4th Annual Festival of Excellence continues to push boundaries
In his keynote address at the Opening Gala for the Festival of Excellence, Eccles Visiting Scholar Jeff Lieberman argued that when we put disciplinary boundaries on our studies, that closes us off to many possibilities. In the spirit of expanding possibilities, this issue of Summit focuses on ways that SUU encourages synthesis of ideas—the very synthesis that, Lieberman argues, drives creative success.

While much of the extraordinary work by individual faculty can be viewed in the longer online issue of Summit (http://www.suu.edu/academics/provost/newsletters.html), this print issue describes a monumental community service project sponsored by the SUU Honors program, the 4th annual Festival of Excellence, and a ground-breaking new program aiming to make general education truly interdisciplinary.

Through each of these programs, a common thread emerges: we learn best when that learning is enriched and supported by the company of others.

Regards,

BRAD COOK
SUU PROVOST
Community Engagement Center

Presentations

**Director Earl Mulderink** and Associate Director **Pam Branin** participated in the 44th Annual Conference of the National Society for Experiential Education in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida, October 5-7, 2015. They joined colleagues from SUU’s University College as SUU’s EDGE Program (Education Designed to Give Experience) was honored by the NSEE ([www.nsee.org/](http://www.nsee.org/)) for the country’s outstanding program in experiential education.

**Dr. Earl Mulderink** (Director) presented “Mindful Learning” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

In support of the Utah Campus Compact, SUU sent two contingents to the Community Engagement Institute in Salt Lake City, February 5-6, 2016. One group focused on developing an institutional “Civic Action Plan” (CAP) under a framework created by the national Campus Compact ([http://compact.org/](http://compact.org/)) and piloted here in Utah. The CAP team includes **Vice President Mindy Benson**, **Dean Patrick Clarke**, CEC Associate Director **Pam Branin**, **Bailey Bowthorpe** of the Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service, and **Earl Mulderink**. A second group joined the Institute’s Faculty-Community Partner track and included **Dr. Briget Eastep**, Director of the Outdoor Engagement Center; **Dr. Jackie Grant**, Assistant Professor of Biology; and **Jayci Bash**, Associate Director of the Honors Program. Community Partners included Rich Carlson of the American Canyoneering Academy, LaMar Macklin of the Southwest Behavioral Health Center, and Nicole Shafer of the Southwest Wildlife Foundation.

Thanks to funding support from University College, the CEC procured OrgSync’s Service Management System for a one-year subscription and began training in early Spring 2016. OrgSync ([www.orgsync.com/](http://www.orgsync.com/)) is used at most other USHE institutions and promises to help the CEC promote service and community engagement among students, faculty, staff, and community partners. In particular, the CEC is enthused about OrgSync’s capabilities for promoting volunteer opportunities, tracking students’ service hours, compiling assessments and reflections, and providing a valuable resource for community partners that depend on student volunteers.

**Center Highlights**

During the 2014-2015 year, CEC Associate Director **Pam Branin** helped to organize a variety of day-long or overnight “mini-breaks” to St. George (Habitat for Humanity) and Kanab (Best Friends Animal Sanctuary). In addition, Pam oversaw several Alternative Break trips organized by student leaders that included Guatemala in Spring 2015. **Dr. Earl Mulderink** traveled with SUU’s Rural Health Scholars to the Dominican Republic in December 2014 and again in May 2015.
In Fall 2015, the CEC helped to coordinate SUU's participation in a long-term national survey sponsored by the Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC, https://www.ifyc.org/). The Interfaith Diversity Experiences & Attitudes Longitudinal Survey (IDEALS) is a four-year longitudinal study free to participating campuses. While we await the results from the survey of full-time first-year students, we expect that IDEALS participation will enhance SUU's and the CEC's efforts to build campus support for interfaith activities and service.

SUU's CEC coordinated with the Utah Campus Compact to host a statewide retreat and workshop by the non-profit organization Break Away (http://alternativebreaks.org/). This organization is a national leader in promoting alternative break trips and international service and service-learning opportunities for students. Break Away leaders and facilitators joined groups from SUU and other Utah institutions for a two-day event at SUU's Mountain Center on November 20-21, 2015. Pam Branin participated in the workshop along with several student Service Leaders.

Kicking in high gear in November and extending into the holiday season, the Iron County Holiday Assistance Program raised money and distributed toys, food, and clothing to nearly 400 households in Cedar City, Enoch, Parowan, and elsewhere in Iron County. Led by student service leaders Amber DeSormeau and Nichole Kereszt and overseen by Pam Branin, the ICHA continues to assist some of our region's neediest citizens. Key assistance again was provided by Jeff Lennert of the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program, and the Utah National Guard graciously allowed use of armory facilities for a week-long distribution in early December 2015.

Overseen by Community Engagement Center Program Specialist Gabrielle Strand, SUU continues to be a leader within Utah higher education for participation in the federally-funded AmeriCorps program. For more information, see www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps. Students who enroll in the program engage in co-curricular service of at least 300 hours and upon completion they are awarded an educational stipend of at least $1,220. For the current grant year of 2015-16, SUU has 77 students in Nursing, 54 in Education, 5 in Rural Health Scholars, and 5 in CEC Service Leader positions. The CEC wishes to thank Vikki Robertson of Nursing, Peggy Wittwer of Education, and Rita Osborn and Karen Ganss of the Rural Health Scholars program for their assistance.

Awards

The Service Leaders of the Community Engagement Center were named as finalists for the Thunderbird Student Group of the Year.

The 2016 SUU-Utah Campus Compact honorees are:

- Community Engaged Partner: SUU's Head Start
- Community Engaged Scholar: Dr. Julia Combs
- Community Engaged Student: Sub for Santa (Amber DeSormeau and Nichole Kereszt)
- Community Engaged Staff Member: Vikki Robertson
- Community Engaged Alum: Lacie Jo Robinson
Creativity Center

The Creative Engagement Center manages the “Creativity and Innovation” track within the SUU EDGE Program and advises students who have chosen a Creativity and Innovation EDGE Track. In addition to curricular matters, the Center and its advisory council also develop and oversee creativity-based co-curricular activities. We also provide access to networks and resources for SUU students, faculty, and community members.

Director Todd Peterson
Website: http://suu.edu/uc/creative/
Outdoor Engagement Center

Vision Statement

The Outdoor Engagement Center will be an active hub supporting and creating meaningful interdisciplinary learning opportunities to involve the university's community in the outdoors. Participants will enhance their knowledge and awareness of the natural, cultural, and historic resources on public lands while gaining life-long skills, a sense of place, and appreciation for stewardship of our natural world. Through our work, SUU will gain national attention for engaging students, faculty, and staff in the outdoors.

Presentations

Dr. Briget Eastep presented “Outdoor Outcomes” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

The Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative (IIC) hosted 312 internships over the past year. The IIC also hosted a Bureau of Land Management Direct Hire Internship program. We hired five Range Management interns. Four of the five interns have been hired as permanent Range Specialist within the BLM. The fifth intern is completing his graduate work.

Liesel Whitmore (left), IIC Intern and Outdoor Recreation alumni, was hired as a Recreation Technician by the Cedar City BLM.

Awards

Jim Pollard, Research Fellow, was awarded “Project for Optimal Information Management Solutions for NIMAC, DATIM, and FIA” from the USDA, Forest Service Northern Research Station. This agreement will create unique learning opportunities for SUU students and faculty to participate in developing and testing information management systems for national monitoring databases within the US Forest Service. Mr. Pollard is working with Dr. Shalini Kesar and her computer science students on this grant.
The Outdoor Engagement Center/IIC closed two successful grants:

• Cedar Breaks National Monument created 29 Wayside Exhibits with the assistance of 9 SUU students and 3 faculty (Professors Jay Merryweather, Jeff Hanson, and IIC Crew Manager Ryan Young) in service learning projects, internships, and practica.

• The Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument’s Career Internship Corp grant created 44 internships and conservation youth crew positions hiring youth to rehabilitate the land, improve trails, protect natural and cultural resources, and work with the monument staff to monitor vegetation and wildlife.

The Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative (IIC) at Southern Utah University in partnership with the Grand Staircase – Escalante National Monument awarded six $2,500 scholarships to currently enrolled SUU Native American students (left). Recipients of the scholarship were:

- Tamiere Benally, Human Nutrition
- Hadiibah John, Engineering Technology
- Celeste Lansing, Biology
- Seth Jones, Agriculture Science
- Damon Tom, Engineering Technology
- Arwin Lansing, Business Management

Scholarship recipients were awarded after a thorough review of their academic history, letter of recommendation, and an essay. The topic of the essay was to captivate on how their degree could contribute to the public land industry and how the student could share their cultural knowledge and traditions to public land users.
The primary function of the LEC is to support students who are launching their EDGE Projects with a focus on leadership. Secondary to that, the LEC serves as an interactive, dynamic influence for SUU and the community to increase leadership understanding and skills in individuals, groups and organizations.

Center Highlights
To learn more about the Leadership Engagement Center or find out more about LEC events, stop by 561 W. University Blvd. or visit the LEC social media sites: On Facebook, SUU LEC; twitter.com/SUULEC; or suulec.blogspot.com. Calling 435-586-1910 will put you in touch with Shannon Marshall, Program Specialist, or Director, Dr. Katy Herbold.
Sargon Heinrich Global Engagement Center

Presentations

Assistant Director of Global Engagement Tessa Douglas gave a poster presentation titled “A Cycle of Learning on the Global EDGE” at the annual NAFSA: Association of International Educators Conference held in Denver in late May this year. Attendance at recent NAFSA conferences has exceeded 10,000.

Projects

In the spring 2016 semester, thirteen SUU students studied on exchange at international partner universities: two students are in Greece, two in Japan, two in South Korea, two in Spain, and one each in Austria, China, Denmark, Ireland, and Romania. One student, Hanna Dawson, and one staff member, Linda Liebhardt, are the recipients of a generous Erasmus fellowship, which funds their travel and accommodations to Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. In addition, student Nicole Mayerhofer is serving as the Program Coordinator of SUU’s American Studies Center at Hunan Normal University in Changsha, China, while she studies there.

Beginning in May, SUU will see its largest number of students and faculty ever participating in Faculty-Led Summer Study Abroad programs. Over 130 students, led by 23 faculty, will be taking a range of courses—from Criminal Justice to Hospitality Management to Spanish—enhanced by their experiences in Australia, Costa Rica, Japan, New Zealand, Tonga, and eleven countries in Europe.

The Global Engagement Center hosted an “International Partners Week” in early June on the SUU campus. Representatives from the international offices of SUU’s 45 exchange partners have been invited to spend three or four days learning about SUU, sharing best practices, networking, and seeing the local natural beauty of southern Utah.

The Global Engagement Center is pleased to announce that SUU recently added to its list of 45 study abroad partnerships the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, with campuses in Swansea, Carmarthen, and Lampeter.
Accounting

Publications and Presentations


Dr. Jeff Barnes, Dr. Timothy Lewis, and Dr. Robin Boneck have an article forthcoming in the Journal of Legal, Ethical, and Regulatory Issues, “Charitable Contributions Deduction—Elevating Congressional Intent.”

Dr. Jeff Barnes presented the following courses at the Income Tax Schools for Practitioners, Utah State University Extension in cooperation with the IRS, Salt Lake city, UT.

- “Ethics, Part 1,” November 19
- “Ethics, Part 1,” December 3
- “Ethics, Part 2,” November 19
- “Ethics, Part 2,” December 3
- “Net Operating Losses,” November 20
- “Net Operating Losses,” December 3

Dr. Robin Boneck and Dr. David Christensen have two articles forthcoming in the Journal of the International Academy for Case Studies: “How Should I Advise My Client” and “Teaching Notes to How Should I Advise My Client?”


Awards & Leadership

Dr. Robin Boneck will replace current department chair, Dr. David Christensen, in August 2016. Dr. Jeff Barnes took early retirement in July 2015. He served in the accounting department for 29 years (1986-2015). His contributions to the accounting program were enormous and widely recognized. In 2012, he was designated by the Utah Association of CPAs as Utah’s Outstanding Educator. Professor Jeff Orton replaced Dr. Barnes in August 2015. Professor Mary Pearson was awarded “Educator of the Year” by the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce for her outstanding service in teaching and leadership at SUU since 2005. Mary is currently preparing for comprehensive exams in her PhD program at Northcentral University. Dr. David Rees has announced his retirement. He has taught at SUU since 1985. In 2004 he won SUU’s Outstanding Teacher award, and was nominated for the Thunderbird Teacher of the Year award in 2003, 2006, and 2007.

Economics & Finance

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Joe Baker presented “Cost-Benefit Analysis of Supplemental Fire Suppression” to the Cedar City mayor’s office and City Council, December 2, 2015. His Public Finance economics class completed a cost-benefit analysis for the Cedar City government in Fall semester 2015. They analyzed the costs and benefits to the City from Supplemental Fire Suppression: leasing out city fire trucks and firemen to the Federal government to help them fight large wildfires. The class collected data, performed the cost-benefit analysis for the period 2016-2025, and presented the findings at a city council meeting. The project was significant for several reasons. It allowed the students to do a hands-on project addressing a real-world problem. It required the class to work with data and perform the analysis. It provided important information to our city government that helped the government develop policy. Dr. Joshua Price presented “Using Behavioral Economics in Higher Education” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Management, Marketing and Hospitality

Publications and Presentations

**Dr. Gerald E. Calvasina**, along with R. Calvasina and E. Calvasina, has a paper forthcoming in the *Journal of Legal, Ethical, and Regulatory Issues*, “Responding to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Whistleblower Investigations: Policy and Practice Issues for Employers.” A version of this paper was also presented at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Gerald E. Calvasina** presented a paper, “Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and Associational Discrimination: Policy and Practice Issues for Employers” at the 23rd Annual Conference of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences in Las Vegas, NV, February 20, 2016.

**Dr. Alan Hamlin** and James Frost published, “A Comparison of International Student Attitudes Concerning Academic Dishonesty” in *Business Studies Journal* 7.2.

**Dr. Janice Scarinci** and Gene Jeffers presented “Orlando Theme Parks: Preparing For Chinese Guests?” at the 3rd World Research Summit for Tourism and Hospitality and 1st USA-China Tourism, “Transforming Partnerships 2015,” December 2015 in Orlando, FL. Since the opening of what has become Walt Disney World Resort, the Orlando, Florida area became the world's largest concentration of theme parks and related attractions. Seven of the world's 25 most visited theme parks are in the area (Themed Entertainment Association, 2014). With more than 70 million park visitors annually, the area remains (at least for now) the undisputed “theme park capital” of the world. Meanwhile, Asian travelers, and Chinese in particular, have begun to dominate global tourism. Through surveys of theme park professionals working in Orlando, this study explores what is being done today and will be done tomorrow to attract and engage Chinese visitors. This paper is an extract of a lengthier report that explores the views of theme park creative and operations professionals in Orlando, Florida on what has been and is planning to be implemented to meet the needs of Chinese tourists. The literature review examines Chinese tourists’ behavior, needs and wants, and trends in outbound Chinese tourism and visitations to Florida. An online survey instrument was distributed to explore current and future efforts to meet the needs of Chinese tourists in Orlando theme parks.

**Dr. Emmett Steed, Dr. Kelly Goonan** (Physical Education and Human Performance), and **Dr. Michael Kroff** presented “Southern Utah National Park Visitor Experience” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Physical Education & Human Performance

Publications and Presentations


**M. Dolan** and **Dr. Mark DeBeliso** presented “Effects of Post-Activation Potential on Shot Put Throw and Standing Long Jump” at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine, Costa Mesa, CA, 2015.

**Dr. Abigail Larson** presented “Neurobiology of Behavioral Addictions” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Abigail Larson, Jay Prior**, and **Dr. Mark DeBeliso** presented “The Prevalence of Depression and Concussions in Semi-Professional and Professional Football Players” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Jacob Manning, Dr. Julie Taylor, Dr. Mark DeBeliso, and colleagues from UNLV presented “Body Mass Index has No Effect on the Post-Exercise Hypotension Response Following a Trail Run,” at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine, Costa Mesa, CA, 2015.

Dr. Jacob Manning, Dr. Julie Taylor, Dr. Mark DeBeliso, and colleagues from UNLV presented “Moderate Altitude Acclimation has No Effect on Respiratory Exchange Ratio, or Percent of CHO and Fat Utilization during a 1-mile Trail Run,” at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine, Costa Mesa, CA, 2015.

Dr. Jacob Manning, Dr. Julie Taylor, Dr. Mark DeBeliso, and colleagues from UNLV presented “Validation of Hexoskin Biometric Shirt to Cosmed K4b2 Metabolic Unit in Adults during Trail Running,” at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine, Costa Mesa, CA, 2015.

Dr. Jacob Manning, Dr. Julie Taylor, Dr. Mark DeBeliso, and colleagues from UNLV presented “Post Exercise Hypotension Response in Non-Hypertensive Adults Following a Self-Paced Trail Run,” at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine, Costa Mesa, CA, 2015.

Professor David Phillips presented “Physical Activity and Academic Performance” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

E. Smith, Dr. Abigail Larson, and Dr. Mark DeBeliso published “The Physical Profile of Elite Boardercross Snowboarders” in the Journal of Sports Science, 3.6 (2015): 272-281. This paper was also presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine, Costa Mesa, CA, 2015.

Dr. Julie E. Taylor, Dr. Jacob Manning, and Dr. Camille Thomas presented “Impact of Wheel Size (26 vs 29 inch) on Energy Expenditure during Mountain Bike Trail Riding” at the 2016 Annual Meeting, World Congress on Exercise is Medicine, American College of Sports Medicine, Boston, MA, May 31-June 4, 2016. Exercise Science and Outdoor Recreation faculty collaborated on this research project. Energy expenditure during standardized mountain bike rides was measured with a portable analyzer system. A mountain bike with 29 inch wheels was compared to a well matched bike with smaller 26 inch wheels. Results indicate that at similar work rates, riders rode faster resulting in an average of 9.4% lower energy expenditure on the 29er mountain bike with most of the benefit being realized during uphill segments of the ride. Mountain bikers debating between a 26er and 29er, or trying to choose a bike appropriate for the conditions they most commonly encounter may benefit from these results.


Awards

Dr. Mark DeBeliso was also appointed to the Fulbright Specialist Roster, U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Institute of International Education’s Council for International Exchange of Scholars.
Teacher Education & Family Development

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Bruce Barker presented “Factors Impacting Class Size in Online Graduate Instruction” at the Lilly International Conference on College and University Teaching, Washington, D.C. May 28-30, 2015. The presentation focused on optimum class size for online graduate courses offered in master of education and doctorate of education programs. Research indicates that 21-40 students as excessively large in an online class whereas 16-20 is optimum enrollment in online course delivery.

Professor Jeffrey Hart presented “Can Exercise Help Students with ADHD in the Classroom?” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Michiko Kobayashi presented “Online Technology Self-Efficacy and Student’s Preferred Media in Online Learning” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Jim Mock, Kay Bradford (USU) and Wade Stewart (Shasta College) published “It Takes Two? An Exploration of Processes and Outcomes in a Two-Session Couple Intervention” in the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, November 2015. The paper is a qualitative analysis of a brief therapeutic intervention for couples.

Dr. Lee Montgomery moderated a panel discussion on human origins as part of the “Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to be Human?” Traveling Smithsonian Exhibition at the Cedar City library, November 2, 2015. Panel members representing different local congregations and denominations answered questions and engaged in a moderated conversation about the exhibit that explored different ideas on the origins of man and what it means to be human. In addition, Dr. Montgomery developed an on-line professional development course for teachers based on the Smithsonian exhibition and programs. The panel was part of the activities complementing the Smithsonian Museum’s Traveling Exhibition that appeared in only 19 sites nationwide. The exhibit was organized by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History in collaboration with the American Library Association Public Programs Office.

Projects

Professor Peggy Wittwer created 6 courses for the new Elementary STEM Endorsement. North Elementary teachers were the first in the State to complete these courses and receive the STEM Endorsement. Currently we are teaching the STEM classes to 2 cohorts of 40 teachers each, one in Canyon’s and Jordan school districts and one in the SEDC area, which includes, Millard, Kane, Garfield, & Iron Districts along with 3 teachers from Gateway Preparatory Academy.
Awards

Professor **Peggy Wittwer** received funding from the legislature to facilitate many projects through the SUU STEM Center. We were able to purchase a planetarium, which was a hit at the STEAM Festival. Funding also is being used for; scholarships for student to attend Cedar Mountain Science Camps this summer, supplement Lego League activities at the elementary schools, provide some much needed professional development for local teachers, and much more.

Graduate Studies in Education

Publications and Presentations

**Dr. Tony Pellegrini** presented “Problem-based Learning/Instruction” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Tony Pellegrini** presented “Project-based Instruction” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

**Dr. Katy Herbold, Dr. Tony Pellegrini, Dr. Mark Atkinson, Dr. Cynthia Davis, Alison Adams, Dr. Bart Reynolds** and **Dr. Shawn Christiansen**, in collaboration with Clark County School System and the Center for Teaching Excellence in Las Vegas, in compliance with the administrative license requirements of the Nevada State Office of Education, developed a new graduate level administration licensure program: Educational Leader Preparation Program.

The Leadership and Administrative Development program has been a most successful graduate program in preparing Utah educators for administrative licensure. The success of the LEAD program can be measured by the fact that at times there have been more students enrolled in this SUU program than in all other programs of this type in the state, combined. SUU has alumni in more than 30% of the administrative positions across the state. LEAD students also test above the national average on the Praxis leadership exam.

With the experience that such a program provides, it became clear that the College of Education and Human Development was capable of expanding this course of study. The research on how to implement an educational administrative licensure program in Nevada began several years ago. Finally, late this Fall, the program was approved by the State Office of Education in Nevada, and the program launched. Within a week, three cohort groups were filled.

The Educational Leader Preparation Program is underway due to the efforts of a large team of people and the collaborative effort of three institutions. [See names above.]. Tony Pellegrini and Katy Herbold have spent over a year designing the program and preparing the curricular offerings. The ELPP is based on the tenets of adult learning and is delivered through problem/project based methodologies. All courses are offered online, with flexibility in the time, place, pace and learner choices in the educational activities. Learning activities are primarily asynchronous to accommodate working professionals, and latitude is provided to students to be self-directed in their individual learning.

Working with this first ELPP cohort group this semester has been quite rewarding for Tony and Katy, who report that the students are responding to the rigor of the program and meeting high expectations.
Communication

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Matt Barton and Jonathan Holiman published *Introducing Communication: A Digital Learning Experience*, Kendall Hunt Publishing, Fall 2015. This concept book allows greater flexibility for instruction in the flipped classroom vein and a different approach to learning that involves less reading, more concise explanations and many types of hyperlinked video examples ranging from TV sitcoms to famous speeches and current research. The book is a digital only project in its first edition and is being used this year as the COMM 1010 text for all sections.

Dr. Kevin Stein and Dr. Michael Ostrowsky (Sociology) presented “Taco the Puppy is Super Sick: Student Excuses as a Unique Form of Apologia Rhetoric” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Awards

Dr. Jon Smith (writer/producer/director) and Lee Byers (editor) won multiple awards for their “Back Up the Mountain” short film. The 19 minute docudrama screened at the Equus Film Festival, New York City, November 21, 2015, and won Best Short Film. (The Equus Film Festival features films and television programs about horses). The film has received 14 awards and accolades during the past year, including:

- Silver Telly (full film), 2016

“Back Up the Mountain” director Jon Smith with actor Jake Benson and SUU Vice President for Alumni and Community Relations, Mindy Benson, in front of the East Village Theater for the Equus Film Festival in New York City in November, 2015
English

Publications and Presentations

**Dr. James M. Aton** published *The Art and Life of Jimmie Jones: Landscape Artist of the Canyon*, Gibbs Smith Books, 2015. This is a biography and critical study of the life and art work of the renowned landscape artist, Jimmy F. Jones, a Cedar City native. With over two hundred color plates of his work and close to one hundred photographs, this book covers every aspect of Jones’ life and artwork. Based on extensive interviews with over seventy people who knew Jones, archival collections, and secondary sources, the large-format biography charts the life of one of the Intermountain West’s premier landscapists.

**Dr. James M. Aton** was the keynote speaker at the Zion Plein Air Art Invitational November 3, 2015, where he talked about his new book, *The Art and Life of Jimmie Jones*. He also presented on February 24, 2016 to the Kayenta Arts Foundation.

**Dr. James M. Aton** presented “The 1931 Clafin Emerson Archaeological Expedition” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Kyle Bishop** presented “Teaching Zombies, Developing Students: Pedagogical Success In The Girl with All the Gifts” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Professor Chelsea Campbell** presented “Training with Giles: Fitness in Nerd Culture” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016. **Professor Chelsea Campbell** presented “Creative Workshop Across the Disciplines” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Bryce Christensen**’s sonnet, “Bad Advice,” appeared in the January 2016 issue of *First Things*.


**Dr. Bryce Christensen** presented “A ‘Preposterous and Menacing Absurdity’? C.P. Snow’s ‘Two Cultures’ Revisited” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Professor Jodi Corser** presented “Why Community Engagement is Beneficial to Classroom Learning” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Danielle Dubrasky** published “Retrieval” and “Our House” in *Salt Front* ([http://saltfront.org](http://saltfront.org)) in Fall 2015.
Dr. Danielle Dubrasky published poems about the Southern Utah area in a literary journal that focuses on environmental writing: “Your Treasures are Marbles,” “She Looks for the Day,” and “A Woman Spins her Grief” in Quill and Parchment, November 2015. http://quillandparchment.com/members/vol173.html

Dr. Danielle Dubrasky was invited by the Utah State Poetry Society to give a workshop, “Metaphors and Symbolic Landscapes: A Poetry Writing Workshop” at the Washington County Library, St. George, UT, January 23, 2016.

Dr. Danielle Dubrasky presented “Speaking to Orpheus: A Poetry Reading from Ruin and Light” at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Conference, February 11, 2016, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

She read from her chapbook Ruin and Light, winner of the 2014 Anabiosis Press Chapbook Competition.

Dr. Danielle Dubrasky presented “A Poetics of Poetry Therapy” at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Conference, February 13, 2016, Albuquerque, New Mexico. She presented this paper on the curriculum she has developed for poetry therapy groups.

Dr. Danielle Dubrasky performed at a Sugar House Review/Saltfront Invitational Reading at the Associated Writing Programs Conference, March 31, 2016, Los Angeles, CA. She was invited to read her poetry with others published in these journals at the largest national conference for poets and writers.

Dr. Danielle Dubrasky read poetry from “Ruin and Light” for the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Rosalyn Eves, Dr. Kelly Ferguson, Tasha Seegmiller (EDGE), and Dr. Elaine Vickers (Physical Sciences) presented “The Path to Publishing” to SUU students, faculty, and community members at the SUU Starlight room, March 23, 2016.

Dr. Kelly Ferguson presented “Braintrails: The SUU Student Guide to Cedar City” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Nozomi Irei presented “Rilke’s ‘Malte Laurids Brigge’: Destabilizing Philosophy and Literature” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Jessica Tvordi (Chair) presented “Cradle Kings, Martial Maids, and the Construction of Protestant Masculinity in Shakespeare’s First Tetralogy” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Darrell Spencer published “Change in Hat or Glove Size” in the New Ohio Review, September 2015.

Foreign Language & Philosophy

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Junice Acosta presented “Are there Two or Is It Just One? A Look at Semantic Disambiguation Strategies in Spanish” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Jim Harrison presented “Homo Ludens and Wolfram: Play in Parzival” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Alexandra Perkins presented “Dialects of the Body: Performing the Transnational ‘Yo’” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Dr. Kristopher Phillips presented “(Non) Canonical Texts and Teaching the History of Philosophy” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Iliana Portaro presented “The Role of Exile and Journalism in the Formation of Female Latin American Intellectuals” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

Dr. Kirk Fitzpatrick and other HSS faculty, along with students from the philosophy club, hosted the second SUU undergraduate philosophy conference on February 6, 2016. Dr. Brian Collins, a professor from California Lutheran University, was the keynote speaker: http://www.suunews.com/news/2016/feb/08/second-annual-philosophy-conference/

History, Sociology, Anthropology

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Shobha Hamal Gurung published Nepali Migrant Women: Resistance and Survival in America with Syracuse University Press. In this path-breaking and timely work, Hamal Gurung gives voice to the growing number of Nepali women who migrate to the United States to work in the informal economy. According to Mary Romero of Arizona State University, “Hamal Gurung presents us with a powerful ethnography of the lives of Nepali migrant women in the US. She weaves stories illustrating the use of co-ethnic networks to find employment as domestics, nannies, and restaurant workers. Her insightful analysis reveals the establishment of transnational families and communities.”


She was also the keynote speaker at Women’s International Day, organized by the Nepali Women’s Global Network, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA, March 7, 2016.


Dr. James McDonald (Dean) presented “Humanitarian Aid and Sustainable Development in Guatemala” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Michelle Orihel presented “Pamphlets in Early America” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Dr. Larry Ping presented “The ‘Swayback Maru’: Utah Naval Veterans Recall Iwo Jima” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Awards

Dr. Shobha Gurung received one of three Distinguished Scholarly/Creativity Activity awards for 2015-16.

Political Science & Criminal Justice

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Angela Pool-Funai has been invited to be a quarterly columnist for PA Times, published by the lead professional organization in her field, the American Society for Public Administration. Her column will explore best practices in experiential learning, as well as sharing success stories of Public Administration students’ experiential learning activities. PA Times reaches thousands of practitioners and academics across the U.S. and internationally. Her column is scheduled to publish the third Friday of February, May, August, and November.

Dr. Angela Pool-Funai presented a poster, “American Philanthropy: WWII to Present” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. G. Michael Stathis will publish “Thucydide’s Inquiry, a Handbook for Modern Statecraft? Pronoia and Prognosis (Foresight and Action) in International Relations” as part of a festschrift honoring Professor W. Lindsay Adams, by the University of Utah.

Dr. G. Michael Stathis continues to be a guest commentator on SITREP, a program on global affairs with British Forces Radio.


Awards

Dr. G. Michael Stathis has been selected to give this year’s Distinguished Faculty Honors Lecture and paper, “The Dynamics of Power in the Persian Gulf 1971-2016 and the Inevitability of a Fourth Gulf War.” The paper will be published by Southern Utah University. This is the second time he has been recognized for this honor.

Psychology

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Grant Corser and Dr. Johnny MacLean presented “Bryce Canyon Connections: A 2-week Learning Opportunity for Incoming Honors Freshmen” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Dr. Garrett Strosser, Peter K. Jonason, Christopher H. Kroll, Jasper J. Duineveld, and Shaylene A. Baruffi published “Valuing Myself over Others: The Dark Triad Traits and Moral and Social Values” in *Personality and Individual Differences*, 2015. The Dark Triad personality traits (Machiavellianism, psychopathy, and narcissism) were examined in relation to moral values in an American and German sample.

Dr. Garrett Strosser and Matthew Christiansen presented a poster on “The Influence of Positive Conservative and Liberal Messages on Attitudes towards Same-Sex Marriage” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Lynn White supervised (and contributed research to) several student presentations for the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Conference Presentations, Denver CO, April 2016:

- Aferdit Sadrija and Lynn H. White, “Glycemic Dependent Cephalic Phase Blood Glucose Responses to the Sight versus Smell of Food”
- Lynn H. White, Alexis B. Nelson, Tasha Lewis, & Tony Erickson, “My Brain is Emotional: Hemispheric Dominance and Mood State as Modulators of Autonomic Responses to Emotional Stimuli”
- Alexis B. Nelson & Lynn H. White, “Autonomic Responses to a Noxious Stimulus: The Effects of Instrumental Control, Locus of Control, Pain Coping Strategies and Self-efficacy”
- Lynn H. White, Katie Fairchild, Jacob Davis, & Andrea Empey, Autonomic Nervous System Arousal in Extraverts and Introverts in Response to a Social Stressor: Did Eysenck Get It Right?”
- Lynn H. White & Burgess A. Milner, “Bilateral Alternating Sound Stimulation as a Means to De-escalate Negative Affect, Aggression, and Autonomic Arousal Following Violent Video Game Play”

Projects

Dr. Steve Barney supervised students in an Alternative Winter Break: Guatemala, in Antigua Guatemala, December 2015. While there, students worked in child day-care settings, orphanages, and on construction projects for a local nursing home.

Professor Jay Merryweather (Art Director, Illustrator, and Designer), Kyle Heinemann (Project Manager and Consultant, Esri) and James Hitckock (Creative Director, Esri) published Esri ArcGIS Platform Brief Development. The project took place between November 2015 and February 2016. Esri, a privately owned billion dollar GIS (geographic Information Systems) and Mapping company in Redlands, CA, reached out to Professor Merryweather to aid in the re-development and brand stylization of the its illustrated visual collateral. Because of the complex nature of the Esri brand partners system and the extensive network of visual assets Esri has spent a good deal of time and resources in the development and clarification of its iconography, photography, and brand visual systems. However, in summer of 2015 a hole in the system was identified and key visual artifacts that were used for high level sales, marketing, and presentation based communications. The illustrations being produced lacked the ability to bridge the gap between the careful and simple iconography and the nature of the photography. Esri commissioned me to both analyze and solve the visual problem, make recommendations for development, and set up a visual system that could be replicated by other artists. The new system was approved and very well received in January or 2016 and went into effect in March where it will be published in multiple formats including Esri Online, ArcGIS online, Arc User, ArcNews, and as part of presentations and marketing materials that will reach an audience of tens of thousands by June of this year.

Professor Jay Merryweather presented “FlipDek Accelerated Learning” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Professor Deborah K. Snider was invited to be a guest editor for a special issue of The Clearing House journal for middle and high school educators on “Drawing from Within: The Arts & Animated Learning.” Acceptance of manuscripts and editing completed between October 2015—January 2016 for a May/June publication. This special issue sought innovative arts programing in schools, museums, and communities that brings learning alive for participants. One accepted manuscript as co-written by Dr. Jackie Grant, curator of the SUU Garth & Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History and Delaney Patterson, MFA/Arts Administration candidate.

Projects and Exhibitions


Professor Eric Brown participated in the following exhibitions:

• SUU Art & Design Faculty Exhibition, Group Exhibition, Braithwaite Gallery, Cedar City, UT. January 7 – February 6, 2016.


Professor Sam Davis showed “An Explanation of Things” in the Texas Photographic Society Member's Only Show, juried by artist Keith Carter, in Longview Texas, from December 10, 2015—March 18, 2016, TCC Photo Gallery.

Professor Sam Davis exhibited “Unidentified Species, Nevada Desert,” a 40”x50” Photograph, at the Marjorie Barrick Museum, University of Nevada Las Vegas, June 19-October 10. From the press release: “This exhibition brings together recently acquired works to the Barrick Museum and Las Vegas Art Museum collections. Many of the artists included in Recent Acquisitions have ties to Las Vegas. As a cross section of the diverse practices pursued by contemporary artists this exhibition reaffirms the Barrick's commitment to collecting art of the present. The vast majority of the works will be on display for the first time since entering the Museum's collections.”
Professor Sam Davis exhibited as part of “It Happened Like This,” a group exhibit at the Mayor’s Gallery, Historic Fifth Street School, Las Vegas, NV, August 27-November 25, 2015. From the press release: “for the Vegas Valley Book Festival, this annual exhibit in the Mayor’s Gallery will include mostly local artists who will re-interpret the literary influences of ‘narrative’ and ‘mystery.’ They will be asked to either write in their own words, use a book for their muse, or a true crime story that has been influenced by mystery and narrative and re-interpret their literary influence using their artwork.”

Professor Susan Harris participated in the Utah Arts & Museums Statewide Annual Exhibition at the Rio Gallery of the Utah Division of Arts & Museums in Salt Lake City, November-December 2015.

Professor Susan Harris participated in an exhibition, “Vision and Persistence: 30 Years of Ceramic Excellence at Utah State University” at the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT. This exhibition also travelled to the Annual Conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts held in Kansas City, MO, March 2016.

Dr. Andrew Marvick exhibited new paintings at Gallery Gala and in the SUU Summer Invitational. Several new paintings were purchased by SUU as part of an initiative to showcase Art & Design faculty work. He also contributed work for the cover of Ruin and Light, a new collection of poems by Danielle Dubrasky.

Professor Jay Merryweather (Brand Consultant, Designer, Creative Director), Daniel Gill (Designer/Illustrator—SUU graphic design alumnus), Mitch Grimshaw (Designer—SUU graphic design alumnus) along with Decorworx members and SUU Development team members Marvin Dodge, Tiger Funk, and Ellen Treanor worked with the SUMA Board of Directors and Dean Shauna Mendini to design brand recommendations and visual development for The Beverly Taylor Center for the Arts and SUMA.

In late Spring 2015, following a meeting with Decorworx, a local design and decor company hired to propose the development for Wayfinding and signage for the new Beverly Center and Suma, it was determined that before movement could be made in the design, both SUMA and The Beverly Taylor Center for the Arts would need to have clear brand systems in order to create cohesive signage for the Center. Professor Merryweather was asked to help with the project as a Brand Consultant and designer. In May of 2015 a proposal was accepted for the development of these two brands and he was able to pull together a team of talented alumni and through the collective creative efforts of Decorworx and my creative team were able to propose and develop two fledgling brands of SUU, The Beverly Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts and SUMA or The Southern Utah Museum of Art. With the collaboration and consultation of a small but agile development team at SUU, the group was able to identify the importance of the two new and vibrant additions within SUU’s brand architecture. Throughout the process four critical documents were developed to help recommend and steer these new brands as they work to align themselves with the strategic goals of the University, and pare carefully within the universities brand partnership underneath the managing partner SUU.

Professor Deborah Snider, Reece Summers (Braithwaite Gallery), and Sally McDonald (SUU Special Collections Analyst and Archivist) put together an exhibition, “Everything in Between: Pathfinders-New Territories” for the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), for June-August 2017. They have assembled a regional team of sixteen art quilters from Colorado, Nevada, and Utah to serve as an advisory board for the planned biennial exhibition at SUMA.

Professor Deborah Snider, with Roland Gow, Reece Summers, Rick Brown, Dr. Janice Scarinci (Hospitality Management), Dr. Jim Aton (English), Dr. Andy Marvick, Dr. Jackie Grant (Biology), Ryan Paul, Paula Mitchell (library), and students Gina Dodge and Lizzie Constantino began strategic planning and training for volunteers and docents at the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), February-April 2016.
Professor Deborah Snider, with Sue Cotter, Professor Jessica Gerlach, Jonathan Talbot, Dean Richard Saunders (Library), Professor Reece Summers, Dr. Matt Weeg (Biology), Dr. Andy Marvick, Chelsea Kaufmann (MFA/Arts Administration candidate and exhibition coordinator) exhibited “ABC: Assemblage, Book Art, and Collage Exhibitions” at the SUU Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery and the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, September 10-November 7, 2015. This national invitational exhibition, co-curated by Sue Cotter, Jonathan Talbot, and Deborah Snider, included events such as a talk on “Assemblage in Nature” by Dr. Matt Weeg; a panel discussion on “What’s Happening to Books”; Arts Insights talk by Dean Saunders, Jonathan Talbot, Dr. Marvick, and Sue Cotter; and a letterpress workshop by Jessica Gerlach.

Professor Deborah Snider, Dr. Danielle Dubrasky (English), Professor Chelsea Campbell (English), Professor Denise Purvis (Dance), Melanie Baker, Michael Bahr, Madison Ford, Mekinzey Parks, Erin Hulse, Russell Wrankle, and Professor Alisa Petersen; Sponsored by the StateWide Art Partnership, the Springville Museum of Art, the Utah Art Education Association, and the SUU Department of Art & Design conducted a Professional Development for Educators workshop, “Art Echoes: The Elements of Art and Principles of Design Across the Arts” on SUU campus, October 6, 2015. This annual event in the “Evening for Educators” is designed to give educators ideas for embedding the arts in their elementary classrooms and new strategies for arts specialists. Presenters included SUU faculty and their students.

Professor Deborah Snider is participating in the 2016 “Protect the Earth’s Environment”, an international juried exhibition hosted every four years by the Taiwan Art Quilt Society, Tainan City, Taiwan.

Deborah Snider, accepted art quilt, “Bye-Bye Beautiful Bee; As You fall, So Shall We”
Awards

Professor Susan Harris won a Juror’s Award and a Purchase Award for the State of Utah Permanent Collection from the Utah Arts & Museums Statewide Annual Exhibition held at the Rio Gallery of the Utah Division of Arts & Museums in Salt Lake City November-December 2015.

Music

Publications, Presentations, and Performances

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel and Dr. Jessica Lindsey from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte performed “Rediscovered Works for Clarinet by Women Composers” at Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL, November 5, 2015. They also taught master classes to community students and rehearsed for their upcoming recording of a CD.

Dr. Lynn Vartan hosted the Satellite Salon Series on January 30, 2016. The program was called “Power Play: An Electric Evening of Music,” which featured composer, Jason Francesco Heath, and violist Alma Fernandez, both from Los Angeles. The entire program incorporated live electronics, and included two world premieres, Lynn’s Lunch Box, and Indestructible Wakefulness for Viola and Marimba.

Dr. Lynn Vartan presented for Marimba One at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention that was held in San Antonio TX, in November 2015. Dr. Vartan brought students to work with her at the Marimba One booth.

Dr. Lynn Vartan performed a piece called Third Rail for snare drum with SUU piano faculty, Shane Summers and the SUU Drumline. The concert was held at the Heritage Center in Cedar City with the Orchestra of Southern Utah on October 8, 2015.

Dr. Lynn Vartan travelled to Los Angeles, CA in early October 2015, to record with composer and jazz trumpeter, Wadada Leo Smith. She also performed a masterclass at California State University in Fullerton.

Projects

Dr. Steve Meredith contributed to Jenny Oaks Baker’s newest album, “Awakenings,” for Shadow Mountain Records. “Awakenings” is the 14th studio album for Grammy-nominated violinists, Jenny Oaks Baker. It was produced by Emmy Award-winning composer-arranger, Kurt Bestor. Dr. Meredith was part of a vocal quartet that (through the process of multi-track recording) created the sound of a full-sized classical choir for 3 of the album cuts, including Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” and Orff’s “Carmina Burana”. As part of the activity, Dr. Meredith was able to include current SUU student, Jordan Sanders (a senior in vocal performance) in the quartet, and help him his first professional studio experience.

The album is to be released at the end of April, and is likely to land high on the Billboard Classical charts.
Dr. Steve Meredith arranged, adapted, and conducted music for the *Classical Christmas Vol. 2: Carols for A Cappella Choir*, a new collection of holiday music for the Warner Chappell Production Music Catalog, released worldwide September 1, 2015. Werner Chappell is the world’s largest provider of production music for film and television. This project will be used in upcoming holiday-themed TV and film projects around the world. The music was arranged, adapted

**Theatre Arts and Dance**

**Publications and Presentations**

- **Professor Scott Knowles** presented “Conceptual Variety: The Director’s Vision, Metaphor, The Aim” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
- **Professor Brian Swanson** presented “Teaching with Digital Swag in Theater Arts” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Arts Administration Graduate Programs**

**Publications and Presentations**

- **Professor Rachel Bishop** presented “Academic Impact: Experiential Learning in the Southern Utah Museum of Art” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
- **Professor Bill Byrnes** wrote the “Introduction” and was technical editor for a new book, *The Technical Director’s Toolkit: Process, Forms, and Philosophies of Successful Technical Direction*, which was published by Focal Press, an imprint of Taylor & Francis Press, in late 2015. The authors are Zak Stribling, University of Kentucky, and Richard Girtain, Juilliard School of Music.

**Projects**

- **Professor Bill Byrnes** held a teaching residency as Visiting Professor of Arts Administration, at Jilin University of the Arts, Changchun City, Jilin Province, China, from November 1-14, 2015. He taught classes on arts management practices in the United States, held a seminar entitled “Planning and Decision Making in the Arts,” presented a campus lecture on leading and achieving results as an arts manager, and presented a lecture at the Citizen’s Art Hall entitled “Innovative Practices for Performing Arts Organizations.”
Agriculture and Nutrition

Publications and Presentations

Professor Matt Schmidt presented a poster on “Childhood Food Experiences with Regard to Food Rewards and Punishment” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Biology

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Helen Boswell and Tasha Seegmiller (EDGE) have an article, “Reading Fiction in Biology Class to Enhance Scientific Literacy” forthcoming in The American Biology Teacher.

Dr. Laurie Mauger and Kirstin Budd presented “Preliminary Mating Analysis of American Crocodiles, Crocodylus acutus, in Las Baulas, Santa Rosa, and Palo Verde National Parks, Gaunacaste, Costa Rica” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Awards

Dr. Jacqueline B. Grant received two iUTAH (NSF) grants, one for a green roof agricultural exhibit and outreach at the Frehner Museum, and a second with Dr. Matt Weeg et al, for enhancing biodiversity, water conservation, and urban agriculture through green roof infrastructure, February-December 2015.
Computer Science & Information Systems

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Cecily Heiner presented “Scaling and Sustaining Curriculum Change in CS1” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Shalini Kesar presented “Incorporating Ethical Practices: CSIS Capstone Pedagogy” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Dezhi Wu presented a poster “Website Aesthetics Impacts User Satisfaction and Actual Use: The Role of Trust and Focused Immersion” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Department of Engineering and Technology

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Richard Cozzens presented a poster “Effective Web-Based Engineering and Technology Curriculum for Rural High Schools” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Ali Siahpush presented “Simple Heat Transfer Experiment to Evaluate the Solid/Liquid Phase Change Thermal Energy Storage System” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Mathematics

Publications and Presentations

Professor Bryan Bradford presented “Mathematical Quality of Instruction” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Eric Freden (Associate Dean) presented “Growth in Baumslag-Solitar Groups II: Asymptotics” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Jianlong Han presented Numerical Analysis of a Nonlocal Cahn-Hilliard System” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Derek W. Hein presented “New Constructions for Decompositions of lambda K_n into LW and OW Graphs” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Andrew Misseldine reviewed College Mathematics Through Baseball, by Fred Worth, in CHOICE Magazine. CHOICE is a magazine which reviews academic texts so that college/university library can decide based upon their reviews to add new texts to their collection.

Dr. Andrew Misseldine presented “Teaching a Mathematics Course using Open Education Resources (OER)” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Andreas Weingartner presented “Polynomial Analogues of Some Results in Number Theory” at the West Coast Number Theory, Pacific Grove, CA, December 2015.

Dr. Andreas Weingartner published “Integers with Large Practical Component” in Publicationes Mathematicae Debrecen, 87 (2015), no. 3-4, 439-447. The paper gives an asymptotic formula for the number of integers which have a large practical divisor.

Dr. Andreas Weingartner presented “Analogies Between Integers and Permutations” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Professor Cecilia Weingartner and Felix Weingartner presented a poster on “Machine Learning: Students Procrastination” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

Dr. Jana Lunt started a Math club at Iron Springs Elementary school, using funding from the SUU STEM Center to run the club, which includes activities for the students, professional development for the teachers, and a parent night. The initiative is designed to foster an enjoyment of math at an early age, increase retention in math classes and careers, strengthen student’s deeper thinking and perseverance, reinforce and build upon basic math skill sets, increase parent awareness of math skills and Utah Math core, and provide ongoing professional development for teachers.

Dr. Andrew Misseldine is developing online curriculum for Learnator.com for a linear algebra module. Learnator.com is traditionally an online study site for help on AP and ACT exams. Now they are branching out to offer study resources for college courses.
Awards

Dr. Andreas Weingartner was awarded the 2015 Emma and Dick Lehmer prize for his paper, “Polynomial Analogues of Some Results in Number Theory.”

Nursing

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Donna Lister, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE, presented “Current Issues in Nursing” at the Utah Student Nurse Association Conference, February 6, 2016 at Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah. This presentation was for nursing students and nursing faculty members concerning current issues in nursing. It focused on the need and means to get involved in the political processes that shape our society.

Dr. Donna Lister, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE, presented “Creating a Win/Win Authentic Learning Experience for Nursing Students” at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Baccalaureate Education Conference, November 19, 2015 in Orlando, Florida. This poster presentation shared the components of a care transitions program implemented at Southern Utah University by the Department of Nursing. The presentation outlined how students and patients are benefiting from the interaction that takes place when students visit patients in their homes following hospitalization.

Dr. Alan Pearson and Professor Rebecca Rasmusson presented a poster on “Determinants of Health” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Physical Science

Presentations and Publications

Dr. Daniel Eves, Professor Kristina Bronsema, and Dr. Amber McConnell presented “Implementation of Inquiry-Based Labs in General Chemistry” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Robert Eves (Dean), Dr. Larry E. Davis, Geologist in Residence, Bryce Canyon National Park, Gayle L. Pollock, Executive Director, Bryce Canyon National History Association, Stevie McDermid, SUU Geology Student, Caroline Singler, Public Middle School Teacher, presented “Hymenoptera Trace Fossils from the Coprinisphaera Ichnofacies in the Pink Member of the Claron Formation, Pansaugunt Plateau, Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah” at the National Meeting of the Geologic Society of America, Baltimore, MD, November 1-4, 2015. This project is collaboration between Bryce Canyon NP, the BC Natural History Assn, and SUU. Fossil burrows from flying insects such as wasps have been described in other exposures of the Claron Formation, but this is the first time they have been found in Bryce Canyon National Park. They are announcing their discovery and in the process of cataloging/describing them for a future publication.

Dr. Robert Eves (Dean), Dr. Larry E. Davis, published “Coal Clinker Site in the Late Cretaceous Blackhawk Formation, Castle Gate, Utah, USA,” in The Compass: Earth Science Journal of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, 87.4, Article 2. Available at: http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/compass/vol87/iss4/2 This publication is part of a series entitled, “On the Outcrop”. It is also a chapter from a book to be published by Mountain Press, entitled “Utah Rocks!”, that the same authors are under contract to complete.

Dr. Jason Kaiser and Dr. Johnny MacLean presented “An Interdisciplinary Approach to Undergraduate Research and Pedagogy in Two Upper Level Geology Courses” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.


Dr. Johnny MacLean and Dr. Jason Kaiser, Brennan Brunsvik, Chesley Gale, Mackenzie Cope, Jack Petersen, Sarah Zdanowski, Chapman White, Westan Robertson, Kate Kupfer, Spencer McConkie, Stevie McDermaid, Austin Bruckner, and Jeff Yon published “Field and Petrographic Analysis of the Indian Peak-Caliente Caldera Complex at Condor and English Canyons in Eastern Nevada” in The Compass: Earth Science Journal of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, January 2016. The paper represents an undergraduate research collaboration between two upper level geology courses (Mineralogy and Plate Tectonics).

Dr. Cameron Pace and Dr. Samir Salim (Indiana University) published “Suppression of Star Formation in the Hosts of Low-Excitation Radio Galaxies” in the Astrophysical Journal, 2016, 818, 65. This project examined whether feedback from active galaxies can suppress star formation in galaxies that host active black holes. We compared the star-formation histories of active galaxies to galaxies that are not active and found that star formation may be suppressed in those active galaxies that are not in clusters. This is important because most simulations invoke active galaxy feedback to account for the low star formation rates seen in many galaxies, and our observations show that such feedback can indeed suppress star formation.

Dr. Nathan Werner, with SUU Chemistry students Auston G. Butterfield and Matthew B. Prater published “Preparation of t-Butyldimethylphosphine Borane and t-Butyldiethylphosphine Borane by Selective Grignard Reagent Substitution of Phosphorus Trichloride” in the American Journal of Undergraduate Research, January 2016. Trialkylphosphines are commonly used as ligands in the transition metal-catalyzed reactions that produce a number of fine chemicals and pharmaceuticals. These reactions often require tuning of the catalyst by subtle variation in the ligand structure to maximize yield and selectivity. This work describes the discovery and optimization of an efficient synthesis of t-butyldimethylphosphine and t-butyldiethylphosphine, protected as their borane adducts, by a one-pot, selective Grignard reagent substitution reaction of inexpensive phosphorus trichloride.
Awards

Dr. Chris Monson, Lohra Miller (student), Aubriel Koehler (student), Dr. Kim Weaver, Dr. Zachary Aanderud (BYU) received a research grant for “Oxygen Quantitation in Anoxic Waters and Correlation to Microbial Life” from iUtah (which is funded by NSF EPSCOR program) for work performed at SUU, BYU, Great Salt Lake, and pig waste lagoon near Beaver, Utah, Jan-July 2016. The researchers are finishing the development of a sensor to measure oxygen levels in anoxic (very low to no oxygen) waters. They have been funded for around $17,000 ($15,000 to SUU, balance to BYU) to purchase the remaining equipment needed for the sensor development, sensor characterization, and field-testing the sensor at two sites: the Great Salt Lake and a pig waste lagoon near Beaver, Utah. In the field-testing, particularly at the Great Salt Lake, they will work with Dr. Zachary Aanderud from BYU to sample oxygen levels while he samples bacterial communities to attempt to find a correlation between oxygen levels and bacterial life.
Publications and Presentations

**Dr. Mark Atkinson** (Dean) presented “SUU Credit for Previous Learning” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Cynthia Davis** presented “An Autoethnography of Heart-based Hope Leadership: A Matter of Life and Death” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Cynthia Davis**, with Tammy Kimball and Anne-Christian Williams, was interviewed by Lifetime Network Access Health about hereditary cancers. The Kimball family was interviewed about how all five daughters inherited the BRCA1 mutation, one of the hereditary breast and ovarian cancer from their father, and how the three oldest daughters were diagnosed with breast cancer in their thirties. Another family, the White family, was interviewed about Lynch Syndrome otherwise known as hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC) which increases a person’s chance of getting color or other cancers. The Kimball family has since created the Kimball Family Foundation ([http://www.kimballfamilyfoundation.com/](http://www.kimballfamilyfoundation.com/)) to educate on hereditary breast and ovarian cancers. They also donate money for research. Their story has appeared in People magazine and on CNN. The show aired March 30 and April 6.

**Ean Harker** presented “Using Canvas in a Studio Course” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “Promoting Math Proficiency: Principles to Action” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “50% Math Teacher, 50% Superhero: Becoming a Math Superhero to Your Math Students” at the Southern Utah Educator’s Conference and Utah Council of Teachers of Mathematics.
Dr. Karl Stevens (Director, SUU Online) presented “Quality Matters: SUU’s Standard for Online Course Development” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Michelle Thayer (SUU Online) presented “Essentials of Mobile Learning: Research” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Awards and Leadership

Dr. Leilani Nautu received the following certificates/licensure: Instructional Planning and Design Certification, Essential Learning Outcomes Certification, Grant Writing Certification.

Dr. Leilani Nautu serves on the committee for the K16 Alliance, STEM Endorsement, and is the co-chair of the Utah Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partners.

Dr. Leilani Nautu received a K12 Step it Up – ACT Ready Grant and a SB196 Funding Opportunity Grant

Projects

Dr. Leilani Nautu facilitated the availability of the Concurrent Enrollment pathway to the General Education Certificate/Associate’s degree at Canyon View High School, with the support of many departments on campus and Utah System of Higher Education.
Presentations and Publications

Patrick Clarke (Dean), Dr. Todd Petersen, Jeb Branin (Associate Dean), and Parker Grimes presented “Hot-Rod your Student Information System for Off-Road Experiential Learning” at the National Society for Experiential Education conference in St. Peter’s Beach, FL, October 2015. Student information systems (SIS) allow institutions to gather, sort, filter, and report all kinds of important data like key program performance indicators and learning outcomes. Experiential learning often takes place outside of the classroom and on schedules that run independently of the academic calendar. This session presents a case study on the development and implementation of a custom-designed SIS bridge used to meet the needs of a project-based experiential learning program.

Jeb Branin (Associate Dean) presented “Using Theatre in London to Promote Lifelong Learning” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Honors Program

Publications and Presentations
Jayci Bash (Associate Director) and Professor Matt Nickerson (Library) presented “ELOs, Evaluation and Rigor: Integrating Honors Contracts into University Assessment” at the National Collegiate Honors Council 50th Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2015. The SUU Honors Program has innovated the way in which Honors Contracts are utilized. Honors Administrators from around the country learned how to align Honors Contracts with institutional outcomes and create an enhanced learning experience for Honors students.

Projects
Jayci Bash, Dr. Johnny MacLean (Physical Science), Dr. Kyle Bishop (Director, Honors), Dr. Matt Weeg (Biology), and Professor Matt Nickerson (Library) led a group of five honors students from across the country on a 4-day, 3-night winter camping experience in Cedar Breaks National Monument as part of the National Collegiate Honors Councils Partners in the Parks project. The trip took place January 15-18, 2016.
Faculty Publications and Presentations

Professor Loralyn Felix and Professor Paula Mitchell presented “Adding Creativity to Library Instruction: Using Games as Effective Teaching Tools” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Professor Paula Mitchell presented “An Historical Stroll through Zion, Cedar Breaks, and Bryce Canyon” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Professor Matt Nickerson presented “Willy the Kid: Shakespeare in the American West 1850-1870” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. Richard Saunders (Dean) presented “Too Late? Losing Newspapers as Historical Sources” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Professor Phil Roche presented “Intellectual Freedom and Online Privacy” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

Friends of the Library Gala

The annual Friends of the Library Gala was held Saturday, October 10 at the Sherratt Library. As this year’s theme depicted, the gala certainly provided the opportunity for its participants “to be . . . “A PART OF SOMETHING GRAND.” The Sherratt Library is completing the acquisition of a Shakespeare Fourth Folio (London, 1685), the first compilation to include all of his plays. The book was specially transported from its present home in Philadelphia to be available at the gala. Attendees were able to see the volume first hand and invited to participate in making its acquisition a reality for SUU. Those donors who had already contributed towards its purchase were able to come to an early viewing and personally turn the pages of the volume.

The gala began at 6:30 when attendees were welcomed by the board of Friends of the Library and invited to enjoy hors d’oeuvres and exhibits on the second floor – interesting props, beautiful Shakespearean costumes, and stage directions and diagrams from various plays. Sherratt Library Special Collections provided an amazing display of Shakespearean artifacts that are already part of a permanent collection at SUU. An especially interesting exhibit was provided by Matt Nickerson, Asst. Dean of the Library, entitled “Shakespeare in
the Wild West: Willy the Kid.” This exhibit is part of an extensive project the library is working on to coincide with the SUMA opening and the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death and First folio display in 2016.

The short main program at the gala began at 7:00 p.m. Georgia Beth Thompson, Chair of the Friends of the Library board, welcomed guests and introduced the speakers of the evening. Michael Bahr aroused everyone’s enthusiasm for the possibility of acquiring such a rare treasure, the only volume of its kind to be in Utah and the importance of its value for education and research. He expressed the value such great literature has in enriching our lives.

Dean Richard Saunders then briefly described how the possibility of acquiring the book came about and the magnitude of such an opportunity. He then unveiled the volume and all attendees had the opportunity to view it personally.

The gala concluded with dessert and entertainment on the third floor. Performances included three monologues of Shakespeare by Parker Hess, Danny Bugg and Allie Damavandi, two musical numbers by Madison Barrick and Corie Coash and a poetry reading by Samara (Mara) Wells.

The Library offers many outreach activities and events to create a more appealing, inviting learning environment. At left is a photo from the “Welcome Back” event in the fall that included snacks, swag, and a visit from our ever-popular therapy dogs.
Undergraduate Research & Scholarship Program

“The Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Program (UGRASP) at Southern Utah University is committed to fostering a community of scholars across all disciplines. As part of its mission, the program will encourage and support student-mentor collaborations in research and creative expression, preparing students to become the scholars, scientists, and leaders of tomorrow.”

With national participation in undergraduate research reaching an all-time high, SUU is taking a leadership role by including research as a major emphasis in its new academic roadmap. The Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Program (UGRASP) seeks to support, advocate for, and assist students engaging in research and scholarship activities.

Perhaps the most direct contribution of UGRASP is to provide funding for undergraduate research and scholarship conduction and dissemination. Grant awards of up to $500 are available to students from all disciplines across campus.

Another highlight of the yearly activities of UGRASP includes the annual Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research (UCUR) in the spring. Based off the prestigious National Conference on Undergraduate Research, UCUR is a statewide conference dedicated to the dissemination of student research and creative activity. UGRASP covers all expenses for students who present at this conference. In February 2016, the University of Utah served as the host institution.
Student Affairs

Presentations and Publications

Lisa Livingston (Student Support Services), Tami Shugart, and Tauna Brandt presented “Finding the One—How Proactive Advising can Help First-Generation Students” to TRiO Professionals at a Regional ASPIRE meeting in Rapid City, SD, October 5, 2015. As Talent Search professionals, we see the need on a daily basis for the creation of high quality connections for low-income/first-generation youth. Utilizing research on high quality connections, current low-income issues and trends in education, we were able to present compelling reasons to include proactive advising in secondary and post-secondary settings. We were also able to further demonstrate that said advising is a method to retain and graduate students at a higher rate.

Projects

Kate Kloepper (Residential Education Coordinator), with Laurel Jefferies and University Housing Resident Assistant Staff, organized a community service project, the University Housing Annual Trick or Treat, on October 30, 2015. This is the 3rd year the Residence Life staff worked with the Residents of University Housing to provide trick or treating through our 5 main residence halls for the children of SUU Faculty, Staff and Students. This year we had 321 people come through our halls to take part in trick or treating and activities like small science experiments and walking the slack line, face painting and much more. Each building has its own theme and activities which compliments the Living learning community.

Kate Kloepper (Residential Education Coordinator), Laurel Jefferies, Elise Leahy, and Dr. Johnny Oh, with CAPS staff, presented an exhibit, “University Housing—Walk in My Shoes” in the University Housing – Eccles A Conference Room and Getaway, November 19, 2015. A walk in my shoes is a diversity awareness program which on other campuses is called “tunnel of oppression”. Basically the program was set up with different rooms (like walking through a haunted house). At the end CAPS counselors were there to debrief through the feelings brought up.
Each room was a different awareness:
- Stereotypes/Labels - showed a coco-cola ad that addressed labels and stereotypes and had different slangs and such hanging from the ceiling
- Physical Disability - awareness of parking in front of handicapped access and the person being delayed because they can’t cross the street or get a parking space close enough. Someone read a journal of the person’s day and the emotional drain that added frustrations can add that are avoidable.
- Socio-Economic Status - realizing some WEALTH is just a facade; really in debt or some poor b/c of other reasons
- Gender/Sexuality - workplace discrimination, glass ceiling
- Cultural/Linguistic - class room in another language to let domestic students have a glimpse how difficult it is for international students
- Social Responsibility - avoidable deaths (texting while driving, suicide), etc.

Kate Kloepper (Residential Education Coordinator) with Jed Townsend and city canine units, put together a “Paw Patrol” program to bring awareness about police dog drugs and their handlers and what they can do. We specifically educated on the police liaison program University Housing has with the SUUPD in which they will come do rounds and on occasion the dog is in our halls. 100+ residents came out to the program and they had a great time seeing what the dog can do and learning about them and the liaison program we have with SUUPD.

Residence Life staff hosted their annual Trick or Treat for children of SUU faculty, staff, and students on October 30, 2015
Presentations

Dr. Bradley Cook (Provost) presented “Islamic Contributions to Western Civilization” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Dr. John Taylor (Provost Faculty Fellow), Dr. Jessica Tovrdi (English), Dr. Matt Barton (Communications), Dr. Grant Corser (Psychology), Professor Matt Nickerson (Library), Dr. Andy Marvick (Art & Design), Dr. Jana Lunt (Math), Dr. Hussein Samha (Physical Science), President Scott Wyatt presented “What We Have Learned about Jumpstart” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

President Scott Wyatt presented “Is SUU Efficient? Do We Want to Be?” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.
Office of International Affairs

Presentations

Dr. Andrea Stiefvater (Director, ESL program)

Stephanie Weaver presented “Project Based Learning: Myths and Realities in Implementing PBL in the Classroom” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 5, 2016.

Projects

The Office of International Affairs opened a Confucius Institute on SUU’s campus in Fall 2015. The Confucius Institute is a non-profit organization, similar to the Alliance Française (France) or the Goethe-Institute (Germany), which aims to promote Chinese language and culture around the world. Unlike other organizations, however, the Confucius Institute operates directly on campus and provides Chinese language instructors for the program. The institute is funded by a prestigious grant, and it’s unusual for a small school like Southern Utah University to have one. Usually, they’re reserved for large, R1 schools. (Currently, the only other Confucius Institute in Utah is at the University of Utah). That SUU was able to win a grant is testimony to the great partnerships SUU has established in China, particularly with Hunan Normal University.
FACULTY SCHOLARLY SUPPORT FUND GRANT

Congratulations to the following faculty on being awarded grants for their research, presentations, and other special projects:

School of Business
- Gerald Calvasina
- David Christensen
- Howard Hi
- Alan Hamlin
- Mary Pearson
- Joshua Price
- Janice Scarinci

J. Ty Redd
- Matt Schmidt
- Kim Weaver
- Andreas Weingartner
- Dean Winward
- Lee Wood
- Dezhi Wu

Walter Maxwell Gibson
College of Science and Engineering
- Richard Cozzens
- Daniel Eves
- Robert Eves
- Eric Freder
- Chad Gasser
- Fred Govedich
- Artis Grady
- Jacqueline Grant
- Derek Hein
- Jon Karpel
- Shalini Kesar
- Laurie Mauger
- Chris Monson
- Elizabeth Pierce

Beverly Taylor Sorenson
College of Education and Human Development
- Abigail Larson

College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Matthew Barton
- Bryce Christensen
- Danielle Dubasky
- Jim Harrison
- Britt Mace
- Liz Olson
- Larry Ping
- Angela Poole-Funai
- Jon Smith
- Kevin Stein
- Andrew Van Alystine

College of Performing and Visual Arts
- Kay Andersen
- Christian Bohnenstengel
- Megan Brunsvold
- Richard Bugg
- Brian Hoover
- Andrew Marvick
- Denise Purvis
- Deborah Snider
- JungYun Son
- Brian Swanson
- Russell Wrankle

Library
- Loralyn Felix
- Steven Irving
- Paula Mitchell
- Phil Roche