The sixth annual Festival of Excellence sees increased participation
In my introduction to the Festival of Excellence Keynote speaker, Dr. Bertice Berry, I claimed that “serious universities allow you to create and own your ideas.” In this issue of Summit, SUU faculty and staff continue to demonstrate their commitment to being a “serious university”—a place that celebrates and owns ideas, and that, as Dr. Berry encouraged us to do, follows their passions with the purpose of doing good in the world at large. This online version includes a diversity of scholarship, community engagement, leadership, and service undertaken by SUU faculty and staff.

The accompanying print issue explores the nationally-recognized Experiential Learning Leadership Institute (ELLI) that’s making SUU a national leader in experiential learning. Once again, Summit features the Festival of Excellence, now in its sixth year, and the remarkable interdisciplinary work of our faculty. Finally, Summit offers a look at the faculty and staff grassroots organization aiming at making campus a more supportive environment for students: The Care and Support Team (CAST).

Taken together, these documents offer readers a glimpse into the vibrant intellectual community at Southern Utah University.

Regards,

Brad Cook
SUU Provost
Dean: Mary Pearson
Website: http://suu.edu/business/

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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.
Economics & Finance

Publications and Presentations


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*. 
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. Gerald E. Calvasina and Dr. Richard V. Calvasina presented “Application of United States Antitrust Laws to Human Resource Management Practice and Policy” at the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences, Annual Conference Las Vegas, NV, March 15-18, 2018. The purpose of this paper is to examine the application of US antitrust laws to Human Resource (HR) management decision making, recent litigation, and suggestions to facilitate compliance with US antitrust laws as they apply to HR decision making.

Dr. Alan Hamlin and Dr. James Frost presented “Ransomware as a Strategic Threat to Organizations” at the Mountain Plains Business Conference, September 2017. The paper was published as part of the conference proceedings. Dr. Hamlin also serves on the board of directors for the MPBA organization.


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. Emmett Steed, Dr. Michael Kroff, and Dr. Kelly Goonan (Outdoor Recreation) were asked by Wes Curtis, Executive Director of Regional Services at SUU, to study whether the increase of visitors at the national parks were adversely affecting the visitor experience. The study was presented at the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines (IABPAD) in Las Vegas, 2017. The study earned a research award at the conference and the authors were asked to submit the article to the publication, *International Journal of Business, Marketing, and Decision Sciences*, which will be done in 2018. This study was conducted to discover if visitor satisfaction levels were decreasing in relation to the increased visitation levels at southern Utah national parks, which had experienced double-digit visitation increases the prior two years. Three parks were studied: Arches National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, and Zion National Park. Surveys were collected from visitors to these three parks on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend and on a Saturday two weeks later to examine the different satisfaction levels of very busy and less busy time frames. Chi-square tests were conducted to compare satisfaction levels of the two dates surveyed. Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) tests were conducted to find which park features grouped together to explain satisfaction levels. Regression tests were conducted with the significant EFA factors to identify which factors best explained visitor satisfaction levels. The percent of visitors that were either satisfied or very satisfied were comparable for the two dates, but the percent of very satisfied visitors was lower for the holiday time frame. Common park features that drive visitor satisfaction were identified. Steps that can be taken to assist visitor satisfaction were also identified.
School of Business Highlight

The School of Business, the SUU Small Business Development Center, Southwest Technical College, Cedar City Chamber of Commerce, USTAR, Staheli West, TouchMD, and Hughes and Associates sponsored the 12th Annual Best Business Idea Competition. Many imaginative and promising business ideas were submitted for judging. Nine finalists were chosen to present their business idea orally to the panel of judges. Based upon those presentations the winners were chosen; many of these winners were SUU students. The mutual purpose of each of the sponsors of this competition is to support the development of small businesses in the Tri-County area (Iron, Beaver, and Garfield Counties), and to promote healthy economic development with more jobs and an increased tax revenue base. With the integration of community resources and the talent of our own successful entrepreneurs, we can help more and more small companies get started and successfully grow.

The mission of the SUU Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is to strengthen Utah's economic fabric and quality of life by facilitating the success and prosperity of small business endeavors. The SBDC is located within the SUU Business Resource Center (BRC), which opened its doors in April of 2009 as a “one-stop-shop” business resource center and incubator to provide necessary support and counseling services for smaller businesses. The SUU Business Resource Center and partners is located at 510 West 800 South in Cedar City. The SBDC and BRC provide counseling and support services, as well as help with financing alternatives (including microloan programs), business partnering facilitation, marketing, legal and human resource services.

Craig Isom, Executive Director of the SUU Business Resource Center and Small Business Development Center said, “It is very rewarding to see the response to the competition challenge. There’s lots of talent in our community and many untapped ideas and opportunities. We’re happy to see so many great ideas and to have the level of interest we have in this kind of event. What’s most rewarding is seeing so many different resources come together (university, public and private) for a very important and common cause. We extend our thanks to all who participated. Now we just have to keep the ball rolling and support the launch of some new, successful businesses, and build upon this start to increased community partnership.”

From left to right: Craig Isom – SBDC Director, Christopher Christiansen, Spencer Crankshaw, Donald Long (representing Evgenia Marushko), Andrew Dana, SUU Dean Mary Pearson. *Not pictured: Evgenia Marushko. Photo credit: Sylvia Isom
Kinesiology and Outdoor Recreation

Publications and Presentations


T. Sevene, J. Berning, C. Harris, and Dr. Mark DeBeliso published “Hand Grip Strength and Gender: Allometric Normalization in Older Adults and Implications for the NIOSH Lifting Equation” in the Journal of Lifestyle Medicine, 7.2 (2017): 63-68.

I.T. Heazlewood and Dr. Mark DeBeliso published “Injury Location, Type and Incidence of Male and Female Athletes Competing at the World Masters Games” in the Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport 20.1 (2017): e51-e52.


R. Ah Sue, C. Harris, K.J. Adams, J. Berning, and Dr. Mark DeBeliso presented “Determination of Trials Needed for Measurement Consistency of Standing Long Jump in Collegiate Volleyball Players” at the American College of Sports Medicine 64th Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine and World Congress on the Basic Science of Exercise and the Brain. Denver, CO. Abstract published: Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise, 49(5S), 756.
Dr. Mark DeBeliso, J. Walsh, T. Heazlewood, M. Climstein presented “Cardiovascular Risk Profiles of World Masters Games Participants” at the American College of Sports Medicine 64th Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine and World Congress on the Basic Science of Exercise and the Brain. Denver, CO. Abstract published: Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise, 49(5S), 277.


K. Kopp and Dr. Mark DeBeliso presented “Post-Activation Potentiation of Supersets on Vertical Jump and Sprint Time” at the National Strength and Conditioning Annual Conference Las Vegas, NV. National Strength and Conditioning Association 2016 Conference Abstracts.


Dr. Abigail Larson, B. Springall, and Dr. Mark DeBeliso presented “The Effects of a Heavy Resistance Warm-up on Sprint Speed: A Post Activation Potentiation Study” at the American College of Sports Medicine 64th Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine and World Congress on the Basic Science of Exercise and the Brain. Denver, CO. Abstract published: Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise, 49(5S), 463.

J. Murray, C. Harris, K.J. Adams, J. Berning, and Dr. Mark DeBeliso published “A Comparison of Resisted and Assisted Sprint Training in Collegiate Sprinters” at the American College of Sports Medicine 64th Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine and World Congress on the Basic Science of Exercise and the Brain. Denver, CO. Abstract published: Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise, 49(5S), 1062.

Dr. Julie E. Taylor, Dr. Camille Thomas, Dr. Abigail Larson, Dr. Jacob Manning. Taylor Clement and Sterling Rose presented “Mass and Energy Expenditure during Indoor Treadwall Rock Climbing” at UCUR (Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research), February 9, 2018. Experienced rock climbers were recruited to determine the impact of added mass on climbing energy expenditure. During 3 separate climbing sessions on an indoor treadwall, climbers were asked to climb for 4 continuous minutes at the same relative intensity under 3 loading conditions. The 3 loading conditions were body mass, a 5-pound weighted vest added, and a 10-pound weighted vest added. Results indicated that the added mass did not change the overall energy expenditure during the 4-minute steady state climbing sessions. Experienced climbers apparently modified the speed and/or efficiency of climbing to compensate for the added mass resulting in no change in overall energy expenditure across loading conditions. The undergraduate students drove the project and assisted with design, testing and analysis. They presented the results at the UCUR conference here on campus at SUU (Feb. 9, 2018). Though the results were not quite what we hoped, it was a good experience and has helped to shape the design of future projects.
**Dr. Camille Thomas**, **Dr. Julie Taylor**, and **Dr. Jacob Manning** published “Impact of Wheel Size (26 inch vs. 29 inch) on Energy Expenditure during Mountain Bike Trail Riding” in the *International Journal of Human Movement and Sport Science*, 5.4 (2018). This study examined the energy expenditure during mountain bike trail rides on a 26-inch wheel (26er) compared to a 29-inch wheel (29er). Thirteen experienced bikers (four women, nine men, age=33.0±10.1 yrs), completed similar 6.7 km trail rides on a 26er and 29er. GPS was used to measure distance and speed during each ride. Energy expenditure was determined by measuring oxygen consumption. Compared to the 26ers, the 29er rides took less total time (24.2±3.2 vs. 25.5±3.5 minutes, p=0.015), hence faster speeds (4.7±0.6 vs. 4.4±0.6 m•s⁻¹, p=0.022), lower average heart rates (155.0±19.2 vs. 162.2±16.8 bpm, p=0.047), and lower total calories (263.3±34.3 vs. 290.7±36.9 kcals, p=0.001). Work rates represented by the rate of oxygen consumption (ml O₂•min⁻¹, p=0.65) were not different. At similar work rates, riders apparently gained a mechanical advantage on the 29ers allowing for 5% lower riding times and heart-rates, 6.8% faster speeds, and a 9.4% reduction in the total caloric expenditure for a standardized trail ride.

**Honors and Awards**

**Dr. Mark DeBeliso** received the *Distinguished Scholar Award*: Southern Utah University, 2017.
Teacher Education & Family Development

Presentations:

Dr. Joel Judd, Dr. Brian Ludlow, and Dr. Jeff Hart presented “Survey of Adult Reading Interest and Engagement Scale as it Correlates with Classroom Practice” at the 2018 Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI, January 2018. This work seeks to determine what connections exist between reading teachers personal reading behaviors, and that of their students. An important question is whether teachers who do not have much interest (or in some cases ability) in reading, communicate an interest in reading to their students.

Dr. Joel Judd presented “Practitioner Research as Catalyst for Culturally Responsive Teaching” at the 2018 Hawaii International Conference on Education, January 2018. This paper was also published in the conference proceedings. The paper reports on a study of K-12 teachers who work with culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) students. Effectively teaching CLD students involves becoming “culturally responsive”, or aware of the influence these students backgrounds have on their learning. It was found that teachers who conduct small-scale research in their own schools and classrooms naturally become more attune to their students’ needs and experiences and, as a result, more culturally responsive in their teaching.

Dr. Joel Judd presented “Practitioner Research and Teacher Resilience: One Thing Leads to Another” at the Conference on Academic Research in Education, Las Vegas, NV, February 2018. This presentation addresses the problem of teacher burnout and attrition by looking to teacher research as a path to increasing characteristics of “resilience” in teachers. Highly resilient teachers establish positive teacher-student relationships, exhibit adaptive problem-solving skills, have a voice in the policies and practices that affect their work, advocate for students and their families, and work to make school an equitable place for all students. Engaging in practitioner research promotes these characteristics.

Dr. Joel Judd presented “Practitioner Research as Professional Development: Transforming Teachers and Teaching” at the Critical Questions in Education Meeting, Portland, OR, March 2018. Schools often rely on different forms of professional development to make changes and improve practice. This paper argues that instead of relying on outside experts for ideas and strategies, giving teachers the tools to ask and answer their own questions leads to a more collaborative and active professionalism. Teachers who critically reflect on their own work through systematic research see their role in a different light. Our M.Ed. program at Southern Utah University works with teachers on conducting research that transforms how they view their students, their schools, and themselves.
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. Jennifer McKenzie presented “The Classroom Check-up: Supporting Teachers using a Web-based Coaching System” at the 40th Annual Teacher Education Division (CEC) Conference, Savannah, GA, November, 2017. Dr. McKenzie data on the pilot study for the Classroom Check-up classroom coaching model for classroom management. Data from 39 elementary school teachers and nearly 600 elementary school students was examined to determine effectiveness of the CCU on teacher rates of praise, reprimand, and opportunity to respond, as well as on student on-task and disruptive behavior. Comparison of rates during baseline, treatment and control were shared and discussed.

Dr. Jennifer McKenzie presented “The Classroom Check-up: Effects on Teacher Use of Praise and Reprimand with Students from Differing Demographic Backgrounds” at the 40th Annual Teacher Education Division (CEC) Conference, Savannah, GA. Dr. McKenzie presented data from a large randomized control trial regarding teacher use of praise and reprimand with students of differing demographic groups and genders and the effects of the Classroom Check-up classroom coaching model on those rates. Comparison of rates during baseline, treatment and control were shared and discussed. Implications for teacher preparation programs were also discussed, as the increased use of these evidence-based practices in preparation programs is essential to equitable classroom implementation across demographic groups.

Projects

Dr. Jennifer McKenzie and Professor Peggy Wittwer began research on a project, “Effects of structured observations using the CT-Scan on preservice teachers’ use of evidence-based classroom management strategies.” There is a well-documented evidence base for critical, preventative teacher variables within the classroom that increase the likelihood of success for students who exhibit challenging behaviors (Simonsen, Fairbanks, Briesch, Myers, & Sugai, 2008). Unfortunately, these strategies are implemented at very low rates by teachers or are not implemented with fidelity, thereby compromising the integrity of the interventions (Klingner, Ahwee, Pilonieta, & Menendez, 2003). This research study aims to determine if explicit classroom instruction in preventative, evidence-based classroom management practices paired with structured observations of inservice teachers will affect the use of these practices by preservice teachers during practicum experiences. Specifically, the study aims to answer the following research questions:

1. What is the effect of explicit instruction in evidence-based classroom management strategies paired with structured classroom observations on the teaching behaviors of preservice teachers during practicum experiences?

2. Does the amount of evidence-based classroom management strategies a preservice teacher observes affect their use of the strategies when teaching in practicum?
SUU undergraduate teacher candidates will be the participants in this study, along with practicing teachers in local schools. The hope is that this project will provide insight into the best ways for SUU students to learn evidence-based classroom management strategies and to observe and analyze those strategies in practicum settings.

**Dr. Jennifer McKenzie** created a chapter of the Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC), Spring 2018. The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest professional organization for special educators, with active and engaged members from around the world. The creation of an SCEC chapter here at SUU allows undergraduate special education students to form professional networks with other special educators while they are finishing their teacher preparation. It also provides membership benefits in CEC, such as access to professional development, publications, and the national convention, at a reduced student rate.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** created a K16 workshop for the National Society for Experiential Education to be delivered to K16 educators at the SUU Experiential Learning and Leadership Institute Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona, June 2018.

**Honors and Awards**

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** received a Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning grant for a presentation at Intermountain Consortium Faculty Development Conference in Henderson, Nevada in March 2018.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** is a 2018 Board of Trustees Award of Excellence Nominee.

**Dr. Leilani Nautu** is a 2018 Utah Campus Compact Presidential Award for Community Engagement-Community Engaged Faculty nominee.

**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


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.
English

Publications and Presentations


Dr. Rosalyn Eves published the second book in her YA fantasy trilogy, Lost Crow Conspiracy, March, 2018, with Knopf/Random House.


Dr. Todd Petersen published a novel, It Needs to Look Like We Tried, in May 2018, with Counterpoint Press.

History, Sociology, Anthropology

Awards and Honors

Dr. Matthew Eddy’s documentary film about Costa Rica, “A Bold Peace,” was awarded the “Social Impact Award” at the Reading Film FEST (Reading, Pennsylvania), Nov. 10-12, 2017. Screenings of the film also occurred at the International Documentary Film Festival of the United Nations Association in Monterey Bay, California (Nov. 3, 2017), at SUNY Binghamton (Feb. 12, 2018), in the Kentucky Theater in Lexington, Kentucky (Dec. 7, 2017), and at the Peace and Justice Studies Association Conference at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (Oct. 28, 2017). A DVD of “A Bold Peace” is now available for checkout at the SUU library. Dr. Eddy is also teaching a new course in documentary filmmaking at SUU during the Spring Term of 2018.

Political Science & Criminal Justice

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Angela Pool-Funai published Ethics in Fiscal Administration: An Introduction with Routledge Press, May 2018. Ethics in Fiscal Administration: An Introduction integrates ethics into the public administration curriculum by weaving ethical dilemmas into the budget process and financial management of the public and nonprofit sectors. This text is designed to prepare future budget managers and other public administrators for the important work of upholding the public financial trust.
Foreign Language & Philosophy

Projects

Dr. Junice Acosta, Dr. Hala Swearingen (Art), Professor Phil Roché (Library), and Dr. Anne Diekama (Library) organized an art contest and exhibition, “Día de los Muertos” (Day of the Dead), which displayed student work submitted to an art contest. It was the first art competition of this kind organized at SUU to commemorate Día de los Muertos, a very important cultural event celebrated in many Spanish-speaking countries. The art contest and exhibition intended to increase cultural awareness among the SUU community and to provide students with an opportunity to create and showcase their original artwork in a professional context. The exhibition consisted of 15 pieces of art; all pieces incorporated symbolic items displayed on the Día de los Muertos altars to honor those who have passed on. Artists used both 2D and 3D media. The artwork was juried by a group of Faculty from the Languages and Philosophy, and Art and Design departments. They awarded on Best of Show and several awards of excellence to the participants during an opening ceremony held at the Main Lobby of the SUU Library. The reception was so positive that the organizers are planning on expanding it in 2018. The exhibition was on display in the main lobby of the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, November 1-November 22, 2017.
**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.

*Day of the Dead exhibition*
Psychology

Publications and Presentations

Dr. David Shwalb will publish Grandparents in Cultural Context with Routledge, in 2018.

Dr. David Shwalb published two online articles: “Grandfathers: Uplifting the Western World’s Underestimated Role” and “Raising Grandchildren: A Cultural Role” in Senior Times.

Dr. Bryan L. Koenig, with S. Fan, T. T. Ng, J. S. Herberg, M. Jiang, Z. Shen, and Q. Zhao, published “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.
College of Performing & Visual Arts

Art & Design

Publications and Presentations

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.

Dr. Andrew Marvick participated in SUMA's Lunch and Learn program in February 2018, giving the second of a series of art talks, focused on the history of installation art. He was also interviewed by a Salt Lake-area television news program to provide historical context for the recent firing of a Hyrum schoolteacher who had shown students prints of old master paintings, a few of which depicted semi-nude figures.

Exhibitions


Professor Eric Brown's artwork, “Forgotten Angels”
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 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 out of hundreds of applicants. Thousands of people were able to view the exhibition.

Dr. Andrew Marvick and the poet Nano Taggart's joint exhibition moved from Linda Kiley's Art Works Gallery to the Gerald R. Sherratt Library.

Professor Eric Brown's artwork at the Cedar City Gallery

Brian Hoover “Mother,” Oil on Board, 24”x36”

Brian Hoover “Pentagram,” Oil on Board w/Gold Leaf, 58”x36”
**Professor Hala Swearingen** exhibited “Mother’s Market” in the “Food Fight” exhibition at the Museum of American Illustration, Society of Illustrators, New York City, Oct. 31-Dec. 30, 2017. This exhibition is open to all members of the Society of Illustrators to enter a piece along the annual theme. Professor Swearingen’s piece, “Mother’s Market,” has a mother penguin shopping for frozen foods in a grocery store, her baby penguin is in the cart holding the ice cream.

**Professor Hala Swearingen, Dr. Junice Acosta** (Foreign Language and Philosophy), **Professor Phil Roché** (Library) organized a juried art competition for “Day of the Dead” festivities at the Sherratt library, November 2017.

**Professor Hala Swearingen** had two art paper sculpture artworks, “Jackie Paper,” and “Little Flowers” accepted into the National Online Exhibition by the 56th Annual Society of Illustrators Los Angeles Illustration Competition, also known as “Illustration West 56).” [https://illustrationwest.org/56/](https://illustrationwest.org/56/)

**Professor Hala Swearingen’s** artwork “Jackie Paper” was accepted into the iJungle Illustration awards International Online Illustration Competition and Published Annual Book. [https://www.ijungleawards.com](https://www.ijungleawards.com)

**Awards and Leadership**

**Professor Eric Brown** received an Honorable Mention at the SAAG 2017 National Juried Show, Art Center, Blue Ridge, GA, for a pastel entitled *Tessa and Tulips.*
Music

Publications, Presentations, and Performances

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel and Dr. Jessica Lindsey (UNC Charlotte) performed “Sheila Silver: Lullaby” at the Sixtieth College Music Society National Conference in San Antonio, TX, October 2017. Dr. Jessica Lindsey and Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel performed Sheila Silver’s Lullaby for bass clarinet and piano during Concert II: Showcase of CMS Performers & Composers. The acceptance rate of conference proposals was 36%.

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel, Dr. Brian Arreola (tenor) and Dr. Miranora Frische (cello, UNC Charlotte) performed a Lecture Recital, “Celebrating Two Trailblazing Mexican Composers” at the Sixtieth College Music Society National Conference in San Antonio, TX, October 2017. Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel performed for Dr. Brian Arreola and Dr. Miranora Frische’s lecture recital entitled Celebrating Two Trailblazing Mexican Composers. The conference highlighted music by Mexican composers and fell around El Dia de los Muertos.

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel presented a workshop, “Developing an Ear for Improvisation through Singing” at the UMTA (Utah Music Teachers Association) State Conference - Salt Lake Community College, Taylorsville, UT, November 2017. Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel was invited to present a workshop entitled Developing an Ear for Improvisation through Singing and to teach in the Lesson with a Master Teacher series. Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) is an American nonprofit professional organization for the support, growth, and development of music-teaching professionals, with some 22,000 members in 50 states, and over 500 local affiliates.
Dr. Adam Lambert conducted multiple high school honor band events throughout the state of Utah, at Northridge High School (Layton Utah), Orem High School (Orem Utah), Box Elder High School (Brigham City, Utah), and Cedar City, between November 2017 and January 2018. Dr. Lambert was the musical director for four recent high school honor bands: The North Davis Honor Band with students from Layton, Northridge, Clearfield, and Syracuse High Schools; the Alpine Schools Honor Band with students from American Fork, Lehi, Lone Peak, Skyridge, Orem, Westlake, and Timpanogos High Schools; the Box Elder District Honor Band with students from Box Elder Middle School and High School; and our own SUU High School Honor Band from 18 high schools from Utah and Nevada.

Dr. Lawrence Johnson and Dr. Xun Sun (facilitator/translator) presented a master class at Remnin University, Beijing, China, in October 2017. This public master class was given for the vocal students of Remnin University to further the ongoing relationship between SUU and Remnin.

Dr. Lynn Vartan, Joseph Howe, and the SUU Percussion Students went to the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Indianapolis, Indiana in November of 2017.

Dr. Lynn Vartan hosted violist Molly Gebrian and pianist Danny Holt for her curated Satellite Salon Series at SUU in January of 2018. The duo performed their concert titled “Trios for Two,” as well as presenting workshops and talks on cognitive strategies for music performance and practice.

Dr. Lynn Vartan put the finishing touches on a new CD of the music of American composer Lou Harrison in collaboration with faculty members from Utah Valley University. The project was recorded at SUU with students and faculty from Utah Valley University and Dr. Vartan was the producer on the album with assistance from SUU lecturer Frank Stearns and SUU student Jordan Nielsen.

Dr. Lynn Vartan began her new weekly radio show “The A.P.E.X Hour” Thursdays at 3 pm on Thunder 91.1.
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.

Students performing Fiddler on the Roof in association with the SUU Theatre Program
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). Dr. 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. Jackie Grant, Lucy Smith (Salt Lake Community College), Heather Chapman (Weber State University), and Anne Weiss (IUPUI) spoke on a panel on “Student Learning Outcomes for Community Engagement” at the Utah Campus Compact Community Engagement Institute, Salt Lake City, UT, February 2018. Dr. Grant was invited to speak on a panel at the Community Engagement Institute to share her knowledge about working with SUU’s Essential Learning Outcomes for Civic Engagement.

Dr. Jackie Grant, Alyssa Marabella, and Dr. Matt Ogburn presented, “Community Partnership Spurred by Collaboration between Southern Utah University and the Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program” at the Utah Campus Compact Community Engagement Institute, Salt Lake City, UT, February 2018. Dr. Grant and her colleagues were invited to speak at the Annual Meetings of the Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program. They reported their accomplishments from their first year of funding with the BLM during which they collected nearly 400,000 seeds, engaged the Cedar City community in educational outreach, and began research on the suitability of native plants for green roofs in arid environments.

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. Bill Heyborne, Laurel Dodgion, and Madi Clark organized the 3rd Annual SUU STEAM Festival on the SUU Campus, October 2017. The festival welcomed nearly 3,000 students to campus for our interactive STEAM festival. Campus clubs, departments, and local businesses and agencies provided hands-on STEAM learning for elementary and middle school students from 5 counties.

Dr. Jackie Grant, Dr. Matt Ogburn, Grant Shimer, Sam Kirkley, Barb Walling Frank, Laurel Glidden, and Lauren Yellowhorse received a $23,000 grant from the BLM for the Frehner Museum Heritage Resources Partnership, a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Land Management. The mission of this project is to develop a partnership between the BLM and three southwest Utah groups: the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, and the Southwest Wildlife Foundation. Through this partnership the educational, scientific, cultural, and recreational values of heritage resources including archaeological and paleontological resources will be promoted to the public along with respect for Native Americans. Dr. Grant and colleagues will work with the BLM over the next five years to (1) develop public learning opportunities to engage with heritage resources in Utah, (2) increase the public’s and the BLM’s engagement with a Native American tribe, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, and (3) utilize public lands to develop a multi-use seed reference collection to be housed at the Frehner museum.
Dr. Bill Heyborne, Terry Tolbert (Bureau of Land Management), and Coral Gardner received grant funding from the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a survey of reptiles and amphibians of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. This will help monument managers make more informed decisions about land use based on distributions of these sensitive species. Several thousand frogs, toads, lizards, and snakes were documented during the 2017 field season and we are now gearing up for the 2018 season.

Awards and Leadership
Dr. Jackie Grant, Dr. Bill Heyborne, Professor Alisa Petersen (Teacher Education), and Dr. Brandon Wiggins received a “Volunteer Recognition Certificate” from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Utah in Partnership with the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism, Cedar City, UT, February 2018. Dr. Grant was part of a faculty group from SUU that was recognized for their years of service towards informal science education and arts outreach for the Orchestra of Southern Utah’s Children’s Jubilee. These SUU faculty and their student staff and volunteers deliver programming to hundreds of children at the Jubilee every year.

http://osucedarcity.blogspot.com/

Computer Science & Information Systems
Projects
Dr. Dezhi Wu organized a STEM Club at Iron Springs Elementary School. From the SUU University News: Last fall, Dr. Dezhi Wu, associate professor of information systems at SUU, connected with students interested in STEM at Iron Springs Elementary School in order to form a FLL Team. Wu was able to enroll 46 students ranging from first to fifth grade in her STEM Club. Funding came from a grant as part of the Utah Legislature Award to Southern Utah to support STEM initiatives. Wu was able to build infrastructure for her STEM Club at Iron Springs Elementary School and employed six SUU students to coach and mentor student teams. Children were also coached by SUU faculty and volunteers as they learned how to work with their teams to share knowledge, compare ideas and build their robots. Four FLL and two FLL Jr. teams that are a part of Wu’s STEM Club have been working together to find solutions for this year’s challenge theme, “HYDRO DYNAMICS.” All of Wu’s student teams were able to participate in this year’s qualifier competition at Cedar Middle School.
This project has been extremely fulfilling, exciting and educational,” said Jared Porter, an SUU information systems major and one of the coaches for the club. “I was profoundly grateful for this opportunity. Dr. Wu’s efforts have benefited our community by offering services that are not found elsewhere. As a father of children who attend public schools in this community, I say thank you.”

Future STEM Club activities will introduce students to various STEM activities including computer programming and building a computer. Wu’s hard work and dedication enriches SUU students’ educational experiences and makes a positive impact on Cedar City’s local elementary schools by inspiring future computer scientists and engineers.

Department of Engineering and Technology

Publications and Presentations

**Dr. Scott Hansen** recorded some Instructional videos to accompany his Autodesk Inventor 2018; the 2019 version will be published this spring. He has updated this book every year since 2006: [https://www.sdcpublications.com/Textbooks/Autodesk-Inventor-2018/ISBN/978-1-63057-090-3/](https://www.sdcpublications.com/Textbooks/Autodesk-Inventor-2018/ISBN/978-1-63057-090-3/)

**Dr. Richard Cozzens** and Chris Gorse (LBU) published “Evaluating Mixed Modes of Delivery for Professional Education” in *Higher Education in the Professions: Illustrations of Quality Practice in Teaching and Learning*, Bloomsbury, 2018. This chapter uses Dr. Cozzens’s Ph.D. Research as an example of Quality Practices in Teaching and Learning. It uses the evaluations tools he developed from his Ph.D. research. This is an educational book that will be used to teach other educators, which means his evaluation tools could be used worldwide.
Mathematics

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Cecilia Weingartner presented “Using Open Educational Resources to Promote Deeper Learning Practices for All Students” at the Utah OER Conference, Sandy, UT, February 2018.

Nursing

Projects

Dr. Donna A. J. Lister and several SUU nursing students organized a Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing. Community members were asked to nominate deserving nurses, and SUU nursing students reviewed the nominations and selected winners, who were then invited to a dinner and awards ceremony. Employers, families, and colleagues were invited to purchase a dinner meal and attend in support of the winner. The dinner was held March 1, 2018. About 700 people attended.

Leadership

Dr. Donna J. A. Lister concluded twelve years on the Cedar City Hospital Board of Trustees, the maximum term allowed. During her term of service, she also served as the Chair of the Board Quality and Patient Safety Committee.
Physical Science

Presentations and Publications

**Dr. Johnny MacLean**, Zach Smith, Pete Rowley, Dave Maxwell, Chris Butler presented “Groundwater Flow Interactions between Basin and Range Faults and the Markagunt Gravity Slide: Implications for the Panguitch Municipal Watershed, Southwest Utah” at the Geological Society of America annual meeting, Seattle, WA, October 2017. Zach Smith, an undergraduate geology major, has been collaborating with the Utah Geological Survey and the Dixie National Forest to study the interaction of groundwater with several faults near Panguitch. This study has important implications for the Panguitch watershed, especially in relation to the recent fire in the area. This presentation was also published in the Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs, vol. 49, no. 6.

**Dr. Nate Werner** and Kyle Clark presented “Stereoselectivity of Stilbene Synthesis by Palladium-Catalyzed Heck Reaction” at the American Chemical Society's National Meeting and Exposition, San Francisco, CA, April 2017. The alkene functional group is commonly found in many medicines and fine chemicals. The restriction to rotation of a carbon-carbon double bond leads to isomeric molecules that can have similar physical properties and be difficult to separate by conventional techniques. Therefore, it is important that synthetic reactions produce one alkene isomer in excess to avoid a potentially difficult separation. Here we presented our study of the stereoselectivity of stilbene synthesis by palladium catalyzed Heck reaction.

**Dr. Nate Werner** and Mason Smith presented “Synthesis of Alkyl-Substituted trans-Alkenes by Palladium-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reaction” at the Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research, Cedar City, UT, February 2018. The alkene functional group is commonly found in many medicines and fine chemicals. The restriction to rotation of a carbon-carbon double bond leads to isomeric molecules that can have similar physical properties and can be difficult to separate by conventional techniques. Therefore, it is important that synthetic reactions produce one alkene isomer in excess to avoid a potentially difficult separation. Here we presented our study of a stereospecific palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction for the production of alkyl-substituted trans-alkenes.
Presentations and publications

**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** gave the keynote presentation, “JSYK: Heart-based Hope Heals” at the Annual Rural Health Association of Utah conference, Dixie State University, St. George, UT, December 2017. This keynote presentation was a message of hope, including a mission to find ‘previvors’ – individuals who are survivors of a predisposition to cancer but who haven’t had the disease – and subsequently save lives and impact family trees. In addition to a discussion of a rare form of hereditary breast cancer, Davis presented a message of inspiration, bringing in aspects of what it is like to be a patient in the current American healthcare system.
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 and Dr. Jennifer Hunter presented “Effective Online Course Design and Delivery” in Baltimore, MD, October 2017. Thoughtfully constructed courses allow students to improve performance through practice and self-assessment while instructors benefit from improving consistency in providing content and assessing process, performance and progress. This presentation used a literature review of research to identify Backward Design and interactive (not just active) activities (rather than assignments) to enhance student learning across many disciplines.
Melynda Thorpe (Executive Director, Office of Community and Academic Enrichment), Suzette Beach, Maree Williams, Brodee Nelson, Samantha Burfiend, and Haven Scott are part of the new office of Community and Academic Enrichment (CAE), begun August 2017 to establish a bond with the general public by offering community education and professional development training, educational travel to world destinations, and to promote SUU’s new Capitol Reef field station, Road Creek Inn (https://www.suu.edu/siel/cae/). Five programs were introduced to accomplish this task, including:

- Community Education (CED): Offers classes, workshops and clubs for the purpose of creating community partnerships and generating fun, cultural, educational opportunities and experiences for those who love to learn. While increasing participant knowledge, programs are designed to provide non-credit experiences for developing new skills, hobbies or areas of personal interest. Subjects will be taught by community experts. More than a dozen classes are now open for enrollment. Instruction begins March 2018.
- Community Professional Development (CPD): Offers classes, seminars and workshops to provide short-term training opportunities for those interested in increasing marketability and gaining professional advantage. CPD is designed to provide area business owners with a credible venue for offering employee training culminating in SUU Institutional Certificates and credit. SUU students can also participate in CPD by engaging in opportunities to customize their college transcripts earning Institutional Certificates. The rationale for offering certificates to SUU students is to allow individual colleges and schools to provide a credential in response to changing needs, emerging partnerships, and innovative new ideas in experiential learning. Institutional Certificates may also support recruitment efforts and assist in advancing strategic priorities.

- Community on the Go (COG): Acts much like a study abroad program for adult members of the community interested in educational travel. Trips are designed to offer cultural and immersive educational experiences led by SUU experts, and to support student scholarships. Groups of approximately 20-30 travelers at a time explore various parts of the world in a fun, affordable, and educational setting. Activities are flexible and designed using community feedback. Recent trip included community excursions to China, Normandy and London in 2017. In 2018, adult community members will have the options of traveling to Peru, Transylvania/Romania and Germany/Austria.

- Summer Experience (SXP): Highlights Cedar City as a summer destination for travelers from other communities. Participants can tour the region’s National Parks, participate in expeditions led by SUU experts, immerse themselves in Shakespeare Festival activities and on-campus educational experiences, and stay in student housing for affordable rates.

- Road Creek Inn (RCI): SUU’s new Capitol Reef field station and retreat destination offers students, faculty and community member’s opportunities to book educational vacations in Loa, Utah. Located just outside Capitol Reef National Park, the Inn is also close in proximity to Fishlake National Forest, Canyonlands National Park and the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Originally built as a ZCMI Co-op in 1912, the historic property now offers 15 guest rooms, a classroom and full kitchen providing a perfect getaway for educational groups, retreats and family excursions to another of Utah’s world-famous national parks, and provides a gateway for student groups to yet another of Utah’s phenomenal outdoor destinations. The acquisition of Road Creek Inn further solidifies SUU’s title as the official “University of the Parks.”
Community Engagement Center

Presentations and publications


Programs

Community Engaged Learning Initiative As part of the Community Engaged Learning Initiative (CEL) and to enhance teaching and learning at SUU, Dr. Earl Mulderink organized several workshops in Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 that utilized the “Engaged Faculty Institute” curriculum developed by Campus Compact partners. The Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning (CETL) and the School of Integrative and Engaged Learning (SIEL) co-sponsored a “learning community” in Spring 2018 to encourage faculty use of this pedagogy, about which more details are found at this link. Moreover, the CETL is sponsoring funding opportunities to promote CEL through their Curriculum Innovation Grant (CIG) Program that will award up to $1,000 to successful applicants. The workshops are planned for May 2018. For more information, please visit the CETL and CIG website. The Community Engaged Learning CIG program will be co-facilitated by Dr. Jacqueline Grant, Associate Professor of Biology and Provost Faculty Fellow.
Iron County Holiday Assistance Program — In Fall 2017, the Community Engagement Center again managed the Iron County Holiday Assistance Program in cooperation with Iron County Care and Share, directed by Peggy Green, and the local Marine Toys for Tots program, overseen by Jeff Lennert. CEC Associate Director Pam Branin supervised an intensive effort that started in October and concluded in early December at the National Guard Armory in Cedar City. During the week of December 4-8, 2017, over 1,100 children each received three gifts and two stocking stuffers with an approximate total value of nearly $68,000. In addition, the program helped to distribute nearly 400 meal boxes (worth more than $50 each) with support from Iron County Care and Share. All together, 433 household applications qualified for assistance. Gifts, clothing, and toys were donated through multiple sites and two dozen “Angel Trees” distributed in the community and on the SUU campus.

Student Alliance of Interfaith Leaders — The Student Alliance of Interfaith Leaders (SAIL) has been resurrected this year by a group of ambitious and well-trained students. This “awakening” dates back nearly a year when the Utah Campus Compact co-sponsored the first-of-its-kind Intermountain Interfaith Leadership Institute at Utah State University that drew scores of students and staff from around the region. CEC’s large contingent included Pam Branin, Gabrielle Strand, and eight students who traveled to Logan. Subsequently, the CEC sponsored four students who went to Chicago in August 2017 to receive more advanced training from the well-known Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC). The students returned to SUU ready to go and they created a variety of monthly events and activities to promote interfaith dialogue. Participants have included students of all faith backgrounds, SUU faculty and staff, and community members. Led by senior Ashlyn Judd, SAIL planned an ambitious multi-day trip in March 2018 to visit several religious denominations along the Wasatch Front to include Hindu and Buddhist groups.
**Community Engagement Institute** — SUU participants enjoyed the biannual Community Engagement Institute in Salt Lake City, sponsored by the Utah Campus Compact, January 8-10, 2018. They were joined by colleagues from other USHE institutions and UCC members that included at least one college president and teams from the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, Utah Valley University, Snow College, and Dixie State University. SUU’s contingent -- Patrick Clarke, Jackie Grant, Pam Branin, and Earl Mulderink -- learned about ways to enhance community engagement assessment from nationally-known experts Dr. Kristin Norris and Anne Weiss from IUPUI and the Indiana Campus Compact.

**AmeriCorps** — SUU continues to lead other USHE institutions in the number of AmeriCorps student participants who volunteer through a federally-funded program managed by the Utah Campus Compact. Community Engagement Center Program Specialist Gabrielle Strand administers our campus efforts that allow about 250 SUU students each year to earn educational stipends that together total over $315,000. For more information, see [http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps](http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps).

**Service Trips** — Pam Branin coordinated multiple six-week “Alternate Break” trips in 2017-18, each centered on a specific theme and supplied with a contingent of ten or more students, a faculty or staff advisor, and at least one student Service Leader. Branin has built upon training received from the nationally-recognized “Break Away” program. SUU’s reliance on “Break Away” has been subsidized in part by the Utah Campus Compact.

In December 2017, the CEC sponsored one trip to San Diego to work with Habitat for Humanity and a second one to Guatemala. Thanks to generous funding coordinated by Kurt Harris and Tessa Douglas of SUU’s Office of Learning Abroad, students on CEC-sponsored service trips for Spring Break 2018 received substantial stipends to offset their travel costs. Student Service Leaders coordinated four trips, respectively, to Catalina Island to work in conservation projects; to Lima, Peru, to help with construction efforts; to southern Florida to partner with Habitat for Humanity; and to Nicaragua for a variety of service endeavors.

**Leadership**

Dr. Earl Mulderink serves on the editorial board for the new *Experiential Learning & Teaching in Higher Education Journal*. 
Creative Engagement 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.

Three of the EDGE Center directors.
Outdoor Engagement Center

Presentations and publications

Briget Eastep (director) presented on America’s public lands as part of a panel presentation at the Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics at SUU, on February 28, 2018.

Projects

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.

Website: https://www.suu.edu/siel/outdoor/
Dr. Briget Eastep, Dr. Jacquainle Grant (Biology), Dr. Jon Smith (Communication), David Bastian, Kelly Bringhurst, Erin O’Brien, Paul Roelandt, 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.

SUU students frequently have the opportunity to explore the outdoors in their classes
Projects

**Jayci Bash** received a curriculum and innovation grant from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning to create an honors course, "Just and Diverse." She presented on her experience creating the course at the Festival of Excellence, April 2018.
Publications and Presentations

Professor Caitlin Gerrity and Professor Eric Morrow (English) presented “Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Teaching University Students to Think Critically about Fake News in a Post-truth World” at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 2018. This presentation is a result of an ongoing teaching collaboration between Professors Gerrity and Morrow. What began as a simple class visit to discuss source credibility, evolved to include the fake news phenomenon and the importance of critical thinking as information consumers. Here, the ACRL Framework and WPA Framework complement each other around important topics such as rhetoric, authority, bias, and echo chambers. Through this teaching collaboration, students are empowered with tools and strategies to evaluate the information they encounter and make informed decisions.

Professor Paula Mitchell (Special Collections Librarian), Sam Passey (Director of Library and Museum Services, Uintah County Heritage Museum), Christina Thomas (Rare Books and Manuscripts Conservator, Harold B. Lee Library, BYU) presented “Care and Exhibition of Paper-based Materials” at the Utah Museum Association Annual Conference, Vernal Utah, October 2017. This session introduced attendees to the basic theories and best practices involved in the care and display of paper-based materials. It covered handling techniques, common condition issues, when to call in the experts, and appropriate materials and tools for long term-storage and preservation.

Awards

Professor Paula Mitchell received $1100 from the Utah State Historical Records Advisory Board (USHRAB) to process and preserve Kathleen Truman’s collection of historical material concerning the formation of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.
Projects and Exhibits

**Professor Christopher Clark**, Steve Boulay, and **Dr. Richard Saunders** exhibited “Utah Drawn” at the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, third floor and garden level, beginning February 2018 to the present. Utah Drawn highlights the ways in which borders have changed, grown, adapted, and been subject to constant cultural and narrative realignment. On February 5th, the Utah Drawn Rare Map Exhibit officially opened with a discussion of the importance of maps by Dr. Richard Saunders, as well as a walking tour led by the exhibit donor Steve Boulay. During an insightful tour, Boulay mentioned in particular the large map of Utah, which has a tendency to elicit stories from onlookers who have personal narratives related to areas on the map. The exhibit will be up for at least six months, and there are walking tour guides on hand to encourage individual exploration. If you haven’t already been, now is the perfect opportunity to check out the exhibit and treat yourself to some important representations of our understanding of the world throughout history. This exhibit includes some engaging pieces that are emblematic of Utah’s storied past, and should prove to be fruitful gateways into conversations about our own past here in Southern Utah.
Open Educational Resources (OER) — On February 23, 2018, nine SUU faculty participated in Utah: The State of OER. The conference was a statewide, Regents-sponsored gathering, showcasing how open educational resources are changing higher education by not only lowering costs for students, but also allowing faculty to innovate curriculum. With presenters from all over Utah, SUU had the most accepted proposals and incredible interest in individual sessions which discussed topics such as the promotion and implementation of OER on campus, cross-curricular integration of Human Anatomy and English 1010, using OER for research projects and high-impact practices, allowing students to choose their own textbooks and create course content, and collecting data to detail impact. Keynote Robin DeRosa highlighted the effectiveness of student-created content and student-centered learning, while David Wiley’s closing remarks presented a path forward for using OER more effectively.

SUU is working toward using OER more effectively by establishing a four-year program promoting OER across campus. The cross-curricular initiative encourages faculty to replace expensive commercial textbooks with no-cost or low-cost alternatives. OER accomplishes the goals outlined in SUU’s vision and mission statements by not only saving students money but by reviving education through open pedagogical practices. The initiative includes six ranked priorities beginning with general education courses with a common text averaging over $100; general education courses with high enrollment and/or high DFUW rates; introductory, lower-division required courses; cross-listed lower division courses; lower-division electives within individual majors; and finally upper-division electives within majors. The idea was to start from the ground and build up beginning with general education before moving forward to upper-division major specific courses; however, these priorities are not set in stone and should be regarded as guidelines rather than hard-and-fast rules.

It is no secret that the textbook industry has increased prices at an exorbitant rate. All told since 1978 the inflation on textbooks has risen 800%, almost as much as new house prices and medical services combined. The average student spends close to $1,200 on textbooks per year, a figure close to 20% of SUU’s tuition. Textbooks are usually out-of-pocket expenses. OER has the potential to save students an incredible amount of money. SUU students who attended fall 2017 and spring 2018 have already seen the benefits from faculty using OER with savings close to $100,000. This number has the potential to grow and aid students in their pursuit of higher education.

As OER continues to gain steam in colleges and universities across North America, SUU has the opportunity to aid its own community of students and students across the continent. OER works beautifully with experiential learning and allows students to create and share their own resources without legal repercussions. Of course there are challenges with the movement at large, questions of quality, and incentive, and semantics, but not every commercially published textbook is worth its weight in words. Open means so much more than just free. Open provides students and faculty to delve deep into a discipline by making it possible for resources to be revised, remixed, reused, redistributed, and retained. Open provides ownership.
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.

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 hosted the conference in February 2018.
Projects

**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.

During the Fall 2017 semester, CAST held weekly mindfulness exercises for students through a program called Mindful Mondays, and we hosted an event about failure and resilience called the F-Word that featured **Dr. Kris Phillips** (Philosophy faculty), **Heather Garcia** (Orientation Coordinator), and **Demario Warren** (Football Head Coach). Finally, we’re planning Lunch-and-Learn discussions for the Spring 2018 semester. We’ve presented about CAST at two conferences: the 2017 Utah Campus Compact Engaged Faculty Retreat in Moab, Utah, and the 2018 NASPA Mental Health Conference in Portland, Oregon (citations below).

**Jayci Bash** (Honors) and **Dr. Johnny MacLean** (Physical Science) presented “SUU’s Care and Support Team: Building a Community of Support for Students in Emotional Distress” at the Utah Campus Compact Engaged Faculty retreat, Moab, UT, 2017.

**Jayci Bash** (Honors), **Curtis Hill** (Director, Counseling and Psychological Services), **Kristina Johnson** (CAPS), and **Dr. Johnny MacLean** (Physical Science) presented “Responding to Tragedy: A University’s Grassroots Response to Mental Health Crises” at the NASPA Mental Health Conference, Portland, OR, 2018.

More information is available at [https://www.suu.edu/cast/](https://www.suu.edu/cast/)
Presentations and Publications

**Dr. Bradley Cook** (Provost) presented “The Birth of Islam” at the 2018 SUU Festival of Excellence, April 3, 2018. Islam is the world’s second largest faith tradition and growing. This presentation covered the origins of Islam and the background of its founder, Muhammad Ibn Abdullah. Given its prominent position among the world’s faiths, this lecture was intended to give greater context and grounding as to why and how Islam was founded.

**Dr. Scott Wyatt** (President) recorded an episode of the podcast, “Solutions for Higher Education,” with winners of the 2018 Distinguished Student Project Award at the Festival of Excellence, April 3, 2018. The podcast series is hosted by Dr. Wyatt and Dr. Steve Meredith (Associate Dean, Graduate and Online School) and covers a variety of pertinent educational topics. An archive of the podcasts can be found at [https://www.suu.edu/presidentspodcast/](https://www.suu.edu/presidentspodcast/).
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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.

The Office of International Affairs hosts many events each semester, such as cultural showcases and karate demonstrations with Director of Global Collaboration Johnny Oh.
Office of Learning Abroad

Projects

Dr. Kurt Harris (Director), Dr. Lynn Vartan (Music), Dr. Shauna Mendini (Dean, PVA), Dr. Richard Saunders (Library), Dr. Stephen Allen (Head, Office of International Affairs), and Juan Chen organized the Helen Foster Snow Celebration, in Cedar City UT, September 2017. In collaboration with other offices on campus as well as colleagues in China, the Office of Learning Abroad hosted a conference to celebrate the life of Helen Foster Snow, a Cedar City native who became a hero in China because of her work there in the 1930s. The conference offered a combination of scholarly and cultural activities, including an APEX lecture. Over 30 scholars and musicians traveled from China to participate in the conference, and attendance at the three days of events exceeded 200.

Tessa Douglas, Dr. Kurt Harris, and Karina Carter organized the SUU Study Abroad Fair in October 2017 to encourage students to study abroad and to inform them about the many programs available. In 2016-2017, over 300 SUU students engaged in a study or service abroad of at least one week. The goal for 2017-2018 is to exceed 400.
Dr. Kurt Harris led a brief study abroad program to London in October 2017 to promote study abroad. This low-cost program gives a study abroad experience to SUU ACES (Assistant Coach for Excellence and Success), student leaders who serve as peer mentors to all new SUU students. ACES were required to attend the Study Abroad Fair before departure, give a short lecture to the group while in London, and promote study abroad in a variety of ways upon their return. Twenty-four students and staff participated in the program, which included visits to historical and cultural sites in London. The ACES now speak with enthusiasm about study abroad and can offer first-hand accounts of their London experiences (which included seeing Queen Elizabeth up close!) while advising students.

Tessa Douglas, Pam Branin, Karina Carter, Alexie Castro, Kate Englert, Emily Forshee, Lance Forshee, Nicole Funderburk, Alexis Hollingsworth, and Jason Sander organized a week-long event, SUU International Education Week, November 13-17, 2017. During this event, a number of activities were held each day to inform about and promote international education. Activities included opportunities for domestic and international students to interact one-on-one and in group settings, international games and crafts, and opportunities for service.

**Leadership**

Dr. Kurt Harris served as editor-in-chief of the new *Experiential Teaching & Learning in Higher Education (ELTHE)*, published by SUU Press & Design. Working with Tammy Buehler (ELTHE Managing Editor), Dr. Harris edited and produced the second issue of ELTHE. The only journal of its kind, ELTHE focuses on concepts, practices, and scholarship documenting experiential education at post-secondary institutions. ELTHE 1.2 includes articles by scholars at Michigan State University, Cornell University, Nazareth College, and Southern New Hampshire University.
Congratulations to the following faculty on being awarded grants for their research, presentations, and other special projects:

### School of Business
Azmi Ahmad  
Gerry Calvasina  
Alan Hamlin  
Bruce Haslem  
Michael Kroff  
Jacob Miller  
Jeff Orton  
Josh Price  
Janice Scarinci  
Emmett Steed  
Tyler Stillman

### Beverly Taylor Sorenson College of Education and Human Development
Joel Judd  
Brian Ludlow  
Jennifer McKenzie  
Jim Mock  
Julie Taylor

### Walter Maxwell Gibson College of Science and Engineering
Nathan Barker  
Carrie Jo Bucklin  
Jacob Dean  
Fred Govedich  
Artis Grady

### College of Humanities and Social Sciences
John Belk  
Kyle Bishop  
Bryce Christensen  
Julia Combs  
Grant Corser  
Emily Dean  
Matthew Eddy  
Gavin Feller  
Kelly Ferguson  
Bryan Koenig  
Elise Leahy  
Julie McCown  
Liz Olson  
Michelle Orihel  
Rosa Perez  
Kris Phillips  
Charla Strosser  
Toanui Tawa  
Jessica Tvardi  
Laura Walker  
Lynn H. White

### College of Performing and Visual Arts
Eric Brown  
Michael Crotty  
Jeff Hanson  
Ben Kirkby  
Scott Knowles  
Andy Marvick  
Crystal McCoy  
Lynn Vartan

### Library
Caitlin Gerrity  
Scott Lanning  
Rosie Liljenquist  
Paula Mitchell