

UTAH STATE

FALL 2021

“

We, the Black students of USU
feel that our university has
progressed enough...that we felt

**THERE WAS
A NEED FOR
A BLACK
STUDENT
UNION ON
CAMPUS...**

We are ready to take our part in
the social educational evolution.

STATEMENT FROM THE USU BLACK
STUDENT UNION IN *STUDENT LIFE*, 1969

**BREAKING
THROUGH // 34**

”



INSURANCE BENEFITS NEVER BEFORE OFFERED TO USU ALUMNI



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Opportunity for Everyone



Noelle E. Cockett pauses during a hike this summer in the Wellsville range.

When I was first hired as an assistant professor in the Department of Animal, Dairy, and Veterinary Sciences at Utah State University in 1990, women held just nine senior faculty positions on campus.

Now, in 2021, the percentage of full professors at Utah State who are women has grown to about 30 percent—not where we need to be, but better than we have ever been. This is the result of decades of work by a plethora of people to establish a climate of support for the ascendance of women into senior faculty and leadership positions. And I know that Utah State is better for it.

Over the years, there has been an effort to recruit student, staff, and faculty populations that mirror the state's growing diversity. But it is not enough to say we want diversity on our campuses—we must create an inclusive environment that reflects and supports that intention. Otherwise, our efforts will be in name only and I am not interested in just checking a box on diversity.

That is why I supported the creation of the Latinx Cultural Center at USU and allotted a physical location for it. That is why I chose Black Lives Matter as the theme for the university's 2020 Inclusive Excellence Symposium. That is also why I am pleased Utah State is collaborating with the nonprofit organization Encircle to provide the space and resources that LGBTQIA+ local youth and Utah State students

need to feel safe and loved. And that is why the university is hiring its first vice president of diversity, equity, and inclusion, a cabinet-level position that can guide us in this initiative through outreach, oversight, and education. We need to ensure Utah State is a place where all people feel they belong and they can thrive.

This summer, we released the findings from our 2019 campus climate survey—an effort slowed by the COVID-19 pandemic—in which we found that students of color, students who identify as LGBTQIA+, and international students are less likely to feel safe on campus, in their classrooms, and in the community, and are less likely to feel a sense of belonging at Utah State. Perhaps you wonder why that matters. For me, it boils down to simple basics: You cannot live up to your academic and personal potential if you are worried about your safety. If you do not feel welcome in your classes or meetings, you may not speak up and share your ideas and perspectives. And if you do not participate, then we all lose.

I have never been a person to shy away from difficult conversations. The university needs to be a place where we can talk about big issues like racism and discrimination. Because if not here, where?

Our mission as a land-grant institution under the 1862 Morrill Land-Grant Act is to expand postsecondary opportunities to individuals typically

excluded from higher education. I want to ensure we are living up to our founding principles today.

As I studied the idea of hiring an officer to oversee diversity, equity, and inclusion at Utah State, I realized that diversity is not about something that we give our students to broaden their perspectives. Diversity is about creating opportunities for people to succeed in life. An institution like Utah State cannot have diversity if people do not feel that they belong. I have come to believe that inclusion is more than giving someone access to the same spaces you visit and reside in. Inclusion is about people feeling valued in those spaces and feeling safe to be who they are, not just free from physical assault but being free from emotional abuse.

I know my ideas and opinions should not be dismissed because I am a woman. Instead, my belonging at USU should depend on what I contribute, not who I am. My hope is that over time, everyone who comes to Utah State to study, work, and participate will feel just as at home as I do.

Noelle E. Cockett
Utah State University President



View the USU
2019 Diversity
Survey Report.



George Tribble, left, Roietta Fulgham, center, and Sid Lane, right, remain friends more than 50 years after attending USU. They are some of the earliest members of the university's Black Student Union.

Building a Sense of Belonging

Our cover story “Breaking Through” was first conceived in the summer of 2019 as part of the university’s *Year of the Woman* campaign, which honored the individuals who fought for suffrage and blazed new paths for women at Utah State University. The idea was to highlight the long and uncertain path to securing the right to vote for women, as well as to acknowledge the groups left behind when the 19th Amendment was ratified—namely, African Americans, who may have had the right to vote, but due to Jim Crow era restrictions in parts of the country, that right was often in name only.

We wanted to understand the university’s own history of racism. In “Breaking Through,” our senior writer Jeff Hunter ’96 traced the path starting with Mignon Barker Richmond—the first African American to graduate from college in Utah. She was the daughter of a British woman and an escaped slave who fought in the Union Army. Richmond graduated from the Utah Agricultural College a century ago, in 1921, despite racist faculty members belittling her, and then spent decades trying to secure professional work in her field. In 1948, Mignon started the school lunch program for the Stewart School at the University of Utah. Then in 1957, she was hired as director of the YWCA Food Services program in Salt Lake City.

That same decade, the first African American basketball player is believed to have enrolled at Utah State. Recruiting efforts by the university’s athletic department brought the next wave of African Americans to Utah State in the late ’50s and ’60s. And they didn’t always find it a welcoming place.

Hunter’s interviews snowballed as he talked to numerous former athletes and African American alumni from the civil rights era, and our publishing plans changed as 2020 unfolded. It was a year that rocked our country, revealing the deep and wide chasms across our nation. A deadly pandemic that disproportionately affected communities of color in the United States was just one of the ills. The killing of several unarmed Black people at the hands of police, as well as racist vigilantes who shot Ahmaud Arbery in the middle of a jog in Glynn County, Georgia, prompted a summer of protests that made us continue our reporting as the landscape changed. It’s still changing.

For the first time our publication enlisted a sensitivity reader to hold us accountable for any unintentional biases and to prevent further harm to a community that has endured centuries of trauma. We built this issue around the theme of belonging to raise the voices of people who don’t always get featured in our storytelling. We will work to include more voices and diverse perspectives in *Utah State*. Because as history shows, we must do better.

Kristen Munson
Editor, *Utah State* magazine

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Watch for these QR symbols throughout the magazine to view web extras such as videos, conversations, and survey data.

On the Cover: USU's Black Student Union was established in 1969. The quote on the cover is from a statement by BSU officers published in the *Student Life* newspaper. Malcolm Wharton, a Black student photographer, took the photo of the unnamed student on the left which was published in the 1970 *Buzzer*.

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Where is This?



First right answer wins Aggie gear. And while you're at it, letters to the editor are always welcome!

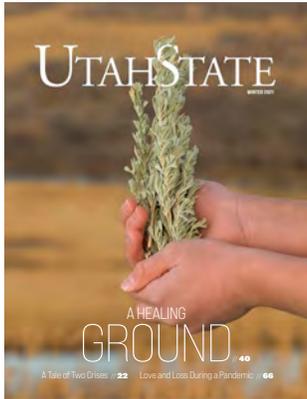
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WELL DONE

I applaud John Devilbiss' well-written piece, "A Healing Ground," as a premier example of interdisciplinary research that spans scientific, historic, and cultural interests. A big 'well done' to all concerned.

—Eric G. Bolen, M.S. '65 Ph.D. '65

HELPING DISCOVER TRUTH

I want to compliment *Utah State* magazine and Darren Parry for the incredible Bear River Massacre article in the winter issue. I have known Darren now indirectly for over 25 years and I know of his love, sincerity, and dedication to helping expose the facts regarding one of the worst atrocities in American history.

Darren, a former Tribal Council leader for the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone, brings to all of us the terrifically sad event that happened to his people and our brothers and sisters on that very cold winter night of 1863. Our government leaders from 1840 (when the great exoduses were beginning westward) to the end of the century, were trying to help the early settlers push onward across the plains, the Rockies, the deserts and Sierras to Oregon and California. They weren't about to let the Sioux, Arapahoe, Cheyenne, and Shoshone tribes (who this land belonged to) slow their progress—no matter what the stakes were. Sadly, most of our history textbooks still do not tell the real truth of what happened. Thank you USU for helping Darren and his/our people discover truth and rebuild the BRM historical area and waterways.

—Jim Fusselman, '73, Layton, UT

A REFRESHING READ

I received my *Utah State* magazine several days ago and was particularly interested in the "A Healing Ground" article. I found former Chairman Parry's comments to be refreshing—attempting to restore the site both ecologically and historically (interesting that for the longest time, when the tribe loses—frequently in a despicable attack on a sleeping village and the killing of women and children, it is a "battle," and when the Army is outclassed, it is labeled as a "massacre.") When I was an USU student in the 1960's, the site was labeled as The Bear River Battle.

Thank you, *Utah State* magazine for correcting that perception and calling this killing for what it was—a massacre! A final inquiry, is the site now open and accessible to the public?

—Isaac Martin, '68 and '71

Editor's note: The Bear River Massacre site is open to the public, and fundraising is underway to build the Boa Ogoi Cultural Interpretive Center on the restored land.

DESERVING ATTENTION

The Northwestern Band of Shoshone and the work of Darren Parry with his team receive my highest honor and respect. During recent years I have read about the Bear River Massacre from biographies of Porter Rockwell, from B.H. Roberts' *Comprehensive History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, from The Sons of Utah Pioneers literature, and most impressively from *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, An Indian History of the American West* by Dee Brown. Our perspective needs to be stretched. "A Healing Ground" is far more deserving than some other cultural adjustments presently being given a flood of attention. Prevailing invasive species sadly distort our environmental history. The anticipated interpretive center is certainly worthy of our support and most likely will become an inspirational tourist attraction in addition to being an inspiring learning center.

—Larsen S. Boyer, BYU '62
Maurine I. Boyer, USU '57

RESTORING HALLOWED GROUND

I enjoyed the article, "A Healing Ground," by John DeVilbiss. Darren Parry's leadership and determination to undertake this project is inspiring. I was particularly impressed by his quote at the end of the article, where he states: "It's our story, let us tell our story. Whether you agree with it at the end of the day, that doesn't matter, but we need to be heard." Amen to that!

It is good to know that USU staff and students will be involved in this project. I hope there will be follow up articles as site restoration efforts move forward. I am sure it will be exciting to watch as man and nature (particularly the beaver) work together to restore this hallowed ground.

—Paul Trotta, '68

CONTINUED DISAPPOINTMENT

I want to express my continued disappointment with *Utah State* magazine. As an alumni I am disheartened by the ongoing, white, heterosexual, Christian, cisgender male lens this seems to be produced from. On a quick count, in the last issue, there were more than 70 images of white or white passing people photos and approximately 16 of people that were not white or not white passing—less than 25% of the images, which looking back through older issues seems to be a theme.

There also seems to be no discussions or forward-facing LGBTQ identities or highlights of work being done at USU by or for the LGBTQ community.

The pictures of women/or female presenting are often in places of gendered "norm" roles of nurses and food workers. Yet we see the "powerful" man figure with feet up on a desk in a power form.

I am deeply concerned and disappointed that the magazine is not showing more diversity within its covers.

I will keep hoping that future issues will be looked at with a more critical eye. This is not what the world looks like. I urge you to diversify the magazine beyond the Utah lens of the world.

—Jake Farr



From the Web

Thank you for taking care of our kids during quarantine! It is reassuring as a parent to not have to worry as much. —Lori Durand

READER QUESTIONS

Has any publication been made of Mae Timbimboo Parry's botany records? If so, how might it be available? —Gregory Meacham, '70

Can I make a donation to help with the plants habitat? —Stan Balducci, '12

Editor's note: Brad Parry, project manager of the Bear River project, says that yes, people can donate to the restoration. Donations can be sent to: Northwest Band of the Shoshone Nation, 707 North Main, Brigham City, UT, 84302.

No official publication of Mae Timbimboo Parry's botany records exists, but some of her diagrams are available in the book The Bear River Massacre: A Shoshone History by Darren Parry.

EXTENSION OF LIFE

As Mark Twain allegedly said "the rumors of my death are greatly exaggerated." I note in the winter 2021 *Utah State* magazine that I am listed in the "In Memoriam" section. As I am the only '77 MS Jerry T. Elliott from Oregon I am aware of, it would be greatly appreciated if this listing was delayed for a few years. Thank you.

—Jerry T. Elliott P.E.,
WaterreCycle Engineering, P.C.

Editor's note: We were thrilled to learn that Jerry T. Elliott is actually alive and quite well. We regret running his name in the "In Memoriam" section of the magazine in January 2021, the result of an unfortunate keyboard stroke appending obituary information in the university's alumni records.

Utah State University Retweeted



Sandra Sulzer
@DrSulzer

What a beautiful example of #higherEd working to heal the wounds of #colonialism through community partnerships, #science and honoring the knowledge and wisdom of Northwestern Band of Shoshone @nativenews_net



A Healing Ground - Utah State Magazine

"The souls of my ancestors peer out from behind my mask of skin, and through my memories and efforts, they [...]"

utahstatemagazine.usu.edu



Capt. Craig F. Smith
@CaptCraigSmith

Dearest Mother —

News of my letters to you is spreading through Aggie Nation and abroad. May there be many more years of good reports from the battlefield.

utahstatemagazine.usu.edu/athletics/the-...

— Craig



The Blue and the Aggie Blue: Capt. Craig F. Smith and the mother of all Aggie T... Dearest Mother — Ideally, every time one clicked on a fresh tweet from @CaptCraigSmith, the latest dispatch written as if [...]

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COMMENCEMENT 2021



Sage Benally celebrated with loved ones in Blanding, where commencement was held on April 22, 2021. Ceremonies also occurred at the Brigham City, Kaysville, Tooele, USU Eastern, Moab, Logan, and Uintah Basin campuses this spring. Photo by Brooke Pehrson.



*As Utah State University alumni, you not only join other pioneers, innovators, and achievers, but you will hold a special place among them by graduating at an historic time. Thank you for continuing your journey and not giving up. – **USU President Noelle E. Cockett** during her address at statewide campus commencement ceremonies.*





Commencement *by the* Numbers

1,204 graduate degrees
6,083 undergraduate degrees

including **1,991** degrees
earned at **statewide campuses.**



2,488 males (44%)
3,170 females (56%)



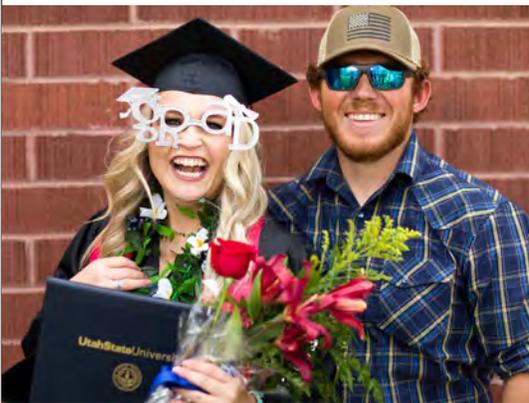
**Graduates from
64 countries, including
the United States**



**Graduates from 48
states, including Utah**

Top 5 majors *by degree:*

General Studies
Economics
**Communication Disorders
and Deaf Education**
Psychology
Mechanical Engineering



Tiara Cordasco and her fiancé **Jay McDonald** are all smiles in Blanding. Photo by Brooke Pehrson.



Don't lose your momentum now.

– **Julie Robinson '89,**

the chief scientist for human exploration and operation at NASA, said during USU's virtual commencement address. She was 2 years old when Neil Armstrong landed on the moon declaring it "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." At USU, Robinson, a dual chemistry and biology major, was encouraged to pursue her goals and contribute to the field of science. "Today I am leading the team that is planning our capabilities for scientific research when we return to the moon. And this time, the Artemis program will feature the first woman and first person of color to land on the moon."



Highlights



17 new Air Force officers and **5 new Army officers** will be commissioned.



The first class of four-year Bachelor of Science nursing students on the Logan campus graduated. USU nursing students have staffed USU's COVID testing and vaccination clinics statewide.

Acknowledging Native Lands

Utah State University campuses sit on land which the Bannock, Goshute, Navajo, Paiute, Shoshone, and Ute peoples once resided. **USU President Noelle E. Cockett** formed a working group to create university land acknowledgement statements with tribal leaders that recognize Native American peoples as the original stewards of USU land and are designed to be shared at USU celebrations. The seven-member working group has ties to the Native American community and is chaired by **Marilyn Cuch**, Hunkpapa Lakota, a secondary education lecturer on USU's Uintah Basin campus.

"Our work on the committee is very important in telling the stewardship history and familial ties of Native peoples who called, and still call, Utah their home," Cuch says. "The creation of this group is a step toward further acknowledging the many injustices against the Indigenous people who were already residing on the land, and the presentation of this statement during USU events will ensure these issues remain at the fore."

EVENTS



Photo by
Geoff Liesik
Communications.

USU Uintah Basin Unveils New Speaker Series

Forrest Cuch, a member of the Ute Indian tribe and former tribal and state executive, was the inaugural speaker for **USU Uintah Basin's Speaker Series** in February. His talk "Native Worldview and Its Impact on Today," addressed systemic racism in the United States, the legacy of generational trauma, and the differences between the western settler mindset and Indigenous world views.

To view Cuch's talk and the rest of the Speaker Series, visit: statewide.usu.edu/uintahbasin/speaker-series.



The overarching goal of my research is to build better in vitro models. Researchers grow cells on these 2D platforms, which aren't super realistic, but give us a lot of information. I'm trying to add to that first step by developing more realistic in vitro models of normal and diseased tissue.

— **Elizabeth Vargis**, associate professor of biological engineering at USU, who developed a three-dimensional cell culture surface. Her team used both native and transgenic silkworm silk produced by silkworms modified with spider silk genes to grow cultured cells that more closely mimicked human skeletal muscle and fiber alignment than those grown on the usual plastic surface.



ON THE WEB

Streaming to a Device Near You: Huntsman's Principled Leader Series

The Covey Leadership Center in the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business launched a free online speaker series that features the likes of Nobel Prize laureates including **David Beasley** and **Muhammad Yunus** and presidents of Fortune 500 companies. The inaugural Stephen R. Covey Endowed Professors of Leadership, **Lord Dr. Michael Hastings** and **Boyd Craig**, host the World's Principled Leaders Series, which connects concepts students are learning in the classroom with the stories of people putting them into practice. The talks are open to the public through livestreams on the Huntsman YouTube page and continue this fall.

Find NEHMA Shows Online

When COVID-19 shut down public events at the **Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art** at Utah State, the museum got creative and shifted to online tours. Now, if you missed past exhibits such as *The Day After Tomorrow: Art in Response to Turmoil and Hope* or just can't make it to a current one like *American Farmer*, you can tour the art on display online.



LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

\$14.5 million for Global Learning Center

The Utah State legislature approved \$14.5 million in state funds for the construction of a new building on the Logan campus designed to enhance foreign language education. The **Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center** is also funded with an additional \$2.5 million from private donors including the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the building's namesake. As a teenager, Heravi left his native Tehran, Iran, to pursue his dream of acquiring an education in America. He finished his senior year of high school in Logan and studied political science at USU, earning both a bachelor's in 1963 and master's in 1964. The building will be located near the Quad, across the road from Old Main.



Photo courtesy of Method Studio.

Utah First Responders to Benefit from New USU Mindfulness Program

During the 2021 General Session, the Utah State legislature awarded USU \$550,000 to fund a three-year pilot program called, “**Resilient Mind Training for Law Enforcement and First Responders,**” to increase resilience from stressful life events, protect against burnout, promote healthy relationships and empathy for others, and improve general well-being for participants and their families. The funding will help launch a new USU cross-training program for social work and criminal justice majors—two areas in which professionals increasingly need the knowledge and skills of both.

BY THE NUMBERS

151 The number of **Sterling Scholars attending USU Uintah Basin** this academic year.

The program, created by the *Deseret News* and sponsored by the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation, recognizes high school seniors for the pursuit of excellence in scholarship, leadership, and citizenship.

7 The number of consecutive years USU has **cracked the top 25** for online education by the *U.S. News & World Report*. It ranked USU Online 21st in the nation for its bachelor's programs, 12th for its online bachelor's programs for veterans, and eighth for its psychology program.

9.6 million The amount of **Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act funding** distributed to 8,816 USU students of exceptional need since January 2021.



USU 4-H Clubs around the state created quilts like the one pictured.

70+ the number of events produced during USU's **Year of the Woman** campaign, including “A Suffrage Celebration” concert by the American Festival Orchestra & Choir.

#1 Utah State is the first higher education institution in Utah to provide **free menstrual hygiene products** in all women's restrooms.

7.7 The percent **decrease in USU greenhouse gas emissions** during the fiscal 2020 year from measures such as replacing light fixtures with LEDs and upgrading ventilation systems to improve heating and cooling efficiency.



If things feel to you right now like they are not normal, it is because this is categorically, absolutely, unquestionably not a normal time.

— **RonNell Andersen Jones '95**, associate law professor at the University of Utah and former clerk for Sandra Day O'Connor, whose story on teaching constitutional law in the modern era appeared in the February 15 & 22 issue of the *New Yorker*.



CAMPUS LIFE

A Sweet Twist on Tradition

In a normal year, Utah State University students line up each month to smooch on the Block A pedestal to become True Aggies. However, with the COVID-19 circulating around the globe, this was not a normal year. In March, the Student Alumni Association held its first **True Aggie Night** where students exchanged chocolates instead of kisses. Transforming True Aggie Night into a pandemic-safe event re-quired a creative workaround by director Annie Ritchie.

“You still get the idea of coming up on the podium, exchanging kisses and then getting your True Aggie Night cards and chapstick and stuff like that,” she says. “We’re trying to make sure that people aren’t spreading the virus, but we still want it to look the same because it’s the longest tradition at Utah State.”

The College Tour ▶

Watch for it: USU on Amazon Prime

The Amazon Prime streaming series “The College Tour” showcases Utah State University in its first episode of its second season, airing this fall.



Outdoor Artifacts Find a Home in Special Collections

Vintage L.L. Bean, Eddie Bauer, and Patagonia catalogs are among the artifacts in USU’s **Outdoor Recreation Archive**, a collection of the outdoor industry’s sketchbooks, patents, and magazines.

“There are a lot of private collections similar to this,” says Chase Anderson, coordinator for ASTE’s outdoor product design and development (OPDD) program. “But there’s nothing like this on the public level. Where this collection is housed through USU, there’s a huge audience that can access it.” Follow the collection’s Instagram account @outdoorrearchive.

AWARDS

Chemist Yi Rao Wins NSF CAREER Award

What if you could take an environmentally harmful greenhouse gas and transform it into clean, affordable energy? It’s a challenge within reach, says USU chemist Yi Rao. The assistant professor received a 2021 Faculty Early Career Development ‘CAREER’ Award, the National Science Foundation’s top honor for junior faculty development.

Rao’s award provides a five-year grant of more than \$650,000 to develop interface-selective spectroscopic tools that enable scientists to explore conversion of CO₂ into fuels at photoelectrode-electrolyte interfaces. “These are ultra-thin interfaces—a few molecules wide—where two bulk phases such as a solid and liquid meet,” says Rao. “My project focuses on ultrafast interfacial charge transfer and chemical reactivity at these boundaries, where light-activated reactions can occur and a liquid can conduct electricity.”



Many of our students may be the only Latinx student in all of their classes. Their roommate may not be Latinx. This is an opportunity for them to feel to like they are home.

— Christopher Gonzalez, director for the university’s Latinx Cultural Center, which found a physical home in room 227 of the Taggart Student Center.



USU Team a Finalist for Prestigious Solar Prize

USU is one of 10 team finalists to advance to the final round of the **American-Made Solar Prize** competition, which awards \$3 million in prizes to bring big ideas into market-ready solutions. The USU team has won \$225,000 and stands to win an additional \$575,000 in the final stage from the competition supported by the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Researchers from the Utah Power Electronics Lab partnered with Dream Team, a Maryland-based security research firm, to develop solar energy storage systems using “retired” batteries from electric vehicles, or EVs. Their technology could not only reduce the cost of energy storage, making the adoption of solar energy more economical for widespread use, but extend the life of older EV batteries to keep them out of landfills.

Aggies Named Goldwater Scholars

Ethan Ancell and Manuel Santana are 2021 Goldwater Scholars, named by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation, a national competition that recognizes outstanding achievements by undergraduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Recipients receive one- or two-year scholarships of up to \$7,500 per year toward annual tuition and expenses.

- **Ethan Ancell**, a double major in statistics and computational mathematics, created a novel model he called “autocart” (autocorrelation regression trees) that leverages coordinate information in datasets for more accurate and physically realistic predictions of various climate variables in complicated geographic spaces.

- **Manuel Santana**, a computational mathematics major, sharpened his focus after COVID-19 killed his uncle and hospitalized his father. He studies graph and network theory and has presented at professional meetings and authored several publications.

ATHLETICS

‘A Tremendous Responsibility’ for Odom

From his office at the northwest corner of the Wayne Estes Center, new Utah State men’s basketball coach **Ryan Odom** has a spectacular view of Cache Valley and the Wellsville Mountain Range.

“I had always said it was going to take a special place for me to leave [University of Maryland, Baltimore County],” Odom says with a smile. “And we found it here, there’s no question about it.”

Odom was hired in April after going 97–60 over five seasons as the head coach of the Retrievers, including coaching the largest upset in the history of the NCAA Tournament—the first-ever win by a No. 16 seed over a No. 1 seed. Utah State hopes that Odom can orchestrate similar postseason success with the Aggies. Although USU qualified for the NCAA Tournament for the third straight season in 2020–21, the Aggies lost to Texas Tech, 65–53, in a first-round game. Led by center **Neemias Queta**, the Mountain West Defensive Player of the Year, USU finished the season 20–9.

Afterward Queta declared himself eligible for the NBA Draft, while Craig Smith was hired away by the University of Utah in late March, opening the door for Odom to come out West.

“I think the biggest thing I’ve learned since I’ve been here is the passion that this community and Aggie Nation has for athletics, and basketball, in particular,” Odom says. “All that does is strengthen my desire and our staff’s desire to do our best for them, and I think that’s a tremendous responsibility that we have here is to continue with that tradition.” — JH

Worth the Wait

Under head coach Danielle Jensen, the **USU Eastern women’s volleyball team** earned the school’s first-ever bid to the National Junior College Athletic Association tournament. They finished seventh and ended the season with a 25–7 record.

“I am so proud of this team,” Jensen says. “They played the toughest schedule in the country and they have proven that they belong among the elite.”



In April, Ryan Odom was tapped as the new head coach of the USU men’s basketball team. Photo by Jeff Hunter.

One of several chambers used for testing and calibration.
Photo courtesy of Allison Bills and SDL.

Tracking Solar Radiation with SDL Technology

SDL was awarded a contract to support NASA's new space-based instrument, named **Libera** for the daughter of Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture, to continue the agency's 40-year data record of tracking the solar radiation entering Earth's atmosphere and the amount absorbed, reflected, and emitted. Libera will measure solar radiation with wavelengths between 0.3 and 5 microns reflected by the Earth climate system and infrared radiation with wavelengths between 5 and 50 microns emitted from the Earth system as it leaves the exosphere, Earth's outermost atmospheric layer.

Searching for Life Beyond Earth

In 2024, NASA's Europa Clipper spacecraft will begin its search for life beyond Earth, conducting a detailed survey of Jupiter's moon Europa to determine whether it could harbor conditions suitable for life—like water. Scientists suggest that Europa could have more water than Earth in the form of a salty ocean below its crust and potential other building blocks of life.

Among the instruments used to investigate the icy moon is the **Mapping Imaging Spectrometer for Europa instrument, or MISE**. USU's Space Dynamics Lab designed, built, tested, and delivered a major component of its thermal management system, which provides the cooling source for the instrument and its detector, and rejects the waste heat into space. MISE will map Europa's distribution of ice, salts, organics, and warmest hotspots by imaging reflected infrared light and separating it into its various wavelengths.

Want to Fly Drones for Work?



USU added new bachelor's degree paths in **aviation management** with emphases in **unmanned aerial systems** and in **aviation operations** to prepare students for a variety of careers beyond pilot and maintenance jobs in this growing industry, including airport management, multi-media and film production, utilities and infrastructure assessment, law enforcement, and more.

Fortifying Crops Against Drought



What if it was possible to tap into a plant's microbiome—the genome within a genome—as an extra layer of defense for crops facing drought? Utah State scientists are investigating how to maximize soil bacteria's positive effects on plants. Biological engineering professors including **David Britt** and **Elizabeth Vargis** recently analyzed the effects of two abiotic stressors on *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* O6, a health-promoting bacterium native to the roots of dryland wheat in northern Utah. They found that stress can cause compositional changes in the bacterium's extracellular structures called outer membrane vesicles, or OMVs, and may be leveraged for the crop's benefit. Vargis devised the novel study methodology and says that Raman spectroscopy, coupled with a machine learning algorithm, enabled the researchers to identify the type of stress the bacteria were experiencing when releasing these OMVs and the stress-dependent compositional changes therein. Their findings were published in *Nature: Scientific Reports*.

Wildfire and Water Supply Risks



Sediment may not be what comes to mind when considering threats to the water supply. But river sedimentation is a leading concern for water security across the western United States. Utah State researchers, led by **Patrick Belmont**, professor of watershed sciences, found that the predicted rate of water storage loss in state reservoirs doesn't account for sediment from wildfires. This is concerning since wildfires have increased 20-fold in the past 30 years and dramatically affect sediment yields and are expected to increase, too.

The researchers are surveying Utah reservoirs to calculate current reservoir capacity and sedimentation rates using help from **AggieAir**, a research service center at USU's Utah Water Research Laboratory. Once the most vulnerable reservoirs are identified, the researchers will work with state and federal agencies to reduce wildfire risk. "With Utah's population predicted to double by 2060, it is vital to know how much water storage will be available in the coming years," Belmont says.

Scientists Verify Proof of Concept for Rift Valley Fever Study

Rift Valley fever virus, first identified in the 1930s in Kenya, is hard to control and can lead to death from hemorrhagic fever. While Rift Valley fever is primarily a disease in domesticated animals, it can be transmitted to humans by infected mosquitos or through contact with the blood or organs of infected animals. Scientists at **Utah State University’s Institute for Antiviral Research (IAR)**, in collaboration with researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, identified antibodies from people who were previously infected with or immunized against RVFV that successfully neutralized the virus in animal models, providing an important proof-of-concept that supports efforts to develop therapeutic antibodies to prevent and treat RVFV infections. Their findings were published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.



At first, this looks like a case of falling dominos ... But what that chain of events connects, across the entire Pacific Ocean, are very deadly and impactful weather events.

— **USU Ph.D. student Jacob**

Stuivenvolt Allen, the first author of a report in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*, suggesting that hurricane-force winds that fanned wildfires out West and caused 200,000 Utah homes to lose power in September 2020 may have been stoked by typhoons across the Korean Peninsula. The international research team found that a cluster of three storms in fall of 2020 each contained enough energy to perturb the jet stream—creating an atmospheric “wave train” that amplified the likelihood of strong winds across western North America.



NEH Funds Project to ‘Bring War Home’

That box of artifacts in your attic could be brimming with stories about war-time experiences. A new project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities may help uncover them. This fall, **Susan R. Grayzel**, a professor of history and **Molly Boeka Cannon**, director of the Museum of Anthropology, launched the two-year project “Bringing War Home: Object Stories, Memory, and Modern War.” The project includes a class to help students guide community collections of wartime objects and discussions of related war experiences, a series of community workshops, and the creation of a digital collection in partnership with the Hill Aerospace Museum and Fort Douglas Military Museum housed at the USU libraries.

Exploring Pandemic Life Online

A prolonged pandemic can be particularly daunting for children, who have less control over their environment than adults. USU researchers and colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania partnered on a game-based learning tool to help kids work through their anxiety about the real-world COVID-19 pandemic. In the virtual world of **Whyville**, kids learn about methods to prevent contracting the fictional virus SPIKEY-20 and connect with other users. They learn features of SARS-CoV-2 that are sometimes difficult for adults to fully understand, such as asymptomatic spread. More than 8 million Whyville users play the free game funded by the National Science Foundation.



The computer game Whyville helps kids cope with real-world pandemic stress. Photo by Russ Dixon.

WHAT WOULD YOU BRING?

When you sign up for DANC 1010 at USU's Blanding campus, you join a class that teaches inclusivity, respect, and belonging. Dances in this class, called the Cultural Ambassador Performance Program, are taught by the students and originate in the students' own knowledge of their cultures. Some students even report using it to spend time with their grandparents to learn more about their heritage. The class is transformative for students and advisors alike.

The class began as a club in 2014 with just 8 members, but now hosts about 26 students each semester. Students may retake the class for credit as each semester holds something new.

While Kody Smith (pictured) is wearing Navajo regalia, past performances have included dances from Navajo, Hopi, Ute, Sioux, Apache, Philippine, Puerto Rican, Cambodian, Hawaiian, Tahitian, and Kenyan cultures.

Students also practice public speaking skills, and the class is fully booked each semester at schools and various festivals where the students perform and communicate what it means to be a member of their culture. Authentic regalia is bought from the originating cultures, or students and advisors make the clothing themselves.

All students have something to bring to the class. — *Levi Sim*

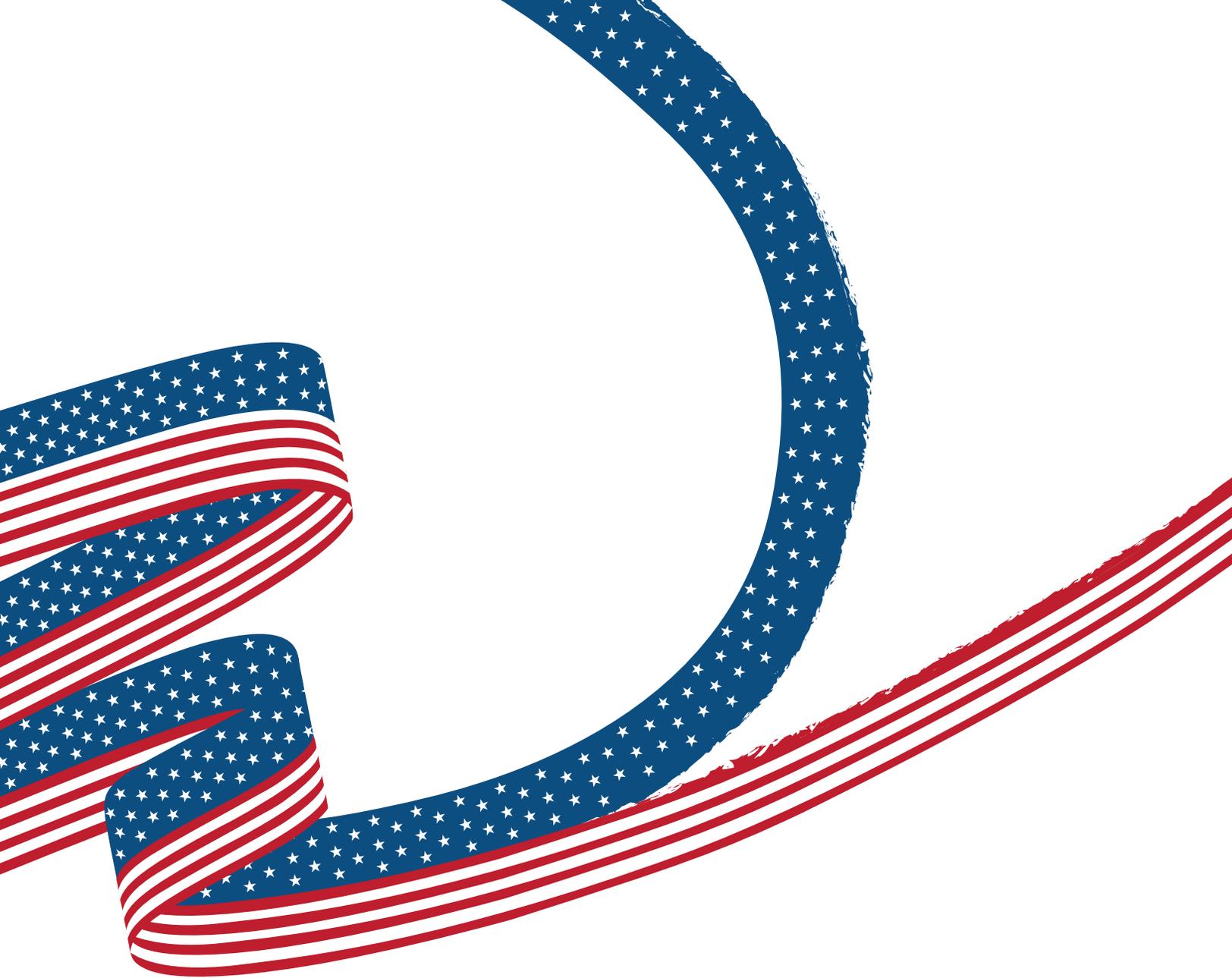


View a gallery of photos from the DANC 1010 class.



Kody Smith, a DANC 1010 student in Blanding, wears the bow and arrow regalia and poses atop the sandstone buttes above USU's Monument Valley Campus, which is a few hundred yards away at the bottom of the cliff.





Why Are We So Divided?

*Brent Hill '73 of the National Institute for
Civil Discourse weighs in. By Jeff Hunter '96*

While serving as senate president pro tempore of the Idaho Senate, Brent Hill BS '73 was called upon to make a trip to Washington, D.C. for a meeting at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. Located directly west of the White House, the building houses the offices of the Vice President of the United States, and Hill was a little taken aback when former VP Mike Pence suddenly stuck his head into the conference room.

"It was getting late in the day, but he ended up visiting with us for about 20 minutes and let us ask questions," Hill says.

Pence's surprise visit showed off his sense of humor and the "human side of one of our leaders," he says. But Hill, a Republican from Rexburg, took note of a serious moment during the conversation in his journal.

"Vice President Pence said, 'Folks, we've got some challenges in our country. And I hope that if you are inclined to bend your knees that you will pray for our country,'" Hill recalls. "And he quickly said, 'I'm not asking you to pray for any particular person or any particular party. Just pray for the success of our country.'"

"And I just thought, That's what we've got to do," Hill continues. "Regardless of whether the Republicans are in power or the Democrats are in power, we need to pray for the success of our country. And as we do so, we're committing ourselves to the success of our country and to the success of our fellow citizens."

After spending 19 years in the Idaho Senate, Hill decided it was time to step away from public service at the end of 2020, but not from trying to aid in the success of his country. Starting last July,

Hill began his new role as the director of the Next Generation program at the National Institute for Civil Discourse (NICD).

Founded 10 years ago with the aid of honorary chairs George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, the NICD was created as a "nonpartisan center for debate, research, education, and policy generation regarding civility in public discourse," according to its website. And Hill's role as program director is to make presentations and hold workshops for state legislatures around the country to help improve civility among lawmakers.

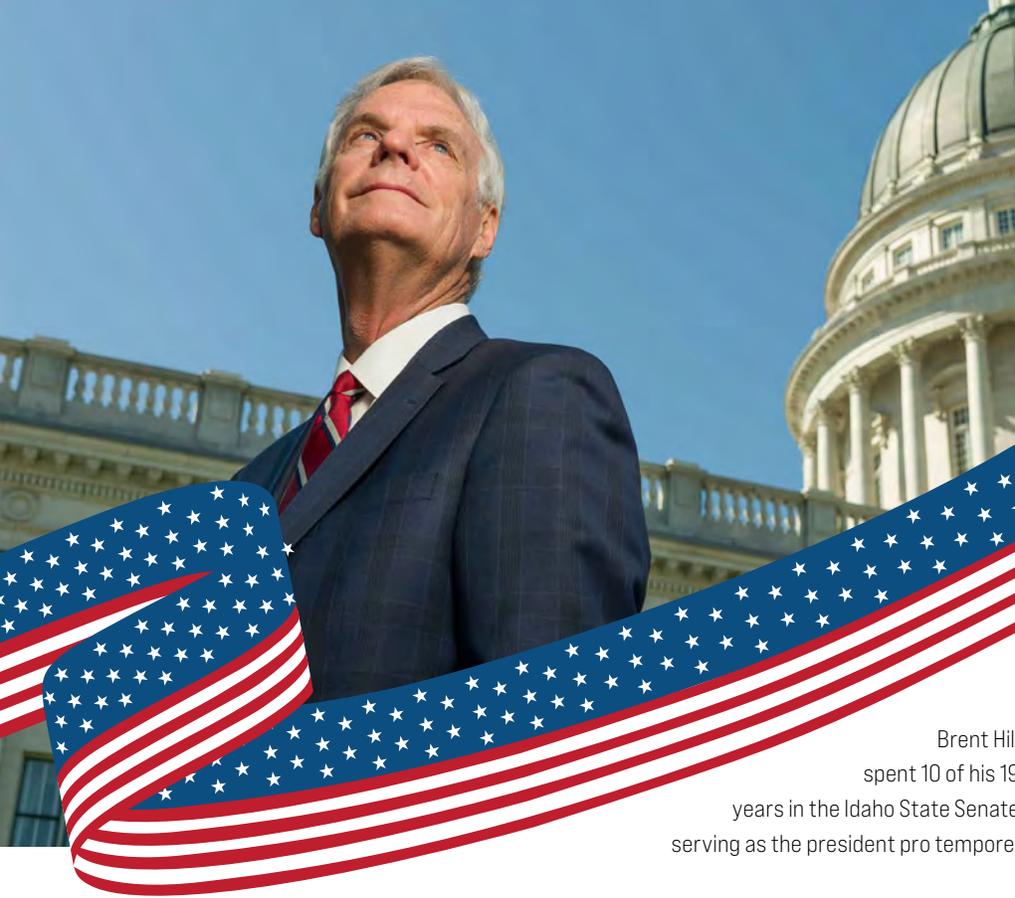
A retired accountant, Hill and his wife, Julie, recently relocated from Rexburg to Layton to be closer to family. But in between attending ballgames and concerts, much of Hill's time is dedicated to sharing the concept that "civility is more an attitude than it is an action, and if you have the attitude, the actions are going to follow most of the time."

Hill, whose 10-year tenure as senate president pro tempore was the longest in the history of the state of Idaho, was asked for his thoughts about why things seem so uncivil in American politics today. The conversation was edited for length and clarity.

What prompted you to initially get involved in politics?

I love American history, and I love studying the constitution and our way of doing government. It's slow and cumbersome and frustrating—just the way it's supposed to be. And I had toyed with the idea of getting into politics, but I was a little shy for it. I knew I probably wouldn't have the disposition for it. In fact, even after I got elected, my mother said, 'You of all our kids ... you were the sensitive one.'

But being a CPA, I ended up being the treasurer for a number of different local legislators, and one of the people I was a treasurer for was Bob Lee, the senator from our district. He got cancer and resigned in the middle of his term. We went through an interview process with the district central committee, and they made a recommendation of three names to the governor for a replacement appointment. And I was fortunate to be at the top of the list. Former Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne appointed me on Christmas Eve 2001. I served that year and loved it.



Brent Hill spent 10 of his 19 years in the Idaho State Senate serving as the president pro tempore.

How did you first become involved with the National Institute for Civil Discourse?

After I announced that I was not running for re-election they contacted me. They're located in Washington, D.C., but actually sponsored by the University of Arizona. It got started in 2011, back when Congresswoman Gabby Giffords was shot. She was already working with the University of Arizona to set up some kind of program to help promote civil discourse, particularly in politics.

You were already familiar with the NICD, I presume?

Idaho was actually the first legislature where they had the full legislature there for their workshop. "Building Bridges through Civil Discourse" is what we call it. House Speaker Scott Bedke and I worked closely together when I was president pro tempore, and we're the ones who kind of stuck our

necks out. We weren't quite sure how well it would be received. But out of 105 legislators, 103 of them showed up. And I was very impressed with the program and felt like it had done some good in Idaho.

Has the Utah State Legislature ever participated in a NICD workshop?

Utah's one of the few Western states that have not. I plan to talk to Utah Senate President Stuart Adams about it. I've just been waiting until we could travel more and do a real, live session. Our sessions usually last four and a half hours, but with these virtual sessions we've cut back to two and a half hours. And obviously, they're not quite as effective. And I want to make a good impression on my now home state. We've done 29 workshops in 18 states, most of them in the West, Midwest, and northern states. Our weakest area so far is in the southern states, so we need to reach out to them more.

Have you found the response different, depending on the political climate in a particular state and whether it leans red or blue?

Yes. Quite frankly, I think the democratic states are more receptive to trying to generate more civility in the political discourse. I'm talking about in general, certainly not as individuals. We've already done three workshops in Kansas, which is a very, very red state, but they have put together a civility caucus as a result of the meetings that we've had.

But there are individuals in both parties, and in all kinds of states that are interested in it. But I think that as I look at the states where we have actually done workshops, there are probably more blue states than red states.

Why do you think our country is so divided right now, seemingly more so than any of us have seen in our lifetimes?

That's a real good question. It's a question we try to talk about at our workshops, and there are some common themes that come through from lawmakers. For instance, the internet and political rhetoric by some of our political leaders and in political campaigns. Overall, campaigns are meaner than they used to be.

But I think a lot of these things feed into the fact that it is so much easier now to create our own echo chambers. And the pollsters will verify this, as well, that, more and more, our society is dividing itself by where they can find the most political compatriots. They don't listen to news media that has a different point of view; they listen to their news media that says the same thing that they believe. The same thing with blogs and other sources

on the internet. They reinforce the things that people already believe.

Even at work, people kind of segregate themselves into groups that kind of think the way that they do. As a consequence, when you create your own echo chamber, you start to believe that everybody thinks the way you do because everyone around you thinks the way that you do.

It certainly seems like it's easier to be selectively siloed.

And if you come across someone that thinks differently, or has a different opinion, well, it must be because they're uninformed or they're uncaring. Or because they're just plain dumb. And so, we begin to villainize them, to alienate them. And then we go back again to our sources, and sure enough, whatever we're listening to on the internet or whatever our news sources are, they're verifying that I'm right, which means that they're wrong. So, it's not a matter now that we're both somewhat right and we both might be a little bit wrong, too. It's the good guys and the bad guys. And any movie that you watch that has good guys and bad guys, you know there is no tolerance for the bad guys.

In your 19 years in the Idaho State Legislature, did you see in an increase in division, even in a state where the GOP is the dominating party?

Oh yeah. But it's OK to have differences of opinion. It's all a manner of how you handle those, how you work together on them. We should not shy away from people that disagree with us. We need to be making friends and communicating with those people who disagree with us.

We can learn from one another. But I saw less and less of that.

Now, when you get into a very heavily partisan state—whether it's blue or red—you'll find that a lot of the infighting goes on within the party itself because the other party becomes less relevant. So, you don't direct your contempt towards the other party. You direct it towards people within your own party which causes problems, and it certainly makes those primary elections even more contentious.

The events on January 6th at the U.S. Capitol showed an alarming lack of civility in this country.

In my experience there are a lot of good people at the federal level who walk the walk. Who really are concerned about civil discourse in politics, about having mutual respect for their colleagues or working across party lines. Unfortunately, sometimes they get defeated in elections because of it. Compromise, to some people, has become a dirty word. Although, we wouldn't have our present constitution if it weren't for the principle of compromise.

I have a great deal of respect for a lot of people at all levels of government who are willing to put their political careers on the line in order to stand up for the

principles which they believe are true. I'm talking about principles of decency and respect.

It sounds like you are still optimistic that things can get better.

I guess I don't know that I'm an optimist, but I know I'm not a pessimist. I really believe in our country, and I really believe in the people of our country. And a few bad apples don't spoil the whole barrel of us.

There's a lot of good people out there, and I have to keep reminding myself as I think we all do as we see the discontent in our country. There are far more good people in this nation than there are bad. And we saw that coming out during this pandemic, while we saw some people at their worst.

And maybe politics was at its worst during this pandemic, or at least the worst that we've seen. People are frustrated, they're tired, and they're trying to jockey for power if they're in politics. And yet, we've seen some of the kindest acts of charity with people the way they've helped their neighbors and have helped strangers.

We saw that over and over again, particularly from healthcare workers. We really saw people at their best, and I really believe that there's a lot more of those than there are the others. **A**

“We need to be making friends and communicating with those people who disagree with us. We can learn from one another.”

— Brent Hill



UTAH

FOODWAYS



FOOD TOUR

(North to South)

- 1 Casper's (Richmond)
- 2 Aggie Ice Cream (Logan)
- 3 Utah's Famous Fruit Way (Willard & Perry)
- 4 Utah State Fair (SLC)
- 5 Crown Burger (SLC)
- 6 Sage Farm Market (SLC)
- 7 World's First KFC (SLC)
- 8 Iceberg Drive-Inn (SLC)
- 9 Arctic Circle Headquarters (West Jordan)
- 10 Utah Foods Cookoff – Thanksgiving Point (Lehi)
- 11 BYU Creamery (Provo)
- 12 Stan's Drive-In (Salem)
- 13 Scandinavian Heritage Festival (Ephraim)
- 14 Melon Days (Green River)
- 15 Cedar Livestock Festival (Cedar City)
- 16 Peach Days (Hurricane)

This is the Plate

By Kristen Munson

Folklorists explore elements of everyday culture. The music. The stories we share. The traditions we celebrate. But what is more everyday than breakfast, lunch, and dinner?

For Eric Eliason, a folklorist at Brigham Young University, Utah's food culture needed to be addressed.

"To me, this was like the biggest untouched thing—I knew there was a book in it," he says.

It's okay to ask. Does Utah *have* a food culture?

"We were prepared for that question," Eliason laughs.

Most Utahns are familiar with the state's predilection for fry sauce, funeral potatoes, and Jell-O. In pre-pandemic times, Utahns visiting Senator Mike Lee's office in Washington, D.C. could enjoy a cup of "the state's official snack" with him. But is there more?

"When you think about food in Utah, you do not think amazing, high cuisine, and that is unfortunate," says Lynne McNeill, M.A. '02, associate professor of folklore at Utah State University. "Utah has absolutely incredible, diverse, unique regional foodways. There is so much there and so much to talk about."

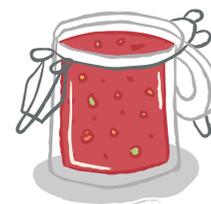
At its inception, the DNA of the project was to span the state's demographics and cultures, Eliason says. "This is not the Mormon foodways book; this is the Utah foodways book."

There is, of course, a section devoted to the influence of Latter-day Saints that covers Mormon food storage practices and ice cream to Postum.

Eliason pitched the idea over lunch at the Black Sheep Café in Provo during a meeting of the Folklore Society of Utah to McNeill and Carol Edison, the former state folklorist. Between bites of modern Navajo cuisine, the three agreed it would be a very tasty endeavor. Contributors—and there are many—comprise folklorists and graduate students to journalists and restaurant owners. Opening it up to interested community members was intentional, Eliason says. "Make it a feature rather than a bug."

The book evolved from a collection of academic essays on classic Utah foodways to a book with recipes, personal essays, and scholarly analysis on Utah traditional foods. It took years to compile *This is the Plate: Utah Food Traditions* (University of Utah Press, 2020).

"Every time we talked to people about it, they would be like 'well, you're including Green River melons, right? And San Pete turkey is in there, right? Bear Lake raspberries?' We were trying to keep up," McNeill says. "We opened up the door to the true representation of Utah, and I



Grouse Creek Chili Sauce



Funeral Potatoes in Dutch Oven



Navajo Taco

think, all of us were blown away by what we found.”

The trio of editors—a native Utahn raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who has since left the faith, an active Latter-day Saint from outside Utah, and a gentile transplant—agreed that everything would be on the table, including alcohol, when discussing the state’s iconic foods.

The pioneers produced beer and wine for personal consumption and Brigham

passage could be expressed with the lack of caffeine and alcohol in the predominant culture.”

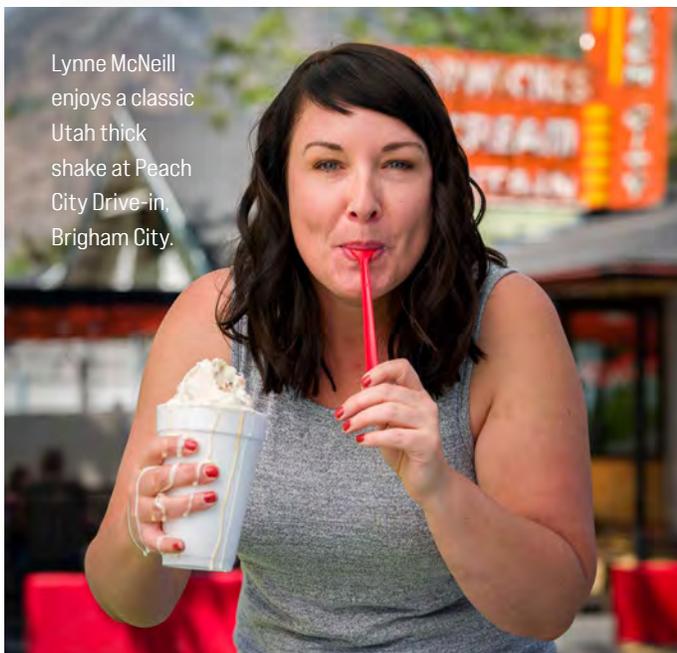
And it has affected the palette of the state, she says. “One of my first culinary surprises was chicken salad made with marshmallow fluff in addition to mayonnaise.”

McNeill grew up in one of the country’s foodie meccas. Her dad owned a French restaurant in the financial district of San Francisco. She grew up eating Cal-

pioneers wasted little time getting seeds into the ground.

“Peach pits and apple seeds were planted almost as soon as Latter-day Saint companies unhitched their wagons, and Utah fruit has generated glowing reviews, fond remembrances, and economic profit for decades since,” she writes.

And when Greek, Italian, Japanese, and Chinese immigrants came to the Beehive state to build the railroad and work in the mines in the late 1800s, early



Lynne McNeill enjoys a classic Utah thick shake at Peach City Drive-in, Brigham City.



It’s not loving fry sauce that makes you a Utahn, it’s having an *opinion* on fry sauce that makes you a Utahn. — Lynne McNeill

Young ran saloons in Salt Lake City. In 1872, Mark Twain wrote about drinking whisky in Utah called Valley Tan, which he described as “fire and brimstone.” Had Utah taken a different path, we could have been a leader in home brew, McNeill says.

Something else shaped Utah’s cuisine instead: sugar.

“If there is a defining feature of Utah food, it is usually sugar,” she says. “In Utah, uniquely, sugar became the food product through which adulthood rites of

ifornia cuisine and vacationing in Napa Valley. When she came to Utah State for graduate school, McNeill was “ready to be really disappointed in Utah,” she admits. “And I think early on I probably was.”

But feeling at home can take a while. Planting a garden can help.

In *This is the Plate*, the chapter “Gardening as placemaking in Utah communities” by folklorist Danille Elise Christensen, speaks to the waves of new arrivals to Utah and the ways they kept their heritage alive through food. The

1900s, they planted gardens, too. Some Italians grew herbs like oregano as well as fig trees that they lovingly brought inside during Utah winters. Japanese farmers that settled in the ’20s brought their expertise growing cabbage and cauliflower. Decades later, Japanese Americans sent to the Topaz Internment Camp during World War II resisted conditions and meager rations by planting both ornamentals and tastes of home such as eggplant, cantaloupes, cucumbers, and tomatoes on the grounds.

Displacement is echoed elsewhere in *This is the Plate*, too. Before Utah was Utah, portions were part of Mexico. And Indigenous tribes, many of whom were hunters and gatherers, were forced from their homelands as newcomers arrived. As the landscape changed, their access to traditional foods such as pine nuts, blue camas root, and bison, changed too.

But the myriad foodways across Utah do cross, sometimes in unexpected ways. While Eliason explored why a scone is not a traditional scone in Utah, but rather something fried and more akin to a sopapilla or Navajo fry bread than one plated during English teatime, he wondered if they may have more in common than not. While Navajo fry bread is “bittersweet” because it was developed with ingredients given to them during forced removals from their homes, he says, perhaps Utah scones and Navajo fry bread are the result of a “much more shared circumstance.”

“In a shared hardscrabble frontier environment, with nothing but a campfire, a skillet, and a limited set of long-lasting portable staples like wheat flour, lard, yeast, and sugar, what else can be done?” he writes.

Eliason suspects food may be the one thing that unites Utahns.

“With common historical touchstones in short supply and many cultural and social mores as dividers rather than unifiers, food is emerging as our common ground,” he writes. “It doesn’t matter whether you are ultra-, jack-, non-, or even anti-Mormon. By eating fry sauce and Jell-O ... you can participate in Utah’s shared identity.”

McNeill reckons this is true. Like those who came to Utah before her,

she eventually felt at home. Planting her first garden helped. So did developing a preference for a certain funeral potato recipe.

“I firmly believe it has to have buttered cornflakes on top,” she says.

And that is the larger point.

“You don’t have to make funeral potatoes and call them funeral potatoes and bring them to Latter-day Saint funerals to have a sense of belonging,” McNeill explains. “You have a relationship with a chip, crumble topped baked potato dish that you understand in relation to the region that you live in. It’s a real, beautiful, nuanced sense of identity and belonging that comes from knowing the regional foodways of a place. ... It’s not loving fry sauce that makes you a Utahn, it’s having an *opinion* on fry sauce that makes you a Utahn. It’s knowing what funeral potatoes are, whether you eat them or not.”

Utah food culture may also be coming full circle, too.

As eating locally-produced foods and growing one’s own food has become more popular, many Utahns new to emergency preparedness or locavore eating are finding “that their grandmothers never quit doing it,” Eliason says.

He pauses to ask a question of his own. “Are you even allowed to talk to me, a BYU professor?”

Which only proves his thesis—we can all come together over food. **A**



Watch Lynne McNeill explain how thick shakes are a part of Utah food folklore.



Mutton Stew

Courtesy of Beverly Joe

Shepherding has been important to the Navajo for centuries as the meat was consumed for nourishment and the wool was used for weaving. Mutton stew remains a staple dish served at community gatherings.

Ingredients

- Raw mutton meat, taken from hind leg and arm, cut into ½-inch pieces
- 2 bags celery, diced
- 2 bags carrots, diced
- 2–3 onions, diced
- 4 cans of corn
- 4 cans of diced tomatoes
- 2 bags of potatoes, peeled and diced

Directions

1. Bring water to boil in a very large pot (around 20 quarts).
2. Add mutton and boil ½ hour.
3. Add celery, carrots, onions, corn, and tomatoes; boil ½ hour.
4. Add potatoes, cook 15 minutes.
5. Serve with fresh fry bread, watermelon, coffee, and iced tea.

Recipe excerpted from This is the Plate: Utah Food Traditions edited by Carol A. Edison, Eric A. Eliason, and Lynne S. McNeill. Reprinted courtesy of University of Utah Press.



Finding Her Freedom

By Kristen Munson

One legend about Joshua trees is that their upright limbs beckoned Mormon pioneers westward to a promised land. With their spiky tops and rugged bark, Joshua trees, a yucca plant, are hard to know. Their age cannot be determined by counting tree rings and their survival is dependent on a rain that rarely comes. But Joshua trees endure in one of the least hospitable environments in North America.



“Whatever comes out of that is what I want to do.”
— Genéa Gaudet

Genéa Gaudet, a filmmaker and writer, moved to the Mojave Desert to find her own space to create. Photo by Martin and Cindy Quinn.

Genéa Gaudet '97 does, too. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the self-described “introvert” and “city girl in every way” exiled herself to the Mojave Desert from downtown Los Angeles to “build an art life ... to work on the projects I want to be working on. I am a creative. I want to create. I am tired of waiting for other people to fund it.”

Not having to pitch herself or her work at LA networking events during the pandemic has been a quiet blessing.

“Because I am not missing out, I recognize how much this is good for my soul and has allowed a lot of healing,” she says. For two decades the Canadian American filmmaker stitched together a successful career filming videos for musicians the likes of Andrew Bird, editing hundreds of commercials, and hustling to fund her own feature-length films and short documentaries. Her acclaimed short *Elder* premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2015.

“Tom’s story captivated me not only for its poignancy, but also for its universality: It captures the moment love emboldens you to become who you truly are, and explores the powerful hold religion, family, and culture have on shaping our individuality,” Gaudet wrote of her subject in *The New York Times*.

That same year, *Jesustown, USA*, a film she produced and edited, which followed a young man questioning his faith in one of the holiest sites in America, was picked



A still from the music video *Year of the Woman* by Dispatch, which Genéa Gaudet directed.

up by Showtime. Gaudet's latest credits include *Pride*, a six-part series chronicling the history of the LGBTQIA+ movement in the United States that appeared on Hulu in May.

Her filmography often tells the stories of outsiders. People estranged from their religion or relationships. Gaudet doesn't seek out stories of people living on the edges of their communities, but when she reflects on the observation, she notes, "I think I can relate."

A city of 4 million people, five acres of remote desert dwelling, both are places where it's easy for a person to disappear. Gaudet didn't want to disappear. She wanted solitude. No distractions. No networking meetings, just a network of dirt roads and an endless horizon.

"All there is abandoned spaces," she says over Zoom. "I have a thing about abandoned spaces."

That much is evident in her photography. Her Instagram feed is a love letter to the high desert and its decaying homesteads. Gaudet is from the Canadian prairie near Winnipeg. She moved to the high desert to take a creative breath.

Before majoring in journalism at USU, she was a creative writing major attending college in Vancouver, Canada. She met a missionary from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and moved to Utah without ever locating the

state on a map beforehand. She found her way to Logan where she majored in journalism because that was the only writing program she could find. Gaudet got married, found her footing reporting for the *Statesman*, and by senior year, she was its editor and pregnant. She graduated in 1996, a new mother to an infant daughter.

Afterward she turned down a job with the Associated Press to stay home with her daughter for two years.

"Knowing me now and how career focused I am, I can't believe I did that," Gaudet laughs. "But it was a blessing for her and for me. I'm so glad I did that."

She got divorced and went to film school at the University of Utah. But the journalism program at USU left an impression—a powerful one. There were several strong, professional women on the faculty, Gaudet recalls. "I think it was important for me to see those role models."

She felt supported by teachers like retired department head Ted Pease and Jay Wamsley, who oversaw the *Statesman*, people who taught her how to develop a story and provided her with the ethical grounding she still abides.

"These principles that I still work with on a daily basis—those high standards," Gaudet says. "I feel like journalists take an oath, like doctors, to 'do no harm.'"

"I am very unbiased when I approach

my subjects," Gaudet says. "I am just super interested in exploring humanity. I don't think you need to lead an audience. People aren't stupid. And they do sense when you have an axe to grind."

Gaudet aims to tell good stories without judgement. A project she is polishing has stretched five years and wrestles with the complexity of the justice system and child sex abuse. Her feature length documentary *Five Days* recounts the days leading up to the trial of a father accused of sexually abusing his daughter. It can be hard material to sit with. But Gaudet's goal is not to prove his innocence or guilt, but to tell his side of a dark story.

In March, she was in the final stages of editing *Pride*, a project that was a labor of learning. She had never worked on a historical project before and wasn't fully versed in the history of the American LGBTQIA+ movement.

"I think people will be shocked to hear about some of the laws that were in place and how deep the discrimination was," she says. "The laws that were the most shocking to me were the [transgender] laws. They would get arrested for jaywalking or littering. But they were really getting arrested for being trans."

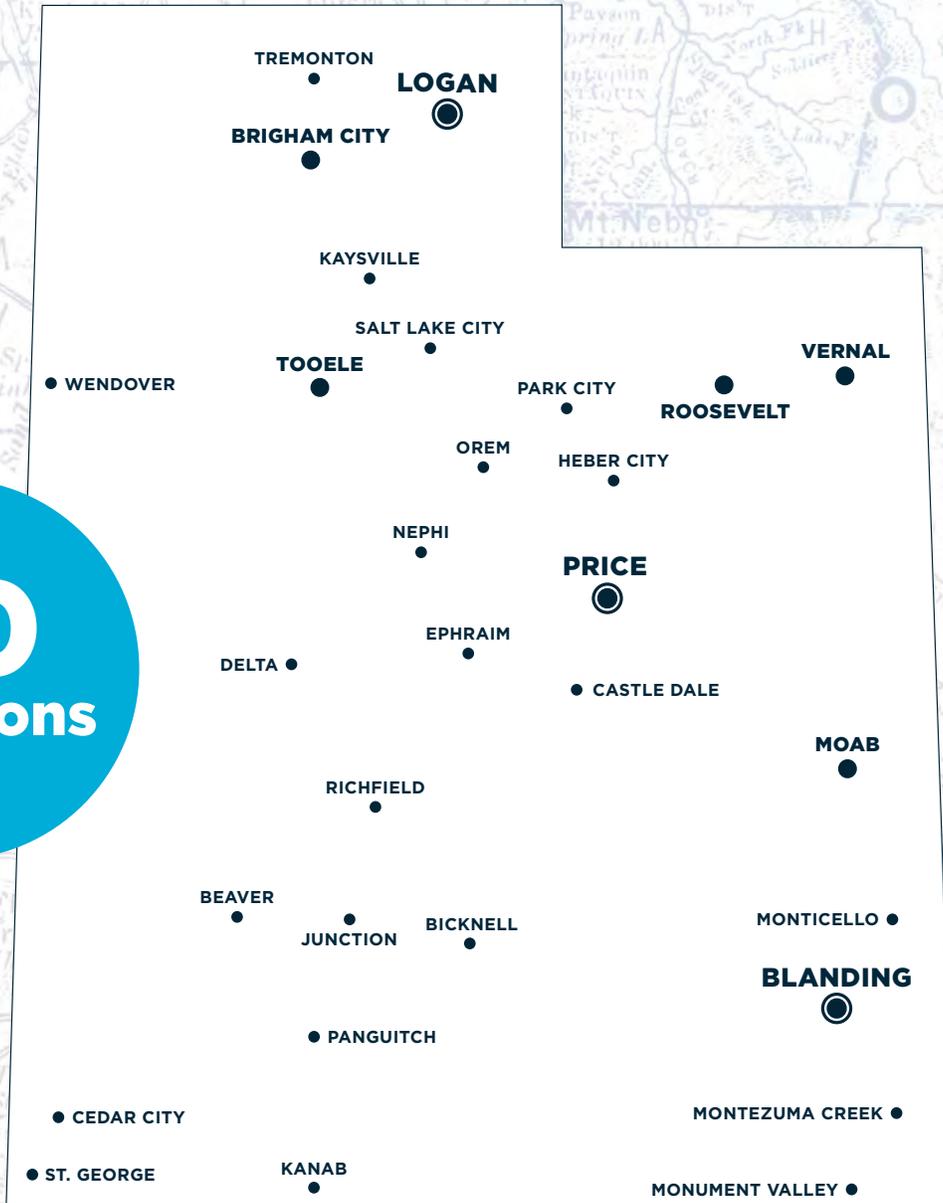
Soon the 46-year-old filmmaker will put her camera down to focus on fiction—to become the writer she always intended to be. Moving to a place stripped of human excess, surrounded by life managing to hold on, is the ideal place to transform. Gaudet is less focused on the what, but the how she creates. Maybe it will be experimental installations. Maybe films. Maybe fiction, she says. But it will be entirely from her.

"Whatever comes out of that is what I want to do." **A**

Learn more about Gaudet's work at www.geneagaudet.com or follow her on Instagram at @geneagaudet.

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Making Home:

CRIC Brings a Fresh Start to Valley Newcomers By Jeff Hunter '96

*I*n the early days of the Cache Refugee and Immigrant Connection (CRIC), Nelda Ault-Dyslin '05 and the other founding members of the nonprofit organization lacked a permanent, physical space in which to meet to help people new to the United States. They alternated gathering at different locations around Cache Valley, including the Logan Library, Neighbor Housing Solutions, and the First Presbyterian Church.

Printing off documents was problematic and relatively costly, leading one CRIC volunteer to purchase a printer. But it still needed to be taken from location to location, prompting Ault-Dyslin's father to make her a small cart to haul supplies more easily. A small photograph on the CRIC website captures Ault-Dyslin, with a pack hanging off her back, as she pulls her homemade cart down a walkway, looking every bit like someone in need of a home.

The irony is a little bit stunning. For several years, the determined CRIC volunteers were not all that unlike the people they were helping navigate the intricacies of life as a "new American."

"We were envisioning being in a building where I didn't always have to carry this printer with me, and we would have people's information in one spot and not in my car," Ault-Dyslin recalls with a smile. "We were always looking at wonderful models of other



Clockwise from top left: Volunteers Halima Ali and Mary Connin assist newcomer Kalis Ali, right, with paperwork; Randy Williams, board president, places a sign in a supporter's yard; Mary DaSilva, RN, administered vaccination shots at a drive-up clinic CRIC helped facilitate last spring.

organizations that had offices and employees and thinking, "We'll get there someday."

"Someday" is here for CRIC, which has had its own office space for the past four years, and employs six staff members, and two members of the AmeriCorps VISTA program. Officially founded in 2014, CRIC benefits from the efforts of a steadfast group of unpaid volunteers, about a dozen of which make up their board of trustees.

"CRIC is like the little engine that could—and does—move forward," says board president Randy Williams '85, MS '93. "And it moves forward because of the incredible new American community, and an amazing group of people ... who are dedicated to the community that we serve. "It really is a story of success."

A renowned folklorist at Utah State University from 1993 to 2019, Williams is just one of many connections

between CRIC and USU staff, faculty, alumni, and students.

"USU has been very good to CRIC ... and we're very grateful for the support," says Danny Beus '15, CRIC's new executive director. His mother is an immigrant from Chile so he understands the importance of feeling like you belong in a new country.

After graduating from Utah State with a degree in American studies, Ault-Dyslin spent three years at Western Kentucky University completing a master's in folklore and working with Burmese refugees. A native of Logan, she returned home and found that while she was gone, many refugees who originally left Burma for Salt Lake City had made their way to Cache Valley in search of employment, the majority of them at the JBS Beef plant in Hyrum.

"It was just one of those things where I returned home knowing that I needed to come back to the West," Ault-Dyslin says. "And then I come to find out, 'Oh, the group of people whom I wished to work with was actually here.'"

She soon secured a position at the Utah Department of Workforce Services in Logan where she was directly involved with helping immigrants and refugees find work. But when her own job was defunded, Ault-Dyslin spent a year with AmeriCorps before finding a permanent position at USU's Val R. Christensen Service Center where she helps run the campus food pantry.

Along the way, Ault-Dyslin spearheaded the creation of CRIC, which started as a gathering of local people interested in helping newcomers adjust to life in a new country. While Salt Lake City is an official resettlement community, Cache County falls outside of the radius of services provided by agencies in Utah's capital city.

"Early on, one of the board members came up with this little idea that CRIC is a 'gap-filler,'" Ault-Dyslin explains, adding that when they identify gaps between a



CRIC encourages refugees and immigrants to take part in its community garden where participants can grow their own fresh produce. Left: Saw Oo uses fallen limbs to build lattices for peas and melons. Bottom right: Pa Ne Ka Paw helps prepare the ground for a new season.

refugee family and service organization, they educate the organization about how to work with the community. “And if that can’t happen, then CRIC will create something to fill that gap, which is how we ended up with many of the programs we offer like driver’s license and citizenship classes.”

While the COVID-19 pandemic made offering services more challenging in 2020–21, CRIC normally offers walk-in hours at its office where volunteers assist new Americans—a term that encompasses both refugees and immigrants—with paying bills, filling out applications, and other tasks that can be challenging to individuals who may not speak the language or be familiar with systems in the United States such as healthcare or education.

CRIC also helps new Americans prepare for the written test for a Utah driver’s license, as well as for the U.S. naturalization test. The group facilitates the use of a community garden in Logan and foster friendships with local families through its Neighbor Program.

“CRIC is about being a trusted resource to folks who are either refugees or immigrants or otherwise new to the country,” Ault-Dyslin explains. “And we work really closely with other local service providers to connect people to the things that they need.”

The list of countries from which CRIC has helped refugees and immigrants is long, including African nations like Eritrea, Somalia, Ethiopia, and

“CRIC is like the little engine that could ... and it moves forward because of the incredible new American community, and an amazing group of people ... who are dedicated to the community that we serve. It really is a story of success.”

— Randy Williams

Sudan, southeastern Asia counties such as Burma, Thailand, and the Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Haiti, Syria, and Iraq. And while the organization doesn't have paid translators, there are CRIC staff members and volunteers who speak Spanish, Tagalog, and Tigrinya.

Williams, a lifelong Democrat, says she was "never prouder" than when former Governor Gary Herbert, a Republican, wrote a letter to President Trump in October 2019 asking that more refugees be sent to Utah.

"We know that statistically, new Americans come, and they get in the workforce and pay taxes and are innovators and high-functioning adults, they're just functioning in a new environment and need some culture competency in the world they find themselves in," she says. "It's a very two-way street of offering."

While it's difficult to put an exact number on how many new Americans live in Cache Valley, Jess Lucero, whom Williams replaced as board president in July, notes that Utah has welcomed about 60,000 refugees since CRIC was started, and that CRIC currently has more than 300 client files for individuals and families.

"Sometimes refugees don't even know that we exist, and so it's about word of mouth and getting awareness out to the refugee communities that we exist," says Lucero, an associate professor of social work at USU.

Cache Valley became more aware of CRIC during the summer of 2020 when COVID-19 hit the JBS meat packing plant extremely hard. Lucero says an estimated 900 out of 1,400 workers there come from Latino, refugee, and immigrant communities, including 90 percent of CRIC clients.

"Almost every one of our households was impacted very directly by COVID," she says. "It was a wild time, but it was also really fantastic because so many community partners came together to help, and I think we have stronger connections now as a result of that crisis."

Working in conjunction with St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, the Church of God in Hyrum, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, CRIC provided food, funds, housing assistance, and other supplies like diapers and medicine for households in need, making it possible for workers and their families to quarantine and limit the impact of the outbreak. For their efforts, the groups and individuals who led the relief effort were honored with USU's Community Diversity Award in May.

CRIC's motto is "Community for everyone" and in Ault-Dyslin's eyes, the nonprofit organization is "slowly getting there." But considering where CRIC

started, its growth is remarkable and something that Beus certainly noted when taking over as the new executive director earlier this year.

"Our goal is to really expand the services that we provide the immigrant and refugee community here in Cache Valley," he says. "But honestly, my biggest concern—and I tell Jess and Nelda this a lot—I just don't want to screw this up."

"With very little, and while working full-time jobs, the board has been able to do so much to bless the lives of immigrants and refugees here in Cache Valley. I just hope that I can continue doing the work that they have done, and then expand on that work." **A**



Watch CRIC co-founder Nelda Ault-Dyslin discuss the vital role the community garden plays connecting new Americans to their new home in the United States.





George Tribble, left, Sid Lane and Roietta Fulgham have remained friends for decades after their time together at USU and often get together in the Bay Area.



BREAK THROUGH

A century ago, **MIGNON BARKER RICHMOND '21**, the daughter of an English woman and an escaped slave who served as a drummer for the Union Army in the Civil War, became the first African American to graduate from college in Utah. While attending Utah Agricultural College, now Utah State University, Richmond endured racist faculty members and graduated only to find her degree did not unlock any professional doors. It would be another three decades before Richmond found professional employment and before the next cohort of African American students arrived at Utah State. And it wasn't always easy for them either. As Utah State charts a path that puts inclusion of all students at the center, it must first reckon with the past.

Editor's note: This story describes historical incidents of racism and contains slurs when quoting for accuracy. Language may be offensive to some readers. The individuals interviewed in this story identify as African American, however, the broader term Black will be used when preferred identity is unknown. Black students, educators, coaches, and administrators at USU are in bold type throughout the article.

KING JUGH

By Jeff Hunter '96

A WOUND THAT WON'T HEAL

The 1954 *Buzzer* yearbook features headshots of 535 freshmen students at what was then the Utah Agricultural College (UAC). Only one is African American—**MACEYO VAUGHAN**. His photo is four times the size of the rest. It seems it needs to be larger to accommodate the Springfield, Massachusetts native's delightful smile.

"My bride has always said I have a beautiful smile," Vaughan proudly notes.

Unlike his fellow freshmen on page 135, Vaughan's name, incorrectly spelled, is in a stylized font in significantly bigger type. "Friendly to all Aggies," the text reads. "Played freshman basketball. Imitates Billy Eckstein's singing. Known as Mayce."

Never mind that Vaughan's nickname "Mace" is also spelled wrong. But despite being one of just five African American students on the Logan campus, Vaughan found a happy home there.

"I had so many friends there, and I do mean genuine friends who made me feel like I was a native of Utah," he says, now 87 years old and living in Georgia.

Vaughan came west at the urging of Barre Toelken '57, a high school classmate studying natural resources at UAC.

"Barre told me, 'Mace, come out. It's great.' So, I came on out," Vaughan says.

Toelken, who later became a much beloved folklore professor at USU, suggested that the star guard on his high school team try out for freshman basketball. Vaughan made plans to come for a tryout.

"I believed in myself enough to take the chance that I could earn a scholarship, because if I hadn't made the team, I would have had to go right back home," he says.

Vaughan made the team for the 1953–54 season, and the photograph in the *Buzzer* shows him sporting that big smile, the only African American out of 10 players on the squad.

When asked how his team fared that year, Vaughan doesn't hesitate: "All that mattered was we beat BYU!" he proclaims with a big laugh, adding that he converted the winning basket just before the game ended.

"It was a jumper from the top of the key at the buzzer, and as soon as it went in, I was mobbed on the floor with everyone on top of me," Vaughan recalls.

But that would be as good as it got for Vaughan in collegiate basketball.

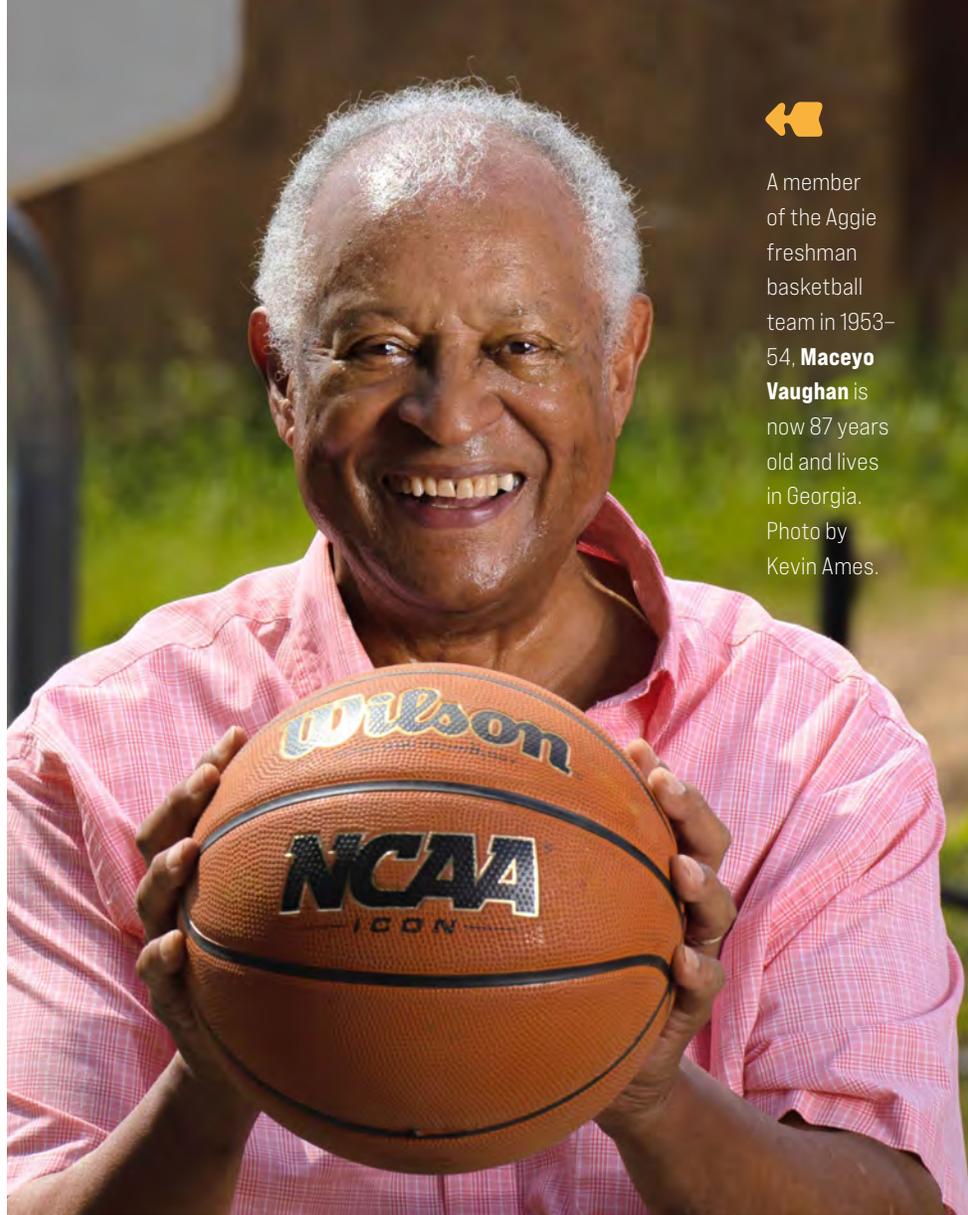
After returning in the fall of 1954, he was devastated to find that his scholarship was "scuttled."

"I was told by another player that I had made the team, but that one of the more established varsity players told the coach [H. Cecil Baker '25] that if I played, he wasn't going to play," Vaughan says quietly. "Apparently he didn't like Black folks."

"I don't know for sure if that's true," Vaughan continues. "So, I didn't get a scholarship my second year, and I was badly hurt by that because I couldn't afford to go to college without that scholarship. That's a wound that will never heal."

Macey Vaughan may have been the first African American athlete to play basketball at Utah State.

USU Athletics Department records are incomplete, but as Vaughan remembers it, there were only four other African Americans—all men—on campus in 1954: a graduate student in the forestry department, someone who played a little bit of football, and **AARON DIXSON '57** and **EZRA "ZEKE" SMITH '57**, both players on the varsity Aggie football team.



A member of the Aggie freshman basketball team in 1953–54, **Macey Vaughan** is now 87 years old and lives in Georgia. Photo by Kevin Ames.

"As far as I know, we were the only Black people at Utah State then," Vaughan says.

He came to USU just a few months before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on *Brown v. Board of Education*, a landmark decision that ended racial segregation in public schools.

At the time, there weren't many African Americans in the state—less than .5 percent of the population—but that doesn't mean racism was absent. It also meant it was more difficult to organize to effect change.

In 1953, the year Vaughan enrolled at Utah State, the Utah legislature

clarified its miscegenation law, further maintaining its prohibition on interracial marriage and was among the last states outside the South to repeal it.

Jessica Nelson, M.S. '17, explored racism in Utah, and at Utah State, for her thesis "The Mississippi of West": Religion, Conservatism, and Racial Politics in Utah, 1960–1978," which won the Lester E. Bush Best Thesis Award by the Mormon History Association in 2018. She suggests that Black Utahns experienced "a distinctly oppressive environment."

"Jim Crow segregation in Utah only sometimes reared its ugly head overtly;

racially discriminatory practices in housing, public accommodations, and employment were rarely formally pronounced, and yet powerfully shaped black life in Utah,” she wrote.

PROTECTING ONE ANOTHER

For African Americans who attended Utah State in the late '60s, racism didn't usually come in a physical form. But there was a feeling that invisible boundaries were drawn, and they should not be crossed.

GEORGE TRIBBLE '71

MBA '72 remembers a particularly quiet, beautiful day on campus. And while he doesn't recall where he was going when a large car stopped to pick up a female student, Tribble never forgot what he saw.

A popular, outspoken student, Tribble played football and wrestled for the Aggies from 1968–69, and was active in student government, serving as athletics vice president in 1970. Tribble had completed his bachelor's and was working on an MBA in finance. Honored as USU's Man of the Year in 1971, Tribble was instantly recognizable on campus, so when the young woman smiled at him, he instinctively started to wave back. But just as he did so, he says he briefly locked eyes with the driver, whom he believed to be the woman's father.

“He reached over the back of the seat and slapped the holy living hell out of the girl,” Tribble recalls. “I felt so bad for the girl, who was someone I didn't necessarily know, but she knew me.”

“But,” Tribble adds quietly, “sometimes just knowing the wrong people can get you in trouble.”

Tribble, a longtime mortgage broker in the Bay Area, was a heavily recruited running back who almost attended the

University of Southern California.

“But my father, who was a minister, said, ‘Son, you gave them your word,’ so I stuck with my decision to come to Utah State, and I have never regretted that decision,” Tribble says. “I had a lot of fun up there, and still have a lot of friends I made while I was at USU.”

One such friend is **ROIETTA GOODWIN '71**, a native of Ogden who came on an academic scholarship in 1966. Now Roietta Fulgham, she teaches business at colleges in California, and she still gets together regularly with other Aggies like Tribble who live in Northern California. Although she wasn't an athlete, Fulgham gravitated towards Black athletes because she was also African American.

“I actually wanted to go to a Historically Black College, but that was too expensive for my parents at the time. But it was good because I was able to make lifelong friendships that started the first day of college.”

And being close friends with football and basketball players, Fulgham says she personally felt “protected” while at Utah State.

“I didn't have any fears while at USU because the Black students stuck together,” says Fulgham, whose son, **KENDALL YOUNGBLOOD '92**, played basket-

ball for the Aggies and was inducted into the USU Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame in April 2020. “We often had our classes together and met up in the student union regularly. I don't recall any blatant attacks on anyone like it is today. I remember that just having the appearance of the large football players and the tall basketball players seemed to keep White students at bay.”

“Maybe things happened behind the scenes since I lived in the dorm and had to be in by 10:30 p.m. during the week, and I usually went home to Ogden on the weekends. I heard years later that some athletes had incidents with fraternities and being called names from visiting teams, but I never saw any scuffles.”

CHANGING TIMES

While Maceyo Vaughan wasn't able to continue as a basketball player at Utah State, the next wave of Black athletes seemed to be more readily accepted as students at the predominantly White institution. **LOUIS JONES '57** played varsity football for Utah State from 1955–57, while **OVERTON CURTIS '59** was a star halfback and kick returner in 1958 and '59, but also pitched for the Aggie baseball team.



Students eating at a USU cafeteria in January 1967 include, left to right at the second table: **Lisa and Henry King, Shaler Halimon, and Spain Musgrove.**

On the hardwood, guard **SAM HAGGERTY '61, MS '67** and forward **HAROLD THEUS '67** were brought in by head basketball coach H. Cecil Baker in 1957.

“That’s when the real turnaround came was in the late ’50s,” says Ross Peterson ’65, a longtime USU administrator and history professor who was a student at the time. “Theus and Haggerty were both junior college transfers from California, and they helped turn a mediocre program into a 19–7 season in 1958–59.

As the ’60s began, USU head football coach John Ralston turned to his native Bay Area for recruiting, bringing in star running back **BUDDY ALLEN** and defensive end and future Green Bay

Packer **LIONEL ALDRIDGE**. And the basketball team, which moved on from Baker to Ladell Andersen ’51 in 1961, also brought in some standout Black athletes from Northern California, including **CORNELL GREEN, TYLER WILBON '81,** and **CHARLES BELCHER '62** who became the first Black student to be voted in as a student body officer when he was elected vice president in 1961.

Wilbon and Green helped elevate the basketball program to new heights, putting together a 24–5 season in 1959–60 that ended with the Aggies being ranked eighth in the final Associated Press Top 25 poll—still the highest finish in school history.

Fans noticed. They noticed other things, too. And they wrote to university administrators to let their feelings be known about Black athletes receiving scholarships and dating White women.

“Although small in number, black male students were particularly visible because of their high profile on athletic teams,” Nelson noted in her thesis.

“In line with Michel Foucault’s notion of surveillance by those in power, the administration monitored the grades and dating habits of the school’s male African American students as a separate demographic.”

Now 81, Green lives in the Dallas area where he starred as a defensive back for the Dallas Cowboys for 13 seasons, despite never playing football in college. The two-time All-American recalls positive memories of his time at Utah State, “But you knew that they knew that you were Black.”

“I don’t have any regrets. I was treated well there, as well as can be expected for a college kid,” Green continues. “I didn’t really encounter any real racial incidents, other than when **DARNEL HANEY '65, MS '73** got in a fight when we were playing against BYU.”

He is referring to a particularly heated game in February 1961 at the Nelson Fieldhouse where multiple tussles occurred, including one between the 6-foot-8 Haney and BYU center David Eastis.

During a 2006 interview for USU Special Collections and Archives, Haney said of the fight: “You know, I think that was a psychotic break that I had with the pressures that were on me. I’ve been called nigger 10,000 times on a basketball court, I would say. ‘You block this nigger’s shot,’ and go on with it. But with all the pressures that build up inside of you, it wasn’t BYU, it wasn’t that at all, it had nothing to do with it, it was just my emotions that



A longtime business professor in Northern California, **Roietta Goodwin Fulgham** helped found the Black Student Union at USU in 1969.



had been building for months and all the pressures of the community. The hate that I received. How long do you maintain?”

The insults Haney experienced didn't just occur on the court. During the interview, he described hearing a biology professor saying, “there must be a nigger in the wood pile.”

Haney, the son of a domestic worker, grew up helping support his family of 12 with odd jobs after his father was murdered. He earned his master's in sociology at Utah State in 1973 and became one of the first Black full-time employees at the university before going onto a long career in higher education administration at Weber State.

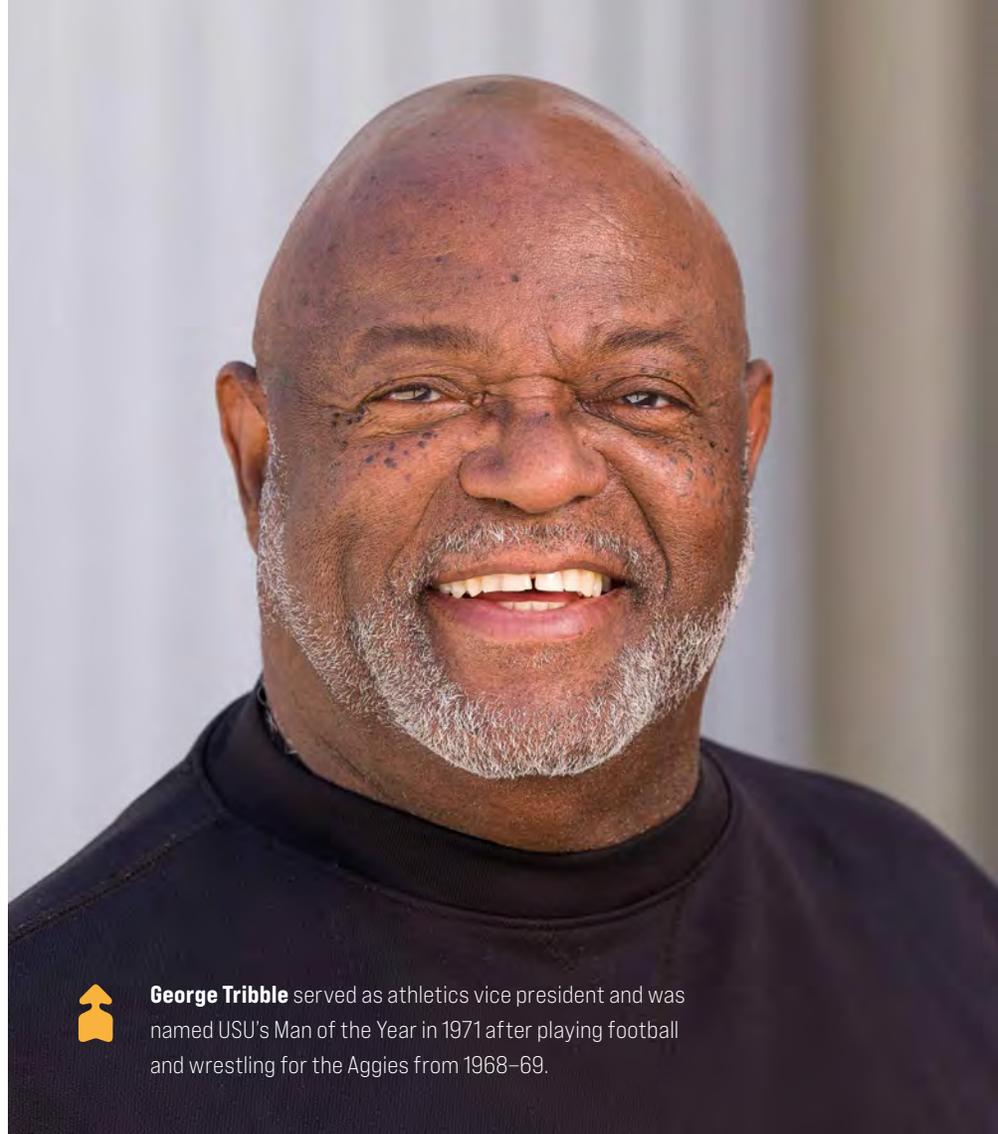
“But if you go over and look at the president's mail at USU, you'll find more hatred mail towards Darnel Haney than I've ever seen,” declares Ross Peterson, who taught U.S. and African American history at USU from 1971 to 2004.

INTERRACIAL DATING

The hate mail about Darnel Haney received by USU President Daryl Chase had more to do with Haney's activities off the court.

While taking a class at the Art Barn, Haney met Marie Packer, a local White girl, and the couple started dating in the summer of 1960. According to Peterson, once they were told about the romance, Marie's family decided that they wanted the couple to continue to date out in the open.

“It was a very painful, lonely year for me; even many of my Black friends would not talk to me,” Haney told interviewers. “They were afraid because I was causing trouble for them by interracial dating. See all those guys were dating interracial too, but they weren't doing it openly.”



George Tribble served as athletics vice president and was named USU's Man of the Year in 1971 after playing football and wrestling for the Aggies from 1968–69.

In fact, it was discouraged at the highest levels. In January 1961, USU President Daryl Chase met with Black students to discourage interracial dating.

According to Haney, when Ladell Andersen took over as coach in 1961, he was told to get rid of the big forward.

“And he said, ‘If he goes, I go.’ He stood up for me and he fought for me,” Haney said. “These are things I learned later. ... Friends were afraid for my safety. They thought maybe somebody would try to do something to me. I had no idea about those things.”

Darnel and Marie married in 1962, and were together for nearly 60 years before Marie passed away in April 2021. But their relationship—and the accompanying hate

mail received by President Chase—underscored racist sentiments simmering beneath the surface.

TEAMMATES AND BROTHERS

In a 1986 essay entitled “Civil Rights in Cache Valley,” former USU archivist Bob Parson '81, M.S. '83 quotes a letter sent to President Chase in 1961:

“Let's give basketball back to the white boys ... The practice of going out and recruiting colored boys and eliminating our boys is indefensible (sic) and should be abolished. ... They are no permanent good to the University and in most cases the University is no good to them.”

New head coach Ladell Andersen

recruited Black student-athletes anyway. Players like Cornell Green and **TROY COLLIER '64**, who went on to play for the Harlem Globetrotters, and **LEROY WALKER**.

In 1964, Walker, who had never left the Bay Area, was on a train headed for Salt Lake City. While he was roommates with Collier, it was a 6-foot-6 White kid from Montana well on his way to becoming the school's first 2,000-point scorer that Walker became closest to. He documented his friendship with Wayne Estes in the 2012 book *Wayne and Me*.

"We just hit it off," Walker says. "We were just two silly guys who had a lot of similarities on and off the court. We even had the same taste in music. 'Baby Love' by the Supremes. Wayne just loved that record."

Their friendship came to a tragic end on Feb. 8, 1965, when Estes was killed after stopping at the scene of a car accident near the bottom of Old Main Hill. Walker came along just minutes after Estes' forehead had brushed against a downed power line. He'll never forget seeing his friend laying on the ground.

"When we got there, he was still smoking," Walker says quietly. "It was horrible, man."

While the USU community reeled over the loss, the Aggies played the remainder of their schedule and the high-flying, 6-foot guard dedicated every game to the memory of his fallen friend.

Despite the tragedy of Estes' death, Walker says his experience at Utah State "was the best two years of my life."

Phil Olsen '70 and **SID LANE '70** are part of two of the most well-known sibling combinations in Aggie football history. Phil's brother, Merlin '62, M.S. '71, a Hall of Fame defensive tackle for the Los Angeles Rams, and Sid's brother, **MACARTHUR LANE**, was a star running back who went on to play 11 seasons in the NFL. They also call each other "my brother." But Olsen is White and from Logan, and Lane is Black and from the Bay Area.

"We still talk all the time, and he's closer to me in many ways than members of my own family," Olsen says. "And I think he feels the same way."

Olsen didn't have a Black teammate until he got to college at Utah State. However, in the '60s the Olsen home in The Island neighborhood of Logan was a gathering place for all football players—Black and White—where Olsen's mother Merle regularly fed them on the weekends

when the school cafeteria was closed.

"My mother loved everyone and always saw the best in everyone," Olsen says. "But she really loved Sid."

After Lane graduated, head coach Chuck Mills hired him as an assistant coach, which records suggest made Lane the first African American football coach at the Division I level. Lane credits Coach Mills and Utah State for the honor. "I believe they didn't hire me because I was the first Black coach, but because it was me. Color had nothing to do with it, for sure," he says.

Lane, who turned 81 in April, says he and his brother used to talk about their fond memories of their time at Utah State before he died in 2019.

"To be honest, I really only went to Utah State to play football, but all of a sudden I started to realize that I was smart enough to graduate. And Coach Mills said, 'You are going to graduate,' so I started working at it, and it paid off," Lane says. "I think most of the Black ballplayers that went to Utah State feel the same way."

THE PROTEST THAT NEVER WAS

Until 1978, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had members of color, but it didn't allow African American males to hold the priesthood—which essentially eliminated them from holding leadership positions—until the church's president, Spencer W. Kimball, announced a change, allowing all worthy males above a certain age to hold the priesthood.

But in October 1969, 14 Black football players at the University of Wyoming planned to protest the church's controversial practice when the Cowboys played BYU, a school owned by the church, saying they had been subjected to



Brothers **Sid (56) and MacArthur Lane** starred for the Aggie football team in the mid '60s. MacArthur, who spent 11 seasons in the NFL, passed away in 2019.



Before embarking on a long career as a college administrator, **Darnel Haney** faced a great deal of racism while playing basketball for the Aggies in the early '60s.

Fulgham recorded that the BSU planned to keep the lines of communication open with the university concerning the protest. A few members volunteered to make signs for the demonstration and to write a letter to the church asking for a statement on the church's policies toward African Americans. The BSU would picket the BYU dressing room, sit together during the game, and hold a press conference immediately afterward.

Fulgham also noted that during the meeting a member of the USU football team read a letter from Aggie head coach Chuck Mills "asking them what they are planning on doing at the BYU game."

"The black athletes are to give him their answer by noon Monday," Fulgham recorded.

A member of both the USU football team and the BSU, George Tribble remembers that the issue came to a head prior to the team's last practice before the game against the Cougars. Tribble says Coach Mills told them, essentially: They were at Utah State for academics and football. They could protest before or after the game, but not on his time. Players who wanted to play needed to be on the field in the next five minutes to practice. The rest were placing their scholarships at risk.

Within a couple of minutes, all of the White ballplayers were out of the locker room and out on the field, Tribble says, "and it was just eight of us African Americans sitting there looking at each other. None of us had the ability to pay for scholarships at that time, so we all hurried and got dressed and rushed off to practice."

racial epithets during the previous year's game in Provo. The Wyoming players wanted to wear black armbands for the rematch. But after speaking with head coach Lloyd Eaton, the 14 Black players were dismissed from the team.

What most Aggie football fans don't know is that something similar nearly happened the following month in Logan.

On May 4, 1969, the Black Student Union (BSU) was formed at Utah State. Following the "Black 14" incident in Wyoming, the BSU met with the idea of organizing an armband protest during the game against BYU on Nov. 15. BSU secretary Roietta Fulgham kept the minutes at the meeting:

"There was a discussion of the Mormon religion," she wrote. "We are demonstrating against the degrading of the black man by the church. The athletes don't feel that they should compete against BYU without losing their scholarship."

While the BYU protest failed to materialize, the BSU continued to grow and thrive, helping lead to the hiring of the university's first Black professors including, **LARZETTE HALE**, who was hired in 1971 and spent 13 years as the head of USU's School of Accountancy. They also brought notable African Americans like boxing champ Muhammad Ali, comedian-turned-activist Dick Gregory, and Gladys Knight and the Pips to showcase diverse talents in the African American community to Utah State students.

In the end, Tribble says he and his Black teammates learned a valuable lesson, thanks, in a large part, to each of them having a telephone conversation the night of the non-protest with the mother of teammate **TYRONE COUEY '71**.

Passing the phone around, Mary Couey told her son's teammates, "Right now you are young, and no one knows you at this point," Tribble remembers more than five decades later. "And if you don't complete your college education, you won't ever have a voice because it's already difficult for you to have a voice as a Black person. And if you don't have an education, it will be even tougher for you to have a voice that people will listen to."

Mary Couey grew up a sharecropper on a farm in Tennessee, as did Ty Couey's father, Fred. But Fred Couey eventually served as the personal assistant to Ralph Bunche, the first African American to win a Nobel Peace Prize who was then serving as the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. Fred Couey died in 1963 when Tyrone was just a teenager.

But the things Fred Couey taught his son continue to resonate today.

"When things got tough and hard, my Dad would always say, 'Life is wonderful, as long as you don't weaken,'" Couey recalls. "And there were many times when

the knees were buckling, and I would hear his voice and those words. And he was right.

“I think we’ve all been in those situations where we wanted to roll over and play dead, but we opted to just hang tough a little longer ... kind of like with the pandemic.”

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Chuck Mills, who died in January at the age of 92, encouraged Couey, who played linebacker his freshman season at Iowa Central Community College, to make a visit to Utah State in May 1968.

But with a foot of snow in Sardine Canyon, Couey had to bide his time in Salt Lake City for a day before an assistant coach could take him back to Cache Valley.

“There were probably four inches of snow in Logan when we arrived, and there I was. I had loads of hair—an Afro—and was wearing shorts, a dashiki and Roman sandals that went up my leg,” Couey recounts. “I’m quite sure they looked at me and thought, I think we made a mistake. Who is this guy?”

But the USU coaching staff thought enough of Couey to take him to Zanavoo Restaurant & Lodge up Logan Canyon

“
With all the pressures
that build up inside of you ...
the hate that I received.

HOW LONG DO YOU MAINTAIN?

—DARNEL HANEY

the next morning, and after having steaks and eggs and scones for breakfast for the first time in his life, Couey immediately committed to becoming an Aggie.

“I thought, if they feed you like this, then I’m coming here,” Couey says, then adds with a laugh, “That was the first and last great meal that I had in three years.”

During his time in Logan, Couey says he and Mills had their issues, but developed a mutual respect and then a friendship in later years. And Couey, who helped organize an endowment in Mills’ name in 2014, was drafted by Dallas in the 14th round of the NFL Draft and went to training camp with the Cowboys before being cut.

Off the football field, Couey was a history major who was focused on Black studies.

And after struggling academically when he first got to USU, he turned things around and ended up co-teaching a Black history class with longtime professor Blythe Ahlstrom ’57 his senior year.

Although Couey says he didn’t experience any serious racism during his time at USU, he does remember feeling like he was “at the Bronx Zoo” when he first arrived in Logan.

“Only, I was inside of the cage, and the people were looking at me,”

Couey says. “And it wasn’t really their fault, a lot of folks in Utah hadn’t ever seen a real-life Black person before in their lives. But it was very painful. You felt like the spotlight was always on you.”

The first of Fred and Mary Couey’s 10 children to graduate from college,

Couey carved out a long and successful career in banking, oil, and computers. But while his daughter was attending Hampton University in Virginia, he helped found the National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Alumni Associations Foundation in 2003. Couey currently serves as the president of the organization that seeks to create partnerships with government, as well as communities, civic groups, and churches to expand, develop, and advocate for HBCUs and their alumni.

He hopes to organize a partnership between Utah State and an HBCU.

“I think it would really benefit this country to have two unlikely characters come together to work on some issues,” Couey explains. “We need to heal because things are crazy right now.”

Couey never forgot a class he took from political science professor Dan Jones in which he taught that “when people have power, they’ll do everything in their power to remain in power.”

“In the context of Black-and-White issues, I took that to mean that he was saying that if the White man is in charge, he’ll do everything he can to remain in charge, regardless of what Blacks or anyone else tries to do to fix things and make things right,” Couey says. “And that’s stuck with me for all of these years, and after what happened at the U.S. Capitol on January 6th, I understood exactly what he meant when he made that statement to me in ’68.”

PERSEVERING

Maceyo Vaughan insists that he isn’t bitter about what happened to him at Utah State.

“I just understood that that was the culture, and I wasn’t angry,” he says. “Evil and ugliness do not live in my heart.”

IN THEIR CORNER:

SUPPORTING THE BLACK STUDENT UNION

AMAND HARDIMAN, a third-year doctoral student in Utah State University's Families in Sport Lab, studies a sense of belonging in higher education and athletics, particularly amongst minoritized groups. And yet, in the summer of 2020, Hardiman questioned his own.

A native of Columbia, Missouri, who earned his bachelor's and master's at the University of Missouri, Hardiman says even the riots in Ferguson in 2014–15 didn't hit him as hard as the deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd over a three-month span in early 2020.

"I was grieving," Hardiman says. "It wasn't a pleasant summer."

He has been a basketball coach and a counselor to student-athletes at both the high school and collegiate levels and admits that during that period, he found it difficult to serve as a mentor "because my mental health was just not there ... and definitely more of my minoritized friends reached out to check on me to see how I was doing."

"I would say that during the summer, more individuals at the Black Student Union had my back than I had theirs, which is a beautiful thing to say," Hardiman adds.

Founded in May 1969, it's hard to imagine a more vital moment in recent history for USU's Black Student Union (BSU) to serve as a resource and gathering place

for minority students. But due to the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic, the group was limited to online gatherings during the rest of the school year, and most of the Black Lives Matter protests occurred during the summer months when many students weren't on campus.

KIRK NAPOLEON '21, the BSU president during the 2020–21 school year, says it was "definitely a trying time."

"I felt like I needed to educate myself more about Black Lives Matter and be a more pro-active American citizen when it comes to understanding the stories," says Napoleon, who moved to Utah from Florida as a teenager. "I knew that people might come to me with questions, and I didn't know how to answer them myself. So, I was able to go to a couple of Black Lives Matter gatherings and educate myself more because I realized that's the best thing anyone can do."

Napoleon graduated in May with a bachelor's in business administration. He says he didn't know the BSU existed when he first came to Utah State, but a friend invited him to an event his sophomore year, "and I was able to see a lot of diversity" and meet people he wouldn't have otherwise.

Black students make up just over 1% of USU's population and the majority are student-athletes. Hardiman works with many of them in a variety of roles, including as a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Council, which was created by the USU Athletics Department in the summer of 2020. When Hardiman returned to campus last fall, he made it more of a

priority to "be visible, say hello, and let people know that there's another Black student here."

Recruitment for the BSU normally takes place in the spring, something that the pandemic made practically impossible in 2020. That and a lack of in-person events made it more challenging for the BSU to fulfill its mission last school year, Hardiman says, but the organization is "planning to take big steps moving forward."

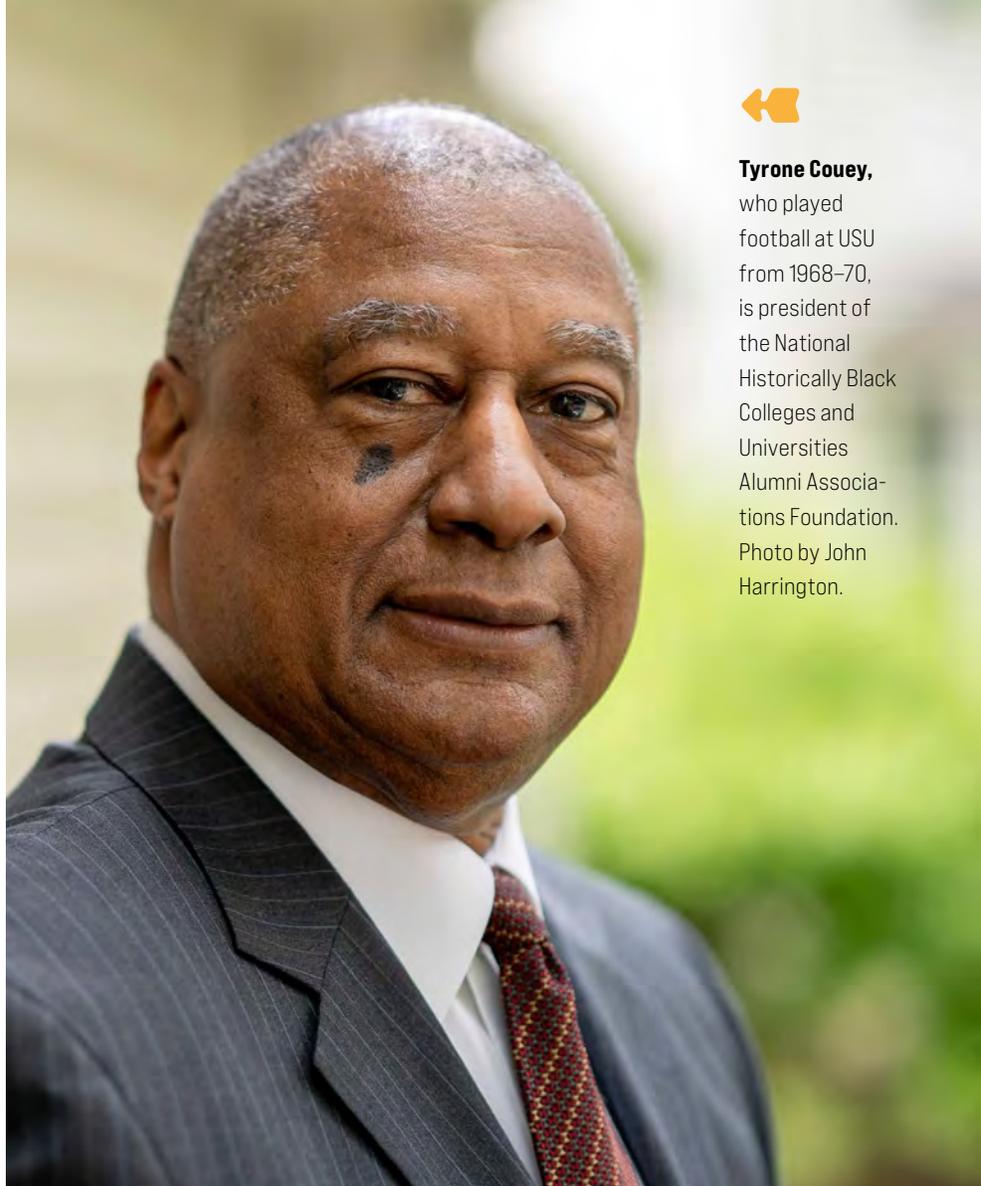
"There a lot of individuals wanting to move proactively, and that for the majority on campus, 2020 was an enlightened year and they realized a lot of things we, as Black people, go through every day or worry about or are triggered by," says Hardiman, who participated on the USU student panel titled "Involved to Evolve: Student Voices on Campus Climate and Sense of Belonging" at USU's Inclusive Excellence Symposium in October.

Eventually, Hardiman hopes to see people bring the "same energy" they display when cheering for a Black athlete at an Aggie sporting event when a student-athlete expresses anguish over racial stereotyping or oppression.

"I've enjoyed watching a lot of our student-athletes expanding their voice and their athletic identity and saying, 'I can take this Aggie jersey off at the end of the day, but I can't take my skin and all of the associations that come with being Black,'" Hardiman explains. "Those athletes need to believe that fans are in their corner when they take that jersey off, just like when they hit a 3-pointer. They need that same positive energy."



Tyrone Couey, who played football at USU from 1968–70, is president of the National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Alumni Associations Foundation. Photo by John Harrington.



But without a basketball scholarship, Vaughan couldn't complete his college degree. He spent most of the next school year working as the sports editor and music critic for the *Student Life* newspaper and he also helped spearhead an on-campus fundraising drive. But by March 1956, he dropped out.

"I just didn't have the money to continue, so I left owing money," Vaughan says. "I tried, but I couldn't get a job anywhere in Logan because they were given to local people and not people like me."

In 1956, being a young American male who wasn't attending college meant Vaughan lost his deferment and was headed towards a stint in the military. He served four years for Army Intelligence in Washington, D.C., before working for the National Security Agency. Vaughan then spent decades working in the private business sector before embarking on a career as a consultant and an inspirational speaker. He traveled around the world into his mid-80s speaking to CEOs, presidents, and upper-level managers about the importance of diversity and inclusion in the business world.

Vaughan, like most of the former USU students contacted for this story, was initially interviewed just before the rise of the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020 and prior to the murder of George Floyd beneath the knee of police officer Derek Chauvin in late May. While the list of incidents involving police brutality against unarmed African Americans is tragically long, Floyd's death in Minneapolis was the impetus for a renewed effort to combat systemic racism in the United States.

The resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement and highly visible

protests throughout the country, primarily during the summer of 2020, occurred concurrently as COVID-19 was disproportionately affecting communities of color.

The sadness evoked by this challenging period is evident in a short essay Vaughan wrote in August 2020. Normally an upbeat and optimistic individual, Vaughan entitled the piece, "Our Lady Democracy Weeps."

"Racism is a virus that infects humans, just as COVID-19 does. But COVID-19 will go away after its dirty work is done," Vaughan wrote. "Racism lives on doing its evil work, and the price our society

pays for it is galactic. There are about 48 million Blacks in America and one wonders why a country would allow, and in some cases prefer, such citizen alienation. Where is the sanity in that? Lady Democracy weeps because we cherish her wisdom and her bounty while abusing some by rationing its application and expecting good outcomes.

"The heinous Klan existed because it was allowed to exist. The mafia existed because it was allowed to exist. And today's racism exists because it is allowed to exist," Vaughan continued. "We have the capacity to rid our country of racism, sexism, and all other ugly destructive behaviors. The only question is do we have the will?"

THE PATH FORWARD

While Utah has not been at the center of tragic events sparking national conversations in recent months like Minneapolis, Louisville, and Kenosha, USU President Noelle Cockett recognized that the university community has an opportunity and responsibility to do its part to better understand and counteract racism. The theme of last year's annual Inclusive Excellence Symposium was "Black Lives Matter: A Community Calling," and featured sessions dedicated to the realization that issues of equality, economic security, and physical safety for members of the Black community continue in the 21st century and must be a part of our university's civil dialogue.

Cockett created a Diversity and Inclusion Task Force in spring 2019 to create a strategic plan for diversity and inclusion at USU, and the university released its first campus climate survey on diversity and inclusion in May 2021. She will add a cabinet-level leader to help focus and guide USU's diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts by spring semester 2022.

And on the USU campus in the summer of 2020, former head football coach Gary Andersen and members of the Aggie football team were inspired to learn more about racism in America, leading to the creation of a new class entitled, Untold Truths of African American Inequality in the United States. The course was taught by Ross Peterson, who first developed a zeal for teaching African-American history while at the University of Texas Arlington from 1968–71.

"The school had barely been integrated then," Peterson recalls. "The state had broken down a lot of the barriers by the time I got there—and it wasn't still the

Deep South—but we might have had one African American on the football team when I got there."

"That became a real passion; something that I've always done here at Utah State, too," Peterson said of teaching about the Civil Rights Movement.

More than 50 years later, Peterson, who is semi-retired, taught the inaugural Untold Truths of African American Inequality in the United States course last summer, which presented the evolution and history of racism in America, how it has affected past and current generations of people, and what can be done about it going forward. As part of the class, Peterson invited former Black Aggie athletes

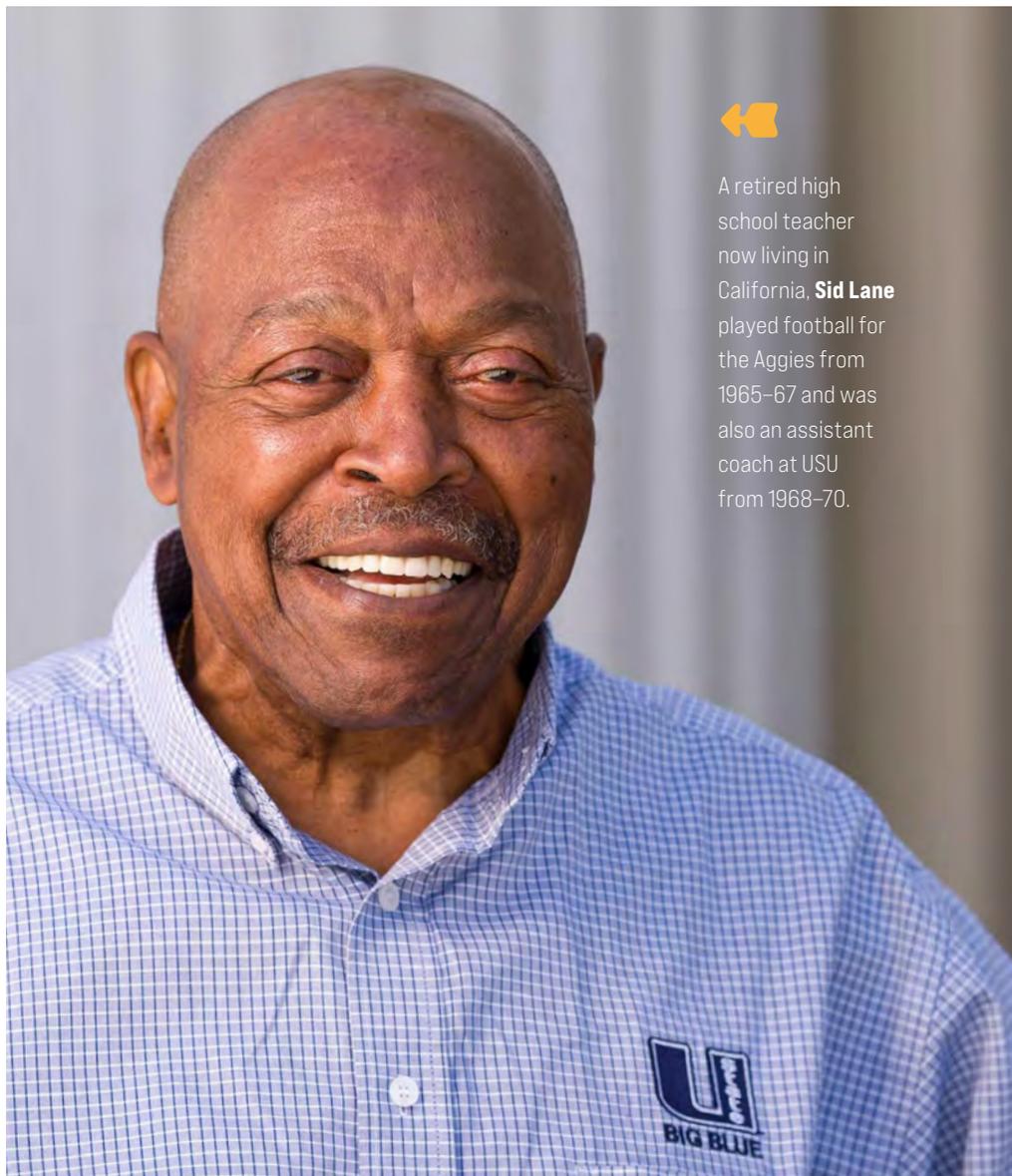
like Darnel Haney to share their stories with the nearly 50 students, the majority of them football players, who enrolled in the course.

"The idea was to create an understanding of the world we live in today through finding historical roots," Peterson says, who will teach the class again in the fall of 2021. "How does this exist in this country, of all countries? Where does it come from? And how do we understand it?"

And how do we move past it? **A**



View USU's 2020 Inclusive Excellence Symposium.



A retired high school teacher now living in California, **Sid Lane** played football for the Aggies from 1965–67 and was also an assistant coach at USU from 1968–70.

A Sense of

BELONGING

Snapshots of four Aggies working to expand the idea of everyday inclusion.

Rooted in HOPE

By Allyson Myers '19

Throughout her work with Indigenous populations, Devon Isaacs has seen her fair share of difficult circumstances. As a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Isaacs understands the challenges American Indian populations face, such as high suicide rates, opioid and other substance abuse, and limited educational opportunities.

But Isaacs has also seen unparalleled resilience and determination to push forward—a strength deeply rooted in hope. Witnessing this hope set Isaacs on a path through new territory that emphasizes the power and identity of Indigenous peoples in academia.

Isaacs graduated with a bachelor's in psychology from Northeastern State University, after which she completed a fellowship at the Seven Generations Center of Excellence in Native American Behavioral Health at the University of North Dakota. There she embarked on a suicide prevention project with rural tribal youth in a Northern Plains reservation. The study was called Wac'inneya, which means “strong youth” in Lakota. Rather than seeking to define the external problems these youth face, the study emphasized sources of strength, hope, and resilience in the face of adversity.

“This study on hope identified a common thread that ties everything together,” Isaacs says. “There is a need for belonging, and there are opportunities to look to others to find reasons to persevere.”

This emphasis on strength and belonging has been a key part of Isaacs' research pursuits. In the summer of that same year, Isaacs attended her first Society of Indian Psychologists (SIP) conference at Utah State University and





*Devon
Isaacs*

fell in love with SIP's mission to promote awareness of Native American issues. Isaacs sought a mentor who understood Native American ways of knowing and being in the world, and she quickly formed a connection with Melissa Tehee, an assistant professor in psychology at USU.

When Isaacs joined USU, she found more mentors and collaborators to expand her sense of belonging in academia. "I couldn't do this work without our allies," she says. "They bring Indigenous knowledge to the forefront, not by speaking for me, but by inviting me to the table and wanting to hear what I have to say."

Now in her fifth year at USU, Isaacs works with many Indigenous college students and understands who they are. Coming to USU is a big step for

many Native American students; they can find themselves feeling unmoored in an educational framework that often conflicts with their culture, identity, and way of learning. Rather than focus on how students should change to better perform, Isaacs wants to "disrupt the narrative" and discuss how systems and institutions can shift to allow places for Indigenous knowledge to thrive.

"Belonging really comes when you can fully be yourself as a cultural person through your relationships and community," she says. "In my own experience in higher education, having a support group that understood me and allowed me to be myself helped me re-center my identity and appreciate it, bringing all the pieces of myself together. I want that for other students."

Creating Space for **DIFFERENCE**

By Rebecca Dixon '08

As a self-described agnostic queer Mormon, Utah State University psychology professor Tyler Lefevor realized early on that for those who are both religious and LGBTQIA+, a place of belonging is rare. However, for much of his life, his church membership was a source of happiness. "I believe in being present wherever I am on the journey—for a long time, I was both out as gay and an active Mormon."

Membership in a church can be a positive experience of spiritual connection and community.

Lefevor wants these benefits to be available to all who desire them, regardless of their sexuality or gender. "The ideal is for those who are both queer and faithful to feel comfortable embracing all aspects of their identity, not to leave behind a part that could help strengthen them."

Although Lefevor's family is staunchly conservative, they have preserved a loving relationship, and Lefevor cherishes their time together. He notes that many of his colleagues are conservative church members as well. "Knowing those on different life paths

Tyler Lefevor



helps me to balance out my thinking.”

In Lefevor’s experience, people in conservative or faith-based groups are often unexpectedly accepting of those in the rainbow community. “Abstract concepts usually stop mattering when you’re personally interacting with people. But keep in mind that most LGBTQ individuals have had traumatic experiences with religion, so it can be hard for them to

see the complexity in church members,” he explains.

“Often, the healthiest course for LGBTQ folks is to move away from religion and into more protective places. But I believe in everyone finding their own path, and we can create space for others with different experiences.”

Lefevor’s lab examines health disparities experienced by sexual and gender minorities as well as how the intersection of one’s identity

and religiosity may help or harm health. He is also a practicing therapist specializing in LGBTQIA+ mental health. Driven in both his research and clinical work by the hope that everyone will have a place to belong, Lefevor encourages personal connections with people who live differently.

“If you don’t have LGBTQ friends, ask yourself honestly if your perceptions might push people away,” he says. “Work to make yourself a safe

person.” Lefevor recommends parent support groups and other resources at centers such as Encircle. “No one is perfect in this effort, but people will see you are trying, and that’s all that matters.”

Lefevor notes that when differing groups meet on even footing, attitudes on both sides are likely to change. “Seek to learn,” he urges, “and be willing to start in spaces where you are not comfortable.”

Lefevor’s own willingness to be vulnerable with those who live and believe differently has led him to a deeper understanding of what he calls “choosing to love.” He explains, “We all run into problems when we tell people that how they see the world is wrong. But when we step out of the issues, and choose to just see the person in front of us, we realize that person deserves love and deserves to be seen for everything they are.”

A New STEP

By Jeff Hunter '96

Most people would view Jeff Griffin '00 as a motivational speaker.

But the 48-year-old says he thinks of himself as “more of a transformational speaker,” and Griffin still believes that his own body will be transformed someday. Ideally in a way that undoes some of the damage it suffered when he fell 40 feet while painting a barn.

“Every morning I wake up thinking, This is the day,” Griffin says. “I was paralyzed at 21, so I’ve been in a chair longer than out of a chair. But in my heart of hearts, I believe that I will walk and not faint, run and not be weary and have a full recovery.”

“But,” Griffin adds. “I also figure I can’t wait for the walking to come to live my life. I’ve got to go there and live my life and focus on what I can do, instead of what I can’t do.”

While Griffin jokes that he “stuck the landing” after a ladder sitting on top of scaffolding gave way in 1995, the fall destroyed his L1 vertebra and he was paralyzed from the waist down. At the time, the North Logan native was a receiver at Ricks College who was determined to continue his football career at BYU.

Griffin’s accident greatly altered those dreams, and he ended up staying closer to home and graduating from Utah State, then worked in the banking industry for three years. When his enthusiasm for managing trusts waned, Griffin shifted his focus and spent the next 16 years teaching seminary and institute for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

During those years, Griffin, who is married with four children, became a standout wheelchair athlete, competing in the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens in basketball, while also winning a national championship with the Utah Wheelin’ Jazz. He also spent time as the No. 1 wheelchair tennis player in Utah and won the St. George Marathon. And through a lot of hard work, Griffin was able to walk enough that, in 2019, he made



Jeff Griffin

his way to the top of Ben Lomond Peak with the assistance of 19 people.

In that same vein, Griffin greatly enjoys getting up out of his wheelchair at the end of his motivational presentations and walking across the stage.

“It provides an emotional impact that hopefully gives people who are listening and watching the belief and the motivation that, ‘If this guy who was paralyzed can get up and take a few steps, then perhaps I can get up and take a few steps towards

the dreams and desires that I have,” Griffin explains.

To share his experiences and the message behind the “gold nuggets” he has discovered during his life’s journey, Griffin started Griffin Motivation in 2017 and made 60 presentations around the country in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic altered his life once again as speeches were either canceled or moved to Zoom.

“I’ve had to practice what I preach these past few months,” he admits.

SERVICE

for Life on Earth

By Kristen Munson

The Lieutenant Governor

of Ontario is considered an extension of the British crown focused on ensuring the Canadian constitution is followed in the province and on building civic pride.

“A lot of my work is to know the hearts and minds and souls of our citizens,” Elizabeth Dowdeswell M.S. ’72, told Utah State University students during a book club meeting in March. (Her selection: *Commanding Hope: The Power We Have to Renew a World in Peril* by Thomas Homer-Dixon).

Shortly after her 2014 appointment, Dowdeswell began visiting communities around the province and realized something was missing: people don’t share their stories with one another. Dowdeswell, the first woman to serve as executive director of the United Nations Environment Programme, declared herself the province’s “chief storyteller” and has been sharing stories of Ontarians ever since. For her, storytelling is a powerful tool for growing empathy between disparate people and

world views. Empathy can help us to understand differences—and potentially—to overcome them.

When COVID-19 sent Canadians into lockdown, the hundreds of ceremonial events Dowdeswell holds each year were shifted online. Still, she trekked to the office every day to provide a sense of stability and picked up the phone, dialing hundreds of local leaders from around the province. “I needed to know for myself how people were,” she says.

She looked for avenues to promote social cohesion. Because there is nothing like a pandemic to reveal humanity’s interconnectedness—it is both the problem and the solution.

“We are not through it until we are all through it,” Dowdeswell says.

The pandemic has laid bare the fundamental inequities of society, she adds. Many of us were “able to self-isolate on the backs of others,” as jobs deemed essential, such as farm work, are often held by newcomers. She acknowledges the desire for normalcy, but the self-



described “eternal optimist” wonders, what if things could be better?

After the U.N.’s 1992 Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, where 154 nations pledged to curb greenhouse emissions, Dowdeswell called for “constructive damage to the status quo.” The key word is constructive, she notes. She believes the time for similar bold vision is now.

Because her position is apolitical, her office is considered a safe space for conversation, Dowdeswell says. “It’s

Elizabeth Dowdeswell



Photo courtesy of Joe Segal.

amazing how that frees up the opportunity for people to learn about issues that they don't know much about, to have conversations with others that they may not have met before, and to really think about something that is longer than what I call short-termisms."

Because the big issues we face span decades, not election cycles.

The former teacher turned public servant studied home economics in college and earned her master's in behavioral science at Utah State. Dowdeswell was

Canada's Deputy Minister of Culture and Youth and head of the Atmospheric Environment Service before being tapped to lead UNEP. She admits the links tying her eclectic career together are not obvious. But when viewed through the lens of an interpreter, the theme of her life's work is apparent: Dowdeswell brings people together to tackle seemingly insurmountable problems—not exactly work for pessimists.

The motto on her coat of arms is "service for life on earth." Dowdeswell lives by it. **A**

View a conversation with Ontario's Lt. Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell on the importance of curiosity.



The Call of the Stage

By Kristen Munson

Pageants are rituals for celebrating cultural identity. The message may be obscured by sequins and revelry, but who they honor reflect the values of a society. Pageants at Utah State University hold similar functions and elevate voices that don't always take center stage.

An Evolving Story

Prior to 1950, a competition associated with selecting USU Homecoming royalty called the Harvest Queen Pageant reigned supreme. Eventually, “questions about the appropriateness of the event referred to practices like ... women being measured by male judges,” according to an exhibit by USU Special Collections & Archives. The contest was replaced with the Miss USU pageant, which took a brief hiatus around 1998 and was rebooted in the early aughts along with the formation of a Mr. USU competition.

Exact dates are unclear, but other pageants including a Mr. and Miss International and a Miss American Indian USU (now Miss Native American USU) also appeared around this time, creating space for Aggies with other points of view.

Decades later, the annual Miss USU competition continues to evolve. While the 2020 spring event was canceled due to the pandemic, a modified version was held Sept. 20 where participants wore masks, the opening number was scrapped entirely,

and the talent portion was pre-recorded. For Vanessa Moser, a junior journalism major and candidate in the canceled Miss USU competition, the event is about spotlighting people who want to make positive change.

“A huge reason why I wanted to run 'was I wanted to make a change here on campus about sexual assault prevention,” she says.

Moser became Miss USU pageant director because she wanted contestants to have the same opportunity to put their

own passions on display. She created a support system so that Miss USU has greater latitude to make a difference. We are all about women's empowerment and lifting each other up, she says. “It is such a fun event and so exciting to wear a pretty dress, but it's so much more than that. It's about letting your voice be heard.”

Rachel Taylor made sure to use hers. The communications studies major competed as Miss Involvement and used the moment to introduce her true self to her peers.



Left to right: Contestants in the April 13, 2021 Miss USU competition celebrate their performances; Miss Involvement Clara Alder preparing for the stage; Alder being crowned the 2021 winner.

“I use she/her pronouns and I identify as a bisexual woman,” Taylor announced, adjusting her cloth face mask. “This year’s theme for Miss USU is Her Story. My story originated in confusion and frustration with my true self as well as my sexuality. It was through the wonderful people, staff, and involvement opportunities at Utah State that I was able to become confident in myself. ... My platform is rooted in the inclusion and celebration of all students, but particularly those who face hardships for who they are and who they love.”

Her pitch involved bringing LGBTQ-IA+ pride to USU and welcoming allies to the cause. She won first attendant. Moser, who had known of Taylor’s status beforehand, felt grateful her friend could find acceptance with herself and her peers on stage.

“I think it has a lot to do with what has been happening here,” she says, and creating an environment that allows people “to become who they are and experience who they are.”

The 2021 Miss USU competition in April remained a forum for disclosure and empowerment. One Mexican Amer-

ican contestant addressed the national rise in hostility towards individuals with different backgrounds. Another contestant shared her attempt to die by suicide and a platform to reduce the stigma of talking about mental health. Other candidates called for random acts of kindness. Miss Involvement Clara Alder campaigned on the idea of launching The Aggies Stories Project, a statewide effort to celebrate human connection through storytelling.

“I truly believe that everybody has a name, and everybody has a story worth telling,” she told the audience.

The judges agreed and crowned Alder Miss USU 2021.

Creating Brave Spaces

One November evening in 2018, the Taggart Student Ballroom was at capacity. Overflow areas were packed with more attendees waiting for USU’s first drag show to begin.

“I don’t think it would have been successful 10 years ago,” says Green Skousen, a senior psychology major who

is transgender and uses they/them pronouns. “I don’t think it would have been successful five years ago.”

But they have witnessed incremental changes that have made it possible. The resident assistant has come a long way to be out and advocating for LGBTQ-IA+ issues.

“It’s really difficult to be queer in Utah,” they say, adding that there is a lot of queer phobia among residents who may have strong views of gender roles. “In my opinion, it’s going to take a lot more than one event on campus,” to change minds.

But it’s a start.

Drag is known for its kitschy costuming and over-the-top hair and makeup. Historically associated with the LGBTQ-IA+ community, drag is both entertainment and an outlet. It serves as a way for performers to confront mainstream gender and beauty standards in a self-affirming way. The USU Drag Show was organized by campus resident assistants and served as an educational affair with flair as drag kings and queens performed and participated in a question-and-answer session.



“Drag is a performance of gender. Being transgender is a gender identity, it is who you are,” a performer named Marlene told the audience. “If you want to know how we identify, or what pronouns we use, just ask us. We are more than happy to help you understand.”

The show was so popular another followed in 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted programming in 2020, but there are plans to hold future drag shows post-pandemic, says Skousen, who helped with the 2019 event. The goal is that by introducing drag culture to the USU community, the unfamiliar can become familiar—and perhaps, less scary. It was also important to create “brave” spaces for people to just be themselves.

“Being loud is important if you can in claiming space so people who can’t be loud can feel comfortable,” Skousen explains.

“Having to act like someone you’re not, it’s really mentally stressful.”

A Celebration of Culture

Alina Begay directs the annual Miss Native American USU competition and typically beads an intricate crown for the winner each year. The activity takes months of her time, not only because she painstakingly fastens each bead by hand, but because of the state of mind the maker must be in to create it: *Hózhó* is a sacred Navajo philosophy to guide people into a state of harmony and balance with the world.

Begay is beading her final crown this year. It will be passed down at subsequent Miss Native American USU competitions because the 2021 event was canceled

due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which disproportionately devastated Indigenous communities.

“Our language keepers are dying,” Begay says. “We are losing our elders who have all of our knowledge.”

The Miss Native American USU contest is about preserving cultural connections by highlighting participants’ knowledge of Indigenous culture—“and showing that they are embracing it and they value it,” Begay explains. “It’s a pathway for opening up that education, especially since our cultures and languages are under threat every day. ... We are the first people of this land and it’s often forgotten.”

The winner receives a scholarship and represents USU as an ambassador at powwows statewide. They perform community service and are judged on poise, leadership, public speaking ability, and understanding of Indigenous culture. The event is viewed less as a competition and more of a bonding experience. The families of contestants are invited, and a date is selected that works best for those who may be driving long distances from reservations to attend, Begay says. USU Dining Services prepares traditional native foods, too, such as blue corn mush and Navajo tea.

Miss Native American USU, and contests like it, honor the women in Indigenous tribes for their connection to them, Begay says, adding that they use a platform that “flips the script on how education was historically used to erase our cultures.” **A**

It’s about letting your voice be heard.

— *Vanessa Moser*



The final crown Alina Begay is beading for the annual Miss Native American USU competition.



See a gallery of photos from the Miss USU pageant.

A Space for **Everyone** Building Inclusion into Park Design

By Lynnette Harris '88

Parks and other outdoor, public spaces are not just places where people connect with the environment and each other. Like all built landscapes, they are physical manifestations of the attitudes, perceptions, and values of the people who create them. The problem is that often the creators don't fully consider how people who are different from themselves might want to use the space.

Seeking to understand and design inclusive public spaces is the focus of work by Keith Christensen, head of USU's Department of Landscape

Architecture and Environmental Planning, and Keunhyun Park, a co-director of the department's Visualization, Instrumentation, and Virtual Interaction Design Laboratory. Each professor studies different aspects of creating spaces that are inviting and inclusive, clarifying what those concepts mean to different groups, and how people use (and don't use) existing spaces.

The following conversation about how public spaces can help or hinder feelings of belonging has been lightly edited for length.

There are many different aspects of landscape architecture. Why is this topic especially interesting to you?

Keunhyun Park: Initially I was intrigued with designing pretty spaces. But when I worked as an auxiliary firefighter as part of my South Korean military service, my job was to register and care for low-income, single, older adults in the district. I witnessed environmental injustice issues where economically disadvantaged people were more exposed to environmentally disadvantaging circumstances. That began changing my views of society and that people may not have some personal characteristics, like being lazy or other things, but that there are ways that environments affect connection and worsen economic hardship. I wanted to understand how to create more just, sustainable, and healthy places. I've researched the distribution of public spaces and whether they are accessible to all people in terms of gender, race, ethnicity, income level, age, and found a lot of unequal access to environmental amenities depending on the demographics of a neighborhood.

Keith Christensen: I started working on playgrounds for kids and could see that just being able to get around the playground doesn't mean you can actually play.



LAEP professors Keunhyun Park (left) and Keith Christensen (right) visit the Edith Bowen Laboratory School playground on the Logan campus.

Proximity is not the same as participation.

— Keith Christensen

Proximity is not the same as participation. If you expand that from the world of a playground to the adult world of a community, we do the same thing, but we often don't realize it. At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was a shock to see yellow caution tape strung around playgrounds to prevent kids from playing on them because we didn't know how the virus spread. Now there's no caution tape, but for a fair number of people, there are still barriers that they can see and other people won't notice. It's not always that people with disabilities can't access a place, it may just be harder and take more effort, more thought, more money, more time. We say, 'We want you to belong,' but when you create an environment that charges a high social price for someone to belong, it's discouraging, like wrapping caution tape around a playground.

What are some of the things we may not notice that keep people out?

KC: If you arrive at a couple of acres of grass and in the middle of it there's a picnic table under a tree and no paths or connection, it leaves you questioning what the space is for. Is it really for



Image courtesy of Royston Hanamoto Alley & Abey Landscape Architects and Planners.

picnics? Did people want a place to sit for a soccer game? You don't want barriers like steps, and it's inviting to see water fountains, restrooms, and other amenities from your entry point.

Do Americans use city parks in ways that differ from people in other countries or regions?

KP: The city park was born in the United States, and the landscape aesthetic was borrowed from the English gardens that were mostly for royals and the gentry. The way the park was built was teaching middle-class workers or lower-class people the lifestyle of the bourgeoisie, telling them, 'You need a sense of belonging here, and you gain that by doing things like strolling or picnicking instead of spending

time in the streets, or whatever you do in the dark side of the city.' Parks in the United States have been largely turfgrass; the picturesque view landscape design. Many countries have higher density cities than the United States so they use parks differently as part of community culture. There's value in some large, pastoral landscape for mental health or restorative functions, but our version of parks in America is often not well-integrated with neighborhoods. Likewise, we create a sports complex that is very separate from the city, and you can only get there with your own car.

KC: Conflicts can occur when one group might use a resource differently than another. You may wish to go play for recreation, but someone else looks at the park as an extension of their home.



Inclusive park design considers the diverse needs and desires of a community and creates a space where everyone feels they belong.

For instance, a diversity of play experiences help to meet diverse developmental needs, says Keith Christensen, professor of landscape architecture and environmental planning. “You’ll see play components that encourage cooperation rather than competition.”

1. **Ramps** make the park more accessible for individuals with disabilities and across life stages.
2. **Benches** provide a place to comfortably rest, nurse babies, and socialize.
3. **Shade** offers park goers a place to cool off on hot days.
4. **Diverse play experiences** meet various developmental needs.

KP: Depending on the culture, you use space for different things. So, for one example, Latinx people may use a park for a barbecue more than other ethnic groups.

KC: Yes, and might have a family gathering, while other people think ‘That’s supposed to happen in your backyard, not at the park.’ It’s just a difference in how you treat public and semi-private spaces. But we enact rules to stop some things from happening that are not part of our experience. We put curfews on parks and don’t install lights because we don’t want anything to occur after dark, when really, why couldn’t you still gather with friends at 9 o’clock? You have to schedule a pavilion 48 hours or more in advance. You can’t use a

field except with a scheduled team. Truly meeting people’s needs in a community requires flexibility. We tend to look at the design of public spaces and say, ‘Look, we’re creating this space for these people.’ But we never do the flip side of it, where we recognize that when we say ‘for these people’ we’re also saying ‘Not for these people.’ So you have to pay a lot of attention to that.

How do you determine what that looks like?

KC: When I work with communities on including people with disabilities, I make it clear that initially, it will cost a little more. But they’ll have a better design as a result that won’t look like an afterthought. If a change looks like

an afterthought to me, then I’m an afterthought. I feel I don’t belong there. Retrofits have fiscal costs, and in social or community capital they cost more.

KP: It’s understandable why people refuse to change the common practice if they don’t know or haven’t seen a lot of the best practices or the state-of-the-art. So that’s the job of professionals, landscape architects, in particular, to demonstrate examples of changes whenever an opportunity arises. **A**



View Keun’s TEDxUSU talk “If You Build it, They May Not Come.”

Army Meets the Academies

By Dr. Angela Minichiello Ph.D. '16, assistant professor of engineering education

In 2021, Angela Minichiello, a veteran and assistant professor of engineering education, was awarded a five-year, \$568,000 CAREER grant to fund her work focusing on the experiences of military-connected students.

Driving south on Main Street in Logan, I passed the industrial tool supply store. There, perched above the commercial hubbub, was a solitary, soft blue billboard. Its color mimicked that of the afternoon sky and its deep blue letters seemed to float in mid-air: For some, feeling **left out** lasts more than a moment.

As I read the words out loud, I felt them in my gut; I tossed them around in my head, like a juggler in a circus ring, for the rest of my drive. The message struck a deep chord, and for a time I lost interest in where I was going. Instead, I considered how the feeling of being left out, of not belonging, is so uniquely human. It's an emotion that each of us experiences throughout our lives; an emotion that, if left unchecked, can profoundly influence our life paths

and personal choices. I've consistently fought to overcome this feeling throughout most of my professional life.

Performance as Belonging

In 1975, when I was 10 years old, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-1065. This law—for the first time in our nation's history—allowed qualified

women candidates to attend what had historically been the all-male federally-funded service academies. The first women entered the service academies in the summer of 1976. The Class of 1980 became the first to graduate and commission women as officers in the U.S. Armed Forces.

In 1982, by mid-senior year in high school, I had been accepted to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Without much hesitation, I entered the

academy in July 1983 as a member of the Class of 1987, “Our Country We Strengthen.” Our class became the 185th class to induct men into the Corps of Cadets, and the eighth class to accept women.

People often ask about the difficulty of being “one of the first women” at West Point. These questions are always a bit embarrassing; I explain how it was much more difficult for women inducted into the academies during those first four years. They endured indignities and hardships that live on in academy folklore. As retired Navy Commander Janie L. Mines, the first and only Black woman admitted to the Naval Academy in 1976, gently explained, “It just happened quickly, and it needed to be done. [But] the academies weren’t ready [for women].”

While the successes of the first women proved—to the public and to the academies—that women could survive service academy life; women’s acceptance at the academies was still up for debate. The service academies, as military colleges that prepare officers to lead in combat, fulfill a unique mission among U.S. institutions of higher education. In 1983, women were prohibited from filling combat roles in the U.S. military, and men argued that academy slots were wasted on women. Underlying these arguments was the general disbelief that women could lead military men, in or out of combat.

Such was the scene as my parents dropped me off in July 1983: Women were at the academies to stay, and many men had not accepted it. Our class bonded during summer field training and I started first-year academics feeling a strong sense of esprit de corps and shared purpose with my classmates.

As naïve as it sounds, I had yet to understand that there were people who

considered women’s abilities and societal roles to be different than men. As my class integrated with the upperclassmen and faculty, I started to perceive, and to detect, those who didn’t accept me because I was a woman cadet.

While caution and recognition were approaches used to avoid embarrassment and hostility, I knew I was powerless to advocate for myself and had nowhere to hide. The constant potential to be cast out because of my gender ignited my competitive spirit, and perhaps even a subconscious need to excel—regardless of the nature of the task or the personal cost. Over the next four years, I came to wield outstanding performance as both superpower and shield: If I relentlessly performed, task after task and day after day, it would be impossible for others to justifiably claim that I didn’t belong.

Interdependence as Belonging

Aviation became a branch of the Army the year I graduated, and the Class of 1987 became the first class to receive aviation slots during commissioning. Prior, those trained to fly for the Army were men selected from the ranks of combat arms branches where women did not (yet) serve. Since branch slots were filled in order of academy class rank, a few of us women were able to choose aviation as our branch when our numbers were called.

If I learned one thing at the academy it was this: Being unquestionably capable makes everything easier. This lesson continued to serve me at a time when there were few women training to become U.S. Army helicopter pilots.

Such was the scene as my parents dropped me off in July 1983: Women were at the academies to stay, and many men had not accepted it.

Having graduated with a mechanical engineering degree from a program that emphasized aerospace applications, the ground school portion of flight school came relatively easy. Flight training proved more challenging, particularly because it was hard not to feel conspicuous on the flight line. It was clear that the influx of women pilot trainees was on everyone’s radar. During basic combat skills flight training, I flew with a stick buddy who began getting ill during our low-level training flights. While he eventually overcame the condition and graduated, several peers began a rumor that the motion sickness was caused by my (lack of) combat flying skills. Luckily for me, I had check ride scores that showed otherwise.

As I completed advanced combat skills flight training my instructor pilot—who compensated for his small stature through sheer intensity—unexpectedly took me aside. He leaned toward me as if telling me a secret, and said, “Always remember, your knowledge is your power.” He looked at me intently, as if watching his words sink into my skin. He made his point clearly: I was going to be judged more harshly, as a woman, than the men pilots in my unit. “You have to be better.” I nodded, feeling a sense of gratitude for finally

hearing someone say it out loud.

I carried these words with me to my first unit assignment in South Korea. At the time, I didn't know I was the first woman officer and pilot assigned to the unit. I endured an uneasy month waiting to take my induction check fully aware that my reputation hinged on the results of the ride.

Afterward, I was quickly integrated into the training mission schedule. For my first mission, I was assigned as co-pilot for a pilot-in-command who likely had more hours in a CH-47 than I had breathing. For two days, sunup to sundown, we flew construction materials from the base of a mountain to its peak. The materials, the size and shape of telephone poles, were attached—one at a time—using a 100-foot-long sling to a cargo hook located on the belly of our helicopter. Each time we reached the mountain peak, we hovered more than 100 feet above the landing zone. There, our job was to gently lower the pole into position, holding it steady while workers physically secured it, upright, on the ground.

It was the most challenging flying of my young aviation career. Although the inherent danger was obvious, we flew as a team, alternating roles of flying and systems monitoring, while the crew chief verbally guided the pinpoint pole placement as he hung his torso upside down out the cargo hole in the floor of the aircraft. Each time I accepted control of the aircraft, the crew was depending on me—not only with mission accomplishment, but also with a \$12 million aircraft and their own well-being. When we arrived back at the unit, the operations officer was there waiting, overly eager to find out how the mission had gone. “How'd it go?” he asked, scanning our expressions one

by one. Lighting a cigarette and taking a long draw, the pilot said “No complaints” as he gave an ever so slight smile in my direction.

Building as Belonging

Although it seems funny now, there was a time when I thought I'd always be a helicopter pilot. Yet, after serving past



This page: Army pilot Angela Minichiello in western Saudi Arabia near the border with Iraq during the buildup to the First Gulf War 1990-91. Opposite page: In 1983, Angela Minichiello was inducted as a cadet at West Point, a member of its eighth class to accept women. Her mother, Marilyn Joyce Minichiello, is pictured with her at drop-off.

my academy commitment and through the First Gulf War, I decided to end my active-duty service in 1994. Admittedly, I was nervous about reinventing myself as a civilian. A common question that service members ask those who decide to leave the service is: “What are you going to do?” Deciding to stick with something I knew, I enrolled in a graduate program in mechanical engineering. After graduating

with a master's, I accepted a job and moved across the country, eager to begin a new career working as a mechanical engineer on a well-established and profitable product line within a major American technology company.

As I walked into the office on my first day, it was as if I had arrived late to the party during cleanup the morning after. I was met with quizzical looks and empty cubicles as the company was in the process of consolidating two divisions. Amid the

uncertainty, my manager was unable to assign new project tasks; I had a job, but nothing to do and no role to fill. The state of limbo continued for several months until one day my manager called to tell me what I already knew: my position was no longer needed, and I was being let go. Disappointed yet relieved, I applied for several open positions and traveled to job interviews as the reorgani-

zation moved forward without me.

Eight months after arriving in San Diego, I left for Colorado. As I walked into the office on my first day, it was if I had arrived early to a party that was still being planned. I was met with eager smiles and a buzz of activity. The company was forming a new design and development group, and I was the second mechanical engineer hired. The first was my manager. I had a job, and my pick of tasks to take on and any number of roles to fill. For



I was nervous about reinventing myself as a civilian. A common question that service members ask those who decide to leave the service is: “What are you going to do?”

my first official task, I served as a technical writer, helping to complete and edit the group’s first product design proposal. Everyone was thrilled with my work and it reminded me of how much I loved to write. The positive energy continued, and with each new role I took on came new experiences, new knowledge, and the satisfaction of helping to build a team.

Authenticity as Belonging

In 2005, I started to move away from a conventional, full-time career path. At first, the shift wasn’t a conscious one; I was engaging in new opportunities, such as teaching, that piqued my interest and seemed challenging and socially relevant. In 2009, I accepted full-time employment as an engineering instructor at Utah State University. In this role, I taught undergraduate courses in the evenings to working adults and other nontraditional students.

Teaching these students opened my eyes to the disparate ways that American citizens experience education. Today, most do not begin their college education immediately after high school, at age 18, with tuition, housing, and sustenance costs paid for by someone else. While I have always had the privilege of being able to focus solely on my education, most in this country do not have the financial resources or social capital needed to devote all their efforts and energy to their education.

It was my interactions with one engineering student in particular, a bright-eyed and energetic jet engine mechanic and Air Force veteran who continued to serve in the reserves while attending

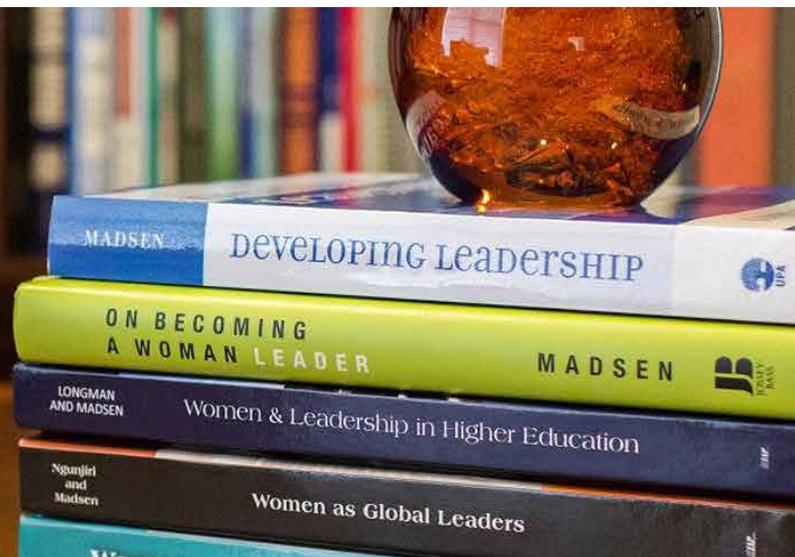
school, that reconnected me to the value of my military past. This was a history and an identity I had learned to bury and hide from while studying at a top 10 engineering graduate program directly after leaving the Army. There, an undercurrent of attitudes and comments about my academic preparation and readiness convinced me that I was not Ph.D. material and shaped my plan to leave graduate school as soon as possible for an industry position.

More than 10 years after earning my master’s, my experiences teaching nontraditional and military-affiliated students set me on a course of self-reflection and recognition that led me to where I am today: an assistant professor of engineering education. Inspired by the sense of purpose and dogged persistence of these nontraditional students, I decided to pursue a doctorate in engineering education—a new offering at Utah State. Working more from a gut-level hunch than a plan, I enrolled part-time and continued to work as an instructor while earning my degree.

My dissertation research focused on examining the experiences of the working adult and nontraditional students I taught while receiving my doctorate. My current work, funded by a five-year, \$568,000 National Science Foundation Early Career Development grant, focuses on the experiences of military-connected engineering students and developing new understandings of the institutional and structural changes that are needed to support and retain talented, technically trained, and professionally experienced undergraduates. In a sense I have come full circle. I have fashioned a new career and a new purpose wherein I can authentically embody, and put to good use, all of the identities that make me who I am. **A**

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

By Julene Reese '88



IN 2009, the Utah Commissioner of Higher Education asked Susan Madsen if she could help him understand why Utah women were dropping out of college in droves. Bill Sederburg, former president of Utah Valley University, hoped to tap into her expertise as a prolific scholar on leadership and gender to address women's challenges in the state.

Madsen, then a professor at UVU, had a sabbatical planned for other purposes that year, but instead spent the time working to answer his questions. Her work soon became a change effort with research, funding, and a website to house her findings. The site grew to include resources to help strengthen the overall impact of Utah women and girls.

Twelve years later, the project has gained so much traction Madsen can hardly keep up with it. Known as the Utah Women & Leadership Project, it moved from UVU to Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business in 2020 in partnership with USU Extension, with Madsen as director.

"I have a strong belief based on both research and my own values that we need to have more women at the table, leading, and impacting to create better lives, better homes, better universities, and better businesses, which in turn benefits society as a whole," she says.

Madsen has worked and presented around the world, including at the House of Commons, the Argentina Parliament, the Lithuania President's Cabinet, and locations

throughout Africa, India, Europe, and the greater Middle East, including Afghanistan. Madsen has observed that leaders in unstable parts of the world feel if they can control women, they can control pretty much everything.

"If women and mothers are educated, we have seen that their children also become educated and don't become involved with radical organizations like the Taliban," she says. "Generally speaking, there is a very strong link between the education and confidence of women and the security of nations. That is why this work is so vital. The implications are very far reaching."

One challenge: The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on women. The National Women's Law Center reported that women dropped out of the workforce at a rate four times more than men, likely due to the heavy responsibilities they carried for childcare and homeschooling during the pandemic. A study by McKinsey & Company and LeanIn.Org reported that in dual-income households, mothers were three times more likely than fathers to bear the main responsibility for housework and childcare.

"For women to get back into the workforce and thrive, it is important that household and childcare responsibilities are shared more equally," Madsen says. "It is also necessary for employers to be more supportive of the work-life balance of women by providing sufficient paid leave, more schedule flexibility, and better access to affordable, quality child care."

MADSEN'S TIPS for providing support in homes, the workplace, communities, and society:

1. Get men on board.

The more men and women work together in leadership roles, on teams, and in the home, the better off we are as a society. Male and female brains are different in some ways, and the way we work with our sons and daughters can impact their attitudes about leadership roles. If there is unequal power between partners in the home, there are more negative behaviors, including domestic violence. It's important to have men on board so they can teach and model awareness, respect, and support.

2. Empower through education.

The more education women have, the more options they have to pursue meaningful work that uses their brain, heart, gifts, and talents. Sometimes women in their 40s and 50s need to shift careers, due to COVID-19 or other challenges, and they feel they're too old to go back to school. There is no expiration on getting an education. At whatever age, it prepares women to be more impactful in families, society, in running for office, and leading in general.

3. Support women's decisions.

Women's work is vital, whether it's raising children, volunteering in the community, being employed outside the home, caregiving for the elderly, or any combination of these. Every

situation is different, and it is important to respect and support each woman's decision for herself and her family.

4. Instill confidence.

Men and women are socialized to do things differently, and women often don't think they're supposed to be confident because it looks cocky. However, it's possible to be humble and confident at the same time. Humility just means being teachable, it doesn't mean being small. Socialization is often subtle and includes such things as the either/or mentality—"I'm a mom so I can't do anything else," rather than, "I'm a mom AND I can run for office." We need to instill in women and girls the confidence to be leaders and to use their voices.

5. Review public policy.

Support policies that assist and lift girls, women, and families—which also includes men. As more organizations embrace flexibility and family-friendly policies, it will create additional opportunities for women's workforce engagement, advancement, and success, while still allowing women to prioritize their families and other interests. **A**

More information about the Utah Women & Leadership Project can be found at utwomen.org.

Susan Madsen delivers a talk in London at the House of Commons in pre-COVID-19 days. Photos courtesy of Susan Madsen.



Beyond the Bare Minimum:

A Vision for Inclusive Design

By Kristen Munson

Sachin Pavithran knows he is fortunate. Growing up in Dubai, Pavithran, '99, Ph.D. '12, did not know anyone else with a disability or have services now considered mainstream for blind children. And yet he thrived.

“The reason I was able to finish my K-12 education is because my mom read all my textbooks to me,” Pavithran says. “My parents were basically supportive of anything and everything I wanted to do. They didn’t just let me sit around because of my disability.”

They fostered his independence. He took up activities like jet skiing and wakeboarding in the Arabian Sea. When Pavithran applied to college in the United States, his parents suggested he attend the University of Pennsylvania and live with an uncle who could watch over him. Pavithran enrolled at Utah State University instead.

“When I came to college, it was a night and day difference from going from nothing, where the only support I had was my mom, to having all these options at the disability service office,” he says. “I think the relations I built at Utah State helped me go into the path I went into.”

Pavithran has spent the last 20 years addressing accessibility issues in technology. He is the former policy director for USU’s Center for Persons with Disabilities and director of the Utah Assistive Technology Program and has served on the U.S. Elections Assistance Commission’s Board of Advisors.



“My degree was in information systems,” he laughs. “I wanted to get into the tech industry with some well-known tech giants and make a lot of money.”

But his exposure to the work of the National Federation of the Blind pointed him down a different path—one where people with disabilities were elevated to leadership positions and had real power to affect change. Pavithran stepped down from his CPD post in early 2021 to lead the U.S. Access Board—a federal agency tasked with developing accessibility guidelines and standards that promote equality for persons with disabilities. Pavithran may not have the bank account of a tech executive, but he can shape inclusive practices across platforms and communities. And that is fortunate for us all.

What follows is a conversation with Sachin Pavithran about designing inclusive spaces online, in higher education, and beyond.

Sachin Pavithran heads the U.S. Access Board, tasked with developing standards that promote equality for people with disabilities.

In the past when discussing accessibility, the design solution was often something like including a ramp on a building. But the spaces we navigate today are increasingly online. What do inclusive environments include?

SP: There have been significant improvements to the design of the built environment because of what is required by law. However, there are guidelines on accessible building codes and then there is the usability aspect. When architects look at these, are they just looking at things that need to be done rather than the functionality of the environment? For instance, when building an auditorium, can a wheelchair user sit with their friends or in the front rather than the nosebleed section? Are you designing spaces in a way so that there is flexibility? When I go into a place like the Kennedy Center for a show, it's a whole different experience having someone sitting next to me whisper what is going on versus having a headphone and a professional describe it. Guidelines set the bare minimum you need, but you can't legislate good design. You can regulate standards, but the inclusive way of building something, the inclusive way of designing spaces, comes down to when architects, designers, or event planners really understand market needs for a community that often doesn't get thought about.

Inclusion is a word that seems to be popping up more and more. How do you define it?

SP: Let me give you an example. If I visit a place like the Vivint Smart Home Arena, the only way I can navigate it is by someone's assistance. An inclusive space would be that I get to the building, and I have access to information, whether by something like indoor wayfinding technology, that tells me the way to the ticket counter and to my seat. What if I want a drink or go to the restroom? An inclusive space is I don't even have to think about it when I get there. I don't have to worry if I am able to do this on my own.

Have you ever visited a place like that?

SP: No! But things are improving.

What does inclusion look like in online spaces?

SP: Because of COVID-19 we have been doing a lot in virtual

spaces over the last year. What are we doing to ensure that the tools we use make it feel inclusive? If I join a meeting or a conference, are the opportunities for interaction inclusive of someone who is blind? Can I participate in the same way that others will? Do not assume that American Sign Language is all you need for everyone who is hard of hearing. If you have ASL, are you making sure that the sign language interpreter is positioned so that people can see them? It's one thing to have an accessible tool, the implementation is a different thing.

It sounds like people with disabilities need to be in the room when design decisions are being made to build inclusion into plans from the beginning.

SP: One of the biggest problems that we face around this conversation is the work is often done without the input of the community impacted by it. No matter how much you read online, you don't have the lived experience of someone with a disability. It's critical to have someone with the disability at the table to provide input. Better yet, hire someone with a

No matter how much you read online, **you don't have the lived experience of someone with a disability.** It's critical to have someone with the disability at the table to provide input.

— Sachin Pavithran



During his decades of advocacy work, Sachin Pavithran has enjoyed meeting with politicians like the late Senator John McCain.

disability who has the background, the skillset, or the relationship with the community to guide the work. And speak up if you are in the room and notice who is absent. We need people without disabilities to be allies who can say, hey, we need someone on the team from the disability community. If you really mean to do something good, well, put the money where it counts.

Are there areas you are hopeful about?

SP: Transportation is often a big barrier for people with disabilities. Autonomous vehicles (AVs), if designed right, could be a significant breakthrough. That changes the landscape for people with disabilities on where they can live. Right now, I have to think about transportation options. The condo I am buying in Virginia, it is in a nice location near the Metro, but I would have preferred to live somewhere a little further away and have a house with a yard. AVs change the dialogue completely. And the way they are talking about the concept of AVs around rideshare and public transit increases the independence of people with disabilities to be able to live where they want and work where they want. It's hard to tell what the end result will be, but this is the most engaged people with disabilities have been at the design phase than other groundbreaking technologies.

Has COVID-19 shifted the virtual work landscape to a more level playing ground for people with disabilities?

SP: One of the challenges for people with disabilities in choosing jobs is where the job is located. Even if it's the perfect

opportunity across the country, a person with disabilities has to upend their local support system. Remote work enables them to do something and not give up everything they have. For many years we have advocated for the whole concept of telework and remote working and it was always denied or not even considered until COVID-19 hit. And then everyone is doing remote working, and guess what? Everyone is loving remote work. All of sudden it's this cool thing and people wondering why didn't we think of this before? Well, we've been advocating this for 30 years! We did a survey at the agency I'm running and found that 80 percent of my staff want to work remotely. They are being productive, they feel their mental health is better, they don't have to be stuck in traffic for an hour each way. Remote work is welcomed now and that changes what the possibilities are. That doesn't get rid of the stigma that employers have about people with disabilities, but it does limit it a little bit.

A quarter of American adults has a disability. Why have we continued to fail for so long in these areas?

SP: Because the generation of managers that have been making the decisions has a mindset of what a successful work environment looks like based on the mentality of the old assembly line—you're only productive if you are standing at the desk and I can see you staring at the monitor. You can be equally unproductive and fake it sitting at your desk. It's a mindset they have because back in the day a lot of the jobs were kind of that standing on the assembly line work. The concept got transferred into all these different workspaces where the hours have got to be 8 to 5 and there is no flexibility. Only when they were forced by COVID-19 to make a different choice were they able to see that remote work is possible.

Are there specific things you want to accomplish at the U.S. Access Board?

SP: We are what we call a standard-setting agency. I want us to be more proactive than just doing what we have been asked to do by statute. I am trying to push hard on our outreach and how visible we are. We are known in certain

communities like architects, but we are not well known in others, especially underserved communities. I recently did a presentation for the national tribal leaders who were completely unaware of our existence despite there being a lot of need there. My role is to get us at tables that we were not at before. Our agency has done a pretty good job at the built environment, but the digital divide still exists. Instead of talking just basic web accessibility, I want to see us go much further than website design.

Any last thoughts?

There is still dialogue that needs to happen in higher education on what inclusivity looks like in accessible instructional experience. It's not rocket science. It's making it a priority and making it happen. I think we have the resources and the knowledge and best practices out there. The higher ed com-

My role is to **get us at tables** that we were not at before.

— Sachin Pavithran

munity needs to take ownership of it. The higher ed community also has a way to go to make people with disabilities feel like they belong. Right now, the only association they generally have on college campuses is with the disability office. They are left out of a lot of the other activities that happen on a campus. How can that community feel more like they belong with the student body at large rather than something that they do in their small corner? **A**

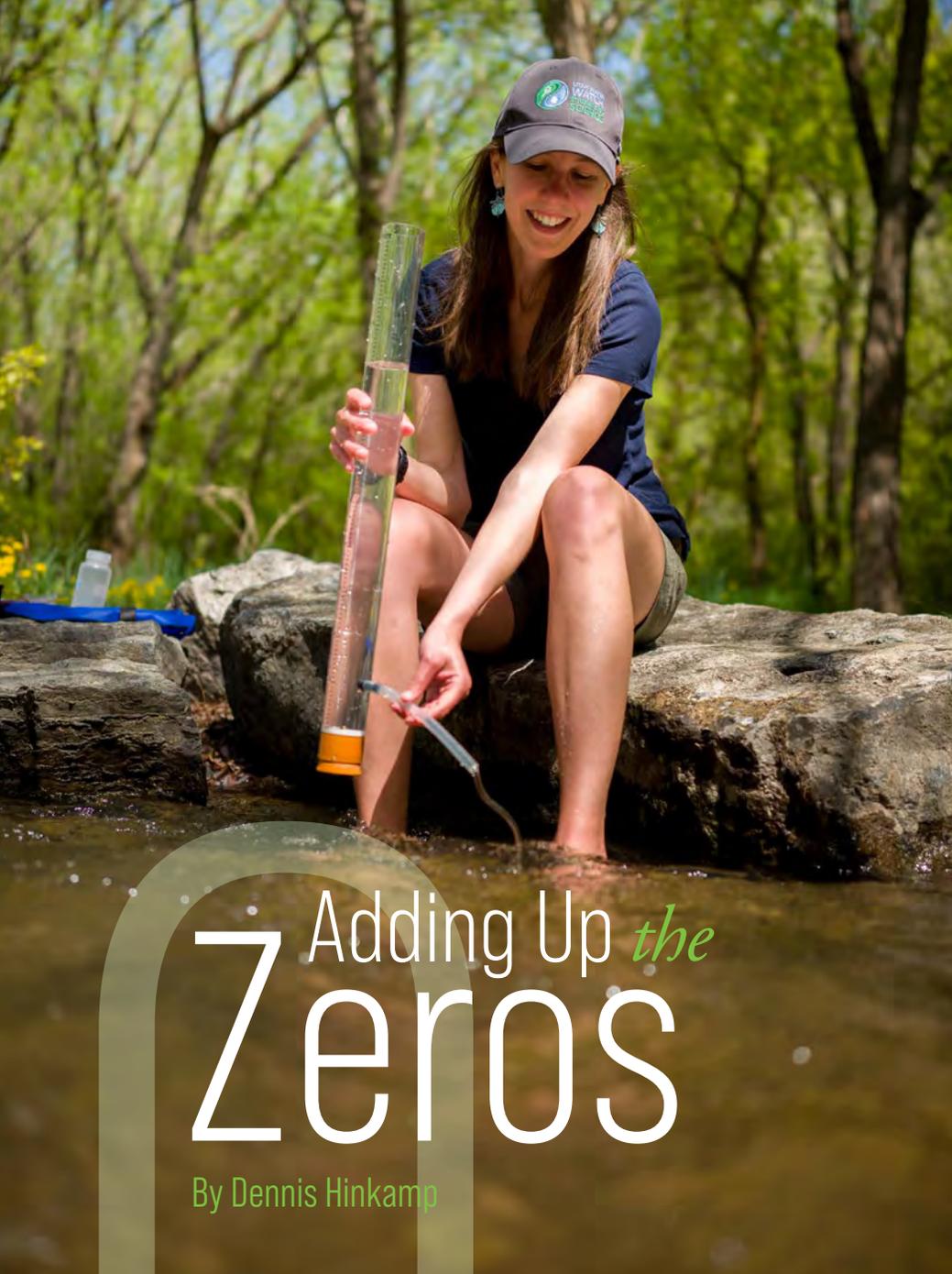
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Adding Up *the* Zeros

By Dennis Hinkamp

Zero is not nothing. Zero rain is bad while zero *E. coli* is good. If you record enough zeros they add up to a meaningful sum. It takes a whole village of citizen scientists nurturing numbers to do it.

There are hundreds of ways to become a citizen scientist. Browsing through websites such as CitSci.org, Zooniverse.org, or CitizenScientist.org you will be overwhelmed by the opportunities from finding extraterrestrial life to counting worms. But two of the more prominent programs at Utah State

University are CoCoRaHS and Water Watch. Both have components of the West's scarcest resource, water.

Though CoCoRaHS sounds like a tasty breakfast cereal, it is an awkwardly constructed acronym for Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network. While CoCoRaHS's main mission is to measure quantity of precipitation, Water Watch volunteers across the country measure the quality of that water.

The CoCoRaHS concept started in

Hope Braithwaite demonstrates how to measure water clarity using tools included in the kit Utah Water Watch volunteers are given to measure water's various characteristics.

Fort Collins, Colorado in 1997 after a highly localized thunderstorm dumped a foot of rainfall in 24 hours causing a flash flood that killed five people. Those lives potentially could have been saved if the weather service had a better picture of localized rainfall. You probably know from experience that the rain that fell at your house could be quite different than your neighbor three blocks away or at the airport far across town. A team of citizen scientists with backyard precipitation gauges, monitored daily, could solve this problem. Results logged into a database could quickly give climatologists a better predictive picture.

What CoCoRaHS does is increase the density of measurement to capture these localized events, Jon Meyer Ph.D. '17, climatologist in the department of Plants, Soils, and Climate and face of CoCoRaHS in Utah explains. In research terms, the "n," or sample size, increases making the results more accurate.

"The program is a conduit between measurements on the ground and emergency warning meteorologists," Meyer says. "There is also a whole downstream pool of interested data such as insurance adjusters, water management agencies, engineers, and even mosquito abatement companies which need to know where more or less rain has fallen on a community level. There are more sophisticated weather stations, but they are further apart. These citizen scientists are filling in the gaps."

We have some really dedicated observers who have been logging data for 13 or more years now totaling 5,000 observations for a single person, Meyer said. One of those is Ron Schroeder.

“I’ve always been interested in weather and actually have a master’s in climatology,” Schroeder says. “Right out of college I spent a year working in the high Arctic but over the years drifted into the computer industry.”

He now lives in the Salt Lake Valley and designs software for Android devices. When Schroeder says “high Arctic” he’s being modest. Specifically, it was at the furthest north permanently inhabited place in the world; the Canadian Forces Station on Ellesmere Island.

“Volunteering with CoCoRaHS keeps me attached to what I studied,” Schroeder says. “I get up, walk out to the gauge and take a 7 a.m. measurement almost every day. Most days it only takes a couple minutes because the measurement is zero. The snow days take more time because you have to carefully melt the snow and then pour it back into the rain gauge so you can report the amount of water, rather than the amount of snow.”

Usually by the afternoon you can see all the measurements represented by dots on the CoCoRaHS interactive map. Schroeder’s dot is in south Cottonwood Heights and it measured .03 inches of rain on the day we spoke.

The quality of that fallen water is constantly changing with temperature, precipitation, runoff, and human activity. Similar to precipitation gauges, monitoring lakes and streams can only give you a snapshot, but those snapshots can be woven into a meaningful collage of data. Water Watch, like CoCoRaHS, provides a larger “n.”

The citizen science program evolved from Lake Watch formed by Nancy Mesner in 2008, which measured only one variable, turbidity. Volunteers dropped a device called a “secchi disk” into lake water and measured how deep it went before you could no longer see it clearly. In 2012, with additional funding from the Utah Division of Water Quality, more measurements as well as more locations were added to the program.

We have 121 active volunteers, says program coordinator Hope Braithwaite. Most take along family, friends, or do it as a class project, which brings the total participant number to 726. Water Watch citizen scientists commit to monthly measurements April through October. All data is uploaded to Utah State University in addition to CitSci.org where it is publicly available.

Braithwaite juggles being a coach, recruiter, and trainer for the constantly changing pool of volunteers. Some age out of the program because they are no longer physically able to get out to the measurement sites. Others volunteer for a couple years to learn the science but then move onto other things.

Five-year volunteer Janet Hancock who got her degree in environmental photography started the doing measurements as a way to stay connected to science outside of her job as an administrative assistant. She monitors sites at Mantua, Porcupine, and Hyrum for the battery of tests Water Watch uses.

“It’s nice just to work outside and check the health of the water and look for changes over time,” Hancock says. “If I could do this as a career, I would, but for now it’s a way to separate myself from my desk job. It gets me out in nature with the dogs.”

Speaking of dogs, she says she feels more confident that she can spot harmful algae blooms in time to keep her dog safe since she started volunteering for Water Watch.

Amy Hotchberg made Water Watch a family project. “I wanted to get my kids involved in an outdoor volunteer activity,” she says. “Going out monthly to our monitoring location on Right Hand Fork was something we could do together. There was one day we were out and the water was cloudier from sediment. It appeared to be an impact that day from some ATVs upstream and it was interesting to see the impact they could have.”

Citizen science has been around since the beginning of time. The Christmas Bird Count is citizen science. There are myriad stories of citizens making scientific breakthroughs in their garage labs. Citizen science is flourishing now because we have tools to quickly connect people and aggregate data. Some call it crowd-sourcing. Others just call it fun. **A**

Jon Meyer stands inside a sophisticated liquid-cooled rain gauge equipped with wind-dampening technology. The rain gauge in his hands is a low-cost version used by volunteers to capture more data points around the state.



1940s

Florence P. Alvey '42, Feb. 27, UT
 Kenneth D. Bigler '48, Dec. 16, AZ
 Craig A. Clark '49, Mar. 7, UT
 Lt Col Gerald J. Dye '49, Jan. 19, UT
 Norma K. Gessel (Kunzler) '48, Jan. 16, UT
 Laurel M. Hafen '48, Jan. 10, IL
 Bruce K. Harris '49, Mar. 8, SD
 Alma H. Jewkes '42, '50MS, Mar. 30, UT
 Adrus Kimball (Hansen) '45, May 31, AZ
 Milton B. Larsen '49, Mar. 2, UT
 Alta Matlack (Johnson) '44, Dec. 26, CO
 Conway L. Maughan '49, Nov. 30, UT
 Ruth Murphy (Gilbert) '48, Jan. 19, UT
 Frederick Pack '43, Apr. 2, UT
 William Richard Pendleton '49, Nov. 23, WA
 Karna B. Petuskey (Broadbent) '49, Apr. 3, UT
 Cleone R. Price '49, Dec. 16, UT
 Kenneth S. Richardson '49, Jan. 6, UT
 John S. Welch '41, Feb. 13, UT

1950s

Myron S. Abbott '57, Feb. 15, UT
 Grant Ware Adams '59, Mar. 25, UT
 Eric W. Anderson '51, '65MS, Jan. 9, UT
 John W. Anderson '50, '51MS, Jan. 31, WA
 Lewis Paul Applegate '56, May 11, NM
 Jo Ann Arnold (Calderswood) '53, Dec. 9, UT
 Barbara S. Baer (Swensen) '52, '53MS,
 Dec. 22, UT
 Claire H. Bailey '50, Apr. 30, UT
 Jack P. Balling '57, Mar. 25, UT
 Joseph A. Barfuss '50, May 29, UT
 Doris D. Baugh (Halverson) '52, Jan. 13, UT
 D. Marcel Beckstead '56, Jan. 23, ID
 Ronald H. Bodily '58, Nov. 25, ID
 Lamar H. Bourne '58, '62MS, Apr. 8, UT
 Larry J. Bradley '58, Feb. 18, UT
 Darwin R. Brown '54, Feb. 3, ID
 John A. Brown '58, Apr. 26, UT
 James Burnett, Jr. '57, May 1, CO
 Donald F. Burt '54, Mar. 22, UT
 Ross E. Butler '59, Mar. 6, UT
 Joseph M. Callahan '53, Jan. 27, ID
 LuDean Campbell (Archibald) '50, Feb. 14, UT
 Royal T. Carver '53, '69MS, Mar. 6, UT
 Wesley D. Christensen '53, Apr. 20, ID
 Barbara J. Christenson (SKANKEY) '54,
 May 19, UT
 Melbern J. Clark '54, Jan. 24, CA
 Leslie C. Conkle '54, Dec. 15, WA
 Thomas D. Cottle '51, Dec. 7, OR
 Douglas O. Crookston '55, Mar. 7, UT
 Marilyn B. Dalton (Bladen) '58, May 14, AZ
 Sharon M. Elliott (Motensen) '59, Dec. 17, UT
 Kelly N. Farmer '58, '59MS, Feb. 12, UT
 Marr O. Fawcett '55, May 18, UT
 Richard L. Frailey '51, Mar. 18, WA
 David R. Gammon '51, May 4, WA
 Joseph F. Gardner '58, Feb. 11, UT
 Neil L. Garfield '58, Nov. 25, UT
 Kenneth A. Glauser '54, Dec. 16, UT
 Kay G. Glenn '50, Dec. 1, UT
 Gerald T. Godfrey '57, May 4, UT
 Ririe M. Godfrey '59, Jan. 19, ID
 Delores Harris (Hug) '52, Mar. 15, UT
 Alan R. Harter '58, Dec. 12, NV
 Joan Haskins (Horsley) '53, Nov. 21, UT
 Richard A. Heckmann '54, '58MS, Mar. 21, UT
 James L. Hendrickson '54, '60MS, Dec. 3, UT
 Clark Hugh Hirschi '56, '70MED, Jan. 17, UT
 James C. Hoffman '55, Jan. 3, CA
 Marilyn M. Holbrook '50, Mar. 28, UT
 Terry D. Hopson '59, Jan. 12, UT
 Annette S. Howard (Shoup) '59, Mar. 19, UT
 George G. Howell '53, Dec. 24, UT
 Fred Irany '50, '52MS, Apr. 24, CA
 Blaine P. Jensen '58, Nov. 27, UT
 Franklin R. Jensen '56, Nov. 20, UT
 Kim O. Johnson '53, Dec. 15, ID
 Dale A. Jones '50, Jan. 29, UT
 Jack Van Kyselka '58, Jan. 18, AZ
 Lamont Lamb '54, May 23, UT
 Clifton N. Laney '50, '60MS, May 4, UT
 Georgia C. Lauritzen (Christensen) '58, '63MS,
 '82PHD, Mar. 5, FL
 Daniel E. Layton '52, Feb. 11, UT
 Carolyn M. Lee (McFarland) '57, Mar. 14, UT
 Peter J. Lenotti '59, Jan. 12, NY
 Donald G. Lochhead '56, '63MS, May 2, UT
 Palma D. Madsen (Lundahl) '54, Jan. 22, CA
 Louis L. Marsden '51, Dec. 11, ID
 William G. McFarland '57, Feb. 15, UT
 Loreen Miller (Johnson) '57, Dec. 19, NJ
 Lt Col Richard W. Montgomery '54, Dec. 29, CA
 Joyce Morehead (Underwood) '59, Apr. 27, UT
 Clyde L. Motes '58, Feb. 6, ID
 Sherman L. Nay '50, Jan. 30, UT
 James W. Neff '51, Nov. 20, UT
 Carroll C. Nichols '51, Jan. 17, UT
 Florin R. Nielsen '56, Nov. 29, ID
 Edna Nielson (Ruesch) '54, May 3

Gilbert C. Olsen '50, '67MBA, Mar. 13, UT
 Gordon W. Olsen '57, Jan. 18, UT
 Reed A. Olsen '59, '70MS, May 3, UT
 Duane Orullian '59, Jan. 17, UT
 Ned Owens '55, Dec. 16, UT
 Richard J. Page '58, '60MS, Dec. 23, UT
 Lane R. Pendleton '56, May 31, CA
 Elaine Perkins (Cummings) '53, Jan. 1, UT
 Floyd W. Peterson '52, '57MS, Apr. 23, UT
 Ramond Peterson '55, Dec. 9, VA
 Lt Col Clyde W. Picht '56, Jan. 1, TX
 Noreen Pincock (Furness) '59, Dec. 5, ID
 Henry Rachele '51, Apr. 15, NM
 Leland Riggs '59, Feb. 28, UT
 Arthur L. Rivers '58, '59MS, '75MED,
 Apr. 13, UT
 Glade W. Roberts '52, Feb. 17, WA
 Gilbert Boyd Robinson '55, Jan. 29, UT
 Stephen A. Scott '58, Jan. 27, AZ
 Royce W. Searle '57, '71MBA, Dec. 15, UT
 La Wanna M. Shurdliff (Miles) '57, Dec. 30, UT
 Calvin D. Smedley '51, Jan. 7, ID
 Allen R. Smith '56, Jan. 3, CO
 Ralph E. Spraker '55, Dec. 30, CO
 Sharman Richard Stevenson '51, Mar. 23, UT
 Grant R. Talbot '58, May 7, UT
 Bob J. Taylor '58MS, May 7, AZ
 Keith E. Taylor '51MS, May 16, UT
 John D. Themar '50, Mar. 23, AZ
 Myron W. Thompson '56, Dec. 31, UT
 Dwight C. Warburton '54, Mar. 21, UT
 Leone White (Barker) '53, Mar. 16, UT
 Betty L. Wilson '58, Dec. 14, UT
 Billy H. Wingfield '51MS, May 1, VA
 Roy L. Wise '57, Mar. 21, ID
 Clair D. Woodward '52, '54MS, Apr. 5, IN
 Gar William Workman '57, '59MS, Apr. 30, UT
 Jack F. Young '51, Nov. 24, UT
 Val Frederick Zahler '51, Apr. 1, UT

1960s

Douglas M. Abrams '67, Jan. 17, UT
 Winston G. Allred '65, Mar. 1, WY
 Kent Kay Anderson '60, Mar. 13, NV
 David K. Austin '68, Mar. 12, UT
 Donald L. Babinchak '69, '71MA, Feb. 9, UT
 William J. Baden '66, Apr. 11, ID
 Patricia L. Baker (McDonald) '66, Jan. 21, CA
 Don W. Balls '66, Dec. 27, MI
 Betty M. Barton (Barton) '66, Jan. 24, UT
 John C. Bentley '63, Nov. 25, UT
 Sharon N. Bevan '65, Mar. 12
 Bob Bitter '61, Mar. 24, UT
 Arthur A. Boe '62, '67PHD, May 24, MN
 Nesa A. Booth (Hendrickson) '61, Apr. 19, NV
 Bill D. Bowman '61, Nov. 18, ID
 Harvey W. Boyce '66, Dec. 11, NV
 David W. Brest, Jr. '69, Dec. 21, OH
 John Charles Buiet '66, '70MBA, Apr. 30, UT
 Lanny John Butters '69, May 20, UT
 Joe Caldwell '60, Nov. 22, UT
 Reid Carl Carlson '68, Dec. 10, ID
 Kay Christensen (Walker) '63, Apr. 21, UT
 Kent H. Christiansen '64, Nov. 19, UT
 David E. Clark '68, Apr. 4, ID
 Delano E. Claymore '66, Feb. 8, SD
 Jeanette Taylor Cooper '61, Feb. 22, ID
 John A. Cox '65, Dec. 13, TN
 Ward D. Curtis '67, Feb. 17, UT
 Delbert C. Dabb '66, '70MS, Mar. 13, UT
 Malin Mark Davis '67, Feb. 14, UT
 Russell W. Dean '65, '71MS, Mar. 15, UT
 Joseph Yung-sh Do '64MS, '69PHD, Feb. 15, UT
 Larry Edwards '61, Mar. 3, UT
 Marva Winget Esplin '64, Nov. 25, UT
 Paul Evans '62, '70MED, May 22, UT
 Karlene H. Facer '64, Dec. 16, UT
 Mark L. Forbes '63, Feb. 10, NC
 Peggy Francis (Pulsipher) '63, Dec. 19, UT
 Gene Jensen Garfield '62, '65MS, Feb. 2, KY
 Larry E. Gass '62, Apr. 19, UT
 Kathryn Green (Kay) '62, Jan. 23, UT
 John Garth Hacking '61, '71MS, Mar. 14, UT
 Shaler Halimon, Jr. '68, Apr. 20, WA
 Lynda Hansen '63, '80MED, Jun. 2, NV
 Ruth E. Harding (Evanson) '68, Jan. 19, IL
 Wendell G. Hardman '62, Dec. 2, UT
 Robert L. Harris '66, May 16, ID
 Vance August Hedin '65, Feb. 12, NM
 David W. Hendricks '60MS, Apr. 13, CO
 Mary Jane Heninger (Mecham) '64MS, Feb. 14, UT
 Robert J. Hildebrand '63, Nov. 18, WA
 Frank R. Hill '60, Feb. 15, UT
 Harold H. Hiskey '60MS, '72PHD, Mar. 15, UT
 Clair L. Huff '60, Dec. 14, UT
 Sharyn W. Humphreys (Wood) '69, Dec. 12, UT
 Frank L. Hunsaker '66, Jan. 20, UT
 Worthen N. Hunsaker '61, Mar. 31, MI
 Dan H. Hunter '60, Apr. 10, UT
 Robyn Eileen Daines (Whitehead) '70, May 22, UT
 Leon A. Hyde '63, Feb. 3, UT

Karl D. Jenkins '60, Apr. 15, TX
 Donald J. Jeppesen, Jr. '65, '77MS, Mar. 1, UT
 Marvin K. Jeppesen '69, Nov. 26, UT
 Kay L. Johnson '62, Dec. 3, ID
 Perry J. Johnson '66, May 12, ID
 Barry Duane Jordan '69MBA, Dec. 20, UT
 Jeanne L. Kesler (Larsen) '68, Apr. 2, UT
 George C. Kimball '61, '70MED, Apr. 16, ID
 Ronald L. King '69, Jan. 20, UT
 Elmer J. Kingsford '67, Jan. 22, UT
 Michael J. Kirkham '64, Jan. 24, CO
 John J. Kunzler '63, Jan. 27, UT
 Delbert G. Larsen '62, '64MS, Dec. 23, ID
 DeWayne Lee '67, Apr. 16, ID
 Constance E. Leggett (Edward) '62, May 31, UT
 Glen H. Lemon '64, Nov. 21, TX
 Leo D. Leonard '67MS, '70EDD, Jan. 4, WA
 Norman Lloyd '68, Feb. 8, UT
 Robert A. Lockwood '65, Jan. 10, GA
 William R. Loftus '67, Dec. 7, UT
 Glen Reed Longhurst '68, '70MS, May 12, UT
 Steven S. MacArthur '66, Jan. 28, AL
 Bert Ramsay Madsen '63, Mar. 30, UT
 Delon H. Madsen '69, '78MED, Dec. 14, UT
 Cherrill O. Marx '69, Mar. 30, UT
 Martha M. McDaniel '66, May 7, UT
 William V. McKinley '69, Dec. 10, OR
 Brent McKinnon '67, Nov. 18, UT
 Jay Albert Monson '68EDD, '86EDS, Feb. 24, UT
 David E. Nickel '65, Dec. 22, ID
 Janet M. Nowell '60, Feb. 16, UT
 David G. Osman '69, Apr. 9, OR
 James A. Pendray '66, Nov. 21, UT
 Jesse Ferdinand Petersen, Jr. '60, '88MED,
 Mar. 24, UT
 Glenn C. Peterson '69MS, Mar. 5, UT
 Roy A. Poole, Jr. '68, Dec. 24, CO
 Donald R. Rasmussen '65, Nov. 26, UT
 Brent Redd '67, Feb. 27, ID
 Antone I. Reeder '65, May 18, NV
 Lynne R. Remund '61, Mar. 30, UT
 Odell W. Rice '61, Dec. 19, ID
 Naomi Riding (Meservy) '60, May 8, UT
 Lois E. Rigby (Erickson) '69, Feb. 20, UT
 Sonia Petersen Ririe '69, '78MS, May 23, UT
 Dixie L. Robbins (Hansen) '61, Feb. 21, UT
 Brent Leroy Rock '65, '72MS, '73EDD, Dec. 3, AK
 Samuel Ross Rowley '65, Feb. 7, UT
 Nancy G. Safsten (Gardner) '65, Dec. 16, UT
 Glenn E. Selander '64MA, Jan. 5, ID
 Sharlene A. Smith (Waite) '62, May 11, UT
 Don Sorensen '60, Jan. 27, UT
 John F. Squires '61, Apr. 5, AZ
 Lt Col Walter H. Squires '66, Dec. 28, UT
 Gordon R. Staker '60, May 18, UT
 Allan J. Steed '63, '65MS, '78PHD, Mar. 5, UT
 Leonard W. Steggell '67, May 3, OR
 Linda W. Strong (Ward) '61, Dec. 25, UT
 Sheldon Summers '69, Jan. 20, UT
 Deryl J. Sweat '65, Jan. 1, WY
 Sally I. Taggart (Rieske) '67, '00MED, Feb. 23, UT
 William Vannoy Taylor '67, Nov. 28, UT
 Janis T. Thatcher '69, Mar. 31, UT
 Sidney Thatcher '67, Jan. 23, UT
 Jan P. Thomas '68, Apr. 8, UT
 Brent M. Thueson '67, Dec. 9, UT
 Lt Col Scott B. Tolman '69, May 25, WA
 Linda S. Turner (Smith) '68, Apr. 2, UT
 Ida G. Twichell (Hansen) '63, Mar. 7, UT
 Bea VandeMerwe '68, Jan. 26, UT
 James F. Voelzer '63, Jan. 3, WA
 Cheng W. Wang '66MS, Nov. 21, WA
 Kenneth M. Ward '62, Dec. 6, UT
 Jeffrey W. Watkins '67, '99MS, Jan. 2, UT
 Paul Watson '65, Feb. 10, UT
 James D. Whitaker '69, Mar. 2, UT
 Robert L. Whitaker '67, Feb. 8, UT
 Arthur R. Whittaker '62, May 26, UT
 Paul Squire Winder '62, Feb. 21, UT
 Melvin Jack Wright '63, Dec. 15, UT
 Hiroshi Yamashita '61, Jan. 3, UT

1970s

Patricia Albers (Koike) '73, Aug. 4, UT
 Lt Col Craig G. Anderson '71, Feb. 22, UT
 Marvin Ash '71, May 10, UT
 Janeen J. Ballif '74, Feb. 1, ID
 Hunter W. Barrus '71, Apr. 17, UT
 D. Chris Bean '71, Dec. 22, UT
 Dale Bennett '77, Jan. 17, UT
 Lynn Cooper Brenchley '71, Dec. 15, UT
 Gary A. Campbell '70, May 24, KY
 Karlin J. Canfield '77MS, Feb. 25, UT
 Reddelings-Odd Carol (Reddelings) '72, Dec. 29, UT
 Russell Earl Covert '78, Jan. 23, UT
 Lavene Cox (Gilgen) '71, Mar. 7, ID
 Sue C. Crafs '72, Dec. 21, ID
 Wiley E. Cragun '72, '79, Jan. 16, TX
 William Aaron Crane '72, Jan. 25, UT
 Robyn Eileen Daines (Whitehead) '70, May 22, UT
 Dana L. Dorsey (Neibaur) '71, Feb. 10, ID

James L. Downing '73, Jan. 26, UT
 Kenneth Luther Estep '73, Jan. 29, ID
 Donald N. Evans '71, May 4, AZ
 Kevan Cliff Eyles '77, May 6, UT
 Dennis A. Gire '71, Jan. 17, IN
 Brenda Joy Harper '78, '81, Jan. 27, UT
 John L. Hatch '73, Dec. 1, ID
 Edwin B. Hobbs '70, Feb. 3, UT
 Gloria Jean Hoopes '74, Feb. 3, ID
 Margaret L. Hopkin '73, Dec. 20, UT
 Dale T. Hougaard '71, Dec. 31, UT
 Owen G. Hunsaker '76, Apr. 5, UT
 Douglas W. Jensen '74, '94MBA, Apr. 7, TX
 William L. Jorgensen '71MED, Apr. 17, UT
 O. Ray Knutson '73MMA, Apr. 12, UT
 Ronald F. Kocher '70, Jan. 30, SC
 Norman A. LaBarge '76, May 22, UT
 Keith A. Lamoreaux '74, '76, Dec. 18, WY
 Vonda R. Lauritzen '71, '75MS, Dec. 21, UT
 Raymond C. Leatham '72, Jan. 21, OR
 Bruce Marchant '70MED, Dec. 13, UT
 Scott Stewart McKendrick '73, '76MS,
 May 15, UT
 Jerry L. Miller '71, May 6, UT
 Zebbie Howard Miller '73, Mar. 15, ID
 Fred S. Miyasaki '71, Jan. 1, ID
 Judith D. Mower (Daines) '71, Jan. 8, NV
 Don L. Naser '71, Jan. 5, UT
 Doris Winegar Neff (Winegar) '71, May 25, ID
 Emery G. Nelson '76, Jan. 28, UT
 Don L. Okerlund '70, May 28, UT
 Cordell Olson '71, Mar. 25, ID
 Alan Jay Parker '73, Dec. 2, UT
 Wayne Parkinson '76, Jan. 13, UT
 JoEllen Parrish (Bayer) '76, Mar. 18, UT
 Mardell C. Parrish '70, Apr. 20, UT
 Ron Pedersen '74, May 2, UT
 Karen Lee Peters (Jacobs) '72, '84MS,
 Mar. 26, UT
 Carol Hopkins Petersen '70, Jan. 19, UT
 LaRey Peterson (Bosley) '71, Dec. 16, UT
 Ann Marie Peterson-Saslaw '74, '76MS,
 Nov. 28, CA
 Mitchel M. Roland '75PHD, Mar. 4, UT
 Sylvester L. Rubick '73MMA, Jan. 4, MI
 Frederick E. Schiller '73, Mar. 5, UT
 Dely J. Spencer '70MS, Jan. 16, UT
 Earl P. Spencer '73MS, Feb. 22, UT
 Ted Richard Steinhorst, Jr. '77, '91MS, Dec. 2, UT
 James G. Straka '78PHD, Nov. 20, MN
 Steven D. Thomas '70, Feb. 22, UT
 Earl R. Thomsen '71, '78MS, Feb. 26, UT
 John Elias Ulbarri '74MS, Dec. 12, UT
 Maribelle B. Wareham (Brown) '71, Feb. 27, UT
 Don Lee Weedon '73MS, Dec. 8, OR
 Dallas L. Wheat '73MMA, Mar. 4, KY
 Edward R. Williams '76, May 2, UT
 John P. Zielke '73, Feb. 3, UT

1980s

James Alan Christy '81MS, Apr. 28, MN
 Desiree Cooper '81, '88MS, Feb. 28, UT
 Kevin Andrew Cottle '85, '90MS, May 20, UT
 James J. Currin '83, Dec. 29, VT
 Jean E. Dewey (Krause) '80MS, Feb. 5, UT
 Craig W. Donaldson '87, Dec. 31, UT
 David Draper '82, Mar. 13, UT
 Philip W. Hartvigsen '87, Mar. 27, UT
 Harry E. Hutchins '82MS, Mar. 9, MN
 Beth A. Kadlec '83, Dec. 13, UT
 Edward G. Kieley '86, Mar. 28, UT
 Lamar Kunzler '81, Feb. 22, UT
 Steve J. Leiser '86, Dec. 23, AZ
 Vivian H. Little (Haynes) '89MSS, Mar. 9, UT
 Elizabeth E. Loveridge '88, Feb. 4, UT
 Joyce Martin Lund '89, Jan. 21, ID
 Timothy C. Monsell '82MED, '04MRC,
 Jan. 15, WY
 Scott Eric Moore '83, May 14, UT
 Richard G. Morehouse '85, '86MBA, May 22, UT
 Robert Edmund Noonan '84, Jan. 10, DE
 Gerald B. Pidcock '87, Apr. 23, UT
 Susan Porter (Hill) '82, Feb. 27, UT
 Randall Rhead '83, Apr. 10, ID
 Mark R. Romney '87, May 27, WA
 Earl Stewart Shaver '85MED, May 6, UT
 Joyce M. Slack '82MED, Feb. 3, UT
 Matt Albert Thalman '80, Feb. 27, UT
 Ann L. Vlotman (Wilson) '84EDD, Dec. 2,
 Dixie Young '88MED, Dec. 22, UT

1990s

Alta D. Anderson '90, Nov. 26, UT
 Rosilene Swenson Capell '92MED, Jan. 12, UT
 Brent R. Carling '93MBA, Feb. 13, UT
 Diana L. Christensen '94MS, Jan. 20, ID
 Michael Lynn Christopherson '92, '93MAC,
 Apr. 2, NY
 Daniel C. Cummings '96, Dec. 26, UT
 Coleen B. Darger '91MED, Mar. 8, AZ

Richard A. Fuit '95MBA, Dec. 13, UT
Utahna Hoffman '95, Jan. 15, UT
John G. Huff '97, Jan. 6, UT
Troy D. Hunter '94, May 6, UT
William E. Johnson '90MED, Jan. 8, UT
Ronald Mark Martin '90MS, Jan. 6, UT
Catherine G. Morris (Graham) '90, May 24, WA
Deanna Muffer '94, Jan. 11, UT
Marsha Phillips Olean '97, Mar. 8, UT
Ann Ottesson '95, '00MRC, May 17, UT
Glynn Rae Scholle (Christensen) '91, May 15, UT
Tracy M. Schwab '93, Mar. 19, MD
Neil A. Simmons '95, Dec. 14, UT
Donald L. Smith '92MA, Mar. 31, UT
James Stocks '95MED, '07EDS, Feb. 26, UT
Brent VanWagenen '96MS, Jan. 14, UT
Carol J. Wilde '96MED, Dec. 16, UT
Karen E. Wise '96, Feb. 28, UT
Dale Richard Zobell '97PHD, Feb. 4, ID

2000s

Benjamin J. Bailey '02, Apr. 24, UT
Daniel B. Bostock '07, Jan. 10, UT
Robert B. Chatterton '04, May 18, OK
Chad Walter Harmon '07, Mar. 5, UT
Ann Henderson '00MS, Mar. 9, UT
Laurel Brigitte Howard '08EDD, Dec. 12, UT
John Huerta, Jr. '01, Mar. 11, UT
Neal Jorgensen '01, Mar. 1, WA
Joan J. Lancaster (Jensen) '05, Mar. 28, UT
Chari M. Moore '03, '04MED, Jun. 2, UT
Clark Norman Ricks '00MBA, Jan. 7, ID
Nick J. Ridd '02, '03MBA, Dec. 12, UT
Kenneth L. Wilson '00, '01, Jan. 23, UT
Kimberly D. Wong '08MED, Dec. 26, UT

2010s

Jason Rex Averett '15, Jul. 22, UT
Laura Louise Glissmeyer (Blackner) '11,
May 25, UT
Tony T. Jensen '14, May 1, UT
Zachary W. Jensen '11, Feb. 14, UT
Jed Kofford '19, Mar. 7, UT
Victoria L. Smeltzer '10MRC, Jan. 19, UT
Ryan Kenneth Stuart '11, Feb. 27, UT

2010s

Cody Mark Stromberg '18MHR, Dec. 5, UT

ATTENDERS

Anita Joy Aho May 13, CO
Dixon L. Allen Apr. 15, UT
Melvin B. Andersen Dec. 13, UT
Betty Lorraine Anderson Feb. 9
DeLoy R. Anderson Dec. 6, UT
Hal A. Anderson Nov. 28, UT
John Anselmo Mar. 8, UT
Max J. Aragon Feb. 25, UT
Bonnie Aramaki Jan. 26, UT
Clyde Sterling Ashcroft Mar. 18, NM
Billy Mac Atwood Apr. 28, UT
George Hinkley Badger Jan. 12, UT
Allen M. Baird Jan. 7, UT
Linda M. Banks Mar. 29, UT
Clyde Arthur Barney Apr. 17, AZ
Dixie LaRue Beck (West) Mar. 27, UT
Emma Ann Bigelow Feb. 12, UT
Shannon Colleen Billings Jan. 12, AK
Terah L. Billings Feb. 1, NV
Ivan Farley Bingham Apr. 28, UT
Louanna J. Birch Jan. 28, UT
Marion Rex Birch Dec. 15, UT
VanNoy Gray Bishop Feb. 8, ID
Kenneth L. Black Apr. 9, UT
Stephen Jared Boehme Apr. 16, UT
Rod K. Boren Apr. 28, UT
Walt Boria Dec. 1, UT
Sarah M. Bowles (Wilson) Jan. 20, ID
Jesse Lue Bradley May 23, UT
Robert R. Branch Dec. 20, UT
Carolyn Brunson Dec. 24, UT
Leslie Lamont Burbank May 16
Gary L. Burningham Mar. 28, UT
Doris Jane Burton Jun. 1, IN
Lynn M. Burton (Merrill) Apr. 6, UT
Stacy Alyne Burton (Price) Feb. 11, UT
Troy Butler Jan. 10, UT
Ferl B. Call (Barker) Dec. 9, UT
Mary Lou Call (Holman) May 22, UT
Stanley R. Campbell May 5, ID
David E. Carnahan Mar. 9, UT
Bryson Carpenter Feb. 7, UT
Richard Allan Carpenter Mar. 12, FL
Jim T. Carroll Dec. 8, UT
Marlowe Steele Carroll Dec. 27, UT
Joann Carter May 9, UT
Barbara P. Cartwright (Peacock) Jan. 25, UT
Marilyn Chambers (Campbell) Nov. 20
William Elijah Chaplin Nov. 30, UT
Jerry Chavez Jan. 21, UT
Elise Checketts May 26, UT
Carolyn Christensen (Cahoon) Feb. 22, CA

Charles M. Christensen Dec. 9, NV
Grant F. Christensen Jan. 24, UT
Joe J. Christensen May 18, UT
Lynn V. Christensen Jan. 5, UT
Connie S. Clement (Jensen) Jan. 25, UT
William E. Colby Dec. 31, UT
Roy L. Compton Dec. 18, WA
Shirley Condie (Palmer) Nov. 28
Clyde Conley Apr. 4, UT
Jim Conover Apr. 20, UT
Devin Brent Criddle May 29, UT
Shannon Crist (Fisher) Feb. 14, UT
Daniel James Crockett Jan. 22, UT
Lila Mae Crowther Feb. 6, ID
Janel Lyn Curtis Jan. 31, UT
Krista L. Cutler Feb. 11, AK
Dot Dahn (Dixon) Jan. 29, UT
Nathaniel Dan Jan. 7, UT
Gary Davidson Apr. 4, UT
Charles Franklin Davis Apr. 9, UT
Raymond S. Davis Mar. 19, UT
Carmel J. Decaro Nov. 25, UT
Alice M. Dester (McMurrin) Dec. 25, UT
Jacob Matthew Dodson Apr. 9, UT
Gwen Donaldson Apr. 7, UT
Marianne Draper (Thomas) Jan. 12, NV
Jackie M. Dunn (Misener) May 2, UT
Becky Earl (Rasmussen) Apr. 20, UT
Iona T. Ekker Jan. 9, UT
John T. Elder Dec. 9, UT
Glen H. Eldredge Mar. 27, UT
Jeryllyn M. Erichson May 16, UT
Branden James Evans Feb. 18, ID
Dale William Evans Dec. 6, ID
Roger Alan Fair Jan. 19, OR
Danule W. Feichko Jan. 11, UT
Frank Felice Feb. 2, UT
Brian Cody Fielder Apr. 22, UT
Ronald A. Fossat Feb. 15, UT
Floyd B. Fowers Dec. 30, UT
Balynda Fowles Mar. 11, UT
Hugh Willis Frame Jan. 17
Clem C. Fullmer Nov. 22
Clem C. Fullmer Nov. 22, UT
Vikki Hall Garcia Jan. 17, UT
Aerial Gardner Feb. 10, CA
Kevin Dale Gardner Jan. 28, NC
Rex Gardner Mar. 10, UT
Winona C. Gardner (Capener) May 20, UT
Gerry Harley Gam Apr. 3, UT
Myron Giles, Jr. Dec. 12, UT
Ned Allen Gines Apr. 2, ID
Josh B. Glass Apr. 1, UT
Manuel J. Gonzales Jan. 9, UT
Clyde A. Grames Jan. 15, UT
Kathryn Kay Green Jan. 23, UT
Helen Greene Dec. 17, ID
Ronni Rae Grimlie (Hullinger) Nov. 25, UT
Daniel Walter Guy Mar. 3, UT
Bernice Merrill Haderlie Mar. 3, UT
Mary Jane Hafen (Rich) Feb. 12, UT
Elgie J. Hale Jan. 18, UT
Marie P. Haney (Packer) Apr. 29, UT
Cherie Darlene Hansen (Whitaker) Jun. 3, UT
Douglas H. Hansen Dec. 23, UT
Lydia Jean Hansen Jan. 10, UT
Martha S. Hansen Mar. 1, UT
Ralph H. Hansen Dec. 21, UT
Laurel Hargrove (Robertson) Mar. 19, CA
LaRae Harper (Koziar) Dec. 13, UT
Stephanie Diane Harris (Swenson) Nov. 24, UT
Philip Alan Harrison Jan. 28, UT
Arica Harwood Jan. 26, UT
Matthew E. Haslam Mar. 25, UT
Glen B. Hatch May 30, UT
Steven Jay Hawkes May 13, UT
Max L. Haws Dec. 7, UT
Donna Ellen Hayes Dec. 5, UT
Marion W. Heaps Jan. 30, UT
Angela Heaton (Winter) May 14, UT
LeRoy Heaton Dec. 5, UT
Alice Smith Hegstead (Smith) Feb. 7
Troy R. Heiner Nov. 20, UT
Rex L. Hendricks Mar. 24, UT
Clinton D. Henrie May 28, UT
Lynn Hicken Jan. 29, UT
Robert D. Hill Apr. 25, ME
James Hindley May 25
Michael J. Hoellein May 18, UT
Neil E. Hoesel Feb. 22, UT
Peggy A. Hoffman (Smith) Jan. 27, UT
Joan Holder (Summers) Jan. 4, UT
Chris Brian Holderness Dec. 25, UT
Joan Hooton Nov. 30, UT
Clarence Griffin Hoskin Apr. 11, UT
Mary E. Huerta May 23, UT
Scott B. Izatt Apr. 11, UT
Gail Barton Jackson Mar. 12, UT
Rebecca Jackson Dec. 29, UT
Macla Jacobsen Mar. 12, UT
Cecil B. Jacobson Mar. 5, UT
Wilford L. James Mar. 7, UT
Richard H. Jardine Dec. 19, UT
Elaine Y. Jarrett Jan. 13, UT
Euitona Veloy Jarvie Dec. 20, WY
Jackie A. Jenkins (Weiler) Dec. 31, TX

Jennifer Z. Jensen (Zaugg) Mar. 20, NV
Michael Anthon Jensen Nov. 26, UT
Mary Anna Jeppson (Marcusen) Nov. 29, UT
Peter Moroni Johansen Apr. 20, UT
Elizabeth Ann Johanson Apr. 3, FL
Patti B. Johanson (Buehler) Mar. 29, UT
Steven H. John May 11, UT
Robert Carlyle Johnson May 27
Susan Johnson Jan. 6, ID
Wendell D. Johnson Apr. 29, UT
Carlynn Jones Feb. 2, WA
Clay Jones Feb. 22, ID
Hans Philip Jorgensen May 28, UT
Melvin Keele Feb. 27
JoAnn Kempton (Alleman) Apr. 19, ID
Lucile W. Kerr Feb. 8, UT
Frances Ellen Kinsinger Dec. 1, UT
Karen Knudsen Jan. 30, UT
Herbert Lee Kutkas Dec. 5, UT
Derek Sparks Lafferty Dec. 18, UT
Calvert T. Larsen Jan. 24, UT
Joy Larsen Nov. 29, UT
Marilyn C. Larsen (Christensen) May 4, UT
Nancy Lauritzen Dec. 16, MI
Charlene Lee Feb. 25, UT
Orval Leonard Mar. 18, ID
Raymond H. Leonhardt Apr. 18, UT
Coye N. Liecht May 10, UT
Jamison John Liljenquist Mar. 25, UT
Rick Souter Lindsey May 30, UT
Anna May Little Mar. 2, UT
Don LITTLE Mar. 25, UT
Mark Luce Feb. 12, AE
Robert Dale Lund Jan. 13, UT
Ann MacDonald (Dart) Mar. 4, UT
Jerry Stewart Malm Dec. 19, UT
Joseph T. Mason Feb. 4, UT
Terry M. Matthews Jan. 17, UT
Emilee Maughan Feb. 24, ID
Krystal McGuinness May 12, UT
Edith McKinney Apr. 24, UT
William L. McKnight Mar. 9, UT
Kirk Joseph Mecham Jan. 9, UT
Thomas M. Melo Dec. 14, UT
Paula W. Milano Apr. 28, UT
Job Jones Miller Feb. 26, UT
Richard B. Mills Mar. 16, UT
Lois Marie Mitton May 28
Paul R. Monsen Mar. 3, UT
Thomas Dale Montgomery Dec. 17, CO
Tommy Montoya Feb. 19, NM
Grant C. Moon Apr. 3, UT
Aubrey Kay Myler May 11, UT
Chris T. Nakai Mar. 2, UT
Pamela A. Nakamoto (Mosier) Apr. 26, CA
Virgil Natani May 27
Patricia Ann Negley Mar. 13, UT
Elaine D. Nelson (Duke) Nov. 18, UT
Kathleen Nelson May 18, UT
Josephine Newman Mar. 9, UT
William H. Nichols Feb. 21, UT
Aldeen S. Nielsen Feb. 7, UT
Donna Lorena Nielson (Smith) May 4, ID
Glynn A. Nielson Mar. 7, ID
Jerry Lynne Nielson (Christopherson) Jan. 1, CA
Alexander Lee Nimer Jan. 20, UT
Susan Jeanette O'Connor (Ohrn) Dec. 18, UT
Wally Ogden Mar. 5, ID
Rulon Hal Oliekan May 23, UT
Harold Lee Oliver Mar. 6, CO
Lorena Ann Oliver (Redden) May 9, UT
Larry D. Orme Apr. 27, ID
Paul Evan Ovesson Dec. 17
Barbara Pace Feb. 5, UT
Tommy R. Pacheco Nov. 18, UT
Larry D. Palmer Jan. 26, UT
Steve Pappas Mar. 19, UT
J. Lynn Partridge Feb. 22, UT
Karen L. Payne (Lee) Mar. 11, ID
Mary Ann Pecuh May 9, UT
Bennett J. Pella Feb. 14, UT
Carol Holmgren Penovich Mar. 8, CA
Gerald Perkins Dec. 27, UT
Donna P. Peterson (Prows) Dec. 23, UT
Paul Peterson Jan. 21, UT
Ron Peterson Nov. 20, UT
Dianne B. Pett (Bowen) Jan. 7, UT
Rodney Hamilton Petty Jan. 7, AZ
Bruce Alan Pfeiffer Apr. 28, KS
Margaret P. Phillips May 24, UT
Richard Lee Pickett Feb. 6, ID
David D. Pilling May 26, UT
Katie Powell Mar. 5, UT
Ed F. Prater Dec. 1, ID
Pam Pringle (Cherry) Dec. 30, UT
Mona Puzzi (Cole) Apr. 22, WA
Dustin Charles Pye Jan. 9, UT
Wynona A. Rampton May 13, UT
Scott Rawlins Jan. 27, UT
Joann Raymond (Katseanes) May 18, UT
Ronald L. Reeder Jan. 2, UT
David Glen Rees Nov. 25, UT
Mike Reyes Feb. 10, UT
Sean S. Richards Jan. 17, UT
Cleone Rifaat (Pitcher) Mar. 7, UT
Harold Ray Rigby May 1, ID

Richard W. Rigby Dec. 9, UT
Sheldon L. Riley Jan. 20, UT
Thomas J. Robson Apr. 20, AZ
Brad L. Rose Apr. 14
Dorothy Jane Rothe (Norberg) Apr. 12, UT
Don Sadler May 2, UT
Carlos Salas Feb. 23, UT
Mary Elizabeth Santangelo Apr. 6, UT
MarRae Payne Satterthwaite Mar. 2, UT
Dorothy Margaret Schimmelpennig Mar. 9, UT
Paul R. Schmidt Mar. 20, UT
Burke Hinman Scholer Mar. 30, AZ
LeeAnn Schaeffer Schvaneveldt Jan. 11, UT
Elaine Y. Seeholzer Nov. 21, UT
Sherry F. Shaff May 13, UT
Colby J. Shaw Nov. 2, UT
Raymond Glenn Shook Feb. 14, UT
Robert Sherman Dec. 25, UT
Danae Lila Shill (Davis) May 29, UT
Marianne L. Simmons (Manning) Jan. 22, UT
George S. Simons Dec. 31, UT
BonAdell Skidmore (Comish) Apr. 14, ID
Dick Timmins Skidmore Apr. 30, ID
Frederick T. Smith Jan. 26, UT
Larry Allen Smith Mar. 1, UT
Calvin E. Smoot Dec. 25, UT
Cory Snodgrass Dec. 18, UT
Lou J. Snow Feb. 1, UT
Hope Susan Southwick May 25, UT
Vance Eli Spaulding Nov. 28, ID
Heather Spencer Nov. 21, UT
Joseph Kent Spencer Mar. 16, UT
Michael Lee Spurgeon May 1, IN
Therese Stamm Apr. 30, UT
Ann H. Stenquist May 30, UT
Raymond L. Stephenson Jan. 18, UT
Imogene Stine Dec. 19, UT
Gary Joseph Stone Nov. 20, UT
Launa Street Dec. 9, UT
Douglas Jay Strickling May 17, UT
Melissa Sumsion Dec. 22, UT
Clark Swain Nov. 25, ID
Clark Severe Taylor Feb. 5, ID
Kelly L. Taylor May 21, UT
Elmer E. Thayne May 13, UT
Ann Thomas (Macaulay) Mar. 19, KS
Janett Eileen Thomas Dec. 1
Don Norvell Thompson Dec. 15, UT
Rex K. Thompson Jan. 8, UT
Willmer Hanks Thompson Mar. 22, UT
Sally Tapper Thomson (Tapper) Dec. 9, ID
Brent Lawrell Thorngren Feb. 10, UT
Kirk Duane Thronsen Jan. 7, UT
Max E. Timothy Nov. 22, UT
Clair Myron Tucker Dec. 23, UT
Gary D. Tucker Dec. 27, UT
Ben Turner Mar. 17, ID
Delma Turner Dec. 11, UT
Kellen Wayne Van Apr. 21, UT
Jay Vance Feb. 2
Carolyn M. Vogrinec (Moore) May 5, UT
Norma Ruth Von Niederhausen (Hawkes)
Apr. 6, UT
Tawny L. Wade Jan. 17, ID
Golda L. Waldron (Webster) Dec. 20, UT
Maxeen Ward (Peterson) Apr. 13, ID
Robert Wesley Ward Dec. 17, ID
Norma A. Wardle (Anderson) Feb. 15, UT
Richard Arnold Watson Dec. 29, UT
Von B. Wayman Jan. 17, UT
Tab H. Wehling Dec. 29, UT
Lorine West Jan. 5, UT
Clarice Faye Whitaker-Olson Feb. 13, OR
Thomas D. Wilkerson Apr. 3, CA
Linda Lucille Willerton Dec. 27, UT
David Brent Williams Mar. 16, ID
Duane B. Williams May 20, UT
Joyce Ann Williams Apr. 10, UT
Ruby J. Willis Apr. 21, UT
Leland W. Willson Jan. 15, UT
Diane A. Wilson (Anderson) May 11, UT
Russell William Winkler Apr. 21, UT
Farrell Rosequist Winter Apr. 18, UT
Dan Wissmar Jan. 5, UT
Alan Wright Feb. 8, UT
Helene Fox Wright May 15, UT
Patsy Jean Wursten Apr. 15, UT
Matthew W. Young Apr. 13, UT
Arlene Younker (Beck) Jan. 10, UT

EDUCATORS

Ross Allen May 17, UT
Martyr Caldwell Jan. 24, MD
Ann Henderson Mar. 9, UT
Eugene Kartchner Mar. 7, UT
Georgia Lauritzen Mar. 5, FL
W. Lewis May 15, UT
Jay Monson Feb. 24, UT
Charles Romesburg Apr. 18, UT
Allan Steed Mar. 5, UT
Frederic Wagner Feb. 28, UT
Dale Zobell Feb. 4, ID

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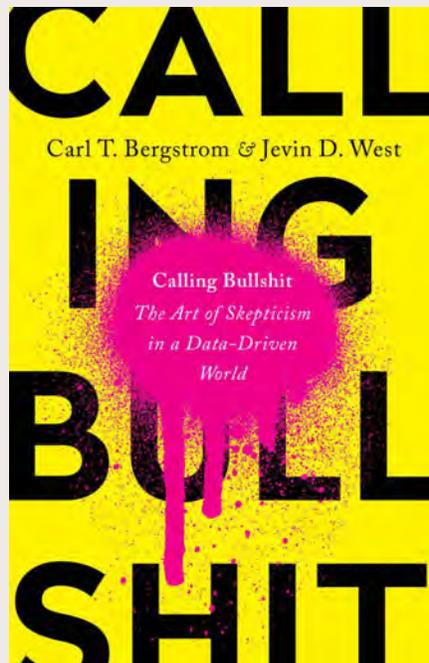
In a world where photos are easily faked, data graphics can manipulate our emotions—whether by intention or incompetence—and numbers can be twisted to mislead, the ability to detect hogwash is a critical life skill.

Jevin D. West '00, M.S. '04, director of the University of Washington's Center for an Informed Public, partnered with his colleague Carl T. Bergstrom to write *Calling Bullshit: The Art of Skepticism in a Data-Driven World* to equip everyday people with the ability to identify and refute the maelstrom of bullshit they increasingly encounter. "Calling bullshit is crucial to the healthy functioning of a social group, be it a circle of friends, a community of academics, or the citizenry of a nation," they write. The hope is that by providing people with the tools to question bad information it preserves their ability to recognize and trust good information.

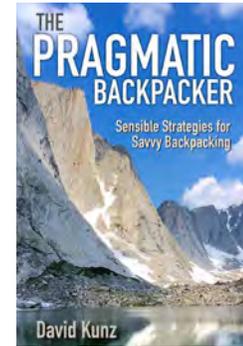
Because with bullshit, we are both the mark and the messengers. — KM

Calling Bullshit:
The Art of Skepticism in a Data-Driven World
By Carl T. Bergstrom and Jevin D. West '00, M.S.'04

Penguin Random House,
August 2020



Alumni



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JEBWizard Publishing
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Faculty

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September 2020

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By Robert McPherson

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December 2020

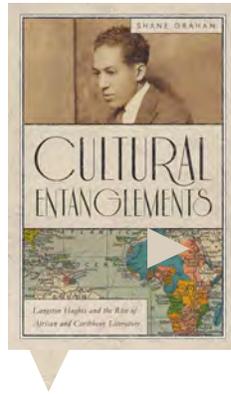
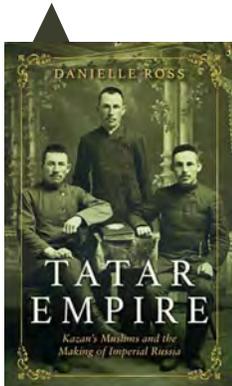
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By Stanley H. Block, Carolyn Bryant Block,
with Derrik Tollefson, and Guy du Plessis

Utah State University, *I-System*
Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies
April 2020

***Stanley H. Block, M.D. and
Carolyn Bryant Block***

developed the I-System Model in the 1990s to optimize health, wellness, and human performance. The techniques are used in USU's Mind-Body Bridging program they founded in 2018 and have shown to improve depression, fatigue, pain, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and help reduce recidivism rates for perpetrators of domestic violence, among other uses.

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03/19/2022

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