outside of the sports.

Being a part of the GBMB is being at the heartbeat of a community. An experience full of bonding, excitement and just plain fun come together to bring new meaning to the presence of a simple football game. Aside from the awkward experience of trying to take off your uniform in a crowded stadium bathroom, for me, there is nowhere I would rather be than with the GBMB on game day.

Sko' Buffs!



















# Video games for broke college students

*Tips from Austin Willeke, Head Arts Editor*

Being a broke college student and a gamer is expensive. With the cost of day-to-day life, it's hard to excuse a new \$60 game. But, if you're like me, you nevertheless want to fuel your passion to game even on your reduced budget. I have some tips and tricks that might help you save a couple of bucks while doing so.

I should mention that I am a PC purist. All of my advice is tailored to PC gamers. But I have other reasons for this choice. Contrary to common belief, for those of us really passionate about gaming, PCs are cheaper options than using consoles. Sure, buying a gaming PC is almost always more expensive than a console. Once you have the PC, though, you no longer have to pay for online access. If you know where to look, games are also significantly cheaper. As much as I would like to help out my console-gaming readers, they just don't have many options outside of established used-game retailers; these retailers buy used games for too little and sell them for too much.

The key to a great PC game deal is patience. Usually, if you want to buy a game at any discount, you'll be waiting for a month

or two after it is released. If you rush off to buy a game the day it releases, you had better be prepared to pay full price. There is an entire ecosystem of discounted game-dealers across the web if you're willing to wait.

The most well known and widely used is Steam. Steam has made a name for itself for having startlingly good deals and a massive game library. But if you were to check the deals going on now, you probably aren't going to be suddenly inclined to break out your wallet; the real attraction to Steam is their annual sales. Steam's big sale events are in summer, fall and winter. And, according to When is the Next Steam Sale, the next event should be coming up around June 23. When these sales do arrive, two(ish) weeks of great deals on most of the Steam library is available.

When everything is on sale, it's hard to resist sacrificing an entire paycheck. There are tricks to ensure you are getting the best deals possible. Furthermore, since the sales change every year, it's hard to plan for them. That's why I recommend all gamers quickly read over a guide on how to get the most games for the least money before diving straight into the Steam sale.

Other than Steam, one of my favorite

websites for deals is HumbleBundle. This website is possibly one of the most wholesome and wonderful digital storefronts out there. HumbleBundle regularly has a rotation of great bundled-game deals, ranging from obscure indie games to AAA titles. It offers multiple bundles at any given time. They usually have a game bundle, a book bundle, a mobile bundle (typically Android games) and their monthly bundle. All of them, save the monthly, are built on a pay-what-you-want and give-to-who-you-want system that is unique to HumbleBundle. To put it simply, you can pay any amount of money over a dollar and then decide how much of your purchase will go to charity, the game developer or to HumbleBundle. They encourage you to spend more by dangling the better games in higher price tiers. This usually requires you to beat the average donation or hit a certain price point, but it rarely ever exceeds \$20. However, it is still cheaper, most of the time, to buy the whole bundle than it is to buy the individual games at their current sales price.

HumbleBundle's monthly bundle, on the other hand, has recently caught my attention. It was convincing enough to give it a shot. Every month, they offer a highly curated bundle of games at a fixed price. They start each bundle by showing off one hit game from the past few months for just \$12. The headlining game is usually a \$40-plus value. But at the end of the month when the bundle ends, they send out keys for a whole bunch of other games guaranteed to be valued at a price of at least \$100. The games provided are seemingly random and not always what you expect. I have, however, been impressed by the quality and value of their selections.

You can check the past monthly bundles yourself and see just how crazy good of deals they really are. The games in their bundles may not be for everyone, but since they cycle through them regularly, I still recommend checking back every week or two. You might be pleasantly surprised with what you find.

No matter what, if you are determined, there is a deal out there for you.



**The 2009 game "Arkham Asylum" sits on a table. (Robert R. Denton/ CU Independent file)**



# New 'CASE' building near UMC underfunded; unclear what use will be

by Jackson Barnett, Multimedia Managing Editor  
and  
Lucy Haggard, Breaking News Editor

At the heart of CU Boulder stands the Center for Academic Success and Engagement (CASE), a partially-completed building the university touts as “the gateway to campus.”

With the current \$43 million budget, only “phase one” will be completed by November 2017. Based on the administration’s plans, this phase will finish the exterior, first and second floor entryways, and fourth floor admissions center — 38 percent of the floor plan. The rest of the building will remain as a “shell,” pending additional funding.

Millions more dollars will be needed to complete phase two of the building’s construction, and the university initially underestimated how much it would cost. What the building will actually be used for is up in the air.

The second and third floors of the building will house the International English Center, Center for Outreach and Engagement, Academic Advising and the Office of Pre-College Outreach and Engagement, according to initial program documents drafted in 2013. Aside from the initial listing, plans on who will eventually occupy the building have been less clear, which, according to multiple sources, is normal at this phase of construction.

“Who’s going to have class in there, whose office is going to be there — that’s stuff that we don’t have yet,” said Josh Lindenstien, spokesperson for CU Facilities Management.

The Euclid Avenue Autopark houses the largest concentration of visitor parking on campus. CU intended to construct CASE on top of the autopark since its creation in 1991, according to regent documents.

Along with its occupants, the name has yet to be approved by Chancellor DiStefano. Tom Goodhew, assistant director of facilities planning at CU Boulder, described CASE as the building’s “working name.”

Despite this working name, the Office of Admissions has been the potential primary tenant since the building’s conception in 2010.

Currently, the admissions office hosts presentations and begins tours from the second floor of the Center for Community, with modest views of the mountains and parking

Top, a photo of a rendering of the upcoming Center for Academic Success and Engagement.

Bottom, a view from one of the upper floors being constructed. Spring 2017. (CU Independent)



for visitors. The move to the CASE building comes near a time when “interest and passion about our university is at an all-time high,” an assessment Kevin MacLennan, director of admissions, made in an unrelated January 2016 interview with the Daily Camera. At the time, MacLennan said he had been in the office for 24 years, and he was likely referring to an all-time high in that period.

Other goals for the CASE building’s impact, like retention and graduation rates, come at a time in which the university is exceeding national averages for both.

When asked how the admissions office plays into the current namesake of student success, Ryan Huff, spokesperson for the university, said, “Admission is a part of student success,” but didn’t offer more details.

CU began construction on phase one before the regents approved adequate funding for the entire project. That allowed them to lock in the cost for the first phase before the market’s skyrocketing prices again delayed building, Lindenstien said.

In its original price tag for the project, CU underestimated the growth of the Front Range construction market, according to Lindenstien. The initial program plan, proposed to the CU Board of Regents’ Capital Construction Subcommittee in September 2013,

estimated a 3 percent annual market inflation rate for construction while the actual rate may have been higher. The Front Range has recently had a particular spike in demand.

During rapid growth periods, inflation is 8 percent for nonresidential buildings, according to a report by Gilbane Building Company. Long-term inflation in normal periods is usually 3.5 percent, according to a report by Gilbane Building Company.

“When you design a building, you have to account for cost escalation,” said Peter Knowles, North American executive vice president of Rider Levett Bucknall, an international construction consulting firm.

Millions more dollars will be needed to complete phase two of the building’s construction. In August 2015, the Capital Construction Subcommittee approved a request for \$5.5 million in additional funds, according to regent documents. The additional funding was not approved by the full regent board.

The subcommittee will review the project to authorize it for additional spending authority in May 2017. Assuming the proposal passes, the subcommittee will request the authority from the entire board of regents in June. At the time of this writing in mid-April, CU has not released how much capital will be required to finish the project.

# After spring 2016 controversy, CUSG passes new code in time for fall

A look at how student government emerged from election fallout that involved bribery, underreporting of funds and historic disqualification of candidates

\*originally published November 2016

*by Lucy Haggard,  
Breaking News Editor*

*and*

*Ellis Arnold,  
former Editor-in-Chief*

Returning CU Boulder students may remember the events of the spring 2016 CU Student Government elections. Two of the elected tri-executives of the Revolution party, Colton Lyons and Marcus Fotenos, were disqualified by the CUSG Appellate Court for underreporting campaign expenditures, bribery and unauthorized tabling. It was the first disqualification of seats in 110 years of institutional memory.

They were subsequently reinstated by Chancellor Philip DiStefano in an overturning of the Appellate Court ruling due to poor procedure of the hearings. In an open letter to the campus on May 5, DiStefano explained that because of mistakes made by the Election Commission — the committee that oversees how elections run — he was unable to “confirm that the evidence meets the clear and convincing standard required for a finding of misconduct.”

Those mistakes included failing to give all parties the right to cross-examination — a right that was unclear in the old code but is explicitly outlined in the new code — and failing to make individual rulings for the alleged offenses by each candidate.

Regardless of loyalty, all parties emerged from the incident understanding that the election code needed revision. The chancellor enforced that need — his letter required the code to be changed “both to clearly define the expectations of conduct for candidates and to ensure that the electoral process produces fair and equitable results.”

**On Oct. 6, CUSG passed its revisions — 13 votes in favor and five abstentions — with an entirely new document.** The committee in charge was made of five members: Colton Lyons, President of Student Affairs; Lucas Larson, Representative and Legislative Council President; Gabriel Elbert, Senator for Engineering and Legislative Council Parliamentarian; Rugh; and Brady Itken, member of Student Voices Count, who resigned from the committee after the completion of the first draft of the code.

Two of the people on the election code committee, Rugh from the Ally party and Lyons from the Revolution party, were involved in the spring election controversy. Lyons and the Revolution party were accused of multiple election violations, while Rugh and the Ally party were accusers. The new code addressed concerns with how the court proves violations — a centerpiece of the problems in the spring election — and redefines terms to make the rules clearer.

**Many students may wonder why CUSG is important. CUSG manages a budget of about \$23 million dollars each year,** and is involved in managing funds for the UMC, the Environmental Center and the CU Rec Center, among others.

It also provides crucial funding for the Volunteer Resource Center and the Women's Resource Center, and determines what student groups get funded by student fees — and CU has over 300 student organizations. CUSG funds come directly from student fees, which total about \$336 dollars per semester for most undergraduates.

The parties worked together, but the road to the new code was rocky. The chancellor's mandate that it be revised before the fall elections threatened the CUSG Constitution, which calls for elections to be held in October. Some CUSG members found this to be a troubling situation, as it could potentially take away their already limited autonomy.

“Personally I think that the chancellor should only intervene in CU Student Government when absolutely necessary,” said Austin Rugh, a representative and speaker of Representative Council. “I don't know, in this case, if it was absolutely necessary. This was the priority for

student government since the last election ... I also don't know if anything really would have changed whether he put this deadline on us or not.”

The committee had to work quickly after the start of the school year to pass a new code so that the elections could proceed legally. CUSG delayed the elections as much as the constitution allowed. Members of the committee estimate that they put in 60 to 70 hours of work, including consulting CUSG's legal counsel twice.

“[The committee] wanted to be as transparent as possible,” Elbert said. “We wanted to make sure it was a bipartisan effort, and

The CU Student Government Office in the UMC in spring 2017. (CU Independent)





we also wanted to make sure that we weren't breaking our constitution."

A main goal was making the rules clear so that all students can understand them, Lyons said.

"Our biggest goal was to define things and really clear barriers that way so students, when they're ready [to get involved with] student government, just have to read the document once and they understand exactly what [it entails]," Lyons said. "We tried to take out as much legal jargon as possible. In the old election code there was a ton of legal jargon so we tried to get rid of that and just have dictionary definitions."

**That's important, because definitions caused a significant part of the controversy during the spring elections that led to candidates being accused** — and disqualified for — breaking rules. The old code never fully clarified the terms tabling, polling, movements or even what the election is. One of the problems in the spring election was that one party may or may not have been polling incorrectly, depending on the interpretation of the old code.

The new code defines common terms used throughout, like election, campaigning and polling, and clarifies that "terms used throughout this code are subject to their dictionary definitions" when not defined specifically by the code.

Now, polling is defined as "the solicitation of an eligible voter to [vote] while at the same time providing the physical means to vote" via a device like a laptop or a tablet, and must be neutral except "during the time the Election Commissioner has permitted tables to be set up." Tabling is now defined as "the use of a table to promote an Independent Candidate, Ticket or a movement."

Previously, the definition of bribery was defined by the standard Colorado state law. In the new code, bribery is "defined as a prize, reward, gift or favor given or promised in order to influence another to vote for or against a particular candidate or ticket." This does not count what the new code calls "Normal Campaign Materials" — buttons, pins, stickers, handbills, flyers, posters, informational sheets or business cards, when "approved by the Election Commission and given during official campaigning."

The code outlaws bribery of any voters, as well as "bribing, conspiring with, claiming an endorsement of, or otherwise corruptly influencing" members of the commission, Appellate Court or anyone else involved with the election's function.

The new code also lowered the burden of proof for infraction charges — or rule vio-

lations — from "clear and convincing evidence" to "preponderance of the evidence." The old standard caused controversy in spring, as potential witnesses of alleged bribery feared retribution from the Greek organizations they were a part of, since the infractions occurred within those organizations.

**"One thing that happened in the spring is that members of the public who could provide testimony of infractions were part of Greek organizations, and the leaders of their Greek organizations were supporters of the tickets who committed infractions,"** Rugh said. "Obviously we had a big problem getting witnesses to testify. We can request witnesses, but they don't have to [show up] ... We can't subpoena anyone, so we can't acquire emails or any sort of communication. For any infraction to [be proven], we just have to get lucky, and someone can come forward and say 'yes I saw that,' or provide proof of it, which is hard to come by."

There are multiple chapters of the new code that have similar content to the old code, and its organization is similar as well. But the new document is distinguishable by its increased clarity and organization.

"We started trying to do amendments and just realized everything was so interconnected that we really needed to start from scratch," Larson said. "The election code that was being used had only been amended since it was introduced in the '70s, and this is the first time that it's a whole new code."

A few chapters are entirely new or contain significantly edited content, most of which was done in response to the conflict of the last election. Chapter 6 defines the difference between tickets and independent candidates, giving them both equal rights and responsibilities with regards to declaring their candidacy.

Chapter 7 is entirely new, laying out the amount of infraction points warranted by certain infractions and setting the limit of infraction points to 10 per candidate — 10 is the amount that gets a violator kicked out of office or disqualified from the elections. The content of this chapter was inspired by the University of California at Berkeley's student government, which operates independently of its university.

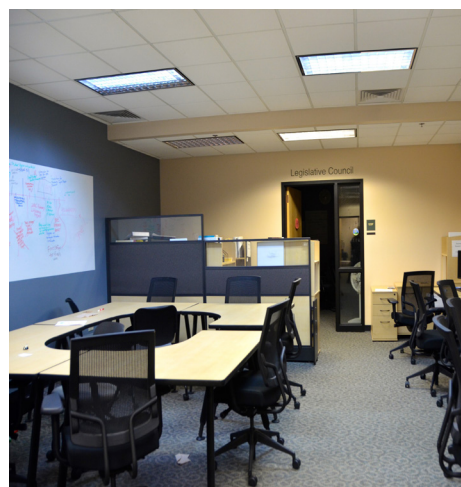
**"If you look at the old code, there's no real organized way of knowing what infractions are worth how many points,"** Elbert said. "We really liked the way that Berkeley divided up their infractions. It was organized where you have disqualifiable violations, major and then minor. The point values are different for theirs — ours are more in line

with our previous code, where 10 infraction points equals a disqualification."

A notable policy the new code preserves from the old code is the practice of allowing candidates to engage in polling — flagging down potential voters while also giving them the means to vote — when the Election Commissioner allows for tabling, which may seem in conflict with the commonly accepted idea of preventing electioneering while a voter votes. Electioneering is commonly defined as any actions that may influence a voter, and all 50 states have laws preventing the practice within a certain distance of polling stations.

The current commissioner, Aaron Chesler, says that because of the nature of online voting in CUSG elections, it would not be possible to enforce a ban on candidates potentially influencing voters when they vote.

*This story has been cut for print. Read the rest at [cuiindependent.com](http://cuiindependent.com).*



A CUSG legislative council space in spring 2017. (CU Independent)



CUSG "I voted" buttons in 2014. (Photo courtesy Wyatt Ryder/CU Student Government)



# Missing the Point

Why the #DivestCU movement falls short

by Jordyn Siemens, Syllabus Content Editor



*Students march from Old Main to the chancellor's office building in demonstration in late April. (Jordyn Siemens/CU Independent)*

*Opinions do not necessarily represent CUIndependent.com or any of its sponsors.*

**HEY, HO! HEY, HO! FOSSIL FUELS HAVE GOT TO GO! DISTEFANO CAN'T HEAR OUR CALL, BUT FOSSIL FUELS WILL KILL US ALL!**

April, 2017. Fossil Free CU's student-led demonstration, a culmination of "five years of hard work and activism," according to organizer P.D. Gantert, was "heating up [its] escalated efforts" to change CU Boulder for the better. They would finally convince the university's board of regents and chancellor to divest the institution's holdings from the fossil fuel industry, and it was "going to be big."

The activist group's march wound through campus toward Chancellor Philip DiStefano's office on a windy, drizzling Friday afternoon in April. Fifteen students held two three-foot signs, yelling iambic, incendiary chants with little regard for the snide smirks and eye-rolls of their peers walking home to the Hill.

I stood away from the walking path, photographing the march. A friend at the CU Independent asked me to shoot the event in his place for the paper. This wasn't the first student-led demonstration I'd documented through a journalistic lens at CU — 2016's election cycle made sure of that — so I was excited to catch the action.

But the march, marketed as a quintessential environmental student protest against a corporate (I'm sorry, institutional) administration, seemed awkward and lacked energy. I couldn't put my finger on why. After ducking into the Norlin Commons to upload my photos, it hit me.

***This fight is already lost.***

How could that be? CU Boulder is a well-known trailblazer in university sustainability. Students here created the nation's first recycling program in 1970. My 2013 student welcome brochure touted students and staff members who overwhelmingly supported green practices and committed themselves to saving the world one BPA-free plastic spoon at a time. Campus "Landfill" cans stood on every corner to guilt new recyclers and prop up the ego of seasoned sustainabliërs. How could an anti-fossil-fuel student group at CU Boulder only be 15-strong after five years of organizing?

Dave Newport sat chuckling, arms crossed at his desk in CU Boulder's Environmental Center. He'd just gotten off the phone with athletic director Rick George before I stumbled in three minutes late for our appointment, Starbucks cup in hand.

"Hope you got that drink downstairs," he said. "Our Starbucks is the only one in town using compostables."

Newport started Ralphie's Green Stampede, the first Division I athletic sustainability program in the nation, in 2008. He's the reason Folsom Field and the Coors Events Center only house zero-waste events. He's, albeit indirectly, responsible for diverting 90 percent of CU Boulder's stadium waste from the state's landfills.

"Think of the university as a business, and the students as its customers. In my mind, the customer is always right," he said. He went on to cite a 2015 survey where 92 percent of incoming freshmen expressed support for sustainable practices and a willingness to reduce their carbon footprints.

"Our athletic director [in 2008] was on board in about 30 seconds, and Rick is on the same page," he said.

The Green Stampede's goals started small, much like the original recycling efforts at CU. Students began campus recycling efforts in the 1970s. Those efforts led to the creation of the Eco-Center, which later evolved into the fee-funded Environmental Center that houses Newport's office. Funded by the students, Newport pointed out that his mission attempts to serve them.

"Students aren't the only stakeholder though, especially in campus athletics," he said, continuing his big-business analogy. "There is no sustainability at CU without an economic argument."

That argument includes "low-hanging fruit" that saves money, like LED light bulbs, dual-flush toilets, new windows and duct systems, and the use of compostable dining materials to limit waste. According to Newport, Division I sports programs can afford the up-front costs of sustainable practices to eventually save money in the long run.

My mind drifted back to FFCU's march as he spoke. I realized that

those fifteen students not only lack a viable economic argument, but also the sheer influence of a moneymaker like CU athletics. In fact, divestment may be one of the least advantageous arguments to make, at least when it comes to maintaining CU Boulder's educational resources without raising tuition.

Rewind back to those students from the '70s. They, self-proclaimed grassroots ministers preaching to a wholly uninformed student body, spread the good news of sustainability, the fear of climate change, and the hope of damnation for oil giants and corporate interests alike.

Yes, their activism coincided with paying for and benefitting from an education provided by a university run on fossil fuels the likes of natural gas mogul and CU President Bruce Benson. This irony would usually discredit student activists, but these ones were eventually successful.

Why them, and not FFCU? The short answer: a half-century's worth of continued effort, and student fees. Key word? Fees.

It's taken 47 years to achieve green practices on campus. While our LEED-certified buildings, campus-wide recycling efforts and zero-waste marketing efforts are undoubtedly positive, Earth-saving assets to this campus, none of them come without an economic or image-related advantage. These advantages are what administrators like the board of regents, Chancellor DiStefano and President Bruce Benson weigh.

That's the key to success in the fight for sustainability. Maybe, just maybe, FFCU is unsuccessful because it does not consider the logic or goals of its enemy, the administration.

Go ahead, attack Benson for his corporate partnerships and ties to the fossil fuel industry. Attack the regents. Attack DiStefano. But understand that fighting opportunistic businessmen over millions of funding dollars because it's immoral isn't going to work. But they may set sustainable precedents when they're good for business. They've got to see green to be green, and the up-front costs of divestment are simply too much to bear while maintaining the integrity of our degree programs.

And as Dr. Keith Stockton, a Leeds School of Business instructor, made clear, divesting our interests wouldn't hurt or shrink the industry.

"If we give up those stocks, there are thousands of buyers lined

Fiscal Year 2015-16 Current Funds Revenue Budget  
\$1.47 billion

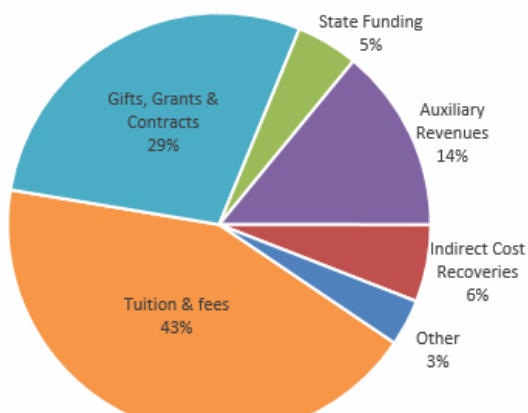


Figure from CU Boulder's Budget and Fiscal Planning website  
Investments may fall in the blue or purple segments. Their loss effectively increases tuition and fees.

up to have them," he said. "It doesn't make any difference whether we have them or the next guy does."

It became clear in that moment why administrators turn a deaf ear to divestment propositions. These holdings are incredibly lucrative, an important detail for our campus. State funding only accounts for five percent of CU's total revenues, and despite this, the Regents passed a 2016 tuition guarantee for all incoming classes to limit increases. Apart from research contracts, grants, tuition, student fees, and state funding, CU depends on private fundraising to make sure it can offer us viable educations.

There's also physical limits to sustainability. Dr. Stockton continued—his blue velvet doctoral cap and tassel hung behind him on his office wall, a reminder of his environmental expertise.

"Overall, [divestment] is a feel-good measure," he said. "From a business perspective, sustainability is a marketing tool, and has to be cost effective. But it's not, and it's not physically possible on a campus this large and this old."

The unfortunate and frustrating truth is that he's right. A university with over 31,000 students and multiple ongoing construction projects cannot justify divestment from any lucrative holdings. It can't fully eliminate its carbon footprint on campus. The university recently built a fossil fuel-driven power plant just east of the Coors Events Center to manage our growing campus' energy needs.

There is a positive side: the CU campus features biodiesel-fueled vehicles, 18 LEED certified buildings, the first net-zero athletic facility in nation, the largest university investment in solar energy in the region, zero-waste athletic events and campus-wide use of compostable dining materials. That's not to mention that student-led marketing campaigns helped CU save 0.36 pounds of food waste per student in the last two years. Manager of sustainability and resiliency Ed Von Bleichert confirmed campus energy use per square foot has effectively flat-lined over the past decade.

But there's a general growth in square footage overall, and if our campus cannot move away from using fossil fuels, why should it give up its incredibly lucrative investments in them? Morality is not enough with over 30,000 educations and thousands more salaries to fund.

This explains the underwhelming march across campus I observed in April. It explains the ongoing and uneventful fight with CU Boulder's administration. Not only would divestment be fiscally damaging to CU at large, affecting the quality of its product (yours and my education), but it does not align with the economic steps our university has taken to be a "green" game-changer.

Thanks to those students half a century ago, we have a reputation. Sustainability grew like a blade of high desert grass, setting off a domino effect on campus and across the country. Today, fellow educational powerhouses like Stanford emulate our efforts, and the Pac-12 Conference is set to host its first Athletic Sustainability conference this summer. CU's very first Chief Sustainability Officer Heidi VanGendren is set to report for duty this June.

Yes, this is all because of student activists, but it's also because they chose the right battles to fight. Their economic approach to recycling and other sustainability measures helped the mission percolate up to top administrators.

FFCU is correct when it claims that the fight is not over, and it's correct when it points out how our administration contradicts itself, marketing a green campus while holding investments in the fossil fuel industry. But I'm afraid the group's efforts may only begin and end in protest without viable economic advantages to back it up.

# Girl on Girl

a CUI Opinion Column

## Swipe wrong:

by *Dani Pinkus,*  
former Assistant Opinion Editor

There's a thing happening — that's been happening — in the modern dating scene, and it's kind of like the plague but also like renting out a window in the red-light district, and it's called Tinder. You may have heard of it, might have used it. If not to gander your missed opportunities, then perhaps to consider where you'll drop your junk next.

It's cool — do what you do and get your Tinder on. But as fun and silly as swiping right can be, the Tinder raid may be seriously impeding how millennials deal with relationships.

Let's start from the beginning. What even is Tinder?

Tinder is a smartphone app that is as dirty as it sounds rolling off your tongue, and even dirtier when your tongue is inside of someone you met through it. It was founded by CEO Sean Rad, an Angeleno who dropped out of USC and collaborated with some old friends in 2011. The app's intent was to bring awkward bar flirting into the pockets of the hot, young and awkward. In 2012, Tinder went live in the App Store, targeting college campuses, and in 2013, it let Android in on the action. By 2014, only half of Tinder's users were college students, leaving the other 50 percent to a variety of grandpas catfishing your daughter.

Tinder is currently estimated to have 50 million users worldwide, and it's a hodgepodge of people. Everyone has his or her own agenda, but the hook-up is still the hot commodity. Rad reported that 80 percent of users actually hope to find love, while the other 20 percent swipe in search of "brief friendships." That's a whole lot of finger calories lost on the

Tinder has become the millennial dating norm. But where did it start, where is it going and how does it affect our relationships?

love of your life.

"Tinder is a great place to search for a fuck buddy," said Sammie Posner, CU student.

No doubt about it, college is a black hole in a Tinder dream scheme. You're living in this town of young people who are already doing exactly what the app offers — finding their first ex-husband or best one-night stand. And yet, Rad and his minions have manifested an enterprise value of \$4.7 billion, just by eliminating social interaction.

These days, all it takes for action is a match on Tinder, and you don't even have to want it that badly. No eye-catching from across the room or grand gestures, and certainly no compromise. You can hang around drinking beers with buddies and biddies, swiping to the beat of your racing sex drive, and laughing out loud at the obvious left.

But as we know, there is not only one kind of Tinder user.

"I downloaded Tinder and went on one date. The guy looked nothing like he did in the picture, and then I deleted the app," said Devon Blitz, CU alum. "But my boyfriend's brother is getting married to a girl he met on Tinder, and they're an awesome couple."

It just kind of cuts out the middle-man who suggests the "match" across friend groups. The old-school blind date, if you will. Now you can form an attraction before even meeting. After all, a picture is worth a thousand words.

And on the topic of expressions, what ever happened to "don't judge a book by its cover?" The bummer here is that there's such a different connection formed when actually meeting someone face-to-face. You see them, and you're drawn for reasons you can't form into a text. You start a conversation, and where you were once intrigued, you're suddenly soaking wet. And all because they told the story about their childhood trip to the zoo! Oh, the ever-impressionable zebra stripes! You just never know, and I'm afraid that Tinder limits the willingness to mate outside of shallow attraction.

Ultimately, to Tinder or not to Tinder — I don't really care for the question.

But apparently, the few young people that manage to make their way into relationships need to be reminded: Tinder is not for you. Having it "just to make new friends" counts as using Tinder, and even having the app and "not using it" counts as being on Tinder. It has ended up being this normalized thing that people just "have" in the depths of their phones, sitting there, suspiciously unattended. Tinder seems to reaffirm a larger issue that young people are dealing with today: Because of our fast-paced, option-filled lives, we don't really know how to be in relationships.

And when you fall outside the norm and do enter into an exclusive relationship, it's hard to realize what that fully means.

So fine, fall in love and take your time getting there. Trip over the Tinder flings, let your hair down and celebrate the space. But we all know what Tinder is for, so realize when you're swiping wrong and don't let it be the reason your partner unmatched you in real life. When you fall deep enough into something that matters, even if you owe it to Tinder, do yourself and your significant other the courtesy of deleting the damn app. The presence of these things and the endless options along with them aren't going anywhere. Before you get too caught up in swiping right, realize when it's time to edit the homepage and focus on the person in front of you.

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