

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



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COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS!

It is with a great deal of excitement, and some trepidation, that I change assignments to be your interim provost for the coming academic year. I am deeply honored to represent and serve the exceptional academic faculty and staff of Southern Utah University in various decision and policy making venues. I have great respect for the superb teaching, scholarship, and service which each of you provide in a collegial and professional manner. Your opinions, individually and collectively, are encouraged and valued. Although decisions may be made with which you disagree, I hope that each of you will know that you can provide important input and have an effect in the decision process.

The next year will provide many opportunities for a new administrative team to work closely with a dedicated faculty and staff in all academic areas to carry out the mission and objectives of a small but exceptional university. The highlights in this Academic Affairs issue exemplify the quality of academics at Southern Utah University. It is incumbent for each of us to better market the strengths that exist in SUU's undergraduate and graduate programs. Too often we are timid about "tooting our horn" in regard to the quality of the educational environment that SUU provides its students. I ask each of you to make a difference this coming year by visiting with students and talking with their families as the occasion may arise of the unique qualities that SUU provides for them in the classroom, college life, and career preparation. I hope that each of you can provide such a message with sincerity and conviction. My association with faculty and administrators at other colleges and universities leads me to believe we sometimes don't appreciate enough the unique teaching environment SUU provides in relatively small classrooms and labs.

Our students' lives are profoundly affected for good through your efforts as professors. Although changes seem inevitable, we should ever strive to continue and build on the traditions and values for which SUU is known.

As you begin the new academic year with enthusiasm and energy, I'm hopeful that you will look for ways in which your academic programs can be enhanced. Please consider four areas where academic programs and students' education could be enhanced. They are becoming mainstream expectations at colleges and universities. All students need to be encouraged to engage in an internship experience, research experience, international experience, or service learning experience. Many SUU programs provide internship opportunities already. These need to be expanded utilizing the resources already on our campus. SUU has an Undergraduate Director for Student Research, Study Abroad Program, and Civic Engagement/Service Learning Program. Please support and encourage usage of these expanding efforts at SUU that will more completely make our students competitive in today's employment market.

I encourage all of us to work more closely together to support the good that we have at SUU, change that which is not addressing high academic standards and expectations, and truly make students, staff, faculty, and administrators believe that Southern Utah University is the best institution that it can be.

Thanks for your support. Have a wonderful and productive semester.

Warmest regards,

Rodney D. Decker
Interim Provost

~ I N S I D E ~

College Highlights ~ Calendar of Events ~ New Faculty Appointments
Rank Advancements ~ Tenure Awarded

CALENDAR of events

August

- 16 Faculty Contracts begin
- 20-24 Opening Week Meetings
- 24 New Student Welcome
- 27 Fall Semester Begins



September

- 3 Labor Day
- 4 Annual Activity Report, 3 yr Review, Rank & Tenure Applications & Post Tenure Review due to Department Chair
- 5 Last day to drop regular session w/o a "W" on record. Drop policy enforced
- 10 Last day to register/add
- 17 Annual Activity Report, 3 yr Review, Rank & Tenure Applications & Post Tenure Review due to department LRT committee
- 28 Fifth Week Report Due

October

- 8 Three-yr Review, Rank & Tenure Applications, & Post Tenure Review due to College/School LRT Committee; Annual Activity to Dean
- 15 Applications for Leave due to Department Chair
- 17 First Session Ends
- 18 Second Session Begins
- 22 Harvest Holiday
- 26 Last day to withdraw from individual classes with a "W" on record. Drop policy enforced.



November

- 1 Applications for Leave due to Dean
- 5 Three-yr Review, Rank & Tenure Applications, and Post-Tenure Review due to Dean
- 15 Applications for Leave due to ULRT Committee
- 21 Three-yr Review due to Provost
- 21-23 Thanksgiving Recess



December

- 3 Rank & Tenure Applications due to ULRT Committee
- 6 Applications for Leave due to Provost
- 7 Fall Class Instruction ends
- 10 Study Day
- 11-14 Final Exams
- 14 Annual Activity Report, Three-yr Review with Department Chair
- 17 New Freshman Orientation
- 19 Grades Due
- 25 Christmas
- 31 Post Tenure Review to Provost



Provost Faculty Development Grant Awards

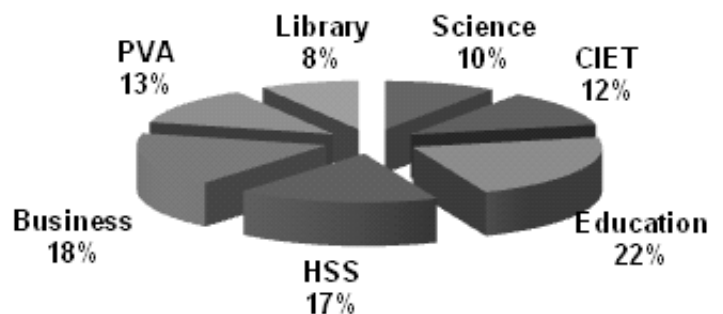
In April, the Provost Faculty Development Grant awarded \$35,671 to applicants. These grants will be used for research & travel from July 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007. The awards for this round are shown below:

Business	\$6390
CIET	\$4351
Education	\$7830
HSS	\$6164
Library	\$3021
PVA	\$4500
Science	\$3415

A complete list of all grants, by college/school and by faculty can be viewed on the Provost website.

The deadline for the next round is Friday, October 26, 2007 at 3:00pm. Travel dates for this round must fall between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2008. For more information on the Provost Faculty Development Grant, visit the Provost website at www.suu.edu/academics/provost/PFDVL/rfpguide.html.

Provost Faculty Development Grants April 2007



Economics

Dr. Joe Baker taught economics in Vienna, Austria this summer and attended the Oxford Roundtable in Oxford, England. He has a paper forthcoming in the [Journal for the Education of the Gifted](#).



Accounting Department

Professor Jeff Barnes, Dr. David Christensen and **Dr. David Rees** published the following: "Identifying Strategies That Encourage Resolve to Exhibit Moral Courage" in the [Mountain Plains Journal of Business and Economics](#) 8 (Jan. 2007): 16-27, and in the Proceedings to the 2006 Conference of the Center for Ethics and Business Social Policy. Cedar City, UT (6 Oct. 06); "Developing the Resolve to have Moral Courage - An Experiment with Accounting Students" in the [Journal of Accounting, Ethics & Public Policy](#) 7 (Jan. 2007): 1-25, and in the Proceedings to the 2006 Conference of the Center for Ethics and Business Social Policy. Cedar City, UT (6 Oct. 06). They presented "How to Develop Resolve to have Moral Courage" at the Utah Center for Ethics and Social Policy - Winter Symposium on Moral Courage: Implications for Policy and Practice. St. George, UT (8 Mar.), and at the Annual Conference of the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters. Cedar City, UT (Apr. 13).

Professor Jeff Barnes presented at the Annual Utah State University's Income Tax School for Practitioners, in cooperation with the IRS. Tax topics covered were "Ethics" and "Individual Taxpayer Issues." Presentations were held in Salt Lake City and St. George, UT, during Nov. and Dec. 2006, before audiences of 225 and 120 respectively. He also was recognized as the Outstanding Professor of Accounting for the 2006-07 academic school year, and was one of five SUU faculty recognized as a 2007 Service-Learning Fellow (Apr. 24, 2007).

Professor Jeff Barnes and **Professor Robyn Boneck**, advisors for the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program, administered over the student-run organization preparing tax returns for 710 tax clients for the Iron County service area, for calendar year 2006. This provided, free to the public, a fair-market value of professional services estimated at a competitive \$145,000 (Jan. to Apr. 2007).

Dr. David Christensen received the "Exemplary Use of Technology Faculty Award" from the Utah System of Higher Education for his development of online accounting courses (Spring 2007).

Management & Marketing

Dr. Gerald Calvasina published "Making More Informed Hiring Decisions: Policy and Practice Issues for Employers" in the [Journal of Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Issues](#). He also had three peer-reviewed papers at academic conferences in 2007.

Dr. Alan Hamlin published "A Survey of Professor Reactions to Scenarios of Academic Dishonesty in American Universities" in the [Journal of Business Inquiry](#), and had one peer-reviewed paper at an academic conference.

Dr. Wayne Roberts and **Dr. Emmett Steed** published "The Utah Summer Games Marketing Research Project" in the [Journal of the International Academy for Case Studies](#).

Art Porter, Associate Professor Emeritus of Management, retired this year.



The College of Computing, Integrated Engineering & Technology's proposal for the Center of Applied Research & Advanced Technologies (CARAT) was approved by the State Board of Regents in June 2007.

Through the collaborative efforts of CIET and the Advancement Office, SUU will receive funding from the Governor's Office of Economic Development, Centers of Excellence, for CIET faculty member Dr. Nick Winowich's (PI) proposal (Dr. Des Penny, co-PI), the Center for High End Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Process Optimization. "Southern Utah University has established a high performance supercomputing facility to enable high fidelity computer modeling of topics of importance to regional industry. The goal of this Center is to partner with a regional pharmaceutical business to develop a 3-dimensional model of a fluidized bed reactor to help optimize their multiphase production processes using computational fluid dynamics. Obviously of interest is to determine if such modeling could be expanded from a single partner to broader applications." Governor's Office of Economic Development, Centers of Excellence Program 2007-08 Solicitation.

Math

Dr. Sarah Brown presented her paper "A Numerical Scheme for the Nonlocal Allen-Cahn Equation" at the Mathematical Association of American (MAA) Intermountain Spring Sectional Meeting (Mar. 23-24, 2007).

Dr. Eric Freden, Math Department Chair, presented the paper "Growth in Baumslag-Solitar Groups I: Subgroups and Rationality" at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Section Meeting in Hoboken, NJ (Apr. 14, 2007).

Dr. Derek Hein presented "The Design Conjecture: A Survey" at the 6th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Statistics, Mathematics & Related Fields, held in Honolulu, HI (Jan. 17-19, 2007).

Dr. Andreas Weingartner presented his paper "An Equivalence for the Riemann Hypothesis in Terms of Coefficients of Orthogonal Projections" at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.

Computer Science & Information Systems

Dr. Dezhi Wu presented a research paper entitled "Capturing Temporal Structure Usage in Individual Time Management Practices" at the International Conference on Information

Systems (ICIS 2006) Organizations and Society in Information Systems Research Workshop, Milwaukee, WI (Dec. 2006). She also co-authored a research paper with Liz Avery Gomez, Katia Passerini and Michael Bieber entitled, "Utilizing Web Tools for Computer-Mediated Communication to Enhance Team-based Learning," which appeared in the International Journal of Web-based Learning and Teaching Technologies, 2(2), pp. 21-37 (Apr.-Jun. 2007).

Dr. Manghui Tu presented two papers: "Correlated Data Placement in Widely Distributed Systems," at the International Conference on Parallel, and "Distributed Processing Techniques and Applications and Allocation of Partitioned Data by Using a Neural Network Based Approach," at the International Conference on Security and Management (Jun. 2007).

Dr. Nasser Tadayon, CSIS Department Chair, presented his paper, "A Systematic Approach to the Evaluation Process - A Case Study," to the World Congress in Computer Science, Computing Engineering & Applied Computing (Jun. 25, 2007).

Integrated Engineering & Technology

Dr. Blair McDonald presented at the 13th National Conference on Students in Transition in St. Louis, MO (Nov. 2006). He also presented at the American Society Engineering Education RM Conference in Provo, UT (Apr. 2007) and at the International American Society Engineering Education Conference in Honolulu, HI (June 2007).

Dr. Sarah Bush presented her research paper, "Travel Behavior," at the International Conference of Travel Behavior, in Kyoto, Japan where she also received an award (Aug. 2006).

Professor Jeff Salehi organized and coordinated a visit by a representative from IM Flash Technologies. IM Flash Technologies is the largest business investment ever made in the State of Utah and is a joint venture between Intel and Micron. The visit resulted in an offer for a future paid internship and scholarship opportunities for ECET majors. He also attended a full-day intense ABET Program Assessment Workshop funded by NSF in Baltimore, MD (Sept. 2006), and conducted a detailed peer review of a research-paper manuscript in the field of Power Electronics for publication in the Journal of Engineering.

Professor Richard Cozzens presented at Leeds University (Jul. 2006).

Teacher Education & Family Development

Dr. Shawn L. Christiansen co-authored “A Father’s Love: Impacts of Sacrifice and Care on Fathers and their Children,” published in Why Fathers Count: The Importance of Fathers and Their Involvement with Children (Oct. 2006).

Dr. Kathy C. Croxall and **Professor Rea Gubler** presented “Top Ten Alternatives to Tests” at the Association of Career and Technical Educators in Atlanta, GA (Dec. 2006). They also presented “One Common Thread: Bread” at the annual inservice training meeting for FCS teachers in Southern Utah (Apr. 2007).

Dr. Michiko Kobayashi presented “Facilitating Academic Achievement in a High School Interactive Television Classroom by Promoting Self-regulated Learning” at the AECT 2006 International Conference in Dallas, TX. Dr. Kobayashi also presented “Increasing Preservice Teachers’ Self-Efficacy in Using Technology,” at the SITE 2007 International Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Professor Carrie C. Trenholm received the 2006 Purchase Award, “Cedar City Arts Committee Exhibit 2006,” Braithwaite Gallery, Southern Utah University.

Professor Nichole Wangsgard presented “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” at the International Child and Adolescent Conference in Minneapolis, MN(2007).

Physical Education & Human Performance

The Department of Physical Education & Human Performance will implement a new Master’s Degree Program in Sports Conditioning and Performance, Fall 2007. The Department has also erected a climbing wall in the Sorenson P.E. Building.

Dr. Briget Eastep published “Snowshoeing” (2007) and co-authored the following publications, “Introduction to Hiking and Backpacking” and “Day Hiking.”

Dr. Julie Taylor co-authored the following documents in review, “Adjustment for Gas Exchange Threshold Enhances Precision of Heart Rate-derived VO₂ during Heavy Exercise,” “An Analysis of Running and Swimming Performance in Masters Women Athletes,” and “Energy Expenditure During Physically Interactive Video Game Playing in Male College Students with Different Playing Experience.”

Dr. Briget Eastep, Professor Benjamin Davidson, Dr. Rick Lambson, Dr. E. Jean Lopour and **Dr. Julie Taylor** presented “Fitness for Families for Life” at a Community Night Education, Beverly Sorenson College of Education (Aug. 2006).

Professor Benjamin Davison was a Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame Inductee as well as a nominee for the Thunderbird Professor of the Year Award.

Dr. E. Jean Lopour was inducted into the Southern Utah University “Old Main Society” and was also a nominee for the Thunderbird Professor of the Year Award.

Dr. Rick Lambson received the Thunderbird Award for Outstanding Professor.

Graduate Studies in Education

Dr. Prent Klag published the following, “Creativity in Education: Igniting Personal and Professional Potential” (3rd edition), “Building on the Founder’s Dream - ‘Old Main’ Community Education Nights,” and “10 Reasons Why you Should Select Teacher Education at SUU.”

Dr. Thomas Cunningham presented “Increasing Student Motivation to Review Course Content by Using Classroom Games and Computer-Based Quiz Tools” at the International Convention of the Association for Educational Communications & Technology (Oct. 2006). He also presented “Well-Facilitated Shoptalk as Democratic Professional Development for Teachers of English Language Learners” at the Oxford Round Table at Pembroke College in the University of Oxford, United Kingdom (Mar. 2007).

Dr. David M. Lund presented “STAR and Reading Achievement of the Tier 2 Students” at the Utah Rural School Conference, and “Assessment and Instruction vs. Scientifically-based Research, Legislation, and Public Perception: Do We Work with Children or Programs?” at the 56th National Reading Conference in Los Angeles, CA.

Dr. Tony Pellegrini (2006) Concept Paper: “The Gateway to Successful Doctoral Studies.” This paper was presented at the Center for Integrated Teacher Education’s Fall Collegial Circle at St. Francis College on July 13-15, 2007 in Brooklyn, NY.

Communication

Dr. Stanford Gwin, Dr. Matthew Barton and Dr. Suzanne Larson will all be included in a program on Presidential Rhetoric, along with President Michael T. Benson and distinguished National Presidential Rhetoric scholar Dr. Keith V. Erickson, as part of President Benson's inauguration in September. Dr. Gwin and Dr. Barton will present papers as will President Benson and Dr. Erickson; Dr. Larson will chair the program. Dr. Gwin's paper will deal with ceremonial elements of Presidential inaugural addresses, Dr. Barton will discuss apologia in President Clinton's administration, President Benson will speak on President Truman, and Dr. Erickson will talk about performance as a part of Presidential messaging.

Dr. Kevin A. Stein recently published his article, "Apologia, Antapologia and the 1960 Soviet U-2 Incident," in the Journal for Communication Studies. He also co-authored a book (with Dr. William L. Benoit, University of Missouri) entitled, "Bush vs. Kerry: A Functional Analysis of Campaign 2004." Dr. Stein also received one of SUU's Distinguished Educator of the Year Awards for the 2006-07 school year.

The Master of Arts in Professional Communication had their first five graduates of the program walk at Commencement, May 2007. The current enrollment numbers are double what was projected for this point in time.

English

Dr. Robin Calland's Young Adult Literature class (3280) gave a presentation at the Cedar City Public Library to parents in the community during *The Big Read* called, "Talking to your Children about To Kill a Mockingbird." She also presented "Dactyls and Feet: Investigating the Ancient Connection between Poetry and Dance" at the International Conference of Arts and Humanities in Honolulu, HI.

Dr. Todd Petersen published "The Train is Coming to Town," an illustrated story done in collaboration with illustrator Paula Airth. It appears in HOBART magazine's *Special Words and Pictures Issue* (Spring 2007). Also, his collection of stories and a novel, Long After Dark, was published (Feb. 2007) with a foreword by Brian Evenson, Chair of the Creative Writing Department at Brown University.

Dr. Kurt Harris's essay, "Beyond the Scope of the 'P' in E. E. Cummings's Leaf Poem," will appear in the collection *Words into Pictures: E. E. Cummings Art Across Borders*, set for publication by Cambridge Scholars Press in Fall 2007. He was also an invited lecturer for *The Big Read* program on Harper Lee's To Kill a

Mockingbird; his talk was entitled "A Child's-Eye View of Social Justice: Harper Lee and Charles Dickens." This summer (2007), Dr. Harris took ten students to London for SUU's Study Abroad program.

The Department of English also had the papers of ten SUU English majors accepted for presentation at the Sigma Tau Delta Convention in Pittsburgh, PA (Mar. 28-31, 2007).

Political Science & Criminal Justice

Dr. C. Wayne Johnson, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, is the newest member of the department's faculty. Dr. Johnson received his Ph.D in Criminal Justice Administration from Arizona State University. He comes to SUU with a wealth of academic and practical experience in his discipline. He served on the Criminal Justice faculty at the University of Texas, Permian Basin and Arkansas State University. He also has over ten years experience as a police officer in the state of Michigan, and served five years as Chief of Public Safety at a college campus in Missouri. Dr. Johnson is a strong addition to our faculty and we welcome him to SUU.

Dr. Carl Franklin served as coach to a group of nine students who successfully competed in a Moot Court Competition sponsored by John Marshall Law School in Chicago, IL in April 2007. Due to rule changes in the competition, the students, all members of the SUU Law Club, were not allowed to compete as a team representing SUU. Since the emphasis on this event was "Diversity Competition," they were divided up among the other fifteen schools present and each competed as part of a three member team with students from the other institutions. In reviewing the final evaluations and individual student scores, it was revealed how well our students did. In fact, based upon the final individual scores, had we been able to keep our team together, it was clear that SUU would have taken first place in the competition. Congratulations to Professor Franklin and to the students who performed so well.

Dr. G. Michael Stathis lectured at the University of Jordan in Amman, Jordan on "Prospects for Peace in the Arab-Israeli Conflict" in February 2007. This was a distinct honor to have a professor from SUU invited to attend such a venue, and is recognition of his level of expertise in middle-eastern affairs. Dr. Stathis had the opportunity to interact with both students and other professors at the University of Jordan in a positive and constructive manner. He also assumed the responsibilities of Department Chair on July 1, 2007, replacing Professor Lamar Jordan, who served as Chair for the past three years. The department expresses thanks for Professor Jordan's service, and we look forward to working with Dr. Stathis as our new Chair.

History and Sociology

Dr. Curtis Bostick, History, played Atticus Finch in the trial scene from "To Kill a Mockingbird," in connection with *The Big Read*, sponsored by the Cedar City Public Library (Apr. 2007).

Dr. Mark Miller, History, presented a paper entitled, "Becoming 'American' Indian: Transnational Indigenous Immigration and Tribal Recognition Policy in the United States," at the Association for Borderlands Studies' Annual Conference, Calgary, British Columbia, Canada (Apr. 2007).

Dr. Earl Mulderink III, History, co-presented on "Service-Learning 101, The Basics," at the Third Annual Engaged Scholar Institute at Moab, UT, sponsored by the Utah Campus Compact (Feb. 2007). Also, in conjunction with the Washington County School District, he developed and supervised several one-day workshops for teachers in both Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 and assisted with the Utah Teachers' Academy for American History (UTA AH) during their five-week seminar in St. George, UT (Jun. 2007).

Dr. Larry Ping, History, wrote a book review for the *German Studies Review* and was awarded SUU's "Outstanding Scholar" Award for 2006-2007.

Dr. Jim Vlasich, History, attended the National Popular Culture/American Culture Association in Boston, MA (Apr. 2007). He organized all sessions on Sports and Culture.

Dr. Andrew Bamford, Sociology, presented a paper entitled, "Exploring the Hold of 'Durkheim's Aphorism' on the Collective Imagination of the Social Sciences and Humanities," at the International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Honolulu, HI (Jan. 2007). He presented a paper entitled, "Examining Bourdieu's Influence on the Reception of Ethnomethodology" in the Ethnomethodology and Sociology Session, which he organized, at the Pacific Sociological Association Conference, Oakland, CA (Apr. 2007). He also organized the session, "Ethnomethodology and Sociology" at the same conference. Dr. Bamford is also a member of the PSA conference organization committee.

Dr. Martyn Kingston, Sociology, attended Grant's Institute Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop in Salt Lake City, UT (May 2007).

Dr. Emily Dean, Anthropology, presented a paper at the Institute of Andean Studies 47th Annual Meeting in Berkeley, CA (Jan. 2007).

Foreign Languages & Humanities

Dr. Terry Blodgett, German, presented a paper entitled, "Middle Eastern Migrations," at the University of Hawaii Conference for the Humanities (May 2007).

Study Abroad trips completed include:

Dr. James Harrison to Vienna and Salzburg, Austria,

Dr. Elise Leahy to Paris, France,

Dr. Hector Garza to Granada, Spain.

SUU Student Awarded
National Journalism Award

Southern Utah University student, Marc Dotson, a political science senior from St. George, UT, was selected to receive a 2006 National Mark of Excellence award for Editorial Writing from the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ).

Every year, SPJ recognizes the best in student journalism by offering awards in print, radio, television, and online collegial journalism. Dotson was recognized as a national finalist in editorial writing for his coverage of campus related events.

Dr. Paul Husselbee commented on the award stating, "Far and away the most prestigious award anyone in our journalism program has ever won."

Dotson will accept the award this fall at a luncheon at the 2007 SPJ Convention & National Journalism Conference in Washington, D.C.

Professor Vik Brown presented “Launching Students into Information Literacy: A Collaborative Effort of Librarians, Student Success Personnel and General Education Faculty” to the Mountain Plains Library Association Conference in Albuquerque, NM. He also received a Utah State Library UPLIFT Professional Excellence Grant to attend the Issues in Library Acquisitions Conference in Charleston, SC, and was appointed to serve on the American Library Association's LAMA BES Committee.

Professor Randy Christensen presented “That's Fun! Teach Me More! Educational Gaming in Library Instruction,” at the Colorado Academic Library Summit 2007 in Denver, CO. He also presented “Dilemmas for Small Libraries and Archives-Using CONTENTdm for Library Digitization Projects” at the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists & Conference of Intermountain Archivists 2007 Spring Joint Conference in Colorado Springs, CO.

Professor Richard Eissinger presented “Using a Personal Response System to Enhance Interaction and Assessment in Library Instruction” at the 6th Annual Brick & Click Academic Library symposium at Northwest Missouri State University. He also received a Utah State Library UPLIFT Professional Excellence Grant to attend the Internet Librarian 2006 National Conference in Monterey, CA.

Dr. John Eye presented “Using VoIP and Amateur Radio to Motivate Science Students” at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Professor Matt Nickerson presented “Broadening the Audience for Student Performers: Webcasting Student Recitals and Concerts Across the Country and Around the World” at the College Music Society Association for Technology in Music Technology. Matt also presented “Internet2 and Video Conferencing” at the Association for Technology in Music Instruction Conference in San Antonio, TX. Professor Nickerson updated the chapter “Library and Information Science” in Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados and Other Multi-lingual Types, published by VGN Career.

Professor Janet Seegmiller wrote a chapter on “Mining in Iron County,” in From the Ground Up: The History of Mining in Utah (Colleen Whitely, ed.) published by Utah State University Press. Professor Seegmiller also presented “Dilemmas For Small Libraries and Archives: Sources of Funding for Digitization Projects” at the Conference of Intermountain Archivists, Society of Rocky Mountain Archivist Joint Conference in Colorado Springs, CO. She also chaired the ses-

sion, “Records of the Mountain Meadows Massacre,” at the Mormon History Association Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, and she also prepared an exhibit about SUU's Special Collections and Archives for the Conference. She presented “Inside the American Pioneer Trails Movement 1926-1963, Through the Eyes and Files of Howard R. Driggs” at the Oregon-California Trails Association Conference in Gehring, NE.

The Sherratt Library web site was selected as the College Library Web Site for the month by the academic library section of ALA.

The American Library Association, Communication Committee of Association of College and Research Libraries Section recognizes one academic library web site each month that possesses noteworthy comments, features, design.etc.

Sherratt Library web site was selected as the College Library Web site for the month of June. The following details their web site:

Southern Utah University, Gerald R. Sherratt Library:
<http://www.li.suu.edu/>

The natural wonders of the Beehive State include Zion National Park and Bryce Canyon. But our 45th state can be proud of other attractions, namely, the Gerald R. Sherratt Library on the campus of Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah. The 109 year old SUU which began as a teacher training institution now serves as the region's student-centered, comprehensive institute of higher learning. Its library is named after the university president who served from 1982 to 1997.

Sherratt's home page provides a list of user-friendly links on the left side while on the right side the revolving, half-page photographs of the facility and its users are most inviting. The About the Library link leads the user to almost 20 policy documents from Archives & Records Policy to Wireless Notebook Circulation Policy as well as several reports including the impressive Annual Report. The Research Guides link contains a respectable listing of online documents.

Diana Graff, Dean of Library Services, and the Sherratt staff need to be commended for these noteworthy digital collections:

Mountain West Digital Library - Utah's consortium of digital collections from universities, colleges, public libraries, museums and historical societies.

Voices of the Colorado Plateau - an incredible virtual exhibit containing recordings and photographs that document life on the Colorado Plateau.

More than a dozen Utah specific manuscript and digital collections, including the Michael O. Leavitt Digital Archive.

PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS

Highlights

The College of Performing and Visual Arts completed another successful year that included over eighty performances, nine exhibitions in the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, as well as dozens of special events.

Dean Bill Byrnes lectured in Freiburg Germany in May and presented at the Association of Arts Administration Educators Conference held in Chicago in early June. He also presented a paper at the Association of Theatre in Higher Education in New Orleans in late July.

Dr. Dan Frezza, CPVA Academic Advisor, is a member of the acting company of the Utah Shakespearean Festival for his fourth season. He is playing the role of Menenius in *Coriolanus* and the old man in *King Lear* and is also understudy for the role of Lear.

Art & Design

The department of Art and Design received NASAD accreditation. SUU is the only school in the Utah System of Higher Education that is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Professor Eric Brown had a work accepted into the Annual Salon exhibition at the Springville Museum of Art, Springville, UT. The exhibit ran April 27 - July 8 2007.

Professor Susan Harris is preparing work for an upcoming exhibition at the Northern Arizona University Art Museum, running November 2 - December 31, 2007. Her work will also be exhibited in the Idaho Falls, Idaho Art Museum in the Spring of 2008, and February 2008 in the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery.

Dr. Andrew Marvick presented at the Oxford Roundtable this summer. He is also doing research in Milan, Zurich, Munich, Vienna and Paris for an upcoming paper he is preparing on "Delacroix, Poe, and the Sublime."

Professor Jeremias Paul has work being featured in New York's Russeck Gallery and is preparing for an upcoming exhibition outside of Orlando, FL in September and in Reno, NV in November. He is also being featured online in Pennsylvania's Silver Eye Center for Photography's new works online gallery.

Theatre Arts & Dance

Professor Richard Bugg produced the 5th season of the Neil Simon Festival in Cedar City July 19- August 11. The plays included: *Plaza Suite*, *The Odd Couple (Female Version)*, and *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*.

Professor Paul C. Ocampo presented *Bridging Bridges*, an evening of duets performed with Chien-Ying Wang of the Repertory Dance Theatre, April 25 at SUU and in Salt Lake City, June 1 and 2, at the Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center.

Professor Peter Sham and **Brad Carroll's** long term collaboration on *Lend Me a Tenor: The Musical* had its culmination with the world premiere of the show on June 30, 2007 at the Randall L. Jones Theatre and is part of the Utah Shakespearean Festival's 2007 season.

Tina Stevenson, Properties Supervisor, Adams Memorial Theatre at the Utah Shakespearean Festival, was recognized in May for the Classified Staff Distinguished Service award for the 2006-07.

Music

Dr. Keith Bradshaw is taking the Southern Utah Heritage Choir on a tour of the Midwest this fall. He is also composing a new piece for the Faculty Concert scheduled for October 15, 2007 in Thorley Recital Hall.

Dr. Kirill Gliadkovsky and his wife Anna performed piano duets at Leisure World in Laguna Woods, CA (Jul. 9-27). In August he performed piano and organ recitals and taught master classes at the 17th International Music Festival in Costa Rica.

Dr. Patrick and **Mrs. Rachel Roulet** taught at the New England Music Camp in Sidney, ME this summer. Patrick was on the percussion faculty and Rachel as Piano Accompanist and faculty member in Collaborative Arts at the camp.

Dr. Grace St. Pierre was invited by the Brazilian government to the city of Manaus, in the Amazon of Brazil, in August to conduct one of the most important professional choirs in Brazil, the *Coro do Amazonas*.

Dr. Mark Stickney began his 19th season working as the production manager for the Newport Music Festival in Newport, RI.

Dr. Virginia Stitt attended the five-day International Double Reed Society Conference in June, and participated in three English Horn Master Classes.

Professor Xun Sun held master classes in conducting for graduate students from the College of Music in China. He also conducted the Hunan Symphony Orchestra at Tian Han Concert Hall on June 8.

Nursing

Dr. Lynne Ornes published “Self-efficacy as Mediator for Physical Activity in College Women” and “Computer Competencies in a Baccalaureate Nursing Program.” She also gave presentations on “Adapting Aviation Standards to Assist in Clinical Evaluation of Nursing Students - A New Tool,” and her work on “Self-efficacy.”

Physical Science

Dr. Robert Eves served as a paid consultant to Mesa State College in Grand Junction, CO, where he conducted a Physical Science Undergraduate Program Review (November and December, 2006). He also published a peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of College Science Teaching*, with three co-authors entitled, “Integration of Field Studies and Undergraduate Research into an Interdisciplinary Course: Natural History of Tropical Carbonate Ecosystems.” Dr. Eves also gave three professional presentations last year with co-authors. The presentations included, “Presentation Software in the Geoscience Classroom: a Primer,” “Modern Carbonate Field Studies Designed to Focus Inquiry-Based Learning in the Classroom,” and “An Ongoing Effort to Incorporate Undergraduate Research Across the Geoscience Curriculum.”

Dr. Sue Finstick completed the Online Professor Certificate Program through Florida Community College at Jacksonville. Dr. Finstick is adjunct faculty in physical sciences at SUU where she teaches the online geology courses.

Dr. Bruce Howard and three of his undergraduate research students, Ryan VanWoerkom, Andrew Dixon and Rob Oslund, published some of their research investigating the assembly process of the HIV-1 capsid in the June issue of the *American Journal of Undergraduate Research*. It was entitled, “Identification, Optimization and Preliminary X-ray Diffraction of a New Crystal Form of the N-terminal Domain of the HIV-1 CA Protein.”

Dr. Paul Larson attended the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in San Francisco, CA (April 2007). While there, he presented a paper entitled, “A New Technique for Teaching the Koppen Climate Classification.”

Dr. Mackay Steffensen gave an invited presentation at the American Chemical Society Spring National Meeting in Chicago, IL (Mar. 25-29, 2007). It was entitled, “Rural

Upbringing to Urban Chemistry: Experiences at the Interface.” He also has a peer-reviewed research paper accepted for publication in *Angewandte Chemie International Edition* (2007). It is entitled, “Formation of a Chiral Center and Pyramidal Inversion at the Single Molecule Level.”

Dr. Dru DeLaet presented “Determination of Critical Surfactant Concentrations using UV-Visible Spectroscopy - Single and Mixed Component Systems” at the American Oil Chemist Society National Meeting and Joint World Congress with the Japan Oil Chemists’ Society in Quebec City, Canada (May 2007).

Biology

Dr. Fredric R. Govedich co-authored, “Sibling Competition in a Brood-tending Leach” (2006) and “Mate Choice in a Simultaneous Hermaphrodite” (In Review).

Dr. Kate Grandison co-authored the following three published abstracts, “Brian Head Field Ecology: Pros and Cons of Applied Ecology and Education Partnerships on the Colorado Plateau,” “Comparison of Bat Use at Water Catchments in Southwestern Utah,” and “Southern Utah Scholarship Day.” Dr. Grandison also received \$20,000 from the Utah State Office of Education Title II A Teacher Quality Funds for the Teacher as a Scientist Program.

Dr. Mark C. Grover published “Comparative Effectiveness of Nighttime Transect Surveys and Area Constrained Cover Object Searches in Detecting Salamanders” (2006), “Evaluation of a Negative Relationship Between Abundance During Spawning and Size at Maturity in Kokanee” (2006), and co-authored “*Hyla arenicolor*” (2006).

Dr. Jonathan C. Marshall co-authored “Delimiting Species: Comparing Methods for Mendelian Characters using Lizards of the *Sceloporus grammicus*” (2006).

Dr. Paul J. Pillitteri co-authored, “Human Anatomy Laboratory Manual” (2006) through Fountain Head Press.

Dr. James E. Bowns participated on a successful \$3,000 grant from Utah Forestry, Fire and State lands for the inventory of trees on the SUU campus and an addition to the SUU Native Plant Center.

AWARDS, ADVANCEMENT & Changes

Tenure Awards

Dr. Deborah M. Hill, Associate Professor of Secondary Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Family Development, was awarded tenure. She has been at SUU since 2000.

Professor Richard A. Eissenger, Associate Professor of Library Science and Instructional Services Librarian, was awarded tenure. He has been at SUU since 2002.

Professor Eric Brown, Associate Professor of Art in the Department of Art and Design, was awarded tenure. He has been with SUU since 1995.

Dr. Kim H. Weaver, Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Department of Physical Science, was awarded tenure. He has been with SUU since 2000.

Associate Professor to *Professor*

Dr. Verlinda Angell, Associate Professor of Reading Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Family Development. She has been at SUU since 1998.

Professor Susan D. Harris, Associate Professor of Art in the Department of Art and Design. She has been at SUU since 2001.

Dr. Roy Johnson, Associate Professor of Management in the Department of Management & Marketing. He has been at SUU since 1999.

Assistant Professor to *Associate Professor*

Dr. Matthew H. Barton, Assistant Professor of Communication in the Department of Communication. He has been at SUU since 2001.

Dr. Andreas Weingartner, Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics. He has been at SUU since 1999.

Dr. Kim H. Weaver, Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Department of Physical Science. He has been with SUU since 2000.

Lecturer to *Assistant Professor*

Dr. Edward A. McNicoll, Lecturer of English Composition in the Department of English. He has been at SUU since 2001.

Professor John R. Taylor, Lecturer of Biology in the Department of Biology. He has been at SUU since 2002.

Academic Administrative Appointments

Dr. Rodney D. Decker has been appointed Interim Provost for the 2007-2008 school year.

Dr. John Ault has been appointed Interim Dean for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Dr. Prent Klag has been appointed Dean of the College of Education.

Dr. G. Michael Stathis has been appointed Chair of the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice.

Dr. James S. Burns has been appointed Chair of the Department of Integrated Engineering and Technology.

Professor Eric Brown has been reappointed Chair of the Department of Art and Design.

Professor Shauna Mendini has been reappointed Chair of the Theatre Arts and Dance Department.

Dr. Jon Smith has been reappointed Chair of the Department of Communication.

Professor Vik Brown has been reappointed Chair of the Library.

Dr. Kevin Robinson has been appointed Director of Graduate Studies in the College of Education.

Faculty Senate

2007-2008 Executive Committee

Dr. Christine Frezza - President
Dr. Denise Woodbury - President-Elect
Dr. Bart Reynolds - Secretary
Dr. Virginia Stitt - Parliamentarian
Dr. Mark Colberg - Financial Officer

NEW FACULTY Appointments

Business

Dr. Azmi Ahmad was appointed as an Associate Professor of Management. Dr. Ahmad holds a BS degree from State University of New York, a MS from West Virginia University, and a PhD from the University of Memphis.

Dr. Lisa Marie Assante was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Hotel, Resort and Hospitality Management. Dr. Assante holds a BS degree from Pennsylvania State University, a MS from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and a PhD from Texas Tech University.

CIET

Dr. Florin Balasa was appointed as an Associate Professor of Computer Science. Dr. Balasa holds two MS degrees and a PhD from the University of Bucharest, as well as a PhD from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

Dr. James S. Burns was appointed as a tenured Professor of Engineering. Dr. Burns holds a BS degree from Penn State University and a PhD from the University of Delaware.

Professor Matthew Edwards was appointed as a Professional in Residence in Construction. He holds a BA degree from Brigham Young University and a MS degree from Utah State University.

Dr. Leo Scott Hansen was appointed as a tenured Associate Professor of Engineering Technology. Dr. Hansen holds BS and MA degrees from Northern Arizona University and a PhD from the University of Wyoming.

Dr. Shalini Kesar was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Information Systems. Dr. Kesar holds a BA from the University of Delhi-India, a MSc from the London School of Economics and Political Science-UK, and MPhil from De Montfort University-UK, and a PhD from University of Salford-UK.

Professor Nathan Barker was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Computer Science. He holds a BA degree from Southern Utah University, and ABD from the University of Utah.

Education

Professor Karen M. Houser was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Teacher Education and Family Development. She holds a BS from Fitchburg State College and a MEd from Utah State University.

Dr. Wei-Ying Hsiao was appointed as an Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Family Development. Dr. Hsiao holds a BS degree from Chinese Culture University-Taiwan, a MS from Grambling State University, and an EdD from the University of Northern Colorado.

Dr. Brian C. Lyons was appointed as Assistant Professor of Physical Education and Human Performance. Dr. Lyons holds a BS from the University of New York-Buffalo, a MPA from Golden Gate University, and MA and PhD degrees from University of Mississippi.

Dr. Karyn Nelson Spencer was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Physical Education and Human Performance. Dr. Spencer holds a BS degree from Auburn University, and MS and PhD degrees from Louisiana State University.

HSS

Dr. Olga Godoy was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Spanish. Dr. Godoy holds a BA from Western Michigan University, and MA and PhD degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Dr. Shobha Hamal Gurung was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Sociology. Dr. Hamal holds a BA from Padma Kanya College, Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and MA and PhD degrees from Northeastern University-Boston.

Dr. Wayne C. Johnston was appointed as an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice. Dr. Johnston holds a BS from Missouri Southern State College, and MS and DPA degrees from Arizona State University.

Professor Alice Kane was appointed as a Lecturer of English. She holds a BA degree from UC Santa Barbara and a MFA degree from Bennington.

Dr. Martyn Kingston was appointed as a Professor of Sociology. Dr. Kingston holds BA and MA degrees from Manchester University, and MA and PhD Degrees from Harvard University.

Dr. Michael Ostrowsky was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Sociology. Dr. Ostrowsky holds a BA from the University of Massachusetts, a MA from Florida Atlantic University, and a PhD from the University at Albany, SUNY.

Professor Sage Platt was appointed as a Lecturer of Communication. She holds a BA from Southern Utah State College and a MA from Utah State University.

Professor Kathryn Rimmasch was appointed as a Lecturer of French. She holds BA and MA degrees from Brigham Young University.

Dr. Wynne L. Summers was appointed as an Assistant Professor of English. Dr. Summers holds a BA from Montana State University, a MS from Utah State University, and a PhD from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PVA

Professor Jeffery Hanson was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Graphic Design. He holds a BFA degree from Utah State University and a MFA from Indiana University.

Professor Michael M. Harvey was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts. He holds a BS from Elmira College and a MFA from Wayne State University.

Dr. Kirill Gliadkovsky was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Music - Piano. Dr. Gliadkovsky holds a Diploma from the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, and MM and DMA degrees from the University of Southern California.

Professor Anthony T. Marotta was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts. He holds a BA degree from St. Joseph's University and a MFA from the University of Tennessee.

Professor Jeremias Paul was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Photography. He holds BFA and MFA degrees from Savannah College of Art and Design.

Professor Chien-Ying Wang was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Dance. She holds a MFA degree from Ohio State University.

Science

Professor Michael Burton was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Nursing. He holds a BSN from Boise State University and a MSN from the University of Texas.

Dr. James Chisholm was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Physics. Dr. Chisholm holds a MS degree and PhD from the University of Chicago.

Dr. Aja James was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Nursing. Dr. James holds a BS from the University of Southern Mississippi, a MS from Syracuse University, an MBA from the University of Phoenix, and a PhD from Clayton College of Natural Health.

Professor Barbara Shuman was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Nursing. She holds a BS degree from Caly Poly, Pomona and a MS degree from California State University.

We would like to extend a special welcome to all of the new faculty joining us for the 2007-2008 school year. We are excited to work with you. We are so pleased with the wealth of knowledge and experience you bring with you that will benefit the students, faculty, and staff of our campus. We wish you a wonderful year!

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

SUU's Small Business Development Center and Zions Bank sponsored a Best Business Plan Competition for students at SUU. Here are the results:

	<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Prize Money</u>
1st Place	Kellen Jones	Vocal Ink	Recorded voice greeting cards	\$5,000
2nd Place	Stacey Stuart	Eecats Video Productions	Personal history/special event video production	\$2,000
2nd Place	Melissa Singleton	Off the Cuff	Improv theatre	\$2,000
3rd Place	Ben Langley	Eyes and Hands	Genealogical research services	\$1,000

A current Small Business Development Center client and winner of our First Annual Best Business Idea Competition last fall, Chris Culp and his product the Dump-A-Matic, won top investment opportunity at the Utah Economic Summit Funding Competition in March.

From January - May 2007, the SUU Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has trained over 100 business leaders, managers, and potential entrepreneurs in the community and has provided free professional consulting to nearly 70 new clients. Upcoming business training sessions include Better Business Techniques Entrepreneurial Training, Online BizSmart trainings, QuickBooks, and Customer Service Training. Contact (435) 586-5400 for more information.

As one can see, the winners come from a wide variety of business pursuits. The participating students worked hard on the business plans and oral presentations to the judges. All are to be congratulated for their efforts. All are encouraged to now take their business concept to the next level. We wish them all well as they pursue their dreams.

The Best Business Plan Competition was started for the purpose of encouraging entrepreneurship among SUU students. The driving force in the U.S. economy is small business. It provides more new jobs and innovation than do the so-called "big" business enterprises. This competition promotes and encourages small business development.

Our thanks to the participants in this year's competition, and the great support of Zion's National Bank in this important effort.



SERVICE LEARNING & Civic Engagement

Thanks mainly to the efforts of Provost Abe Harraf, the Civic Engagement budget tripled this year to \$15,000. Our committee, comprised of Earl Mulderink (HSS), Chair; Denise Woodbury (BUS); Blair McDonald (CIET); Briget Eastep (EDU); Steve Barney (HSS); Larry Johnson (PVA); Mark Grover (SCI); Karl Stevens (SCPS); Matt Nickerson (Honors Program and Library); Pam Branin (S&L Center); Neal Cox (Student Services); and Jason Clyde (Student Representative), met monthly beginning in September and can claim a number of accomplishments during the academic year as highlighted below.

New Web Site

Thanks to assistance from Jill Whitaker, the new Service-Learning and Civic Engagement web site became operational in Fall Semester and is located at <http://suu.edu/serve&learn/>. The web site includes SUU's conception of "service-learning," information about the Faculty Service-Learning Committee, links to national service-learning resources, details about programs for student scholars and faculty fellows, materials about community partners, teaching resources with relevant syllabi, and information about becoming an "engaged campus."

New Service-Learning Fellows Program

With excellent work in establishing an application process and selection criteria by committee members Steve Barney, Briget Eastep, and Denise Woodbury, we developed and publicized a new campus-wide program for rewarding instructors who use service-learning. As stated in the online application, "the purpose of this award is to recognize engaged educators who practice service-learning in an effective manner." We received a dozen high-quality applications and named five (5) Service-Learning Fellows at the annual Student-Faculty Scholarship Recognition Event on April 24, 2007. Each Fellow received an honorarium of \$750 and a handsome commemorative plaque. The 2007 Service-Learning Fellows were: Professors Jeff Barnes and Robin Boneck (Accounting, BUS); Dr. Steve Barney & Dr. Heath Earl (Psychology, HSS); Dr. David Lund (Elementary Education, EDU); and Dr. Cynthia Wright (Agriculture & Nutrition Science, SCI). All together, we expended over \$4,000 on a program to improve the visibility and integration of service-learning at SUU while creating a dynamic group of service-learning practitioners, mentors, and experts.

Integration of Service-Learning Component into First Year Seminar

Thanks to Jill Wilks of the Student Success Center, the First Year Seminar (UNIV 1000), required of all new freshman students, will actively incorporate service-learning and service in Fall 2007. Our committee met with Jill and discussed a number of options, some centered on "mega-projects" linked to the annual "Make a Difference Day" in late October. We plan to offer resources, training, and support to all FYS instructors and students who wish to implement service-learning in their courses. Our goal is to make the service-learning component a valuable and meaningful experience for students, our campus, and the larger community.

Professional Development & Conference Participation

In addition to funding the Fellows program, we allocated funds for conference participation at the 2007 Engaged Scholar Institute in Moab, Utah; the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association 2007 Annual Meeting; and Utah Campus Compact-related meetings in Salt Lake City, including the annual Recognition Event at the Capitol on April 3, 2007. Earl Mulderink, Faculty Coordinator of Civic Engagement, participated in the 2007 National CASTL Leadership Forum and Institute, June 6-9, in Chicago. Sponsored by the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL), this workshop will connect SUU with colleagues across the country. Pam Branin, Coordinator of Service-Learning, will attend the 2007 Professional Development Institute for Community Service and Service-Learning Professionals, July 23-27, in San Diego. Sponsored by the national Campus Compact, the California Campus Compact, and the University of San Diego, this intensive week-long workshop is one of the premier professional development programs in the nation. Finally, we expended funds to host a state-wide gathering and retreat for the Utah Campus Compact's Executive Director, Campus Service Directors, and Service-Learning Coordinators. Nearly thirty faculty and staff from Utah's higher education institutions will visit SUU for three days, June 25-27, 2007.

HISPANIC CENTER

for Academic Excellence

The long term goals of the Hispanic Center for Academic Excellence include developing relationships between SUU and area Hispanics, the recruitment and retention of Hispanic students at SUU, and partnering with local schools, parents and families to close the achievement gap for Hispanic students in UT. To those ends, we began developing Encuentros, The Hispanic Center Tutor Project, and Head Start Interpreters during the spring 2007 semester.

Encuentros is a peer learning English and Spanish conversation hour. Local Spanish speakers working on learning English come together with SUU students and anyone else interested in improving their Spanish. We provide conversation topics and /or questions in English and Spanish at beginner and advanced levels, which pairs or groups use as a starting point for conversation. Participants chat, get to know one another and teach each other Spanish and English. We met Tuesday evenings throughout the spring semester and had about 30 in attendance on a regular basis.

The Hispanic Center Tutor Project is a service project which involves SUU students volunteering in Iron County Schools, tutoring children who could use extra help and one on one attention during the school day. Most of those being tutored are English Language Learners but there are other children receiving help as well. In the spring semester, the Tutor Project had 29 SUU students who served on a weekly basis in schools in Cedar, Enoch, Beryl and Parowan. They tutored at Cedar High, Cedar and Canyon View Middle Schools and nine Elementary schools: North, South, East, Three Peaks, Iron Springs, Enoch, Fiddlers, Parowan and Beryl. This fall, we plan to expand, and improve our system for communicating with the schools and identifying their needs.

Head Start Interpreters, a smaller scale service project, involved three SUU students who are fluent in Spanish and who stopped by SUU Head Start on a weekly basis to help Spanish speaking parents ask questions and communicate with Head Start personnel concerning their children and the program.

Anyone interested in more information or in participating in any of these programs can email Director Elise C. Leahy, Jr. at HispanicCenter@suu.edu.

