

UTAH STATE

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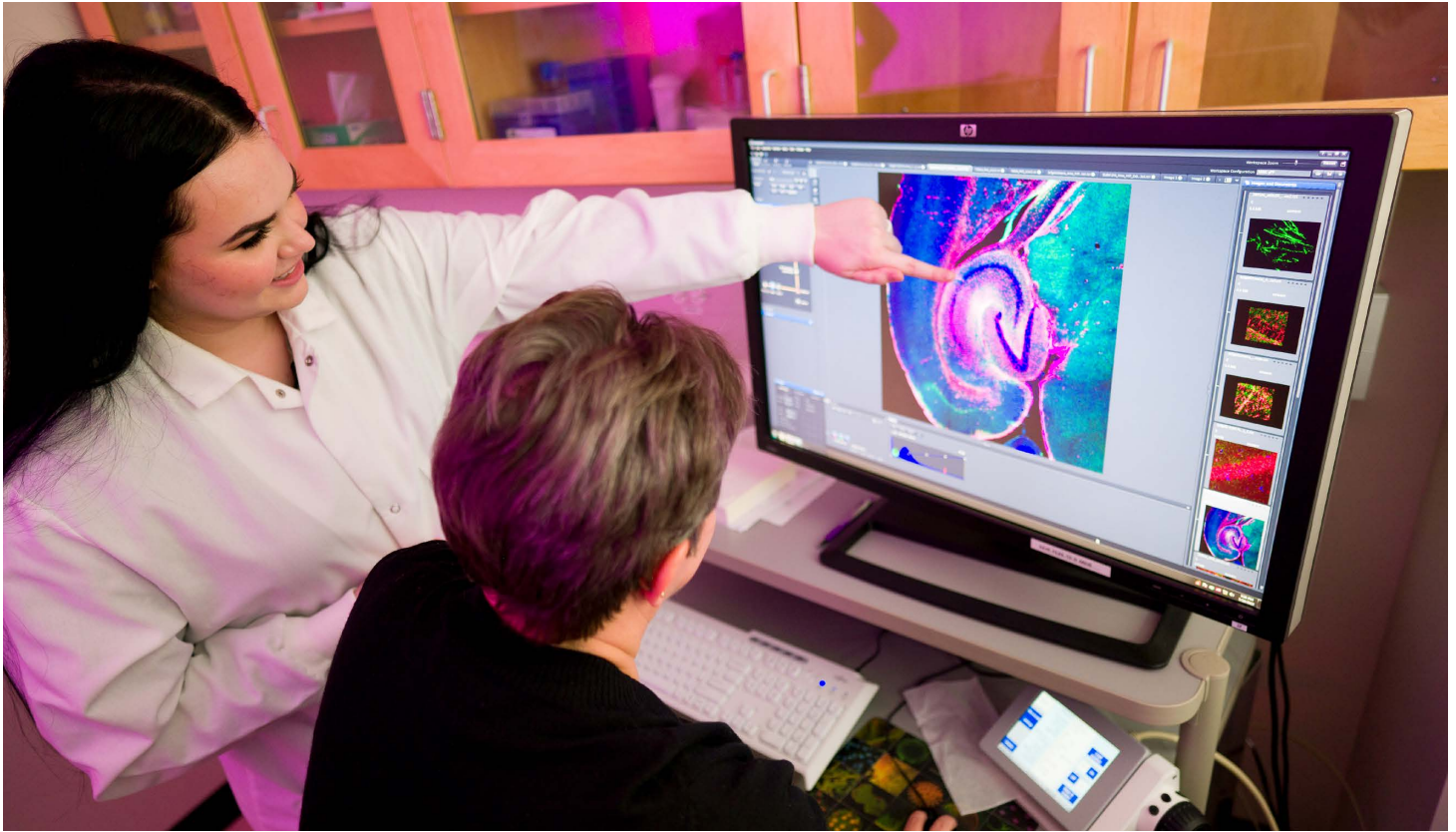
WALKING SOFTLY

USU Professor and Former Student
Share Climate Concerns on 'Surreal' Trip

Utah State University physics professor **ROBERT DAVIES** has traveled all over the world speaking about global environmental change and sustainable human systems. One of those speaking engagements led to an invite for Davies and a former student to join billionaire Vinny Smith and some influential friends on a trip to Antarctica for the inaugural Walking Softer Leadership Summit.



Photo courtesy of Walking Softer.



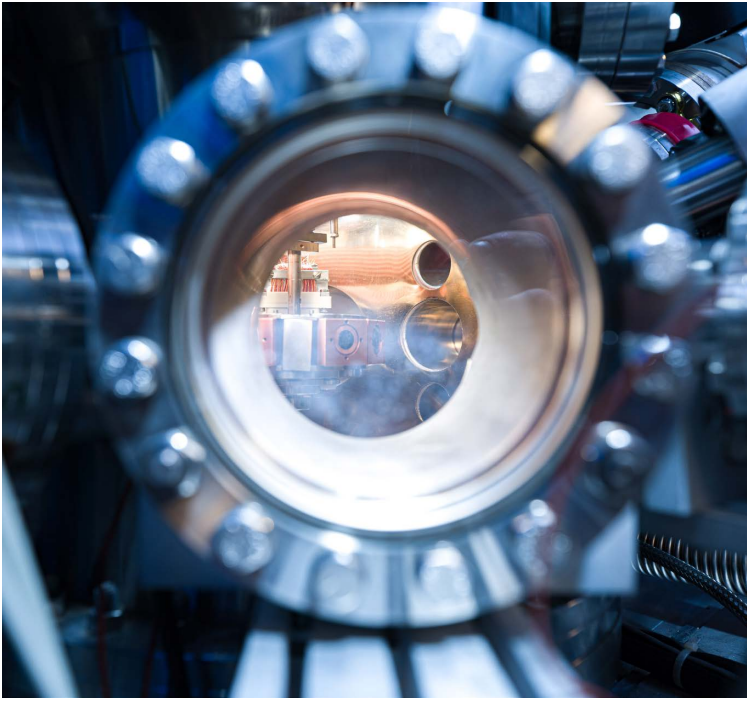
Jumping In: Swimming Mice Provide Insight Into Cognitive Decline

Sometimes age may feel like just a number, but our brains do function differently as we get older. USU associate psychology professor **Mona Buhusi** (right) is using swimming mice to study cognitive decline with aging and the effects certain drugs have in enabling older mice to better learn and retain information.



Carbon Farming: From Air to Soil ... and Back Again

Jennifer Reeve, associate professor of organic and sustainable agriculture, and **Matt Yost**, associate professor and agroclimate Extension specialist, have joined an international team on a \$15 million project funded by the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research. The project aims to gather data on how different farming techniques remove carbon from the atmosphere. With the hard numbers the team acquires from across the United States, meaningful carbon markets can finally be established, which could be a vital tool in slowing climate change.



Moon Shot: USU Physics Grad Motivated by Lunar Dust Research

Heather Allen, the Robins Award winner for the **Peak Prize: Undergraduate Researcher of the Year**, is likely way more interested in dust than you are. She's spent much of her time at USU operating a complex machine used to measure the effects of sharp, charged dust particles similar to those on the moon that can potentially damage spacecraft, tear through spacesuits and even penetrate the lungs of astronauts. NASA's plan to return to the moon via the Artemis missions has renewed interest in the potentially disastrous effects of lunar dust.

Getting Egressive: USU Addresses Congestion Issues at Football Stadium

For decades, USU football fans have dealt with congestion and various traffic issues in **Maverik Stadium's** southeast corner. Thanks to a facelift this summer, those issues are going to be a thing of the past as the old bathrooms at that corner have been demolished and the walking area has been widened. New bathroom facilities are being built, with a twist, and some other potential projects could be on the horizon as well.

Breaking the Ancient Language Barrier: USU Latin Lab Helps Provide Accessibility to Untranslated or Inaccessible Ancient Texts

Having had so much impact on our collective past, Latin represents a key to a treasure house of knowledge — but only if you can read it. At Utah State University, the **Latin Lab** offers its services as an option for just that — breaking through the ancient language barrier with a mission to help translate yet untranslated, or inaccessible, Latin language texts.

The Long Haul: COVID Battle Continues for Two Alums

While the COVID-19 pandemic might be regarded as essentially over, the battle goes on for a pair of Utah State alums. Referred to as “long-haulers,” Logan cyclist **Christine Maughan** (right) and recent graduate student **Ashley Sheesley** are trying to navigate life while dealing with brutal fatigue and numerous other symptoms that first arose more than three years ago when they initially tested positive for COVID-19.





My Hybrid Campus: Adapting to Uncertainty During a Worldwide Pandemic

Like many college students, recent graduate and former managing editor of *The Utah Statesman*, **Darcy Ritchie**, had her college experience turned upside down by the COVID-19 pandemic. Hear about her experience and the trials and decisions she faced as she looks back on navigating the higher ed landscape and ultimately earning her degree.

Campus Scene: Commencement Behind the Scenes

Each year commencement is a time of celebration and recognition for graduating students. However, there is much more to commencement than just gowns and diplomas. How is the class valedictorian speaker chosen? What is the history and meaning of the commencement procession? And what's the deal with those ceremonial ferns on the stage? Find out the answer to these questions and check out USU's graduation statistics from the past year.



Change at the Top: Cantwell Tabbed as New USU President

The presidential baton will be passed along this summer as Utah State University President Noelle Cockett steps down from the top post and new president Elizabeth “Betsy” Cantwell moves into Old Main. A senior vice president at the University of Arizona, Cantwell was announced as USU's 17th president by the Utah Board of Higher Education on May 19, six months after Cockett said she planned to step down on July 1 after six and a half years at the helm.