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Ellsworth awarded USA Knight fellowship

Michelle Ellsworth, associate director of the ATLAS Center for Media, Arts and Performance and a professor and co-director of CU’s Theater and Dance department, has received a $50,000 United States Artists (USA) Knight Fellowship Award for her work in the field of dance. The unrestricted funds are awarded to artists at all career stages who demonstrate artistic excellence, unique artistic vision and significant contributions to their fields.

“Michelle Ellsworth is a dancer, choreographer, video maker, writer, cartoonist, and Web designer,” USA stated. “In her performances, Ellsworth combines dance with technology, humorously confronting issues such as biodiversity or problems with the shrinkage of the Y chromosome.” USA is a non-profit grant-making and advocacy organization dedicated to artists working in the United States. It is funded by a variety of foundations, individuals and other organizations.

Panels of experts in each artistic discipline selected the 52 winning artists from among 311 nominated applicants living in 45 states, according to USA. Ellsworth has performed at On the Boards, Seattle, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, and Dance Theater Workshop in New York, USA noted. She has received commissions from DTW, DiverseWorks, Houston, National Performance Network, and the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Department.

Ph.D. students
Heather Underwood presented her PartoPen project as part of a panel of at the mHealth Summit conference from Dec. 5-7 in Washington, D.C. The conference brings together government and industry officials, academia, health providers and non-profit organizations to advance wireless technologies that can improve health care throughout the world.

Underwood’s PartoPen is a digital pen application that helps identify potential problems during labor and birth. The pen interacts with a standard health monitoring paper form called a Par tograph, which tracks and monitors various stages of labor and birth. Using pre-programmed audio prompts, the pen interacts with the paper form to provide real-time decision support, timely reminders for ongoing and consistent monitoring, dynamic data validation to ensure quality control, and access to the complete World Health Organization user manual instructions just by pressing the tip of the pen to the paper form. The goal of the PartoPen project is to improve labor outcomes in...
DIGITAL PEN: ATLAS student Ariel Aguilar, right, talks about Ph.D. student Heather Underwood’s development of a digital pen technology aimed at improving labor outcomes in developing countries.

TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT: ATLAS Director John Bennett and ATLAS Ph.D. student Leslie Dodson stand in front of a poster about Dodson’s research, which focuses on Information and Communication Technology for Development.

ATLAS grad students present research at Hopper conference

Fifteen women from ATLAS programs attended the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing conference, known as the world’s largest gathering of technical women, from Nov. 9-12 in Portland, Ore.

The conference included presentations from industrial, governmental and academic fields. Special sessions focused on the role of women in computer science, information technology, research and engineering.

Several ATLAS graduate students presented their research. ATLAS also had a booth promoting the various academic opportunities available through the institute.

The ATLAS Institute once again served as a Gold Sponsor of the conference.

GENDER AND GAMING: Ph.D. student Kara Behnke presented her research on gender-related communities within the game World of Warcraft.

Continued from Page 2 in the developing world and, ultimately, reduce the number of preventable maternal deaths.

Leslie Dodson, Revi Sterling and John Bennett co-wrote a paper called “Considering Failure: Eight Years of ICTD Research,” which will be featured as one of the top papers at the Fifth International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD2012) in March in Atlanta. Sterling, who is director of the ATLAS master’s degree in Information and Communication Technology for Development, also will moderate a workshop on teaching ICTD. ATLAS Ph.D. student Heather Underwood will demonstrate the PartoPen, which is a digital pen intended to help improve labor outcomes in the developing world. Underwood also will participate in a workshop related to Ph.D. work in ICTD.

Sarah Viewig will do a poster presentation at the Computer Supported Cooperative Work conference in February in Seattle. The poster describes her research into how to analyze and computationally represent Twitter messages in times of mass emergencies.

Master’s students McCleese Stephens worked on an assessment project for Engineers Without Borders from Dec. 27-Jan. 13 in Peru. Stephens also was a Graduate Scholar at the Technology, Knowledge and Society international conference, held Jan. 16-18 in Los Angeles. The conference brought together educators, students and experts for plenary sessions, workshops and paper presentation around the topics of technology, knowledge and society. Information about the conference is at http://techandsoc.com/conference-2012/.
ICTD master’s students present lab projects

Two teams of students in the Information and Communication Technology for Development master’s program Lab Class (ATLS 5240) presented their prototype technology/development projects at an inaugural presentation program Dec. 14 in ATLAS.

Both teams had to conduct extensive site surveys and development indicators from very little available data, as well as take many specific client requests into account, while developing their concepts.

Some of the student work in this class may be deployed in the future as the students begin their practicums or take on a special project as part of their degree work.

Team Zambia worked with Q-Fund (http://qfund.org/cms/index.php) to create a low-powered Internet lab for both academic and community needs. Members of this team are: Matt Crum, Leslie Dodson, Kevin McElhinney and Mustafa Naseem.

Team Haiti created a hardware/software system to monitor the solar power and Internet connectivity stations being built by Green Wi-Fi (http://www.greenwif.org/) to support installations of 500+ OLPC laptops. Members of this team are: Maryam Moghaddam-zadeh, Alexandra Morgan, Nicole Stephen and Robert Tester.

Each team had about a half hour to present their projects and will be publishing detailed specifications.
Speakers Series has diverse lineup

**Social Media, Friday, Jan. 27**

Carmel Hagen will explore people’s growing need to be online, connect with others and share the smallest details of their lives. Her talk is entitled “The Web and Social Media: Separating the Noise from the Notable.” Her discussion will cover the good and bad of the tweets, links, feeds and Facebook statuses flying through the Web. Hagen is a CU alumna, TEDx speaker and Boulder-based consultant in the fields of social media, branding and marketing.

**DNA Sequencing, Monday, Jan. 30**

Mark Maxham, an engineer and software manager at Pacific Biosciences, led the software team that developed the DNA sequencing technology Single-Molecule Real-Time (SMRT). In a talk entitled “SMRT DNA Sequencing: Technologies Driving Development,” Maxham will discuss how this technology was developed, the different scientific disciplines employed and the biological applications enabled by SMRT in medicine, agriculture and biofuels.

**Design & Creativity, Monday, Feb. 13**

Mark Gross, professor of computational design at Carnegie Mellon University’s School of Architecture and a former CU professor, will discuss the design process, do-it-yourself technologies, the Maker Movement, modular robotics, creativity and the interdisciplinary use of technology and computing. He explained, “In a world of multiple disciplines and specializations, design challenges boundaries.” His talk is entitled “Applied Technology, Design & Creativity (or, let’s talk about making really cool stuff!)”

**Innovation, Monday, March 12**

Andrew A. Chien will discuss the technical factors behind the end of Moore’s law and speculate about the new landscape that will emerge and its impact on innovation. His talk is entitled “How the End of Moore’s Law is Changing the Landscape of Innovation.” He will discuss three landscapes where innovation occurs (universities, start-ups and multi-national corporations) and the obstacles and opportunities inherent in each. Chien is the William Eckhardt Professor in Computer Science at the University of Chicago, a senior fellow at its Computation Institute and a senior computer scientist at Argonne National Laboratory. He is the former vice president of research at Intel Corporation.

**Game Design & Teaching, Monday, April 9**

Lee Sheldon, author of The Multiplayer Classroom, will look at the synergy between video game design and education that occurs when students come to class to play and learn. He will discuss a new way of teaching that re-engages students. The results? Higher average class scores, almost perfect attendance and more. His presentation is entitled “Can the Multiplayer Classroom Revolutionize Teaching?” Sheldon is an associate professor and co-director of the Games and Simulation Arts program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has written and designed more than two dozen video games.

**ICT for Development, Monday, March 19**

Eric Rasmussen will look into the impact of increasing populations on cities and the challenges that result when people migrate from the villages and farms of the world. (There are now seven billion people in 2012 and a global population that is more urban than rural.) His talk is entitled “The Challenges of Our Growing Population.” Rasmussen is a clinical physician and research professor for environmental security and global medicine at San Diego State University. He was in the U.S. Navy, deployed in 15 natural disasters, and is former CEO of InSTEDD, an NGO that provides humanitarian support through technology and education.

**Music & Technology, Thursday, April 26**

(Note venue: ATLAS Black Box)

Morton Subotnick, an international performer, composer and an iconic figure in the field of electronic music, will discuss the history and future of music and technology in a talk entitled “The Past, Present and Future of Electronic Music.” This year marks the 45th anniversary of his work, Silver Apples to the Moon, which was recently inducted into the Library of Congress. (He will perform it the same day as his talk as a part of the Communikey Festival of Electronic Arts.) He was the first music director of NYC’s Repertory Theater of Lincoln Center. In addition to composing and touring, Subotnick develops music technology tools for children.

The ATLAS Speaker Series, which is made possible by a generous donation by Idit Harel Caperton and Anat Harel, hosts distinguished visitors from academia, industry and the arts as part of the ATLAS Institute’s mission to explore information and communication technologies and their effect on society. The series is an educational and experiential resource for students, faculty and the larger community to discuss the challenges, opportunities and innovative applications of technology.

Talks run from 5-6 p.m. in the Cofrin Auditorium, ground floor, ATLAS 100 (enter from lobby), unless otherwise noted.
Multimedia shows featured in Black Box

The ATLAS Center for Media, Arts and Performance features a broad range of music, video and dance in multimedia performances scheduled for the spring. All performances are in the Black Box, located in the lowest basement level B2. Most performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m.; however, go to http://www.colorado.edu/atlas/blackbox/ for the latest information about performance times. Scheduled performances are:

I Am Watch Television Zombie, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 3-4
I Am Watch Television Zombie is an exploration of the nature of our mutual addiction to the television screen. With a team of over 40 actors, dancers, musicians, technologists, videoographers, welders, chefs, computer-programmers and balloon inflaters, the show will be an unrelenting assault on the eyes, ears and taste buds of the audience. Instead of sitting in chairs, audience members will be directed by invisible voices in the Black Box to stand and move throughout the performance space. The project is conceived and produced by CU doctoral candidate in music Hunter Ewen.

Pendulum New Music: Hsing-ay Hsu, Wednesday, Feb. 22
The Pendulum New Music concert series presents electro-acoustic performances featuring the following CU composers and performers:
- Cole Ingraham, live electronics and visuals; John Drumheller, composition faculty, will perform with Nicolo Spera, guitarist, combining 10-string guitar with electronics; Hugh Lobel, piano, narrator and electronics (computer and 2/4 speakers); and Nathan Hall, video projection of a percussion quartet.

BLOrk (Boulder Laptop Orchestra), Friday, Feb. 24
BLOrk, which is an ensemble of performers equipped with a laptop, a hemispherical speaker, a variety of control devices, traditional instruments, MIDI controllers and video game accessories, will perform under the direction of John Gunther, an assistant professor of jazz studies at CU.

Charming Hostess, Thursday, March 8
Charming Hostess, an Oakland-based group of female vocalists, will perform in concert. The San Francisco Chronicle writes about the group’s founder/songwriter: “Jewlia Eisenberg’s work is irreverent and ambitious. Charming Hostess radiates female energy and her singing transforms the spirit.” The New York Times wrote: “She sets lyrics about politics, jealousy and pizza to a world of styles, from klezmer to pygmy-style counterpart, humanizing a great thinker while having plenty of fun.” The Los Angeles Weekly wrote: “Charming Hostess is the finest anarchist-feminist-polyphonic-polyrhythmic-polymorphously perversely-balkan-blue-ish-Jewish-freak-funk-punk band working in America today. Their live shows are as fabulous and eccentric as their music.”

Living Room, Friday-Saturday, March 16-17
Living Room is a collaborative, multimedia, interdisciplinary experience, merging live performance, original sound scores, poetic film, real-time interactive Web design and art installations in a choose-your-own-adventure style. It will be produced by dance MFA students Lauren Beale and Brooke Gessay in collaboration with Ana Baer Carrillo.

Scriabin’s Synaesthetic Illuminations, Thursday-Friday, March 22-23
Doctor of Musical Arts candidate Owen Zhou will analyze and perform Alexander Scriabin’s Eighth Piano Sonata with colored lighting and other effects. Scriabin was influenced greatly by the neurological phenomenon synesthesia, a condition where one’s sense is stimulated by another sense. In Scriabin’s case, he associated certain colors with different harmonies and devised his own “circle of color.” The performance will be in the form of a lecture recital (in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Doctor of Musical Arts). It will be the world-premiere of this work with a lighting component.

LIGHT: A Musical Journey, Friday-Saturday, April 6-7
LIGHT: A Musical Journey is a five-movement musical work that explores various concepts of light from the spiritual and emotional to the physical. Scored for chamber orchestra, children’s choir, rock band, male octet and soloists, each group will express a different aspect of light. The concept of light will transform as the piece progresses, meandering through different instruments, tonal centers, styles, textures and media. The piece is written and directed by College of Music instructor Kari Kraakevik.

Cristina Goletti, Chrissy Nelson, Friday-Saturday, April 20-21
Two MFA dance candidates share the evening with two productions, each incorporating contemporary movement, improvisation, projected images, digital technology and live music. S is for . . . , directed by Cristina Goletti, is a duo for man and woman who push their emotional boundaries while exploring the politics of gender. (d)well, by Chrissy Nelson, is a collaborative multimedia dance piece.

Communikey (CMKY), Thursday, April 26
The Communikey Festival of Electronic Arts will feature a concert by electronic music pioneer Morton Subotnick. He will perform Silver Apples of the Moon, commemorating the 45th anniversary of his groundbreaking work, which was been inducted into the Library of Congress. Vocalist Lesley Flanagan also will perform. See http://www.communikey.us for other festival events and workshops.

K is for Fake, Friday-Saturday, May 18-19
K is for Fake is a multimedia performance adaptation of Jonathan Lethem’s short story of the same name. The production will surround the audience with digital montages of Lethem’s images, staged episodes with live performers and puppets, projected images, quotes, video segments and live feeds from Web sites. It is a collaboration of CU students Rand Harmon, Andryn Arithson and Charlotte Ballard.
HIGH-DEFINITION CAPTURE: The Denver-based band Princess Music was featured in a special performance recorded with a new digital high-definition three-camera setup with live switching and audio in the ATLAS Black Box in October. The video shoot was presented by the ATLAS Center for Media, Arts and Performance in collaboration with the local arts organization Communikey. The recording was another in a series of ATLAS events capturing quality live entertainment.

“CASANOVA AT TWILIGHT”: The exploits of Casanova were portrayed and examined in several performances in September and October in the Black Box. The music was composed and conducted by CU College of Music Ph.D. student Hunter Ewen. Singer/actors included baritone and CU graduate Garrett Smith as young Casanova and Leigh Holman, director of CU’s Opera Department, who played one of Casanova’s loves.
Striking the Match

SOCIAL ISSUES PERFORMANCE: Beth Osnes, an associate professor in CU’s Theatre and Dance department, created a series of videos and short, single-issue humorous and insightful performances to illuminate social issues during a Video Wall display and Black Box performance in November. Clockwise from upper right are videos with insights related to the power of voting; fossil fuels; and cancer.

ABSTRACT SOUND AND VIDEO: Cole Ingraham, a Ph.D. student in CU’s College of Music, produced a stunning package of projected animated graphics and sound as part of an immersive, multisensory experience entitled “Vantage Points” in the Black Box in October. The 360-degree projections covered all four walls of the Black Box.
Students use variety of media to create capstone projects

CREATIVE WORKS DISPLAYED: Students in the Technology, Arts and Media program’s capstone projects course displayed their works throughout the ATLAS Roser Building in December. Projects included (clockwise from upper left): a series of portraits in an exhibit entitled “Personality Colors,” an artistic look at using subtle colors to bring out personality traits by advertising student Marielle B. Reiersgard; a series of time-lapse photos in video by Adam De Alva, an architecture student; a guitar recycled into a lamp artwork by studio arts student Pamela Finver; humans morphed onto trees in a series of photos entitled “Treeople,” by media studies student Victoria Stocker; and a digital grafting of animal body parts in a series of photographs entitled “Happy Fun Time Evil Zoo Advertising Print Campaign,” by advertising student Michael Miller.
GRADUATION, OPEN HOUSE: Students await the conferring of their TAM minors and certificates in December, above; at right, crowds of students sign up for TAM courses at an open house in October.

42 graduate TAM program

Forty-two students graduated from TAM programs during ceremonies on Dec. 15 in ATLAS.

Twenty-two students earned the minor degree in Technology, Arts and Media; 20 students earned the Certificate in Digital Media.

There currently are 642 students enrolled in TAM courses. The program continues to have more female than male students, with 373 female and 269 male students enrolled in TAM courses.

Out of 21 ATLAS courses, 14 have wait lists of from 1 to 20 students per course, with wait lists capped at 20.

Boulder Digital Works graduates 12

Boulder Digital Works (BDW), which offers a multi-disciplinary, project-based graduate certificate program designed to provide skills needed by employees and entrepreneurs in the digital communication fields, graduated 12 students from its 60-week certificate program in Digital Arts and Sciences during ceremonies in December.

BDW now has graduated 27 students and, including this class, has maintained a 100 percent placement rate.

In other BDW news:

- Applications are now open for BDW’s fifth class, starting in the fall of 2012. For information about how to apply, go to http://bdw.colorado.edu/#/apply/.
- BDW students recently conceived and built the Occupationalist, which is the main social media aggregating site for the Occupy Wall Street movement. According to Mashable, the “Occupationalist, built by Boulder Digital Works, is trying to make it easier to find and share news and media about what’s happening in the movement both for those involved and those on the digital sidelines.” Read the Mashable article at http://mashable.com/2011/11/04/occupy-wall-street-hub/.
TBS becomes NCWIT investment partner

The Turner Broadcasting Company has joined the National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) as an investment partner. Turner will provide support for the increased participation and visibility for women in technology startups (especially those in new media), and the expansion of the NCWIT Entrepreneurial Alliance, which helps young companies build a diverse company culture. Turner also will provide multimedia services to extend the quality and breadth of NCWIT's free resource library for computing educators and professionals, and will join other corporations in the NCWIT Workforce Alliance working to recruit, retain and advance women in technology.

NCWIT launches “Red Chair” program to highlight support for women in technical fields

“Sometimes you have to sit to take a stand.” So says Sit with Me, a new, national advocacy campaign designed to encourage women’s persistence in technical careers.

Co-created with renowned communications firm BBMG and NCWIT’s own member companies and universities, Sit with Me invites people to sit in a red chair to take a small but symbolic stand in support of women in computing and IT and to recognize the important role women play in creating future technology.

The red chair gives people an innovative way to show their solidarity and invite others to join.

Photos of people with the red chair are being uploaded to the Internet, along with stories of why they volunteered to participate.

A website (http://www.sit-withme.org), Facebook page, and Twitter stream encourage anyone (men, women, technical, non-technical people) to take the small, but symbolic, action of sitting in a red chair, then sharing their thoughts and photos online. This is NCWIT’s first “image” campaign and after a soft launch to NCWIT members this spring, it will go public later this year.

John Bennett, Director of ATLAS, was one of the early participants to take a stand. His story:

“ATLAS is an NCWIT Pacesetter. In October 2011, I sat in the red chair to share progress towards our goal...

“We created a new intro course in CS using a virtual world called Second Life and use it as a programming laboratory. We now offer a new track in game development that blends artistic and technical education. We introduced a new Master’s program focused on communication and information technology to improve the quality of life for people in the developing world. Our results to date include an undergraduate program that is 58% women, a master’s program is 50% women, and a Ph.D. program that is 75% women. We have a lot left to do. Stay tuned.”

SHOWING SUPPORT: ATLAS Director John Bennett joined the NCWIT Red Chair campaign in October to show his support for women and technology.

NCWIT co-producing Computing Education program

For the second year in a row, NCWIT is co-producing the National Science Foundation’s Computing Education for the 21st Century PI and Community Meeting on Feb. 2-3 in Washington, D.C.

This event draws more than 300 K-12 and university computing educators, researchers, NSF-grant principal investigators (PIs) and other community members to exchange ideas, propose research and partner on CE21 projects.

The new CE21 grant proposal for which many of the attendees will apply puts an emphasis on K-12 computing education research, broadening participation in computing (increasing diversity), and the CS10K project, which aims to develop an entirely new high school computing curriculum and implement that curriculum in 10,000 schools by 10,000 well-prepared teachers by the year 2015.

Roots a founder of ATLAS performance center

Garrison Roots, 59, a CU professor of art and art history who helped found the Center for Media, Arts and Performance (CMAP), passed away on Dec. 21, more than five years after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

“Meetings with Garrison were always energetic,” said Michael Theodore, the director of CMAP who also participated in the center’s creation. “He was a master of ‘constructive debate,’ helping to refine ideas until we all became passionate about them.”

Roots, who also chaired the Department of Art and Art History from 2005 to 2011, was a renowned visual artist whose work included sculptural installations and collaborative public works that were exhibited around the world. He also oversaw the design, construction and operation of the Visual Arts Complex adjacent to the ATLAS Roser Building.

ATLAS speakers on YouTube

Several videos of presentations in the ATLAS Speakers Series recently have been posted to the ATLAS YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/user/ATLASCUBOULDER. They include:

- Heather Thorne, who leads Grameen Foundation’s AppLab Indonesia and Uganda programs, the Community Knowledge Worker mobile agriculture program, and advises on other mobile innovation programs, spoke about Smart Farms for Poor Farmers.
- Jim Harper, director of information policy studies at the Cato Institute, discussed a variety of privacy issues integral to the growing dominance of the Internet in a presentation about Privacy and the Web.
- Laura Hosman, assistant professor of political science in the department of social sciences at Illinois Institute of Technology, and Bruce Baikiee, head of Green WiFi, a solar powered WiFi network technology company, talked about the One Laptop Per Child Program.

The ATLAS Speaker Series is made possible by a generous donation by Idit Harel Caperton and Anat Harel.

Randi Viola heads blood drives

Randi Viola, an accountant for ATLAS and a member of the CU Staff Council, chaired a series of five Bonfils blood drives at CU during 2011.

There were 1,133 units of blood collected, a 21 percent increase over the previous two years.

This translates into the availability of 3,399 blood uses for those in the community who desperately need the contribution.

ATLAS Institute

The Alliance for Technology, Learning and Society (ATLAS) at the University of Colorado at Boulder was established in 1997 as a campus-wide interdisciplinary initiative.

ATLAS broadens the benefits of the networked information age by providing multidisciplinary curricular, research and outreach programs that integrate information and communication technology with a wide variety of disciplines and people, both inside and outside the university.

More information about ATLAS and its initiatives can be found at http://atlas.colorado.edu.

To contact ATLAS, call 303-735-4577 or e-mail cuatlas@colorado.edu.

Follow ATLAS on the Web at http://atlas.colorado.edu, and on:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- YouTube
- Flickr
- University of Colorado Boulder

TAM program available on Twitter

Students, alums and members of the public can follow what’s going on in the ATLAS Technology, Arts and Media (TAM) program on the social media site Twitter at http://twitter.com/tam_cu.

Ruscha Cohen named ATLAS Titan of the Quarter

Ruscha Cohen, the graduate academic adviser for the ATLAS master’s degree in Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICTD), is the recipient of the ATLAS Titan of the Quarter award.

The award is given in recognition of outstanding efforts on behalf of ATLAS.

Cohen has done an outstanding job of helping master’s students navigate enrolling in the program and counseling them about course selection, practicum placements and professional development. Her work as academic adviser, which was a new position inaugurated last year, has had an immediate and lasting impact on the program.

Cohen has a master’s degree from CU in Counseling Psychology and Counselor Education.