A committee will be formed within the next two weeks to begin a search to replace John Pierce, vice chancellor for academic affairs, according to Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade.

Pierce announced his plans to retire effective July 1 Thursday during a special meeting of the executive committee of Faculty Assembly, classified and professional staff leadership, deans and associate deans, and vice chancellors.

“It is with deep regret that for personal and family reasons that I have submitted my resignation,” Pierce said. “As some of you may know, the past several months have been a time of great challenge for our family. It has become clear to me that I must move in a different direction, one that allows me the flexibility and freedom to be more available to those most close to me. That is my retirement goal.”

Pierce, and his wife, Ardith, plan to relocate to Portland, Ore. Both are originally from the Pacific Northwest.

“I am deeply grateful to Chancellor Bunnell Shade for the opportunity to work with the campus these four years, and especially for her extraordinary kindness and consideration during the past few months,” Pierce said.

Bunnell Shade credited Pierce for his many efforts including establishing an academic program review process, faculty salary allocation policies, restructuring Extended Studies, creating a permanent assistant vice chancellor for multi-cultural affairs position and a campus-wide information technology council led by a senior faculty associate for information technology.

“John Pierce is a skilled academic leader,” Bunnell Shade said. “Through his efforts, this university has greatly benefited. I am indebted to him for his service and wish him and Ardith well.”

Pierce was named vice chancellor in 1997, moving to CU-Colorado Springs from Washington State University, Pullman, where he worked from 1973 to 1997 as associate professor, professor and, for more than 10 years, as dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He is the author, or co-author, of 15 books and about 100 articles and book chapters. On two occasions, he received Presidential appointments.

Bunnell Shade said she hoped to appoint an interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and form a search committee for a permanent replacement within the next two weeks. A selection of a permanent replacement is expected by May 2002.
Service Awards

25 Years
Juli Heintz, Faculty Records
Murray Ross, Theatreworks
James Tidwell, Admissions and Records

20 Years
Vickie Hilty, Personnel
Jimmie Robinson, Custodial Services

15 Years
Judith Baranowski, Kraemer Family Library
Robert Garvie, Computing Services
Grace Gerstner, Art Gallery
Irene Martinez, International Student Services
John Mason, Public Safety
Antoinette Massengale, Student Success Initiative
Douglas Nelson, Financial Aid
Steven Rosburg, Chemistry/Biology Lab
Debbie Scott, Letters, Arts and Sciences
Susan Szpyrka, Public Safety
Jerry Wilson, Computing Services
Marian Yacko, Purchasing/Mail and Shipping Services

10 Years
Jeffrey Davis, University Center
Eddy Dietz, Leisure Sports/Intercollegiate Athletics
Carla Fleury, Bookstore
Samuel Frank, Computing Services
Frank Hammit, Public Safety
Glenda Jones, Custodial Services
Karen Norris, Letters, Arts and Sciences
Robert Wonnett, Student Auxiliary Services

5 Years
Kathryn Andrus, Fine Arts History Technology and Curriculum
Graeme Badger, Intercollegiate Athletics
Kathleen King, Planning and Construction
Harriet Napierkowski, English Composition Technology and Curriculum
Eileen O’Reilly, College of Business
Thomas Ostenberg, Planning and Construction
Edmund Pipes, Intercollegiate Athletics
Ella Stanton, Budget Office

Vickie Hilty 20 years
Douglas Nelson 15 years
Frank Hammit 10 years
Ella Stanton 5 years
CU-Colorado Springs joins student leadership effort

CU-Colorado Springs students will have the opportunity to participate in a nationally recognized leadership development program.

CU-Colorado Springs is now a member of the Colorado Leadership Alliance, a partnership between the Boulder-based Student Leadership Institute and El Pomar Foundation.

The participating campuses are: CU-Colorado Springs, CU-Denver, CU-Boulder, the University of Northern Colorado and the University of Southern Colorado.

A grant from El Pomar Foundation, and other private fund raising efforts, will support the program and four-year scholarships for students. The Student Leadership Institute is a non-profit corporation that helps students discover leadership potential while learning the value of community service.

“This is an exciting opportunity for our students to learn about leadership and also provide much-needed scholarship support,” Pam Shockley, vice chancellor for student success, said. “We have more than 100 applications for this fall already.”

At an announcement celebration Feb. 23, local business leaders and campus alumni Steve Bach and Brenda Smith announced their support for the leadership development initiative. Bach, president, Bach Commercial Brokerage and Smith, managing partner, Baird Kurtz and Dobson, each committed $12,000 to student scholarships.

The bicycle brigade

If you see two men around campus in bicycle shorts talking into their walkie-talkies, don’t be alarmed — it’s just Public Safety Officers Steve Linhart and Rob McKennan doing their jobs.

Linhart and McKennan, who recently completed a mountain bike patrol training and certification program, are part of the university’s community-oriented policing mission. “As far as crime detection goes, it’s much better,” Linhart said. “You’re out there, and you can see more and hear more.”

What’s more, the officers appear less threatening, a lot more approachable to the members of the public and vice-versa. They’re able to get around faster on bikes, and get to those areas which are hard to access by automobile.

Another added bonus: fitness. Riding on campus on the Cannondale, 24-speed bikes for at least five hours a day is getting these guys in shape.

“We get pretty hungry,” joked Linhart. “Our biggest problem is food. Do you have any on you?”
Feeling stress? Help is right around the corner

Stressed-out CU-Colorado Springs employees are welcome to join a new support group. The group meets the first and third Thursday of every month from noon to 1:15 p.m. in the Student Government Complex, University Center, Room 102F. Participants are welcome to bring brown bag lunches.

“We want to make it very clear it’s not a therapy group,” said Bev Kratzer, academic advisor, Student Success Center. “We’re there to listen and offer strategies for people, offer coping mechanisms if they’re stressed.”

Kratzer started the support group last January with the help of Sue Mitchell, director, Student Success Center. The idea, said Kratzer, was to establish an arena for university employees to share their work-related problems in a positive way and brainstorm solutions. There are no commitments or obligations for those who want to join the group, other than confidentiality.

The support group is open to classified and exempt employees, although if a faculty member showed up, they wouldn’t be turned away, said Mitchell.

Budget is subject for May 11 Forum

Jim Rothe, professor of business and chair of the University Budget Advisory Committee, will lead a University Forum that outlines the UBAC recommendations for the fiscal year 2002 budget.

The forum begins at 10 a.m. in the University Center theater. All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

Chancellor Linda Bunnell Shade, John Pierce, vice chancellor for academic affairs, Cleve McDaniel, vice chancellor for administration and finance, and Pam Shockley, vice chancellor for student success, will also participate.

Refreshments will be served.

Susan Szpyrka, director, Office of Public Safety, received a “Quality of Life” award from the Clean Air Campaign of the Pikes Peak Region for her work to create FasTrack, the shuttle service that connects the campus to various parking lots.

*The Gazette* recently named Theatreworks as a “Reader’s Choice” for Best Theatre Company calling the CU-Colorado Springs “reliably unpredictable stagings with reliably good production values.”

*The Gazette* also recently named the CU-Colorado Springs Gallery of Contemporary Art as a GO! Choice for Best Art Openings. Openings at the gallery were called “sheer creative pandemonium ‘must be seen’ occasions for area artists and art lovers.”