

SUU

COLLEGE OF Humanities & Social Sciences



Dean's Corner Message

Dean Jean Boreen

Greetings from all of us in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. We are days away from students coming back to campus and I am so excited to welcome them back; the energy on campus as our students return is always electric. We will be greeting our new freshman class on Monday, August 28 with a rousing convocation led by President Mindy Benson and Provost Jon Anderson. This will be followed by our wonderful bell tower tradition and then an opportunity in the afternoon for the students to meet the chair of their respective department as well as me and Associate Dean Grant Corser. Thunder U—the official title of those first few days on campus—is a great time for all of us to celebrate why we are all here on campus.

I'm also excited to introduce our newest HSS Board members: David and Jennifer Oberhelman....

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HSS Advisory Council's Newest Members

David and Jennifer Oberhelman

A warm welcome to David and Jennifer Oberhelman, the newest members of the HSS Advisory Council. We are delighted to have them. David and Jennifer reside in Mesquite, NV but spend a lot of time in Cedar City, UT. David is a proud Southern Utah University alumni and Jennifer is a retired Executive Assistant from SUU.

During their free time, both David and Jennifer love to golf, attend various artistic events, and spend time with their family. "We love SUU athletics!" Jennifer said.

They both believe that education is vitally important for everyone whether it be higher education or technical training.



ABPP Certification

Dr. Michelle Grimes | Associate Professor,
Child Clinical Psychology

The American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) certification is a prestigious recognition in psychology, signifying excellence and specialization. The ABPP acknowledges psychologists' exceptional dedication. Achieving ABPP certification requires a doctoral degree, extensive post-doctoral experience, licensing, rigorous examinations, peer-reviewed documentation, and adherence to ethical standards.

We enthusiastically congratulate Dr. Michelle Grimes, an Associate Professor in Child Clinical Psychology here at SUU, for her recent accomplishment in receiving her ABPP certification in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology. Her achievement exemplifies her commitment to the SUU mission of "experiential education leading to personal growth, civic responsibility, and professional excellence."

The SUU Department of Psychology now has the only two ABPP certified Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychologists in the state of Utah. Having board certified faculty sets our programs apart, increases the legitimacy and voice of psychologists in other settings, and also emphasizes the importance of these principles to our students in training.

Congratulations, Dr. Grimes!

Summer Institute on Substance Use, Ethics, and Culture

Dr. Jo Ann Bartley | Assistant Professor, Psychology

This summer one of our wonderful professors of psychology, Dr. Jo Ann Bartley, hosted a Summer Institute on Substance Use, Ethics, and Culture. Presenters included members from Alaska, Arizona, and Utah, and presentations took place over 3 different days and had a total of 129 registered participants. Topics included rural mental health, women in prison (particularly those with drug offenses), opioids and their effect on Native American tribes, substance use and diversity in the workforce, telemedicine, and more.

Dr. Bartley has been planning and executing this event for years at the University of Alaska Anchorage, and this was the first time she brought it to Utah as well. "It's important because both states are somewhat rural and don't have a lot of psychological services available. What do we do to get those? How do we help? To be able to be part of that and bring that here to Utah with me is very exciting," Dr. Bartley said in an interview.

Another one of our amazing faculty, Kat Green, took part in an ethics panel where she shared her perspective on the ethics regarding working with minors in a psychology field. When asked about the experience, she said, "Jo Ann did a fantastic job, and, as a new faculty at our university, has just completely immersed herself in making connections with the community connecting us with other universities and institutions and serving the needs of the rural mental health areas."

Overall, the event was a success and Dr. Bartley hopes to see it happen again next year. She also wanted to give a special thanks to our Dean Boreen for supporting the idea from the start and for taking the time to be a part of it.

HSS Alumni Highlights



Ryan Lofthouse

Ryan Lofthouse received his Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Rocky Vista University this past May, and has some wonderful things to say about his time at SUU. "I learned so much about how the mind affects the body, and vice versa, as a psychology major at SUU. While studying psychology at SUU, I was able to become a certified QPR Suicide Prevention instructor and will continue to utilize those skills to help individuals in crisis. I hope to be able to help fill the gaps in mental healthcare as a primary care provider, helping to treat not only the conditions you generally think of a physician addressing such as diabetes and high blood pressure, but also disorders such as anxiety disorders, Major Depressive Disorder, and ADHD."



Lisa Livingston

"Getting my Master's Degree in Public Administration helped launch my political career. It gave me the confidence and the skill set to work in my community to set policy and work with local and state legislators. I have been serving as a School Board Member in Kane County for 6 years and have been elected by my peers to serve on the Utah School Board Association."



Kelly VanArsdol

Kelly VanArsdol is Senior Pastor of a 300 person church in Pullman, Washington called Real Life Church. "My history degree played a major role in my development as it equipped me with the right knowledge and background to propel me into my career as a pastor. I wouldn't have the linguistic, writing, and historical background to perform this job well without SUU."

Jacob Thompson

Since graduating, Jacob Thompson has become a Spanish-English and French-English translator for Melaleuca. "At SUU I had good professors who pushed me. Many told me it was near impossible to become a bidirectional translator for my language pairs. Despite that knowledge, they worked with me to improve my proficiency constantly. SUU opened two semester abroad programs in Spain and France and I was the first SUU student to go to the Universidad de Jaén to study international law in Europe. During that time I signed a contract to only speak the main language of the country I was in. These programs spring-boarded my career. Since graduating, I have tested as near-native in both languages per military testing, got an MA in Translation Studies from the University of Birmingham, freelanced for court cases in Utah and now work full time translating Melaleuca's website into Spanish and French."



Giving

[Please consider a gift to the HSS Dean's Fund for Excellence.](#)

Gifts to the Dean's Excellence Fund immediately enhance the educational experience for our students by strengthening the College of Humanities and Social Science's programs, faculty, and facilities. These gifts are among the most important and valuable forms of support to the College of Humanities and Social Sciences because they can be accessed quickly and used where the need is greatest. Gifts to the Dean's Excellence Fund provide some of the following:

- Competitive scholarships for promising undergraduate and graduate students
- Support for the Dean's strategic initiatives
- Student study abroad and internship opportunities

Last year, 42 scholarships provided over \$60,000 in scholarship support to HSS students.

