

Utah State

A More Perfect Union
Creating USU's Student Center · Pg. 12

Gary Stevenson
A Cache Valley Icon Making a Worldwide Impact · Pg. 26

Twinning
Body Image Resilience with the Kite Sisters · Pg. 44



COW TO CONE

The Making of USU's Sweetest Tradition
Pg. 30



Join us for Homecoming 2024!

USU's Alumni Association is excited to welcome home our alumni & friends with fun activities for the whole family October 7-12.

Oct. 7 Street Painting

See the artistry as student clubs and organizations create paintings on the TSC Bus Loop.

Oct. 8 Mr. USU Pageant

Watch the men of Utah State vie for the crown, title, and sash of Mr. USU.

Oct. 9 Powder Puff Tournament

Cheer on our intrepid competitors.

Oct. 10 Throwback Dance

ALUMNI WELCOME! Travel back to the 1950s and dance to the present with every decade's biggest hits.

Oct. 10-11 A Day of Giving

Honoring our founding, this year's event features 1888 minutes of giving.

Oct. 11 Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching & Learning Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Celebrate the unveiling of our new home for World Languages and Cultures.



Oct. 11 True Aggie Night

Celebrate the tradition that began in 1916 and share a kiss with your sweetheart on the Block A.

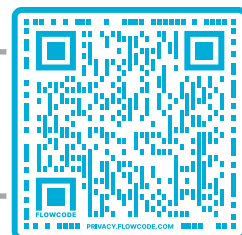
Oct. 12 Running of the Bulls 5K

Join fellow Aggies for the Homecoming 5K run/walk.

Oct. 12 Homecoming Parade on Main

Watch the parade along Main Street from Center Street to 800 North.

Scan QR code or visit homecoming.usu.edu for more activities!



A year has flown by since I joined you as Utah State University's president. It's been a year marked by both challenges and extraordinary achievements.

Our campus is undergoing a remarkable transformation. Construction is underway on the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Monument Valley Statewide Campus, and the Kem and Carolyn Gardner Learning and Leadership Building. The Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center, located on the Quad on Logan campus is also nearing completion.

Aside from bricks and mortar, our impact extends far beyond campus. The

Space Dynamics Lab's crucial role in the OSIRIS-REx mission is a testament to our innovative spirit. Our inaugural President's Forum on Conflict and Conflict Transformation, featuring Governor Spencer J. Cox and renowned moral courage author Irshad Manji, ignited important conversations.

Our athletic teams have excelled, with three Mountain West championships and a historic NCAA tournament win. I'm particularly proud of Chari Hawkins, a USU alumna who represented our nation at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

When I accepted the role of president at Utah State, I said that as a public land-

grant university, it is our obligation to make ourselves relevant for the future into which our students are moving. When I look at the growth across our campuses and online, as well as the impact our students, faculty, and staff are making in the world around them, I can tell you that we are headed in the right direction.

Utah State University is truly making a positive impact in the world.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth R. Cantwell
President, Utah State University



The Utah State dairy herd consists of 120 animals and is evenly split with 60 Holstein cows and 60 Jersey cows, like the group pictured above. The Holsteins tend to produce more milk, while the Jerseys produce milk with higher fat content. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

Sweet Impact

Look at that sweet face — is there anything quite as charming as the countenance of a well-fed, happy cow? No matter how the rest of the workday might go, any day requiring me to sift through contented cow photos is a pretty good one.

This year marks my 20th working as a graphic designer at USU, and my sixth year in the role of art director for *Utah State* magazine. This issue, with a feature on Aggie Ice Cream, hits home personally. The first half of my USU career was spent growing roots in ag, working for the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, and USU Extension. I've taken that drive to the south end of Cache Valley many times, exploring USU's farms and arenas for photoshoots, events, and private tours — and yes, seeing our award-winning, beautiful lady bovines up close and personal.

Twenty years, plus my time as a student, has built up lots of good USU nostalgia in the memory banks. I hope this issue zings inside of you a lightning bolt of recollections from your own time at USU — possibly connected to walking the long, bustling halls of the student center, eagerly stepping into the class of a beloved professor, or eating a sweet scoop of Aggie Ice Cream. Also within these pages are new additions to USU's history of doing good, sharing a taste of the paths that future Aggies may soon discover for themselves.

You also might notice a huge shakeup with the cover, and I hope the change doesn't scare you! USU keeps making new inroads in research, teaching, and the broader community, becoming a global player in shaping our understanding of the world around us. We wanted that level of impact to be reflected on the cover — a bolder masthead, and an asymmetrical design that is clean, versatile, and functional, allowing the subjects on our cover to shine.

The impact of print is visceral. The rustle of paper, the smell of ink, fiddling through pages to land on that one story that catches your eye. For Aggies, at least, the death of print is *greatly* exaggerated. We kept getting feedback that you love the print issues, and because of that response, we're proud to share that we are returning the magazine back to three print issues a year. *You* have that kind of impact. Thank you for valuing your alumni magazine, sharing your thoughts with us, and placing your trust in our team to visually bring the stories of USU to life.

This issue was especially sweet for me, and not just because of the ice cream. Working on it brought a smile to my face and I hope, my fellow alumni, that reading it brings one to yours.

Elizabeth Lord '04
Art Director, *Utah State* Magazine



Photos by Levi Sim and courtesy of USU Archives.

Cover Stories

30 // Cow to Cone

Aggie Ice Cream is delicious and a USU staple. Follow its journey from Utah State's cows to your cone and find out why it's so darn good.

12 // A More Perfect Union

Now known as the Taggart Student Center, USU's Student Union Building has undergone more than a few changes during its 70 years of existence.

Features:

20 // Historic Connections: the Lasting Legacy of Ross Peterson

The longtime history professor has left an indelible mark on thousands of students, hundreds of student-athletes, and across Utah State as a whole.

26 // Aggie DNA: Utah State has Always Been in Elder Gary E. Stevenson's Blood

An apostle for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and iFit co-founder was destined to be an Aggie and attributes many life lessons to his time at USU.

44 // Twinning: Lexie and Lindsay Kite are Changing the Body Image Resilience Game

The 2006 Utah State University graduates have pioneered the idea of focusing on body neutrality and the instrumentality of the body rather than beauty.

Additional Content:

08 // The Road Less Traveled

40 // Medhi Heravi's Generosity Towards Alma Mater Continues with New Building

48 // When Giants Die: Examining How Megacarcasses Impact the Ecosystem

54 // Finding Home a World Away

56 // And Now We Can Hold the Stars

60 // Persuasion and the Art of Photography

Miscellaneous:

03 // Communication from Cantwell

06 // Campus Scene: Planting New Seeds with the Monument Valley Education Building

66 // In Brief: News at USU

69 // In Memoriam

On the Covers: The *Utah State* magazine created two separate covers for the Fall 2024 issue. The scrapbooking photo illustration was created by Levi Sim and Liz Lord '04, while the Cow to Cone illustration was created by Liz Lord '04.



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

EDITOR
Timothy R. Olsen
SENIOR WRITER
Jeff Hunter
ART DIRECTOR
Elizabeth Lord
PHOTOGRAPHER
Levi Sim

USU PRESIDENT
Elizabeth R. Cantwell

USU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Jacey Skinner, Chair
Gina Gagon, Vice Chair
Kent K. Alder, John Y. Ferry,
David H. Huntsman,
Kacie Malouf, Heather Mason,
David A. Petersen, Matthew Richey,
Tessa White, Clark Whitworth

Where is This?

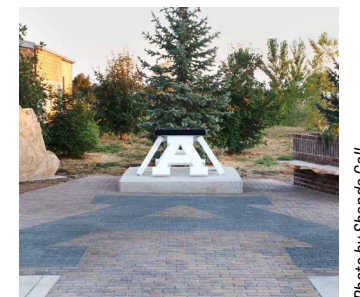


Photo by Shanda Gail.

First right answer wins Aggie gear.
mageditor@usu.edu

UTAH STATE (ISSN 1542-2712) is published two times a year by Utah State University, 0500 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-0500. Postage paid at Salt Lake City, UT.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Utah State University, Development Records, 1522 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-1522.

Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of the university.

USU is committed to a learning and working environment free from discrimination, including harassment. For USU's non-discrimination notice, see equity.usu.edu/non-discrimination.

USU campuses and centers reside and operate on the territories of the eight tribes of Utah. For USU's land acknowledgment see usu.edu/president/initiatives/land-acknowledgment.



Planting New Seeds with the Monument Valley Education Building

Representatives of Utah State University and the Navajo Nation broke ground for the long-awaited academic building in a ceremony on Friday, August 2. The education building, which will be located just northwest of Monument Valley High School, will serve students and community members of the Navajo Nation.

“The new USU Monument Valley Education Building strengthens the commitment to higher education and opportunities to rural and Indigenous communities,” says Kristian Olsen, senior associate vice president for USU Blanding. “It’s the culmination of the effort of so many people over decades to make this dream a reality.”

The education building will include modern classrooms, computer labs, a nursing and CNA lab, a career & technical education lab, a small business development space, a welding lab, spaces for adult education and USU Extension, and administrative and faculty offices.

“To me, this university is sacred. It will help this community,” says Don Mose Jr., a community member and respected elder of the Navajo Nation. “This university is going to be a seed that will be planted here in Monument Valley so our children can learn how to help themselves and blend the two worlds together. You no longer have to go off the reservation to get your education. The kids do not have an excuse anymore; they have it all here.”

Prior to the ceremony a prayer was offered by André Haycock, a Medicine Man from Monument Valley. USU President Elizabeth Cantwell, Navajo Nation Council Delegate Herman Daniels Junior, Olsen, and others gave remarks to those in attendance, highlighting the importance of education and the impact the building will have on future students and the entire Monument Valley community.

An exact opening date of the approximately 10,000-square-foot building has yet to be announced, however the building is expected to be completed in early 2026. **A**



Utah State University boasts 30 campuses and education centers across the state. With the current Monument Valley Education Center housed in a former Seventh Day Adventist hospital, the new building will be a welcome addition for both students and the community. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

The Road Less Traveled

By Andrea DeHaan & Alicia Richmond

With its proximity to the Navajo Nation, the USU Blanding Campus, one of just two residential Statewide Campuses, offers unique opportunities for Native American students. *Photo by Levi Sim.*



Located in the **Four Corners region** and spread across roughly 27,000 miles of Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah, the Navajo Nation is larger than 10 states and home to roughly half of the nearly 400,000 enrolled tribal members in what is now the most populous tribal nation in the U.S.

Utah State University's Blanding Campus sits just outside the Navajo Nation boundaries in southeastern Utah. Comprised of nearly 70% Native American students, it provides a unique educational opportunity for members of the Navajo Nation, as well as other Native American tribes in the region, to earn a degree close to home.

This is significant, because familial

bonds and care for elders are important to many in the region. Time away from home, coupled with the remoteness of the reservation can oftentimes be a deterrent in the pursuit of education. The USU Blanding Campus is also one of only three residential campuses for Utah State, helping the university deliver on its land-grant mission to meet the needs of the state's residents wherever they're located.

For the Students

When Christina Boone graduated with her bachelor's degree in elementary education from the School of Teacher Education and Leadership at the Blanding Campus in 2019, she never expected to teach elementary school at Montezuma Creek.

But five years have passed and Boone, a fourth-grade teacher, is still there.

"I had an offer to go to another elementary school when I graduated, but something told me to go to Montezuma Creek," she says. "I love it here. I feel very welcome and it's hard to think about leaving. I can't believe that I am going on my fifth year."

Teaching has been a great fit for Boone, even though she says Montezuma Creek Elementary — which is part of the San Juan School District — has its challenges. According to Boone, one of the biggest issues is teacher turnover, with many staying just one year before transferring out.

"This is not good for the students," she says. "They deserve a quality education."

Located in the Four-Corners area of Utah, Montezuma Creek Elementary School was built on Navajo Nation tribal land and serves mostly Native American students. The school is also in the same district that Boone — who is originally from Navajo Mountain — attended during high school.

Attending school is a sacrifice for many of the students who attend Montezuma Creek. Some get on the school bus as early as 4:30 a.m. and travel up to two hours to arrive at the school. Much of the travel is on dirt roads and the kids are often tired when they finally get off the bus.

"Education is very important, but I try to support the students emotionally and mentally because some of them come from difficult situations in their homes," Boone shares. "I want each of them to feel loved at school. I wanted to become a teacher because two of my elementary teachers knew my life situation and were adaptive to my needs. They made me feel accepted. I want to do the same for my own students."

Boone, who is Navajo, or Diné, sees herself in many of her students.

"I can especially relate to many of my female students who have to babysit their younger siblings. This was my life, too. I wanted to get a career and to see what was outside my community. I want these

students to see that there is so much more in their world and many opportunities for them. My goal is to help students who want to go to college find resources to help get them there."

She feels that having a USU campus in the community is important to the Navajo culture because being close to home and caring for ancestors is part of the Navajo way of life. The Blanding campus provides educational opportunities to many Native families, enabling them to stay at home while they study.

Sylvia Read, the associate dean for accreditation and undergraduate studies and a professor in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, says Boone is making a visible impact in the community.

"During her time as a student in the elementary education program, Christina showed herself to be truly passionate about serving the needs of students. She connected well with students, prepared well for her lessons, and was always willing to take on new challenges such as teaching new content and learning how to manage the classroom more effectively and efficiently," Read says. "Now, as a teacher in the San Juan County School District, she is making an incredible impact and giving back to her community through her passion for teaching."

For her part, Boone isn't focused on the larger impact she's making. She just wants to help her students be successful.

"I didn't know that I was making an impact," she admits. "I tell the kids that you have routine ... school is part of your routine for success in your life."

Taking opportunities as they come is a concept Boone feels is key for her students to know when they leave her fourth-grade class.

"Sometimes you need to explore what is out there in the world. Many of these kids don't know life outside of Montezuma Creek. They can travel and see what experiences are in store for them," she says.

"I hope my students will go out and get their education. Most of my students live with their grandparents because

their parents work far away. Navajos are bound to family and enjoy the love of our grandparents. It's a sense of family to take care of relatives. I want them to know they can always come back to Montezuma Creek."

Last year, Boone had another opportunity to move school districts. Her brother, who is also a teacher, sent her a text message one day and told her she should come work in his district. But that plea went unheeded.

"I am perfect where I am," Boone confesses. "I enjoy my colleagues. I feel very welcomed by the students. We have a great administrative team at Montezuma Creek. It's where I am supposed to be."

Overcoming Barriers

The college experience is a journey of self-discovery, often accompanied by trial and error, and burdened by the independence of becoming an adult. It involves learning to make one's own decisions, generally, in the service of discovering a meaningful career path.

Hunter Warren's path was marked by challenges that would have deterred many.

He spent his first year driving between USU's Blanding campus and his home in Red Mesa, Utah — a small town on the Navajo Reservation. Warren faced daily commutes spanning hours and dealt with limited internet access — a stark contrast to the resources available to most students. Despite these obstacles, Warren's drive to serve his community propelled him forward.

"I wanted to be one of those people to motivate other people," he explains. "Not everyone drops out, you know, I want to be that motive for the younger generation to keep on going, to keep on striving, to do better."

A first-generation student, Warren ('23), the youngest of five, received encouragement from his parents and grandparents. They told him to make the most of his time in school and keep going



Christina Boone ('19) understands the sacrifices her students make to get an education, as the USU Blanding graduate overcame many of those barriers in her own educational pursuits. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

even when things got tough. Now Warren, who works as a school-based mental health therapist, is the one encouraging others to keep going.

His educational journey was more than academic, it was deeply personal. His decision to pursue social work was rooted in a desire to address pressing issues within his community, particularly around mental health, and he immersed himself in roles that allowed him to impact lives. What began as an interest in substance use counseling quickly turned, instead, to working with survivors of domestic violence and then to his current role working with school-aged kids.

"I feel really good with the place

that I'm in right now, because I really feel the sense [that I am] giving back to my community," Warren says.

With a master's in social work, which he also earned at USU, Warren was among the first therapists to be hired under a new Utah Navajo Health Systems program in the Blanding-area schools. The program was designed to expand mental health services to rural areas, and Warren says, to build bridges between those services and the cultural attitudes surrounding social work in his community.

"Growing up, we're taught to not talk about the trauma, to not talk about mental health, because our elders believe that when you talk about it, you're, you're

just bringing the negative energy with it," he says. "But I think times are changing. We're learning that it's OK to talk about mental health and that talking about mental health is important. That's the main reason we need more people trained in these positions, especially therapists, because [people] are starting to open up."

Balancing Acts

Like Warren, Toni Pelt's journey to higher education was marked by determination and resilience. As a non-traditional student, Pelt balanced family responsibilities, moves, and career changes while pursuing her academic degree. And like Warren, she was spurred on by a desire to do more for her community.

Supported by influential USU professors like Charlie Bayles and CJ Sorenson, Pelt found her calling in social work and steadily progressed from earning an associate's degree to completing her master's at the Blanding Campus in 2023.

"What I wanted to do ... was give back to my community here in White Mesa," says Pelt, who described her fellow students and the social work faculty as a team. "We helped each other, pushed each other through."

Pelt's commitment to serving the community stems from her experience working with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe's education department. As a public-school liaison serving middle and high school students, Pelt witnessed firsthand the barriers hindering student success, including attendance issues and insufficient mental health resources. These experiences solidified her resolve to help students.

As a student advocate for the San Juan County School District, Pelt now feels equipped with the skills needed to address the challenges students face. She currently alternates between Albert R. Lyman Middle School and San Juan High School, and she modestly describes her

Hunter Warren ('23) grew up on the Navajo Nation reservation and wants to motivate others like himself to persevere and pursue their dreams. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

“

Toni and Hunter are pioneering what modern social work looks like in an era where self-determination and cultural integrity are no longer being ignored.”

— Charlie Bayles

job as “checking in ... seeing how they're doing, [and] where I could help.”

Bayles, on the other hand, calls Pelt an “asset” to the county.

“Toni has worked to build strong collaborations between teachers, parents, and students,” Bayles says. “She has a knowledge of tribal policy, school district policy, and extensive knowledge of Ute Mountain Ute and Navajo culture.”

Today, Pelt continues to hold space for her family and her community. At the White Mesa Educational Center, she leans on both to organize traditional crafts

workshops and cultural events to help preserve cultural identity and language. By engaging students, parents, and elders alike, Pelt is helping her neighbors bridge generational divides while fostering a sense of pride in her community.

“Toni and Hunter are pioneering what modern social work looks like in an era where self-determination and cultural integrity are no longer being ignored,” Bayles says. “The impact of their social work contributions will help strengthen tribal communities, one family at a time.”

A





A More
Perfect Union:

The Rise

of the Taggart
Student Center

By Jeff Hunter '96

After emerging victorious in World War II, Americans were riding high with confidence and optimism about the future. And many of the young men and women who had stood up to tyranny elected to take advantage of the G.I. Bill and further their education at institutions of higher learning.

At what was then known as Utah State Agricultural College, enrollment swelled from just 861 in the fall of 1944, to 4,488 by the 1946–47 school year. With space on campus at a premium, the young Aggies craved the addition of a student-centered building they could call their own.

Originally known as the Student Union Building, the official dedication of what is now called the Taggart Student Center took place in May 1953. *Photo courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives*

The answer, rather ironically considering how many had just served in the military, was a repurposed mess hall that had previously accommodated soldiers training to serve in Europe and the Pacific during the war. The Temporary Union Building — quickly dubbed “The TUB” — was an unflattering structure located just northeast of the old Merrill Library that included a snack bar, a jukebox and just enough room for some dancing.

The hope was that something better would come along soon, but hundreds of students came and went without every experiencing the reality of a student union building. The year after World War II ended, the USAC course catalog proclaimed: “Anticipating a permanent Union Building, students began in 1946 to enjoy the recreational facilities of a temporary Union Building east of the library. A structure formerly used for military training was converted for this use.”

The USAC catalog stated the exact same thing in 1947, '48, and '49. And the catalog made the same proclamation just as the United States was getting involved in another war on the Korean Peninsula in 1950. “Anticipating ...” even maintained

it’s same place in the catalog in 1951 and '52, until finally a change came in 1953 just as the Korean War was coming to an end.

While the first two sentences remained the same, a third sentence was added in the listing: “The new Union Building will be at least partially occupied during the present school year.”

The culmination of a lot of dreams, planning and fundraising finally came to fruition when the ballroom of the new Union Building was opened in December 1952 to accommodate a Christmas dance. The structure was completed entirely that winter and spring, leading to the dedication of the entire building on May 2, 1953.

Dr. Edgar B. Brossard, a 1911 Utah State graduate and then chairman of the U.S. Tariff Commission, offered the dedicatory address:

This building, the hearthstone or center of campus life, is a new education unit. It is the college laboratory for the improvement of human relations and as such is not surpassed in importance by any other education facility on campus. In it, democratic principles and procedures, student self-expression, and

student management will be learned and demonstrated. It is a center where students and faculty will play, work, and play together and thus it will make for happy and desirable student-faculty relations.

Meet Me in the TUB

What is now known as the Glen L. Taggart Student Center is closing in on its 72nd anniversary.

That means just about any student who enjoyed the college experience at Utah State University — the institution underwent a slight name change in 1957 — is likely now in their 90s if they’re still alive. And it also means that most of us have a very difficult time envisioning a USU that doesn’t include the large brick-and-glass structure at the western edge of campus that seemingly houses a little bit of everything, from admissions and financial aid offices to stores and several dining options.

The Taggart Student Center or TSC is arguably the crossroads of the Logan campus, where every student, faculty and staff member is likely to visit sooner or later for food, books and apparel, or campus events and entertainment.

And considering what Utah State students had at their disposal prior to the construction of the Union Building, it’s easy to see why they were excited about the building’s completion in 1953.

“The Utah State Agricultural College now has the most modern student union building in America,” a listing in the 1953–54 USAC catalog proclaimed. “The structure has excellent recreational and other facilities, including dancing space for 3,000 persons, lounges, bowling alleys, a skyroom with dance floor and cafeteria, book store, billiards and table tennis, barber shop, health center, radio-television studios, publications offices, dining halls, browsing libraries, and rooms for various social gatherings.”



Utah State students enjoy the snack bar at the Student Union Building in the late 1950s.

Photo courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.

Prior to 1935, most of Utah State’s student amenities were housed in Old Main. But when the Home Economics and Commons Building — later re-christened the Family Life Building — was finished, most of them were relocated to the Art Deco-style structure located near the southeastern edge of The Quad. The school cafeteria was moved there due to fire hazards in Old Main, while a bookstore, outdoor eating area, and the offices for many student activities, including the Buzzer yearbook and Student Life newspaper, were also placed there.

The majority of major school balls and dances were still held at the Dansante Building in downtown Logan in the 1930s and '40s, but according to the *Encyclopedic History of Utah State History*, published by longtime USU historian Robert Parson in 2009, student body officers and Dansante owner A.J. Lundahl had a falling out in 1946 and '47, leading to an eventual boycott by Utah State students of the building which now accommodates the Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre company.

That made the addition of The TUB in 1946 even more important as a place for students to hold social gatherings. Harold Dance, who would become a prominent Logan businessman after graduating from Utah State and the Harvard Business School, chaired a student committee that helped convince school president Franklin Harris to let the student body take ownership of an unused mess hall located near some tennis courts, just east of The Quad.

What Dance initially referred to as the “Aggie Club House” required a lot of work to “spruce up the drab, green military décor,” according to Parson:

(They) busied themselves with scrubbing the walls and floors ... students began refurbishing the tables and chairs with bright coats of red paint, hung curtains, and decorated and painted the walls with other cheery colors and designs. A snack bar was also featured that served Cokes, hot dogs, hamburgers, hot chocolate, and ice cream. A juke box (still a curiosity) sat in a vacant corner next to a small open floor space to await



Students socialize at the Temporary Union Building, better known as The TUB, in 1947.

Photo courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.

the nickels of dancers. By the time of the clubhouse’s grand opening on January 4, 1946, students had already cleverly christened it the Temporary Union Building, or TUB for short.

The name kept alive their hope that the campus would someday have the social amenities that only a permanent Student Union Building could provide. Until then, the TUB became a suitable proxy for a campus starved by the social hardships of the war.

One Aggie even composed a song entitled *Meet Me at The TUB*. Sung to the tune of *Pistol Packin’ Mama*, a song popularized by Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters a couple of years earlier, the lyrics include references to the library, Old Main, and the Bluebird Restaurant.

*On Saturdays I missed my home,
’Twas then we used to scrub.
But now when I feel lonely,
I jump into the TUB.*

*Oh, meet me in the TUB gang,
Meet me in the TUB.
Leave your cares behind you,
And meet me in the TUB.*

But as fun as The TUB may have sounded on a Saturday night, it was certainly meant to be temporary. And a sign at the snack bar even suggested that the more money spent there could lead to the sooner addition of a permanent student union center.

A Dream Come True

President Franklin Harris formed a committee in May 1947 to investigate the construction of a student union building, but according to Parson, at the time, the Alumni Association was pushing for the addition of a new dormitory instead.

“It’s something that’s way overdue on the Aggie campus,” Harris proclaimed, “and we mustn’t let anything our efforts ... to see the Union Building through.”

Eight months later, the Alumni Association created the Alumni Building Fund, and it was Harris who donated a check for the first \$100. The university also hired a consultant in Porter Butts, the director of the Student Union at the University of

Wisconsin, Madison, and Butts estimated the cost of a similar building at Utah State would come in between \$750,000 and \$1 million. Some of that money came from Utah State Legislature raising the school's building fees from \$11 in 1946 to \$20 by 1948, a certainly notable increase considering tuition for the 1948–49 school year was \$51.

Fred Markham of Provo was selected as the building's architect, and according to Parson, Markham "designed a truly original structure, which provided 'maximum student participation.'"

"At the center of student life on campus, the building's most visible feature was its glass south wall. 'Through this,' it was noted, 'light will pour into the building and withdraw from it every day almost as naturally as light pours in and out of the West itself.'"

Construction was slow, however, primarily due to financial limitations. After being excavated, the basement sat untouched for nearly two years and was nicknamed the "bomb shelter" by students. But eventually an \$850,000 bond by the State Legislature led to the building's completion, although a lack of funds led to the majority of it being unfurnished until the spring of 1953.

But on Dec. 12, 1952, 2,400 students were treated to a taste of what was to come when the west side of the Union Building was opened to accommodate the annual Christmas Ball. A day earlier, the Student Life newspaper — predecessor of the Utah Statesman — published a photograph of the Union Building's exterior on its front page. The cutline beneath the photo states:

Long-awaited by Aggies, the new student union building this week will open its doors and host the first official function — the Christmas ball. The building has been 'in the process' for a number of years and through legality questions, bond issues, awarding of a contract, and actual constructions, the entire building with its many uses and advantages has been in the minds of students, and now stands as an actual 'dream come true.'



The Student Union Building was expanded to the east in the mid-'60s. Photo courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.

Home Away from Home

Franklin Harris, the university president when the Union Building project first got underway, left Utah State after three years when U.S. President Harry Truman tapped him as a technical advisor for his Point Four program. That paved the way for the hiring of Louis L. Madsen as the university's eighth president in 1950.

A Utah State alum, Madsen helped facilitate the construction of the Union Building, but between the unofficial opening in December 1952 and the building's dedication in May 1953, he was fired after clashing with the Board of Trustees. Madsen's controversial dismissal led to protests by many Utah State students.

"Madsen left the presidency with the adoration of the student body, which praised him for 'the warmth and patience extended to them,'" Parson wrote. "The student body credit Madsen with completing the Union Building, and for beginning construction on the new agricultural science building (E.G. Peterson Agricultural Building)."

According to a brief article in Student Life about the Union Building's dedication during Agathon (an educational fair that replaced A-Day festivities in the 1950s and '60s), Madsen still attended the dedicatory event in the ballroom — and even introduced Brossard as the keynote speaker — despite being let go the previous month. And rather ironically, it was E.G. Peterson who was tabbed as an interim president after Madsen's dismissal. The longest tenured Utah State president ever at 29 years, Peterson served from 1916 to



The Senate Chambers located on the third floor of the Student Union Building. Photo courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.

'45, and ended up having the university's new agriculture building named after him in 1957.

The youngest Utah State president ever and the youngest in the country when he was first hired in 1916, Peterson came out of retirement at the age of 71 and served as "acting president" for six months before Henry Dixon was tabbed late in 1953.

But despite the awkwardness of the moment, the Union Building was officially dedicated by Brossard, who was the captain of the Aggie football team in 1908–09.

The Union Building's deepest significance lies in its contribution to the development of a more stable and substantial character and a happier, more attractive and more magnetic personality for each man and woman who uses its facilities. ... We may now look forward with confidence to the years ahead during which these new facilities will contribute to a richer social and cultural life for the institution and to even higher moral and ethical standards in student associations and to more cooperative citizenship.

At the time of its dedication, the Union Building totaled 108,000 square feet of space over its four floors with a price tag of \$1.4 million. Among the original amenities were six bowling alleys, a bookstore, barber shop, camera

“Above all, relax and enjoy yourself. The Student Union is yours and we urge you to make it your 'Home away from Home.'”

— Building Decorum List, 1954



Along with a bowling alley, a feature in the basement until the 1980s, the Student Union Building has been home to a plethora of student activities. Photos courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.

shop, soda fountain, game rooms, health center, ballroom, cafeteria, music listening lounges, and a television lounge complete with a new General Electric TV donated by Cache Valley Electric. The new structure also accommodated offices for the student body officers, the *Buzzer* yearbook and Student Life staffs, and the Skyroom Lounge and Ballroom on the top floor.

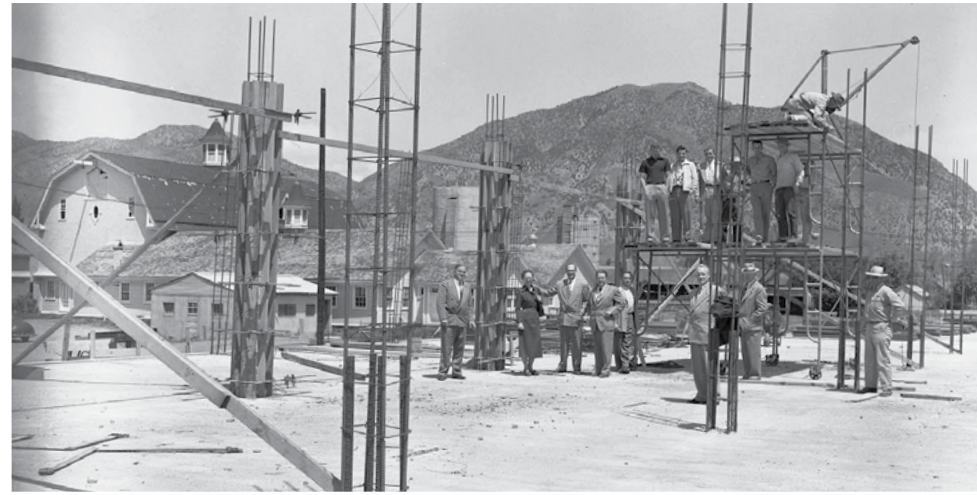
The Union Building, which was constructed on land once occupied by greenhouses and corrals, was expanded on the east end a decade later and re-dedicated in December 1964. It underwent another addition and renovation in the mid-'80s, which notably led to the removal of the bowling alleys, and was named in honor of Glen L. Taggart, president of the university from 1968 to '79.

In recent decades, the Taggart Student Center has undergone additional changes and modifications to better serve the student body and the eight different campus entities who currently occupy its spaces. The auditorium which was part of the addition in the '60s, was changed from theater-style seating into the Big Blue Room, creating more room for the addition of the Latinx Cultural Center and the Veterans Resource Office. The building's dining options continue to change and evolve, the barber shop was removed two years ago and the tiny U.S. Post Office on the first floor/basement was folded into the Aggie Print Copy Center.

But while your memories of the Taggart Student Center/Union Building might vary greatly depending on when you attended Utah State, for more than seven decades the hope has been that the structure has lived up to its original purpose. When it first opened, university administrators provided a list of 10 items entitled "Building Decorum," which included rules such as no gambling or betting, no smoking or alcoholic beverages, as well as polite appeals such practicing "good taste in manners and dress."

The final item was also a kind request: "Above all, relax and enjoy yourself. The Student Union is yours and we urge you to make it your 'Home away from Home.'"

A



In recent decades, the building now known as the Taggart Student Center has become home to various administrative offices and student-facing departments, while still playing a pivotal role for student activities. *Photos courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.*

New Collection

albion


Available Now
 at Campus Store



Show your pride.
 Wear your Aggie
 gear on Fridays.



*Be You, Be
 True Blue*



UtahStateUniversity



Historic Connections: The Lasting Legacy of Ross Peterson

By Jeff Hunter '96

As a longtime professor of history, Ross Peterson is keenly aware of some of the great “what ifs” of American history.

What if the Confederate army had won at Gettysburg in 1863? What if the Germans had repelled the Allied landing at Normandy on June 6, 1944? Or what if JFK hadn’t ridden through downtown Dallas in a convertible? The history of the United States would likely be very different today.

And similarly, what if one of the most beloved educators in the history of Utah State University had ended up attending college in Ogden or Boise instead of Logan?

For hundreds — if not thousands — of students, it’s hard to imagine such a world. But that was nearly the case.

Growing up in Montpelier, Idaho, in the ’50s, Peterson was one of the best young athletes in the small town just north of Bear Lake, providing him with some options when it came to attending college. One of them was relocating to Ogden and playing basketball and football for what was then known as Weber College. But the opportunity to play baseball at Boise Junior College, the predecessor to Boise State University, was even more inviting.

“I also had an offer, kind of a semi-walk-on, partial scholarship to play basketball at Utah State,” Peterson recalls. “But I thought if I had a future in athletics that it was going to be with baseball.”

Ironically, it was his good arm that kept Peterson from playing baseball on the other side of the Gem State and started him on the path to become an Aggie legend. He and some friends were out roaming around Montpelier on a July night when he got

a chuckle out of tossing a firecracker underneath a friend’s car. That led to another attempt, this time taking aim at a new Chevrolet driven by a classmate who was “draggin’ Main” with a couple of other teenagers.

“I threw a cherry bomb, bootlegged into Idaho from Wyoming, into a 1959 Corvette convertible,” Peterson explains with obvious remorse. “I threw it with the intent of it going under, but it hit behind his shoulder and went over his shoulder on a bounce. And the driver panicked when it went off between his legs.

“The car accelerated and hit another car, totaling both. It was really lucky that no one was hurt. Really lucky.”

Peterson was already on the police’s radar after getting caught breaking into some local schools and churches to play basketball, but fortunately for him, his “little trouble with the law” only led to community service rather than jail time. However, he was unable to complete his service in time to enroll at Boise Junior College, and his mother took advantage of the situation.

By the time the fall of 1959 arrived, the fourth of Ray and Zora Peterson’s six children was on his way to Logan to begin his higher education journey at Utah State. And the recent high school graduate was hardly alone as his mother had managed to secure him a room with five returned missionaries from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

“My mother was worried about my spiritual future,” Peterson says. “So, I came for a year, worked construction and played on the freshman baseball team. I was planning to come back, but they lowered the missionary age to 19. So, I went on a mission, and by the time I got back here, I knew I wanted to be a professor.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to teach,” he clarifies. “But my first quarter back, I had some history classes from Stan Cazier and Brig Madsen and just decided, ‘This’ll be good.’ So, I just hung with those people all the rest of the way.”

Candid Conversations

Now 82 years old, Peterson isn’t currently slated to teach a class at Utah State University this fall. Since Peterson technically retired in 2004, that ordinarily wouldn’t be a surprise, but he is anything but ordinary.

“Retired? If there’s anyone who didn’t know the meaning of the word, it’s Ross,” says Kay Peterson, his wife of 60 years.

Peterson left his alma mater two decades ago to serve as the president of Deep Springs College in California. But upon returning to Cache Valley three years later, he took on the position of

Utah State’s Vice President for Advancement, helping spearhead a hugely successful fundraising campaign until he retired again in 2011.

But even then, the emeritus professor continued to present a course or two at USU, which means that he’s taught the children and grandchildren of many students he first encountered as a young professor after settling into a full-time position in the Department of History in 1971.

“As a dean, I spend a significant portion of my time interacting with alumni, and no one is mentioned more by alumni as a professor and a mentor than Ross Peterson,” says Joe Ward, dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. “As far as who inspired them or was helpful, no one is mentioned more often than Ross. And I say that in terms of multi generations of students. It’s not just students of a certain era, it’s alumni who stretch across decades.

“Ross joined the faculty in the ’70s, but he’d been a student a decade earlier, and he’s been a part of USU and Cache Valley with a few exceptions, ever since. He has 60 years of connections to this place.”

Although Peterson taught numerous history courses and authored many books, including *A History of Cache County* and *Idaho: A*



LEFT: A native of Montpelier, Idaho, USU professor emeritus Ross Peterson’s passion for baseball is as strong as his love of American history. *Photo by Levi Sim.* RIGHT: Peterson teaches a distance education course in 1983. *Photo courtesy of Ross Peterson.*

Bicentennial History, many of Peterson's strongest connections revolve around the subject he's best known for teaching: the American Civil Rights Movement.

After graduating from USU with a bachelor's degree in history in 1965, Peterson went on to complete a Ph.D. in 20th Century U.S. History at Washington State University in 1968. He then accepted a position teaching history at the University of Texas-Arlington during a "very intense time" in American history.

Peterson relocated to Texas as the war in Vietnam was escalating and the country was reeling from the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy. The Civil Rights Act of 1968 had recently been signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, just as Peterson as embarking on his teaching career at a campus that had been integrated for only six years.

Although there weren't a lot of Black students at UTA, Peterson says most of them gravitated towards taking the two required semesters of U.S. history from him because he wasn't from Texas or the South. That led to administrators ask him to develop a course in African American studies.

"And I was into that personally, coming out of the '60s anyway," Peterson explains. "The year I went to Texas was the year that Martin Luther King was assassinated, so it was heavy on our minds. We just did whatever we could to do something in that field."

Peterson, who also helped orchestrate UT Arlington's nickname change from the Rebels to the Mavericks, was only in Texas for three years. But that period helped further refine

his passion for educating college students about the Civil Rights Movement and the plight of African Americans, as well as other groups which have been oppressed, such as Native Americans and Japanese Americans during World War II.

Peterson was honored with the Governor's Award for Humanities in 1998, and during the ceremony, Stanford Cazier, a longtime history professor who served as the president of Utah State University from 1979 to '92, recalled Peterson's return to USU as a teacher in 1971.

"He was an outstanding professor that took USU's history department by storm," Cazier was quoted as saying by the *Deseret News*.

Peterson chuckles when asked about his late mentor's "storm" comment and replies, "I think I just mystified those guys a little bit because as a student, I wrote good papers and tested well, but I never talked in class.

"... I think I was totally different when I came back as a professor after three years in Texas. Especially after working with Black students and taking on some of those battles. You weren't afraid of administrators, you just went in and did those kinds of things, getting new ideas and trying to get support for them."

Always a huge supporter of USU athletics, Peterson is particularly beloved by dozens of current and former Aggie athletes, many of them African Americans, for boldly tackling some of the most difficult subjects in American history. Cree Taylor, now a senior lecturer in the English Department at USU, was one of Peterson's students who was greatly influenced by his approach. A native of Rigby, Idaho, who was adopted by White parents, Taylor excelled academically and athletically in high school before coming to Utah State to compete in track in 2011.

"I love history, and so a lot of things I learned in that class with Ross were more details about things I had heard and learned about growing up," Taylor says. "The thing that was eye-opening for me was that a White teacher was speaking so candidly about those things because, in my experience, that wasn't the case where a White instructor would be so candid and open about racism.

"... The expectation is when you walk into a class on the Civil Rights Movement that a Black teacher will be tasked with teaching the class. But Ross spoke so candidly, was so knowledgeable and spoke in-depth about the Civil Rights Movement in a way that I had never experienced from a White person before.

"So, for me," Taylor adds, "it was like this great immersive experience because I thought, 'No, actually everyone can have these conversations. And we can do it in respectful and meaningful ways.'"

A Lasting Partnership

Even though she was never officially one of his students, there's likely no one who has listened to more Ross Peterson lectures than his wife, Kay.

"I've heard a few ... hundred hours of Ross lecturing," she acknowledges. "I try to be supportive of him, and he's supportive of me and my interests. My passion is music, and his passion is history, and we both have a passion for his civil rights quest. And because of that, we have been able to embrace so many people that don't look exactly like we do, but who are exactly like we are. And we love them all. We have lots of surrogate children."

While they were still children growing up in Montpelier, Ross played in the school band with Kay, who is two years younger. Kay was



also one of his writers while he was the sports editor of the student newspaper at Bear Lake High School. The two ended up going on one date just before Peterson left to serve two years in the Great Lakes Mission, "but we were not an item," Kay clarifies.

Kay reluctantly notes that she was attending BYU when she ran into Peterson following his mission, and eventually he made a trip down to Provo to pay her a visit.

"And the rest is history," Kay declares, quickly adding, "and one of the reasons he liked me is because I can throw a baseball like a boy.

"I was introduced to baseball while I was a child by a cousin whose father was a Little League coach, and they took me to games down in Salt Lake. So, I became very interested in baseball. The problem was, I loved the Dodgers, because that's who they loved, while Ross is, of course, an Atlanta Braves fan."

The couple married in December 1963, and "after living with it 24/7, I kind of converted to the Braves," Kay admits with a chuckle.

She ended up graduating from USU with a degree in American studies, while all three of the Petersons' sons — Bret, Bart and Fred — are also Utah State graduates, along with six of their grandchildren.

"Ross and Kay have been such a remarkable couple for all these years," Ward says. "So often, the folks who are inspired by one, quickly mention the other. It's their compassion; it's their generosity. It's a

reminder that a kind word delivered at the right moment can have a long legacy."

A part of that legacy is the F. Ross and Mary Kay Peterson Scholarship, which benefits first-generation USU students who hail from rural areas, and the Mountain West Center for Regional Studies that Peterson founded in 1986. The former head of USU's Department of History has also guided numerous historical tours for the Utah State Alumni Association, is one of the driving forces behind the creation of the Golden Spike Monument in Brigham City and continues to be a highly sought-after speaker around the valley, the state, and the country.

And even in their 80s, the Petersons are seemingly omnipresent at all Utah State activities, whether they be athletic contests, concerts, plays or special events. And it's rare when they go somewhere where they don't know someone. Fortunately, Ross is known for his incredible recall of names and faces, often remembering students he taught decades ago.

"We've had some great experiences," Kay says. "Some people can't understand how we stay so connected, but we're connected with people. The students we've had that have grown up. And we've just always been so attached to Utah State. We've been here for the good times and some difficult times, but we've always stayed loyal to our student friends who have grown up now and become great adults."

“We have been able to embrace so many people that don't look exactly like we do, but who are exactly like we are. **And we love them all.**”

— Kay Peterson



LEFT: Peterson poses for a photo in Maverik Stadium's West Stadium Center in 2023 with former Aggie football player, Jerome Eason, and his son. Peterson, who taught many Civil Rights classes, has developed relationships with hundreds of student-athletes. *Photo by Levi Sim.* RIGHT: The Peterson family celebrates the graduation of two family members in 2020. *Photo courtesy of Ross Peterson.*

A Lasting Legacy

Milton R. Merrill, who worked at Utah State from 1927 to '65, was a mentor to Ross Peterson while serving under President Daryl Chase as USU's first vice president. Unfortunately, Merrill was very ill by the time Peterson returned to his alma mater as a professor, prompting him to request a visit from Peterson shortly before he passed away in 1971.

"He told me, 'You'll have a great career at Utah State if you remember three things,'" Peterson recalls. "One, never offend a secretary. Two, know the custodians by their first name. And three, remember, it's about the students."

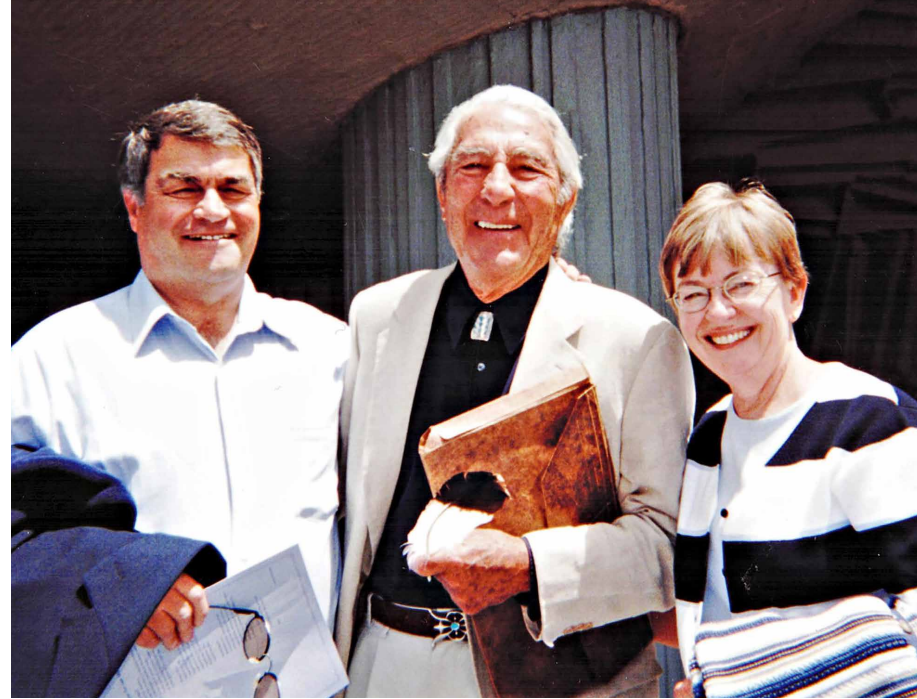
Peterson has remembered those words of advice for more than half a century. And similarly, Taylor still regularly consults the "Words of Advice from Dr. Peterson" that she wrote down while taking History 4720 in the spring of 2013.

"The four Essentials for Life are: Develop a passion for the place, develop a passion for the present, develop a passion for the future, and have a passion for people." And under the final item, Peterson also encouraged Taylor and her fellow students to "engage in others, no one is 'self-made;' act and help others to have better lives; help others accomplish things; remember the people that helped get me here; give back."

Taylor, who is the faculty advisor for the Black Student Union at USU, has taken many of those words of wisdom to heart as she transitioned from a student of Peterson's to one of his colleagues.

"It's been really, really cool because I had the man, the myth, as a teacher as an undergrad," Taylor explains. "But because he cares about me being a successful faculty member at USU, I've been able to learn and grow even more in the last six or seven years."

Cache Valley native Terrell Baldwin, a history teacher and coach at Sky View and Green Canyon high schools the past 28 years, was friendly with Peterson's sons growing up and went on baseball trips with the Petersons as a teenager. He eventually ended up at Utah State in some



TOP: Ross and Kay Peterson pose for a photo with former Arizona congressman and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall in 1997. BOTTOM: Peterson was able to walk in the 2018 Commencement procession with grandchildren Brandon, left, and Jamie Peterson. Photos courtesy of Ross Peterson.

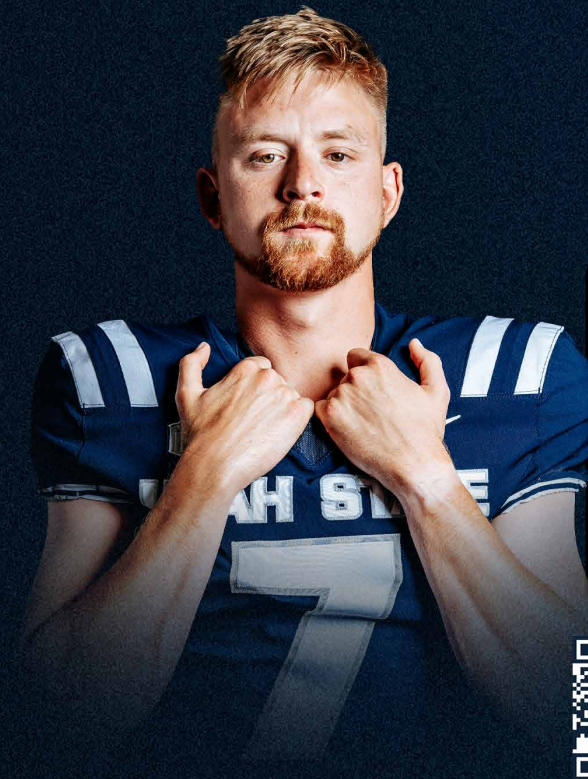


of Peterson's history classes on his way to completing a master's and two bachelor's degrees.

"Every time you're in Ross' presence, there's a teaching moment," Baldwin says. "He's the epitome of a true educator. He loves people, and he knows how to treat people. There isn't a day that goes by when I'm teaching a class that I don't think of Ross as a professor."

Baldwin, who also worked as a student assistant for Peterson for a time, notes that three other history teachers at Green Canyon were also taught and mentored by Peterson.

"It's really hard to describe the effect he's had on people's lives," Baldwin declares. "And I don't want his legacy to be forgotten because he's had such a huge, huge impact on so many people's lives." **A**



2024 HOME SCHEDULE

AUG. 31 × 6:00 PM VS ROBERT MORRIS	OCT. 19 × 2:00 PM VS NEW MEXICO
SEPT. 14 × 2:30 PM VS UTAH	NOV. 16 × 1:00 PM VS HAWAII
OCT. 11 × 7:00 PM VS UNLV	NOV. 23 × 1:30 PM VS SAN DIEGO STATE



CALL THE UTAH STATE TICKET OFFICE AT 435-797-0305, OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS

2024 UTAH STATE VOLLEYBALL HOME SCHEDULE



SEPTEMBER 6	VS. CALIFORNIA	SEPTEMBER 28	VS. WYOMING	OCTOBER 29	VS. NEVADA
SEPTEMBER 7	VS. PURDUE	OCTOBER 10	VS. NEW MEXICO	OCTOBER 31	VS. BOISE STATE
SEPTEMBER 19	VS. UTAH VALLEY	OCTOBER 12	VS. AIR FORCE	NOVEMBER 14	VS. UNLV
SEPTEMBER 26	VS. COLORADO STATE	OCTOBER 26	VS. FRESNO STATE	NOVEMBER 16	VS. SAN DIEGO STATE



SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS!



2024 UTAH STATE SOCCER HOME SCHEDULE

AUGUST 25	VS. TEXAS TECH	OCTOBER 3	VS. SAN DIEGO STATE	OCTOBER 20	VS. AIR FORCE
SEPTEMBER 8	VS. PACIFIC	OCTOBER 6	VS. NEW MEXICO	OCTOBER 31	VS. BOISE STATE
SEPTEMBER 19	VS. WASHINGTON STATE	OCTOBER 17	VS. COLORADO COLLEGE		



SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS!

AGGIE DNA:

Elder Gary E. Stevenson grew up roaming the halls of the Student Center with his father

By Timothy R. Olsen '09, '18 M.B.A.

Long before he was called as an apostle for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and long before he started what eventually became, at one time, the largest maker of fitness equipment in the world, Elder Gary E. Stevenson was an Aggie.

In fact, he was an Aggie even before he stepped onto Utah State's campus as a student.

"It was kind of a foregone conclusion for me, I never really thought about attending a different institution," Stevenson recalls. "It just was very natural for me to become a student at Utah State, and I have fabulous memories of being a student."

Stevenson's father, Evan, started his nearly five-decade run of employment at USU in 1955 — the same year Gary was born — as the director of the Student Union Building and coordinator of student activities. It was in that building, which includes the ballroom that bears his father's name, where he recalls some of his earliest memories. He especially remembers accompanying his father to campus on Saturday mornings where he would have free reign of the building now known as the Taggart Student Center while his dad worked.

Along with the various student activities Stevenson ('79) attended with his family through the years, he also developed a passion for Utah State University sporting events. He vividly remembers selling game programs at football and men's basketball games, because that guaranteed him a ticket into the building and allowed him to watch the games once he finished his job. He especially remembers watching his favorite player, Aggie legend Wayne Estes, play.

"I was in fourth grade when Wayne Estes had his tragic accident," Stevenson says. "I remember when the phone call came early, early — you know, four or five o'clock in the morning to our house — and [Estes] was my boyhood hero, and dad came down and told me what had happened. I didn't want to go to school that day, I just wanted to stay home and cry all day."

While those early memories certainly had a large impact on the 1973 Logan High School graduate, building the foundation of his love for Utah State and Cache Valley, that affinity and affection goes deeper. As someone who has been all over the world and visited dozens of countries and hundreds of communities, Stevenson says there is something unique about USU.

"The community and the university are kind of a fabric that's woven together very nicely, and I've found that's just not intuitive in every community that you go into, but it is at Utah State," he says. "I think it's part of a culture and when you begin a culture, good elements of a culture perpetuate themselves and negative elements perpetuate themselves. This happens to be a really a nice element that is perpetuating."

Creating an ICON

Brett Stevenson ('12), the third of Gary's four sons — three of whom graduated from USU — was 15 years old when his father was called as a mission president for the church's Japan Nagoya Mission. He

vividly remembers growing up in Japan during those formative years and learning much from his father about service and leadership. However, it wasn't until Brett had returned from his own mission and enrolled in school at Utah State that he began to really understand who his father was from a temporal perspective.

"I was interacting with a lot of people that had worked at ICON and had worked with my dad, when I really started to hear what he was like in his professional role. And that was what has had the biggest impact on me — how people spoke about my dad and how he treated them," Brett says.

"How he cared for them individually and knew them individually as a person and wasn't too tied up in the bigger picture of the business. He knew people and had an impact on their lives. Hearing them talk about the impact that he had on them personally, and their families, really started to open my eyes to even in business you can have those relationships, and you can have that impact with people that you work with and lead."

In the late 1970s, Stevenson, along with fellow USU students Scott Watterson and Brad Sorenson, was pursuing a degree in the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business. The trio had all recently returned home from serving church missions, Stevenson from the Japan Fukuoka Mission, Watterson from Taiwan, and Sorenson from the Pacific Islands.

As Stevenson recalls, it was a group project in his marketing strategy planning class that eventually led to what is now iFit. Initially known as Weslo Design International, the trio — along with early partner Blaine Hancy — incorporated

in 1977, two years before they would graduate, and began importing various products such as kitchenware and marble products from Taiwan. Eventually, trampolines were added, which was the company's initial foray into the health and fitness industry.

"I knew them before my time at Utah State, but we were also studying business together," Stevenson says of his friends and business partners. "And it was while we were doing that at Utah State that this idea of the creation of a business germinated and part of the nourishment of that idea that germinated was coming through our coursework."

"I have just clear memories, I could go through course, after course, after course — marketing research, and consumer behavior, and operations research, and economics ... there's just nothing quite like what a university campus and that teaching and learning experience."

Mixed in with Stevenson's professional and educational accomplishments in the late '70s was a personal milestone. In April 1979, just a few weeks before he graduated, he married Lesa Jean Higley ('80). When you factor in the time spent on campus as a boy, the beginning of a multimillion-dollar company, and meeting his spouse of 45 years, it's no wonder that just the mention of Utah State University brings a smile to his face.

"It's really nice to share that love of the university. I shared that with my family and parents and [Lesla] shares that with hers," Stevenson says. "We were in the community for many years, and so these traditions were just part of our family tradition — going to the football games and the basketball games and attending cultural events."

"So much of the life of Cache Valley revolves around the university and so much of our family life revolved around

the university. Now that we've left, we look forward to any opportunity we have; we find a way to get up there to participate in the university activities."

A Higher Calling

Those opportunities to spend time in Cache Valley or participate in university events, though, are getting harder and harder to come by.

In 2008, after more than 30 years, Stevenson stepped down as president and chief operating officer of ICON Health & Fitness — formerly Weslo and now iFit — as he accepted a call into full-time church service as a member of the church's First Quorum of the Seventy in the Asia North Area presidency.



Elder Gary R. Stevenson and his friends started the company that would eventually become iFit in 1977 — two years before graduating from USU. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

Then, in 2012, he was named presiding bishop of the church, where he oversaw various physical affairs of the church, including natural disaster relief efforts throughout the world. He continued in that calling until October 2015 when he accepted a call to serve as a member of the church's Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

"There's never an expectation of full-time church service, but so many of the principles that were foundational for me coming through my experience in the community and at the university have just been remarkable resources for me now in the capacity that I have," Stevenson says.

"[As a student] I heard somebody say this: remember to learn, remember to earn and remember to serve. And it doesn't always have to be sequential. While you're learning and earning you can be serving, but there is ultimately a progression you want to be thinking about. That's fabulous for any person studying any topic and

Stevenson has traveled throughout the world for both work and his church service, but he holds a special place in his heart for USU and Cache Valley. *Photo on the right by Levi Sim. Photos below courtesy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.*

serving in whatever capacity it might be. And I think that put an imprint upon me trying to be thoughtful about service."

Be it through his church service, his time leading a multinational company, or within his own home, Stevenson is eager to point out the positive impact his time at Utah State had on him. Meanwhile, his impact continues to be felt throughout the world.

"I just think some of the coolest stuff is the things that I didn't see or know

about, and it kind of comes out later on when people are sharing those stories about him and the impact he's had," Brett says. "That's kind of how he is, he was never out publicizing the things that he's done, so it's fun hearing those things from people that he's impacted, because there's no way he would have told us about this. Because he genuinely just does them and cares. I'm really proud of him and everything that he's done, and it's a great example to try to be like and to live up to." **A**



I am a

Huntsman Graduate.
Rodeo Queen.
Risk Taker.
Competition Winner.
Woman in Business.
Sales and Trading Analyst.



Jon M. Huntsman
School of Business
UtahStateUniversity



Cow to Cone



It's 6 a.m. on a typical summer morning in Cache Valley.

Mist from the cool night air hangs in low pockets on the west side of the valley as the sun-kissed tips of the Wellsville mountains preview the golden hue that will soon blanket the rest.

Up with the sun, Eloise grabs breakfast with some friends before heading off to work. Her job isn't glamorous, but her work brings joy to others. Plus, it's tradition — somewhere her family has worked for generations.

At nearly 7 years old, she may seem a bit young for the workforce, but she's actually in the prime of her life.

You see, Eloise is a cow. A Holstein in fact, and the daughter of the 2018 Richmond Black & White Days Grand Champion. That pedigree is a major factor for why she — along with three sisters and two daughters — are now providing up to 15 gallons of milk a day as members of Utah State University's 120-animal prized dairy herd.

Once located directly on USU's Logan campus where the University Alumni Center now sits, the herd is now housed in Wellsville at the university's Caine Dairy Teaching and Research Center on the east side of U.S. Highway 89.

It is here where the journey starts for the product USU is arguably most known for — Aggie Ice Cream.

Eloise, along with her family and friends, provide all of the milk used to create the university's beloved staple — plus a whole bunch more.

How an *Icon* Gets Made

By Timothy R. Olsen '09, '18 M.B.A.

Photos by Levi Sim · Icons by Elizabeth Lord '04 and the Noun Project

Eloise, one of the 60 Holstein cows that make up half of Utah State's dairy herd, is a third-generation Aggie. Her grandmother was in the herd, and she's added two daughters. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

Cow to Cone Process

Here's the Scoop on How Aggie Ice Cream is Made

Step 1: Milk the Cows

LOCATION:

George B. Caine Dairy Teaching & Research Center • 4300 S. Hwy 89/91



The Herd

The Caine Dairy's award-winning collegiate dairy herd

120
COWS

60 Holstein
Higher milk quality

60 Jersey
Higher protein and fat content (better ice cream!)

The health, nutrition, and comfort of the cows are top priorities of the Caine Dairy

An Aggie cow averages about

120-130
pounds of milk a week



The Farm

Robotic Feeder

Lely Juno automatic feed pusher

- **Increases** feed intake of cows
- **Improves** the cow's health, cleanliness, fertility, and milk production
- **Reduces** costs and labor time



Milking

A high-tech dairy using robotics, which increases milk volume and cleanliness

Robotic Milker

Lely Astronaut milker

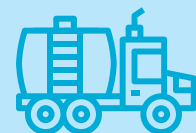
- **Identifies** the cow via a transponder on the cow's collar
- **Cleans** the cow
- **Attaches** the milker to the cow via a laser

Cows can self-milk up to

5x a day

One milker can milk up to

60 cows a day



Delivery

Keeps the milk clean, safe, and abundant

Store

Milk goes from the milking machines to a **holding tank**, then directly to the milk truck tanks to be shipped

Ship

Milk ships **3-4x** a week to the dairy lab

“Aggie Ice Cream is kind of that iconic product that brings back a very positive memory to every student, every alumnus, every family member who’s ever been at Utah State University,” says Dr. Ken White, USU’s senior vice president of the Statewide Enterprise and former dean of the university’s College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

“From an institutional standpoint we may have achieved things that, in a larger perspective, have a much bigger impact and broader outcome, but there’s probably nothing else that’s evolved out as a product of Utah State University that has this much ability to bring people together, to put smiles on faces, and regardless of what’s going on in their life, go back to a happy place.”

Starting in 1969 and up until 6 years ago, the USU herd — not to be confused with the USU HURD, the Aggies’ crazy student section — was comprised of only Holstein cows. But now, the herd is an even split of 60 Holstein and 60 Jersey cows. Dr. Bruce Richards ('04, '06), who until August was USU’s Dairy Extension Specialist and an assistant professor, says the Holsteins are known for larger quantities of milk, while the Jerseys’ milk has a higher fat and protein content.

At the dairy, Eloise and her friends can be milked up to five times per day and eagerly wait in line to participate in the automated process. The dairy is equipped with a pair of Lely Astronaut milking machines, and as the cows move into place the machine offers them a treat and gets to work. Some of the animals will go through the line as many as 30 times in a day, but they have a transponder on their collar that is recognized by the milking machine and if they come back through too quickly, or if they’ve reached their limit of five milkings, it will just usher them through.

“One of the things I think people don’t realize is that milk nowadays is never touched by human hands. It goes directly from the cow, through the milking machine through the hoses, to the line, to the milk tank,” Richards says. “When they come and pick up the milk, they hook up a hose to the bottom of the milk tank and

“There’s probably nothing else that’s evolved out as a product of Utah State University that has this much ability to bring people together, to put smiles on faces, and regardless of what’s going on in their life, **go back to a happy place.**”

—Ken White

take it directly to the Aggie Creamery and it’s kept clean and safe. And so, we really have the safest supply of milk that we’ve ever had in the history of the world and an abundant supply of milk.”

All told, the Caine Dairy sends out three to four truckloads of milk a week, but the Aggie Creamery only uses a fraction of that amount — roughly 5% — while the rest is sold to local cheese producer Gossner Foods. However, due to the Creamery’s limited space and size, when it separates the cream from the raw milk it can’t generate enough cream to meet its needs, so it purchases some of the USU herd’s cream back from Gossner.

Once the milk arrives at the Gary H. Richardson Dairy Products Laboratory on the Logan campus, though, the transformation to Aggie Ice Cream truly begins.

From the truck, the milk is moved into the Creamery’s separator, where the cream is separated from the raw milk and then the milk is deposited into the bulk tank.

As a premium product, Aggie Ice Cream sports a relatively high fat content — around 12% — when compared to the average ice cream. Generally speaking, ice cream has to have at least 10% fat content



ABOVE

Calves are prone to pneumonia and other diseases, so keeping them in individual pens reduces the risk of illness spreading and allows close monitoring.

PAGE LEFT

TOP: Every so often the Lely Juno automatic feed pusher makes a pass to make sure USU’s dairy herd is well-fed. MIDDLE: Former USU Dairy Extension Specialist, Dr. Bruce Richards, discusses some of the functions of the milking machines. BOTTOM: Cows line up to go through the milking machines. They can be milked up to five times per day, but will sometimes attempt to pass through many more. A fob in their collar prevents that from happening.

Step 2: Prepare

LOCATION:

Gary H. Richardson Dairy Products Laboratory • 750 N 1200 E



The Steps

Separator: Separates milk and cream, deposits to bulk tank



Pasteurizer: Kills bacteria

Ager: Ages the ice cream, making it smooth and creamy

Flavor Tank: Combines ice cream ingredients and adds flavor

- Milk
- Cream
- Nonfat dry milk
- Corn syrup solids
- Cocoa powder (chocolate ice cream)

Fat content of Aggie Ice Cream:

12%

(The industry standard is 10%, 14–16% creates a waxy mouth feel)

Aggie Ice Cream is aged overnight **6-12** hours

Step 4: Package



Prepare ice cream for sale and use by machine and hand

Hand pints come off the machine to be **hand sealed** every **1.25** seconds



Then the mixture is **pumped** to the freezer tube for

Step 3: Freeze

Step 5: Finish

Finish the process by **freezing** the ice cream quickly at cold temperatures and **store** at

-20°F

in walk-in freezer

The Steps



Freezer Tube: Freezes to right texture and consistency, **scraper blades** ensuring it freezes equally

Overrun: **Mixes in air** to get that fluffy texture that melts quickly in your mouth

Inclusions: Add the final tasty **ingredients**

- Nuts
- Chocolate flakes
- Flavor Swirls
- Cookie chunks

Aggie Ice Cream uses

80%

overrun (60% ice cream, 40% air)

(Industry standard is 100% overrun, 50% air and 50% Ice cream mixture)

Step 6: Eat and Share!



LOCATIONS:

Scooped and served on Logan Campus:

- Aggie Creamery 750 N 1200 E
- Blue Square 1111 N 800 E

Available for store purchase:

- Cache Valley
- Salt Lake Valley
- Heber Valley
- Southeast Idaho



to be considered ice cream, which is right where most ice creams stay. Some brands will push that fat content up to 14–16%, which can lead to more creaminess, but can also create a waxy mouth feel.

Once the cream is separated, it's combined with milk, sugar, corn syrup solids, nonfat dry milk stabilizer, and cocoa — if it's becoming chocolate ice cream — and then it takes a run through the pasteurizer to kill any potential bacteria. After the pasteurization process is complete, the next step is aging. However, unlike cheese where the aging process can take months or even years, the aging process for ice cream only take a few hours.

“The aging is pretty critical in ice cream making because it makes your ice cream really smooth and creamy,” says Annalisa Broadhead ('22) who served as the Creamery's research food scientist until the end of July when she left on maternity leave. “We're looking at 6 to 12 hours, typically, for our aging process. We almost always do it overnight and that will give us that nice smooth mix.”

After the aging process is complete, the real fun happens. The ice cream mix heads to the flavor tanks where the white mix becomes huckleberry, lemon custard, salted caramel, or whatever the flavor of the hour is. Once the mix has been flavored, it's pumped into the freezer tube, which is 3–4 feet long and has scraper blades on the inside to make sure the ice cream is frozen evenly throughout.

And what happens inside the freezer tube is another area where Aggie Ice Cream sets itself apart with something called overrun. This is the amount of air incorporated into ice cream, which helps

Once the milk from the dairy arrives at the Aggie Creamery, it undergoes a transformation into Aggie Ice Cream, one of the university's most beloved and recognized products. The process includes pasturizing the milk, adding in the proper fat and aeration, aging, and adding in the proper flavorings and inclusions.

give it that fluffy, smooth texture and ability to melt quickly in your mouth. The legal limit is 100% overrun, which is 50% ice cream and 50% air. If you've ever put a bunch of ice cream into a blender to make a milkshake and then mixed it up and wondered where all your ice cream went, there's a good chance you were using a 100% overrun product.

"We typically will go at 80% overrun, which means we're only putting 40% air into the same volume of ice cream," says Taylor Oberg ('14), an assistant professor in USU's Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences department. "So, kind of what it does, is it doesn't make it so airy and foamy in your mouth. You're still getting like the softness associated with whipping air into it, but still on that end where it's not crossing over to kind of feeling like whipped cream as you're eating it."

At this point, the final pieces of the flavor puzzle — or inclusions, as the nuts, chocolate flakes, and cookie pieces are called — get added to the mix. If the ice cream flavor also calls for a variegate or flavor swirl, it also happens at this point before the final product, still the texture of soft serve, comes out of the lines. At the Aggie Creamery, they then hand pack all the quarts and half-pints, while all their 4-ounce cups are filled automatically.

The final step is to freeze everything quickly at an extremely cold temperature to retain that signature smooth texture. The packaged products are moved into the Creamery's negative-20-degree freezer where they reside until they're moved to a tempering freezer prior to being served.

And being served it is — to the tune of roughly 58,000 gallons per year.

Along with the Aggie Creamery's traditional location on the east side of the Logan Campus, there is now a second Aggie Ice Cream location just west of Maverik Stadium at 1111 N. 800 East in Logan at Blue Square. However, Logan isn't the only place to enjoy Aggie Ice Cream these days. The product can be found in grocery stores throughout Cache Valley, as well some outlets in the Salt Lake Valley, Heber Valley, and southeast Idaho.

Despite that incredible growth, what really sets the Creamery apart is that



the production of its products is just a byproduct of its true purpose. After all, Utah State University, once known as the Utah Agricultural College, exists for the purpose of learning.

"Aggie Ice Cream is part of our department and is a strong component of our food science program," says Heidi Wengreen, the Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences department head. "There's not a lot of places where students can actually do research and get training in a production facility like we have, especially during their undergraduate program."

And it's that student research — along with a little bit of fun — that led to the creation of one of the Creamery's, and USU's, most beloved and recognizable products.

It was the beginning of the 2004 fall semester, and the university welcomed students back with its annual Day on the Quad event. The Aggie Creamery participated with a Design an Ice Cream contest and received over 300 submissions. From those, Don McMahon, who was the

director of the Dairy Products Laboratory at the time, along with the students in his dairy technology and processing class, narrowed it down to five finalists:

- *Chocolate* ice cream with marshmallow swirl and graham crackers
- *Vanilla* ice cream with brownie chunks and swirls of chocolate and caramel
- *Peppermint* ice cream colored blue with white chocolate chunks
- *Cake Batter* ice cream with chocolate and brownies
- *Vanilla* ice cream with blueberries and swirls of raspberry and chocolate fudge

Extras

58K gallons of ice cream are served every year

Aggie Creamery sells over **28** flavors of ice cream

Students gain hands-on industry training and experience in every step of the production process

Aggie Ice Cream funds the Dairy Products Lab's research and **5** full time staff

Aggie milk is sold as:

- Ice cream
- Milk
- Yogurt
- Cheese

Introduced in 2004, **Aggie Blue Mint** is the top flavor, making up **20%** of all sales

USU has one of only **6** dairy products labs in the country



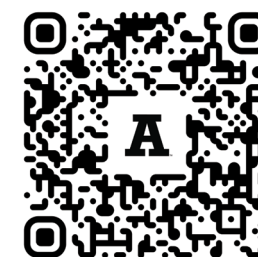
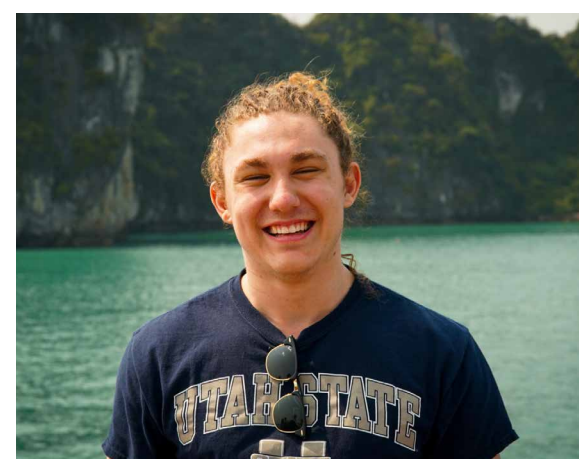
LEFT: Workers at the Aggie Creamery prepare a fresh batch of Aggie Ice Cream for storage in their negative-20-degree freezer. RIGHT: Utah State alums, Utah Gov. Spencer Cox and his wife, First Lady Abby Cox, enjoy a stop by Aggie Ice Cream while in Logan.

Submitted by Sarah Casperson and originally titled Aggie Iceberg, you can probably guess what the ultimate winner was. With a little tweaking, Aggie Blue Mint, the first USU-branded ice cream, was born. Now, 20 years later, that minty blue concoction makes up nearly 20% of all Aggie Ice Cream sales — more than double the next closest flavor.

"Usually, mint is a divisive ice cream flavor because people either love it or hate it," Richards says. They've done a good job of taking the milk that we that we produce out at the Caine Dairy and making an excellent, consistent product out of it in a variety of flavors that people love and enjoy."

So, the next time you take a bite of Aggie Ice Cream — be it True Aggie Night, Aggie Bull Tracks, Caramel Cashew, Aggie Blue Mint, or this author's personal new favorite, Aggie Joy — and indulge in that silky smooth sugary sweetness, tip your hat to Eloise and the herd of Aggies before her. **A**

Show your Aggie pride!



SUBMIT PHOTOS wearing your Aggie gear and you could win a USU swag pack and be featured in the next issue of the Utah State magazine.

UTAHSTATEMAGAZINE.USU.EDU



‘An Obligation of Love’: Heravi’s Generosity Towards Alma Mater Continues with New Building

By Jeff Hunter '96

The Merrill-Cazier Library is a quiet place today. And not just because it’s a library.

It’s mid-morning on a summer day, so the typical throng of students hustling in and out of the building’s front doors has slowed to a trickle, making it much easier for an impeccably dressed 83-year-old man to navigate the near vacant atrium.

While his destination is a room on the second story that bears his name, Mehdi Heravi is momentarily distracted by two paintings that adorn a nearby wall. Although Heravi has a room, the 305,000-square-foot library itself is named in honor of Milton Merrill and Stanford Cazier.

“I knew them both,” Heravi proclaims proudly as he walks past the portraits. “There’s not many people who can say that now.”

Merrill died at the age of 70 in 1971 after a long tenure at Utah State University in a variety of positions, most notably as USU’s first vice president from 1959 to ’65. And Cazier was an esteemed history professor who also served as president of the university from 1979 to ’91. He died in 2013.

Originally from Iran, Heravi was an undergrad and graduate student at Utah State from 1959 to ’64, and he interacted extensively with both men on his way to completing bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science.

But it’s clear that Heravi holds a particular fondness for Merrill.

“He was a good, decent human being, and a first-rate professor,” Heravi states. “He was just the best of everything, even though he had such a heavy administrative duty. Merrill was a good listener, and everyone respected and loved Merrill.”

It was while recalling his relationship with Merrill during an interview on the third floor of Old Main that Heravi suddenly decided he needed to make a trip to the Dr. Mehdi Heravi Faculty Seminar Room in the library.

Inside is a small collection of chairs and tables, bookcases and cabinets, and a large-screen television on the wall. The walls also hold an assortment of framed diplomas, academic awards, and photographs featuring Heravi with U.S. presidents, senators, governors, and university presidents.

But while he enjoys pointing out his photos with the likes of both President Bushes, longtime U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Mark Milley, Heravi is most proud of the succinct inscription adjacent to a black-and-white photograph of Milton Merrill: “To Mehdi with great good feeling. M R Merrill.”

“In those days, you didn’t say love to a man, but nowadays, you do,” Heravi notes with a smile. “That was the highest thing he could have said.”

Heravi clearly took Merrill’s personal note to heart.

Without a doubt, the beloved history professor, author, philanthropist, and founder of USU’s Heravi Peace Institute has strived to live his life with a “great good feeling” towards his fellow human beings.

Taking on the World

Mehdi Heravi first arrived in Utah in June 1958. And while a 16-year-old native of Iran doesn’t accidentally show up in a place like Cache Valley, it was definitely an unlikely set of circumstances that took him from Tehran to Logan.

He grew up in an affluent, well-educated family as the son of A.A. Heravi, an agricultural professor at the University of Iran. The elder Heravi, who attended the Sorbonne in Paris, sent Mehdi to school in England at the age of 9, with the intention of his son also ending up at a prestigious university in Europe.

But Heravi fell in love with American cinema as a teenager, and begged his father

to let him visit the United States before starting college. And while he anticipated going to a large metropolis like New York City or Los Angeles, his father’s relationships with some professors from Utah State led him to make just a brief stop on the East Coast before flying to Salt Lake City.

“When the plane was descending, I was certain that the captain had experienced a mechanical problem,” Heravi says of his surprise at landing in

an environment very different from the large urban areas he was familiar with like London or Paris. “The first week I was in Utah, I felt my father had exiled me. But I truly believe in fate, and it turned out to be the best thing for me. And even if it was an exile, it turned out for the best.”

After arriving in Logan via Greyhound Bus, Heravi lived in a hotel for a week before making contact with George Meyer, a longtime professor of languages who was serving as the international

student advisor at Utah State. Although Heravi wasn’t a student at the university, Meyer still helped the young Iranian find a small apartment on 200 North and get enrolled at Logan High School.

During Heravi’s senior year at Logan High — where he attended school with the notable likes of Nobel Prize winner Kip Thorne, NFL Hall of Famer and actor Merlin Olsen, and Quentin L. Cook, a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints’ Quorum of the Twelve

A native of Iran, Heravi completed his senior year at Logan High School in 1959 before enrolling at Utah State University. He ended up completing bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science by 1964. *Photo by Levi Sim.*



Apostles — he lived on his own. His father financed his \$20-a-month rent and daily meals downtown at Glauer's Restaurant.

"My fellow students were kind of shocked that a person of my young age was living by myself," Heravi notes. "But I enjoyed it very much. And after attending school in England, I was a very disciplined individual, and I didn't go astray."

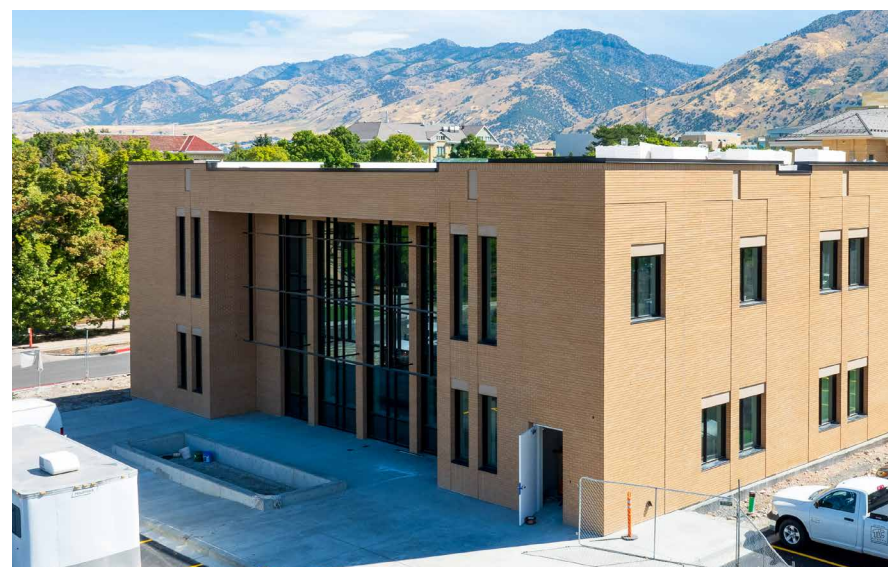
Although his father anticipated that Heravi would return to Europe when he graduated from high school in 1959, his son had become so enamored with Cache Valley and its people that, "After graduation, I really didn't even think of going any other place than Utah State."

Heravi thrived academically at USU, while also getting involved in numerous student organizations. He successfully ran for the position of independent senator as a junior, serving the entire campus on the student senate, while also developing close relationships with members of the faculty and administration, like Merrill, Cazier and former USU President Daryl Chase.

After graduating in 1963, Heravi stayed at USU to complete his master's, then remained for another year as a teacher's assistant. Finally, after six years in Logan, he reluctantly left in 1964 to pursue a Ph.D. at the American University School of International Service in Washington, D.C. Heravi completed his doctorate in 1967, then took a teaching position at Tennessee Technological University, where he spent another half dozen years before returning to Iran.

Heravi was serving as the vice president at the National University of Iran when things changed drastically in his homeland in the late '70s. Orchestrated by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the Iranian Revolution led to the overthrow of the Pahlavi dynasty and the taking of more than 50 American hostages at the American Embassy in Tehran in the fall of 1979. While that saga unfolded every night on the evening news for 444 days in the United States, it was a difficult and dangerous time for those involved in higher education in Iran.

But while his career was in shambles, Heravi's strong mental fortitude helped see him through those perilous challenges. Eventually he was allowed to leave



TOP: Mehdi Heravi, an alum of USU's College of Humanities and Social Sciences, has become one of the college's most beloved benefactors. *Photo courtesy of USU Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections & Archives.* BOTTOM: Construction on the Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center is nearly complete. *Photo by Levi Sim.*

Iran, and he returned to America with a renewed enthusiasm for peace and philanthropy.

"To have gone through this incredibly traumatic, personally horrific series of events at a stage of his life when he had been thriving. To have all of that work taken away and emerge hopeful about the future and hopeful about humanity when he saw such terrifying human behavior is truly inspirational," says College of Humanities and Social Sciences Dean Joe Ward of Heravi.

Ward first met Heravi in 2016 when he was interviewing for his position at USU. In true Heravi fashion, they just happened to meet in a hotel lobby and struck up a conversation, "And we've been great friends ever since," Ward says.

Heravi reconnected with Utah State University in the 1990s, but he's been more heavily involved with projects like the Heravi Peace Institute and numerous scholarships and endowments over the past 12 years. Although Heravi has lived in Washington, D.C., for more than three decades, he frequently returns to Utah and has recently been contemplating moving to Cache Valley on a full-time basis.

Heravi — who is rarely seen not wearing a suit and tie, complete with cufflinks, a watch and a pocket square — believes it's easy to be kind, and relishes getting to know new people, particularly students, whenever he visits his alma mater.

"Mehdi has shown our college and the university that Aggies can find a way to make a difference in the world, even when they're put in extremely difficult circumstances," Ward declares. "He's dedicated himself to promoting peace, promoting friendship, and building stronger communities."

"He leads through his philanthropy, but also just through his example of how to be an engaged person in the world."

The Language of Peace

While walking between Old Main and the Merrill-Cazier Library, Heravi takes in

the view of the immaculately landscaped Utah State campus — framed perfectly to the east by the Bear River Mountains.

"The Quad is so beautiful," he proclaims. "I've been on many college campuses, and nowhere is there a place as beautiful as this."

Already surrounded by some of USU's most notable structures, the iconic green space known as The Quad is in the process of welcoming a new building. Tucked away in the southwest corner, just beyond the cusp of Old Main Hill, construction is underway on the Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center.

Financed by donations from Heravi, Bob and DeAnn Fehlman, James Ratcliff, Ara Serjoie, Rosco Tolman, the State of Utah, the O.C. Tanner Foundation, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the two-story, 37,700-square-foot structure will house programs from USU's new Department of World Languages and Cultures — currently spread throughout four different buildings — in one location.

"My hope is that any person, especially the students who go through this building, will become a changemaker for the betterment of this society, this country, and the entire world," Heravi said in a statement when the building was officially announced. "I hope and pray for these students that they should not talk about or predict the future but instead they should create the future for themselves, and I am sure they will be successful."

Heravi was on hand for the groundbreaking on a chilly spring day in March 2022, and he plans to be on campus again this fall for the official opening. The ribbon cutting for the building is currently slated for Oct. 11, during this year's Homecoming festivities.

Needless to say, the completion of the new learning center is highly anticipated in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

"I walked through it a couple of weeks ago, and it's just spectacular," Ward says. "... In many ways, this building is the final piece of The Quad, and so you want something that looks like it belongs. And I think they've done that. From the outside, it's a fairly modest building. But

"It's very easy to be kind."

— Medhi Heravi

inside, you can just see all the different types of spaces. And the main purpose of the building is creating opportunities for people to meet and have conversations in a wide variety of languages."

Heravi, who received an honorary doctorate from former USU President Noelle Cockett in 2019, stated years ago: "I have faith in humanity. And hopefully will continue to have good health so I can achieve the things I want to achieve. Having a low aim in life is a crime. The sky is the limit and humanity is the priority."

At one time, the construction of the Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center certainly seemed like a "pie in the sky" type of dream. But it's become a reality, adding to Heravi's legacy of sharing his abundance with Utah State University. Heravi is currently attached to about 40 different scholarships in CHaSS, while also funding scholarships in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services.

And yet, he's still looking for more opportunities to support his alma mater.

"I still feel like I have a lot to do at Utah State," Heravi proclaims. "But it's an obligation of love. The money really doesn't matter that much to me," he clarifies. "It's knowing how a scholarship can really impact someone's life that makes it feel like an obligation of love." **A**

Twinning:

Lexie and Lindsay Kite are Changing the Body Image Resilience Game

By Timothy R. Olsen '09, '18 M.B.A.

Competition between siblings is not uncommon. That desire to be different, to stand out, to get better grades, or to perform better in various activities is a prominent driver in many adolescent relationships.

All of that is heightened for identical twins.

Every physical feature is analyzed from birth as a means to tell them apart. Common acquaintances look for a tell-tale mole or a little more roundness in the face to try and distinguish one from the other. Even close family members often have to do a quick scan to verify who they're interacting with. Regardless of who, or when, or what, though, the overwhelming go-to critique involves a review of physical attributes.

Lexie and Lindsay Kite are best-selling authors, prominent speakers, founders and co-directors of the nonprofit Beauty Redefined, 2006 Utah State University graduates, and Ph.D. holders from that crimson-colored school a little further south.

The Idaho Falls natives are also identical twins and have accomplished these things together each step of the way. Which, in hindsight, is a bit surprising, considering that coming out of high school, they didn't like each other all that much.

"I would say that our relationship and the way we came together through

this started very reluctantly," Lindsay recalls with a laugh. "When we were at Utah State, we were still competitors to each other. We were not best friends, we were not our greatest allies, we saw each other as competition. We still wanted to be the better one, the smarter one, the prettier one — all of that stuff.

"We were trying so desperately to be different, while still ending up in the same major with these very similar interests and passions and skills. So, we reluctantly agreed to join forces when we went to grad school, and we had not intended to go to grad school together."

At USU, Lexie (Journalism and Speech Communication) and Lindsay (Journalism and Women's and Gender Studies) were both profoundly impacted by their studies during their first year. Especially by a host of faculty members who played prominent roles in their development.

Former journalism and communications department head and emeritus professor Ted Pease and his wife, emeritus professor Brenda Cooper, had a significant impact on the duo. Emeritus professor Nancy Williams, along with current communication studies' professors Jennifer Peeples and John Seiter, also left a lasting impact on the Kites.

"They taught us to be brave. They taught us to ask questions, and to think critically. And that is the foundation of

everything we did," Lexie says. "I mean, it was easily one of the greatest times of our lives, and we've had great lives. Utah State was just such a formative foundational experience in being able to critically question what the impact of all the media we consume is, and even more broadly, to be able to really consider the kind of impact we can make on the world.

"And I know Lindsay and I were so driven at Utah State to do good, to make

a difference in the world, and to help people understand their power. And we learned that for ourselves while we were there."

The seed for many of those foundational experiences and much of that critical thinking was planted during Cooper's media smarts class. Developed with Pease in the early 2000s, the class was USU's first media literacy course. In that course, Lindsay remembers how the sisters both had "this incredibly inspiring

kind of goose-bumpy experience," during a discussion about the impact of media and how certain body types are presented more positively than others.

They realized body types they resonated with, and felt like more closely resembled theirs, were often portrayed as villains or the butts of jokes in the media — or oftentimes just left out altogether. As they delved further into their studies and really began to critically deconstruct the media and cultural messages being

delivered, it became apparent they had fallen into the trap. As Lindsay says, they had become competitors instead of allies.

"That was kind of the first steppingstone to see OK, maybe the things that we believed about our bodies and our worth through all this time could be questioned, could be chipped away," she remembers. "That was the beginning of a really deep interest in media studies generally, but also in women's studies in particular."



Both Cooper and Pease remember the Kites fondly and expressed pride in the work Lexie and Lindsay have done, as well as the women they've become.

"I can remember them as being unusually engaged in class," Pease recalls. "They were excited about the material and it's clear that something happened in their intersection with that class that set them on a certain trajectory."

Lexie says it almost felt like a calling.

"We felt so driven to, I mean, liberate might be too cheesy of a word here, but to really help girls and women see the objectification that had become so normal in the wallpaper of our lives," she recalls. "It was the way we spoke to each other and about each other, the way we bonded with our family members over dieting, and how other people looked how we wanted to look. It was just that objectification of women was so ingrained in our culture that we couldn't see outside of it."

It's no wonder the duo became leading experts in the field of body image resilience and media literacy.

Specifically, they say there are a couple unique things that set their work apart from what others in the space have been doing. The first thing, and it's something they said they first realized during their initial studies at USU, is that many of the interventions or things people are employing to help girls and women fix their body image issues and improve self-esteem aren't working. In fact, they say, many of those interventions can actually exacerbate the problem because they center on beauty as the fix to a woman's self-esteem or body image.

A common message or theme presented by the media and other literature is the notion that your flaws make you beautiful. Your stretch marks or your acne or your weight, these are all unique to you, and you're beautiful just the way you are.

On the surface, that seems like a positive shift away from the perception that you need to look a certain way to be considered beautiful, but as the Kites point out, this still frames beauty or feeling beautiful as the measuring stick for a confident self-image.

"We want girls and women to feel beautiful, sure, but we want them to know they are more than beautiful. They are more than bodies in need of fixing," Lexie explains. "We want people to be able to ... get back inside their own bodies, to see their bodies as an instrument for their own use, their own experience, their own potential first."

The second thing the Kites say sets their work apart is the way they approach the pathway out of that cycle of body shame so many people live with throughout their lives.

That cycle goes something like this: many people live in a comfort zone that is deeply uncomfortable but is the only zone their bodies have known. They don't really feel great about themselves, but do little things — diets, workouts, minor cosmetic procedures — to "fix" themselves, or they will hide themselves as necessary by avoiding social events or the pursuit of a promotion at work.

Eventually, though, something will shake people from this comfortably uncomfortable zone. And the Kite's research shows that people generally respond in one of three ways.

1. Sink deeper in shame and turn to self-harm such as cutting, drug and alcohol abuse, or disordered eating.

2. Do whatever it takes to cling to their comfort zone, which generally involves another round of fixing and hiding, such as kicking off the next fad diet or scheduling the next cosmetic procedure.

3. Address that shame and pain instead of pushing it further down and turning to one of the above options.

"I think some of the biggest changes we've seen are in the activism spaces," Lindsay says. "In a lot of those circles, we pioneered the idea of focusing more on body neutrality, on the instrumentality of your body and trying to fit ourselves into these roles of objectification where we gain power from being beautiful or feeling beautiful."

The Kite's research is cited in numerous studies and books, Lindsay delivered a TEDx Talk in 2017, and the pair has delivered several speaking engagements including at major companies such as Nike and Amazon, as well as dozens of universities. However, the culmination of their work — at least to this point — is their book, *More Than a Body: Your Body Is an Instrument, Not an Ornament*, which was released in 2020 and has sold more than 80,000 copies.

More than an overview of their research, the book helps "arm people with the tools to build resilience in a culture that objectifies and commodifies bodies," according to the *More Than a Body* website. The sisters also released a companion workbook to *More Than a Body* earlier this year.

"I wish that I'd had their book when I was teaching. It's really an excellent resource for students and professors in the academic setting, but importantly, it's something that all girls or women can relate to," Cooper says. "I think their starting with their personal story of how they also struggle with [body image] from an early age is something that women can relate to. It's such a personal way that they start presenting it, that people can relate to that much easier than they could any book I would have found when I was teaching the [media literacy] course."

To date, their book has been translated into three languages, Lindsay's TEDx Talk has been viewed nearly 400,000 times, and they've spoken cumulatively to hundreds of thousands of people. However, despite that unequivocal success, *Beauty Redefined* and all of its accoutrements is just a passion project for the duo.

In other words, it is not their day job.



Published in 2020, the Kite's book titled *More than a Body* has sold more than 80,000 copies. Photo courtesy of Lexie and Lindsay Kite.

Lexie, who lives in Salt Lake City, is a senior director of development and alumni relations for the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah, while Lindsay, who lives in New York City, is a development director for the Clinton Foundation.

"It has been interesting how their lives have paralleled each other against their wishes almost, because they were trying so hard to be separate," recalls their mom, Gina Kite. "I think it's really hard to be an identical twin because you're a unit, and people look at you as one. And so, to find your own identity, it's a little bit difficult. I think they made an extra effort to try to be different, but they'd always land back on the same page."

For their part, the sisters say they didn't want to rely on their passion project for their paycheck because they felt like it would take the joy out of it. And it's clear the passion they have for their work is part of what resonates so well with others, just like it resonated with them so many years ago in Logan.

"I feel like that class put words to their feelings ... and that's what they do now for women, they put words to our feelings and make things make sense and help us change," says Gina about her daughters' work. "They can describe what we go through, why we go through it, and why we don't have to go through it. It's just a matter of putting words to these frustrations and feelings and things that are our normal, and they don't have to be our normal anymore."

"They're helping women be better and more accomplished because we can step outside of ourselves and do what we need to do to not be so focused internally." **A**

"I know Lindsay and I were so driven at Utah State to do good to make a difference in the world, and to help people understand their power. And we learned that for ourselves while we were there."

— Lexie Kite

When Giants Die



Examining How Megacarcasses Impact the Ecosystem

By Lael Gilbert '01 • Illustrations by Elizabeth Lord '04



In life, big animals create outsized impacts in the places they live. They eat more, live longer, and move further afield than their more compact counterparts. Really big animals — rhinos, hippos, whales, and elephants — are a special class in this revolving natural account.

When those animals die, their remains represent a tremendous wealth of natural material with the potential for a long-lasting ecological legacy. And those thousands of pounds of disanimated meat and bone earn a name that reflects that big impact — megacarcass.

Surprisingly, researchers don't yet know all that much

about the specific ecological role megacarcasses play in terrestrial environments. Death ending inside an aquatic system on the other hand, tends to be more researched, says Ryan Helcoski, a graduate student from the S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources.

Abyssal ocean floors — the final resting place for many whales — are often sparse and easier to ecologically map, while rivers move remains — such as massive groups of expired salmon — linearly and are relatively easier to measure. But on land, an open, interactive, and vegetated landscape makes the breakdown of really big bodies like elephants a complex puzzle to track.

Big Death, Big Impacts

How the Death of An Elephant May Impact the Local Savanna's Ecosystem

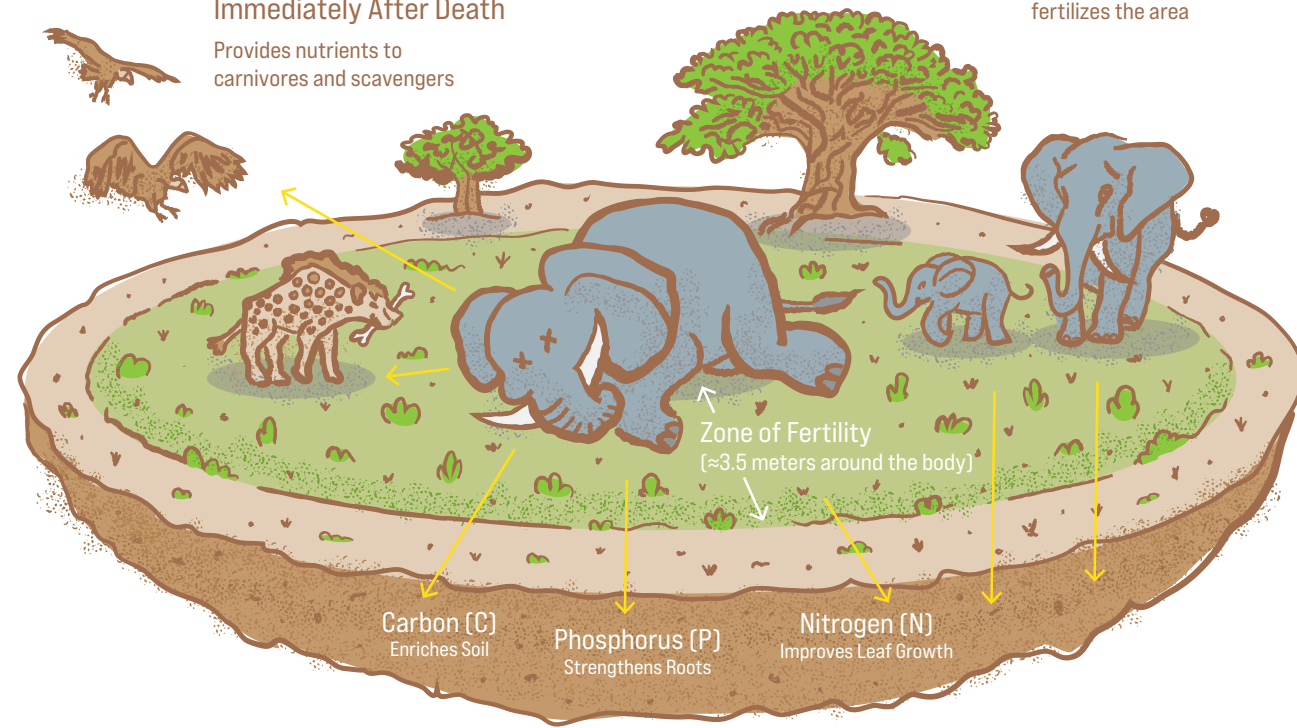
Location: Kruger National Park, South Africa • Species: *Loxodonta africana* (African bush elephant)

1 Predators Take Resources

Immediately After Death
Provides nutrients to carnivores and scavengers

2 Elephants Revisit Site

Up to 1.5 Years After Death
Herds leave behind dung that fertilizes the area



3 Potential Zone of Fertility Created

Exact Time Unknown (>1 Year)
Nutrient hotspots increase soil richness, allowing diverse plant life to flourish

Some plants that may benefit:

- Terminalia sericea* (silver clusterleaf)
- Acacia tortilis* (umbrella thorn acacia)
- Combretum hereroense* (russet bushwillow)
- Acacia nigrescens* (knobthorn)
- Sclerocarya birrea* (marula)

4000 kilograms of an elephant carcass produces:
 ≈800 kg of Carbon [C]
 ≈125 kg of Phosphorus [P]
 ≈300 kg of Nitrogen [N]

Helcoski and his mentor, Johan du Toit, a longtime USU professor and now director of science at the Zoological Society of London, are working with a team pursuing some of the first research into terrestrial megacarcass ecology in one of the last places on earth where megaherbivores still roam — Kruger National Park in South Africa. With 7,000 square miles of open veld, dense bush, and scattered baobab trees where elephants have (mostly) free rein, it is an ideal place for researchers to answer a very basic question: What impact does a very large dead animal have on its environment?

The biggest dead animals on land are African bush elephants. Male bush elephants don't reach full size until around 40 years old and can live up to 70. When an animal like that ceases life, it leaves behind 13,000 pounds of raw ecological potential.

When a coyote, woodchuck, or waterthrush meets its ultimate demise, an inevitable chemistry kicks in. Those animal remains are reabsorbed, one way or another, back into a bigger ecosystem. Carrion becomes food for scavengers, fertilizer for plants, or bounty for insects and fungi. Fur and feathers eventually surrender to sunshine, moisture, and microbes, breaking down into keratin components. The stripped bones decompose and weather over the course of years and crumble into soil, releasing calcium, phosphorus, and other minerals.

That is all compounded exponentially for a megacarcass, which delivers an enormous pulse of nutrients — an intense and temporary infusion of carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus — into a hungry system. Those elements are critical for any form of life, and depending on the environment, often in short supply.

In the first hours after death, those resources begin to be dispersed. Scavenging carnivores visit and efficiently remove and consume pieces of the carrion. Then things slow down but remain in morbid motion. Helcoski closely monitors bone field dynamics — how the massive femurs and skulls migrate across a site — as part of this NSF-funded project, and what exactly is driving that movement. He also measures bone nutrient deposition, or how the chemical composition in the bones changes over time.

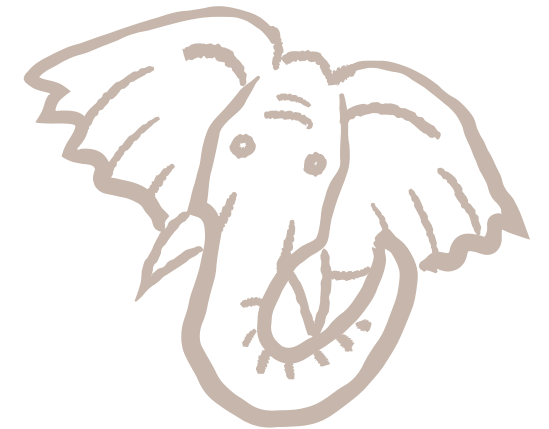
"I'm looking at whether a bone that's 10 to 20 years old releases the same amount of phosphorus into the soil as a brand new bone. We are exploring whether older bones may even have a relatively bigger impact on their environment than new ones," he says.

He's also measuring the enriched soil found at megacarcass sites, and observing how it impacts plant growth. This can be tricky since the most nutrient-dense and healthiest plants become a magnet for hungry grazers.

"You can't just measure the height of a plant to gauge the fertility of the soil because the best-growing plants often become the shortest when they are grazed," he says.

Helcoski hypothesizes there may be a halo effect in the vegetation around megacarcass sites — radiating rings of enriched soil and strengthened plants that fade further out to a baseline normal.

Male bush elephants don't reach full size until around 40 years old and can live up to 70. When an animal like that ceases life, it leaves behind 13,000 pounds of raw ecological potential.





USU graduate student, Ryan Helcoski, and his mentor, longtime USU professor, Johan du Toit, have been studying the outsized-impact megacarcasses have on the environment around them. *Photo courtesy of Tom Bouyer.*

Living elephants, who tend to be fascinated with their dead comrades, add another really interesting factor to some of these sites. They will frequently visit their recently deceased, sometimes standing silently in a group around the carcass. They leave the site and then return often, for at least a year and a half, to investigate and explore, handling tusks, stroking teeth with their trunk tips — perhaps as a way to identify individuals it's been hypothesized — and vocalizing.

Visiting elephants drop piles of dung around each carcass, and the dung includes the seeds of their favored food plants, now deposited on nutrient-enriched soil.

“We are thinking that these areas are somehow basically different,” Helcoski says. “Between the nutrient cycling, scavenger activity and elephant traffic, they are in some way set apart from the surrounding ecosystem. We want to know more about what that means, exactly.”

“It’s a project that is designed for exploration,” du Toit says. “We don’t

know what we are going to find exactly, but we want to learn how megacarcasses influence biodiversity.”

The work is fascinating and fundamental, which begs the question why these are the first forays into this research topic. The short answer is that the circle of life is surprisingly hard to quantify.

“If a squirrel is ripped to shreds in a forest, that nitrogen will eventually get back into the soil where plants and microbes will take it up,” Helcoski says. “But it is such a small amount, and spread so widely, there is really no accurate way for us to track where the nutrients are going.”

The breakdown of a megacarcass has many of the same functional processes as the squirrel, but the size makes it much more feasible to observe, map, and measure.

“This work is globally important because all terrestrial ecosystems had megaherbivores — and therefore megacarcasses — before humans changed

everything so radically,” du Toit says. “And we need to know what patterns and processes in nature have faded away as megaherbivores have disappeared from almost all of their former ranges.”

And Helcoski hopes this knowledge will benefit more than academics. He sees strong potential for using this basic ecological illustration to help people understand the fundamental principle of nutrient cycling.

“It’s a notoriously hard thing for people to get the hang of,” says Helcoski, who taught high-school level science for a decade. “You usually get graphs and arrows and you are supposed to absorb all these different and complicated paths completely in the abstract.”

But death is simple and impactful, he says. He plans to use his research to create educational materials that teach nutrient cycling and focus specifically on big deaths and the fascinating ecological processes they ignite. **A**

SECURE YOUR SAVINGS WITH A **FREE INSURANCE QUICK QUOTE**

IT'S A CINCH!

Unlock exclusive benefits with your USU Alumni status!

As a member of the USU Alumni community, you have access to exclusive discounts on auto and renters insurance from top-rated carriers, including Travelers, Safeco, Farmers, Progressive, Nationwide, Cincinnati, and Hartford.

Speak with one of our local agents today to find the right insurance coverage for your needs and receive a FREE Utah State belt bag!



For a **FREE** quote call **877-449-2962** or visit **usucu.org/USUAlumniInsurance**

Goldenwest
INSURANCE SERVICES

USU Credit Union
a division of **Goldenwest**

Insurance products offered by Goldenwest Insurance Services, in partnership with USU Credit Union and the USU Alumni Association. Insurance products not insured by the NCUA. Purchasing insurance products will not impact the extension of credit. Limit one belt bag per household. The belt bag will be mailed out within 60 days from the receipt of the insurance quote. No purchase necessary.

Finding Home

A WORLD AWAY

By Timothy R. Olsen '09, '18 M.B.A.

Jeff Dahdah and Amy Reid, both 2016 Utah State University graduates, couldn't have imaged a year ago where they'd be now. The couple had settled back into life in Utah after some time living in the Midwest and were enjoying continued success in their chosen profession. However, frustrations with that profession and a desire for a greater impact pulled them in a new direction.

Now, a year later, the pair leaves their house and listens to their favorite radio morning show, "Khaled and Dana in the mornings," and tries to pick up new phrases from the hosts. It's not always the easiest task, because the hosts mix in some Arabic, a language the U.S. State Department classifies as a Category IV or "super-hard" language, with their English. It's one of only five in that category, and takes approximately 88 weeks, or 2200 class hours, to learn.

But Jeff and Amy are learning, slowly, each day, because they are now working

at a school in the Middle Eastern country of Jordan, where Arabic is the primary language.

Located in the city of Amman, the Abdul Hamid Sharaf School — which is primarily English-speaking — was started in 1980 by Jeff's grandparents and is now run by his uncle and father. Since arriving to the country in January of this year, the couple has been working at the school — an eclectic K-12 day school that houses a diverse population of roughly 600 students. It's something they wouldn't have dreamed of just a few months prior.

"Definitely like a little bit of culture shock at first," Jeff says. "I think the first month we were here we were just like, 'What are we doing?'"

Despite their recent foray into the educational world, the couple started out on a very different path. They met at Utah State University in 2015 while navigating the university's broadcast journalism program and working for the student

newspaper, *The Utah Statesman*. Upon their graduation in 2016, they both landed jobs working for KMVT News in Twin Falls, Idaho, where they spent two years before moving on to reporter and multimedia journalist jobs in Madison, Wisconsin.

It was there they got married in February of 2021 by a judge with only two friends in attendance as their families watched on Zoom. In true pandemic — and Wisconsin — fashion, they tied the knot outside while it was a brisk minus-20 degrees.

That fall, Jeff and Amy returned to Utah to work for KSL — Amy as a producer and Jeff as a photojournalist. But in December 2023, Amy left due to growing frustration over the media's portrayal of the conflict in Gaza and Jeff also began pondering other opportunities. As they contemplated what to do next, an interesting option emerged, one that would take them halfway across the world.

Jeff, who is part Palestinian, has family he grew up visiting in Jordan, and is a dual citizen of the United States and Jordan, has always struggled with the media's portrayal of the conflict between Palestine and Israel. Those frustrations only became more pronounced with the recent conflict in the Middle East.

"I really believe in and believed in journalism when I got into it, but it always felt like it fell short. I switched my major to journalism in 2014 when there was a war in Gaza because I wanted to see more Arab voices. I used to joke that [Utah State] was probably the only state school that was getting an education in Middle East foreign policy through their student newspaper.

"I was always wanting for something more out of it, and as rewarding as



Amy Reid and Jeff Dahdah moved to the Middle Eastern country of Jordan at the beginning of 2024 in search of an opportunity to make a greater impact in the world. *Photo courtesy of Jeff Dahdah.*

journalism was for me in all these other ways, there was this really personal way for me that it felt like I was just pushing a mountain that would not move. I'm just like, 'Hey, let's be sympathetic to Arabs, let's just try to be human with Arabs.'

Now, living less than an hour away from the Israeli border and roughly three hours away from the Gaza Strip, that human element has taken on a whole new meaning. Several of the teachers and students at AHSS, along with much of the population of Jordan, have ties to Palestine as many Palestinian refugees settled in Jordan after the creation of the State of Israel in 1948.

"Every tiny update is something that the entire school is talking about, even like young kids care very deeply about these small updates, which is kind of sad,"

Amy says. "When I'm putting together my lesson plans, I'm like, 'Is this really appropriate for a fifth grader?' But they're talking about this anyway, on their own. They're reading about this anyway, on their own. And it's really sad to see such young kids have to be faced with something like that."

However, as heavy as things may be at times, Jeff says day-to-day life in Amman — a place he visited throughout his childhood while growing up in Salt Lake City — is as peaceful as it's always been, and the visible effects of the nearby conflict are minimal.

And while the student population is primarily Jordanian, the school houses students from all over the world. Students from Singapore, Korea, Ukraine, and Guatemala, among many other countries,

attend AHSS — many working on their third or fourth language. While more commonplace now than when the school opened in 1980, that kind of diversity is still one of the things that makes the school so unique. At that time, schools were mostly split between Muslim or Christian students, and while that is still the case for many, AHSS was one of the first to offer a place for students who didn't fit into those demographics.

"You look at the landscape now and there's a lot more schools like this," Jeff says. So, while there's still the public schools, segregated based off gender, the religious schools segregated based off faith, there are also a lot of like American system and British system schools that are kind of on this same model."

Though navigating such dramatic career and lifestyle shifts at the same time has been a lot for Jeff and Amy, the feeling of making a difference in the world continues to motivate them daily.

"I think as different as the cultures are, and like, we don't even fully speak the same language. I have to slow down every single lesson that I do and consciously talk slowly so that they can understand what I'm saying," says Amy, who grew up in Sandy. "But even with all that, it just feels like, in a way, time I'd spend in a school in the U.S. They're just kids and ... they're just caring people."

"It's hard to see these images and videos that we'll see coming out of Gaza. Those kids are just like the kids that I'm teaching every day. Those adults look just like the teachers or the parents that are coming in [to the school]. I feel like I had so much humanity before, but it just feels so personal now."

Jeff agrees. "Yeah, I don't think there's anything quite as healing as just person-to-person contacts and relationships," he says. "After spending so much time just seeing people in the worst states possible, mentally, physically, and then getting to see people that look very much like that just run around and play at recess or like get excited when they learn something, it's been very healing. It's putting a positive face on these people instead of a tragic face." **A**

"I don't think there's anything quite as healing as just person-to-person contacts and relationships."

— Jeff Dahdah

AND NOW WE CAN HOLD THE STARS

By Raegan A. Edelman '24

When I was a little girl, I knew that I was destined for the stars.

I spent months begging my mom for a “Moon in My Room,” and a solar system kit to go with it. I’d drift to sleep hearing stories of the stars and the neighboring planets, dreaming that one day I’d be playing among them.

I didn’t fully understand the implications of going to space. I didn’t know about the dangers. I figured it was only a matter of time before the first kid would go. And with that in mind I wondered, “Why not me?”

It had been nearly 50 years since Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space, followed just a few years later by Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman. The Soviet Union’s early successes in space led President John F. Kennedy to call for our nation to commit itself to “landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth.”

For that to happen, Kennedy said on May 25, 1961, it would take the help of everyone. “In a very real sense, it will not be one man going to the moon — if we make this judgment affirmatively, it will be an entire nation.”

Where one extraordinary person went, we all could go.

We invested accordingly. NASA’s budget in the 1960s represented roughly 4% of all federal spending. And fueled by that support, we quickly reached our goal. Neil Armstrong became the first person to set foot on the moon in 1969.

And then it was done. We’d been there. We’d done that. Excitement faded. It was as if that one step was the final destination and not one giant leap for mankind. By the 1970s, NASA’s budget had fallen to about 1% of federal funding.

Which meant that NASA needed a PR win — and it got one in 1981, when

the agency began sending eight astronauts at a time into space using an orbiter launched with two reusable solid rocket boosters and a disposable external fuel tank.

And there was something in the word NASA used to describe this vehicle — “shuttle” — that invoked the idea that soon, maybe very soon, we could all take a trip to the moon. The program allowed people to see themselves in the stars.

So when NASA chose a middle school teacher from Concord, New Hampshire, to travel to space, the quest drew global attention. Christa McAuliffe’s opportunity was widely publicized. She did dozens of interviews about how she prepared and trained to be eligible for space, and she became America’s scientific sweetheart.

Where one ordinary person went, we all could go.

The shuttle program was offering a chance for anyone to touch space. There was even an application process to find a journalist to be a citizen passenger on an upcoming shuttle. The hope, journalist John Noble Wilford wrote a few weeks before the Challenger launch, was that eventually “poets, painters, laborers, musicians and others would get to fly.”

McAuliffe’s well-publicized training happened long before I was born, but my nana, Vikki O’Brien, remembers it well, because she felt a special connection to the fellow teacher.

“Not only was she a teacher,” she remembers, “but she was a woman, and she was a mother. She could have been your neighbor.”

On the day of the launch, she told me, “I was standing because it was just so intense. I couldn’t sit to watch any of it. I stood, and I stood just feet from the TV. I simply couldn’t sit.”

Finally, space was accessible to anyone.

And then it wasn’t.

“It took off and everything was normal. And then as I was watching, you saw this object in the sky, and then you didn’t. And then you saw things coming down, and you realized something was wrong,” she recalls.

Reflecting on the explosion the next day, Wilford wrote, “whenever shuttles are again prepared for launching, the nation will probably follow the countdown with a hushed dread.”

That was true, even as dozens of safe shuttle missions were completed in the coming years. And when the Columbia shuttle fell apart upon reentry in 2003, killing the seven crew members on board, the dread grew.

By that time, though, space had already become a stomping ground for rich dudes — in 2001, a billionaire named Dennis Tito bought a seat on a Russian rocket headed to the International Space Station.

Where one rich person went, perhaps other rich people could go. But the rest of us?

Anyone can grow up to be a teacher, but a billionaire?

I was 10 when the shuttle program ended with a 12-day trip to space for Atlantis in July of 2011. I was devastated. Most of the nation, though, seemed to just shrug.

Today the shuttles are museum pieces. You can see Atlantis at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Discovery is at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Virginia. Endeavour is at the California Science Center. And the Enterprise is in the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

NASA’s big-budget era is a relic, too. Today, the agency works with less than half a percent of the national budget.

In the two decades that I have been alive, there has not been a person on the moon — nor much talk, until recently, about putting one there. And chances are good that, when it finally does happen, it will just be another billionaire pretending that they have the right stuff. And if they do make it there, they’ll take a small step where others have already trod.

When Atlantic took its final voyage,

Wilford wondered about what it all meant.

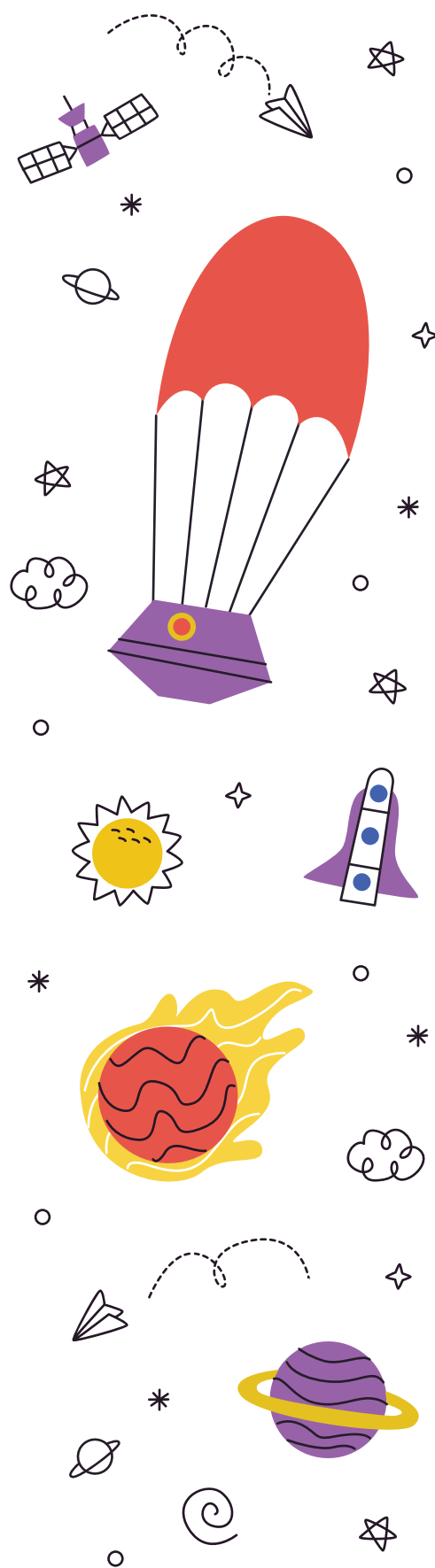
“Whatever happened to the space age as imagined back in the 1950s and early ’60s,” he wrote in the *New York Times*, “when science fiction writers and rocket scientists spun tales of travel out in the solar system and beyond?”

The answer, I think, is that we could no longer envision ourselves touching the stars.

But that might change soon.

I was a freshman in high school in 2016 when a rocket launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida. Its payload was a spacecraft called OSIRIS-REx, which was destined for a gigantic mass of rock called Bennu — the deep space object most likely to strike our planet, although the odds are something in the neighborhood of 1 in 2,700 (0.037%), and it wouldn’t happen until 2182.

OSIRIS traveled nearly 200 million miles before reaching Bennu on Oct. 20, 2020, touching down for just seconds as it collected its sample — and almost getting stuck in the viscous rocks of the asteroid’s



Recent USU graduate, Raegan Edelman, has long been inspired by space and had an eye towards the stars. The recent retrieval of the largest-ever uncontaminated asteroid sample, and Utah State’s role in it, gave her a renewed hope for the future. Photo by Levi Sim. Illustrations by Elizabeth Lord '04 and Freepik.



surface — before engaging its thrusters and beginning the voyage home.

And this was a success, in part, due to the efforts of the Space Dynamics Laboratory at my very own alma-mater, Utah State University.

“When we were selected, we were pretty excited to be a part of such a daring mission,” says Jed Hancock, the director of the SDL’s Civil Space Division. “That’s the first planetary sciences mission that the Space Dynamics Lab and USU have really had a major part in.”

The Space Dynamics Lab headquarters consists of over 540,000 square feet of facilities in North Logan, just north of Utah State’s Logan campus. Around 50 of SDL’s 1,300 employees had the unique opportunity to work closely with the OSIRIS-REx mission.

“We had a lot of students,” Hancock said. “Students work on everything that we work on. They’re an imperative part of our workforce and everything that we do.”

The SDL was responsible for supplying identical detector assemblies for the three cameras that were attached to the spacecraft. The cameras were used for global mapping, site reconnaissance, high-resolution imaging, and recording the sample acquisition.

“It’s an exciting time,” says Alan Thurgood, the division director for civil and commercial space. “NASA is doing a lot of really, really great science and a lot of really great things, and we’ve been lucky enough to be involved with some of them.”

For Hancock, and many members of his team, seeing the impact of the mission was awe-inspiring. While attending major reviews of some of the technology, he was blown away by the “hundreds and hundreds of people in the audience from NASA and from all over the country.”

This mission meant a lot to a lot of people.

“It helped us understand the seriousness and the gravity of what was expected and hoped for. And the expectations were out of this world — literally,” Hancock says.

If the mission was a success, maybe

space wasn’t so out of reach after all.

It took OSIRIS-REx about two years to get from Earth to Bennu, where it circled the asteroid and used the OSIRIS-REx Camera Suite, or the OCAMS, to observe the surface of the asteroid and decide the best course of action for the sample grab.

And it wasn’t easy.

“For two years they were using the cameras to map out the asteroid,” Thurgood says. “When they got there, it had a lot more rocks and a lot larger rocks than what they were expecting from the data from ground telescopes.”

They had expected to see large, smooth areas where they could touch down on the surface and collect the sample. In and out, without a hitch. But that wasn’t what they found.

“They actually had to change some of their algorithms on the spacecraft to be more accurate with where they touched down so that the spacecraft wouldn’t hit any of the boulders around it,” Thurgood explains.

The team eventually settled on a site they named “Nightingale,” and using the OCAMS, they carefully collected the material from the surface.

For nearly two years, the OCAMS gathered images and data to create a detailed model of Bennu, map its chemical composition, and produce terrain maps and global image mosaics. And the cameras very well may have saved the mission — shortly upon the capsule touching down, Bennu threw a curveball.

“I call it the trickster asteroid,” says Dante Laurretta, who heads the OSIRIS-REx science team. “It always surprises us.”

The surface of the asteroid had been hard enough to land on, with the large boulders creating very few possible landing areas. But it also turned out to be viscous. When OSIRIS-REx made contact with Bennu, the spacecraft began to sink.

“If we had not fired those engines to back away from Bennu, I think we would have just sunk in like quicksand and the spacecraft would have disappeared,” Laurretta says.

But with the help of the thrusters, and



NASA’s OSIRIS-REx, the first U.S. mission to collect a sample from an asteroid, returned to Earth on Sept. 24, 2023, with material from asteroid Bennu. Upon arrival, the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft released the sample return capsule for a landing in the Utah desert. *Photo courtesy of NASA.*



the OCAMS, they were able to launch the spacecraft back quickly. They didn’t leave it or the sample behind on Bennu. What they did leave, however, was a giant crater.

The crater was about 25 feet across, when the team expected only 10–20 inches.

“The surface really just erupted in a massive way. And some great science came out of that — we really learned a lot about the nature of these bodies,” Laurretta says.

The OCAMS meant it was possible to further observe this impact.

“After they collected the sample, they continued circling around and mapping it with the cameras. And they could actually see the spot where they had touched down. They could see how much the material in that area had been disturbed,” Thurgood says.

Thurgood has been at the SDL for 45 years. In partnership with USU, the lab has been a part of around 420 successful space missions. But none have been quite like this.

The sample — undiluted by Earth’s atmosphere — could very likely contain secrets to understanding the origin of the universe.

On Sept. 24, 2023, the spacecraft finally re-approached Earth and released a capsule containing the largest-ever uncontaminated asteroid sample, sending it on a ballistic trajectory and into a 63,000-mile freefall.

“The fact that it was going to return to Earth, that just doesn’t happen,” Hancock says.

The mission has been in the works for longer than I’ve been on the planet, and it just so happened to come to a head in the middle of the sprawling desert in Dugway, Utah, about 100 miles away from where I live.

I was there.

Starting at five in the morning, I huddled among other journalists and scientists eager to witness the historic landing. Everyone was on their third cup of coffee — at least — but the jitters were better attributed to adrenaline and anxiety as we waited for word that the capsule was successfully deployed and on its final leg of space travel.

We waited for the parachute. And we waited. And then, there it was. People around me were crying.

“That’s when I emotionally just let it go,” Laurretta says. “You know, tears were streaming down my eyes. I was like, OK, that’s the only thing I needed to hear. From this point on, we know what to do. We’re safe. We’re home. We did it.”

A helicopter team was deployed to retrieve it, and in a little more than an hour’s time the capsule was in a clean room where technicians began preparing to take it apart.

“Boy, did we stick the landing,” Laurretta says.

I felt the magic, too. NASA — and USU — had inspired me in ways I’d never felt before. I was a little kid again.

This sample literally contains space dust from the edge of everything. Scientists have managed to bring it to us entirely untouched, perfectly clean from

the materials and composition of Earth’s atmosphere.

“It’s more than just a pile of rock to me,” Laurretta says. “It’s a scientific time capsule from the very beginning of our solar system. It’s older than the Earth and it really tells us about where we came from.”

Both temporally and geographically, this thing comes from farther away than any of us can even begin to imagine — and this is an opportunity for people to feel connected to space in a way that we haven’t since 1986. And maybe in a way we didn’t even then.

Maybe inspiration comes not by sending us to space, but by bringing space to us.

We have collected things from space before — moon rocks and meteorites. Some of these objects are on display at space museums around the world. But these are things that were relatively close to Earth to begin with or have come here as shooting stars. The closest a human could ever fathom traveling is within our own solar system, and that’s not likely to happen within the next century. Bennu may have existed before our solar system and this sample of it is more untarnished than the moon rocks and meteorites before it.

For the first time ever, humans can have an encounter with something from the furthest edges of our universe.

“I’ll have these moments of just like, ‘Oh, yeah. We’re going to have this asteroid sample. It’s going to be something that has never been seen before,’” says Melissa Rodriguez, who led the team that

dismantled the capsule.

And now, the OSIRIS-REx sample is home, and being divided among scientists, like Rodriguez, who work all over the world.

Thousands of people will have a hand in examining these specimens.

Future missions to asteroids and other space objects could mean that hundreds of thousands, millions, maybe even billions of us could have our own encounter with the farthest reaches of space and time.

Where one humble spacecraft goes, we all can go.

NASA did this, after all, for a fraction of what it costs to put people in space. The idea for the mission was originally drawn out on a cocktail napkin. It was pitched multiple times before it was approved, and when it finally got the green light, the team had to keep its budget extremely tight. They did it all for just over \$1 billion dollars. By way of contrast, NASA spends \$9 billion each year on human spaceflight.

Both in terms of cost and manpower, making space accessible to everyone is once again possible — and tangible in ways that historic missions simply were not.

I didn’t sleep the night before the OSIRIS-REx capsule came home. By the time I’d returned from Utah’s West Desert the next day, it was growing late in the evening, and I had been awake for more than 24 hours. But I still couldn’t sleep.

The stars were out, and I was looking at them with a wonder I’d never had before. **A**



PERSUASION

AND THE ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Text and Photos by Levi Sim

The most consistent thing about my job is persuasion. I am constantly persuading people to let me make a photo, put them in a photo, or do something for a photo.

For instance, let me persuade you that being a photographer isn't an exclusive club.

Photography is the technical art, which is marvelous. Even if you don't have an artistic bone in your body, you can follow the rules and make a decent photograph. I hope you do, and I hope you claim the title "Photographer." Nobody criticizes a runner for not being an Olympian, and no one criticizes an equestrian for not competing in rodeos. Being a photographer doesn't mean you're a pro who only makes amazing pictures, and it doesn't mean you have to use expensive tools. Being a photographer only means you make pictures that matter to you.

I make pictures that matter to me — I just don't have time for anything else. I make pictures that are used to persuade my fellow humans to spend their money and time to go to school at USU. And you better believe I believe in it. My degree, which is not in photography, has offered opportunities I couldn't otherwise find. I've seen the impact of a degree in my life and the power of education around the world. Persuading people to pursue it is worthwhile.

That's why I make pictures of students in foam hats at football games. I've been paid to photograph a lot of things in the last 15 years as a full-time photographer. From soccer jerseys and cadavers to the Ritz Carlton in Hong Kong. However, none of those pictures have had the impact of my photos for USU. As the University

marketing photographer, I truly have the best job in the USU system.

Persuasion in photography should be based in love, or, at least in genuineness. Perhaps the best lesson I've learned as a photographer is that I can take pictures for my benefit, or I can make pictures for your benefit.

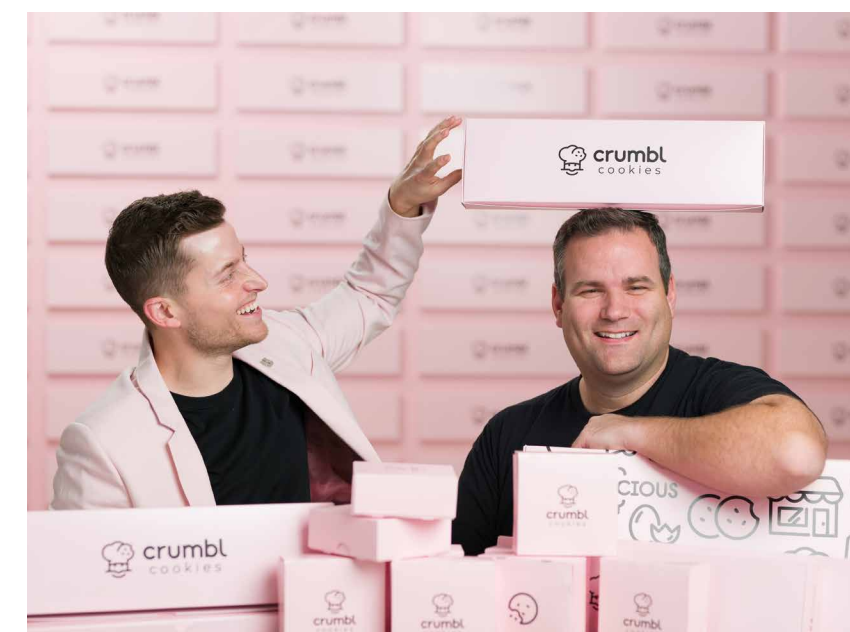
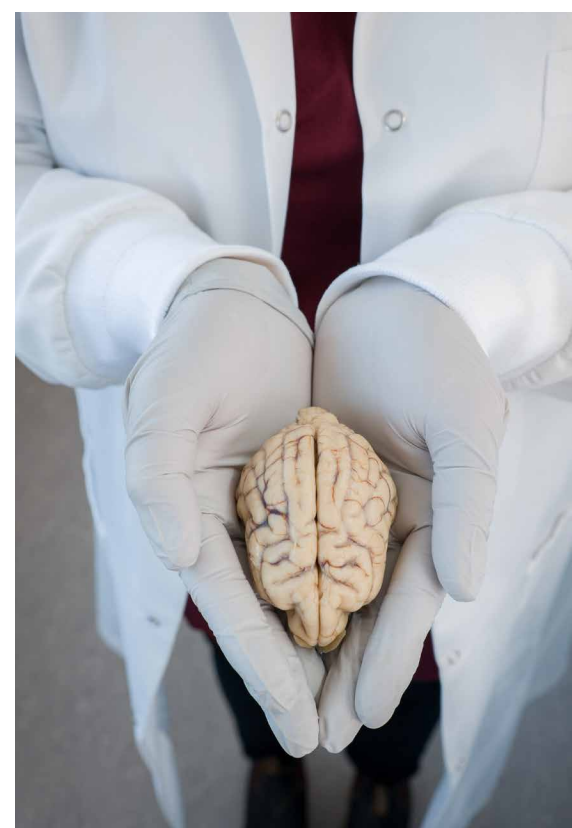
You've noticed that I say, "make" pictures and not "take" pictures. When I take a picture, it's for me and it's not generous and it's one-sided. It feels like taking something. I understand why people may feel that their soul has been taken. These are the kinds of pictures I've made with hired models at a workshop or when doing candid street photography or when rushing someone through a photo booth. They may be cool pictures, but they were transactional, and I may have been the only one to benefit.

Working together to make a picture, though, is cooperative. These make my best photos, my best memories, and my best friends. But they all require some degree of persuasion to make the best picture. And I've got all kinds of stories about them.

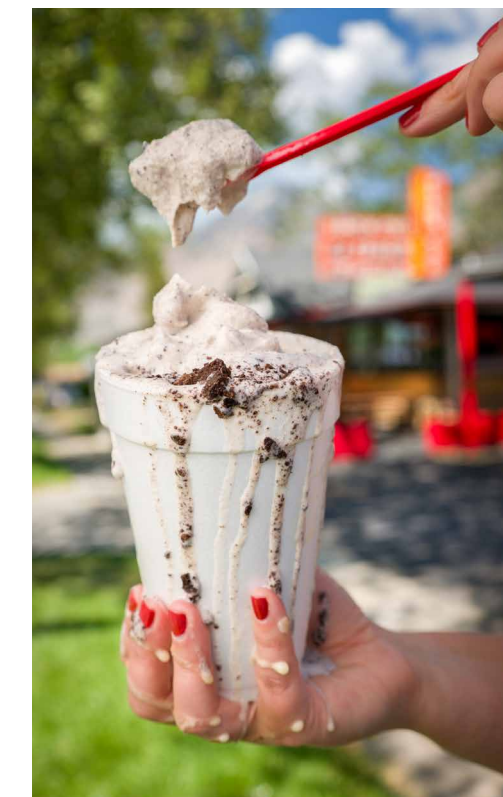
I've made roughly 2,000 headshots in the four years I've worked full-time for USU. These portraits represent the person, which to me is a big responsibility. I value the trust people put in me to do that work and I have a specific system that helps me show the subject's personality.

But I have to persuade them to stand just so with their hands holding a plate of cookies and their head stuck out like a turtle while saying "bumpin-boogie-burgers." I believe they allow me to coax them into this because they can see that I'm taking this photo seriously. I triple check their hair, the clasp placement on a necklace, the crinkle in the collar under a tie. For me it's never "just" a headshot, and the genuine value I put on it appears to come through in my actions, and the results are often "the best photo I've ever had."

Many times, I'm the one who needs persuading. It's easy to go make pictures of students studying, or to make a simple portrait of a researcher. But if I can persuade myself to go a little beyond the basics,



Headshots, brains, shakes, and cookies are all valuable to me. They all represent my subjects and their work. It's a big deal that they trust me, and I value that trust.





seek creativity, then I can make a picture that is worth a thousand words and that might cause someone to stop and linger a little longer. That's always my goal for this magazine, and my shoot for this issue with the Kite Sisters typifies the experience.

I was in Provo, exhausted from teaching at a photography conference all week and my appointment with the Kites was quickly approaching. I was tempted to keep it simple. Lexie offered her lovely office for the shoot (it's at the big red university, which shall not be named), and I knew I could make a pretty picture there. But my photography idol, Joe McNally, always says that photography is writing with light, so why settle for 'pretty' when there's a whole dictionary. With the right inspiration, I could overcome my exhaustion and make something worth looking at.

I thought about body image stereotypes and how to visualize that. I couldn't find a store with thousands of Barbie Dolls on the shelf, though I found the next best thing in Salt Lake City. I would have to make a stop on my way home to suss it out, and it would be simpler to just use the spot by her office. Fortunately, the idea persuaded me to detour on my way home.

No one was at the industrial building off 33rd South, but I called the number in the window and briefly explained my idea to my new best friend, Shelby, when she answered. She thought it would be a fun use of the building and said she'd be right there to show me around. It was better than I could have imagined. I made plans to light the room, figured out what tools I would need to shape the lights, where to place the subjects, etc. I was getting excited.

As I was leaving, I got Lexie on the phone and she happily described her office building, which sounds lovely. I said, "We could do it there. Or I just got permission to shoot in a mannequin warehouse. Wanna come?" (Page 44). Now take a look at Raegan's story about the promise of outer space and try to imagine all the places my mind went while brainstorming that one (Page 58).

In other magazine issues, I've persuaded subjects to stand in frozen ponds, pose with a giant cabbage, drip a milkshake all over their hands, reveal their secret identities, meet old classmates at their high school, cradle coyote brains, balance cookie boxes on their partner's head, put an astronaut in their mind, twirl through a theater, and

meet me before dawn on Mount St. Helens.

If you've seen a brochure from USU, a viewbook, a poster, a lawn sign on campus, or a post on our social media, there's a good chance I made the photo. Plus, I direct or make most of the pictures in this magazine. There are signs in the airport and billboards on highways around the state with my photos on them. Seeing my work in print is gratifying, and it's all intended to persuade people to come here for school.

You're reading this, so you're likely affiliated with USU in some way and know what a great place it is. My job is to translate the culture of being a student into photographs, and to do it for each of our 30 campuses throughout the state. Each photograph requires a team: marketing managers for each campus, graphic designers, administrators, advisors, mentors, teachers, and students who come as models. We work to show students having fun, working hard, and becoming a person with more opportunities. Hopefully, non-students are persuaded to see themselves in these pictures as a student and a graduate.

Each year, my team photographs every graduating student throughout the state. That's 19 ceremonies at six campuses. I

personally attended 17 ceremonies this year. At our Statewide Campuses, the results of a degree or certificate are most apparent, and I'm moved each time a mother, father, or grandparent walks across the stage. You'd be inspired by the number of mothers graduating with their daughters. Go to the Southwest region's commencement next year for a great time and a great party.

Chelsey is one of those inspiring grads. She has been in marketing photos for the Moab campus throughout her time studying nursing. She graduated this year, and she did it while working and raising two young kiddos to appreciate the outdoors.

Livi also graduated this year with a certificate in welding. She's a powerhouse of endless enthusiasm and energy. Her family, including her grandchildren and her grandmother who is over 100 years old, attended graduation this year. She's a welder now and is already planning to further her education.

Among my favorite pictures to make are students engaged in research. USU is an R1 institution, which means we do a whole mess of research, and undergrads assist in much of it. I hope that showing undergrads

The diversity of assignments keeps this job exciting, and the travel always includes interesting new friends. Oakland, California and Mount St. Helens are just as cool as a well platform in Nine Mile Canyon — all for different reasons.

engaged in meaningful, hands-on research will persuade people to come here. It shows that college doesn't mean sitting in classrooms. Rather, it means applying learning and doing meaningful work as a student.

Waking up before dawn at the Price campus is a great way to make pictures of meaningful fieldwork in action. First, I joined a team of undergrad, graduate, and post-graduate students who followed Utah Division of Wildlife Resources scientists to capture mule deer and record all kinds of useful information from them. The deer were captured by a team of helicopter wranglers and deposited nearby where body measurements and pregnancy status were recorded. Then, they were fitted with GPS collars and birth trackers before being released. I was amazed at how efficiently the team used ultrasound, swabbed for viruses, and took all kinds of samples. They even let me join in the science, and I became intimately acquainted with those wild deer. Let me reiterate that we gathered all kinds of samples.

Another day, we woke even earlier to search out known sage grouse leks. The birds mate in the same places year after year, which makes it simple to count them and capture individuals for tagging. It's astounding that undergrads get these opportunities. In fact, all these experiences photographing students at work has persuaded me to begin pursuing a masters degree in natural resources. I hope my example will persuade my kids that a degree is worth pursuing.

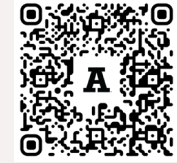
Persuasion is the art of photography, and I love it. I love that I can help people want to come to school, and that I can help people have a great photo. I have exactly one photo of myself from college, and giving the students and teachers I photograph all the pictures we make together is a joy. Pushing myself to make the best photo keeps me on my toes and keeps me loving my job — which is the best job at USU. Another time I'll tell you more about the work of photography and what it takes to make a mannequin warehouse photographable. For now, I hope I've persuaded you to go out and make some photos that matter to you. **A**



Photo by Erin Holmstead.



IN BRIEF // NEWS AT USU



Scan for the full version of the articles in this section. Follow this link to learn more about any of the stories in this section, many of which include video components.



Chari Hawkins Finishes 21st in Olympics Heptathlon

Former Aggie Chari Hawkins finished 21st with 5,255 points in the heptathlon at the **Paris Olympics** in the Stade de France on Aug. 8–9. She was unable to clear the bar in the high jump, receiving no points in her second event, but she persevered to finish the remaining five events.

Hawkins started off the competition with a fifth-place finish in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 13.16. In the high jump, Hawkins received no mark after passing on the opening five heights and failing to clear the bar at 1.71 meters in three attempts. Hawkins placed 17th in the shot put with a mark of 13.64 meters

and 15th in the 200 meters with a time of 24.49 to wrap up the first day.

On Friday, Hawkins took 14th in the long jump with a mark of 5.90 meters and 15th in the javelin with a throw of 44.30 meters. Hawkins concluded the heptathlon with a time of 2:15.76 for a finish of 17th in the 800 meters.

Hawkins is the first Utah State alum to compete in the Olympics since James Parker did at the 2004 Athens Games. USU has a rich history of Aggies in the Olympics with L. Jay Silvester being a member of four U.S. Olympic Teams between 1964–1976 and winning the silver medal in the discus at the 1972 Munich Games.



USU Breaks Ground for Veterinary Medical Education Building

Utah State University officially broke ground on May 31 for the new **Veterinary Medical Education Building** on the university's main campus in Logan.

For some, the building at the northwest corner of 1400 North and 1200 East will be their academic home. For others, including veterinarian and former state legislator Dr. John Mathis and Utah Gov. Spencer Cox, it will be the fulfillment of long-held goals.

Mathis sponsored legislation in 2011 that established USU's School of Veterinary Medicine and participation in the Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine, but he was driven by more than professional interests: it was about a promise he made to himself decades earlier when he learned that his father had once abandoned his dreams of becoming a veterinarian.

Cox and others echoed the message that large animal veterinary medicine is a critical need in many of Utah's rural areas and vital to the agricultural industry that contributes \$1.82 billion to the state's economy. Animal agriculture — including beef cattle, dairy cows, poultry, sheep, goats, llamas and other animals — comprises \$1.28 billion of that total.

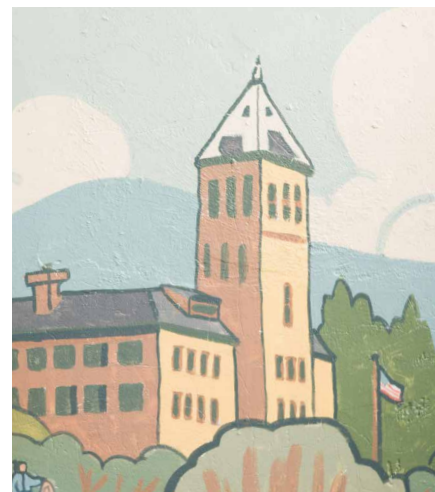


USU Alum, Local Artist Completes Downtown Logan Mural

After watching a video of a girl painting on a wall, **Liesl Cannon** decided — at 8 years old — to pick up her mom’s acrylic paints and do just the same. But her mom wasn’t home at the time, so the unveiling of her first mural, of sorts, was to come.

“Oh, that looks nice,” Cannon recounts of her mom’s reaction upon returning home.

Now, all these years later, Cannon had another opportunity to craft a mural — only this time for the public. She recently completed a 7-by-56-foot mural in Downtown Logan that depicts some iconic places in Cache Valley, including her alma mater, Utah State University.



USU Names David Jones as Dean for College of Engineering

After a national search, Utah State University has selected **David Jones** to lead the College of Engineering as dean. Jones will assume the position on October 1, 2024.

“As a trained engineer myself, I can say unequivocally that the fields of engineering are vital for both our state and national economy,” says USU President Elizabeth R. Cantwell. “By bringing in Dr. Jones — a respected expert in the field — we are strategically positioning our College of Engineering for the future. Dr. Jones’s leadership will empower our students to create that future.”

Jones joins USU after serving as a professor in the Biological Systems Engineering Department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His specializations include mathematical modeling, food engineering, and risk assessment. He has made many contributions in the areas of processing alternative crops, thermochemical conversions, circular bioeconomy systems, and developing models for risk-based decision making.

Jones has held several positions of leadership at his previous institution. Most recently, he served as the department head of the UNL Biological Systems Engineering Department from 2017–2023.



Jabil Baja Plant 3 Awarded Shingo Silver Medallion for Operational Excellence

The Shingo Institute, a program in the **Jon M. Huntsman School of Business** at Utah State University, proudly announces that Jabil Baja Plant 3, a leading manufacturing facility based in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico, has been honored with the internationally renowned Shingo Silver Medallion for its commitment to operational excellence. The Shingo Institute recognizes Jabil Baja Plant 3’s dedication to continuous improvement and exemplary operational practices.

“Receipts of the Shingo Silver Medallion signifies not only an organization’s mastery of tools and techniques but also that it has developed mature systems for improving its operations,” says **Ken Snyder**, executive director at the Shingo Institute.

As part of the globally recognized Jabil corporation, Jabil Baja Plant 3 is emblematic of the company’s vision to become the world’s most technologically advanced and trusted manufacturing solutions provider. With over 140,000 employees across more than 100 facilities in 25+ countries, Jabil leverages nearly 60 years of experience to offer customers access to cutting-edge design and engineering expertise, state-of-the-art manufacturing capabilities, and sophisticated supply chain solutions.



Soda Swap: Utah State's Logan Campus Switching from Pepsi to Coke

A contract to offer Coca-Cola products at Utah State University's Logan campus is expected to take effect July 1, following the completion of a 10-year contract with Pepsi.

"Partnerships with companies such as Coca-Cola allow USU to increase support for institutional programs which form the basis for providing an exceptional university experience," Davis says.

USU's new contract with Coke will include carve-outs that allow the university to enter a contract with Red Bull as well as preserve the ability to sell both Coke and Pepsi products at the QuickStop convenience store in the Taggart Student Center.

The Red Bull contract will include advertising at athletic events as well as retail space on campus. Revenue from both the Coke and Red Bull contracts will support Utah State Athletics.

USU Undergrad Scholars from Blanding Campus Explore Quantum Dots

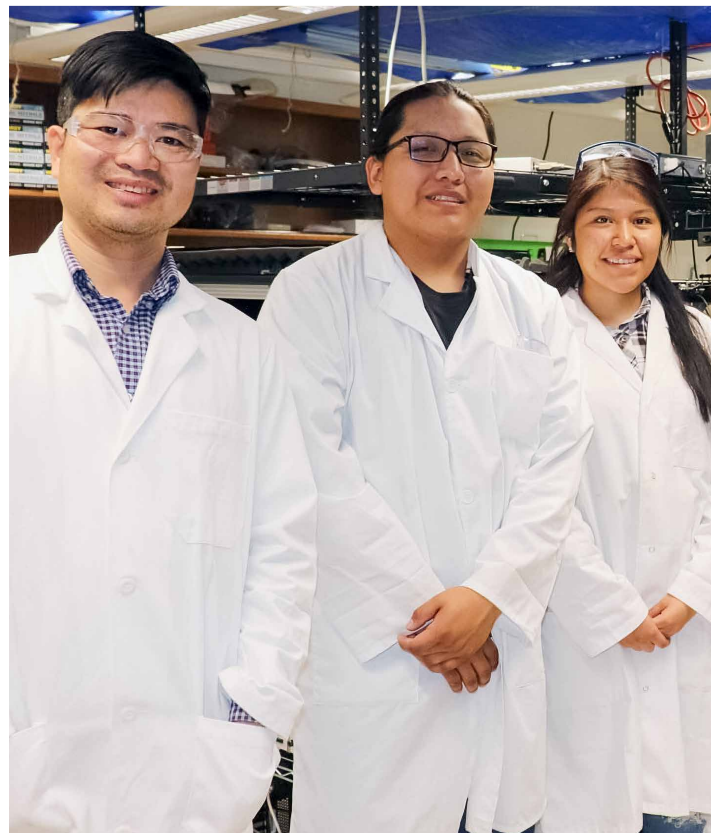
USU students Khiara Kinsel and Baahozhooni Little are among 18 Aggie scholars learning about quantum dots and the university's other research endeavors, as guests in faculty mentor **Tuan Trinh's** physical chemistry lab during the 2024 Native American Summer Mentorship Program.

In its ninth year, the program brings early undergrads from the Utah State University Blanding campus to the university's main Logan campus for a monthlong visit. Participants learn about USU's broad range of four-year bachelor's degree programs and experience, firsthand, undergraduate research in varied disciplines. Additionally, the students learn how these programs and experiences are building blocks to graduate and professional school opportunities.

But what are quantum dots?

"Quantum dots are semiconductor nanocrystals that are 2-10 nanometers in diameter — about one ten-thousandth the diameter of a human hair," Trinh says. "They absorb and emit light, and the color they emit is determined by how you manufacture their size and composition."

In Trinh's lab, small QD samples glow bright green, yellow, and blue.



1940s

Eros H. Frary '45, May 28, CA
Boyd Von Nordeck Humpherys '49, May 27, UT
Max K. Lee '49, May 9, ID
Helen Irene Wadsworth Mugrditchian (Wadsworth) '44, Sept. 11, NY
Charlotte E. Sanddal '48, Feb. 19, MT
Lou Woodland (Bird) '48, Jul. 15, ID

1950s

Robert G. Aldous '50, Mar. 30, NC
Glenn P. Alger '54, Jun. 16, UT
Neal T. Amarino '59, May 18, CO
Moonyeen R. Anderson (Rigby) '58, Jun. 8, UT
Shirley L. Andrews '51, Jul. 9, CA
Charlie C. Baugh '56, Apr. 23, UT
Colonel Steven Bosan '58, Nov. 3, PA
Wayne R. Brown '56MS, Apr. 8, ID
Rodney W. Burgoyne '54, Apr. 7, CA
Reed Burke '59, '71MS, Jun. 15, UT
Robert A. Call '59, '86MFA, Jul. 18, UT
Vern W. Call '56, '60MS, '67EDD, Apr. 14, HI
David L. Carter '55, '57MS, May 25, ID
George H. Chabbott '50, Dec. 21, DE
Dee Ross Christensen '53, '67MS, Mar. 31, UT
Hank N. Christiansen '57, May 15, UT
Deon R. Cleave '56, Jun. 16, UT
Carl E. Ebert '55, Jul. 8, UT
Lorraine C. Evans (Corry) '58, Apr. 30, UT
Robert L. Ezell '52, '53MS, Apr. 16, UT
Frances Getz (Fashbaugh) '54, Jun. 6, UT
Scott Hansen '56, Jul. 16, UT
Van L. Haynie '55, May 16, UT
Faye Hirschi (Andersen) '59, Apr. 17, UT
Richard M. Hodges '55, Apr. 30, AZ
Daniel H. Hoggan '52, '69PHD, May 12, UT
Mollie C. Hyer (Corbridge) '51, Dec. 17, NV
Marilyn Jackson '59, Apr. 11, UT
Robert N. Jensen '58, Apr. 6, UT
Dody Jones (Scheidegger) '55, Jul. 25, UT
Michael R. Jusko '57, May 2, UT
Thiel A. Kunz '54, May 9, UT
Colonel Gary E. Lindquist '55, Apr. 3, FL
David R. Minson '59, May 31, ID
Grant W. Moser '53, Apr. 10, UT
Murray C. Nichols '58, Mar. 26, ID
Clyde C. Nielsen '53, May 6, UT
George R. Niskala '54, Jul. 14, PA
Joyce T. Notarianni (Todd) '53, Mar. 27, UT
Lawrence F. Petersen '55, '60MS, Jul. 2, UT
Gary M. Peterson '57, Jul. 11, UT
Julia Marie Phippen (Whitney) '58, '69MS, Jul. 22, UT
Ray H. Piggott '50, May 6, UT
David R. Price '56, Mar. 30, UT
Don L. Rasmussen '59, Jun. 24, UT
Lowell G. Reese '57, Jul. 30, UT
Larry D. Rhodes '58, Jul. 19, UT
Lynnette R. Richins '58, Jul. 24, UT
William G. Smith '57, Jul. 25, CO
Carol Spackman (Anderson) '57, Apr. 18, UT
Dell Sullivan '59, May 4, NV
Richard L. Thompson '59, May 15, ID
Gene A. Toolson '55, Apr. 20, UT
Olive Hansen Watts '52, May 8, UT
George Farnes Welch '58, Jul. 12, UT
Harvey D. Welch '59, Apr. 10, ID
Brice N. Wilson '50, Jun. 21, UT

1960s

Jean Siddoway Anderton '64, Jun. 19, UT
Douglas Jesse Baker '68, '70MS, Jul. 29, ID
Irvine L. Barfuss '62, Apr. 15, UT
Ruel M. Barker '61, May 22, UT
Myrna Behunin '60, Jul. 8, UT
Joseph R. Bienz '67, Apr. 15, ID
Robert Elden Bobek '60, May 21, NE
Walt A. Bradshaw '67, Jun. 20, NH
Sam F. Brewster, Jr. '62, Jun. 18, UT
David J. Broadbent '61, May 23, UT
Francis A. Buckeridge '66PHD, Dec. 9, VA
John Clark Budge '61, Jul. 11, AZ
Floyd L. Bunderson '65, Jun. 4, ID
Nola S. Bunker '61, May 8, UT
William P. Burnard '68, Jul. 29, NY
Elaine Burnham (West) '61, Apr. 3, UT
Myron N. Carson '69MED, May 20, VA
Lee C. Chamberlain '61, Jun. 6, UT

Robert W. Charley '64, Jan. 28, CA
Denese Checketts (Carr) '60, Apr. 7, UT
Carlton R. Deonan '67, '68MA, '71EDD, May 24, NC
Kenneth R. Dubois '67, May 31, UT
Elaine H. Fewell '66, Jun. 24, UT
Jonathan B. Fleming '68, May 11, WI
Vernon P. Gunnell '67, Jul. 12, UT
Sandra Halamandaris (Hansen) '62, May 31, UT
Deloris Hanson (Bodily) '68, Apr. 10, UT
Robert L. Harshman '62, Jun. 8, CA
Tim W. Healy '62, Apr. 14, UT
Ronald L. Herrick '63, Jul. 9, AZ
Herschel G. Hester III '67MS, May 3, UT
Herman G. Hier '61, Dec. 11, FL
Martin L. Hocking '67, Apr. 29, UT
John A. Hubbard '62, Apr. 14, WA
Dale G. Hunt '65, '73MED, Apr. 11, NV
Bonnie S. Irizarry '67, Jul. 23, ID
John L. Jaussi '66, Mar. 29, UT
A. Jean Jensen (Jensen) '69, May 16, MT
Terry I. Jensen '64, Mar. 18, ID
Larry S. Jensen '62, Jul. 27, ID
Lowell J. Kendrick '63, Jul. 4, UT
John U. Kim '67, May 17, MT
Karl W. Klages '62MS, Jul. 8, WA
LaRell A. Kunz '62, Apr. 28, UT
Lewis Lorin Lamb '62, Apr. 21, WY
Virgil J. Larsen '64, '69MS, Jul. 28, UT
Lanny R. Lund '60, '61MS, Apr. 23, NV
Earl Marra '62, Jul. 10, UT
William Kemp Martin, Jr. '66, Jul. 5, UT
Joan McAllister (Stevens) '62, Jul. 14, UT
Lyn Ann G. McGinn (Gubler) '66, Jun. 3, CA
Wayne Meikle '62, Mar. 29, UT
Irvn Roberts Meldrum '60, Apr. 1, ID
James H. Milligan '63, '69PHD, Apr. 12, WA
Jack H. Molgard '67, '07MS, Jul. 12, UT
Art H. Nelson '60, Jul. 10, CA
Earl W. Nelson '60, Jun. 17, NV
Stan Nielsen '62, '71MBA, Jul. 22, UT
Virginia Elsa Oliver (Barson) '64, Jun. 25, UT
Ann Hatch Owens (Hatch) '62, Jun. 24, ID
Margaret Lemon Parke '64, '96MS, Jun. 28, UT
Florence M. Parker '67, Jun. 5, ID
Janet G. C. Patterick (Clerico) '67, Jun. 24, UT
Rex W. Paulsen '65, Feb. 20, AR
Gary C. Price '60, Feb. 25, CA
Ross E. Robson '67MS, May 23, UT
Kaaren Hanson Rose (Hanson) '64, Feb. 27, CA
Kenward D. Seegmiller '66, Jun. 18, UT
Dal Seelye '65, Jun. 30, UT
Karl Arthur Silvester '63, Jun. 7, UT
Robert F. Smellie '62, Apr. 11, UT
Louis G. Sorensen '63, Apr. 8, IN
Gary W. Steadman '62, Mar. 31, UT
Keith O. Thomas '61, Mar. 26, UT
Vaughn L. Thomas '63, '65MED, Jun. 15, UT
Barbara A. Tomsic '63, May 14, OR
Jim E. Trowbridge '60, Apr. 13, MT
Masaru J. Tsujita '62, Apr. 26, NJ
James H. Waldron '60, May 22, OH
John T. Wang '67, '69MS, May 25, CA
Sandra A. Ward (Bybee) '63, Apr. 18, UT
Gaylene Wendt (Davis) '66, Apr. 17, CA
Grant W. Widmer '67, Apr. 6, AZ
Sharon R. Wilcox (Robson) '61, Jun. 15, UT
Larry J. Wilson '64, Jul. 5, IA
Boyd R. Wimmer '69, May 11, UT
Larry D. Winger '66, May 16, OH
William R. Woodland '62, May 20, ID
Jan E. Wynn '66MS, Jun. 9, UT
Richard G. Yonk '63, May 27, UT

1970s

Bruce Allen '72, Jun. 29, UT
Wallace P. Allred '73MED, May 17, UT
Michael B. Atwood '77, Jun. 18, UT
Richard L. Bagley '70, Apr. 15, UT
Charlene J. Barker '71, Jun. 26, UT
Richard L. Baxter '75, Jun. 7, ID
Ronald C. Blake '75, Jun. 16, ID
Richard H. Bowman '71, '74MS, Jul. 13, CO
Michael L. Christiansen '75, '79MS, Jun. 25, UT
George D. Collier '75PHD, Jun. 23, AL
Ron Dalley '73, Apr. 24, UT
David A. Dickey '71, '82, Apr. 6, UT
Lewky Craig Downs '74, Jun. 20, UT
Rick Zane Dumont '75, Apr. 28, UT
BrandE Faupell '77MS, May 1, AZ

Robert J. Giacovelli '70, May 13, CA
Lee T. Gillenwater '71, '78MS, Jun. 13, UT
Kathleen Gosnell (Stocks) '71, Jun. 29, ID
Fred A. Hamilton, Jr. '71, '74MA, Apr. 3, TX
Jerry Harris '77, Jul. 3, ID
Stephan Lavor Hatch '70, '72MS, Jun. 20, UT
Gary L. Hickman '71MS, May 29, FL
Brent K. Hutchings '74, '89MSS, May 26, UT
Ranleigh Dene Johnson '73, Apr. 10, UT
Donald M. Jones '70, May 29, UT
Robert H. Kirby '72MED, Apr. 16, UT
Diane F. Knorr '77, Apr. 13, ID
Carolyn W. Lewis (Wuthrich) '72, Jul. 24, UT
Michael H. Malyn '70, Apr. 27, KS
Patricia McNeil (Stockdale) '78, Jun. 8, UT
Ward D. McNeilly '73, Feb. 9, CO
Carolyn D. Nelson '72, '78MS, Jul. 25, UT
Stanley K. Norton '79, Jul. 27, UT
Byron H. Okada '79, Jun. 17, UT
William E. Prindle II '76, Mar. 27, TX
Oscar H. Quintero '70, '73MED, May 5, FL
Sharon Jean Riddle (Wely) '73, Jun. 11, ID
Holly Rordame '79, Apr. 27, UT
Kristine Seiter '70, Apr. 2, UT
Connie J. Skelton (Murphy) '70, May 11, UT
John C. Stube '77MS, Jul. 15, IN
James Robert Stupar '71, May 18, CA
Dorrain Summers '70, May 24, UT
Ron L. Taylor '77MED, Jun. 5, UT
George F. Thomas '60, Jul. 14, UT
K. Dale Torgerson '70, '01, May 1, UT
John Austin Udy '72, '77MIE, Apr. 17, UT
Betty June Wheeler (Penovich) '72, Jun. 1, UT
Blair L. Winward '72, Apr. 16, ID
Carol Wood '79MAC, Mar. 26, UT
Ajiro Yoritomi '78, Mar. 28, IL

1980s

Rebecca Sue Abbott '86, Jun. 28, ID
Verl L. Bagley '80MS, May 25, UT
Jeannie Campbell (Willie) '82, Jul. 28, UT
Charles C. Coombs '85MS, Apr. 1, NM
David C. Cordon '81, Jun. 14, NE
V. Kent Dunkley '86, '93MSS, May 13, ID
Gloria T. Earl (Thurston) '84, '85, Apr. 3, UT
Keith Corry Evans '86, Jun. 16, NV
Charlene A. Howell (Anderson) '86, Jul. 11, UT
Judith Kelley '88, Apr. 5, UT
Andre Albert Laroche '81, Mar. 17, FL
David E. Larsen '80, May 15, NV
Michael E. Larsen '87, Jun. 7, UT
Judd R. Lawrence '81, Jun. 15, UT
Shigeki Moriyama '85MBA, Jul. 15, UT
Mary L. Nelson '88, May 24, CO
Charles Dale Nighswonger '84, Jun. 4, FL
Joyce S. Pierson '89MED, Apr. 25, UT
Della Murdock Resare '88, Jul. 10, UT
Kelly R. Sondrup '82, Jul. 2, UT
Casey Martin Stock '85, Apr. 21, UT
Gayle C. Sutton '86, May 17, UT
Mark S. Teuscher '82, Apr. 24, UT
Brent W. Thompson '89, '92, Jul. 26, UT
Bob N. Thummel '80, Apr. 14, WA
Lisa Lynn Wamsley (Wilcox) '85, Apr. 14, UT

1990s

Suzannah Bayles '98, May 16, UT
Linda R. Brown '96, Jul. 6, UT
Sheraine Bruce (Bullock) '98, Jun. 16, UT
Karen L. Dunn '94MS, Apr. 4, UT
Michelle V. Edgar '94, Apr. 8, WA
Steven Michael Friedman '91, Apr. 10, CO
Sandra C. Harmon '95, Mar. 27, UT
Keith E. Hatcher '91, Jun. 20, MO
Clifford R. Hokanson '95, Jul. 6, UT
Krishele V. Jensen '92, Jul. 16, ID
Lorna Joy Mackay '92MED, Jun. 20, UT
Sheila Manning (Manning) '99, '00, Jun. 18, CT
Deborah Alice Pyke '93MS, Apr. 12, OR
James Robert Reeder '90, Jun. 18, UT
Stephen E. Robinson '95, May 14, CA
Brian V. Tingey '94, Jun. 14, UT
Chad N. Waldron '95, May 24, OR
Melody H. Whitaker '92, Jun. 21, UT

2000s

Clay A. Christensen '09, Apr. 25, UT
Mark N. Ewell '07, Apr. 2, UT

Peter C. Knudson '00, Jun. 5, UT
 Mairi Ann McAllister Nielsen
 (McAllister) '02, Jun. 27, OR
 Jeneal Moosman '00, '02, Apr. 14, UT
 Kristina N. Niles '09, Apr. 13, UT
 Frederick A. Schweighardt '00, Dec. 5, TX
 Bryan H. Watts '05, Apr. 10, UT

2010s

Anna Lee Butler '17MED, Jun. 20, UT
 Megan M. Hamilton (Rollins)
 '15MED, '23PHD, Jun. 24, UT
 Deborah Susan Sisson '11, Apr. 1, UT
 Glen H. Smith '12, May 6, ID
 Glori Hodge Smith '15PHD, Jul. 7, UT
 Andrew Parker Winslow '10, Apr. 10, CA

2020s

Trenton Mack Blair '21MBA, Jun. 15, UT
 Lexie Petersen '20, Apr. 20, UT
 Alex Brian Rortlaender '24, Jul. 24, UT

ATTENDERS

DeeWayne Frank Adams Jan. 12, UT
 Afton Carter Alder (Carter) Apr. 9, OR
 Venice M. Allen (Paul) May 29, NV
 Setta Kay Anderson (Christianson) Apr. 5, UT
 Ross Leslie Andra Jun. 20, UT
 Becky Armstrong (Hale) Apr. 16, ID
 John A. Armstrong May 20, UT
 Joann H. Arnold May 25, UT
 Melva Ashby Jun. 25, UT
 Blaine D. Austin May 24, UT
 Suzannah Bayle May 16, UT
 Murleen Bean May 14, UT
 Edwin Clair Beatty May 15, UT
 Colene Child Beck Apr. 5, UT
 Ursula Beckman Jul. 17, UT
 Loyal R. Bennett May 4, UT
 Wendy Bentley Apr. 4, UT
 Shirley Bills (South) Jun. 25, ID
 Warren W. Bingham Jul. 11, UT
 Basudeb Biswas May 17, UT
 Glenna J. Black May 13, UT
 Mysha Louise Blair Jul. 13, UT
 Norman Mark Bodily Jun. 17, AZ
 Wes K. Boman Jun. 17, UT
 Bonnie Linn Morgan Bonzo (Morgan) May 24, UT
 David Lyman Bradford Jun. 17, UT
 Bryce R. Brasher Jun. 2, UT
 John R. Brinkley Apr. 12, UT
 James M. Broadbent Apr. 10, AZ
 Sandra Louise Brooks May 10, AZ
 Bryce Delmer Buchanan Mar. 29, UT
 Geraldine S. Calder Jul. 5, UT
 Richard D. Calderwood Jul. 14, AZ
 Dee W. Call Apr. 21, WY
 Andrew Joseph Cameron May 9, OH
 Dallas George Campbell May 6, NV
 Mary Sue Carlson (Ward) Jul. 17, KS
 Sharon Carroll Apr. 10, UT
 Antonio M. Chacon Feb. 8, UT
 Lei Lani Jeanne Chase Jul. 17, UT
 Leslee Christensen May 15, UT
 William Joseph Christiansen Mar. 29, UT
 Ray W. Christmas Apr. 15, UT
 Ruth Ann Clark Jun. 18, UT
 Janice Clawson May 28, UT
 Marlene Coulsey (Kruger) Jun. 9, ID
 Katherine Covalt May 19, UT
 Justin Crook May 27, ID
 Ryan Eric Dahl Jun. 28, UT
 Larry F. Dahle May 3, UT
 Stephen G. Denkers Jul. 16, UT
 Roxanna Kay Day Dickey Jun. 25, UT
 Dana B. Dimick May 20, UT
 Susan Diston Apr. 19, UT
 Margaret W. Downs Apr. 14, UT
 Dan M. Durrant Jun. 21, AZ
 Larry A. Earl Jun. 26, UT
 Kristine Ecker Apr. 27, UT
 Renee Bingham Eddy Jun. 23, UT
 Robert Eddy Mar. 29, PA
 Morgan John Evans May 29, UT
 Valanne Hill Farr Jun. 5, UT
 Dorian Fillmore Jul. 28, UT
 Walter Roland Finnas Mar. 28, UT
 Lyman Fisher Jun. 4, CA

Danny O. Flannery Jul. 15, UT
 Scott Fluckiger Jul. 28, UT
 Donald W. Flynn May 17, UT
 Sandra P. Fossat (Petrie) Apr. 1, UT
 Brent J. Francom Apr. 20, AZ
 Roger Dale Gardner Jun. 5, UT
 Ann T. Geary May 17, UT
 Jan K. Gerkin Jul. 13, UT
 JoAnn L. Gibson (Leonard) May 28, FL
 Val Elizabeth Greaves Gividen Apr. 1, UT
 Janice W. Gowen Jul. 20, UT
 Louis L. Grant Jul. 29, UT
 Thomas O. Greenwood May 7, UT
 Jeffrey A. Griffin Apr. 17, UT
 Nelda H. Grundy (Harvey) Mar. 30, UT
 Acel M. Hall May 20, UT
 Ronald N. Hall Jun. 12, HI
 Laurie Hardman (Baird) Jun. 9, UT
 Dennis Harper Apr. 20, UT
 Filadelfia Harris May 8, UT
 Julie Ann Haslem Jul. 19, UT
 Marva O. Hayhurst-Rush (Ogden) Jul. 12, ID
 Gene Heaton Jun. 21, AZ
 Ruth B. Helm (Becker) Jul. 1, AZ
 Kaden Helquist Jul. 15, UT
 Afton D. Hirst (Daines) Jun. 13, UT
 Joan Hofer Jul. 25, WA
 Yvonne Hossner (Rees) Apr. 29, TX
 Brent D. Huitr May 27, UT
 Bradley P. Ipsen May 26, AZ
 Barbara P. Jackson (Pehrson) Jun. 8, UT
 Delene Black Jackson (Black) May 6, UT
 Larry Russell Jausi Jun. 5, UT
 Harold J. Jebens Jun. 13, MN
 Reed Jeffery Jun. 16, ID
 Jack D. Jensen Jul. 17, UT
 Nannette R. Jensen (Richards) Jun. 19, CA
 David R. Johann May 10, ID
 Randy L. Johnson Apr. 9, UT
 Thayde L. Jones Jun. 7, UT
 Roseary B. Kappes (Burdis) May 19, UT
 Cherrol May Kearsley Jul. 11, UT
 Linda R. Kell (Kell) Jun. 18, CO
 Nancy King Jul. 1, OR
 Rita S. Kirby (Silvagni) Mar. 27, CA
 Aspasia P. Kontgas (Aspasia) Jun. 5, UT
 Ronald C. Kulow Jun. 8, UT
 Ted W. Kulze May 25, WY
 Lavon M. Kutkas May 8, UT
 Sandra Ethel Bair Larcher May 29, NM
 Elaine Mikesell Larsen May 10, ID
 Yvonne Leigh May 27, UT
 Kent Limb Apr. 16, UT
 Kevin A. Litster Mar. 7, CA
 Presley Little May 10, UT
 Eva Jane Marsh Jul. 26, UT
 Jamie Martinez Apr. 23, UT
 Hailey Marie Mason Jul. 2, UT
 Walter Maynard Jul. 18, WA
 David Mayo Jun. 28, NC
 Larry McAllister May 24, AK
 Steven C. McCandless Apr. 8, UT
 Cleveland M. Metcalf May 21, ID
 Jan Miller May 15, UT
 Joan Miller (PETERSEN) May 15, UT
 Doris Mae Mitchell (Austin) May 25, UT
 Frank Milton Mitchell, Jr. Jun. 23, NY
 Charles L. Moeller II Apr. 29, UT
 Yvonne B. Monson (Beyler) Jul. 11, UT
 Kami Wood Morriss (Wood) Apr. 15, UT
 DeVoy Mortensen Jun. 9, UT
 Donna Moulton Jul. 19, UT
 Jannard Bud Murphy May 27, UT
 Michael Gene Myers, Sr. Jun. 17, UT
 Grant Nelson Jul. 23, UT
 Kimberly B. Nelson (Beacco) Apr. 25, UT
 Randy S. Nelson Jul. 25, UT
 Karl Newell Jul. 2, UT
 Larisa Newman Mar. 29, UT
 Dwight S. Nielsen Jul. 3, UT
 Wendy Noyes May 5, UT
 Larry Roy Olpin May 24, MO
 LaRae Korth Osborne Apr. 25, UT
 Madalyn Palacios May 23, UT
 Kathryn M. Peczu Jun. 26, UT
 Marjorie B T Perry (Turner) Jun. 23, UT
 Charlene B. Petersen Jun. 27, UT
 Cheryl McClellan Peterson (McClellan) Jul. 2, WA
 Ann Porter (Woodward) Jul. 22, CO
 Ralph A. Poulson May 22, UT

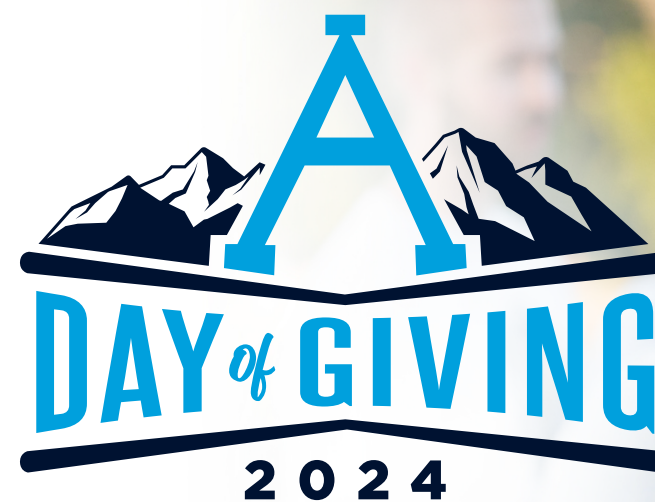
Doris M. Probst May 14, ID
 William Arnell Pugmire Jun. 15, ID William
 Rager May 9, UT
 Jacob Randall Mar. 29, UT
 Sherry Ray Jul. 6, UT
 Dixie Joan Rogers Apr. 30, NV
 Rick A. Rose Apr. 14, UT
 Betty Jo Ruden (Stoker) Jul. 18, UT George
 Ruffell Apr. 4, UT
 Lynda Ann Sadler (Skabelund) Jul. 5, UT
 Ann Ranck Saunders May 8, UT
 Frank Scavo Feb. 1, WI
 Mark W. Scholes Apr. 30, UT
 Edwin David Scovill Jun. 1, UT
 Andre Seldon, Jr. Jul. 20, GA
 Kathy Shea Jul. 28, UT
 Bert D. Sheffer Apr. 12, UT
 Rosina Siaperas May 23, UT
 Henry Skerl Apr. 19, UT
 Eli D. Smith Jul. 8, UT
 Phyllis Sorenson (Newton) Apr. 12, UT
 Nancy Kay Staker Apr. 10, UT
 Dale Stettler May 28, WA
 Fonda D. Stitzer (Wallace) Jun. 19, UT
 Debra K. Stringham (Weston) Jun. 20, UT
 Wayne R. Strong Jul. 17, AZ
 George Allen Sumsion Jul. 10, UT
 Brent B. Swainston Jul. 5, ID
 Carol Lynn Tanons (Rasmussen) May 19, ID
 Kenneth J. Taylor Jun. 9, ID
 Lynn A. Thomson, Jr. Jul. 21, UT
 Jeff Tidwell Mar. 28, UT
 Ruth Tingey Jun. 9, ID
 John W. Tomadakis Jun. 17, UT
 Cindy Grover Torgesen (Grover) May 15, ID
 Sallyanne Troppe Jun. 22, VA
 Sandy Chase Turner (Chase) Jul. 20, UT
 Valmai Vaughan (Tolman) Mar. 28, UT
 Maureen Vaught May 28, NV
 Daryl G. Walbeck May 27, UT
 Fern E. Walter Apr. 8, UT
 Preston B. Ward Jul. 28, UT
 Annie Watson Jul. 14, UT
 Cam West Jul. 5, UT
 Jared C. Wichmann Jul. 23, UT
 Claudia Wilde (Gourley) May 30, WA
 Carole O. Williams (Hansen) Jun. 5, UT
 Gordon Hugh Williams Jul. 17, ID
 Robert Leroy Williams Mar. 31, UT
 Lisa Louise Willson Jun. 6, UT
 Brent E. Wilson Jun. 9, UT
 Ted J. Wilson May 11, UT
 Virginia Woodward Jul. 18, UT
 William D. Wright Apr. 7, UT
 MacArthur Ylincheta Apr. 17, UT

EDUCATORS

Verl L. Bagley May 25, UT
 Beverlie Bartholomew May 1, UT
 Basudeb Biswas May 17, UT
 Wes K. Boman Jun. 17, UT
 Thomas R. Bone Jul. 25, UT
 Jay Checketts May 19, UT
 Norman R. Davis Apr. 25, UT
 BrandE Faupell May 1, AZ
 Janice W. Gowen Jul. 20, UT
 Megan M. Hamilton Jun. 24, UT
 H. Kay Hancock Jul. 13, CO
 Daniel H. Hoggan May 12, UT
 James A. MacMahon May 6, UT
 Bradley W. Parlin Apr. 25, UT
 Stephen E. Poe Apr. 20, AZ
 Remani Rajagopal Jul. 18, UT
 Sandra M. Reed May 6, UT
 Ross E. Robson May 23, UT
 Norman R. Savoie Apr. 6, UT
 Sue Shelton Jun. 1, UT
 Don E. Smith Jun. 21, UT
 K. Dale Torgerson May 1, UT



Visit www.usu.edu/alumni/memorial to find the complete listings or submit a name.



1888 Minutes

Utah State University's A Day of Giving

Oct. 10 at 7 a.m. - Oct. 11 at 2:28 p.m.

1888 Minutes to make an Aggie-sized impact.

1888 Minutes dedicated to strengthening the USU experience.

1888 Minutes to show today's students the power of the Aggie Family.



See how you can make an impact throughout 1888 minutes of giving at adayofgiving.usu.edu.



Advancement
 UtahStateUniversity



UtahStateUniversity

1522 Old Main Hill
Logan UT 84322-1522

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Utah State University

Caine
College of the Arts
UtahStateUniversity.



***CHECK OUT
OUR EVENTS!***



artistry / innovation / creativity

24
25