COLLEAGUES!
A new chapter at the Southern Utah University is about to unfold. Appointment of Dr. Michael T. Benson, as the 15th president of the institution by the unanimous choice of the Utah Board of Regents is indicative of recognition of the higher education authorities that our university is poised to be showcased for external recognitions. President Benson’s impressive track record in advancement and garnering financial support from public and private sources will prove to sufficiently underwrite our entrepreneurial spirit and tireless efforts in advancing academic quality at Southern Utah University.

As an institution of the Utah system of higher education, Southern Utah University, with its focus on academic excellence, student success, and regional and economic development mission, resembles many features of a private institution. From its highly qualified faculty and nationally accredited programs to its personalized spotlight on students and their success, we continue to make a difference in advancing the professional and personal growth of our students. Our striking success in placement of our graduates at premier professional and graduate programs and highly sought after employments is the testimony to our unequivocal devotion to academic quality and student achievement.

It is not by accident that our enrollment continues to set new records, attract a better prepared cohort of students, and retain a greater number of students. Our investment in providing an expansive menu of opportunities and support to our students is not going unnoticed. Many students and their parents rave about many of our initiatives in support of our students’ academic aspirations in recent years. Our teaching excellence coupled with our academic support services in orientation, academic advisement, tutoring support, honors’ program, service learning and civic engagement opportunities, study abroad programs, undergraduate research, 5th week progress report, freshmen seminar course, and an extended list of newly added degree program options continue to provide a comprehensive educational experience that is found in most reputable private institutions.

Our recent addition of the Hispanic Center for Academic Excellence is yet another attempt in discharging our role as a regional university and strategically positioning the university to address southern Utah’s need in tackling academic participation, preparation, and completion of the alarmingly growing Hispanic population with their unique learning and socio-economic challenges. The Center will

1. Work with area Hispanic parents to help them become familiar with educational processes, including the academic, financial, and social systems which can lead to their children’s eventual enrollment in college or university degree programs.
2. Work with Southern Utah school districts, capitalizing on SUU’s regional mission, to foster a collaborative relationship in participation, preparation, and degree completion of a growing Hispanic population in Utah.
3. Work with area public educators in Southern Utah to augment their resources for providing services to ESL youth, both by offering ESL training leading to the acquisition of ESL endorsements, and by providing Spanish classes for interested public school teachers.
4. Encourage increased high school graduation rates among Hispanic youth in Southern Utah by providing a mentoring and tutoring program which will employ SUU students, both Hispanic and/or Spanish-speaking, to help the youth navigate the paths that lead to higher education.
5. Encourage retention of Hispanic students at SUU by providing a program of advocacy, mentoring, and tutoring as needed throughout their college experience.

It is an exciting time at Southern Utah University as we chart forward with a renewed energy and clear focus on our role as a comprehensive regional university. SUU’s reputation for quality and student focus continues to spread throughout the state and nationally. The continued zealous attitude of faculty and staff in seeking ways to improve upon our academic quality promises to bring even greater recognitions for our university.

We continue to stand on the shoulders of many giants that served this institution with passion as faculty, staff, and administrators. Let us continue to make them proud for their trust and awesome responsibility that they have bestowed upon us.

Have a rewarding Spring Semester,

Abe Harraf
Provost
**January**
3-5 College/School/Dept/Committee/Senate Meetings/Retreat
5 New Freshman Orientation
8 Spring Semester Begins
15 Martin Luther King Jr. Recess
17 Last day to drop regular session without “W” on record. Drop policy enforced.
22 Last day of registration and adding classes
31 Rank and Tenure applications to Provost

**February**
9 Fifth Week Report Due
19 President Day Recess

**March**
8 Last day to withdraw from an individual class with a “W” on record. Drop policy enforced.
12-16 Spring Recess

**April**
6 Good Friday Recess
9 Easter Recess - no classes
27 Spring class instruction ends
30 Study Day

**May**
1-4 Final Exams
5 Commencement
7 Three-week maymester begins
9 Grades Due
15 Faculty Contract Ends
25 Three-week Maymester ends
28 Memorial Day
29 Summer School Begins

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**Provost Faculty Development Grant**

The Provost Faculty Development Grant Committee awarded $31,986 in the November round to faculty members from colleges and schools campuswide. The money will be used for everything from research and international travel to presenting at a conference. For more information about the Provost Faculty Development Grant and for instructions on how to apply, visit www.suu.edu/academics/provost/PFDVL/rfpguide.html. This website also contains a detailed list of the faculty who have been awarded grants in this round and previous rounds as well as examples of award winning grant proposals.

The next deadline is approaching quickly. Applications for travel dates that fall between April 1, 2007 and June 30, 2007, must be turned in to Jenifer Rigby, in the Provost Office by January 19, 2007.

The following chart shows a breakdown, by college, of money awarded in the last round.
**NURSING**


**PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

Dr. Bruce Howard, in collaboration with researchers at the University of Utah School of Medicine, published some of his recent research investigating the assembly process of the viral capsid of HIV. This research was published in September 2006 in the journal *Biochemistry*, a publication of the American Chemical Society. The title of this manuscript is, "Implications for Viral Capsid Assembly from Crystal Structures of HIV-1 Gag1-278 and CAN133-278". *Biochemistry* 45(38), 11257 - 11266.

Dr. Mckay Steffensen, Dr. Hussein Samha, Professor Brent Sorensen, and Professor Laura Cotts helped show prospective students the excitement of Physical Science at SUU. The physics, astronomy and chemistry divisions presented an exciting series of demonstrations for high school students on November 4 and November 11, when SUU hosted hundreds of top Utah students and their parents for Distinguished Scholar Day.

Professor Laura Cotts presented a talk at the Utah Council of Teachers of Mathematics annual meeting, held October 19-20 in Salt Lake City. The presentation was titled "My Experiences with ALEKS". ALEKS is a sophisticated supplemental math instruction program. It uses an advanced artificial intelligence engine to analyze each student's mastery of various topics, using the theory of Knowledge Spaces, and then offers targeted instruction.

Dr. Frederick Lohrengel is presently working on ichnofossils for the Claron Formation (Paleocene Age) along the shore of Navajo Lake. These fossils appear to be borrows or root casts.

The geologists in the department of physical science are working alongside engineers, in cooperation with Bryce Canyon National Park, in a study of the mass wasting/weathering events along Navajo Loop Trail. Their plans are to incorporate and extrapolate this information in order to calculate a generalized mass wasting/weathering rate for the park.

Dr. Robert Eves participated in a Physical and Environmental Science Undergraduate Program Review, a compensated consulting assignment. It took place at Mesa State College, Grand Junction, CO, November-December, 2006. He reviewed a program with 22 faculty members with BS degrees in geology, chemistry, and physics.

Dr. Robert Eves attended the Rocky Mountain Section Meeting of the Geological Society of America (RMGSA) in Gunnison, Colorado in May where he, along with Dr. Fred Lohrengel and Dr. Mark Colberg co-chaired a theme session entitled: "Geoscience Lecture and Lab-What Works for You? Tried and True or Innovative and Different."

Dr. Robert Eves submitted two abstracts for presentation at the Fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) in San Francisco. He also plans to attend the meeting December 11-14 and present the papers using funds from a Provost’s Faculty Development grant.

Dr. Robert Eves has been appointed a member of the Geological Society of America (GSA) Ad Hoc National Accreditation Committee, 2006-Present. His attendance at the 2006 National Meeting of the GSA was sponsored by that organization.

Dr. Fred Lohrengel and Dr. Robert Eves distributed a survey to 500 geoscience departments in the US. The survey asked questions about undergraduate research and capstone experiences for geology graduates. They had a 20% response rate and are in the process of analyzing the data received for presentation at future professional venues.

**BIOLOGY**

Dr. Kate Grandison attended the NSTA Western Region Conference and presented (along with students Jake Grimm NSTA president and Cassidy Larsen, Secretary) on December 7th on developing and creating activities and the benefits of an NSTA student chapter.

Dr. Jonathan Marshall’s manuscript "Genetic variation within and between four chromosomal races of Liolaemus monticola (tropiduridae) in Chile” was peer reviewed by Vasquez et al. and authored in *Evolution* 2006.

Dr. Fredric Govedich co-authored a paper in the proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences publication entitled “Sibling competition in a brood-tending leech.” 2006
The College of Performing and Visual Arts presented over 40 events in the fall semester. The faculty, staff, and students presented a wide array of concerts, recitals, exhibitions, productions and lectures. The touring exhibition of 80 etchings Francisco de Goya, Los Caprichos (The Caprices), attracted over 2100 visitors in seven weeks to the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery. The exhibit became a focus for several educational programs organized by Julie Hall (MFA Program).

Dean Bill Byrnes has been invited to present at the Institute for Theatre Research of Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan in January 2007. He has been asked to speak at an arts and culture management symposium organized by the "Arts and Cultural Environment Research Group" at the Institute.

ART & DESIGN

Pictured right: Professor Ben Soward's cover image for his latest book with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Claire Bloom.

Dr. Andrew Marvick has been invited to show a collection of his drawings at the Fine Arts Center, Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, MN from January 17 through February 23, 2007.

Professor Dave Richardson will present "Case Studies in Collaborative Interactive and Print Design Projects" at the 2007 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities in January 2007. His graphic design and interactive art was exhibited at Bellevue University, Nebraska, in October 2006, and will be exhibited in a solo show, "Restless Boundaries," at Vincennes University, Indiana, from January to February 2007, where he will give a presentation and workshop.

MUSIC

Dr. Keith Bradshaw was named as the director of the Southern Utah Heritage Choir in St. George. He will begin as director in January.

Professor Carol Ann Modesitt attended the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) as an SUU representative to the convention held in Chicago before Thanksgiving. Carol Ann also had two of her students win major voice competitions this fall. Jessica Searle took first place in the state Music Teachers National Conference Collegiate Vocal Division. She will be competing at the Western Regional Competition in January representing Utah. Kristin Mabb was named alternate in the same competition.

THEATRE ARTS & DANCE

Professor Kay Andersen was invited by the Netherlands's Dutch Days Festival to teach tap and modern dance technique classes this fall.

Professor Shauna Mendini completed an Invitational Workshop for Visiting Evaluators for the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) this fall. She is now a NASD evaluator and is prepared to provide onsite evaluations for potential NASD member institutions.

Professor Peter Sham had two visitors speak with his students this fall: Festival actor (and SUU alumnus), Brian Vaughn, and internationally acclaimed Director/Author/Acting Teacher, Dr. Robert C. Cohen. Peter also reports that on November 15th, he completed the script (with Brad Carroll, adjunct faculty in Theatre) for USF's 2007 world premiere production of "Lend Me a Tenor: The Musical," based on the play by Ken Ludwig. The national press release can be seen at www.kenludwig.com.

UTAH SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL

Fred C. Adams traveled to Washington D.C. in November to serve on a Theatre Grants Panel for the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA).

Ray Inkel led an all day safety seminar entitled "Safety Second: Making a Safety Program Work" for Opera America at the San Francisco Opera in September. The seminar was attended by Opera companies such as Houston Grand Opera, Santa Fe Opera, St. Louis Opera, Pittsburgh Opera as well as several University Opera training programs.

Scott Phillips reports 2006 Fall Festival Season was the highest attended in the seven year history of presenting fall productions with 24,440 admissions. Scott also reported the Festival will be honored with a Special Citation Award by the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) for its contribution to theatre in the Southwest and for the significant impact of the Festival on the careers and lives of many USITT members.

For the most up to date information about the many fine programs and events planned in the college for the spring semester please go to www.suu.edu/pva.
**COMPUTER SCIENCE & INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

**Dr. Waleed Zaghloul** presented a paper titled "Applications of Neural Networks in MIS" at the 2006 Decision Sciences Institute Conference in San Antonio, Texas (October, 2006).

The Computer Science program experienced a substantial growth rate of 32% over last year. The quality of the program and faculty efforts in recruitment and retention seem to have started working. The CSIS Department has been working on ABET accreditation.

**INTEGRATED ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY**

**Dr. Blair McDonald** (and **Jill Wilks**) presented a paper titled "Cohorts, Who's on Your Team" at the 13th National Conference on Students in Transition (October, 2006).

**Dr. Blair McDonald** passed the Fundamentals of Land Surveying, the Practice of Land Surveying, and the Utah Local Practice Examination, all requisite to obtaining a Utah Professional Land Surveying license.

**Professor Jeff Salehi** attended a full-day intense ABET Program Assessment Workshop funded by NSF on September 23, 2006 in Baltimore, Maryland. Recently, Jeff Salehi conducted a detailed peer review of a research-paper manuscript in the field of Power Electronics for publication in the Journal of Engineering Technology.

In November **Drs. Blair McDonald, Bill Pratt** and several IET Surveying students conducted a topographic survey of the Wall Street rock fall that occurred last spring in Bryce Canyon National Park to estimate the volume of the fall and upstream sedimentation. A follow up survey will be conducted in the spring to determine the extent of compaction and settlement of the rock fall materials over the winter.

The annual SUU Electronics and Computer Engineering Technology (ECET) Showcase was organized in November 2006 by IET faculty **Professors Jeff Salehi and Dave Ward**. Jeff Salehi organized and coordinated a visit by a representative from IM Flash Technologies at this event. IM Flash Technologies is the largest business investment ever made in the state of Utah and is a joint venture between Intel and Micron. IM Flash representative, Ms. Amy Rawlinson visited SUU, participated in the annual Electronics and Computer Engineering Technology (ECET) Showcase, and met with Provost Harraf, Dean Bouniaev, and IET Chair Bill Pratt. IM Flash is very interested in hiring graduates from the ECET program at SUU and has offered future paid internships and scholarship opportunities for our ECET majors. Electronics major graduates from SUU have been in high demand; 100% of the recent ECET graduates have been offered high-paying jobs prior to or immediately after graduation.

The Integrated Engineering Program exploded this year and experienced an 87% growth rate over last year. ABET accreditation and the recruiting activities of the engineering faculty seem to be fueling this rapid growth. Retention (and growth) is also enhanced as more than half the engineering students participated in Engineering Cohort activities where they meet once a week with faculty mentors and "study buddies."

IET Faculty **Professor Dave Ward** and student Adam Gibb visited our partner school, Itson University in Mexico in November to deliver electronic tools and make presentations.

**MATHEMATICS**

**Dr. Jianlong Han** (with Peter Bates, Sarah Brown, and Guangyu Zhao) presented at American Mathematical Society (AMS) Sectional Meeting in Salt Lake City (October, 2006). The title of their presentation is "On some non-local phase-field equations."

**Dr. Chunlei Zhang** (with Peter Bates) presented at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Sectional Meeting in Salt Lake City (October, 2006). The title of his presentation was "Traveling Pulses for the Non-local and Lattice Klein-Gordon Equations."

**Dr. Andreas Weingartner** presented at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Sectional Meeting in Salt Lake City (October, 2006). The title of his presentation is "An equivalence for the Riemann hypothesis in terms of coefficients or orthogonal projections."

**Dr. Eric Freden** and students Caroline Nielson and Jennifer Schofield, gave a colloquium at Brigham Young University (October, 2006). The title of their presentation was "Groups, growth, formal languages, and computer graphics."
Dean Rodney D. Decker is the chair for the State Board on Aging and Adult Services. This is a seven member board, appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate, that establishes state wide policy for the Division of Aging and Adult Services in the Department of Human Services.

**COMMUNICATION**

Dr. Kevin Stein was awarded "Top Paper" in the Political Communication division at the National Communication Association Conference in San Antonio, 2006. He presented his paper *Antapologia* in the 1960 Spy Plane Incident.

Dr. Stan Gwin has been actively doing volunteer work for the Crisis Communication officer of the Red Cross in Gulfport, Mississippi. Part of that work has included a Congressional Committee hearing.

Dr. Stan Gwin also arranged for Gene Newman who lobbies in Washington for the Professional Bail Agents of the United States to appear in his Political Communication class, Dr. Paystrup's Public Relations Campaigns class, and in Carl Franklin's Criminal Justice classes.

Dr. Stan Gwin's contract research entitled "Responses to Bail and Bail Recovery Misbehaviors in the Decade from 1994 to 2005" has been circulated to selected Congressional Committees and is being prepared for publication in the Wall Street Journal.

"Canyoneering the Colorado Plateau" is the most recent documentary produced by Dr. Jon Smith and edited by Lee Byers. The one-hour documentary introduces the relatively new and popular sport of rappelling, sliding, swimming, squeezing, and climbing through slot canyons. Many spectacular canyons in southern Utah provided the locations and backdrop as Smith interviewed experts, guidebook authors, land managers, and also beginners. Smith modified videotaping techniques as he rappelled and swam with the camera. The DVD will be on sale in local national park bookstores and outdoor retail stores. Results from peer review and multiple film festival entries will be available later in the year.

Dr. Jon Smith presented a poster session, "Rewind: A 10-Year Retrospective of Commercial Filmmaking on The Grandstaircase Escalante National Monument" at the "Learning from the Land" Research Symposium, Cedar City, Utah, September, 2006.

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Dr. Suzanne Larson and Matthew Barton will present a paper at the Western Communication Association Convention in Seattle, WA in February, 2007. The paper is titled: “Justice Sundays' and the war to define American values: Conservatism and federal court appointments.”

Dr. Suzanne Larson was elected to a two-year term on the Executive Council of the Western Communication Association.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE & HUMANITIES**

Dr. James Harrison read a paper at RMMLA (Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association) in Tucson. The title of the paper was, "Der von Staufenberg: Elemental Spirits, Matriarchs, and Walküren". The Conference was held October 12-14.

Dr. Jim Mills will have a paper titled, "Archilochos and André Chéntier: The Iambic connection" published in the 2004 Journal of the Utah Academy (in print 2006).

Dr. Jim Mills will have a paper titled, "Robert Burns and Clément Marot: Satirists of Religion or Religious Satirists?" published in the 2005 Journal of the Utah Academy. (To be in print in 2007).

Dr. Kirk Fitzpatrick has been working on the Philosophy Minor - it has been approved for Fall 2007. He also had an article "Anarchy in Plato's Republic," accepted by a peer-reviewed publication.

**HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY**


Dr. Earl F. Mulderink III received the Utah State System of Higher Education Award for Exemplary Faculty Use of Technology, in April 2006 and was selected to the Tenth Edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2006. Dr. Mulderink was also offered a book contract from Fordham University Press for his, “New Bedford's Civil War,” to appear in the series “The North's Civil War,” edited by Paul A. Cimbala.


Dr. Andrew Barnford gave a paper and co-chaired a session at the Pacific Sociological Association Conference (2006) in Los Angeles, CA.

Dr. Steve Barney had a paper accepted for publication at the Journal of Constructivist Psychology and is the newly appointed member of the Utah Campus Compact Faculty Consulting Corps.


POLITICAL SCIENCE & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Dr. Pat Keehley received a Faculty Development Grant for $2967 to develop cases (research & travel) for a second edition of her book, “Benchmarking For Best Practices in the Public Sector,” Jossey-Bass Publisher. She conducted research and interviews of government officials in Washington, D.C. She also delivered a workshop in December 2006 for the Graduate School, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, titled "Impact Evaluation Methods." This workshop was in Washington, D.C. and the participants were drawn from several federal agencies.

Dr. John Howell presented a paper at the Fourth Annual Conference of the Utah Center for Ethics and Social Policy in October 2006 held on the SUU campus. His paper was titled "Disaster and Moral Courage: Responsibilities of Individuals and Government." He participated in The Intermountain Great Teachers Summit, October 18-21, 2006 in Park City, Utah. Dr. Howell was an active partici-

This newsletter is available online at www.suu.edu/academics/provost/nwsltr.htm January 2007 Vol. 4 Iss. 2
Dr. David M. Lund attended the National Reading Conference (Nov 29-Dec 2, 2006) in Los Angeles, CA and presented a research project entitled "Assessment & Instruction vs. Scientifically-based Research, Legislation and Public Perception: Do We Teach Children of Programs?" (Preliminary findings were also presented to the State Office of Education in July 2006.) He also presented "The Ever-Changing Terrain of Technology-Mediated Literacy Experiences: Where Have We Been, Where Are We Now, Where Are We Going, and How Are We Getting There?"

Professor Merlene Ellington will present with (student) Ashlee Winterrose at the statewide Early Childhood Conference in March, 2007. They will be developing a free CD for all participants that include several integrated units developed around the Utah K-2 Core and the chart which Professor Ellington developed for tracking core usage.

Dr. Genell Harris had her paper “Assessment, equity, and individual accountability in collaborative work” selected as ticketed session for Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. The session was 1 of 600 accepted from 1500 proposals and 1 of 120 selected as ticketed sessions that were listed in the conference preview flier for the April 2007 annual meeting.

The Child Care Center has been awarded a grant of $1,000 to be used as tuition assistance for students who cannot afford their child care fees. The Center was nominated anonymously for this award by someone who had been a student and parent using the child care program.

Professor Carrie Trenholm attended the Utah State Office of Education Fine Arts Networking Conference in Layton on Nov 30-Dec 1. Mona Woolsey, Jennifer Rasmussen and Professor Trenholm gave four visual arts hands-on workshops to elementary teachers and specialists. The workshop was the culmination of a two-month residency on Mona's 4th grade class at North Elementary where students created a hand-made arts journal of various art and literary projects.

Dr. Kathy Croxall and Professor Rea Gubler presented at the recent ACTE national conference entitled “Managing Student Assessment: Top 10 Alternatives to Traditional Testing.” Dr. Croxall also chaired the Resolutions Committee at the national conference.

Dr. Kathy Croxall and Professor Rea Gubler have a recent publication entitled, “Everyone Loves a Good Story” in the Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences (Vol. 98, no. 4, November 2006, pages 48-49).

Dr. Tom Cunningham gave a presentation titled “Increasing Student Motivation to Review Course Content by Using Classroom Games and Computer-Based Quiz Tools” at the 2006 International Convention of the Association for Educational Communications & Technology, Dallas, TX, October 11, 2006.

Dr. Cunningham has also been invited to present a paper and participate in discussions on bilingual education and the teaching of English as a second language (ESL) with an international panel of approximately 35 scholars at the Oxford Round Table at Pembroke College in the University of Oxford, March 18-23, 2007, in Oxford, England. The paper is titled “Well-Facilitated ShopTalk as Democratic Professional Development for Teachers of English Language Learners.”

Dr. Deborah Hill worked with teachers in Mexico in the development of literacy curriculum.

Michiko Kobayashi presented at the AECT 2006 Conference in Dallas TX on October 10-14, 2006 on "Facilitating Academic Achievement in a High School Interactive Television Classroom by Promoting Self-Regulated Learning."

Michiko Kobayashi will also present at the SITE 2007 Conference (Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International) on March 26-30, 2007. The title is "Increasing Pre-Service Teachers' Self-Efficacy in Using Technology." This paper has been accepted by the SITE committee.

Professor Nichole Wangsgard presented at The International Child & Adolescent Conference on October 13, 2006. The title of the presentation was "The Self-Perceptions of Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders as a Reader: Implications for Creating a Classroom Climate that Addresses Both Motivation and Academic Needs in Reading."

On November 28, 2006 Professor Nichole Wangsgard presented at a panel session sponsored by the Disability Support Center during Disability Week. In particular, she presented strategies to help students with disabilities study for finals.

Professor Wangsgard will present with Professor Peggy Wittwer at the Utah Mentor Teacher Academy Conference on January 18 & 19, 2007. The topic of the presentation will be "Comprehension Strategies That Motivate Students to Read."
On November 9th, SUU received the approval of the Board of Trustees to open a Hispanic Center for Academic Excellence on our campus, and in January, we will seek approval from the Board of Regents. The Center has several goals, which include building relationships with local Hispanics, the recruitment and retention of Hispanic students at SUU, and efforts to contribute locally and regionally to the closing of achievement gaps for Hispanic students in K-12.

On November 9th, Regent Rosanita Cespedes spent a good part of the day on campus sharing her ideas and experience with faculty and staff who are participating in the development of the Hispanic Center for Academic Excellence. We were thrilled to share some time with Regent Cespedes and hear her invaluable advice and encouragement and we are keeping her words of wisdom in mind as we proceed.

While we are waiting for approval by the Regents so we may find a home for ourselves on campus, we couldn’t wait to get started developing programs and working towards our long term goals. Hispanic Center Director Elise Leahy, Spanish Professors Abeijón and Nisguritzer and Student Support Staff member Carmen Alldredge hosted two intercambios during the month of November. An intercambio is an exchange, and on our campus, it means getting students who want to improve their Spanish together with local Hispanics who want to improve their English for a peer learning conversational hour. Students and community members alike express excitement about how much they learn when attending an intercambio, and as a result, we are planning to make it a more regular event in the spring.

Another project which we are very excited to develop involves SUU students going to Cedar City schools to tutor high school, middle school and elementary school children. Director Leahy, who is working on getting the project going for the spring semester, is impressed first and foremost by biology majors Chris Taggart and Craig Rodriguez who are helping to organize the Hispanic Center Tutor Project, but also by the dozens of students who have been eager to sign up and get involved!

Luckily for Director Leahy, there are lots of students and faculty on campus interested in supporting events that celebrate Hispanic culture. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Hispanic Club and Sigma Delta Pi, which, with the help of advisors Dr. Cynthia Peña and Dr. Héctor Garza, have been organizing fun and educational events throughout the fall semester.
ACCOUNTING


ECONOMICS & FINANCE


Dr. Joe Baker spent the summer on a Faculty Research Participation grant, sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. He examined the success rates of high-ability high school graduates completing science and engineering baccalaureates. Dr. Baker will be teaching this summer at the Vienna Technical University in Vienna, Austria.


MANAGEMENT & MARKETING


Dr. Gerry Calvasina received the Distinguished Research Award at Allied Academies Fall International Meeting for a paper "Preventing Employee Identity Fraud: Policy and Practice Issues for Employers."

MILITARY SCIENCE

Southern Utah University's Army ROTC program is growing. The number of cadets in the program has gone from 45 last year to 67 this year due in part by the return of 2/222 Field Artillery from Iraq. The program commissioned 5 new Lieutenants in 2006 and will commission 10 Lieutenants in 2007.

1LT Jeremy Williams, an alumni of SUU, has been recently hired as a training/recruiting officer.

SFC Lennie McConnell has returned to the 2/222 FA and the program welcomes his replacement SFC Mark Loria as the new training NCO.

SFC Shane Johnson is the new National Guard Recruiting NCO assigned to the ROTC and has already contributed much to the program.

The ROTC program is finalizing an agreement with Dixie State College in order to develop a partnership program which will offer the same opportunities for DSC students beginning in Fall 2007.
Competition

The results of the 1st Annual Best Business Idea Competition are in, and the winners have been determined! The event was sponsored by the SUU Small Business Development Center and School of Business, the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce and Iron County/Cedar City Economic Development. Prize money was donated and sponsorship provided by the Quantum Development Group (of the private sector of our community). Over 60 imaginative and promising business ideas were submitted for judging. Eleven finalists were chosen to present their business idea orally to the panel of judges. Based upon those presentations the five winners were chosen.

Three of the five awardees are students of SUU. Laura Clinger (Haute Pursuit), 2nd place, for uniquely designed and functional handbags; Christopher Empey (Waste Oil Solutions), 3rd place, for diesel fuel alternative and processing from waste vegetable oil, and Andrew Walton (Vita-Cap) received an honorable mention for his patented water bottle cap design with vitamins.

The mutual purpose of each of the sponsors of this competition is to support the development of small businesses in the Tri-County area (Iron, Beaver and Garfield Counties), and to promote healthy economic development with more jobs and increased tax revenue base. With the integration of community resources and the talent of our own successful entrepreneurs, we can help more and more small companies get started and successfully grow. In the not too distant future, we are hoping to develop a "one-stop-shop" business resource center and incubator that will provide necessary support and counseling services for smaller businesses. Ultimately, such a center would not only provide support services, but help with financing alternatives (including an "angel" or venture capital fund), business partnering facilitation, as well as legal and human resource services.

Craig Isom, Director of the SUU Small Business Development Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center said, "It is very rewarding to see the response to the competition challenge. There's lots of talent in our community and many untapped ideas and opportunities. We're happy to get the creative juices flowing and have so much interest in this kind of event. What's most rewarding is seeing so many different resources come together (university, public and private) for a very important and common cause. We extend our thanks to all who participated. Now we just have to keep the ball rolling and support the launch of new, successful businesses, and build upon this start to a new community partnership."
On the afternoon of September 8, the School of Business at Southern Utah University conducted the grand opening of its new Investment and Service Learning Laboratory.

Serving a dual purpose, the investment lab is where students in the Finance and Master of Business Administration programs will each manage a $250,000 portfolio, and where students will also be able to apply their business skills learned in the classroom to real-world business problem solutions through service-learning.

The Lab has been named in honor of SUU Professor Steve Harrop, who has more than 25 years of portfolio management experience and has earned 24 Lipper Awards. Professor Harrop oversees the student portfolio management project. Students are responsible for selecting the type of investment portfolio and appropriate benchmarks, researching appropriate investments and then executing the trades. The students use the financial tools provided to them in their course of study to manage investments in the pressure cooker environment of portfolio management. They have access to computer work stations with dual monitors, research software and large LCD displays of current market conditions to make their investment decisions. Last semester, the students achieved a gain of $8,377.10 in the four months of the Spring semester which would be an annualized return of just over 10 percent.

"The investments class has been one of the most influential classes I have taken at SUU," senior Finance major, Jeremy Johnson, states. "The knowledge that I gained... and the practical experience in investments... is unsurpassed. There is no substitute for real life experience and that is exactly what you get in this class."

Some samples of service-learning which will be conducted through the Lab include Accounting students who, in the Spring, prepare tax forms for Iron County community members, for free. Future service-learning opportunities will include students conducting market research consulting services to small businesses and not-for-profit organizations. They will develop marketing plans under the guidance of Marketing faculty. The Small Business Development Center will partner with the Lab to facilitate Business students to meet with small businesses and entrepreneurs to provide free research and consulting.

Such an applied learning environment is a hallmark of SUU's School of Business. A review team from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation agency recently cited the School for its practitioner- and industry-oriented curricula and "the fact that most faculty members bring practical experience, appropriate academic credentials to the learning environment." The School's new Lab only allows it to move even further in this same progressive direction.

The Lab was built with a combination of student course fees and a generous donation from SUU alumnus, Garrett Gunderson, a founding partner of the company, Engenuity. Garrett graduated from SUU’s Finance program in 2002. He visited with students after the ribbon-cutting and naming of the Lab in the Sharwan Smith Center Theatre, reminiscing of his time at SUU and sharing some of his experiences since entering the business world.
Students complete LM 1010/UNIV 1000 Courses
In an effort to aid SUU Freshmen in launching successful university careers, 1022 students were grouped together Fall Semester into cohort groups. These groups of 25 students each completed UNIV 1000 First Year Seminar during the first eight weeks of the semester. Upon completion, the students started LM 1010 Information Literacy, which introduced them to the research process and methods for retrieving information. These courses equip students with the tools and abilities that will increase their career and academic skills.

Wooden O included in International Database
The Journal of the Wooden O, jointly published by the Utah Shakespearean Festival and the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, received a request from EBSCO Publishing to include this publication in their online database. The database Academic Search Premier is the world’s most valuable and largest collection of active full text peer-reviewed journals and contains indexing for more than 8,100 journals. Journal of the Wooden O will be available online to researchers world wide.

Library Opens Driggs Collection
On September 22nd the Sherratt Library opened the Howard R. Driggs Collection to researchers. Processing this historical collection was funded by grants from the National Park Service Challenge Cost-Share program of the Long Distance Trails Office. This second grant was awarded for $22,260 matched by $22,321 for a total project budget of $44,581. This grant represents the second year of support from this funding agency to properly preserve and catalog the collection of valuable papers, photos, films and other materials relating to education, American history, and western trails and migration.

SUU Information Commons
The Information Commons provides the space, technology, and expertise to support the scholarly use of information resources. The Commons is the focal point on campus for information services.

The Library and Information Technology have joined forces to create the Information Commons in the Gerald R. Sherratt Library. This ongoing project started with the installation of a student computer lab in the library and is expanding to provide new facilities and spaces that are designed to be student centered, to appeal to the social aspects of learning, and to function as a central venue for meeting, sharing, and exploring. The term "commons" derived from the land (or common grounds) that villagers shared for grazing purposes in simpler times. The town "commons" was so-named because it belonged to everyone in the community, and all kinds of commerce took place there.

Some of the new spaces that will be available in Spring 2007 include:
~Several new PC workstations with dual displays designed for group work.
~A new Multi-media Center on the First Floor that will provide students and faculty with the hardware, software, and assistance to create and produce multi-media projects including digital video.
~A classroom group of computers on the First Floor with video projection facilities to provide classes visiting the library with a dedicated space for class research activities.
~14 PC laptops with wireless Internet access for student checkout.
~8 iMac computers have recently been added with this software and additional graphic creation hardware and software. (What software?)
~Two of the eight group study rooms are now equipped with computers and video projectors.

Department Histories Available
The SUU Press published The History of the School of Business by Larry A. Olsen this fall. This joins the list of department histories that have been published commemorating the 100th anniversary of the university. Two histories remain to be published in this series. The departmental histories are available in the Library’s collection and personal copies may be ordered by calling 435-586-7947.

Basketball Photograph Exhibit
The sport of basketball has a long and storied history at Southern Utah University, a history highlighted in a sampling of archival photographs now on exhibit on the Third Floor of the Sherratt Library at Southern Utah University. This exhibit is drawn from the thousands of photographs in the University Archives taken since 1900, the earliest dated image of a BNS basketball team.

The exhibit includes photos from 1902 to 1992. Where there are captions for the early photos, the surnames are a cross-section of Southern Utah family names. Recruiting from across the state and country started in the 1960s. Some may be surprised to find out that great-grandma was on the BNS Girls’ team in 1914 or that grandfather was on the State Championship team in 1916. However, archival photos often do not have complete descriptions of dates and players names, so visitors may be able to add information to the archives by identifying a family member or even themselves or a friend who played in recent decades. This is the first of several exhibits on the history of sports at SUU.
The Service-Learning Committee has some exciting news about service-learning and civic engagement efforts on this campus. Earl Mulderink, who chairs the committee as SUU's Faculty Coordinator of Civic Engagement, urges you to check out their new web site located at http://www.suu.edu/serve&learn/. While the site is still being developed, it provides information and resources -- including a list of potential community partners and links to other web sites with syllabi, grant information, conference and publication opportunities, and news for faculty, staff, and students.

Thanks to increased funding support for this year, the Service-Learning Committee will create and coordinate an awards program for "Engaged Educators" who use (or plan to use) service-learning in their instructional efforts. While plans are not yet finalized, it is anticipated that as many as four honoraria will be granted in Spring 2007 with awards up to $1,000. Recipients will be honored at appropriate ceremonies. Watch our web site for details.

If you are engaged in service-learning endeavors and wish to travel to relevant conferences, please know that the Service-Learning Committee has some travel funding that could serve as a match for your funding applications. Contact Earl Mulderink with questions (mulderink@suu.edu).

Faculty are invited to attend the third annual "Engaged Scholar Institute" on February 23-24, 2007, in Moab, Utah. Sponsored by the Utah Campus Compact, this event brings together faculty from all higher education institutions in Utah with a lively mix of new and experienced service-learning practitioners. This short, intense, and valuable conference literally offers something for everyone, not to mention its attractive locale. Last year, SUU was well represented with a full contingent of ten participants, and we expect to make a good showing again. Newcomers and neophytes are particularly welcome; contact Earl Mulderink with inquiries.

We want to publicize the relatively new SUU Service Learning Scholar Program originally developed by a student, Jo Kremin. Last year, three SUU students - one in business, two in nursing - graduated with this distinction and received recognition at college and university graduation exercises. Besides offering personal enrichment, this program provides "real" learning experiences that can open opportunities for employment, graduate, or professional school. Application materials and more details are found at the SL&CE web site. Ideally, this experience unfolds over the course of several years and is tied directly to the student's academic, career, and personal aspirations.

The Service-Learning Committee is a university committee with broad representation from faculty, staff and administrators from Student Services, and a student member. If you want to know more about our efforts or our ambitious agenda for this year, please visit our web site. Contact committee members and tell us how we can best serve you in promoting service-learning and civic engagement on this campus.

Rural Health Scholar News

The Rural Health Scholars Program had a fall enrollment of 98 students! This enhancement program for pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy and other health students provides unique opportunities for job shadowing, patient exposure, research, medical-related community service and cultural immersion.

Acceptances to graduate health programs have been coming in at an incredible rate: As of Dec. 6, 2006 we already have 5 students with acceptances to medical schools, including several with multiple acceptances. Joseph Carroll, chemistry major from Cedar City has four acceptances. Four students have been accepted to Physician Assistant Programs.

The first round of dental school acceptances was announced December 1 and ten SUU students received acceptances with Garrett McCullough, biology major from Panguitch receiving four, as well as four acceptances for Tyler Torres, biology major from St. George. We anticipate several more as many students are on waiting lists.

Thanks to $3,000 from SUUSA, the Rural Health Scholars pre-dental students are opening a dental clinic for uninsured community members at Valley View Medical Center with the support of local volunteer dentists. The clinic will open in mid-January.

Twenty-five students went to Guaymas, Mexico to work in a charity hospital, take medical supplies, and work at two orphanages and have a cultural immersion experience. Twenty students will go to Montezuma Creek to assist in a Native American clinic and learn more about the culture.

Our MCAT/DAT/PCAT Prep program will begin next semester, as will the Intro to Dentistry Seminars taught by three local dentists.