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Office of Advancement  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

# humanitas

(/hju: 'manitas/): humanity and kindness

CU Boulder Advancement News | July 2024

In this edition of *Humanitas*, catch the State of the Division video update, celebrate a new endowed professorship and get to know a colleague from Annual Giving.

## KNOWING

### Watch now: State of the Division video

In case you missed it, this year's [State of the Division video](#) celebrates CU Boulder Advancement's successes from FY24, and sets ambitious targets for FY25. From supporting a new chancellor to hitting impressive fundraising and engagement milestones, there's so much to be proud of. Plus, enjoy a few surprise "Olympic" moments from Katy K. See how our dedicated team is making a difference and what's on the horizon for our Advancement efforts!

[WATCH NOW](#)

### Take the CU Ascend pulse survey before Aug. 2

Please take a moment to share your thoughts on CU Ascend, Advancement Intelligence (AI) and their associated functionalities in this [pulse survey](#). Your feedback will help identify trends, address issues and inform future decisions. You'll also have the opportunity to share your input on reporting or other activities that might help you do your job, such as training, support or communications. The survey closes on Friday, Aug. 2.

[TAKE SURVEY](#)

TAKE SURVEY

# SHINING

## CMCI’s first endowed professorship

Joan Payden, CEO of the esteemed money management firm Payden & Rygel, has made a generous pledge of \$1.5 million to endow a professorship at the College of Media, Communication and Information in honor of her late brother, William R. Payden (Jour’57). Bill was a remarkable individual — a journalist, college professor, sports enthusiast, cinephile, professional pianist, world traveler and collector of aviation memorabilia and classic cars. In addition to this new professorship, his legacy includes the William R. Payden Award, an annual \$20,000 prize recognizing outstanding CMCI faculty.

The Payden Professorship will be CMCI’s first endowed professorship, marking a significant milestone. Reflecting on her brother, Joan shared; “We were very different, but he was my best friend.” This landmark opportunity was secured through the collaborative efforts of CMCI and the Principal Gifts and Strategic Initiatives team.

# DEFINING



## **Olivia Ewing**

*Program Manager, Crowdfunding  
Annual Giving*

*Olivia grew up in Iowa City, Iowa, with a passion for exploring the world. At the University of Iowa, she delved into International Relations and English, initially planning for a future in law. However, the pandemic led her to a new adventure in Colorado, where she earned her MPA from the University of Colorado Denver. Her dream of working in the nonprofit sector came true when she joined CU System and later transitioned to her role at CU Boulder. Today, she uses her talents to crowdfund projects for students, Advancement units and Buffs All In! Outside of work, Olivia thrives on teaching yoga, trail running, learning to bake and doing anything with her beloved dog, Nellie.*

**When I grew up I wanted to be...** a teacher.

**If I could visit any place and time in history, I would go to...** the 1970s and 1980s and see what my parents were like at my age!

**If I could relive any moment in my life, I would want to go back to...** college to try out more majors!

**Something I've always wondered is...** why are some birds unable to fly?

**My biggest pet peeve is...** when people bring their phones into a workout class.

**The best advice I've ever heard is...** listen to understand, not to respond.

**I'm making a difference in the world...** by helping students and alumni understand the importance of philanthropy!

**The best decision I ever made was...** moving to Colorado without ever visiting!

**The best gift I ever received is...** my grandmother's wedding ring. It was something my grandmother never wore, as her husband died soon after they were married, so I take great joy in wearing it.

*The Defining section highlights fellow team members, their roles and their contributions to the CU community and beyond.*

PROMOTING



**Katie Koch**

*Assistant Director  
of Development  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Katie previously served as a  
program manager on the Donor  
Relations team.*

TRANSITIONING





**Rachelle Dizon**

*Sr. Program Manager, Parent  
Engagement, Communication  
and Stewardship*

*Parent Giving & Boulder  
Advancement Programs*

*Rachelle previously served as a  
development assistant in the  
College of Music.*

**WELCOMING**



**Jack Curzon**

*Program Manager, Forever Buffs  
Student Outreach & Philanthropy  
Alumni Association*



**Nikki Luth**

*Program Manager,  
Advancement Experiences  
Leeds School of Business*



**Ian Scott**

*Sr. Director, Creative  
Strategy & Services  
Advancement Marketing and*



**Elizabeth Thompson**

*Director of Development  
Parent Giving and Boulder  
Advancement Programs*



DEPARTING



**Marissa Zamudio**  
School of Law



**Sharon Gordon**  
Advancement Budget & Finance

*Staff changes are reported through July 19*

ENGAGING



*Vice Chancellor of Advancement Katy Kotlarczyk and former Assistant Vice Chancellor for*

Advancement Matt Young (middle) pose with speakers Dr. Jessica Elmore (left) and Dr. Carl Simien (right) at the CASE DEI training, “Prejudice Reduction Strategies.” | June 2024

**AUG 7**

**CU Advancement and CU Foundation “Go for Gold” All Hands Retreat**

**AUG 8**

CU Boulder Advancement virtual all-staff meeting

**SEPT 2**

Labor Day

**SEPT 12**

CU Boulder Advancement fall in-person all-staff

**SEPT 19–21**

Homecoming

Have news or events that you’d like to feature in *Humanitas*?  
Submit your request through **Asana**.