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## HONORARY DEGREE

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### **Peter Zoller**

Peter Zoller is an Austrian physicist whose research involves the interaction of laser light with atoms and molecules. His numerous seminal papers and major works have spawned entire new areas of research in theoretical and experimental physics. He has written books that are well known by specialists in the field, including a textbook on “quantum noise” that is widely used in graduate courses, and has been called “an international treasure for the physics community.”

Zoller has had a long and continuous association with JILA on the CU Boulder campus, beginning with his appointment as a JILA Visiting Fellow in the 1980s (a prestigious title that he has held twice). From 1991 to 1994 he taught in the Department of Physics and founded CU’s theoretical research program in quantum sciences, establishing a legacy in quantum computation research that continues to this day. He made major contributions to the research programs that led to three Nobel Prizes in physics awarded to scientists from CU (Cornell, Wieman and Wineland). In 1994 he returned to Innsbruck, Austria, as a professor of theoretical physics and is now director of the Institute for Quantum

Optics and Quantum Information of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

He has received numerous scientific awards, including the Norman F. Ramsey Prize (2018), Willis E. Lamb Prize (2018), Herbert Walther Prize (2016), Wolf Prize in Physics (2013), Benjamin Franklin Medal (2010), Dirac Medal (2006), and Max Planck Medal (2005).

Zoller has been a tremendous mentor to students and postdoctoral research associates at CU Boulder, and many of his students have gone on to major research and teaching positions throughout the world. A number of current JILA and CU physics faculty members have benefited directly from Zoller’s teaching. He is, in one colleague’s words, “a shining example of the very best that physics has to offer, both in terms of his historic research achievements and the remarkable character of his humanity.”

The Board of Regents is pleased to award the honorary degree Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, to Peter Zoller in recognition of his pioneering work in physics and his enduring association with CU Boulder.

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## UNIVERSITY MEDAL

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### **Kazunori Takato**

Since earning a degree in mathematics from CU Boulder in 1973, Takato-san has exemplified what it means to be an outstanding alumnus. As a new graduate returning to Japan, Takato founded a successful manufacturing business, and today is president and CEO of Chiyoda Rubber Company. In the intervening 45 years, Takato has grown the Tokyo chapter of the CU Alumni Association into one of our largest international groups, with 400 members. He has spent countless hours locating, connecting and networking with CU alumni, providing social and business engagement opportunities.

Takato also volunteers his time for the Leeds School of Business First-Year Global Experience. A gracious and generous host to CU Boulder interns, faculty and alumni, Takato was instrumental in the 2016 founding of the Japan Internship Program in CU Boulder’s Center for Asian Studies. He has funded scholarships and

hosted students who have benefited from his hospitality, immersion in rich cultural experiences and introductions to business associates. He has even served as tour guide, taking students, alumni and faculty to historic sites and steeping them in Japanese culture during a three-day road trip.

As one of the university’s most enthusiastic alumni, Takato became a founding member of the Global Ambassadors, an international advisory group to the chancellor. At the inaugural Global Ambassadors meeting in Florence, Italy, he immediately offered to host the next meeting in Tokyo, continuing a lifelong connection to CU Boulder.

The Board of Regents is pleased to award the University Medal to Kazunori Takato in recognition of his decades of generous service to the University of Colorado and its alumni.