

U ALUM MARK FULLER'S BIG SPLASH :: EXPLORING THE STORIES BUILDINGS TELL :: HISTORIC STEPS FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM

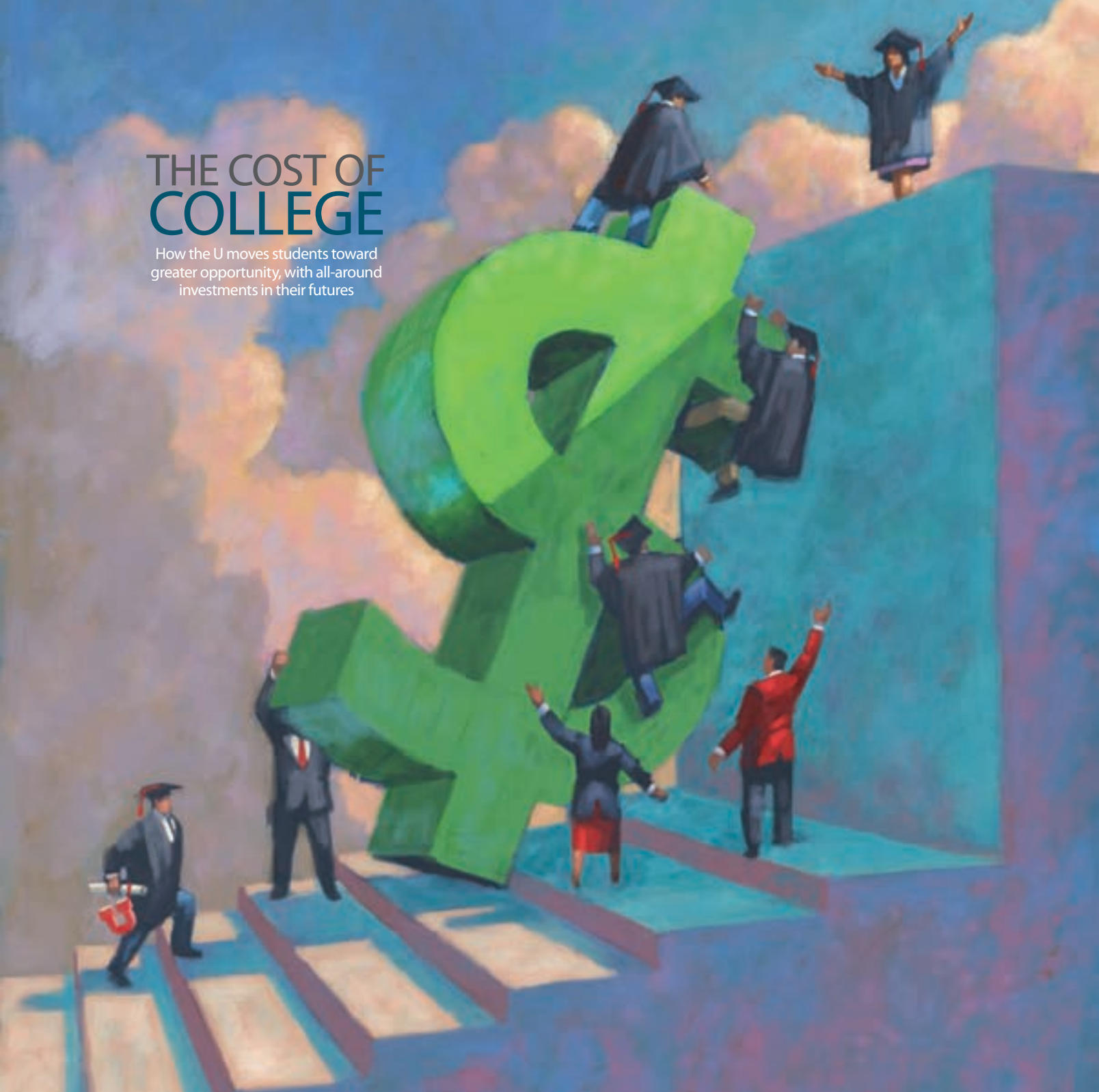
FALL 2015

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

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THE COST OF COLLEGE

How the U moves students toward greater opportunity, with all-around investments in their futures





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I liked Tyler Cooperwood's comment that [Nicole] Detling is a 'great listener' who has helped him with life on and off the gridiron. To me, the important word is 'off.'"

HELPING STUDENT PARENTS

Great article ["Balancing Act," Summer 2015]. Congrats to the U for being sensitive to the needs of their students. It makes one wonder what solutions the other 90 percent of the children have and how many are left home alone. No wonder parents burst into tears when they find that they qualify for quality care for their children on campus. Keep up the good work. Great pictures, also.

Judith Bramwell
Blackfoot, Idaho

PRAISE FOR JACK NEWELL

How splendid, Elaine [Jarvik], to post a review of Jack's life and

achievements... Will you write next about Linda [King Newell], whose accomplishments parallel Jack's? She, too, is exemplary of the woman in a world ruled by men, the one who would not be silenced in the places and projects that mattered. Thanks again!

Maura Beecher
Ottawa, Ontario

I thought it worth noting that Jack always had a penchant for wearing tweed sport coats and was instrumental in launching a number of our careers ["An Examined Life," Summer 2015]. The foundational liberal educational program Jack built with a few dedicated faculty and

students was the highlight of its era at the University. How unfortunate, as the story goes, that a myopic administrator of rank was able to dismantle this central program in the experience of many of us who worked at the University of Utah.

Edward L. Kick
Professor, North Carolina State University
Raleigh, North Carolina

THE IMPACT OF AN ANTHROPOLOGIST

We now find ourselves caught in between two contemporary cultures—the traditional and the Western culture ["You Need a Person," Spring 2010]. Most young Engans today find it difficult to accept both cultures. And the odds are that they will neglect the traditional ones in favor of the Western. What you [Polly Wiessner] have done to preserve Engan culture will be remembered by this generation and for the generations to come. You have made us proud!

Alois Tanakae
Adelaide, South Australia



Tyler Cooperwood

TRAINING FOR LIFE

The article on sports psychology, that's the kind of stuff that rings my bell ["The Mental Game," Summer 2015]. It gives insight into the fullness of sport and life. In particular, I liked Tyler Cooperwood's comment that Detling is a "great listener" who has helped him with life on and off the gridiron. To me, the important word is "off." Yes, indeed, a great gift to the teams and especially the athletes, to be used as enrichment for life.

Richard Ferrone BS'74
Sandy, Utah

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Law's Campus Gateway

The new home of the University of Utah's S.J. Quinney College of Law had its grand opening on September 1, with speakers including Utah Governor Gary Herbert, U President David W. Pershing, and law dean Bob Adler. Construction of the new building began in June 2013.

The new, 155,000-square-foot facility provides a gateway to students and the community on the southwest corner of the U campus. The design emphasizes sustainability and energy efficiency, including the use of south-facing, solar screening, low-emissivity, and insulated glass in the windows throughout.

Welcoming features include a café and coffee shop to serve the University and the greater community, as well as a 450-seat conference center.

(Photo by Jack Bender)



Visit continuum.utah.edu to view
a gallery with more photos.



HUNTSMAN CANCER INSTITUTE GETS COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER DESIGNATION

The National Cancer Institute has awarded Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah its Comprehensive Cancer Center status, its highest designation possible. With this new status, Huntsman Cancer Institute joins distinguished cancer centers such as Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute of Harvard University, Johns Hopkins Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center; recognized among the top cancer centers in the world. Huntsman Cancer Institute is the only cancer center to be designated by the National Cancer Institute in the five-state Intermountain West region, which includes Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, and Nevada.

The comprehensive cancer center designation recognizes not only the outstanding cancer research, training, and public outreach programs that have long been conducted at Huntsman Cancer Institute, but acknowledges the exceptional depth and breadth of the institute's research in each of the three major cancer research areas: laboratory, clinical, and population-based. The designation also recognizes Huntsman Cancer Institute for the impact of its research findings on national cancer care guidelines and improved patient outcomes.

"This designation is the result of professionalism and exceptional expertise of our physicians, scientists, and administrative staff at Huntsman Cancer Institute," says Jon M. Huntsman, Sr., Huntsman Cancer Institute's founder and chief benefactor.

"Only a small percentage of the nation's cancer programs have the excellence necessary to receive comprehensive cancer center status. What a difference this will make to the cancer patients in our state, in the region, and in the world."

A Comprehensive Cancer Center must demonstrate depth and breadth of cancer research, as well as substantial transdisciplinary research that bridges these scientific areas and changes cancer care. In addition, the center must demonstrate professional and public education and outreach capabilities, including the distribution of clinical and public health advances in the communities it serves. The evaluation is done by a team of national cancer experts, and includes a rigorous scientific review, a competitive grant process, and a site visit.

The National Cancer Institute evaluates each of its designated cancer centers every five years. Huntsman Cancer Institute opened more than 60 new collaborative grants and doubled enrollment in clinical trials of cancer treatments in the five-year project period. In addition, building expansion completed in 2011 doubled the size of the cancer hospital, and construction is under way that will double the size of Huntsman Cancer Institute's research facilities upon its completion in 2017.

ENGINEERING PROFESSOR RECEIVES 2015 ROSENBLATT PRIZE



Jan D. Miller, the Ivor D. Thomas Distinguished Professor of Metallurgical Engineering at the University of Utah, was honored with the Rosenblatt Prize for Excellence, the U's most prestigious award, this

past May. The \$40,000 gift is presented annually to a faculty member who displays excellence in teaching, research, and administrative efforts.

The Rosenblatt Prize Committee, a group of distinguished faculty members, recommends selected candidates for the award. University President David W. Pershing made the final selection. "Jan has been an outstanding faculty member for more than 40 years," Pershing says. "He is a beloved mentor for his students, an excellent department chair, and a renowned international researcher."

Miller holds a doctoral degree in metallurgical engineering from the Colorado School of Mines and began his career at the University of Utah in 1968. He became a full professor in 1978 and a Distinguished Professor in 2008, and he served as chair of the Department of Metallurgical Engineering from 2002 to 2013.

During his 47 years at the U, he has produced more than 600 publications, won millions of dollars in federal funding through grants and contracts, and secured more than 30 patents that have provided upwards of \$750,000 in income to the U, making him one of the largest royalty earners for the University.

He is perhaps best known for his research contributions associated with the processing of mineral and energy resources, including patents on oil sands processing, resin recovery from Utah coal, and air-sparged hydrocyclone technology.

Miller has supervised the research of more than 100 graduate students, many of whom have received national awards for their thesis research and have gone on to hold tenured faculty or administrative positions all over the world. He received seven best paper awards and four departmental teaching awards in four different decades, and he was elected by his peers to the National Academy of Engineering, one of the highest honors bestowed upon an engineer.



U CHAMBER CHOIR WINS INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The University of Utah Chamber Choir won what is considered by some to be the world championship of amateur choral art, the European Choral Grand Prix. The competition in late May included choirs from all across the globe and had an international jury made up of judges from six different countries.

The U choir, directed by Barlow Bradford BMu'85, became qualified to compete after winning the prestigious Florilège Vocal de Tours in the summer of 2014. For the Grand Prix, they faced the winning choirs from the other regional competitions held in Italy, Hungary, Slovenia, Bulgaria, and Spain. "We had 25 minutes to walk in and show our stuff," Bradford says. "They sang like a million bucks."

The choir followed the competition with performances in early June in cathedrals in Paris, Normandy, and Barcelona.



DELON WRIGHT PICKED BY TORONTO IN NBA DRAFT

Utah's Delon Wright BS'15 was drafted this summer by the Toronto Raptors as the 20th pick in the first round of the 2015 NBA Draft. Wright became the first Ute to be drafted since Andrew Bogut ex'05 went No. 1 in 2005 to the Milwaukee Bucks.

Wright also became the 35th Ute to be selected in the NBA Draft and the 10th to go in the first round. He

joins Billy McGill ex'62, Mike Sojourner ex'74, Danny Vranes ex'81, Tom Chambers ex'77, Keith Van Horn ex'97, Michael Doleac BS'02, Andre Miller BS'98, and Bogut on that illustrious list.

Wright won the Bob Cousy Award for the nation's top point guard and was a *Sporting News* All-American this past season as the Utes advanced to the Sweet 16. He also became the first two-time All-Pac-12 honoree in Utah basketball history, was named the USBWA District VIII Player of the Year, and earned a spot on the John Wooden All-American Team.

KINGSBURY HALL PRESENTS SERIES BROADENS ITS MISSION

Photo by Blaine Truitt Covert



As part of an expanded mission that reaches beyond the boundaries of the Kingsbury Hall stage into other venues and spaces on the University of Utah campus and in the community, the Kingsbury Hall Presents performing arts series has become UtahPresents.

This evolution and expansion has the aim of infusing the campus and community with unique

arts experiences through both live performances and community engagement activities. "Kingsbury Hall, the historic venue, and Kingsbury Hall Presents provide us with a strong foundation for this evolution," says Brooke Horejsi, executive director of UtahPresents and assistant dean for art and creative engagement for the College of Fine Arts. "We are thrilled to announce a new name along with a new season of exciting performances in multiple venues, amazing connections between artists and community members, and a diversity of partnerships to deepen our impact."

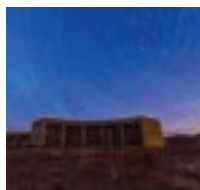
A highlight of the upcoming season includes "Mercy Killers," a one-man show in partnership with the School of Medicine's Division of Medical Ethics and Humanities that will engage both medical students and the public in dialogue about end-of-life decisions and the cost of health care in America. Another highlight will be an evening with tap legend Savion Glover, in concert with Jack DeJohnette, one of the most influential jazz drummers of his time, in a performance of percussion and rhythm. Prior to the public performance, Glover will work with junior high students, and DeJohnette will share his time and talent with U jazz students.

Student attendance at U arts events on campus has skyrocketed since 2011. For the fourth consecutive year, the number of student tickets issued to arts events on campus set a new record for audiences in the arts. During the 2014-15 academic year, the U issued 28,539 Arts Pass tickets, an increase of more than 20 percent over the year before. The Arts Pass program has been in existence since 2011 and allows students to use their UCard to get free or nearly free tickets to hundreds of arts events on campus each year, including those in the UtahPresents series.

"By providing our students access to a diverse array of live performances, discussions, and engaged learning experiences, UtahPresents will help enhance creative thinking, cultivate curiosity, and foster collaboration," says Ruth Watkins, the U's senior vice president for academic affairs.

The UtahPresents season begins September 19, as the new home of TEDx SaltLakeCity, an all-day event filled with speakers focused on a theme of "Upcycled Thinking."

COSMIC RAY OBSERVATORY TO EXPAND



Physicists plan a \$6.4 million expansion of the \$25 million Telescope Array observatory in Utah so they can zero in on a "hot spot" that seems to be a source of the most powerful particles in the

universe: ultrahigh-energy cosmic rays.

Japan will contribute \$4.6 million, and University of Utah scientists will seek another \$1.8 million to nearly quadruple the size of the existing 300-square-mile cosmic ray observatory in the desert west of Delta, Utah. The expansion will allow the next step aimed at identifying which objects in space produce ultrahigh-energy cosmic rays. Luckily, they don't get through Earth's atmosphere.

"We know these particles exist, we know that they are coming from outside our galaxy, and we really don't have a clue as to how nature pumps that much energy into them," says Pierre Sokolsky, a University of Utah Distinguished Professor of physics and astronomy and principal investigator on the Telescope Array's current National Science Foundation grant. "In order to have a clue, we need to know where they are coming from. This hot spot is our first hint."

The planned expansion would make the Telescope Array almost as large and sensitive as the rival Pierre Auger cosmic ray observatory in Argentina. Together, they cover both the northern and southern skies.

U AMONG TOP IN NATION FOR GREEN ENERGY USE



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has once again recognized the University of Utah as a top school for green power purchasing in its College and

University Green Power Challenge.

The U ranked eighth in the nation—and first in the Pac-12—during the 2014-15 competition by purchasing 85,926,100 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy. The total represents 28 percent of the U's total energy use, and it is equivalent to taking more than 12,400 cars off the road. The EPA recognized 39 schools that each purchased at least 10 million kwh of green power.

Much of the credit for the U's accomplishment is owed to students. More than a decade ago, a student-led campaign created a clean energy fund. Because of the campaign, every semester, each student contributes \$1 toward renewable power.



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INNOVATIVE MELANOMA TREATMENT

By Marcia C. Dibble

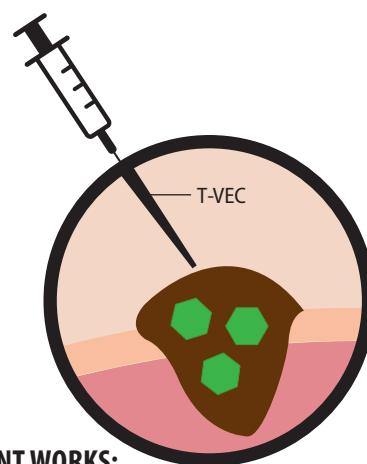
Huntsman Cancer Institute investigators are seeing promising results in fighting melanoma, a form of skin cancer, with a surprising and innovative treatment—a mutated herpes virus. The new treatment, which is free of the often ravaging side effects of chemotherapy, has been found in research trials to create dramatic reversals in 60 percent of metastases injected with the virus-derived therapy, talimogene laherparepvec (or T-VEC). More than half of patients with tumor shrinkage became melanoma-free for a year or more. An FDA review committee voted 22 to 1 this spring for approval of T-VEC. Final decision on approval is expected by late October.

Huntsman oncologist Dr. Robert Andtbacka, an associate professor in the University of Utah's Division of Surgical Oncology, has been leading the T-VEC research and is first author of a report on the research, published in May in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

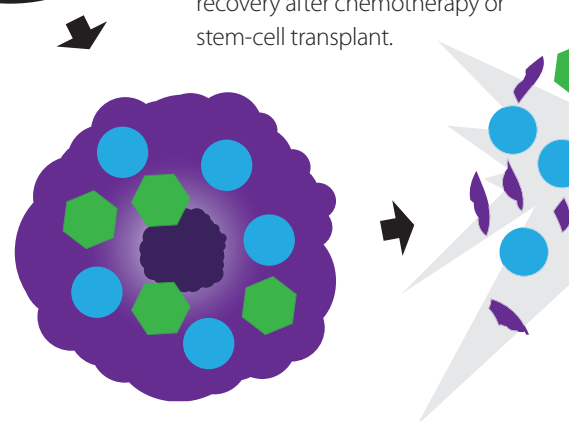
-  T-VEC
-  GM-CSF
-  Melanoma Cell
-  T Cell
-  Melanoma Lesion

HOW THE TREATMENT WORKS:

1 Doctors inject T-VEC, based on a herpes simplex type 1 virus, into a melanoma lesion or lesions. (In the study cited in May, researchers injected the largest and newest lesions first.) T-VEC has been genetically modified to hijack the virus that causes cold sores and change its genome so it attacks only melanoma cells and secretes the growth factor Granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF).



2 Once inside the body, the virus replicates and secretes GM-CSF, overwhelming and eventually bursting the melanoma cells at the lesion site, exposing melanoma cancer proteins to the immune system and initiating an immune response against them. GM-CSF is naturally secreted in the body as part of an immune response and is commonly used as support medication to stimulate a patient's white blood cell recovery after chemotherapy or stem-cell transplant.



SHADE-GROWN COFFEE BEST FOR BIRDS AND FARMERS



The next time you reach for a “wake up” cup of Joe or a chunk of chocolate, you may want to consider whether the coffee or cocoa beans were grown in the shade or open sun. Choosing the shade-grown variety can offer huge benefits to tropical birds, their ecosystems, and farmers—and organic Ethiopian shade-grown coffee is the best option to accomplish that, according to a recent study published in the *Journal of Ornithology*.

Cagan Şekercioğlu, the study's senior author and assistant professor of biology at the University of Utah, compared the types of birds that utilize primary growth forests, where crops like coffee and cocoa are grown in the shade of native trees, and open farmland, where these same crops are grown in bright sun. The study found that agroforests promote and maintain far more bird life than open farmland does, and the wider variety of birds living in the tree canopy aids the overall health of the ecosystem.

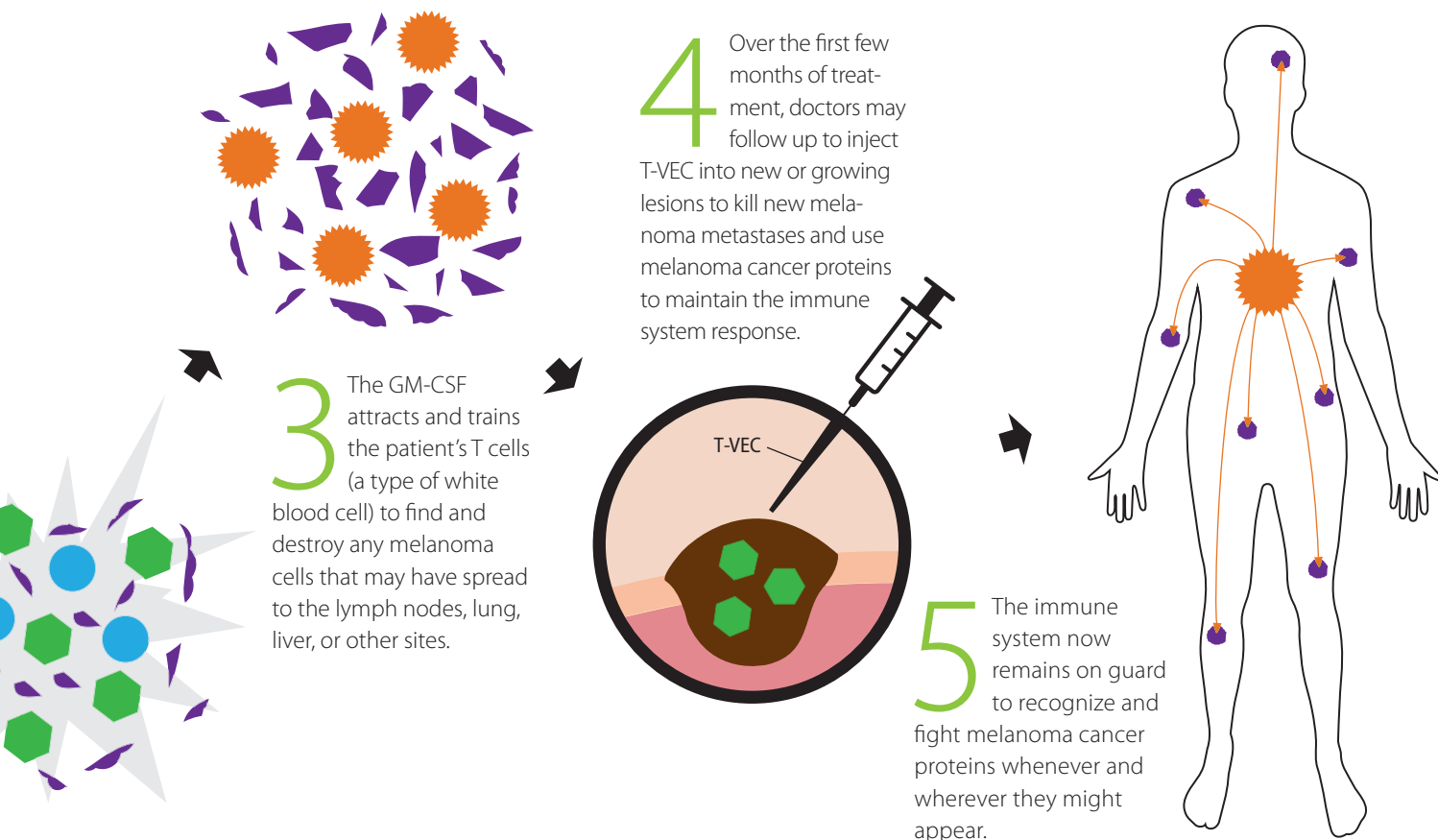
“As you go to more and more open agriculture, you lose some bird groups that provide important ecosystem services like insect control, seed dispersal, and pollination, while you get higher numbers of granivores that actually can be crop pests,” Şekercioğlu says.

Organic shade-grown coffee from Ethiopia, where the coffee is a native species

of the forest, is the best coffee for biodiversity, he says. “It is grown where it belongs in its native habitat, with native tree cover and without chemicals.”

Şekercioğlu's findings are especially important now. A rapidly spreading fungus is affecting shade-grown coffee crops worldwide, resulting in a rapid trend toward fungus-resistant sun-grown coffee. Shade-grown coffee cropland has decreased by 20 percent globally since 1996, with rapid conversion to sun-grown coffee.

“There is potential for consumer choice to have far-reaching and powerful impact,” Şekercioğlu says. “Choosing products that promote conservation and responsible farming practices provides those farmers with the financial incentive to take a risk and produce crops in a way that is economically risky but helps maintain global biodiversity.”



BRIEF WALK BREAKS OFFSET HAZARDS OF SITTING

A new University of Utah study suggests that while low-intensity activities such as standing may not be enough to offset the health hazards of sitting for long periods of time, squeezing in two minutes of walking each hour just might be the solution.

Numerous studies have shown that sitting for extended periods of time each day leads to increased risk for early death, as well as heart disease, diabetes, and other health conditions. Those hazards loom for the many people who hold desk jobs or other positions that require them to sit for long periods of work.

Researchers at the University of Utah School of Medicine investigated the health benefits of trading sitting for light activities for

short periods of time. They found that while the risks of sitting weren't offset by adding low-intensity activities such as standing, light-intensity activity such as walking for just two minutes each hour was associated with a 33 percent lower risk of dying.

The findings of the U study were published this past April in the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*. "The current national focus is on moderate or vigorous activity," says Dr. Srinivasan Beddhu, a U professor of internal medicine who was the study's lead author. "To see that light activity had an association with lower mortality is intriguing."

Other studies have found that while moderate or vigorous exercise is important to strengthen the heart, muscles, and bones, and confers other health benefits that low- and light-intensity activities can't, isolated periods of vigorous exercise are inadequate to offset the risks from long periods of sitting.

"Based on these results, we would recommend adding two minutes of walking each hour in combination with normal activities, which should include 2.5 hours of moderate exercise each week," Beddhu says.



All photos courtesy WET



The Revson Fountain at New York's Lincoln Center, completed in 2009, was designed by Mark Fuller's company WET.



A Big Splash



U ALUM MARK FULLER HAS EARNED WORLDWIDE RENOWN FOR HIS SPECTACULAR FOUNTAINS.

By Elaine Jarvik

O

n the best afternoons, on his way home from elementary school in Salt Lake City, there would be snowbanks and sunshine, and snow melt that rushed down the hill on 1500 East. The boy would kneel down and start rearranging the dirty piles of snow, making

The Dubai Fountain was created by WET in 2009-10 and is considered the world's largest choreographed fountain system.



“

Water is the world's most magical substance.”

tain in the world, the 12-acre Dubai Fountain in the United Arab Emirates. This December, WET is adding two new water features in Dubai, including one at the Dubai Opera House, and several large projects in Asia that Fuller says he can't talk about yet because he's been sworn to secrecy.

It's hard not to gush about what WET creates: the playful arcs and spouts that light up the night, the sensuous fans of water that look almost human as they sway and twirl, the jets that pulse to

spillways and sluices and dams that took the water this way and that (including into large puddles that cars had to maneuver around, but oh well).

All of that was more than a half century ago. Still, all these years later, Mark Fuller is captivated by water and what he can make it do. “The closest thing the world has to a fountain genius” is the way *The New Yorker* described him a few years ago.

Fuller BS'76 and his team at WET in Sun Valley, California, are the creators of famous water features including the Fountains of Bellagio in Las Vegas, the Olympic fountain at the 2014 Winter Games in Russia, and the largest foun-

music and leap 50 stories into the air. As if the water was happy just being itself.

Fuller built his first permanent water feature, a three-foot-by-nine-foot pond, in his parents' tiny backyard in Sugar House when he was in junior high. That success (i.e. his mother was thrilled) was followed by his first fountain.

“The floor of my basement was covered with garden hoses,” remembers his mom, Faye. “His Dad would shake his head and say, ‘Do you think anything will come of this,’” referring to not just the mess but also his son's passions. “And I said, ‘Of course it will.’”

That first fountain, created with his grandfather, was a long concrete planter box next to the house and was powered by an old washing machine pump. “Mark always wanted to embellish everything,” his mother says, recalling how the next step was to put in electric lights. Can't be done, said a woman at some store they went to. “So of course Mark went ahead and did it. He made them out of tomato juice cans.”

By the time he got to Highland High School (class of '69), Fuller says, he was a classic nerd, a slight young man who did not excel in sports—but who today, as an illustrious alum, has a spot of honor in Highland's showcase cabinet that also celebrates its all-state jocks.

At the University of Utah, he was a civil engineering major but stayed an extra year so he could take all the classes that intrigued him. He was president of the exhibition ballroom dance team. One year, for the theater department's outdoor production of *Agamemnon*, he made a fake-stone altar that shot out a giant ball of fire when he pushed a button on a wireless garage door opener.

Here's what he told an audience this past spring when he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the U: Ever since he was nine years old, he wanted to work at Disneyland. "This is what it must be like to be God, to create worlds as you imagine them and have the technical ability to do so," he remembers thinking. And right out of graduate school at Stanford University, he did in fact work at the theme park. But perhaps the real Disneyland in his life, he said, was the University of Utah—"the Disneyland of knowledge and wonder and the endless possibilities that can be realized through the rich and near boundless intellectual riches on this campus."

Fuller took enough theater classes at the U to nearly get him a double

degree. He was initially attracted to the theater because he thought he could meet some pretty actresses. But he stayed because he liked the technical side, inspired by Bill Barber, then technical director at Pioneer Memorial Theatre, and Ron Crosby, the theater's set designer, and director Clyde Vinson.

"He was always very creative and persistent; he always came up with new ways to do things," remembers U emeritus professor of physics and astronomy Haven Bergeson. Mostly, Fuller worked with Bergeson outside of class, spending time helping with cosmic ray experiments in the Silver King mine in Park City, and designing a thing they named Prometheus, an electrical device that flickered as if it were a flame.

But the pivotal moment at the U came one day in a civil engineering class. He was sitting at the back of the room with his friends Dave Ayer HBS'76 Mar'79 and Lee Sim BS'76, watching an audiovisual about fluid mechanics, when all of a sudden a man on the screen was talking about laminar flow: the ability, under the right circumstances, of water to flow in a



Mark Fuller was a U engineering student during the 1970s.



John Constable, *A Cottage in a Cornfield*, 1817. Oil on canvas, 12 3/8 x 10 1/4 in. National Museum Wales (NMW A 486). Courtesy American Federation of Arts.

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He's the Willy Wonka of water."

Conquistador Apartments on 3300 South, making it the unlikely home of the first permanent laminar flow fountain in the world. It was removed when the building was remodeled years later. Who knew the kid was going to become famous?

Could there be a better name for a job than "Imagineer"? That was Fuller's first job title after getting a master's degree in mechanical engineering at Stanford in 1978; he was hired at Disney to develop rides at the California park and then create new works for the opening of the EPCOT Center in Florida. That's when he came up with the Leapfrog Fountain outside the Journey into Imagination Pavilion.

solid, glass-like rod. Hey, said Fuller, maybe we could do our senior honors thesis on that. The typical topics, he says, were things like sewage treatment plant design and storm culverts, but what he wanted to do was create his own really cool fountain.

They ended up making a 10-by-20-foot, four-stream arcing fountain out of cylinders and screens and hundreds of soda straws they cut into tiny pieces. They convinced a friend's father to contribute a few hundred dollars, and then later to install the finished product in the

"The one thing I think we recognized right away was that Mark was willing to take a chance," recalls Marty Sklar, former president of Walt Disney Imagineering. "He wasn't afraid of trying something nobody else had done before." The Leapfrog Fountain used laminar flow, but instead of the water just moving in a solid, arcing rod, Fuller figured out how to make it jump from one spot to another.

After an offer from a Dallas developer to create a fountain at a new shopping center, and with work at EPCOT slowing down, Fuller and two of his colleagues, Melanie Simon and Alan Robinson, started WET (Water Entertainment Technology) in Los Angeles. But it was hard at first to convince other venues that a fountain would be worth their investment, and at one point they were so broke that 13 of Fuller's credit cards had maxed out.

The problem was this: "Fountain" conjured up a bit of gurgling water that was often secondary to the statues and rocks around it. What Fuller, as CEO and chief cheerleader for WET, had to do was convince people that fountains could be playful and daring and emotional, and an asset to a building site—that fountains could in fact be a destination in themselves. Because water, he says, is "the world's most magical substance."

WET was the first to create the now ubiquitous fountains that spout up from pavement, and many of the innovations in fountain design that have followed. "I can say this humbly, I think," says Fuller, "that modern fountains and their omnipresence are contributable to us."

WET's choreographed fountain at the City Creek Center mall in Salt Lake City debuted in spring 2012.





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U alum Mark Fuller makes a presentation about the Dubai Fountain's design, in 2008.

Everything changed for WET one day in 1995, with a phone call from Steve Wynn, who was creating the Bellagio Hotel and Casino on the Las Vegas strip. Wynn's landscape architect had seen the EPCOT Leapfrog Fountain and thought the two men should meet. The result was a \$27 million contract to create what filmmaker Steven Spielberg later told Wynn was "the greatest single piece of public entertainment on Earth."

Before the Fountains of Bellagio were officially opened to the public in 1998, there was a chain link fence around the lake, which meant people could peek in at the initial tests of the elaborate fountains. "The crowd was cheering and clapping," Fuller remembers, "and Steve [Wynn] turned to me and said, 'Do you realize there's not a human performer out there?'"

Instead there were more than a hundred swaying streams and a thousand bursting jets of water, all precisely choreographed in time to music. (You can find many such displays on YouTube; one of the most spectacular is a nighttime fountain show choreographed to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" at the fountain in Dubai.)

All this spectacle is achieved using WET-designed and manufactured water devices ("shooters"), plus nozzle-clad robotic arms ("oarsmen") that can move the water in any direction. To create the oarsman, Fuller had to first visualize what shapes it might make, so he had one of his engineers don a raincoat and then hold a hose over his head while twirling around on a spinning office chair.

"Hes the Willy Wonka of water," says Fuller's personal trainer, Eric Fleishman. "I've rarely met someone who is consistently in such a bubbly mood."

Fleishman, who mostly trains Hollywood actors and their families, including Arnold Schwarzenegger's, also oversees the

free fitness programs at WET, with a list of classes that includes not just the usual yoga and aerobics but also boxing and ballroom dance. For those employees who tend to be more sedentary, Fuller sends trainers to their desks for workstation workouts.

WET is "a living museum of all the things I think are important," he says. Employees get to take free classes in everything from physics to improv comedy, and work in a state-of-the-art space called "the Idea Playground." The staff of 350 includes mechanical engineers, architects, animators, textile designers, graphic designers, choreographers, chemists, model builders, machinists, and optical engineers, who are all encouraged to brainstorm together.

Fuller owns more than 50 patents, but these days, he says, what he mostly does is "flit around pollinating" the ideas of his staff. One day not long ago, though, he was driving home to his wife and kids and had to pull over to the side of the road to write

down five new ideas for an upcoming project in Shanghai.

"Make something that's never been seen before," Wynn told him when he hired him to create the Fountains of Bellagio 20 years ago, and the trick now is to keep doing that, to continually come up with something more surprising. Fuller's fountains incorporate fire, and there is a water feature at the Las Vegas City Center that uses columns of ice that rise up, sculpted by tiny jets of water, and then submerge back into a black pool. But even the small projects are satisfying to create, Fuller says. "It's not at all about the size. It's about seeing people enchanted."

The City Creek Center mall in downtown Salt Lake City has three WET fountains, including one in front of Nordstrom that performs small music-and-water shows and is entrancing but will probably never get a million views on YouTube. "This is my Norman Rockwell fountain," Fuller says.

This is what he imagines: It's Christmastime, a light snow is falling, and at dusk, some tired shoppers stand in front of the fountain with their packages. They see the water jumping up in the air, as if the water were a kid on a trampoline, and they smile.

Here's maybe what it comes down to, all this inventing and choreographing and designing with water, he says: "I like making people feel more glad to be alive." **U**

—Elaine Jarvik is a Salt Lake City-based freelance writer and playwright and a frequent contributor to Continuum.



Visit continuum.utah.edu to view videos about Fuller and his fountains, as well as a gallery with more photos.



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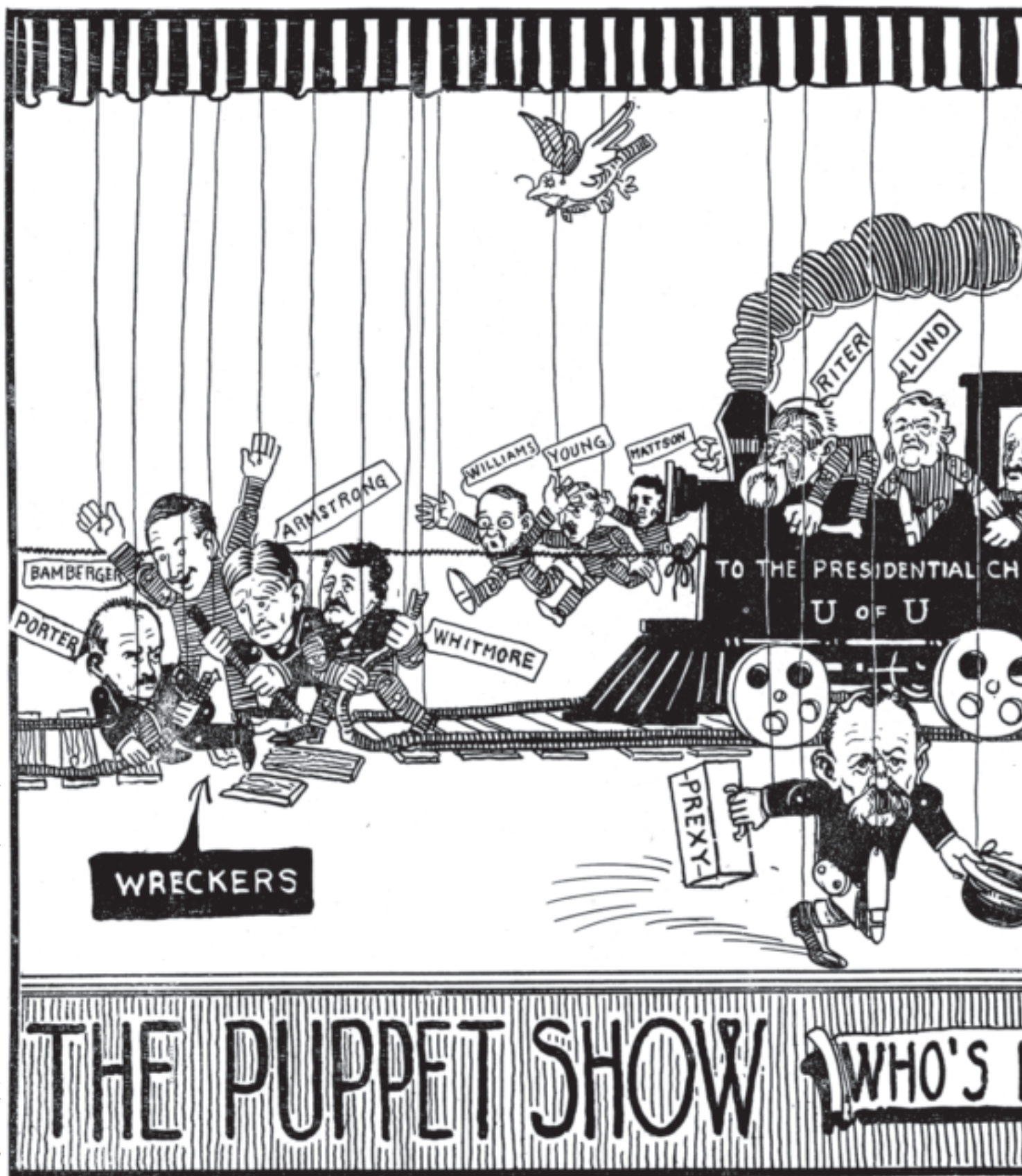
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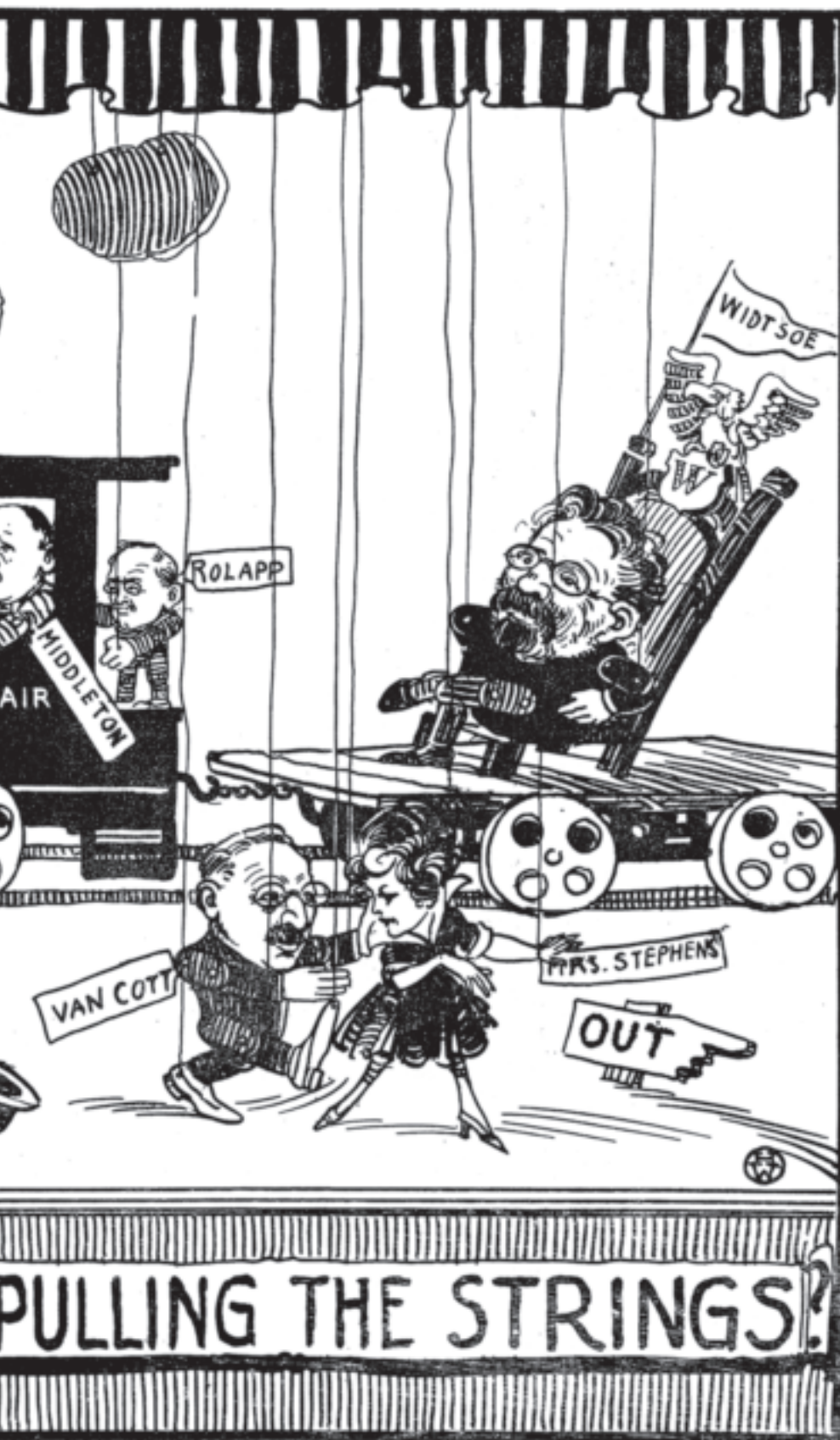
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Rites of Passage

A NATIONAL INQUIRY AND THE FORMATION OF THE FACULTY SENATE HELPED ENSURE ACADEMIC FREEDOM AT THE U.

By L. Jackson Newell

“**T**he University of Utah is a far greater university than anyone expects in a small Western state,” Sterling McMurrin often said with pride. As a former U.S. Commissioner of Education under John F. Kennedy, he had a right to that judgment. But he also understood the reason.

A century ago, the University resembled a modern liberal arts college, with 1,349 students and a close-knit teaching faculty. The campus was abuzz with energy generated by new knowledge that challenged old

« In this satirical cartoon from the 1917 *Utonian*, four members of the Board of Regents (Nathan T. Porter, Ernest Bamberger, William W. Armstrong, and George C. Whitmore) who voted against a measure that would have given the board supreme authority over the faculty and who called for President Joseph T. Kingsbury's retirement are shown as “wreckers” of the U's presidency. Other regents (William N. Williams, Richard W. Young, David Mattson, William W. Riter, Anthon H. Lund, George W. Middleton, and Henry H. Rolapp) are shown driving the train supporting the presidency, with the U's next president, John A. Widtsoe, in tow. In the foreground, Kingsbury is shown heading “out.” And regent Waldemar Van Cott is shown kicking out a U art faculty member, Virginia Snow Stephens, who had been an outspoken supporter of labor activist Joe Hill and had helped pay for his legal defense. She was fired from her U position in December 1915.

assumptions within Mormonism, Utah, and the nation. The institution was further jolted into modernity in April 1915 when the newly founded American Association of University Professors (AAUP) launched its first-ever investigation of academic freedom violations, at the University of Utah. That same month, the University's Academic Senate was formed, to act on behalf of the faculty on tenure issues as well as academic programs and funding.

A tempest had been brewing since the June 1914 valedictory remarks of student Milton Sevy. He had lambasted the regents and state Legislature for “ultra-conservatism” that suppressed the spirits “of young, progressive” students. “We cannot grow as we should under such a policy,” this Mormon graduate proclaimed. “We must have a broader and bigger outlook.” President Joseph T. Kingsbury promptly accused the faculty of aiding Sevy’s cheekiness—which, the president charged, risked legislative support of the University.

In February 1915, Kingsbury had notified four popular non-Mormon faculty members—one from physics, one from modern languages, and two from the English department—that their contracts would not be renewed. He offered no reasons. Met with vigorous protests across the campus, he repelled objections and ignored calls for appeal. The Board of Regents rallied behind the president, claiming it could govern the University as it and its appointed representative saw fit.

Two deans and 15 other respected faculty members resigned in protest, nearly one-third of the teaching staff. Many students also protested vigorously, as did the Alumni Association and prominent women’s literary groups in Salt Lake City. Kingsbury, the regents, and Governor William Spry welcomed the resignations, intensifying the ugly standoff. Among Salt Lake City’s then-four newspapers, the Mormon-influenced *Deseret News* and *Herald-Republican* supported the president and regents, while *The Salt Lake Tribune* and *The Evening Telegram* sided with the faculty, according to Ralph V. Chamberlin’s 1960 history of the University. The U controversy also drew national attention from newspapers in the East.



The Salt Lake City Herald-Republican reported in 1915 that four University of Utah instructors had been fired by President Joseph T. Kingsbury (shown top row, center). The faculty members were Ansel A. Knowlton (top left), George C. Wise (top right), Phil C. Bing (bottom left), and Charles W. Snow (bottom right).

The AAUP took note and dispatched a team of well-known scholars to investigate. Johns Hopkins University philosopher Arthur O. Lovejoy led the delegation that spent four days in Salt Lake City. They commanded such respect that the Board of Regents agreed to meet with Lovejoy. AAUP President John Dewey then examined the evidence and crafted the association’s blunt 82-page report. The University of Utah was found wanting in its recognition of faculty rights, intellectual freedom, and procedures for adjudicating academic and personnel disputes. The report concluded that the administration had abused academic freedom “in such a way as to justify any member of the faculty in resigning forthwith.”

Kingsbury resigned in January 1916 under heavy criticism. The regents were also forced to grant new protections for academic freedom and faculty rights. The Academic Senate’s influence grew over the years, and it now has 118 voting members, including professors as well as students, instructors, researchers, clinicians, librarians, and deans.

The story of the 1914-15 controversy became a legend, repeated for decades around the state. The University of Utah survived a rite of passage that allowed it to strengthen academic freedom and become an emerging national institution. McMurrin was among those reared with stories of the Kingsbury debacle. After he retired as E.E. Ericksen Distinguished Professor at the U in the 1980s, he continued to assert that no university has a keener respect for the importance of academic freedom than the University of Utah—and that has made all the difference in creating the nationally prominent institution we know today. **U**

—L. Jackson Newell is a professor emeritus of educational leadership at the University of Utah.



Visit continuum.utah.edu to read a new online book, *When Rights Clash: Origins of the University of Utah Academic Senate*, by U librarians Allyson Mower and Paul Mogren MA'76 PhD'80, and to read the AAUP's full 1915 report.

Photo courtesy University of Utah Archives

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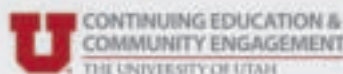
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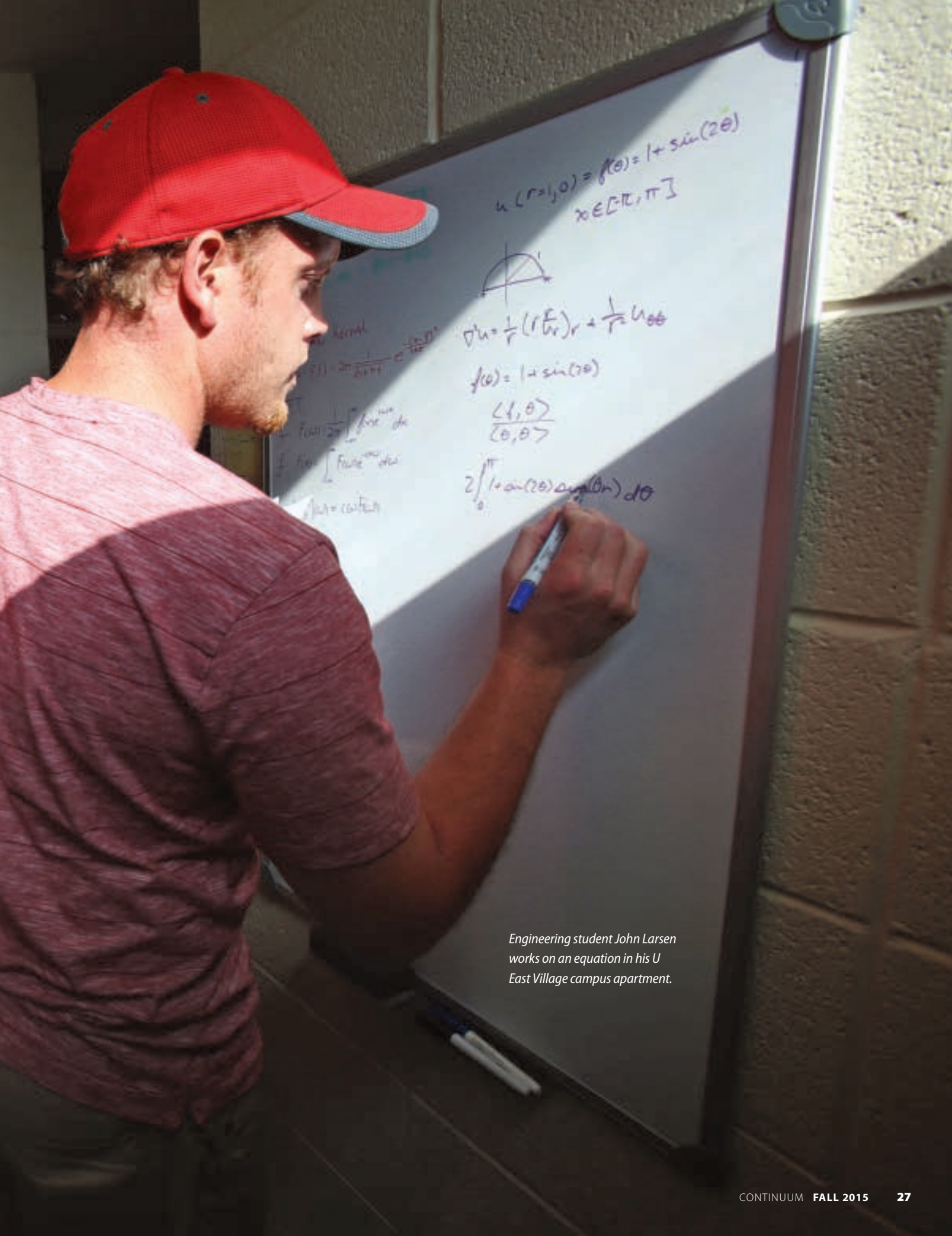


THE COST OF COLLEGE

HOW THE U MOVES STUDENTS
TOWARD GREATER OPPORTUNITY,
WITH ALL-AROUND INVESTMENTS
IN THEIR FUTURES.

*Story by Kim M. Horiuchi
Photos by Brian Nicholson*

At the beginning of every semester, John Larsen sits down at his kitchen table with his wife, 13-year-old daughter, and 11-year-old son to figure out how he will juggle school, work, and time with family. “We have to go through it every spring, summer, and fall,” he says. Both he and his wife work at the University of Utah while he pursues a degree in mechanical engineering. It’s complicated and stressful. They calculate, “How are we going to work this out? How many hours can I work? When can we be there for the kids? There’s actually a schedule on our fridge right now,” he says. “You’ve got to find the groove.”



$$u(r=1, \theta) = f(\theta) = 1 + \sin(2\theta) \\ \theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$$



$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{r} \left(r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right)_r + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}$$

$$f(\theta) = 1 + \sin(2\theta)$$

$$\frac{(1, \theta)}{(0, \theta)}$$

$$2 \int_0^\pi (1 + \sin(2\theta)) \sin(n\theta) d\theta$$

Engineering student John Larsen works on an equation in his U East Village campus apartment.

Barbara Snyder, the U's vice president of student affairs, with students outside the U's Union Building



Larsen, a junior who lives with his family at the U's Student Apartments, is cobbling together Pell Grants, work-study wages, and a small student loan to finish school. He acknowledges that his path to college has been long and winding. After high school in Bountiful, Utah, his interest in oil painting lured him to Snow College, where he studied art for a semester before marrying and going to work installing air-conditioning units for his father-in-law's company. "I had to bring in the money," he says. But his background in art kept beckoning, and he realized there was a limit to his earnings. "I wanted to take the next leap, provide for my family better, and get through college—to say I accomplished it."

Larsen enrolled at Salt Lake Community College in 2011 and transferred to the University of Utah's College of Engineering last spring. He views mechanical engineering as a "technical form of art" and hopes that once he has the U degree, he can design the HVAC systems he once installed. "Because I have a long time to work, it's definitely a good investment, and it will pay off pretty quickly," he says. "So we'll tighten the belts right now for a few years, and then it will pay for itself."

While state and federal funds for college have been shrinking, tuition across the country has been increasing, and students are carrying more and more debt to fill in the gaps. A national refrain has emerged: Is college worth it? Will students see a return on their investment? Especially in the past few years, as the nation has been recovering from the worst recession in its history and graduates continue to face a tough job market, the questions have been posed often—by political pundits, government leaders, and media commentators, as well as scholars, students, parents, and even college administrators. Universities have turned introspective, questioning how to define the worth of education and ultimately deliver what students need.

The University of Utah has focused on building value for students. That means not only attracting them to the U and seeing them graduate, but providing experiences that go beyond the classroom. It means keeping tuition low and providing students with scholarships, individualized financial aid packages, and debt counseling, as well as helping them balance their complicated lives and find opportunities after graduation, so that the return on their investment in education is self-evident.

Barbara Snyder, the University of Utah's vice president of student affairs, says the U carries huge value for the money spent: "If you come into this institution, particularly if you come into certain programs, you are getting an Ivy League education at a public school cost. There's absolutely no doubt about it."

Tuition at the U will increase 3.5 percent this fall, but the University's in-state tuition and fees, at \$7,935 last year, remain the lowest in the Pac-12 and below the national average of \$9,139 for four-year public institutions. U students also carry less debt, graduating with an average \$20,019 debt load for a four-year degree, compared with \$28,400 for students nationwide. About 40 percent of U students borrow at some point as undergraduates, compared with a national average of 57 percent. And the three-year default rate on loans of U students is 3.4 percent, compared with a national default rate of 9.1 percent.

A "best buy" is how the 2016 *Fiske Guide to Colleges* describes the U in ranking it among the nation's top 20 public institutions for value. *BestColleges.com* lists the University of Utah at No. 8 this year among the nation's public colleges for affordability, noting "students are able to find employment after graduation sufficient enough to cover the cost of their education."

But Snyder says defining value involves much more than calculating the expense of getting a degree against the potential return of a high-paying job. In particular, as the state's flagship institution with faculty who are leading scholars and researchers in their fields, the U is providing experiences that students often wouldn't get at other Utah colleges.

"One of the most important things for U students is that they are learning from individuals who create knowledge, not those who just use and share knowledge that other people have created, but from individuals who are on the cutting edge of creating new knowledge," she says.

"That's something you don't get to do in many other places. It really is something that probably defines your future, and

might very well help lead you to a different future than what you had before.”

Richard Fry, a senior researcher at the Washington, D.C.-based Pew Research Center, says earning potential alone makes college worth it. Over a 40-year work life, a typical high school graduate earns around \$800,000, compared with the \$1.4 million for someone with a bachelor's degree. While it is true that students are borrowing greater amounts to finance their education, the \$600,000 in extra earnings for college graduates is significant. “There is no way, even if the student has to borrow for their entire education, not to realize that benefit,” Fry says. “College will definitely pay off.”

Thirty-four percent of young adults in the United States have at least a bachelor's degree, making them the best-educated generation in history, according to a 2014 Pew report. The income gap between those with a high school versus college education also has widened, and young college graduates with bachelor's degrees now are earning an average of \$17,000 more annually than people with only high-school diplomas. “What's really changed is that for the high school-educated, their labor market opportunities have really, really diminished,” Fry says.

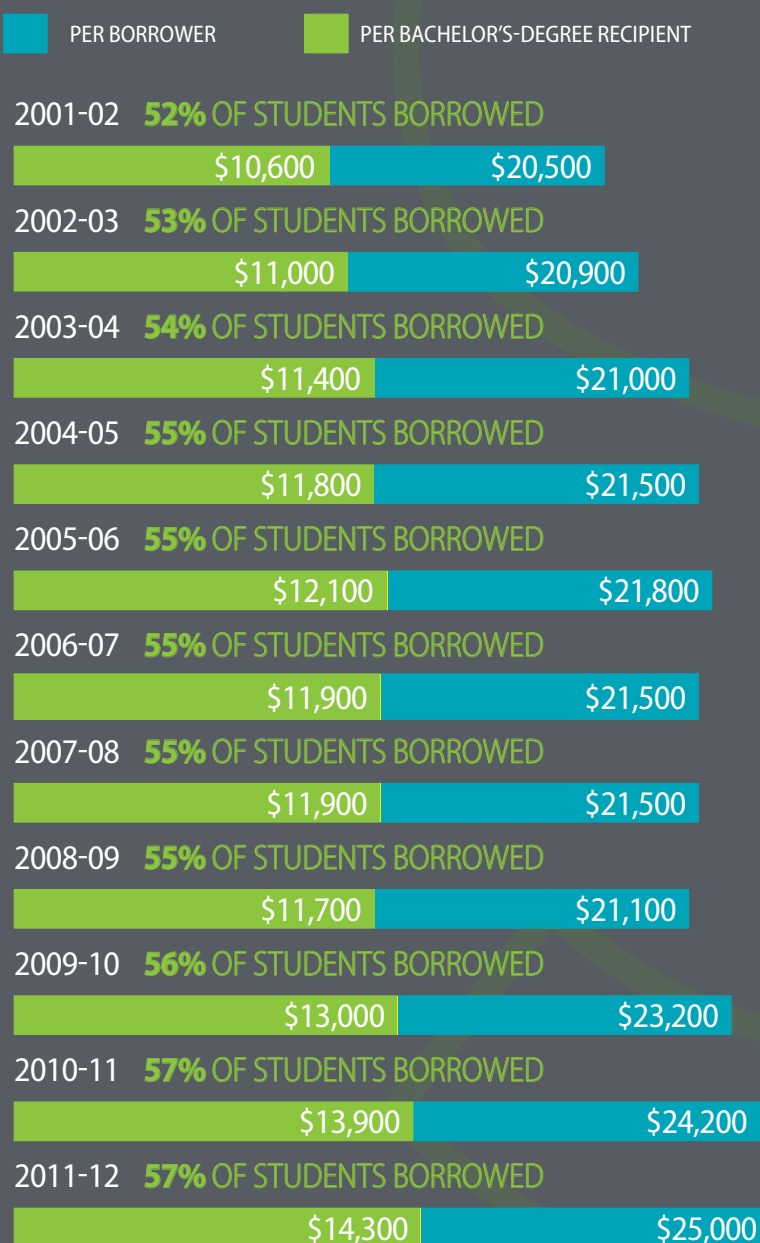
In some cases, people with college degrees have taken jobs that once required only a high school diploma, displacing the high school grads and making a college degree not only valuable but vital. Among young adults, 22 percent of those with only a high school diploma are living in poverty, compared to 6 percent of those with a college degree, according to the Pew study. “If you look at the typical outcomes, there is no doubt that for those who at least get a bachelor's degree—in terms of their earnings, in terms of the economic outcomes—they tend to be substantially better off than young adults who finish their education at high school,” Fry says.

Stan Inman, director of Career Services at the U, says college graduates, regardless of major, are the ones who are expected to see increases in responsibility, leadership, and advancements in their jobs.

DEBT LEVELS

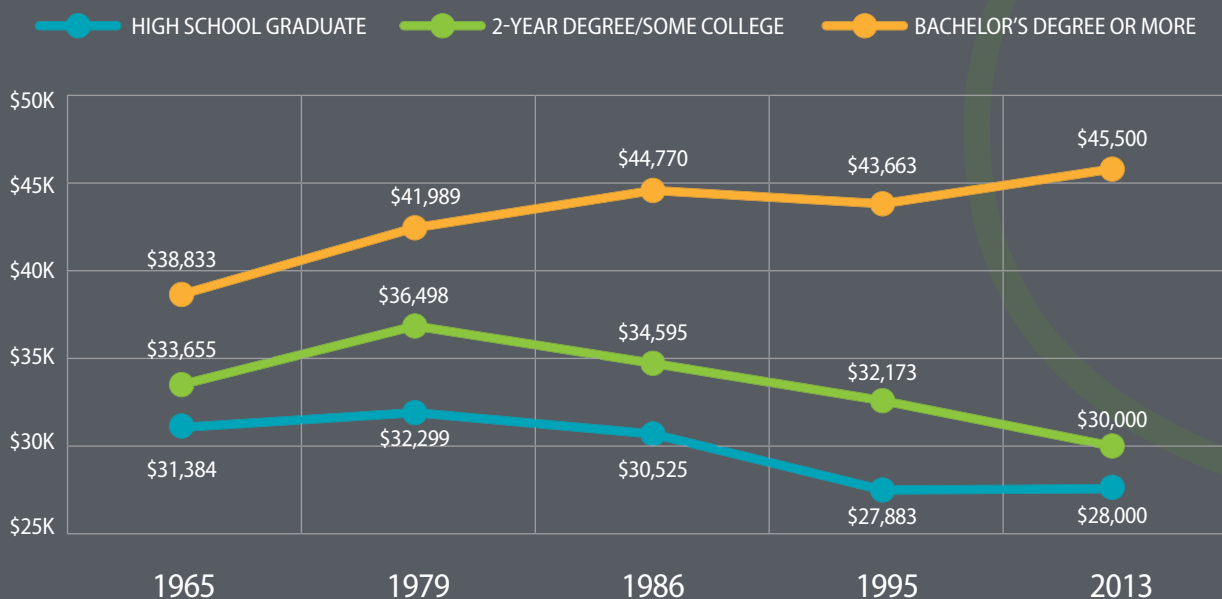
AVERAGE TOTAL DEBT LEVELS OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS AT PUBLIC 4-YEAR COLLEGES 2001-02 TO 2011-12

Students who graduated with debt in 2011-12 borrowed \$25,000, on average, 22 percent more than did students who graduated with debt a decade earlier. With a higher share of students borrowing, the average amount of debt per bachelor's-degree recipient went up 34.9 percent over the decade, from \$10,600 in 2001-02 to \$14,300 in 2011-12.



Note: Debt figures include both federal loans and loans from nonfederal sources that have been reported to the institutions. Only students who began their studies at the institutions from which they graduated are included. Transfer students are excluded. Debt figures are based on institutional reporting to the College Board in annual surveys and are at best approximations. Figures are in constant 2012 dollars. Source: College Board

The earnings advantage of having a college degree over just a high-school diploma was more than two and a half times greater in 2013 than in 1965, but the pay advantage of having a two-year degree or some college stayed about the same, at 7 percent.



Note: Median annual earnings are based on earnings and work status reported for the preceding calendar year by participants in the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. Only earnings of 25- to 32-year-olds who worked at least 35 hours a week during that year were counted. Figures are in constant 2012 dollars.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data

"A four-year degree is about creating the boundary-crossing skills that are going to make them successful in life," he says. The University provides students with career-building help such as internships, networking, and advising, long before they graduate.

The U also counsels students about debt. Ann House, coordinator of the U's Personal Money Management Center, says her office was organized about five years ago to help students navigate personal financial decisions. A portion of student fees—\$3 per semester per student—helps fund the center, which provides workshops, classes, and other resources for financial planning. The aim is to alleviate some of students' stress over money matters. (A national study by Ohio State found that

70 percent of students feel stressed about personal finances, and nearly 60 percent are worried about having enough money to pay for school.)

Mary Parker, who oversees enrollment as the U's associate vice president of student affairs, says the University strives to meet one-on-one with students and build comprehensive financial aid packages to meet individual needs. The goal is to help students who are academically qualified and who can be successful at the University have the financial resources they need to enroll at the U and complete their education. "We don't want cost to stand in the way," Parker says.

This year, the U awarded more than \$15 million in scholarships, focusing on three areas: providing access to the University

for low-income students, attracting high-achieving students, and giving already-enrolled students near the finish line the boost they need to complete their degrees. The U also launched a campaign to encourage students to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), after Utah placed dead last in the nation last year in the number of high school seniors completing the federal aid form. After the campaign, more than 14,600 students completed it, an increase of 20 percent over the previous year.

The average financial aid package for U students is about \$18,000, including state, federal, and institutional resources, Parker says. "It's not just about recruiting students and getting them here, but then we also help those students complete

their degree.” To make ends meet, most U students also have jobs. A whopping 85 percent of U students work at least part-time, according to the University’s graduation survey that was completed by more than 2,500 students this past spring. “Our students work more than most students,” Snyder says. “They have multiple family responsibilities. So it’s very, very important that we do what we can so they are not put in a financial situation where they are going to be hamstrung.”

Erin Castro, a U assistant professor of educational leadership and policy, says that as the dialogue about the value of higher education grows louder, educational institutions need to define their worth. That can be difficult, especially when students are often viewed as consumers and higher education as a product, begging a measurable approach such as looking at job placement or first-year salaries after graduation. “It’s not that I don’t want students to complete degrees and to do so in timely ways, but by solely focusing

on these measurable outcomes, I think we tragically miss what makes public postsecondary education in the U.S. unique,” she says. She suggests institutions reiterate their loftier responsibilities. “We cultivate ideas. We nurture people. We foster a sense of wonder and exploration. These dispositions are all ‘products’ that are not easily measured, but that doesn’t mean they are not important.”

Fred Esplin MS’74 MA’74, the U’s vice president of institutional advancement, knows his future would have been different if not for higher education. He and his sister, who is a faculty member at Brigham Young University, are the first of their family to graduate from college. Their father had attended college for two years at the Branch Agriculture College, now Southern Utah University, and expected to attend veterinary school at Michigan State. But Esplin’s grandfather needed the young man to herd the sheep on their ranch in

southern Utah, so that is what he did. “It was a source of disappointment for him, and I vowed at an early age to pursue a college education and achieve it,” Esplin says. “I consider myself very, very fortunate to have a college education.” (Back in 2008, at a U Humanities Happy Hour event, he told the story of his personal experience in a speech he titled “How the Humanities Saved Me from Becoming a Cowboy.”) “I think the virtues of a higher education are self-evident, not only for the practical benefits, but the benefits for a richer, fuller life,” he says now.

Even so, colleges do have an obligation to make higher education more affordable, which in turn builds additional value, he says. While his Pac-12 and Big-10 colleagues are amazed at how low the U’s tuition is, “our tuition and fees are still a lot of money for most people,” he says. To help, the University of Utah raised \$1.6 billion, including \$130 million for scholarships and graduate fellowships, with its recent Together We



U student Olivia Wan works with Kevin Yu in the University's Personal Money Management Center.

TUITION AND FEES

PAC-12 UNIVERSITIES 2014-15

INSTITUTION	STATE	TYPE	ROOM AND BOARD	IN-STATE TUITION	IN-STATE TOTAL	OUT-OF-STATE TUITION	OUT-OF-STATE TOTAL
Arizona State University	AZ	Public 4-year	\$10,394	\$10,156	\$20,550	\$24,502	\$34,896
Oregon State University	OR	Public 4-year	\$11,151	\$9,422	\$20,573	\$26,594	\$37,745
Stanford University	CA	Private 4-year	\$13,631	\$44,184	\$57,815	\$44,184	\$57,815
University of Arizona	AZ	Public 4-year	\$9,714	\$10,957	\$20,671	\$29,421	\$39,135
University of California at Berkeley	CA	Public 4-year	\$15,438	\$12,972	\$28,410	\$35,850	\$51,288
University of California at Los Angeles	CA	Public 4-year	\$13,135	\$13,029	\$26,164	\$35,907	\$49,042
University of Colorado at Boulder	CO	Public 4-year	\$12,810	\$10,789	\$23,599	\$33,151	\$45,961
University of Oregon	OR	Public 4-year	\$11,442	\$9,918	\$21,360	\$30,888	\$42,330
University of Southern California	CA	Private 4-year	\$13,334	\$48,280	\$61,614	\$48,280	\$61,614
University of Utah	UT	Public 4-year	\$8,528	\$7,935	\$16,463	\$25,267	\$33,795
University of Washington	WA	Public 4-year	\$10,833	\$12,394	\$23,227	\$33,513	\$44,346
Washington State University	WA	Public 4-year	\$11,276	\$11,386	\$22,662	\$24,468	\$35,744

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Reach campaign. Esplin says the U also plans a new “Student Success Initiative” this fall that will focus on raising funds specifically to support the undergraduate experience, including another \$100

million for scholarships and fellowships.

Olivia Wan, a U senior studying business administration, says without the financial aid she has received, she probably wouldn’t be going to school at

all. A first-generation college student, her parents moved Wan, her older brother, and two younger sisters from Hong Kong to Utah in 2007 in search of educational opportunity. Wan graduated from Salt Lake City’s West High School before starting at LDS Business College and receiving a transfer scholarship to come to the University of Utah. She lives at home, works two part-time jobs, and took out a subsidized loan this past summer to help her toward completing her degree. “It’s always a struggle with finances, but it’s worth it, definitely,” she says.

Larsen, who hopes to finish his mechanical engineering degree in another year, also recognizes that his education will open doors. “I’m sure there will be all kinds of opportunities I didn’t have before,” he says. “Doors that I probably don’t even see.” **U**

—Kim M. Horiuchi is an associate editor of Continuum.



Fred Esplin, the U's vice president of institutional advancement

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THE STORIES Buildings Tell

U EMERITUS
PROFESSOR THOMAS
CARTER HAS SPENT
YEARS EXPLORING
THE CULTURAL
ASPECTS OF
ARCHITECTURE.

By Peg McEntee

THOMAS CARTER started out just wanting to play the fiddle. As a teenager in Salt Lake City in the early 1960s, he'd been drawn to folk music of the kind performed by Peter, Paul and Mary and The Kingston Trio, and as he dug deeper into the genre, he found his way to the music of the Appalachian South. He was hooked by the New Lost City Ramblers, who did several shows at the University of Utah during those years. "They played old-time fiddle tunes, and banjo in the old drop thumb, or claw hammer style," he says. He and his buddies decided to start their own band in that vein, "and by default I became the fiddler."



Photo by Austen Diamond

U emeritus professor Tom Carter, shown here in the living room of his Salt Lake City home, is an expert on vernacular architecture.



Photo by Austen Diamond

Tom Carter has played the fiddle for years and in the '70s recorded LPs with the Fuzzy Mountain String Band.

HIS love of that music took him to other paths besides fiddling, however. It eventually led him to study folklore, and then histories, and then to a long career examining how historical buildings reflect the culture of the people who built them. “I had always liked old buildings, for like the old fiddle tunes, they connected me to a pre-modern rural world that somehow seemed more ‘authentic’ than the suburban neighborhood I had grown up in,” says Carter, who is now a professor emeritus in the University of Utah’s College of Architecture and Planning. “I’ve spent a lifetime collecting and recording hand-made rather than machine-made music and buildings.”

After graduating from high school in Salt Lake City, Carter attended Brown University in Rhode Island, where he studied American history. But he says his “transformative experience” came in an ethnomusicology class. He wasn’t doing well in the class—quite likely because he kept going to Vermont to attend old-time fiddlers’ conventions—and his professor suggested he write his term paper on the fiddlers he’d met there.

“I located one old guy, Neil Converse of Plainfield, Vermont, and he let me record him,” Carter says. “The paper wasn’t really very good, as I recall, but it got me through the course, and in the process, I discovered the one thing I could do, which was fieldwork.”

At Brown, Carter also met the American folklorist Archie Green, who introduced him to that field and told him about a good program getting underway at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in American history at Brown, Carter visited the Chapel Hill campus on his way from a fiddle festival in North Carolina. The folklore program director, Dan Patterson, offered him an assistantship working to set up the North Carolina Folklore Archive, and Carter went on to receive a master’s degree in American folklore. He wrote his thesis on a fiddler from Allegheny County, North Carolina, named Joe Caudill. “I also played in the Fuzzy Mountain String Band, which became quite influential in the folk music revival, due to a couple of LPs the band released in the early ‘70s,” Carter recalls.

Patterson put Carter in touch with Indiana University’s Folklore Institute, where one faculty member, Henry Glassie, was a banjo player as well as a writer on material culture and folk housing. During his tutelage in Indiana’s doctoral program, Carter and his then wife, Ann Kaedesch, spent a year living in an 1850s farmhouse in the Blue Ridge Mountains, with Carter focusing on the arrival of the banjo and how it affected the early fiddle music of the region in North Carolina and Virginia. He recorded as many musicians as he could. “My recordings never became a dissertation—I got sidetracked by architecture—but I did produce a series of LPs called the *Old Originals*, the title referring to the ‘old original’ folk music of the region, as opposed to newer popular music that superseded it,” he says.

For his dissertation, Carter instead chose to examine the early Mormon folk housing that still existed in Nauvoo, Illinois. Carter began working with Jan Shippo, a professor of religious history at Indiana University who would become his mentor on historical architecture and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The fiddle, she says now, “could have been his life. He’s that good. But there he is, having this incredible ability to look at

a house. He was curious and able to figure it out.” Carter says his move from folklore to architectural history and preservation seemed quite natural to him. “I was better at analyzing buildings than I was at analyzing musical scales,” he says. “I found I could easily substitute houses for fiddle tunes.”

CARTER and his wife decided they wanted to return to the mountains of Utah, so he shifted the focus of his doctoral study from Mormon architecture in Nauvoo to that of Utah’s Sanpete County, home of the Manti Temple and, he says, “the best collection of early Mormon buildings.” Unlike Salt Lake City, where many old buildings had long been demolished to allow for new growth, Sanpete contained the largest number of early buildings anywhere in Utah. “I wanted to study the 1847-1890 period, and more importantly, the whole Zion-building process,” he says.

So he and his wife lived in Sanpete County, where she taught dance at Snow College while he did research for his dissertation. (Along the way, they also had a son and a daughter, who he says recall vacations filled with him stopping to photograph or draw old buildings.) “Folklore is really the study of everyday life, a kind of populist inquiry that was highly attractive to many of us coming out of the cultural upheavals of the 1960s,” he says. “So while I liked old stuff, whether fiddle tunes or houses, they were only a means to the larger end of doing cultural history.”

He became the architectural historian at the Utah Division of State History in 1978, a position he would hold until 1990. “In the 1970s, many states were beginning, under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, to survey their historic buildings, so there was work,” he says. And in 1984, he received his doctorate from Indiana University in American folklore, with a minor in Western American history, and began teaching vernacular architecture classes as an adjunct instructor at the University of Utah.

During those years, he worked closely with Peter L. Goss, a U architectural

“

In some ways, I guess I have used these old houses as a backdrop for the style of unconventional life I have wanted to lead.”

history professor, and together they wrote *Utah’s Historic Architecture, 1847-1940: A Guide*, published in 1988. “Peter saw that I contributed something very different, and that together we made a good team,” Carter says now. “He knew the architectural vocabulary, and the architect-designed buildings, and I was all about the common stuff and knew how to get into people’s houses to draw up the floor plans. So we combined our talents on the Utah guidebook, which was the first of its kind really to combine architectural styles and building types in a single work.”

Carter became an assistant professor in the U’s Graduate School of Architecture in 1990 and director of the U’s Western Regional Architecture Program. As a newly minted professor, he received a grant from the federal National Endowment for the Humanities to further study Western vernacular architecture. The work entailed what Carter has always loved: summer field trips that took him and his students out to draw buildings around the West. He also developed a master’s program on preservation and established an archive of 500 to 600 drawings in the West.

His friend Jack Brady BS’92 MAr’94, an architect in Layton, remembers those days of Carter and his students “crawling around basements and attics and understanding details on structure and organization of space.” Carter and his students also drew the elements they saw, and many made their way into summer booklets. “You don’t understand it unless you sketch it on paper,” Brady says. “That’s the discovery process. You learn about the culture the builders had in mind.”

IN 2005, Carter and co-author Elizabeth Collins Cromley published *Invitation to Vernacular Architecture: A Guide to the Study of Ordinary Buildings and Landscapes*, a book that has come to be considered a main introductory text for the field of vernacular architecture studies.

Cory Jensen BS’89, now the architectural historian at the Utah State Historical Society, was one of Carter’s many students. “His enthusiasm for and



Photo courtesy Thomas Carter

Tom Carter, doing architectural fieldwork on a pioneer house in Utah’s Sanpete County

love of architectural history, particularly in vernacular architecture studies, was contagious,” Jensen says. “Buildings can be read like a book, and Tom has one of those minds that is always looking at different angles on how vernacular architecture can tell us about our society and culture.”

The U’s Western Regional Architecture Program in 1996 was awarded the Paul Buchanan Prize from the Vernacular Architecture Forum for its significant contribution to the history of American architecture. And in 2011, Carter received the Vernacular Architecture Forum’s prestigious Henry Glassie Award for a “lifetime achievement in vernacular architecture studies.”

Over the years, Carter has researched and written on subjects throughout the United States, including the

Japanese-American shop houses in Fresno, California; a folklife survey of Italian-American building traditions in Nevada and Utah; and Basque rooming-houses in Nevada. His latest book, *Building Zion: The Material World of Mormon Settlements*, was published this past March by the University of Minnesota Press. “I started this book at the beginning of my teaching career, and I am finishing it in my academic twilight years,” he writes in the preface. “Had I completed it earlier, however, I believe I would have missed much of what’s important. My central theory is that rather than competing with each other, or stemming from deep inconsistencies or contradictions within the culture, the two sides of the Mormon, the temple and the house... were creatively combined to give the Latter-day Saints two elements

essential for their survival: from the temples came the *otherness* that staked out a distinctive and decidedly Mormon religious identity, and from the houses... came an *orthodoxy* that allowed them to fit rather seamlessly into mainstream American culture.”

Carter retired from full-time teaching in 2010. Now a professor emeritus, he continues to work on writing projects, including a book on vernacular design that uses his Utah fieldwork, as well as another book, *Sagebrush Cities: The Industrial Landscape of Cattle Ranching in Elko County, Nevada*. He’s also busy organizing the 2017 meeting of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, which will be held in Salt Lake City. The event is a joint effort of the University with the Utah Heritage Foundation, the Utah State Historical Society, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and will include fieldwork-based tours showcasing Utah’s architecture. But this summer, Carter also made time for fly fishing in Idaho and Montana, and he loves backcountry skiing in the winter.

“In some ways, I guess I have used these old houses as a backdrop for the style of unconventional life I have wanted to lead,” he says. “My whole life, I have sort of lived in the past. My music, the way I dress, my cars (I drive a 1962 Mercedes Ponton, but it was old Volvo 122s before that) have been old ones, and my houses, too. ... This fascination between things and the ideas that produced them and made them useful and attractive to people has been what drove me forward. I have been a good fieldworker, but I also have been a good student of American culture.” **U**

—Peg McEntee is a former longtime journalist with The Salt Lake Tribune and Associated Press who now works as a Salt Lake City-based freelance writer.



Tom Carter sketches a Gothic-style house in Salt Lake City’s Avenues neighborhood that was built during the 1860s. He documented the house, originally owned by William Barton, for a study of Mormon housing in Utah.



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1950s



Paul A. Hauck
MA'51 PhD'53
recently received
the 2014 Albert
Ellis Humanitarian
Award for his
contributions to the

field of mental health. Hauck, a psychologist who practices in the northwestern Illinois and southeastern Iowa areas, was instrumental in the development of cognitive behavior therapy. His 16 popular psychology "how to" books, which have been translated into a score of languages, remain top sellers today. The award is presented each year by the New York-based Albert Ellis Institute, a psychotherapy training institute. Ellis was the founder of cognitive behavior therapy, which treats issues including anxiety, depression, jealousy, and emotional behavioral problems by teaching coping skills for current and future problems. Most of Hauck's books are based on that approach. Hauck received both his master's and doctoral degrees in psychology from the U.

1960s



Ronald F. Coleman
BS'66 PhD'80, a
history professor
in the University
of Utah's College
of Humanities and
a former U asso-

ciate vice president for diversity and faculty development, was one of three honored with a 2015 Humanitarian Award by the Inclusion Center for Community and Justice. The Salt Lake City-based center's award recognizes individuals and organizations that are involved in building inclusive communities. Coleman received a bachelor's degree in sociology at the U; a master's degree in social science (history emphasis) at California State University, Sacramento; and a doctorate in history at the U. He joined the U faculty in 1973 and has also served as coordinator of the Ethnic Studies Program. His primary research focus is African American history in Utah and beyond.

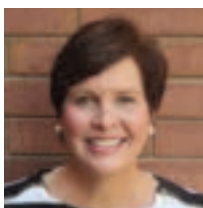
ALUMNI BOARD WELCOMES SIX NEW DIRECTORS



John Dunn



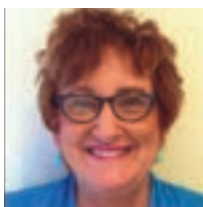
Matthew Gregory



Annie Nebeker



Joseph Sargetakis



Carolyn Schubach



John Ward

The University of Utah Alumni Association has six new members of its Board of Directors, as well as new presidents for three of its affiliated boards. The new members and leaders were introduced by board President Julie Barrett BA'70 and Vice President Scott Verhaaren BA'90 MBA'91 at the association's annual board meeting in May.

The new directors are John Dunn, Matthew Gregory, Annie Nebeker, Joseph Sargetakis, Carolyn Schubach, and John Ward.

Dunn BA'92 JD'95 is president and chief executive officer of Metro Ready Mix, a Utah-based concrete company, and the founder and managing director of the investment firm Banyan Ventures. He received an undergraduate degree in political science and went on to graduate from the U's College of Law.

Gregory BS'85 is the chief sales officer for Arches Health Plan. He has had a long career in the health care insurance industry and prior to joining Arches was a vice president with Leavitt Benefits Practice Group from 2001 to 2013.

Nebeker HBA'87 PhD'10 is a clinical social worker with the Breast Cancer Clinic at the Huntsman Cancer Institute. She previously served as the U's dean of students from 2007 to 2013. She holds a bachelor's degree and a doctorate from the U, as well as a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Sargetakis BA'80 is a co-owner of Frog Bench Farms, which supplies organic produce to farm-to-table restaurants in Salt Lake City. He also is the distribution manager for Parallel Wines. Prior to those endeavors, he was a vice president and financial advisor with Morgan Stanley from 1998 to 2006 and an account vice president with Kidder Peabody/Paine Webber from 1987 to 1998. He received his bachelor's degree at the U in organizational communications.

Schubach MEd'72 has had an accomplished career as a K-12 educator and most recently served as the associate director for Advanced Learning and Dual Immersion Programs for Granite School District. In June, she became director for dual language immersion programs statewide for the Utah State Office of Education. She received her master's degree in education from the U.

Ward BS'82 has been the chief financial officer for Harmons Grocery since 2000. Previously, he was president of the HealthGroup, a manufacturer and seller of medical products. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the U and an MBA from Westminster College.

The Alumni Association also welcomed three new presidents of its affiliated boards. Jim Cannon BA'68 is now president of the Emeritus Alumni Board. Gail Ellison BA'12 leads the Beehive Honor Society Board. And Mary Neville is the new president of the Student Alumni Board.



U GRADUATES FORM BRAZIL ALUMNI CLUB

The University of Utah now has a Brazil Alumni Club. Graduates in and from Brazil formed the club this spring, bringing the total number of U international alumni clubs to 11.

The U has 144 Brazilian alumni, and 80 students from Brazil are enrolled at the University this year. The president of the new Brazil Alumni Club is Jefferson Dias da Silva BS'07, who lives in São Paulo. After receiving his undergraduate degree in information systems at the U, he went on to get an MBA from Florida Christian University, and he now works as a channel and product manager for Hewlett-Packard in Brazil.

The U Brazil Alumni Club also has three board members: Chase Olson BA'13, who lives in Campinas; Mark Neeleman BA'05, in Florianopolis; and Berthold Kriegshäuser PhD'97, in Rio de Janeiro. Olson, who received his degree from the U in international studies with an emphasis in Latin America, works as a client retention leader for Vigzul, a security service company based in Campinas. Neeleman, whose U degree also is in international studies, has been involved in several entrepreneurial endeavors since graduation and now is founder and executive director of Bamazon Technologies, a company that develops bamboo for use as a wood replacement, with the aim of helping halt the deforestation of the Amazon rainforest. Kriegshäuser, who received his doctorate in geophysics from the U, manages geoscience and reservoir navigation teams across Latin America for Baker Hughes, an oilfield service company.

The U currently has 10 other alumni clubs, along with the new Brazil club, in China, Europe, Hong Kong, India, Mongolia, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam.

GET READY FOR TWO AWAY-GAME TAILGATES

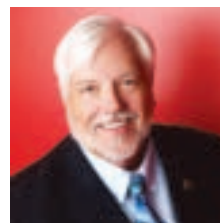


Join the University of Utah Alumni Association for two away-game tailgate parties for the 2015 football season! The events will be held at two Pac-12 venues: the University of Southern California and the University of Washington.

The Official Utah Tailgate at USC will be held Saturday, October 24, near the stadium in Los Angeles. The tailgate party for the Washington game will take place Saturday, November 7, in Seattle. Both tailgate parties will begin two hours prior to kickoff.

The tailgates will include a full buffet with food and beverages, as well as prizes, giveaways, Utah merchandise, music, and more. For prices and registration, visit ulink.utah.edu/tailgates.

1970s



Randy D. Danielsen BS'78 has received the Eugene A. Stead Award of Achievement, the highest award

presented by the American Academy of Physician Assistants. The award honors life-time achievement that has had a significant impact for patients and the profession itself. Danielsen was recognized as a national physician-assistant leader and clinician, and for his accomplished career as an educator and editor. He began his health care career in 1970 as a medical corpsman and served 28 years with the Air Force and the Army National Guard. He received a bachelor's degree in health at the U, a master's degree in physician assistant studies from the University of Nebraska, and a doctorate in interdisciplinary arts and education from the Union Institute & University. In 1995, he began teaching in Wichita State University's physician assistant program. He currently is dean of the Arizona School of Health Sciences and an adjunct associate professor at Nova Southeastern University.



Stephen R. Morgan BA'78 has been selected as president of Westminster College of Salt Lake City. Appointed

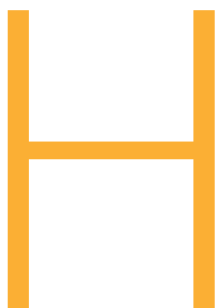
by the college's board of trustees, he becomes the school's 18th president when he is inaugurated in September. A fixture at the college of 3,000 students for 30 years, Morgan has served as acting president since February. As vice president of institutional advancement, he is credited with building the college's endowment to more than \$70 million and overseeing fundraising for major construction projects at Westminster. Prior to his employment at the college, Morgan was controller for Weidner Communications and a senior auditor for Coopers & Lybrand. He received his bachelor's degree at the U in accounting.

FROM THE Sidelines

By Ann Floor

Photo by Joe Faraoni/ESPN Images

Holly Rowe interviews Baylor University football player Bryce Petty (now with the NFL's New York Jets) during a 2014 game.



olly Rowe BA'04 has known from the time she was in fifth grade that she wanted to be a reporter. This year, she is celebrating her 20th year on the sidelines covering everything from volleyball, March Madness, and college softball to the World Series, gymnastics, and especially, college football for the ESPN sports television network. Her energy, enthusiasm, spunk, and just plain tenacity for getting the interview—her “great hustle”—have earned her high praise from her peers.

HOW DID YOU BECOME SO INTERESTED IN COVERING SPORTS?

My father, Del B. Rowe [JD'60], loved sports. He took me to everything. We lived in Bountiful, Utah, and attended games during the U's glory days of basketball with Jeff Judkins [BS'84], Jeff Jonas [BS'77], Danny Vranes [ex'81], and Tom Chambers [ex'77]. I can honestly say I am sports obsessed. I work covering sports about 45 weekends a year, and on my few weekends off, I attend sporting events. I just can't help myself. I love it and feel so lucky to have a job that I feel so passionate about. I am one of those who has never “worked” a day in my life because I love what I do.

HOW DID YOUR BROADCAST JOURNALISM CLASSES AT THE U HELP PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR WORK AS A SPORTSCASTER?

I had a wonderful professor, Louise Degn [ex'83], who was a tough critic on the stories we would do. I still hear her voice in my head saying, “No excuses!” She didn't want to hear what went wrong—she just wanted to see a good story. This helped me get used to how real bosses and news directors work. And I was so proud to get an A in a basketball coaching class from Rick Majerus. He was great to me. I've always believed the letter of recommendation he wrote

for me was the reason I got a pivotal internship that launched my career. When he died, I flew to Milwaukee to attend his funeral because I am just so grateful that he took the time to help me in what turned out to be a crucial stepping stone in my career.

WHAT WAS ONE OF YOUR MORE MEMORABLE INTERVIEWS?

I once interviewed Indianapolis Colts tight end Dallas Clark through the ear hole in his helmet because fans had rushed the field and he didn't want to take it off. I grabbed his facemask and screamed in his ear holes so he could hear me. It was hilarious and crazy. It's everyone for themselves out there—you have to fight for your interview. Another time, hundreds of fans stormed the basketball court at Kansas State when they beat the Kansas Jayhawks in an upset, so to avoid getting crushed, I got pulled up on the scoring table along with some of the players and did an interview with Thomas Gipson. I was wedged between him and another player above a sea of screaming fans, the table wobbling under me. At the time, it seemed totally normal, but when I see it on video... not so much. And as my longtime broadcast partner Brent Musburger told me, “Hey, it's show business, baby!”

YOU DO MEDIA TRAINING WITH COLLEGE ATHLETES AROUND THE COUNTRY TO PREPARE THEM TO DO WELL IN INTERVIEWS. WHAT DO THEY TEND TO NEED THE MOST HELP WITH?

So many people don't realize how they come across on camera, so I like to do one-on-one sessions where we tape the interview and then watch it together. It allows us to make quick, lasting fixes that will help them present themselves better to the media. The number one problem is the use of “uh” or “you know” multiple times when they respond to a question. It's a habit they don't even know they have. And there's often a lot of rocking back and forth. They need to be strong. We also go over how their social media posts can influence others' opinion about them before they even meet. I urge the athletes to be sure that what they are posting reflects the true image they want to present. I have had many coaches tell me they quit recruiting kids after seeing what they post on social media—a good lesson to remember.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Everything! I have met some of the most amazing people—from Pat Summitt to LeBron James. I still have the paycheck stub from the first interview I did with Michael Jordan when I earned \$25 as a stringer for Chicago Radio. I am passionate about finding and telling compelling stories. It makes me happy. And of course the games. There's nothing like competition.

—Ann Floor is an associate editor of Continuum.



Visit continuum.utah.edu to view a gallery with more photos.

1990s



Salam Noor PhD'98, former director of academic planning and policy for the Higher Education Coordinating Commission in the state of Oregon, has been

appointed by Governor Kate Brown to lead the Oregon Department of Education. He began in his new position in July. Noor, a first-generation immigrant from Jordan, previously was assistant superintendent and chief academic officer for the Salem-Keizer School District, Oregon's second largest in enrollment. He is credited with helping improve graduation rates and provide opportunities that engage students and help them prosper beyond high school. "Throughout his career, Salam has shown that he can engage diverse stakeholders in an authentic way and deliver results," Brown says. Noor received a bachelor's degree in international relations and a master's degree in public administration from Eastern Washington University, and a doctorate in political science and Middle East studies from the University of Utah. He also has a certificate from the Executive Leadership Program at Harvard University.

2000s



Aida Neimarlija BA'03 BS'03 JD'08 was named the Utah State Bar's 2015 Young Lawyer of the Year. She is an attorney in the law firm of Burbidge Mitchell & Gross, where

she has litigated cases in both state and federal courts, including disputes dealing with intellectual property, real estate, catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death, and legal malpractice. During law school, she interned at the Securities and Exchange Commission and served as a judicial extern in the Utah Court of Appeals. Neimarlija also interned at the Special Department for War Crimes of the Prosecutor's Office in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. She recently served as president of Women Lawyers of Utah, where she created a mentoring program to encourage and better prepare qualified diverse lawyers to apply to the bench. She received two bachelor's degrees, in economics and political science, from the University of Utah before going on to graduate from the U's S.J. Quinney College of Law.



U ALUMNI GATHER FOR EUROPEAN REUNION IN SALZBURG

About 40 University of Utah alumni from eight countries attended this year's U European Alumni Reunion in Salzburg, Austria, along with U President David W. Pershing and his wife, Sandi. Alumni from Austria, Armenia, Belgium, Egypt, Germany, Romania, Ukraine, and the United States gathered for the festivities that were held May 23 and 24.

The reunion included a walking tour of the historical section of Salzburg, with visits to St. Andrä Church at Mirabellplatz and the house where composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born. At the historic Stiegl Brauwelt Brewery, the alumni heard from the Pershings. The president spoke about recent developments at the University in academics, medicine, and research, as well as the U's international activities. Sandi Pershing, the U's assistant vice president for engagement, then presented the annual award for contributions to the European Alumni Club to Elke Binder, from Austria. Binder, who was an exchange student at the U in 1993-94, has attended eight previous reunions and helped organize the 2004 Vienna reunion.

The U alumni also listened to a presentation from U law professor Wayne McCormack, who spoke about scholarship and teaching of international law at the University of Utah. Nelly Divricean BS'09 MS'12, the U Alumni Association's international alumni relations manager, then announced the first two recipients of European Alumni Club scholarships: Alina Safargalina, from Russia, who is seeking a doctorate in linguistics, and Jelena Cingara from Serbia, who is pursuing a doctorate in piano performance.

The new European Alumni Club president and board members also were introduced. Peter Huber MS'96, an alum from Germany who received his degree in medical informatics from the U, will serve as the club's president. Kasper Grann, who was a U exchange student in 2009 from Denmark, and Helgi Geirhardsson MS'87, an alum from Iceland who received her engineering degree at the U, are now board members, along with ongoing board member Alexandra Kaul BS'87 MBA'88, from Germany.



#UUTHROWBACK

HOMEcoming 2015

OCTOBER 2-11
calendar of events

2 FRIDAY



STUDENT DANCE

9 p.m.-1 a.m.

The Depot at
Gateway Mall

6 TUESDAY



HOUSE DECORATING

4 p.m.

Greek Row and Other
Campus Locations

7 WEDNESDAY



EMERITUS REUNION

5-8:30 p.m.

Social & Dinner, Alumni House;
Basketball Center Tour

8 THURSDAY



SONGFEST

6 p.m.

Union Ballroom



CRIMSON RALLY

8 p.m.

Union Lawn

9 FRIDAY



WOMEN'S SOCCER

4 p.m.

vs. Washington State,
Ute Soccer Field



VOLLEYBALL

6 p.m.

vs. Southern Cal,
Huntsman Center

10 SATURDAY



SCHOLARSHIP 5K

8 a.m.

Alumni House



TAILGATE PARTY

Two hours before kickoff

Guardsman Way
and 500 South



FOOTBALL GAME

Time TBA

vs. Cal
Rice-Eccles Stadium



PARENT-FAMILY WEEKEND

Oct. 9-11

parents@utah.edu

More information at alumni.utah.edu/homecoming or 801-581-6995

A Home in the Opera

By Marcia C. Dibble

Now in his seventh season with The Metropolitan Opera, tenor Hugo Vera got his start with the Met as an understudy in a production of *From the House of the Dead* in 2009, when they invited him to audition after a scout saw him perform at the Chautauqua Music Festival. Since then, the University of Utah alum has sung (or waited in the wings as an understudy) in more than 100 performances with the Met, including a turn as the messenger in *Aida* that he counts among his most memorable “because I got the pleasure and honor of being conducted by the famous tenor Plácido Domingo, who is my all-time idol.”

Vera BMu’95 (*magna cum laude*) didn’t set out to become an opera singer—or any kind of singer, as a matter of fact. “I actually never sang before going to the U,” he says. His roommate at the time needed a one credit hour class, decided choir was a good option, and convinced Vera to audition with him.

“When I auditioned, I was asked if I would be interested in taking voice lessons,” Vera recalls. “I needed another one credit hour to fill, so I said yes.”

Vera, who was then a communication major and a member of the U speech and debate team, eventually changed his major to vocal performance. He had long loved music, and he played the saxophone with the wind ensemble, marimba ensemble, and marching band both in high school and at the U. His parents were also both amateur musicians—his mother a singer and his father a percussionist.

Vera had initially planned to attend college in his home state of Texas but changed his mind soon after visiting friends in Salt Lake City. “I took a tour of the University of Utah and just fell in love with the school, area, and people—so I stayed,” he recalls. At the U, Vera worked with professor and professional tenor Robert Breault, who in addition to teaching also continues to perform nationally and internationally, with companies including New York City Opera, Bayerischer Rundfunk Symphonieorchester, and Opéra de Nice. “He took the voice/opera program to the next level and truly challenged me as a singer and performer,” Vera says.

After receiving his music degree at the U, Vera continued his training with noteworthy young-artist programs, including the Aspen Opera Theater Center and Glimmerglass Opera. He eventually went on to receive master’s and doctoral degrees in music—both with honors—from the University of Kansas.

Over the years, Vera has performed important principal roles including Manrico (*Il Trovatore*), Cavaradossi (*Tosca*), Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*), Faust (*Faust*), Alfredo (*La Traviata*), and Radames (*Aida*, in a role perhaps most famously performed by Domingo). But his favorite role is Don José from *Carmen*—which he has performed with The Aspen Opera Theatre, Opera North, GLOW Lyric Theatre, LOLA, and (just this past August) the Lawrence Opera Theatre in Kansas, where he is general and artistic director. He



Hugo Vera



Photos courtesy Hugo Vera

Hugo Vera performs in *La Traviata* at Philadelphia’s City Center Opera Theater in 2013, with Jennifer Holbrook.

also maintains a schedule as a soloist with orchestras across the country, and he has performed at the Spoleto and Tanglewood festivals and soloed at Carnegie Hall.

Vera maintains a private voice studio in New York City and remains on the roster at the Met, though he is unsure when he will next perform with them. “It is per season and opera,” he notes, with “no rhyme or reason to how they contract. Sometimes it is years in advance; sometimes it is last moment. I have had both.”

He also started a new permanent position this August as assistant professor of voice at the University of Arizona. “The title of my position at UA is artist in residence, so part of that is to continue to keep performing,” notes Vera. “So, I am feeding both my teaching and performing needs.”

His concerts this fall include *Carmina Burana* at Concordia Santa Fe on September 20, a solo with the Arizona Symphony Orchestra on November 17, and *Messiah* with the El Paso Choral Society on December 12. He even makes it back to Utah on occasion and last fall was an artist in residence at Westminster College. During his stay, he had an opportunity to visit Gardner Hall on the U’s campus, he says. “My how it was changed!”

—Marcia Dibble is managing editor of Continuum.



Visit continuum.utah.edu to view a gallery with more photos and watch a video of Vera singing.

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The Curie Poster

In the southwest corner of the University of Utah's Thatcher Building for Biological and Biophysical Chemistry, *The Curie Poster* is displayed as a tribute to Utah women in chemistry. The graphic mosaic is made up of small photos arrayed together to constitute an image of Marie Curie, the Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist who did pioneering research in radioactivity in the late 1800s and early 1900s and who won the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and shared the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics. The 1,807 small photos in the poster were collected in February 2013 and depict women who have either studied or taught chemistry at the U. The poster was assembled by Tomi Carr BS'06 MS'13, then an administrative assistant in the Chemistry Department; Dave Titensor BFA'91, art director for U Marketing and Communications; and Marla Kennedy BS'05, then an account executive for Marketing and Communications.



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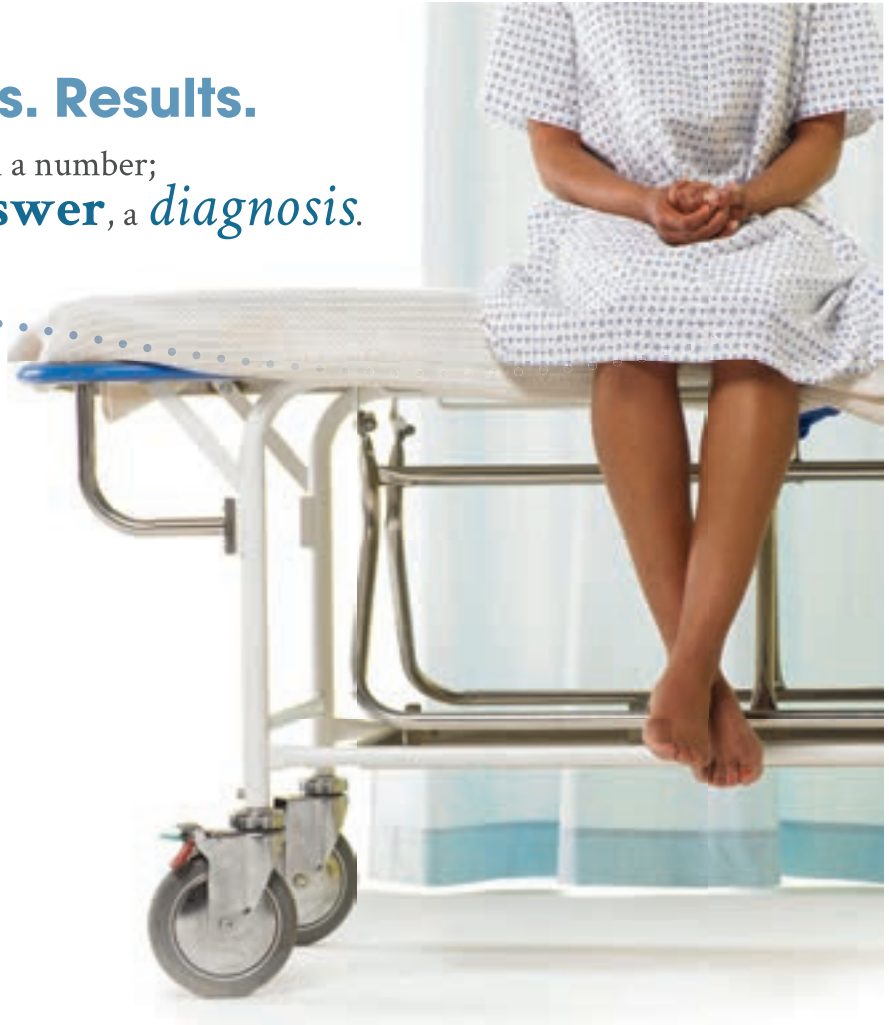
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