



September 2014

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to a busy fall semester! I want to extend a special greeting to all of the new faculty and instructors on campus. I had the pleasure of meeting many of them at the new faculty orientation. I hope everyone is settling in well!

We have a busy year ahead of us and your faculty governance has been hard at work. The system-wide Faculty Council has already met once and has also had its retreat. Some action items on this year's agenda include improving communication between the Administration and Faculty Council, between Faculty Council and the campuses, and between all committees and assemblies and their constituency. These initiatives are aimed at strengthening our model of shared governance. As part of this, we want to remind everyone that the Regent's Meetings are open session. They welcome visitors and it is a great way to improve communication with them. The next set of Board meetings are Wednesday September 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday September 11<sup>th</sup> on the Boulder Campus. See the following website for more information: <http://www.cu.edu/regents/board-meetings>. A significant topic for discussion has been and will continue to be the Social Climate Survey that a few of our faculty participated in.

We are also looking at ways to improve networking and foster connections between the campuses. One suggestion has been to hold topical lunches or events to improve networking, such as a "Women in Business" or "Women in Engineering" lunch to get people together. While all of these initiatives are in the discussion stage, I welcome suggestions from everyone.

On the UCCS campus, we are also looking for ways to improve leadership development opportunities and mentorship programs for faculty and instructors. A number of you will have received, or will shortly receive, an email from me asking about your mentorship experiences. Responses are entirely private. I am seeking feedback from a wide audience across ranks and colleges to start constructing an action item list with tangible suggestions for the administration.

With that, I want to remind everyone that the Faculty Assembly will be meeting for the first time on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 12-2 in UC 303. I look forward to a productive year serving our campus community.

Sincerely,

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Faculty Representative Assembly President, 2014-2015