Dr. Jackie Grant is helping to bring back native plants to devastated areas.
The National Society for Experiential Education has recognized Southern Utah University as a school that demonstrates an exceptional commitment to experiential education. In large part, this commitment to quality is the result of the top-notch programs, faculty, and staff at SUU.

In this online issue of Summit, we highlight some of the exceptional work by faculty and staff. More information (about the new President’s Leadership Academy, the reimagining of SUU’s premier speaker series, the expanding and innovative programs of the School of Business, and the national-caliber research of Dr. Jackie Grant) can be found in the print version. Taken together, these documents offer readers a glimpse into the vibrant intellectual community at Southern Utah University.

Regards,

Brad Cook
SUU Provost
Accounting

Presentations and Publications

Dr. Azmi Ahmad presented “A Successful Implementation of Quality Culture and Workers Job Satisfaction” at the Academy of Business Research Conference, in Las Vegas, NV, October 2017. His paper won the ABR Best Paper Award.

Dr. David Christensen and Professor Paul Schneider published “Allocating Service Department Costs with Excel” in Strategic Finance, May 2017, pp. 50-55.

Projects

Dr. Robin Boneck advised the VITA service-learning activity, logging in 120 hours, between January and April 2017. One MAcc student managed the program. Twelve accounting students served as quality reviewers with 35 students serving as volunteer tax preparers. Students gave a total of 2,104 hours of volunteer service. A total of 446 federal tax returns and 412 state returns were filed electronically for qualifying taxpayers residing in the Cedar City area. The total of state and federal refunds was $1,148,622. This activity was partially funded by a grant from Community Action Partnership of Utah.
Economics & Finance

Publications and Presentations

*Dr. Joe Baker, Dr. Kim Craft,* and Michael G. Finn (Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education) published “Earnings and Job Satisfaction of STEM Baccalaureate Recipients By Advanced Degree Type: Law, Medicine, MS Engineering, and STEM Doctorate” in the Clute Institute—International Business and Economics Research Journal.

*Dr. David Berri* started writing articles for *Forbes Magazine* in August, 2017. He writes five articles per month on sports and economics. The articles can be accessed here: [https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidberri/#276e7f696c5d](https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidberri/#276e7f696c5d)

Dr. David Berri has been quoted in The Balance, Teen Vogue, CNN.com, Politic.com, Fox Business, Christian Science Monitor, Awful Announcing, and Sports Business Daily, in the following articles:


Dr. Bryan S. Graden, Daniel Ames (Idaho State) and Jomo Sankara (Illinois State) published “Estimation Errors among Insurers: The Case of Subrogation” in the *Journal of Insurance Issues*. Subrogation is the right to pursue responsible third parties to recover amounts paid out to settle claims. Subrogation recoveries can be substantial and represent an estimate potentially subject to management bias. This study investigates factors associated with subrogation estimation errors. In a sample of generally understated subrogation estimates, we find that lower (weaker) financial strength ratings are positively related to more optimistic subrogation estimates. We also find that publicly-owned firms, on average, report higher subrogation estimation errors. This effect is less pronounced among public insurers with weak ratings. Overall, our results suggest that subrogation estimates are more optimistic when firms struggle financially or are publicly-owned. These findings suggest a need for insurance regulators to provide more specific guidance for subrogation accounting and financial reporting. Additionally, our results are of interest to investors who may not fully incorporate the impact of subrogation estimates into projections and investment decisions.

Dr. Bruce Haslem, Aimee Hoffman-Smith, and Irena Hutton presented “How Much Do Corporate Defendants Really Lose? A New Verdict on the Reputation Loss Induced by Corporate Litigation” at the Financial Management Association Conference, in Boston, MA, October 2017. This paper was chosen as the best paper in the Summer 2017 issue of Financial Management.

Dr. Joshua Price presented “Measuring the Economic Impact of Sporting Events: Defining the Local Economy” at the Western Economic Association International conference, in San Diego, CA, June 2017.

Projects

Dr. Joshua Price and Dr. Bruce Haslem advised the Investment Scholars Group on the management of the D. A. Davidson fund. The student group earned a 11.4% return this past year, placing them first among participating schools in Utah.
Management, Marketing and Hospitality

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Gerald E. Calvasina and Dr. Richard V. Calvasina presented “The Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) and Recruiting” at the Institute for Global Business Research (IGBR) in Las Vegas, NV October 11 - 13, 2017. The paper reports on their examination of recent litigation associated with employer recruiting practices and alleged violations of the ADEA.


Dr. Alan Hamlin presented “Ransomware as a Strategic Threat to Organizations” at the Mountain Plains Business Conference, September 2017. Dr. Hamlin also serves on the board of directors for the MPBA organization.


Dr. Shih-Ming (Howard) Hu presented “Pumpkin as a Fat Replacer in Brownies” at the 2017 Annual Conference of International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education, Baltimore, Maryland, July 2017.


Dr. Emmett Steed presented “Visitor Satisfaction Levels at Southern Utah National Parks as the Number of Visitors Increases” at the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines (IABPAD) Conference, Las Vegas, NV, October 2017.

Dr. Tyler Stillman, Celine Cont, and Dr. Grant Corser (psychology) presented “On the Wall or In the Hand? Neuroticism Predicts Digital Media Preferences” at the Rocky Mountain Association Conference Presentation of Consumer Behavior Research in Salt Lake City, Utah, April 2017.
Awards and Honors

Dr. Janice Scarinci was given a Distinguished Educator award, Southern Utah University, 2016-2017.

Dr. Janice Scarinci and Dr. Joshua Price were awarded Curriculum Innovative Grants from SUU, 2017.

Dr. Janice Scarinci with President Scott Wyatt, receiving the Distinguished Educator award.
Military Science

Projects

Major Michael Rhinehart was involved in a cultural exchange as well as a training event with the Malawian Defense Force, May-July 2017. In this exchange, 44 college students from across the nation participated in military training and humanitarian service in Malawi.
Kinesiology and Outdoor Recreation

Publications and Presentations.


Dr. Camille Thomas, Dr. Julie E. Taylor, and Dr. Jacob Manning presented “Rock Climbing Speed Impacts Energy Expenditure” at the National Strength and Conditioning Association National Convention, Las Vegas, NV, July 2017. Very little research has been done on the energy expenditure of rock climbers due to the difficulty of measurement during free-climbing conditions. Whether speed of climbing on identical routes has an impact on energy expenditure has yet to be determined and may be of benefit for training purposes. The purpose of this study was to determine if speed of climbing has an impact on energy expenditure during indoor sport-climbs. This study found differences between the steady-state climb (SS) and speed climb (SC) conditions respectively, for the rate of oxygen consumption, rate of caloric expenditure, rate of caloric expenditure relative to body mass and heart rate.000). There was also a difference in the total energy expenditure for the SS and SC conditions respectively. Post-hoc analysis revealed that there was a significant correlation between years of climbing experience and the rate of energy expenditure during the SC route. It was expected that the rate of oxygen consumption, energy expenditure and heart rate would differ between the SS and SC conditions. It was interesting that there was also a difference in the total caloric expenditure for the climbs with a 19% greater total caloric expenditure in the SS condition. Although climbers completed the same number of ascents and descents in both climbing conditions, the necessity to support body mass for a longer period of time (10 minutes vs. 6.3 min) while engaging in the SS climbing may explain, in part, the differences in total energy expenditure. Based on the negative correlation between experience and SC energy expenditure, it appears that climbing experience contributes to greater energy efficiency during SC conditions with little impact during SS climbing. With some consideration for climbing experience, estimates of total energy expenditure can be based on body mass and speed of climbing, allowing for improved fueling surrounding climbing events.
Awards

Dr. Abigail Larson was inducted into Northern Michigan University’s Athletic Hall of Fame, July 2017.

Teacher Education & Family Development

Presentations:

Dr. Joel Judd presented “Becoming the Change: Teacher Voice in Creating Intercultural Schools” at the International Association for Intercultural Education (IAIE), Angers, France, June 2017. The IAIE studies and promotes equitable educational opportunities for students around the globe. Dr. Judd’s presentation shared work with teachers of diverse students who conducted practitioner research in their classrooms. Culturally and linguistically diverse students are often marginalized in school, resulting in lower achievement and graduation rates. The traditional approach to school improvement is professional development. Instead of participating in seminars or workshops, teachers in our graduate program applied an ethnographic approach to their classrooms and students. The resulting personal insights led to broader awareness of equity issues, empowered action, and advocacy on behalf of students and their families.

Dr. Judd at the IAIE conference in France, June 2017.
**Dr. Prent Klag** presented “Transforming Teaching and Making Learning Memorable” at the Utah Rural Schools Annual Conference, Cedar City, UT, July 2017.

**Dr. Prent Klag** presented “Eureka Moments: Innovative Strategies, Techniques, and Activities for Teachers to Boost Student Thinking, Insight, and Ideas” at the Utah Education Association Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, UT, October 2017.

**Dr. Brian Ludlow** presented “Project Learning Tree: Bonding through Outdoor Education” at the Experiential Learning Leadership Institute Conference (ELLI), June 2017.

**Dr. Brian Ludlow, J. Hart,** and **Dr. Joel Judd** presented “Pre-Service Teacher Interest and Engagement in Reading: Assessment and Intervention” at the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER) 2017 Annual Conference.

**Dr. Brian Ludlow** presented “Elements of Literature for Librarians” at the Utah Educational Library Media Association (UELMA) in June 2017.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “Pull Don't Push—Creating Inclusive Communities” at the Intermountain Consortium for Faculty Development: Teaching for Learning Conference, Provo, UT, March 2017.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “Creating Inclusive Communities” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, Cedar City, UT, April 2017.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “Integrative and Engagement Teaching for Learning Strategies” at the SUU Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning, Cedar City, UT, March 2017. She tied SUU Learning Outcomes to the Ways of Learning, to the common methods associated with those ways of learning, and to integrative and engagement strategies to help faculty improve student learning outcomes.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “Tend the Soil—Grow More Meaningful Experiential Education Opportunities” at the Experiential Learning and Leadership Institute Conference (ELLI), sponsored by the School of Integrative and Engaged Learning, Park City, UT, June 2017.


**Dr. Leilani Nautu** presented “Cultivating the Soil for Experiential Education” at the National Society for Experiential Education Conference, Florida, September 2017.
Projects

Dr. Brian Ludlow created a new “Literacy Advisory Team” consisting of select members from three groups: SUU faculty engaged in teaching literacy courses at SUU; literacy curriculum specialists from Iron County School District (ICSD); ICSD district administrators, including the professional development coordinator and the district literacy coach; a student representative from the Department of Teacher Education engaged in the elementary education Block courses. The team meets biannually to exchange information regarding current developments in research, educational needs seen at the local district level, and ideas for improving the quality of teachers in our program.

Dr. Brian Ludlow, in cooperation with Iron County School District (ICSD) Administrators, has started collecting video recordings of master teachers modelling exemplary instructional planning and implementation techniques in social studies and English language arts at each of the elementary grade levels. The teachers are selected by the ICSD Director of Professional development, and then she records a 30-40 minute video with an introduction of the lesson, segments of instruction delivered to elementary students, and a reflection.

As nationally certified Instructional Trainers for Project Learning Tree, Dr. Brian Ludlow and Professor Peggy Wittwer take all members of their methods classes on an overnight excursion to SUU’s mountain cabin to certify them as Project Learning Tree (PLT) instructors. The PLT curricula and programs “use the forests as a window on the world to increase students understanding of our environment; stimulate students' critical and creative thinking [skills]; develop students’ ability to make informed decisions on environmental issues; and instill in students the commitment to take responsible action on behalf of the environment” (PLT mission statement). Students receive training and materials prior to the cabin trip, and then are given the opportunity to practice and facilitate their own PLT activities during the outing. This activity aligns with SUU’s Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan, as it aligns with objectives 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, and 3.1.1.

During both the Fall and Spring Semesters Dr. Brian Ludlow and Professor Peggy Wittwer took their students to George Washington Academy (GWA) and one of four elementary schools in Canyons School District so they could participate in a unique service-learning opportunity. GWA is ranked as the top Charter school in the state of Utah, as well as number one in academic performance out of 576 elementary schools in the state (www.niche.com). The professors feel it imperative for students to experience a wide variety of classroom contexts. The week-long excursion to schools in Canyons School District provides student with an opportunity to work with a highly diverse population, which is critical to their growth and development in the profession. The schools our students work in have a population that is between made up of 70% to 90% ethnic minorities, 75% to 90% low SES, and 25% - 35% mobility. This activity aligns with SUU’s Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan, as it aligns with objectives 1.1.1; 1.1.2; 2.1.1; 1.3.1; 2.1.1.
Dr. Leilani Nautu was invited to join the faculty of the National Society for Experiential Education (NSEE): Experiential Education Academy as an instructor to teach about experiential education, service learning, and assessment across the nation, St. Peter Beach, Florida, September 2017. She was also tasked by NSEE to develop a workshop for K12 educators on experiential education.

Professor Peggy Wittwer has started a new program, “Wednesdays with Witt” connecting students in her social studies methods courses with a top performing first-year teacher for a weekly 15-minute video conference utilizing ZOOM technology. This provides current students with up-to-date information from a brand-new teacher relating to curriculum, instruction, classroom management procedures, planning and assessment from someone who was a student at SUU last year. Professor Wittwer has selected the top performers to ensure the students are learning from the best. The master mentor spends 10 minutes talking about how she is using the skills and concepts she learned in SUU’s method courses, then responds to student questions for the last five minutes. In an informal survey, 100% of the students in the class indicated they love the weekly meetings. It has also been well received by the recent graduate who is participating in the program. The next step will be to involve other alumni in the weekly series.

Leadership
Dr. Leilani Nautu helped to form the Intermountain Consortium for Faculty Development Leadership Team, as well as plan and prepare for the first annual Teaching for Learning Conference, “Soaring to New Heights,” Provo, UT, March 2017.

As part of the leadership team for the School of Integrative and Engaged Learning: Experiential Learning and Leadership Institute (ELLI) Conference, Dr. Leilani Nautu planned and prepared for the ELLI Conference (Park City, UT, June 2017), created integrative and engaging community building activities, and served as the K12 liaison.

Graduate Studies in Education

Dr. Tony Pellegrini presented “Problem-based Learning: Learning by Doing” at the IATED’s ICERI conference in Seville, Spain, November 2017.
Communication

Publications and presentations

**Dr. Matthew H. Barton** and **Dr. Kevin A. Stein** published “Diabetes, Patient Care & Compliance: The Role of Message Design in Doctor-Patient Interactions” in *The Pennsylvania Communication Annual*, 73, 2017, pp. 11-25.

**Dr. Kevin A. Stein** and **Dr. Matthew H. Barton** published “140 Characters to Say I Hate You: Melissa Click, Racism, and the Media Circus at Mizzou” in *Relevant Rhetoric*, Spring 2017.


Projects

**Dr. Kevin Stein** created a new educational website called Public Apology Central. The site has been in development for some time. The purpose of the website is to act as an archive of instances of public *apologia* and as an educational tool for teachers wanting to use crisis case studies in their research, media, or PR classes. Each page of the site has a brief summary of the accusation, a list of key defensive/ *apologia* strategies used, video and/or audio of the *apologia* (if available), transcripts (if available), and a list of sources for future reference. It can be accessed now at [www.publicapologycentral.com](http://www.publicapologycentral.com).
English

Publications and Presentations

**Dr. Kyle Bishop** and former SUU student Melanie Jensen wrote “Classrooms, Classrooms Everywhere, but Not to Slay or Think: The Domestic Learning Environments of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*,” in *At Home in the Whedonverse: Essays on Domestic Place, Space, and Life*, edited by Juliette Kitchens, McFarland, 2017.


**Dr. Danielle Dubrasky** published a poem, “Retrieval” with Saltfront Press, as well as “Invisible Shores” with Red Butte Press, at the University of Utah.

**Dr. Kelly Ferguson** published an essay, “Second Best” in the *Cincinnati Review, Summer 2017.*


**Dr. Kelly Ferguson** published a short story, “Pictures of the Dead” in *Yemassee, 24.1, Summer 2017.* This essay has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.


**Dr. Todd Petersen** has a novel, *It Needs to Look Like We Tried*, forthcoming Spring 2018 from Counterpoint Press.
Projects

Dr. Lisa Arter helped plan and host the 1st annual Write Out Symposium, which drew 100 teenagers and 5 best-selling young adult authors. The teens spent 3 days at SUU in a writing camp. Dr. Arter hosted four “Career Tasting” workshops and coordinated public author talks, as well as a book signing which hosted approximately 200 people.

Dr. Jim Aton and Dr. Emily Dean (Anthropology) helped plan and lead surveys of Archaic and Ancestral Puebloan sites on Lost Spring Mountain on the Arizona Strip, the Paria Plateau in Vermillion Cliffs National Monument, and the Shivwits Plateau in the Parashant National Monument. Their group, the Colorado Plateau Archeological Alliance, was hired by the Arizona Strip Bureau of Land Management to complete three, week-long surveys and write technical reports on them.

Awards and Leadership

Professor Jodi Corser received the Utah Campus Compact Presidential Award for Community Engaged Faculty.

Professor Nathan Price and Professor Laura Walker received Innovative Pedagogy Awards.

Dr. Todd Petersen completed training and certification with the National Society of Experiential Education’s (NSEE) Experiential Education Academy, and was an instructor for their September academy.

Helped plan and host the 1st annual Write Out Symposium. 100 teenagers and 5 best-selling young adult literature authors spent 3 days at SUU in a writing camp. Personally hosted four “Career Tasting” workshops. Coordinated public author talks and book signing (as well as book buying partnered with the SUU Bookstore) which hosted approximately 200 people.

Foreign Language & Philosophy

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Rosa Perez presented “La part juive: revendication difficile en Algérie après la decolonization” at the 31st World Congress of the CIEF, Conseil International d’Etudes Francophones, University of the Antilles, Martinique, June 26-July 2, 2017. This conference paper examines two works of fiction taking place in post-colonial Algeria. Two children born of Jewish-Muslim unions decide after a long struggle to return to the faith of their Jewish ancestors, a community that has been present in Algeria for more than two thousand years and who had to migrate after the Algerian war of independence.

Dr. Rosa Perez, published “Des deux côtés de la Méditerranée: présence juive dans les films de Merzak Allouache” in CELAAN Review (Center for the Studies of the Literature and Arts of North Africa), Vol XIV, Fall 2017. In this article, she analyzes several films directed by Merzak Allouache, a major independent Algerian filmmaker. An ardent defender of the cultural and religious cohabitation he experienced growing up in colonial Algeria, he incorporates, in some of his films, a Jewish presence that has long vanished.

Dr. Corey Twitchell presented “Calling a Nazi on the Phone? Wolfgang Hildesheimer’s Tynset as Imagined Dialogue between Holocaust Survivor and Perpetrator,” at the 2017 International Conference on Narrative, March 2017, Lexington, KY.
**History, Sociology, Anthropology**

**Publications and Presentations**

- **Dr. Laura Davis** presented “To Aid and Save our Country: Confederate Boat Burners, Southern Identity and the Legal Question of Loyalty,” at the Organization of American Historians Annual Organization, New Orleans, LA, April 2017.


- **Dr. Emily Dean** presented a keynote speech, “The Future of Preserving America's Past” at the SUU Festival of Excellence, April 4, 2017.


**Awards**

- **Dr. Michelle Orihel** received the Outstanding Educator Award for Diversity and Inclusion.

**Political Science & Criminal Justice**

**Publications and Presentations**


**Psychology**

**Publications and Presentations**

- **Dr. Steve Barney, Dr. Grant Corser, Dr. Garret Strosser, Dr. Daniel Hatch, and Dr. Kevan LaFrance** published “Service-Learning in Abnormal Psychology: Softening the Implicit Stigma against the Mentally Ill” in *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology*, vol. 3, issue 2, June 2017, pp. 151-162. Using student samples, we tested and found that negative explicit and implicit attitudes towards individuals with mental illness could be reduced by incorporating a service-learning component into an abnormal psychology course.

- **Dr. Daniel Hatch, Dr. Michelle Grimes, Dr. Garrett Strosser, and Dr. Lynn White** attended and presented at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association conference, Salt Lake City, UT, April 2017.

- **David Shwalb** will publish *Grandparents in Cultural Context* with Routledge, in 2018.
Dr. Bryan L. Koenig, with S. Fan, T. T. Ng, J. S. Herberg, M. Jiang, Z. Shen, and Q. Zhao, will publish “Image Visual Realism: From Human Perception to Machine Computation” in *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, forthcoming. Summary: This interdisciplinary research utilized psychological methods to gain insights into how humans distinguish photos from CG images, then using those insights built computational models able to predict human judgments better than state-of-the-art alternatives. Significance: Shows the value of cross-disciplinary research and provides a practical, automated method for predicting human judgments regarding whether images are photos or computer graphics.

Dr. Bryan L. Koenig, with C. M. Riley Koenig, and C. Sanz, will publish “Teaching Anthropology with Primate Documentaries: Investigating Instructors’ Use of Films and Introducing the Primate Films Database” in *American Anthropologist* (in press). Summary: Most anthropology-professor respondents teach using primate documentaries, especially documentaries that provide coverage of species. Teaching usefulness ratings were related to documentaries being entertaining and accurate, but not conservation oriented. We also introduced an online database of primate documentaries with information for instructors. Significance: Provides an overview of how anthropology instructors are using primate documentaries for educational purposes, and how those instructors perceive those documentaries. The online database is a practical resource for instructors to use when considering documentaries for educational purposes.

Dr. Garrett Strosser, with Simone Aarre, Giovanna Del Sordo, and Anjelica Ashworth (all SUU student collaborators) presented a poster on “Critically Evaluating the Links between Disgust, Morality, and Political Ideology: A Replication and Extension” at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association annual meeting, Salt Lake City, UT, April 2017. In testing two opposing theories as to why political conservatives use the emotion of disgust to help aid them in moral decision-making tasks, we found survey support indicating that political conservatives tend to be more sensitive to disgust-related situations than political liberals.
Dr. Garrett Strosser, with Megan Golson and Rakael Hinton (SUU student collaborators) presented a poster at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association annual meeting, Salt Lake City, UT, April 2017. Although certain emotional displays, such as happiness, tend to be universally interpreted in a similar matter, we found that one’s expectation about what emotion one should display in a certain situation affects how one interprets that emotion (i.e., a happiness expression at a birthday party is interpreted differently than a happiness expression at a funeral).

Dr. Garrett Strosser and Alondra Guerrero presented a poster on “Student Perceptions of Classroom Diversity Discussions” at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Salt Lake City, UT, 2017. In testing student experiences with classroom ethnic and cultural diversity discussions, we found that whereas minority students reported feeling more self-worth after these type of discussions, they also reported higher levels of concern related to discrimination, getting called upon by the professor, representing one’s race, and defensiveness than the non-minority students. Thus, these discussions may be placing an additional burden on minority students.

Dr. Garrett Strosser and Chalyse Wood presented a poster on “Religious Strain and Suicide in the ‘Suicide Belt’” at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Salt Lake City, UT, 2017. Previous research has shown that at times religion can be a protective factor and at other times a risk factor for suicide. However, our research found that religious strain and not religion per se best predicted suicidality.

Awards and Leadership

Dr. Michelle Grimes organized the first Child Clinical Psychology Conference on the SUU campus, May 2017.

Dr. Daniel Hatch was named SUU Influencer of the Year for 2016-2017.
Dr. Andrew Marvick’s paper, “Un trou dans la filière,” was accepted for publication in 2017 as part of a new anthology, Le symbolisme et l’angoisse, from Cambridge Scholars.

Dr. Andrew Marvick presented “Losing One’s Self-ie: Facial Obliteration in Contemporary Art,” at the 8th Conference of the Image in Venice, Italy, October 2017. This paper identifies (for want of a better term) the un-un-selfie—a portrait which displays the same formal and stylistic characteristics of the current un-selfie genre he isolated in last spring’s Grace A. Tanner lecture, but which reverses the obliterated content, revealing the face while destroying the surrounding areas of the image.

**Professor Eric Brown** participated in *The Land and the People*, a one-person exhibition at the Cedar City Council Chambers and Foyer, Cedar City, Utah, August 8 – October 27 2017.


**Professor Sam Davis**, Dai Ito, Christin Trub, Seph Itz, Steve Goff exhibited and presented at the Marfa Open, in Marfa TX, September-October 2017. The exhibitors will participate in the inaugural year of a potentially ongoing photography festival incorporating gallery exhibits, talks, and image sharing as well as community building.

**Professor Brian Hoover** exhibited two paintings the Sugar Rush National/International Juried Exhibition, Sugar Hill, GA, October 2017. Seventy-seven artists from all over the world, including Hoover, were chosen to participate.

![Brian Hoover “Mother,” Oil on Board, 24”x36”](image1)

![Brian Hoover “Pentagram,” Oil on Board w/ Gold Leaf, 58”x36”](image2)

![Professor Eric Brown's artwork at the Cedar City Gallery](image3)
Dr. Andrew Marvick and regional poet Nano Taggart opened a joint show at Art Works Gallery featuring 21 new paintings and a group of new poems that share the title *Engine of Color/Motor of Form*, a phrase taken from May Swenson’s 1960 poem *At the Museum of Modern Art*. This interdisciplinary project was awarded a substantial grant from the Utah Division of Arts & Museums.

Professor Deborah Snider, Kari Heaps (Director of Education at SUMA), Nikki Lewis (MFA candidate in Arts Administration), Dr. Jackie Grant (biology, Frehner Museum), Brian Powell, Wendy Sanders (Theatre & Dance), 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 art quilters from Colorado, Nevada, and Utah to serve as an advisory board for the planned biennial exhibition at SUMA. Following in the footsteps of the highly-successful 2012 international invitational art quilt exhibition at the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, this show is intended to become a biennial that alternates exhibition location with the St. George Art Museum.

“Brand” image from California artist, Valya, in the 2012 exhibition (used with artist’s permission), “The Ancient Beginning of the New World,” silk art quilt
Awards and Leadership

Professor Reece Summers (former director, Southern Utah Museum of Art) was awarded the SUU Board of Trustees Award of Excellence for his work in developing SUMA. He retired in April 2017.

Professor Hala Swearingen won Honorable Mention with her paper sculpture “Jackie Paper” at the 3x3 Magazine 14th Annual International Illustration Show, June 2017. Professor Swearingen’s name and website will be listed in the printed annual and her artwork displayed in the online gallery.
Music

Publications, Presentations, and Performances

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel and Dr. Jessica Lindsey (University of North Carolina, Charlotte) performed Sheila Silver’s *Lullaby* for Bass Clarinet and Piano, in Orlando, FL, July 2017. Dr. Lindsey (clarinet) and Dr. Bohnenstengel were invited to perform at ClarinetFest 2017, the annual international conference of the International Clarinet Association, which welcomes around 2,000 registered attendees from all over the world each year.

Dr. Lynn Vartan performed with Los Angeles cellist Ashley Walters at the Satellite Salon, Cello Crossroads, in September 2017.

Dr. Lynn Vartan was the guest artist and performer for World Percussion Group, May 2017. She performed, coached, and travelled international for 5 weeks with the elite group of percussionists known as the World Percussion Group. Performances and masterclasses included Helsinki (Finland), Stockholm (Sweden), Tallinn (Estonia), Bruges (Belgium), Oslo (Norway) and various cities in the UK.

Dr. Lynn Vartan was invited as a guest artist, judge, and masterclass artist at the Taiwan Percussion Association Festival, June 2017, where she judged music competitions with students from various Asian countries, performed solo and chamber music concerts, and gave a masterclass on percussion performing.

Dr. Lynn Vartan produced a CD of the works of Lou Harrison, in collaboration with Dr. Doug Smith at UVU, in June 2017. This album of chamber music composer Lou Harrison is currently in post-production and is scheduled to be released on the Albany Record label in late 2017.

Theatre Arts and Dance

Publications and Presentations

Dean Shauna Mendini, Renee Griswold (Milwaukee Ballet School Academy), and Stephen Pier (The Hartt School) presented a pre-conference workshop, “Our Artistic Future: Creation of Partnerships and Enhancing our Value in the Community. A Pre-conference Workshop for the Seasoned Administrator” at the National Association of Dance Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ, September 2017. Dean Mendini was invited by NASD to present the workshop for seasoned administrators. Her presentation and facilitated discussion focused on artistic future: its changing demographics (student and faculty), diversity of curriculum, entrepreneurial training, and changes to where and how students learn.
Projects and Performances

Professor Peter Sham (author of music and lyrics) with Dr. Keith Bradshaw (Orchestrations) and Brandon Scott Grayson (Transcriber/Arranger) produced and premiered a new musical, Under Construction: The Blue Collar Musical. When an audience unexpectedly shows up at the theatre on an unscheduled performance time, an unlikely group of working class folk must trade in their hard hats for top hats and put on a show! The world premiere for The Neil Simon Festival took place summer 2017. This is Professor Sham’s second Cedar City world premiere of a new musical work; the first, Lend Me a Tenor (written with Brad Carroll), premiered at the Utah Shakespeare Festival in 2007.

Awards and Leadership

Professor Kay Anderson was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Utah Dance Education Association.

Dr. Keith Bradshaw was selected to serve as a judge in the Miss Utah Pageant, Salt Lake City, UT, June 2017. The week-long event included interviews and judging of some 58 women competing in the pageant. Additionally, judges were invited to share a “talent” on one of the evenings. Bradshaw demonstrated his duck calling talent. Bradshaw was one of seven judges for the event.

Dr. Scott Knowles was awarded SUU’s first Award for Excellence in Inclusion and Diversity for his work with The Laramie Project.

Arts Administration Graduate Programs

Presentations

Professor Bill Byrnes presented “Fundraising in the Arts,” a 3-day workshop, at Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan, Italy, March 2017.

Professor Bill Byrnes was guest faculty at the Getty Leadership Institute, June 2017, at Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, where he presented a one-day class and workshop on fundraising for museum leaders from around the world.
Agriculture and Nutrition

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Matthew Schmidt, with Dr. Grant Corser (Psychology), R. D. Hinton, N. Nichols, and J. Sly, presented “Attempts at Reducing an Obesity stigma of a Female Nutritionist” at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Annual Convention, Salt Lake City UT, April 2017.

Awards

Professor Artis P. Grady received an Award of Merit from the Utah Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 2017.
**Biology**

**Publications and Presentations**

**Dr. Rachel Bolus**, R. Diehl, F. Moore, J. Deppe, M. Ward, J. Smolinsky, and T. J. Zenzal, Jr. published “Swainson’s Thrushes do not Show Strong Wind Selectivity Prior to Crossing the Gulf of Mexico” in *Scientific Reports* (in press). Bolus and her collaborators demonstrated that a small migratory bird, the Swainson’s Thrush, is well-adapted to make the ~1000 km flight across the Gulf of Mexico during its fall migration, migrating on nights that varied from moderate headwinds to strong tailwinds. Despite the idea that such a long over-water crossing is energetically costly and dangerous, these thrushes only avoided crossing the Gulf on the worst nights, perhaps due to the pressures of arriving early to the wintering grounds to secure high quality territories, an idea supported by the trend to become even less selective of wind as the season progressed. Their idea that 1000 km is far may be a human bias, as these birds can fly that distance in about 22 hours without stopping.

**Dr. Rachel Bolus**, A.C. Peterson, and D. H. Johnson published “Extending the Habitat Concept to the Airspace” in *Aeroecology*, eds. P. Chilson et al, Springer, in press. Diehl et al. explored the notion that when discussing habitat, ecologists largely ignore the airspace, instead focusing on just land and water. The airspace has long been viewed as a medium through which individuals travel between habitats, but for many species, the airspace itself functions in a way consistent with our definitions of habitat, including a place to eat, evade predators, mate, reproduce, and even sleep. For example, microbes can spend multiple generations in the air, getting all of the resources they need to live and reproduce. Many insects mate in large swarms in the air. Swifts can stay on the wing for months at a time, catching winged insects during flight, sleeping with half of their brain at a time, and only really returning to land to lay their eggs. This new idea of including the airspace as a type of habitat may have conservation implications at a time when the airspace is becoming increasingly cluttered.


**Dr. Jackie Grant, Dr. Johnny MacLean, Dr. Anne Diekema** (Library), **Dr. Brian Burton** (Criminal Justice), and **Kelly Goonan** (Outdoor Recreation) presented “Semester in the Parks: Fostering Partnerships and Outdoor Learning Opportunities in an Immersive Experience in the National Parks” at the Experiential Learning Leadership Institute, Park City, UT, July 2017.

**Dr. Jackie Grant** and **Dr. Matt Ogburn** presented “Restoration: Research and Education Partnership Between the Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program and Southern Utah University” at the 14th Biennial Conference of Science & Management on the Colorado Plateau and Southwest Region, Flagstaff, AZ, September 2017. Dr. Grant presented a talk in which she described how the Cooperative Agreement she and Dr. Matt Ogburn entered into with the BLM Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program has led to several other partnerships. The talk was part of a session dedicated to partnerships throughout the region.

**Dr. Jackie Grant**, Steve Burian, Hailey Wallace, and Youcan Feng presented “Out of the Museum and Into the Fire” at the iUTAH Annual Summer Symposium, Logan, UT, July 2017. Dr. Grant was asked to be one of the plenary speakers at the iUTAH Annual Summer Symposium. She gave an interactive talk in which she described several research projects and outreach activities that were funded by the $20 million NSF EPSCoR iUTAH grant received by Utah State University.
Dr. Jackie Grant, Steve Burian, Hailey Wallace, Youcan Feng, and Dr. Matt Weeg presented “Plant Composition Influence Invertebrate Biodiversity on Greenroofs” at the iUTAH Annual Summer Symposium, July 2017. Dr. Grant gave this presentation as a final report in the concluding year of the iUTAH NSF EPSCoR grant. She described the results of her research with SUU undergraduate, Hailey Wallace, and University of Utah collaborators, Steve Burian and Youcan Feng of the Civil Engineering unit. Their research was performed on the SUU and UoU campuses and it showed that invertebrates were affected by the type of plants grown on greenroofs. Their most surprising finding was that roofs planted with non-native sedum plants were the same as asphalt tile roofs in terms of invertebrate use and diversity.

Dr. Jackie Grant and Kim Terrell presented a workshop on “Integrating Civic Engagement into Conservation Practice” at the International Congress for Conservation Biology, Cartagena, Colombia, July 2017. Dr. Grant and her collaborator, Kim Terrell, from the Memphis Zoo presented a workshop that described the importance of civic engagement in education and the nonprofit world. Participants from all over North and South America attended the workshop and it was chosen to be featured in a closing event for the Congress.

Dr. Karl Jarvis, et al. published “Model Selection with Multiple Regression on Distance Matrices Leads to Incorrect Inferences” in PLOS ONE, April 2017.


Dr. Laurie Mauger, Dr. Paul Pillitteri, E. James, and E. Harkness presented “The Effect of Acetaminophen on Catalase Activity in Mouse Liver” at the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts, & Letters Annual Conference, Orem UT, April 2017.

Dr. Mary Jo Tufte, Dr. Matt Weeg, J.M. Albrecht, B. Orme presented “The Effects of Umbellularia californica Produced Terpenoids on Blood Vessel Diameter in Frogs” at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Memphis, TN, April 2017.

**Projects**

Dr. Lindsey Roper and Dr. William Heyborne established Biological Honors Society (Tribeta), with an opening ceremony in the SUU Great Hall, October 2017. The society provides numerous benefits to students including research funding, publication opportunities, and leadership positions.

Dr. Jackie Grant and Alyssa Marabella organized the Cartagena Bat walk, at the International Congress for Conservation Biology, in Cartagena, Columbia, July 2017. Dr. Grant and her collaborator, recent SUU Biology graduate, Alyssa Marabella, teamed up with Wildlife Acoustics to lead a walking bat tour around the city of Cartagena, Colombia. Over 75 participants from around the world participated in the walk, and 14 bat species were detected with EchoMeter Touch bat detectors on iPhones and iPads.
Dr. Jackie Grant, Nikki Lewis, and Jessica Farling helped coordinate the SUMA-Frehner-USF Education program. The Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) continued its six year partnership with the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History to present lessons on art and science to K-12 audiences from throughout Southern Utah and northern Arizona. Because of a donation of designer fabrics from Andrea Casadei, the sister of fashion designer, Eletra Casadei this year’s program enticed the Utah Shakespeare Festival (USF) to participate. Tours are two hours long and teachers choose between a pairing of SUMA with USF or SUMA with the Frehner Museum. Children will learn about the art of fashion during a SUMA exhibition and the intricacies of costume design with USF. When paired with the Frehner Museum, children will learn about the fashion or adaptations of bees as they explore the many species of bees in the state of Utah. This program is funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the BLM Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program.

Dr. Bill Heyborne and Madi Clark, working through the SUU Center for STEM Teaching & Learning, opened a STEM Resource Center in the new North Elementary School in September 2017. This center is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoon/evening and serves as a resource for local teachers looking for STEM equipment and other resources, and local school children (K-12) who may need help with STEM projects or homework. The center is staffed by SUU students.

Dr. Bill Heyborne, Madi Clark, and Laurel Dodgion organized the 3rd Annual SUU STEAM Festival, October 2017. Our third annual STEAM Festival welcomed over 3,000 K-8 students from 5 counties to campus for a day of hands-on STEAM learning. Over 30 exhibitors provided the learning opportunities, many of whom are affiliated with SUU. This event was free to area schools and bus transportation is being provided by the SUU Center for STEM Teaching & Learning.

Awards and Leadership

This fall, Dr. Jackie Grant joined Dr. Anne Smith (Program Director) and Dr. Briget Eastep (Outdoor Engagement Center Director) as the new Academic Director of the Semester in the Parks program at SUU. The Semester in the Parks program is a two-year-old initiative of the university in which students live, work, and learn at Bryce Canyon National Park and Ruby’s Inn. The Semester in the Parks program is just one example of the many experiential educational programs at SUU in which the model of educating the whole person is applied. As the Academic Director, Dr. Grant will help recruit faculty who are interested in developing their skills in experiential learning during the fall 2018 semester.

Dr. Jacki Grant and Dr. Matt Ogburn were awarded a $76,599 agreement from the BLM Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program in conjunction with the National Fish and Wildlife Federation. Jackie and Matt spent the summer with recent SUU Biology graduate, Alyssa Marabella, and current SUU Range Science major, Julian Mesick, collecting seeds from native plants throughout the southwestern corner of Utah. The SUU team will use the seeds for several activities that have a positive impact on the local community. As part of this project, SUU has partnered with researchers at Colorado State University to supply seeds for a project to understand how native plant communities resist invasion by non-native weeds. The team has also partnered with the Forest Service to contribute plant materials to projects for monarch butterflies and sage grouse. The SUU seed collections will also contribute to research into the restoration of ecological landscapes in the West through their contributions to the Bend Seed Extractory. Some seeds will be used to develop native plant demonstration gardens and add to Head Start Outdoor classrooms in the Cedar City community. To date, the team has collected approximately 300,000 seeds from public and private lands in Utah.
Computer Science & Information Systems

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Tim Ball presented “The Forensics of Plagiarism: A Case Study in Cheating” at SANS - Digital Forensics and Incident Response (DFIR) conference in Austin, TX, June 2017. SANS is one of the world’s leading providers of information security and digital forensics training. Dr. Ball was invited to present a case study in cheating and using digital forensics techniques to detect the specific incidents of plagiarism. The intended audience was educators who may not have the technical expertise of the industry practitioners, yet who need tools and resources to aid in the performance of their jobs. The tools and techniques presented were common to the field, and explained in such a way as to allow anyone to utilize them.


Dr. Shalini Kesar and James Pollard (Outdoor Engagement Center) presented “Designing and Teaching Computing Capstone Class: A Case Study Involving Forest Service Project” at the 2017 CEPE/ETHICOMP conference in Turin, Italy, in June 2017. Additionally, they have been asked to submit the full article for publication to the society proceedings and Journal, later in 2017.

Department of Engineering and Technology

Publications and Presentations


Mathematics

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Eric Freden (Interim Associate Dean) published a book chapter, "Growth in Groups," in Office Hours with a Group Geometric Theorist, Princeton University Press, July 2017. Dr. Freden wrote chapter 12, "Growth in Groups," in a new textbook on geometric group theory. Geometric group theory is the study of the interplay between groups and the spaces they act on, and has its roots in the works of Henri Poincaré, Felix Klein, J.H.C. Whitehead, and Max Dehn. Office Hours with a Geometric Group Theorist brings together leading experts who provide one-on-one instruction on key topics in this exciting and relatively new field of mathematics.

Dr. Eric Freden and Courtney Cleveland presented “Aspects of Growth in Baumslag-Solitar Groups” at the Groups St. Andrews in Birmingham 2017, at the University of Birmingham, UK, August 2017. This is original research by Dr. Freden and SUU student Cleveland.


Dr. Derek Hein published “Decompositions of λKn into LW and OW Graphs” in the Journal of Combinatorial Mathematics and Combinatorial Computing 102, 2017, pp. 63-75. Publication of research results obtained while on recent sabbatical leave.


Dr. Andreas Weingartner presented “The Degree Distribution of Polynomial Divisors over Finite Fields” at the Mathematical Congress of the Americas, Montreal, Canada, July 2017.
Nursing

Awards

The Nursing Department received the Engaged Learning departmental award at the EDGE awards banquet, March 28, 2017.

Physical Science

Dr. Chris Monson and E. Harkness presented “a Microfluidic Device for Oxygen Quantitation in Anoxic Environments” at the American Water Resources Association, Utah Chapter Meeting, March 2017.

Dr. Chris Monson and D. Hutchinson presented “Migration of Lipids in a Supported Lipid Bilayer” at the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters Annual Conference, Orem UT, April 2017.


Dr. Brandon Wiggins presented “Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics Simulations of Double White Dwarf Mergers” at the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters Annual Conference, Orem UT, April 2017.

Dr. Rhett Zollinger presented “Science Education and Outreach with Portable Planetariums and IR Cameras” at the American Association of Physics Teachers, Utah-Idaho Section Meeting, April 2017.
GRADUATE & ONLINE SCHOOL

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Cynthia Kimball Davis was interviewed for Moment Magazine about being a family member who has hereditary cancer. The piece was published October 2017.

Dr. Cynthia Kimball Davis and Dr. Jennifer Hunter presented “What about Me? Non-Traditional Student Perceptions of Belonging in an Online Course” at the Online Learning Consortium Conference, Orlando, FL, November 2017. This presentation earned a Best-in-Strand Effective Practice: Learning Effectiveness Award. Dr. Davis and Dr. Hunter also presented this topic at the Magna Teaching with Technology Conference, Baltimore, MD, October 2017.

Dr. Cynthia Kimball Davis presented “Do You Really Know Me? How to Understand Your Students” at the Southern Utah University Online Adjunct Training Day, Cedar City, UT, August 2017.

Dr. Jennifer Hunter was a panelist at “Defining (Y)our Space” at the Utah Women in Higher Education Network Leadership Conference, April 2017.

Leadership and Awards

Dr. Jennifer Hunter completed a PhD in Education with a specialization in e-learning from Northcentral University in May 2017.
Presentations and Publications

**Jeb Branin** (Associate Dean, SIEL) presented “Using the NSEE Eight Principles of Good Practice to Promote Lifelong Learning through the Study of Theatre in London” at the Annual Conference for the National Society of Experiential Learning, St. Pete, FL, September 2017. This session was presented three times in a rotating roundtable format at the nation's premiere experiential education conference.

**Jeb Branin** (Associate Dean, SIEL) co-taught a pre-conference workshop as part of the Experiential Education Academy at the Annual Conference for the National Society of Experiential Learning, St. Pete, FL, September 2017. Dean Branin is part of the Experiential Education Academy faculty and was asked by NSEE to co-teach the workshop as one of the courses offered for graduation and certification by the Academy. Only a handful of EE practitioners are accepted as EEA faculty and are asked to teach at the NSEE conference. Faculty must be, themselves, graduates of the Academy.
Community Engagement Center

Director: Earl Mulderink

Website: https://www.suu.edu/siel/cec/

Presentations and publications

Dr. Earl Mulderink (Director) and Pam Branin (Associate Director) collaborated on an "Active Learning" exercise for all participants in the SUU-sponsored 3rd Annual Experiential Learning Leadership Institute (ELLI), in Park City, Utah, June 27-29, 2017. In addition, Pam organized and moderated a panel discussion on refugees in Utah and Earl organized two history-related excursions, one to the Park City Museum and the other to High West Distillery.

Dr. Earl Mulderink co-presented at the Western Campus Compact’s Continuums of Service Conference, Denver, CO, April 6, 2017.


Pam Branin co-presented at the 2nd Annual Higher Education Food Summit, 15 Years Later: Pantries, Partners and Programs, Salt Lake City, UT, September 22, 2017.

Programs

The CEC hosted its annual Thank You and Recognition Event on April 11, 2017, with comments and contributions from President Wyatt, Provost Cook, Dean Clarke, and others. SUU joined with the Utah Campus Compact to honor organizations and individuals:

- Committed Community Partner -- Iron County Care and Share (represented by Executive Director Peggy Green and joined by many staff members)
- Community Engaged Scholar -- Jodi Corser (English)
- Community Engaged Staff Member -- Gabrielle Strand (CEC AmeriCorps Coordinator)
- Community Engaged Student -- Mekinzey Parks
- Community Engaged Alum -- Jason Christian, PA.

Led by the CEC’s Gabrielle Strand with co-sponsorship from the Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service, SUU hosted a poignant event for the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance on September 11, 2017. Guest speakers included Provost Brad Cook, Cedar City Police Chief Darin Adams, and Iron County Commissioner Mike Bleak. In addition, a number of local first-responders were honored and participated in the ceremony, along a closing rendition of “Amazing Grace” played on bagpipes.
In April 2017, thanks in part to additional funding provided by Provost Brad Cook, an SUU contingent of ten participants (including the CEC's Pam Branin and Gabrielle Strand) journeyed to the Utah State University campus to participate in the Interwest Interfaith Leadership training. Co-sponsored by the Utah Campus Compact and the Interfaith Youth Core, this event was the first of its kind in this region and focused on training students to engage in and promote interfaith dialog and service. Student participants returned to SUU with enthusiasm and ideas to sustain interfaith service and related activities on campus and in the community. As a follow up, in August 2017, four students sponsored by the CEC traveled to Chicago, Illinois, for an intensive weekend workshop sponsored by the Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC), the nation’s pre-eminent non-profit organization in this field. Subsequently, these students organized a slate of events at SUU that included an initial kick-off event on September 5, 2017, with Brad Cook as an invited speaker, along with an interfaith community discussion on October 10, 2017, in SUU’s Great Hall.

Led by students and staff of the CEC, the Cedar City Public Library hosted a Dr. Seuss Birthday Party/Read Across America Day event on March 2, 2017. Aimed at encouraging literacy, the event was a great success with hundreds in attendance who participated in book-themed activities, listened to celebrity readers (including Head Gymnastics Coach Scott Bauman, Head Football Coach Demario Warren, and North Elementary School Principal Ray Whittier), and ate lots of birthday cake. All 505 children who attended received a book.

Planning for the annual Iron County Holiday Assistance Program continued in the summer months when Pam hosted non-profit partners and others on July 17, 2017. Participants included Peggy Green of Iron County Care and Share, Sherrie Hansen of Rotary, and Jerry Womack of the Cedar City Police Department. They discussed ways to enhance a strong program that annually provides assistance each December to 400 households in Iron County.

The CEC continues to sponsor a number of student-led service programs (typically providing 10-12 service opportunities each week, in addition to one-time events like breaks and annual days of service) overseen by Pam Branin, including a number of novel “mini-breaks” in Spring 2017. Students served with Habitat for Humanity in St. George and Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab. As in previous years, the CEC organized several “Alternative Break” service trips during Spring Break 2017. Led by student Service Leaders, these groups traveled to the New York/Newark area, Granada, Nicaragua, and Vancouver Washington. Earl Mulderink traveled with students on the CEC’s trip to Newark, NJ, and New York City, where the group partnered with “Break a Difference.” As part of that experience, students lodged in the gymnasium of the Newark Boys and Girls Club and provided service there, at local schools, and at food bank distribution centers in NYC. Their week-long visit was made more exciting by extensive use of public transportation and a blizzard that shut down much of the region for the better part of two days.
Creative Engagement Center

Director Todd Peterson

Website: https://www.suu.edu/siel/creative/

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.
Outdoor Engagement Center

Director: Briget Eastep

Website: https://www.suu.edu/siel/outdoor/

Presentations and publications

Dr. Briget Eastep presented “A Regional Education Partnership for Relevancy and Learning Location” at the 2017 National Outdoor Recreation Conference: Creating a Relevant and Inclusive Future, Scottsdale, AZ, May 2017. The Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative (IIC) is a partnership organization used as a tool by land managers and universities to respond to resource challenges. Beginning in 2007, the IIC has hosted over 1,500 interns allowing our public land partners to address management needs while offering students significant learning experiences. In 2016 the IIC hosted 288 students in disciplines including resource management, outdoor recreation and visitor services. This work resulted in 100,937 hours of service. In addition to work on the ground, the IIC partnership engages diverse youth and develops the next generation of public land leaders. Due to the significant experience and mentoring IIC interns receive; many interns have transitioned to be recreation planners, park guides, contracting officers, range specialists, and other professionals. Even though we operate in a county that is 92% Caucasian, we have partnered with local tribes and diverse student organizations so between 14% and 29% of our interns are from diverse backgrounds. The IIC’s mission is to develop future public land leaders. The purpose of this presentation is to share our recipe and ask participants to consider how their management needs can be turned into education opportunities making public lands relevant to today’s youth through education.

Dr. Briget Eastep presented a Society of Outdoor Recreation webinar on “Partnering for Relevancy and Inclusion: A Regional Approach” in August 2017. The purpose of the webinar was to give SORP members a case study and toolbox to develop partnerships with educational institutions.

Dr. Briget Eastep and Paul Roelandt (Superintendent, Cedar Breaks National Monument) presented “Regional Partnership Development” at the National Park Service Arizona Chiefs of Interpretation Meeting, August 2017. The presentation’s purpose was to help Interpretation leaders consider how partnerships can expand their capacity, offer options for professional development, and help them reach different audiences in meaningful ways.

James Pollard (research fellow) and Dr. Shalini Kesar (CSIS) presented “Designing and Teaching Computing Capstone Class: A Case Study Involving Forest Service Project” at the 2017 CEPE/ETHICOMP conference in Turin, Italy, in June 2017. Additionally, they have been asked to submit the full article for publication to the society proceedings and Journal, later in 2017.

Miranda Gubler (Internship Coordinator) presented “Mentoring for an Educational Purpose” at the Experiential Learning Leadership Institute Conference, Park City UT, June 2017. Gubler presented to a wide range of educators and other interested parties on the significance of mentoring for an educational purpose. The IIC is a very unique program that focuses on the educational aspect of internships. At this conference she was able to discuss with conference participants what mentoring is and how to make it more beneficial for both the intern and the mentee. These discussions blossomed new connections and increased interest in the IIC program.
Projects

Miranda Gubler (Internship coordinator), Danny Strand, Janet Neth, Dr. Briget Eastep (Director), and Josh Anderson hosted the IIC internship Orientation on May 9th, 2017. This orientation took place over the course of 3 days and utilized several departments at Southern Utah University. The IIC strives to prepare each intern for their internship by providing career training and certifications required for each internship. Interns were able to become certified in CPR and first aid, defensive driving, pesticide, FISSA, sexual harassment and title IX. Interns also received training on resumes, networking, and navigating federal hiring processes. In August, the IIC hosted their annual IIC End of Season Gathering. This was a significant year because the IIC is celebrating a decade of excellence. The IIC has grown from 12 interns in 2007 to over 200 interns in 2017. During the End of Season Gathering this year we were able to honor several interns, mentors, and partners for their amazing contributions throughout the summer season.

Photos of IIC participants
James Pollard (Research Fellow), Hillary Mortensen, Jeremy Seppi, and Shalini Kesar (CSIS) put together the FIA UNLV SUU Partnership Summit in Cedar City, UT, September 2017. The annual FIA UNLV SUU Partnership Summit brings together the research teams located at SUU and UNLV as well as FIA Forest Service collaborators. It was a great opportunity for new staff orientation, strategic planning, problem solving, development of project goals and objectives, and participation in team building activities. Both full-time faculty and student research assistants gave presentations on the work they have accomplished.

Danny Strand and Sydnee Johnson put together an IIC Crew Program educational training for 12 YCC Crew Leaders for the National Park Service and United States Forest service at the SUU Mountain Center, May 2017. During the two-day overnight event IIC Crew Leaders learn necessary outdoor skills and etiquette such as Leave No Trace, 10 essentials, risk management, situational awareness, teamwork and leadership. It is great chance for our student interns to establish themselves as leaders and learn the necessary skills to be successful in the field.

Danny Strand, Sydnee Johnson, Miranda Gubler, Janet Neth, and Dr. Briget Eastep organized a YCC Crew Orientation, Training & Campout, at the SUU Mountain Center, May 30-June 1, 2017. The IIC Crew Program brought 26 youth from all over the Southern Utah region to a Youth Conservation Corps training for the IIC Crew Program. It was held at the SUU Mountain Center and Southern Utah University and gave each member valuable information in working with public land agencies in their upcoming summer internship. Activities included orientation, team building exercises, challenge course, risk management, trails and tools training, Leave No Trace, 10 essentials and CPR & First Aid training.

Dr. Briget Eastep, Dr. Jacqualine Grant (Biology), Dr. Jon Smith (Communications), David Bastian, Kelly Bringhurst, Erin O’Brien, Paul Rolandt, Kevin Wright, Dr. Emily Dean (Anthropology) organized a symposium, “Exploring the Value of Partnerships: Utilizing Interdisciplinary Education Opportunities to Conserve the Colorado Plateau’s Natural and Cultural Resources” at the 14th Biennial Conference of Science and Management for the Colorado Plateau and Southwest Region, Flagstaff, AZ, September 2017. The theme for this symposium was to explore the value of partnerships with education and youth development outcomes as an interdisciplinary vehicle to conserve the Colorado Plateau’s natural and cultural resources. Today, the Colorado Plateau’s managers are being challenged with ever increasing threats to conserving and preserving natural and cultural resources with less means to effectively address these threats. Partnerships have helped managers to increase their capacity to address conservation and preservation needs. Partnerships bring different organizations and people together to accomplish what cannot be done alone. When partnerships include education or youth development outcomes, part of the interdisciplinary work becomes connecting youth and future conservation professionals to their natural and cultural world. There are many great examples of partnerships throughout the Colorado Plateau, this symposium brings together a sample of successful partnerships who can offer valuable lessons learned through case study presentations.
Projects

Dr. Johnny MacLean (Physical Science) and Jayci Bash presented “Partners in the Parks Directors Retreat and Training” at Bryce Canyon National Park, July 2017. Partners in the Parks is a national program that engages Honors students in academic adventures based in National Parks and Monuments. Since its inception in 2006, Partners in the Parks has connected over 600 Honors students with nearly 50 National Parks and Monuments. This summer, Johnny MacLean (Geology) and Jayci Bash (Honors) led a project leaders retreat and training in Bryce Canyon National Park. While in the park, participants (faculty from 4 different institutions) learned best practices for leading a Partners in the Park project.
Faculty Publications and Presentations

Dr. Anne Diekema, Dr. Bryan Burton (Criminal Justice), Dr. Kelly Goonan (Outdoor Recreation), Dr. Jackie Grant (Biology), Dr. Johnny MacLean (Physical Science) presented “Semester in the Parks: Fostering Partnerships and Outdoor Learning Opportunities in an Immersive Experience in the National Parks” at the Experiential Learning Leadership Institute (ELLI) Conference, June 2017. The professors presented about one of SUU’s flagship programs—Semester in the Parks.

Professor Scott Lanning and Jill Mallek published “Factors Influencing Information Literacy Competency of College Students” in *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, vol. 43, issue 5, pp. 443-450. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2017.07.005 This paper analyzes multiple factors from current university students’ high school experiences, including demographic, educational, and economic factors, and current standing and grade point average (GPA), to evaluate the students’ information literacy skills associated with a 1000 level course on information literacy which is part of the university’s general education requirement. The pre-test indicates that students lack sufficient skills needed to do college-level research. Results of regression analyses demonstrate that only current university GPA and standardized test scores have any influence on information literacy test scores.

Professor Paula Mitchell presented “Zion Highlights from Southern Utah University Special Collections” at Canyon Community Center, Springdale, UT, June 2017. Lecture sponsored by the Fern & J. L. Crawford Lecture Series. Professor Mitchell shared some of the resources that we have in the Matheson Special Collections that one could use to do research on Zion National Park, specifically the J. L. Crawford and Utah Parks Company Collections.
Professor Paula Mitchell, Dr. Anne Diekema, Professor Caitlyn Gerrity, and Professor Phil Roché presented “State of the State: Information Literacy Instruction” at the Utah Library Association conference, Salt Lake City, UT, May 2017. Ideally, information literacy instruction is sequenced throughout student’s academic careers, continually building on earlier instruction. Given the complaints by librarians and employers about the level of preparedness of our students and graduates, this so-call information literacy pipeline clearly warrants a second look. This presentation served as a “state of the state” update regarding information literacy instruction in school libraries and academic libraries across the state of Utah. To find out how information literacy instruction is taking place across the state of Utah we created an in-depth survey on several aspects of information literacy instruction such as programming, frequency of instruction, pedagogy, the use of standards, assessment, and student information literacy abilities upon graduation. Based on this information we can help students in their transition between high school and college. The results can also inform collaboration between high school librarians and academic librarians.

Professor Matt Nickerson presented “Edwin Booth, Yankeetum and Germany’s Introduction to American Realism” at the 2017 European Shakespeare Research Association Congress, Gdansk, Poland, July 2017. ESRA holds biannual congresses for scholars engaged in Shakespeare research in a variety of related disciplines. Professor Nickerson’s paper was accepted as part of a special seminar entitled, «The Name of Action: Actors of Shakespeare and Shakespearean Actors.”

Awards

Professor Caitlyn Gerrity, Dr. Anne Diekema, and Professor Scott Lanning received a grant from the Association for School Librarians (AASL) for The Causality: School Libraries and Student Success (CLASS) II initiative: The Effectiveness of Frequent, Short Information Literacy Instruction Sessions in Learning Basic Concepts Among Rural High School English Classes, in September 2017. Class II causal literature research demonstrates that increased frequency of instruction is one school malleable factor that can improve K-12 student achievement in the classroom. This project will apply increased frequency of instruction in libraries in rural high schools. The purpose of this study is to investigate whether students exposed to a series of 4, 15-minute information literacy instruction sessions with a narrow topical focus will perform better, as compared to students who are exposed to a one-hour instruction session, encompassing multiple topics. The effect of short, frequent instruction will be tested through the statistical analysis of pre- and post-test scores using randomized classroom selection of on-level students and blind grading of the tests. A toolkit of standards-based instructional materials will be developed throughout the study, in conjunction with the selected school librarians, to improve student information literacy in their high schools.

Projects

The Friends of the Sherratt Library hosted a special evening in March 2017 to remember Gerald R. Sherratt.

A large study room on the second floor was remodeled into six small study rooms with funding from the library, Betty McDonald pre-med Institute, and the Provost.
Undergraduate Research & Scholarship Program (UGRASP)

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.

Director: Mackay Steffensen
Website: http://www.suu.edu/ugrasp/

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 2017, Utah Valley University served as the host institution. SUU will host the conference in February 2018.
SUU Care and Support Team (CAST), led by co-chairs Jayci Bash (Honors) and Dr. Johnny MacLean (Physical Science) have organized an ongoing program to build community at SUU. The SUU Care and Support Team (CAST) promotes student resiliency by providing a visible network of trained faculty and staff who are committed to students who may be struggling with emotional distress and mental health issues. CAST offers trainings to faculty and staff that build understanding in listening and helping skills, Title IX, and suicide prevention. It also hosts reading groups that allow employees to discuss pertinent topics surrounding our students’ emotional health and to build an open and vibrant community. Finally, CAST partners with other helping groups on campus to organize special events to show students they’re supported such as Suicide Prevention and Awareness Week.

More information is available at https://www.suu.edu/cast/
Dr. Lynn Vartan succeeded Dr. Danielle Dubrasky as the head of SUU Convocations, which has been rebranded as APEX. For more information, please see the print version of Summit for Spring 2018 or visit the new website at suu.edu/apex.
During summer 2016, the Global Engagement Center was renamed the Office of Learning Abroad and absorbed into the Office of International Affairs, which also includes International Student & Scholar Services, the American Language & Culture Center, the Office of International Collaboration, International Recruiting, and the Confucius Institute.

**OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Head: Stephen Allen
Website: [http://www.suu.edu/internationalaffairs/](http://www.suu.edu/internationalaffairs/)

Sharwan Smith Student Center
Office of Learning Abroad

Presentations

Tessa Douglas (assistant director) presented at the National Student Exchange Conference in Spokane, WA, in March 2017, as well as at the UBIE Conference at SUU in April 2017.

Leadership

Dr. Kurt Harris (director) is the editor of a new journal, *Experiential Learning & Teaching in Higher Education*. The first issue published in June 2017.

Projects

For the 2016-17 academic year, 335 SUU students studied abroad, and 81 students came to SUU from 15 countries. Nine faculty led study abroad programs for the first time, and four new international exchange programs were established.

Dr. Kurt Harris and Tessa Douglas hosted a "Faculty-led Study Abroad" workshop series in Spring 2017. Dr. Harris also organized a "Curriculum Innovation Grant for Global Learning" workshop in May 2017, and Tessa Douglas hosted a webinar for "Utilizing NSE to Expand Study Abroad" in April 2017.
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**
- Azmi Ahmad
- Gerald Calvasina
- David Christensen
- Bryan Graden
- Alan Hamlin
- Bruce Haslem
- Jacob Miller
- Jeff Orton
- Josh Price
- Paul Schneider
- Emmett Steed
- Tyler Stillman

**College of Humanities and Social Sciences**
- Junice Acosta
- Bryce Christensen
- Laura Davis
- Danielle Dubrasky
- Shobha Gurung
- Daniel Hatch
- Nozomi Irie
- Larry Ping
- Jon Smith
- Garrett Stroser
- Corey Twitchell

**Beverly Taylor Sorenson College of Education and Human Development**
- Mark DeBeliso
- Rea Gubler
- Karen Houser
- Joel Judd
- Michiko Kobayashi
- Abigail Larson
- Jacob Manning
- Jennifer McKenzie
- Jim Mock
- Julie Taylor

**College of Performing and Visual Arts**
- Christian Bohnenstengel
- Benjamin Kirkby
- Andrew Marwick
- Megan Brunsvold Mercedes
- Steven Meredith
- Canes Nicholas
- Denise Purvis
- Brian Swanson
- Lynn Vartan

**Walter Maxwell Gibson College of Science and Engineering**
- Tim Ball
- Sarah Duffin

**Library**
- Anne Diekema
- Paula Mitchell
- Matt Nickerson

**College of Science and Engineering**
- Eric Freden
- Fred Govedich
- Artis Grady
- Jacqueline Grant
- Derek Hein
- Jason Kaiser
- Shalini Kesar
- Jon Karpel
- Laurie Mauger
- Matt Ogburn
- Cameron Pace
- Robert Robertson
- Lindsey Roper
- Matthew Rowley
- Matthew Schmidt
- Grant Shimer
- Ali Siahpush
- Mackay Steffensen
- Randall Violett
- Andreas Weingartner
- Samuel Wells
- Nate Werner
- Rhett Zollinger