

FALL 2016

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

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BRIDGING BORDERS

U social workers lead the way in efforts to build and connect local and global refugee communities.

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Erika George



Inspiring!
[“A Voice for
Global Justice,”
Summer 2016]

Michael Brehm
Salt Lake City



GLOBAL JUSTICE

Thought provoking! [“A Voice for Global Justice”] Encouraged that change will come by the mere fact that Ms. George puts her voice and her efforts to work with the same passion. Thank you for caring and doing.

Janet Harvey
Cade, La.

GOOD TROUBLE

The article was really good! [“Good Trouble,” Summer 2016] I attended the U from 1958 after I got out of the Navy and graduated in 1962. The high point was meeting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. . . . As I recall, the only black student was basketball star Billy McGill. Things have sure changed for the better!

Sid Karsh BS’62
La Canada Flintridge, Calif.

MUCH ADO

Being one of the women in one of her workshops in Zoho [“Much Ado About Something,” Summer 2016], I must say it was one of the best writing workshops I have ever attended, especially in the technology space! I mean, who teaches you to write for Google and other technology-driven search engines by reading Virginia Woolf and MLK and Malcolm X?! I already have goosebumps thinking of the beautiful two weeks spent at Emily’s workshop!

Hannah Jayapriya

PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

My wife and I moved to Los Angeles a few years ago to be more readily available to help my son and his family. (His daughter has a rare, debilitating disease.) We’ve gotten heavily involved in the nonprofit International

Fibrodisplaysia Ossificans Progressiva Association, which works on behalf of the patients and families involved with this disease. In the fall, we will be hosting a scientific conference, bringing researchers together from around the world. It’s hard to imagine a better story than the article on Dr. Schiffman [“Partners to Prevent Cancer,” Summer 2016] and his “aha moment” to underscore the importance of these conferences.

Paul Brinkman
San Pedro, Calif.

IT TAKES A PERSON

Ed. note: More than six years on, the article “You Need a Person” (Spring 2010) continues to get comments due to the impact of the work by its subject, Distinguished Professor Polly Wiessner:

Polly, the missionaries who devoted their life in Enga, and for those still working, I thank you for the great work done. For you Polly . . . you are a legend, and we love your willing heart in bringing such development to promote our unique culture.

Kelly Plane



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THE DALAI LAMA VISITS THE U

The spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, the Dalai Lama spoke to a sold-out crowd at the Huntsman Center at the end of June. President David W. Pershing had the privilege of introducing His Holiness and honored him with a presidential medal and a visor with a U logo, which the Dalai Lama wore through most of his speech.

Addressing more than 8,000 people, the Buddhist leader spoke with enthusiasm, seriousness, and even humor as he shared his message of peace, compassion, and universal responsibility. The 80-year-old Nobel Prize winner explained that man creates violence and destroys peace and that prayer is not the answer, but action is. “Not God, but *you* have the responsibility to solve problems,” he said. He urged the audience to create a happier, more compassionate world. A

peaceful world starts with one person, then families, then whole communities. “That’s the way to change society,” he said. “I feel it in my heart.”

The Dalai Lama explained that his friends who are scientists promise him that the basic human nature is compassion. “This gives me real hope,” he said. “If our basic nature is anger, then no hope.” When asked about climate change, he laughed and said to ask an expert, but offered this comment: “This blue planet is our only home. If it is damaged beyond repair, then we have no other choice but to be responsible for it.”

His main message, the answer to the meaning of life, was simple. “Serving others. Helping others.” Putting his teachings into action, the morning before his speech, the Dalai Lama visited with and blessed patients at the U’s Huntsman Cancer Institute.



Photo by August Miller

RENOWNED ECOLOGIST WINS ROSENBLATT PRIZE



James Ehleringer has received the most prestigious faculty award on campus—the Rosenblatt Prize for Excellence. A Distinguished Professor of biology, he was chosen for the \$40,000 gift based on his outstanding teaching, research, and administrative efforts.

One of the most influential scientists in the world in plant ecology, Ehleringer was instrumental in developing the use of stable isotopes for ecological, geographical, geological, and anthropological studies. He created the Stable Isotope Ratio Facility for Environmental Research at the U and has been its director since 1984. During nearly 40 years at the U, he has produced more than 470 publications.

Ehleringer has a doctorate in biology from Stanford University and started teaching at the U in 1977. He served as biology department chair from 1993-96, and was made a Distinguished Professor in 2000. From 2009-15, he served as the founding director for the U’s Global Change and Sustainability Center, and he is currently a member of the Office of Sustainability leadership team.

TOP SOCIAL MEDIA PICK



To stay connected, follow the U on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat.

LEADER OF THE PAC

To many college baseball pundits, the Utes did the unthinkable. They won the 2016 Pac-12 championship—in a conference that has produced 28 national champions (including two in the past four years). But what makes this feat truly impressive is the fact that just one year ago, the Utes finished dead last in the conference. It's the first time a U men's athletics team has won a Pac-12 championship since joining the conference in 2011 (Utah Gymnastics has won it twice). The title also clinched a berth in the NCAA postseason tournament, only Utah's second appearance since 1960.

Last year, Utah Baseball won seven conference games. This year, they won eight *series* versus Pac-12 foes. Utah entered conference play with a 3-11 record. But as the weather warmed up, so did the Utes, starting the season on a 7-2 run and finishing with a program-best 18-11 Pac-12 record. For such a turnaround, Bill Kinneberg was named the Pac-12 Coach of the Year, four players were named to the All-Pac-12 Conference team, and three others were honorable mention picks.

The team played in the first round of the NCAA Division I Baseball Tournament, where they upset the host school and number one seed Ole Miss, then lost in double elimination to Boston College and Tulane.

Photo courtesy Kory Mortensen/U Athletics



MORAN TEAM TREATS PATIENTS IN MICRONESIA

In Micronesia, an island nation in the western Pacific, the population is more than 110,000 and the number of people with curable blindness is staggering. In addition to expensive or nonexistent health insurance and a cultural tendency to avoid wearing UV protective sunglasses, Micronesia had no ophthalmologists—until now. Dr. Padwick Gallen, who works at Pohnpei State Hospital, is the country's only practicing ophthalmologist, thanks, in part, to his training with doctors from the University of Utah's Moran Eye Center.

In late June, a team from Moran's Global Outreach Division, led by glaucoma specialist Dr. Craig Chaya, volunteered their time in Pohnpei. Former Moran International Fellow and oculoplastics specialist Dr. Anya Gushchin trained Gallen in dacryocystorhinostomy (DCR) surgery to relieve a chronic condition that causes blocked tear ducts and is prevalent in Micronesia.

Working with Gallen, Moran's team treated patients with nasolacrimal duct obstruction, cataracts, and pterygium (a growth on the surface of the eye strongly associated with chronic UV light exposure). By the end of their 12-day mission, they had completed 182 eye surgeries, and the smiling patients were wearing—with pride—UV protective sunglasses given to them by the outreach team.



Photo by Michael Schoenfeld



CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR TURNS NINJA WARRIOR

In May, in front of national television cameras, 44-year-old U chemistry professor Janis Louie, with two degrees and three children behind her, stared down the toughest obstacle course she'd faced yet: *American Ninja Warrior*. Louie's journey to the Ninja Warrior stage was a unique combination of athletic discipline, academic dedication, and maternal devotion.

A former gymnast, Louie has always loved to push herself physically and academically. At UCLA, she was a chemistry major and a cheerleader. In grad school at Yale, she delved deeper into chemistry, taught aerobics classes, and picked up bodybuilding.

Fast forward to five years ago, when she started her family while teaching chemistry at the U. "I had triplets, which does a number on your body," she says. But she was determined to get back in shape, good enough shape that *Ninja Warrior* actually looked "fun" to her.

You can imagine what the producers thought when they saw on her application that she is a chemistry professor, mother of triplets, and fierce competitor. She was selected, and the intense training began.

"How many times as adults do we get the opportunity to put ourselves in a really uncomfortable situation where you can grow from it?" she says. At the competition, she cleared the first obstacle, but the second one took her out of the running. Her own takeaway from the experience, which she says she'd happily do again: "You're never too old to try."



STADIUM GETS NEW SOUND SYSTEM AND SCOREBOARD

Football season just got even more exciting. Ute fans at Rice-Eccles Stadium this fall get to experience a new and greatly improved sound system and video scoreboard. The upgrades take the live game-watching experience up a notch while also reducing the noise disturbance to the surrounding community.

The stadium now has inward-facing speakers along its perimeter, directing sound toward the center of the bowl rather than sending it across the stadium. Previously, all speakers were mounted on the old scoreboard structure. Now there are 130 throughout the stadium, even in the bathrooms.

The freestanding LED scoreboard is 122 feet wide and 64 feet tall, and has 2.6 million pixels, making it one of the bigger boards in the country. It replaced a board that was more than 10 years old and was difficult and expensive to maintain. The screen is placed about 50 feet behind the south end zone to accommodate the possibility of any future changes to that area of the stadium. The \$13.5 million for the upgrades was funded by Utah Athletics and Auxiliary Services, not from tuition or state funds.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

Andrew Weyrich has been named the U's new vice president for research. Weyrich has been a major contributor to medical research at the U since becoming a faculty member in 1995. Most recently, he was associate dean for research at the School of Medicine, where he helped develop and implement a strategic research plan and oversaw core facilities, recruitment and retention efforts, and graduate programs. He holds an H.A. and Edna Benning Presidential Endowed Chair, a recognition honoring the university's top medical researchers.

Sherrie Hayashi BS'88 JD'91 is the new director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action (OEO/AA). In this role, Hayashi also serves as the university's Title IX and ADA/Section 504 coordinator. Hayashi is deeply committed to the principles of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination. Hayashi came to the U from the State of Utah, where she had served as the Utah labor commissioner since 2006.

H. David Burton BS'67 was unanimously voted in July to lead the University of Utah board of trustees. Burton is an emeritus general authority for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and also served as the church's presiding bishop for 16 years. He has been on the U's board of trustees since 2013. He has a degree in economics from the U and a master of business administration from the University of Michigan.

DOCTORAL STUDENT COMPETES IN PARALYMPICS

Christopher Hammer, graduate teaching assistant and doctoral candidate in Exercise and Sport Science at the U, headed to his second Paralympics in September, in Rio. There, he joined the first triathlon event in Paralympic history—as a newbie to the sport.

Born with one hand, Hammer started as a runner. A four-time NCAA academic and track All-American (2006-09), he competed in the 2012 Paralympic Games (1,500 meter and marathon). Since then, he added biking and swimming to his athletic endeavors and dialed back on the running.

Hammer's motto is: "Accept the challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory." It was on a poster above his bed as a kid, he says, and he has internalized its message as an adult.

Also a husband and father, Hammer says he's gotten good at balancing things in thirds—three events in his sport and three ways his personal life is being pulled. The U has offered him the unique opportunity to perfect that balance. "I'm fortunate to be a student and working toward a degree that will result in a career long after my athletic days are done," he says. "I've also been able to combine my academic and athletic interests in my research, and that has been a rewarding experience."

Hammer noted that he was looking forward to his second Paralympics and representing Team USA in Brazil. "No matter where we race, it is always a huge honor to wear the red, white, and blue," he says.



Photo by Wes Johnson

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Photo by Jeff Bagley



Breaking Down the Groove

After teaching hip-hop dance at the U for a few years, Sara Pickett MFA'09 realized her students were curious about the backstory and impact of the music and moves. So she started History of Hip-Hop, a unique class that explores hip-hop's cultural origins and evolution, its sociopolitical underpinnings, and its ties to other art forms. In the two semesters Pickett has taught the class, which is open to all majors, discussions have covered topics from the nature of race to misogyny to white privilege. The course is also infused with movement days featuring guest instructors who teach breaking, West Coast locking and popping, and other hip-hop dance styles.



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more photos
and a video of
the action.

HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS WATER IN THE WEST

We all know that here in the West, we rely on mountain snow for our water supply. We see the white on the peaks diminish in the spring while the streams flood and our reservoirs fill. But many want to know how climate change could interrupt this process.

In a new study published in *Environmental Research Letters*, a team of hydrologists that includes University of Utah professor Paul Brooks answered that question by simulating isolated climate change effects on Rocky Mountain stream systems on both sides of the continental divide, varying the type of precipitation (rain vs. snow) and the amount of energy (temperature) in the system. The answer, they found, depends less on how water enters the stream watershed, and more on how it leaves.

Climate change can affect mountain streams in two major ways: By raising the overall temperature—increasing evapotranspiration (water lost from both soil and plants)—and by shifting the precipitation from snow to rain. Both impacts could significantly alter the amount of water in a stream watershed and the amount that reaches cities downstream.



Heber Valley, Utah

So why try to separate the influence of the two factors? “As the climate becomes increasingly more variable, we need to provide water resource managers with specific guidance on how individual warm or wet years, which may not coincide, will influence water supply,” says Brooks. Hydrologists often construct water budgets to account for all the ways water enters and leaves a system. In the case of a mountain stream, water enters as precipitation, but only a portion of this water leaves as streamflow.

In the simulations, when precipitation was changed from snow to rain, the water

that would have been stored as snow ran off into the stream faster, decreasing overall streamflow. But warming the systems by 4 degrees Celsius resulted in more evapotranspiration, enough that groundwater had to support streamflow an entire season earlier—beginning in summer rather than in fall—suggesting that warmer temperatures may have more impact on streams.

The effects of these two climate change effects may vary with location, and the results need to be confirmed in real-life environments, but the research helps scientists gain a clearer picture of the future of water, especially in the mountainous west.



Pantelides

Photo by Dan Hixson/U College of Engineering

REPAIRING EARTHQUAKE-DAMAGED BRIDGES FASTER

In just 30 seconds, a devastating earthquake can render a city helpless. With roadways split and bridges severely damaged, residents and emergency personnel can be prevented from moving around to rebuild.

Normally, it takes weeks to repair the cracking or spalling of columns on just one bridge damaged in an earthquake. But a team of researchers led by University of Utah civil and environmental engineering professor Chris Pantelides has developed a new process of fixing columns that takes as little as a few days.

“With this design and process, it is much easier and faster for engineers and crews to rebuild a city ravaged by an earthquake so that critical roadways remain open for emergency vehicles,” Pantelides says. The process is outlined in a recent paper published in the *ACI Structural Journal*.

SURVIVE EXTINCTION: LIVE FAST, DIE YOUNG

Some 252 million years ago, a series of Siberian volcanoes erupted and sent the Earth into the greatest mass extinction of all time. As a result of this, billions of tons of carbon entered the atmosphere, radically altering the Earth's climate. Yet some animals thrived in the aftermath, and scientists now know how.

In a new study published in *Scientific Reports*, a team of international paleontologists, including postdoctoral scholar Adam Huttenlocker of the U's Natural History Museum of Utah, demonstrate

that ancient mammal relatives known as therapsids adjusted to the drastic climate change by becoming smaller, breeding at younger ages, and having shorter lifespans than their predecessors.

In this study, special attention was paid to the genus *Lystrosaurus* because of its success in surviving the Permo-Triassic Mass Extinction; it dominated ecosystems across the globe for millions of years during the post-extinction recovery period. "Therapsid fossils like *Lystrosaurus* are important because they teach us about the resilience of our own extinct relatives in the face of extinction, and provide clues to which traits conferred success on lineages during this turbulent time," says Huttenlocker.

This change in breeding behavior and species size is not isolated to ancient animals. For example, in the past century, the Atlantic cod has undergone a similar change as industrial fishing has removed most large individuals from the population, shifting the average size of cod significantly downward. Likewise, the remaining individuals are forced to breed as early in their lives as possible.

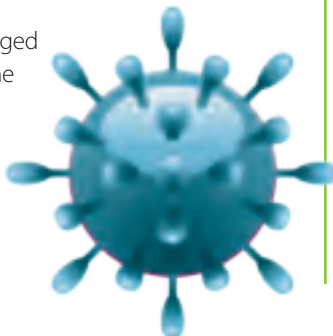


A NEW WAY TO NIP HIV IN THE BUD?

U scientists have found a way to make HIV turn on itself, promising the potential, in about a decade, for new kinds of AIDS drugs with fewer side effects.

When new HIV particles bud from an infected cell, an enzyme named protease activates to help the viruses mature and infect more cells. That's why modern AIDS drugs control the disease by inhibiting protease. But: "We could use the power of the protease itself to destroy the virus," says virologist Saveez Saffarian, an associate professor of physics and astronomy at the U and an investigator with the USTAR economic development initiative, and senior author of the study published in *PLOS Pathogens*.

So-called cocktails or mixtures of protease inhibitors emerged in the 1990s and turned acquired immune deficiency syndrome into a chronic, manageable disease for people who can afford the medicines. But side effects include diarrhea, nausea, rash, stomach pain, liver toxicity, and diabetes. "And the virus becomes resistant to the inhibitors," says Mourad Bendjennat, a U research assistant professor of physics and astronomy and the study's first author. "That's why they use cocktails."



SHOULD PREGNANT WOMEN GET FLU SHOTS?

Flu season is approaching, and many pregnant women may be wondering if they should get a flu shot. A new U study shows that getting the flu vaccination while pregnant can significantly reduce the risk of infants getting influenza during their first six months of life. The authors of the study declare that the need for getting more pregnant women immunized is a public health priority.

"Babies cannot be immunized during their first six months, so they must rely on others for protection from the flu during that time," says the study's lead author, Julie H. Shakib, University of Utah School of Medicine assistant professor of pediatrics. Influenza results in thousands of deaths each year in the U.S, and pregnant women and young infants are among those at highest risk for dying from flu.

In the study published in *Pediatrics* online last May, Shakib and colleagues reported that infants age 6 months and younger whose mothers were vaccinated when pregnant had a 70 percent reduction in laboratory-confirmed flu cases and an 80 percent reduction in flu-related hospitalizations compared with babies whose moms weren't immunized. Health records showed that 97 percent of laboratory-confirmed flu cases occurred in infants whose moms were not immunized against the disease while pregnant.

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER:

1. to vote you must completely darken the oval
2. to cast a write-in vote darken the oval and write in candidate's name
3. If you make an error, return ballot to the precinct official to obtain another ballot

Cultivating Political Passion

U STUDENTS HAVE MYRIAD OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ABOUT—AND PARTICIPATE IN—THE POLITICAL PROCESS.

By Melinda Rogers

Most days, the sun hadn't risen yet. But that didn't stop Connor Yakaitis BS'16 from starting legislative business at the Utah State Capitol at a time when many of his fellow University of Utah classmates were still hitting the snooze buttons on their alarms.

During the 45-day legislative session last year, Yakaitis, then a senior at the U, arrived at 6 a.m. for work as an intern with Sen. Jim Dabakis. Days spent watching the legislative process from a front-row seat fascinated Yakaitis, and often, he stayed at the capitol until nearly 10 p.m., soaking up the experience of life as a policy maker. Each day brought a new challenge, but also many rewards.

"I would constantly go back and forth between the floor of the Senate and the office to discuss current bills and votes with Senator Dabakis, often running full speed through the halls of the capitol," recalls Yakaitis, whose internship placement came with help from the University of Utah's Hinckley Institute of Politics. "I became well connected with many political figureheads and even got to sit in on weekly briefings with Governor Gary Herbert."

Yakaitis' political internship, like those of hundreds of other U students, is just one example of several initiatives—both formal and informal, and inside and outside the classroom—facilitated by the U to educate students on the political process and help them become a part of it.

A TOP INSTITUTE IN THE WEST

One of the most visible places on campus that connects students to political opportunities is the Hinckley Institute of Politics. Jason Perry JD'99, himself a former face in Utah politics, took the helm of the Hinckley Institute in 2015. And before he became a leader of one of the preeminent political institutes in academia, he too was a Hinckley intern.

A young Perry interned with Sen. Orrin Hatch in Washington, D.C., an experience that inspired him to later attend law school at the U's S.J. Quinney College of Law and go on to work in the public sphere. He served as chief of staff to Utah Gov. Gary R. Herbert, where he helped the governor with a landslide victory in the



Connor Yakaitis worked long hours as an intern on Utah's Capitol Hill.

November 2010 election. He joined the U as vice president for government relations in 2011.

Now, he also oversees the Hinckley Institute, the U's flagship center for immersing students in the political process. Established in 1965 through funding from the Noble Foundation and Robert H. Hinckley (one of the founders of television network ABC), the institute dedicates itself to teaching students respect for practical politics and the principle of citizen involvement in government. During 2014-15, the institute observed its 50th anniversary by hosting a record-setting 116 political forums. And earlier this year, the institute made international headlines when Mitt Romney visited Gardner Hall for a discussion on the state of the 2016 presidential race.

The Romney event, although particularly high-profile, is emblematic of the institute's well-known series of political forums, designed to enhance students' learning opportunities and foster discussion and critical thinking about political issues in the world, says Perry. "All of our programs at the Hinckley Institute—from the forums to the voting initiatives to the internships themselves—are aimed at getting students exposure to the political process, and hopefully a respect for it and a desire to stay committed to it for their entire lives."

The Hinckley Institute has coordinated more than 5,500 internships since its inception. Current U students Hunter Howe and Tanner Holcomb recently interned at the White House and with the campaign of Democrat presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, respectively. Any student at the U can work with the institute's internship program, regardless of major, and former interns have gone on to work in government agencies, pursue impactful careers in the private sector, and, of course, hold public office.

Well-known names who got their start in politics through the institute include Karl Rove ex'71, former deputy chief of staff and

senior advisor to President George W. Bush. And the Hinckley Institute's Hall of Fame reads like a who's who of Utah's political elite: inductees include former U.S. senators Wallace Bennett BA'19, Bob Bennett BS'57, and Frank Moss BA'33, as well as past governors Norman H. Bangerter ex'60, Scott M. Matheson BS'50, Calvin Rampton JD'39, and Olene Walker PhD'87.

Dozens of other local government leaders served internships through the institute, and a host of up-and-coming leaders cite Hinckley as a starting block for their political aspirations. Over the summer, Don Willie BS'11 MPA'14 ran for a city council seat in the newly established city of Millcreek in Salt Lake County. Although he didn't advance out of the June primary his first time around, he will likely be back for a future election.

"While my education gave me the academic knowledge to excel in the public sector, it was amplified by practical experiences through my involvement at the University of Utah," says Willie.

A VOICE IN POLICY DISCUSSION

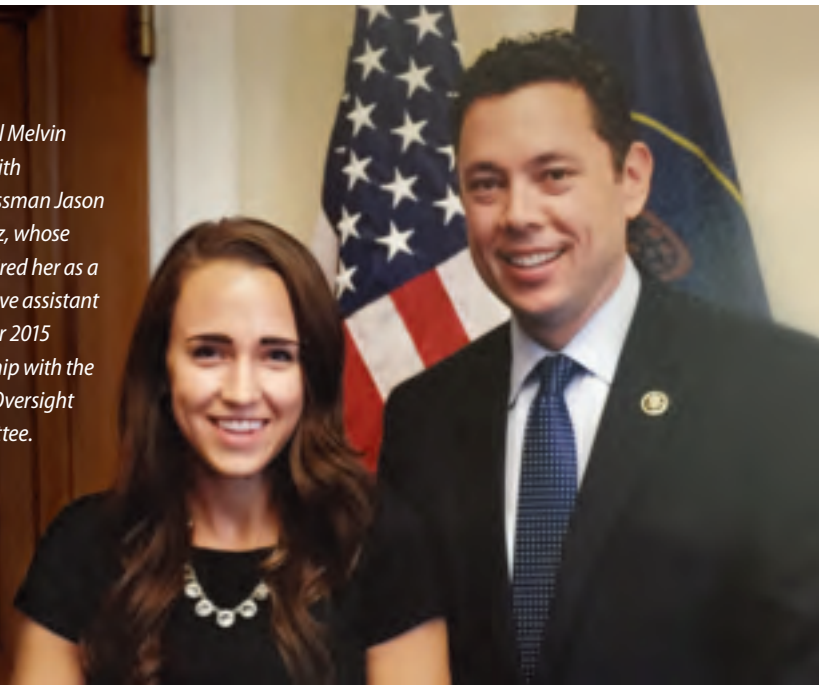
This year, the Hinckley Institute is partnering with the newly established Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, an arm of the David Eccles School of Business, to produce a series of election products that will help Utah voters make educated choices.

Called "Informed Decisions 2016," the collaboration aims to identify the most important issues on voters' minds and host engaging and informative candidate conversations. The project includes creating election briefs that explain why an issue is important, what was learned from focus groups convened to gauge public opinion on issues, what the data teach us about the issue, and the policy options voters should consider. Initial snapshots explore infrastructure, taxation, and education. Candidate debates through November offer the public a chance to see candidates square off on differing viewpoints.

Elsewhere at the U, the master of public policy (MPP) and master of public administration (MPA) programs are also offering unique opportunities to learn how to shape public policy and opinions, and the programs have earned a reputation for producing students who earn top honors at the national Policy Solutions Challenge competition.

For three years in a row, U students have won the national championship at the competition's final round in Washington, D.C. Earlier this year, Fatema Ahad MPP'16 and Annette Harris, both then students in the MPP program, were challenged to propose policy solutions for the lagging rate of college completion in the U.S. Harris continues in the MPP as well as master of public health program. Ahad, who graduated over the summer and aspires to a career in social policy as an analyst, praised the relevance of the knowledge and skills she gained in the MPP program.

*Kendahl Melvin
BA'15 with
Congressman Jason
Chaffetz, whose
office hired her as a
legislative assistant
after her 2015
internship with the
House Oversight
Committee.*



ANOTHER STUDENT SUCCESS STORY



Meet Matthew, a recent honors graduate in political science and sustainability studies. With the help of the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Distinguished Scholars Award, the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation scholarship and an award from the Ivory Homes Capstone Learning Initiative Fund, he took his studies to Costa Rica, Brazil, and India. Matthew is headed to the UK as a Fulbright Scholar to study water security and international development. Support student success like Matthew's at giving.utah.edu





Associate Professor Lina Svedin and MPA students share a lighthearted moment in their *Governance and the Economy* class, one of the core classes in the program's innovative curriculum.

see the educational benefits of designing what we call transformative learning experiences. Students who get excited about their learning retain more and achieve more." He adds, "We want to bring students into the classroom and develop their skills as civic advocates."

The department has also added new courses to keep pace with current news and the changing political landscape. For example, Assistant Professor Jim Curry is teaching a course on political polarization this fall, exploring a topic that is highly visible in the presidential sparring on the campaign trail. Professor Ella Myers introduced a course on the politics of inequality.


And the learning opportunities aren't only for full-time enrolled students. For 23 years, U political science instructor Tim Chambless has led a weeklong class titled "Capital Encounter" in Washington, D.C., which has been open to nontraditional students and others unable to pursue a traditional Hinckley internship in the District. This year, the course was offered through the U's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, for learners age 50 and older. Twenty community member students went with Chambless to the nation's capital, where they toured the National Mall, U. S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, National Archives, and C-SPAN, and visited the Supreme Court Building.

"It's a chance for full-blown U.S. government immersion," says Chambless, who will continue to lead future excursions. "Our group experienced wonderful lectures and receptions."

SHAPING FUTURE PARTICIPATION

By the time Yakaitis, the former Hinckley intern for Sen. Dabakis, graduated from the U last spring, he'd landed his current job as communications director for Charlene Albarran's campaign for Congress in Utah's 2nd Congressional District.

He's been campaigning with his boss across the district, using skills he sharpened through both his senate internship and studying political science (with a minor in campaign management) at the U—opportunities for which he'll always be grateful, he says.

"I have a full-time job in my major. I cannot thank the Hinckley Institute enough for getting me in the fast lane to a successful future," says Yakaitis. "The whole internship experience was transformative." 

—Melinda Rogers is a PR/communications manager and writer at the University of Utah.

"For instance, I learned about policy analysis, research design, best practices of research, and cost-effectiveness analysis exercises from the core classes of the program," says Ahad. "Every class I took, my professors were there to inspire me. Every time I felt the pressure of grad school, they got me going."

Beth Henke, program manager for the MPP program, says the U has established itself as a top institution of public policy through a strong and innovative academic program. "Most traditional public policy programs teach all of their courses out of one department. Our students pick electives from all over campus, providing them with the best experts the area has to offer," Henke says. "I think this is what has allowed us to take top prize in the past three years on such diverse topics as employment for younger workers, drinking water supply, and increasing the national rate of college completion."

"The three-peat is such an unprecedented achievement because it requires one program to be able to create innovative solutions to vastly different social problems," she adds. "It requires a creativity and fluidity in problem solving that will allow our graduates to serve our country well as they tackle finding public policy solutions to issues facing our nation."

EVOLVING WITH THE TIMES

At the heart of the U's efforts to inspire students to participate in the political process is its Department of Political Science, which collaborates closely with the Hinckley Institute. Along with classic coursework in comparative politics, political theory, and government, the department has introduced a new area of emphasis called community involvement and nonprofit leadership. Now, besides the fundamental poli sci courses, students may enroll in classes such as "Neighborhood Democracy" and "Democratic Activism and Social Change." The emphasis fits with the U's mission of fostering student engagement with the community and preparing students for careers in the nonprofit and public service sectors, says Mark Button, chair of the department.

"What we're doing is trying to rethink the way political science curriculum can address the kind of changes we can face locally as well as nationally," says Button. "A lot of universities



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MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS

HOW RED BUTTE
GARDEN BECAME
EVERYONE'S
FAVORITE PLACE TO
GO FOR A SHOW.

by Jeremy Pugh



It was always a good idea.
Throw an evening concert in the garden...
what's not to like?

Back in 1987, Red Butte Garden was merely a quaint garden in the foothills of the Wasatch Front: a nice green place with a small—well, even calling it an “amphitheater” seems too grand—a small stage and place on the lawn to watch this or that local acoustic group strum through some folksy tunes as the sun set. That's all it was back then. A blip on your weekly schedule. A pleasant place to wind down the weekend and prepare for the work week ahead.

Still, it was a good idea, right? Nothing to argue with there. But how did that modest idea—a cute little darling teacup of a notion—become the great idea, the huge idea, the idea that made the Red Butte Concert Series an honest to goodness cultural phenomenon,





Photo by Dave White/UMC



Photo by Dave White/UMC

a key thread in the tapestry of living life well here in Salt Lake City? A juggernaut of a fundraising effort that supports a thriving horticultural paradise offering education and family fun, and preserving critical green space as the city grows? How'd that all come to be?

It started, quietly and unremarkably, with what would turn out to be a remarkably prophetic statement from the garden's founder, Zeke Dumke, Jr.

WAY BACK IN THE 1980s...

It was in 1986, to be precise, that we discover the earliest whispers. Buried deep down in the mundane minutes of an otherwise routine meeting of the garden's development committee, is one very special remark, one line of dutifully recorded text captured from the mouth of Dumke, who said he thought an amphitheater for concerts would be important for the garden's future financial stability.

Prophecy, it turns out, isn't always a big showy thing, with burning bushes and whatnot.

And lo, the concert series in the garden began the following year, with four Sunday shows called the "Second Sunday Concerts," featuring local acts—Jerry Floor and Bill Crismon's Big Band, the Jarman/Kingston Quartet, the Jensen-Woodbury duo, and the Rick Martinez Band. Tickets were \$3, or you could buy the season for \$10.

The shows just kind of hummed along quietly awhile under the guidance of Red Butte's Development Director Susan Kropf, who came on in 1989. But in 1997 she hired Chris Mautz as a helper—well, technically a "Development Specialist at a dynamic cultural organization," which is how the want ad read.

"I was just this young guy coming up," says Mautz, now Red Butte Garden's booking manager. "Susan shared Zeke's vision and recognized that the concerts could be a good way to introduce the garden to people who weren't necessarily into botanical gardens or gardening and maybe drive up membership sales. And me, I didn't know any better, so we went that way."

It was at this point that Mautz and Kropf began what can be called the "proto-Red Butte Concert Series." In this form, the characteristics remained the same from the earliest, "ur" shows. They were still relatively small, and only on Sunday nights, but the formula was altered to include bigger, nationally known names "of a certain folksy, culturally valid heritage style," Mautz says.

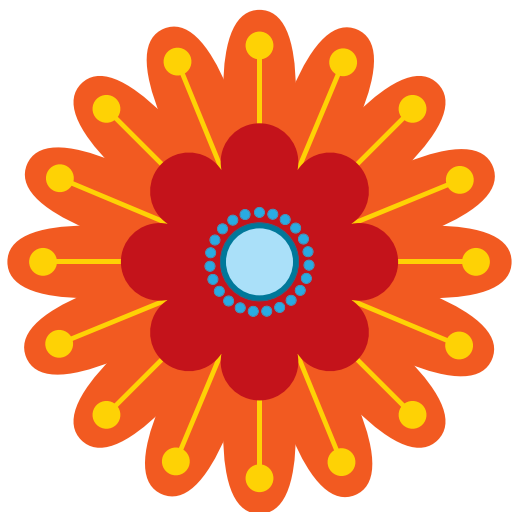
They continued to fill the bills with a lot of folk, bluegrass, some jazz and blues, but nothing that seemed jarring to the original low-key vision—a nice night, in a garden, with pleasant music. Lineups included the likes of John Prine (1997), B.B. King (1998), and Mary Chapin Carpenter (1999), and in 2000, the show count jumped to nine.

"We were selling out, and we proved that we could do it, that people would come out for nationally known acts," says Mautz, who still books Red Butte's season and is also co-owner of two other venues, Salt Lake's State Room and Park City's O.P. Rockwell. (Kropf recently retired as director of development at KUER.)

In 2001, Derrek Hanson BS'99 MPA'07—who would eventually become the Butch Cassidy to Mautz's Sundance Kid—started working at Red Butte as a temporary employee helping out with customer service. "I had a job I didn't like at a company that was moving to San Diego, and I didn't want to go," Hanson says. "I started looking around. I'm a music fan, so I figured this was a good direction."

In 2003, the garden featured 11 artists and, famously, an appearance by the then-relatively unknown singer Norah Jones, whose eponymous album that year became one of the all-time best-selling records ever. Mautz, who had departed in 2001 to work out of state, was rehired to book and produce the garden's concerts in 2007, by which time Hanson had become the garden's events director. Today, the two work closely deciding the annual lineup and booking the acts. They have helped steer the shows during a period of massive growth over the last decade. And they far surpassed the hope that the concerts would provide the financial backbone for the garden that Zeke Dumke presciently voiced in 1986.

"Every single year since 2008, when we opened the new amphitheater, we have sold more tickets per show, on average, than the previous year," says Red Butte Garden Executive Director Greg Lee, who came onboard in 2003. "It's how we pay the bills. It has enabled us to expand our children's and family programming, and the hours we are open to the public, and to build and maintain new gardens and facilities."



The first 30-show season; jumped to 31 in June with the late addition of The Old Crow Medicine Show.

2016

Season jumps to 21 shows, including Sheryl Crow, Steve Martin, and Brandi Carlisle.

2010

The new and greatly improved amphitheater opens. Season highlights include Wilco, Al Green, and Bonnie Raitt.

2008

Season hits 11 concerts, including a legendary performance by Norah Jones, who won five Grammy Awards that year.

2003

The series is now at seven concerts, and the first non-Sunday show features Joan Baez on a Tuesday night.

1996

A modest concert series begins with four Sunday shows by local artists.

1987

2013

Series features 28 shows. The new Rose House opens, replacing tents that used to serve as artists' green rooms. Acts include Tony Bennett, Steely Dan, Kenny Loggins, and Earth, Wind & Fire.

2005

Thirteen shows, including Lyle Lovett, Cowboy Junkies, Chris Isaak and a first appearance for Jonny Lang.

1998

Series grows to eight concerts. Notable acts include B.B. King and John Hiatt.

1990

Construction begins on a new amphitheater at the garden.

1985

Red Butte Garden opens.

GROWING PAINS

A lot has changed in the 10 years since Hanson started doing shows. "It was so different back then," he says. "We were still working on a temporary stage that we'd set up and take down every year. We didn't have a real backstage area for the bands. We just had a nook in the bushes that we'd run a curtain in front of where the bands would wait to go on."

Indeed, in the early 2000s, Red Butte's setup was pretty much ad hoc—tents and portable facilities—but in 2006, the popularity of the concerts enabled the garden to convince the University and the Bureau of Land Management to move a portion of Red Butte Canyon Road to create space for a larger and better concert venue. That prompted a capital fundraising campaign, led by a Dumke family gift, for the expansion and upgrading of the amphitheater, including a standardized stage, dressing rooms, state-of-the-art sound and lighting gear, and permanent restrooms. The amphitheater was completely regraded and the stage relocated to improve sightlines and make sure that there wasn't a bad seat in the house. The new and improved venue debuted in 2008 with 12 concerts.

But while the production and the facilities were evolving and changing, the ticket systems were back in the Stone Age. Longtime Red Butte concert fans will remember the byzantine mailing and faxing of forms.

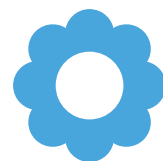
"We had this old Grateful Dead mail-order model that we used for our members to buy tickets," Hanson chuckles. "They would request their tickets by mail or fax, and we would sit there manually typing in credit card numbers and processing tickets. It was painful."

These days, the much-improved system is automated, and the box office and will-call areas are permanent buildings instead of tables and tents. "You know little things like that make a big difference for the audiences, and our staff and volunteers," Hanson says.

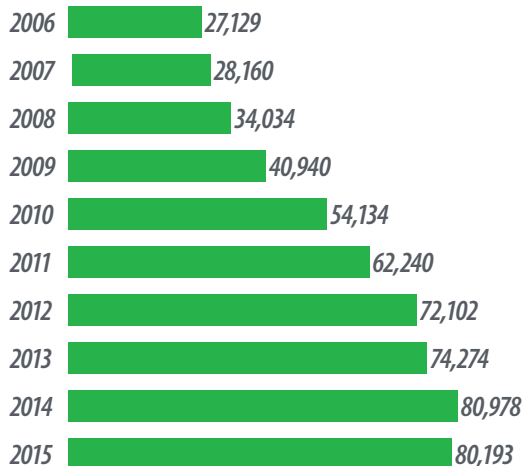
SHOW TIME

For the 2016 summer season, there were 31 shows on the Red Butte lineup, half of which sold out within days of tickets going on sale. The series is a bona fide part of life in Salt Lake City, the show announcements are events in themselves, and, because garden members get first crack at tickets as a benefit, membership sales are through the roof. Summer in Salt Lake simply must include one or two evenings at Red Butte.

However, making this many shows happen over the summer means, as Lee puts it, "Our summers are frenetic, and staff can get run ragged. But it has enabled the garden to grow our programs and facilities. We couldn't, for example, afford to maintain our new Rose and Water



CONCERT ATTENDANCE



Chris Mautz and Derrek Hanson backstage prepping for Willie Nelson's performance in July.

Conservation gardens without the additional concerts. And we get to spend the summer throwing 31 parties for 3,000 of our friends.”

A show day starts when the band’s advance crew shows up—which could be any time the morning of the show, sometimes perhaps even the night before—and ends when they load up the last of their gear and drive on to the next show, usually well after midnight. “We start by handing them [advance crews] a cup of coffee and showing them around,” Hanson says. “We end by waving at the back of their bus. It’s a long day, sure, but there are worse things to be doing.”

Meanwhile, the Red Butte crew—a suite of professional technicians and volunteers—are scurrying around, working with the band’s team, setting lights, sound and, well, everything. The concert crew and volunteers are getting the venue ready, sorting tickets, preparing for the onslaught. About the only time anyone relaxes, Mautz and Hanson add, is during the show. “There’s a point when it’s finally on the band and we can relax for a second or two,” Hanson says.

And even after a full season of 14-hour days, the show keeps chugging. The new season’s planning begins as the last

band’s bus pulls out of the garden. “When the season ends, we look at our hit list,” Hanson says. “We have a list of bands Chris and I have dreamed of having play here, fan favorites, and just bands we think would be a good fit. There’s no science to it. We will start to put out feelers, talk to agents, and start getting a few dates tossed around.” This process, Mautz says, runs all the way up until the season announcements in April.

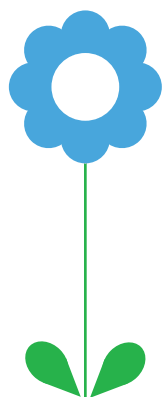
“We are constantly refining the lineup, but so often it just comes together: something will fall through, or something we are missing will show up,” he says. “We try to be cool and just let things unfold.” As the series has expanded, Mautz says they’ve been able to take more risks and just ask, “Would that be a cool show at the garden?”

And gone are the days when they felt like they had to go begging for the lineup. Hanson says bands often call them, and this, in a way, is how the series has grown and added concerts over the years.

“Well, it was a little bit of an accident,” Hanson says. “Before the amphitheater remodel, we’d put out 17 offers and think we’d get back maybe 12, but after word got out about our new venue they started to all come back and say ‘Yes.’ Suddenly we had 17 concerts confirmed and we said, ‘Uh-oh. Can we do 17 shows? Can we sell enough tickets?’”

At 31 shows and counting, the answer is clearly “yes,” and 30 years after Zeke Dumke first brought it up, there is no sign that concerts in the garden are any less of a good idea. **U**

—Jeremy Pugh is a local freelance writer and the author of 100 Things to Do in Salt Lake City Before You Die, which includes the advice to catch a Red Butte Garden concert.



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

The Red Butte Garden series is clearly a major factor for buying a membership to Red Butte Garden. In addition to free admission to the gardens, free classes, and access to other garden programs, members get first crack at tickets for the series.

However, according to Red Butte Garden Executive Director Greg Lee, not everyone is a member because of the concert series. Of the total number of members (which has doubled to around 10,000 over the past decade), about 5,000 don’t buy a single ticket to any show. “That percentage hasn’t changed over the years,” Lee says. “About half of our members are just here for the gardens.”



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



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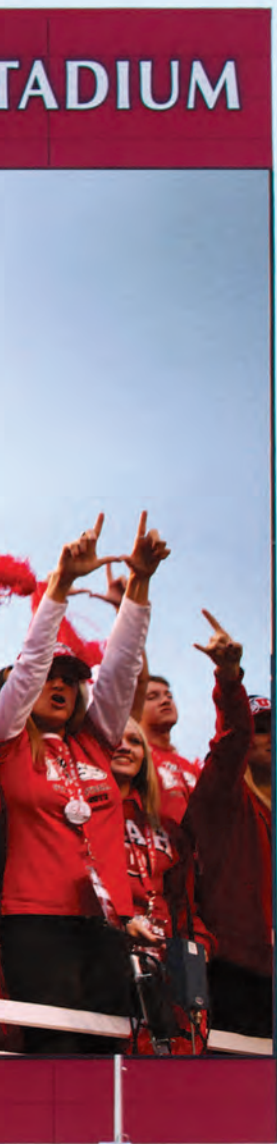
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Language Myths Busted

By Amanda Taylor

NOT EVERYTHING YOU MIGHT BELIEVE ABOUT HOW SPEECH WORKS IS TRUE.

When Henry Higgins tells Eliza Doolittle that changing the way she speaks will infinitely elevate her social status, it makes perfect sense. Language is one of those things that sets us apart as intelligent or less so. Annoying or pleasant. Able to convince a crowd to see things our way, or not.

Many of the perceptions we have about language seem innate, like women talking more than men, or French truly being the *langue de l'amour*. But on closer examination, these “facts” don’t always hold true. Many of them are simply culturally accepted falsehoods.

In her book *Women Talk More than Men... And Other Myths about Language Explained*, University of Utah linguistics professor Abby Kaplan looks at some of the erroneous reports made by the media, accepted by the public, and touted as the way things really are. Kaplan measures these reports against scientific studies to determine the truth about language. Find five of the language myths she busts below.

MYTH: BEING BILINGUAL MAKES YOU SMARTER (OR DUMBER).

TRUTH: Bilingualism doesn't make you any less intelligent. Conversely, it can be quite beneficial (at least sometimes). But to say it makes you smarter is an oversimplification.

The pendulum on this topic has swung both directions. Kaplan points out that popular wisdom used to hold that being bilingual made you less intelligent—and teaching your children two languages would put them at a disadvantage, creating confusion as their brain attempted to switch between languages. But those studies, she shows, were severely flawed.

Now the opinion has shifted, and many parents clamor to get their children in dual immersion programs to give them a leg up. And while learning a second language (be it as an adult or child) can have advantages, like allowing you to communicate with more people, explore new cultures,



pursue new business opportunities, and so on, Kaplan still says it's premature to declare that being bilingual actually makes you smarter.

“Bilingualism is extremely complex,” she explains. “It can look very different across individuals and across societies.” The fact is, there are few people who are truly balanced bilinguals. As Kaplan explains, a person might be more proficient in one language than the other. They might also use each language in totally different situations, like children who speak Vietnamese at home with their immigrant parents, but speak English at school.

Even in societies that are technically bilingual, a phenomenon called *diglossia* often occurs—where one language is associated with “high” functions and the other with “low.” For example, in Paraguay, where the majority of the population speaks two languages, Spanish is considered the high language, which means it's used in formal contexts such as government and official business. Guaraní, the low language, is more intimate and informal, usually spoken in the home and between friends.

Being bilingual can, however, offer additional perks. Knowing more than one name for an object, according to a study analyzed by Kaplan, has the effect of increasing metalinguistic awareness—the ability to talk and think about language. Another study found that lifelong bilingualism has a significant benefit in old age.

Kaplan concludes that there are many positive reasons to learn a second language, even if it hasn't been proven to increase or diminish intelligence. So, she often describes the “makes you smarter” assertion as “mostly true.”

MYTH: ADULTS CANNOT LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE.

TRUTH: Many researchers claim there is a critical period for a human being to learn a language—when they are young. But studies in Kaplan's book suggest this might be more of a fallacy than we think.

"If language can't be learned after childhood, then it seems logical that language shouldn't change later in life—in other words, the way you talk as a teenager is the way you will talk as a 90-year-old," says Kaplan. But a person's native language may evolve slightly over a lifetime, which means language may not be completely fixed during childhood after all. "It's still malleable to at least some degree," she adds.

Much of the research Kaplan shares on this topic is conducted with immigrant families and cites how easy it is for children to pick up the language of their new nation as proof of the critical period hypothesis. However, she refutes the idea that the adults are unable to learn the language based solely on their age, pointing out that many people do become competent and fluent speakers of a second language later in life. Age, it turns out, is only part of the equation. For example, the children of these immigrant families are often able to go to school for formal language training for many years while the adults are left with very little, if any, language education.

Researchers also argue that children's behavior and environment makes them more willing to practice, experiment, learn—and fail—while adults tend to avoid embarrassment and stick with what they know well: their first language. Grownups have spent many years learning the proper way to speak and write their first language.



It can be difficult for them to essentially unlearn everything from grammar to pronunciation in the process of learning a new one. Kaplan says that even forming certain letter sounds in other languages can be tricky for adults, since a first language trains the tongue so specifically.

Experts agree that it may be more difficult for adults to learn a new language—but that there is not a magic age where that ability drops off. So if you've been thinking about tackling another language, go ahead and order that Rosetta Stone!

MYTH: FRENCH IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL LANGUAGE.

TRUTH: In other cultures, different sounds are more or less appealing. French is not universally acknowledged as the most beautiful option for expressing yourself.

Language is far more than just communication. It represents heritage and history and cultural associations. As Kaplan asks in her book, "To what extent are our opinions on languages affected by our beliefs about the people who speak the language?"

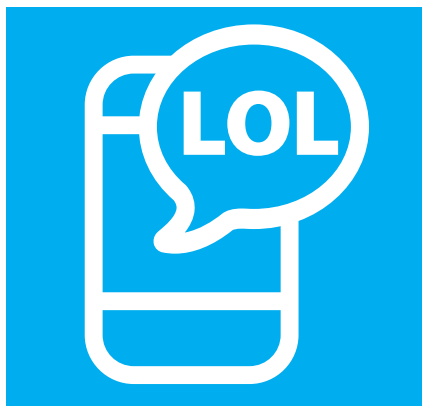
When surveyed, Nevada natives and Tennessee dwellers gave their own states the "most pleasant" rating in terms of

accents. Both groups, however, ranked Arkansas and Alabama as the most jarring accent in the U.S. When asked to describe accents in other parts of the country, participants in another study used words like "hillbilly," "cowboy," "surfer," and "Ivy League"—none of which describe the actual sounds created by accents, but nicknames for the people making them.

Languages and accents that are harsh and guttural are sometimes thought to be "ugly." Kaplan cites pop culture as a perfect example of how our opinions on language creep into the characterization of the people speaking. In *Star Trek*, Klingon has these "ugly" characteristics. In *A Song of Ice and Fire*, the savage Dothraki speak a version of this type of language. The *Lord of the Rings* villain Sauron uses a language so ugly, Gandalf tries to avoid it.

In the real world, German fits this bill for some. It not only has guttural sounds but is also still associated by many with Nazism, whereas French spent centuries as the language of science and art in Europe. Many still consider French highly prestigious, associating it with sophistication and romance. As Kaplan pointedly says, "People's aesthetic judgments about particular languages are inextricably bound up with beliefs about the people who speak those languages."





MYTH: TEXT MESSAGING MAKES YOU ILLITERATE.

TRUTH: There is practically zero evidence that using abbreviations or texting in general harms literacy skills. Text away.

Abbreviations and codes associated with texting are not new forms of communication—they've been used in forms from hieroglyphics to telegrams. Though text-speak has caused significant alarm among some parents and English teachers, there is no reason to wring your hands over texting.

When the medium first came on the scene, texts were limited to 160 characters, and all cost money per message. To economize, users used acronyms and abbreviations to convey their thoughts and avoid those nasty overage charges. Now, though, several studies have indicated that things like TTYL and IDK are used so infrequently it is almost not worth noting.

Acronyms, Kaplan points out, are common even in formal writing. RSVP, MIT, UN. They don't hinder the communication—as long as you know your audience. Texting a friend means you can get by with less-than-perfect grammar. Just don't let it leak into your professional documents.

MYTH: WOMEN TALK FAR MORE THAN MEN.

TRUTH: Studies have measured rates of speech at home, in college classrooms, and in casual conversation. None of them conclude that females motormouth away while their male counterparts sit silent.

The media like to proclaim how studies show women are blabbermouths while men are stoically silent. But that claim simply doesn't hold water, according to research. "The best studies show that men and women, on average, talk about the same," says Kaplan.

She points to studies that refute the claim that women have a penchant for backchanneling—when you say things like "uh-huh" while someone is talking to indicate you're listening. Men do that too. Oh, and tag questions? That thing that happens at the end of a sentence when you don't want to be too forceful about your opinions—you know what I mean? To say nothing of vocal fry, upspeak, or "Valley Girl" talk—all of which have been explored in the media recently and almost always attributed to women.

If correctly interpreted (which Kaplan explains is often the problem in media reports—assumptions are made without careful reading of the actual results), studies have shown these speech habits are not exclusive to, nor are they primarily used by, any one gender.

Popular beliefs in Western culture suggest that women have more developed language skills and tend to speak more "correctly" than men, but still speak in a way that diminishes them. In other parts of the world, however, women are thought to be far more aggressive and impolite in their speech habits, Kaplan says.

The conclusion she reaches is that, in fact, men and women speak roughly the same way, definitely the same amount, and for similarly diversified purposes—gender notwithstanding. **U**



TERMS TO KNOW

backchanneling – proving you're listening by saying things like "yep," "uh-huh," "okay," or "go on" while someone is talking to you

critical period – the time in life when a person can most easily learn a second language

diglossia – when one language becomes the highbrow one of a society and the other the lowbrow

metalinguistic awareness – the ability to talk and think about language

tag questions – adding a clarifying question to the end of your sentence to sound less divisive/aggressive, as in "You know what I mean?"

upspeak – rising inflection at the end of a sentence that makes everything sound like a question

vocal fry – low vocal range that makes a popping or rattling sound in the voice

A photograph of three people—a man, a woman, and an older man—looking at a tablet together. The man on the left is wearing a grey blazer over a red and white checkered shirt. The woman in the middle has curly hair and is wearing glasses, a yellow cardigan, and a dark blue polka-dot shirt. The older man on the right is wearing glasses and a tan jacket over a light blue shirt. They are all smiling and looking at the tablet, which is held by the woman. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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*Ban Mai Nai Soi Refugee Camp, on the
border of Thailand and Myanmar*

Bridging



Borders

U social workers
lead the way in
efforts to build
and connect local
and global refugee
communities.

| BY ELAINE JARVIK |

Mae La, on the Thailand-Myanmar border, is sometimes called “the Club Med of refugee camps”—the sardonic point being that Mae La has reliable electricity and isn’t in the middle of a scorching desert. But like other refugees from Myanmar (aka Burma) who live in Thai camps, the residents of Mae La have essentially been stuck there. Some of them fled the country in the mid-1980s and have never been able to return; some were born in the camps and have never known any other home.

Rosemarie Hunter, an associate professor in the University of Utah’s College of Social Work, and six U colleagues, visited Mae La for the first time in 2008. Before they set foot in the camp, they were cautioned by aid workers that the refugees would be helpless and hopeless.

But the residents, the Utahns soon discovered, had built a flourishing high school out of bamboo, and had set up shops, with items they had bought after paying off guards to let them sneak outside. Hunter saw the experience as illustrative, because too often, she says, “There’s a tendency to only see need and weakness.”

Hunter’s approach—the goal of all social work, she says—is the opposite: to discover a person’s or a community’s strengths. To see, for example, the ingenuity and resilience of the refugees, and then to build on those. To not so much “serve” as build partnerships.

That initial 2008 trip led to Bridging Borders, which takes U social work students to the Thai camps each summer for fieldwork and trainings. Just as crucial, Hunter says, is the fact that they also take along former residents of the camps who now live in Utah, cultural

liaisons who bridge past and present, local and global.

Bridging Borders—an interdisciplinary partnership between the U’s Asia Center, College of Social Work, and Division of Occupational Therapy, —has also helped inform the way social workers and others interact with other refugees in Utah, and has led to several cutting-edge U projects: a study of urban refugees in Bangkok; an online social work course for refugees in Africa and Asia; and a Case Management Certificate course at the U for former refugees and immigrants who work with their own communities in Utah.

The social work term for all this is “capacity building,” but like most institutional lingo it’s a meager translation of the complex give-and-take necessary to create real change. Perhaps the best summary is Hunter’s own: “our goal is to work ourselves out of a job.”

On a muggy morning a few months ago, Hunter and several U social work colleagues set out for Ban Mai Nai Soi, one of the more remote refugee camps on the Thai-Myanmar border. The hour-long car ride was so hot and the road so rutted, Hunter recalls, that it felt like she was being tumbled in a clothes dryer.

When they got to the camp, to do a series of trainings with residents, the generator was broken and there was no electricity, so the group began with a community-building exercise using animal “spirit cards.” There was an overwhelming theme of freedom, Hunter says, with residents choosing birds and butterflies—the kind of creature who can come and go whenever it wants to.

That very same day, the United Nations released its most recent tally of the world’s refugees: 16.1 million people who have fled war, violence, and persecution to find shelter in some place that isn’t home. The numbers don’t include the migrations of 2016, nor the nearly 41 million displaced within their own countries, nor 5.2 million Palestinian refugees nor 3.2 million asylum seekers. Each minute in 2015, according to the UN refugee agency report, an average of 24 people were forced to flee their homes.

“
Our goal
is to work
ourselves
out of a job.”

—Rosemarie Hunter



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Trinh Mai



Syrians are the refugees who have captured our attention lately, but there are also hundreds of thousands of people worldwide languishing in refugee camps because of protracted conflicts in places like Somalia, South Sudan, Burundi, Congo, and the country that is called both Burma and Myanmar. (The Burmese military government officially changed the name of the country in 1989, but the U.S. State Department and many other countries and groups continue to call it Burma. To make matters even more confusing, although the adjective for Burma is “Burmese,” that actually refers only to the majority population, not the ethnic populations—the Karen, Karenni, Chin, and others—who fled Myanmar after decades of attacks and persecution by the country’s military. Although these refugees were finally eligible for resettlement in 2005, the camps are still home to some 120,000.)

To understand how the U got involved with camps like Ban Mai Nai Soi some 8,000 miles away, it helps first to understand two current university directions, one of them local and the other global.

Close to home, the U created the University Neighborhood Partnership in 2001. The idea was to offer the university’s academic resources to help Salt Lake’s west side communities, including communities of immigrant and refugee background, help themselves, while at the same time providing learning opportunities for U students. Hunter became UNP’s director in 2006 (and stepped down just last year). Her College of Social Work colleague Trinh Mai connected U faculty with the westside communities,

including at the Hartland apartments in Glendale, at the time the largest concentration of new refugees in the state.

Because of this connection, it was to UNP that schools and community services turned in the mid-2000s as refugees from Myanmar began arriving in Salt Lake City. “Who are these people?” Mai remembers the agencies asking. The newcomers were labeled “Burmese,” but some had never been to Burma. How had living for so many years in a refugee camp shaped their goals, their day-to-day habits, and their sense of cultural identity?

In February 2008, Hunter and Yda Smith from the U’s Division of Occupational Therapy initiated a field study at Mae La. Over the next year after they returned, they did half-day trainings for 350 Utah teachers, case managers, and youth advocates—trainings that were applicable to other resettling communities as well. And, because they learned that the Karen and Karenni women loved to weave—but hadn’t been able to bring their back-strap looms with them when they resettled—Smith set about setting up looms at the Hartland apartments.

Bridging Borders also dovetails with the broader U global initiative to create students who are “international citizens.”

The College of Social Work is on the cutting edge of global outreach, says Caren Frost BA’82 PhD’95, director of the U’s Global Social Work initiative. The U is one of only nine universities in the U.S. that offer courses in global social work, and one of only two that offer a global social work “concentration,” she points



Htwarreh Win



out. The college also offers learning-abroad programs in Mongolia, Ghana, and Mexico, and soon will help launch the Center for Research on Migration and Refugee Integration, linking the global outreach to local communities once they immigrate or are resettled.

Frost calls Bridging Borders a “global interactive dialogue.” Like other social work global experiences, she tells students, “this isn’t about you going out and saving people. This is about you learning something.”

The camps on the Thailand-Myanmar border are both spare and lush: clusters of simple bamboo shacks crowded onto forested Thai hillsides. Bamboo structures have always been a requirement, since the Thai government continues to think of the camps—some now 25 or 30 years old—as “temporary.”

Associate Professor Trinh Mai was herself once in a camp in Thailand, a decade before ethnic troubles escalated in Myanmar. In Vietnam, her mother had a law degree but to make ends meet sold sugar cane juice on the street after the war. The family was eventually resettled to Poteet, Texas, where Mai was the first Asian student anyone had ever laid eyes on. She arrived knowing no English.

“I think that feeling of being an outsider, not fully immersed in any culture but having a foot in several cultures, drew me to this work,” Mai says about her current efforts with Salt Lake communities of refugee background. “I live at the border of many cultures, and I float in and out. This gives me access to different ways of living and being in the world.”

At Ban Mai Nai Soi and other camps, Mai has conducted mental health trainings for camp residents who work with fellow residents struggling with depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues.

Training topics are chosen by the camp residents, and the learning is mutual, she says. “We bring this learning back to classrooms and communities here in the U.S.”

Each year, Bridging Borders also takes one or two former refugees from Myanmar back to the camps as “cultural liaisons” to interpret and give other trainings. This past summer, Htwarreh Win returned to Ban Mai Nai Soi, his first trip back since being resettled in 2009.

Win remembers sneaking out of Myanmar in 1995 with his uncle after his mother had died and his father disappeared. Win was 7, a barefoot child with swollen feet whom his uncle carried as they traveled for three nights to evade Burmese soldiers. In Ban Mai Nai Soi, where he lived for over 20 years, he knew little about the outside world.

In Salt Lake, Hunter says, “unfortunately, many would only describe him as a refugee,” a soft-spoken man who works at a meat packing plant. But Win has always wanted to be a teacher, and during the week at Ban Mai Nai Soi in June, he had a chance to lead a workshop with the camp’s Special Education teachers, and to talk with school staff about the importance of engaging parents in their children’s education.

“

I think that feeling of being an outsider, not fully immersed in any culture but having a foot in several cultures, drew me to this work.”

—Trinh Mai



Kailee Lee BS'13 (left) is trained in herbal therapeutic massage by a social worker at Ban Mai Nai Soi camp.

"When he taught, he took command of the room," Hunter recalls. "He is clearly a teacher, a leader of his community, an accomplished man."

Win wove in the stories of the Karenni community in Salt Lake City, their challenges and their resiliency, and shared his insights about how these two communities continue to share many of the same visions for their children.

Individuals who are resettled often feel they are viewed as a sum of their deficits, Hunter notes. "And if people treat you that way long enough, that becomes your identity." But when they travel back to the camps, she says, "I see them come into their own. I see them come back to Utah stronger," and that contributes to the confidence of the larger community. For current camp residents, too, these visits are empowering, she says.

Hunter, whom everyone calls "Rosey"—a woman with a big and ready smile, and a demeanor that puts others at ease—loves the full circle of this local-global connection.

When she learned about the work of a nonprofit called Jesuit Commons: Higher Education at the Margins, she set about creating a paraprofessional social work course for camp residents, entry-level Salt Lake-area social service workers with a refugee background, and those who work with urban refugees. To date there have been three graduating classes for a Case Management Certificate, following a nine-month course held at the U, as well as two online CMC cohorts in Thailand, Myanmar, and Africa.

The U College of Social Work, in conjunction with Salt Lake Community College, is also developing a path for camp residents to earn an online bachelor's degree in social work, connected online with traditional students at the U, "so they'll be learning from each other," says Hunter. The program begins in Fall 2017 at SLCC and Fall 2018 at the U.

With a new, pro-democracy government in control in Myanmar, Thai authorities say they are going to close the camps and repatriate the refugees. That sounds like a happy ending—but for the younger residents, the country is hardly home, and many of the older residents have no village, land, or job to return to in a country that is considered the poorest in Asia. They're afraid, too, of the many landmines that still dot the countryside, and are distrustful of the army, one of the largest military forces in the world.

Aid organizations have now cut back rations and other resources in the camps, focusing their attention instead on setting up schools and clinics in Myanmar in preparation for repatriation. Malnutrition in the camps has increased, says Hunter, and the number of suicides last year was the highest ever.

There is clearly still much work to do, in the camps and beyond. Hunter is now working to bring collegiate-level, online social work training to Myanmar, working with St. Aloysius Gonzaga Institute, a teacher training and English language school in the country's Southern Shan state. "If we are successful," says Hunter, "it would be the first undergraduate social work program in Myanmar."

Another bridge across a border. **U**

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

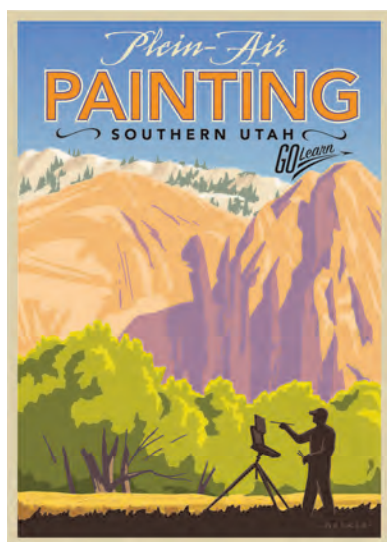


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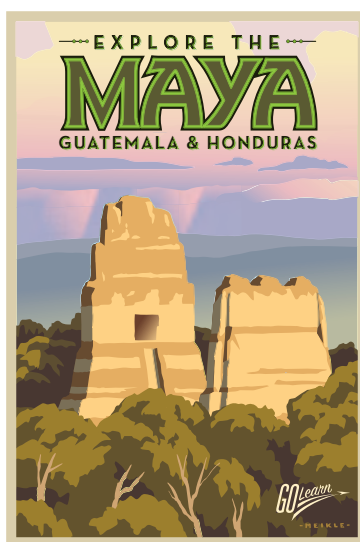
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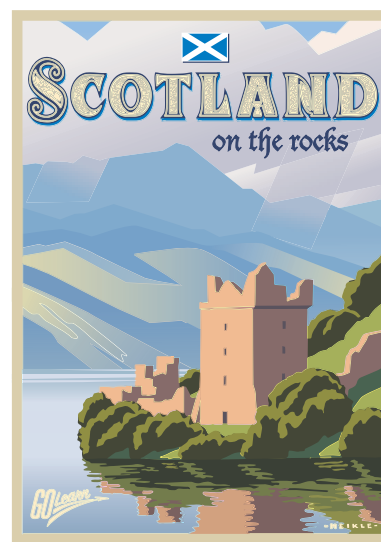
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The Stork

CASTING A LONG SHADOW ON THE
FIELD AND IN THE CLASSROOM

by Jennifer Nozawa



He was nicknamed “The Stork.” At 6 feet 5 inches tall, George Theodore BS’69 MSW’78 stood out among the 1973 New York Mets.

He flew on his long legs, making him a dynamite first baseman and a quick outfielder.

Theodore’s baseball career started early. He hit his first home run at age 9 and, within a couple of years, became a terrific pitcher. Imagining a grand future for himself in baseball, he recalls a scout for the New York Yankees bringing brochures to one of his Little League games. Young Theodore hit .750 that season, “yet the Yankees didn’t try to sign me!” It was a great disappointment for the 11-year-old, but he was not deterred.

He played baseball at Salt Lake City’s Skyline High School, then at the University of Utah while obtaining his bachelor’s degree in psychology. At the U, Theodore demonstrated his speed, lettering all three years he played and leading the school’s team in stolen bases in 1967 and 1968. He was known for his fielding abilities in the outfield and at first base, and during his senior year in 1969, led the team with 24 RBI and the second best batting average at .336.

That year—upon the recommendation of his aunt—Theodore applied to the U’s Master of Social Work (MSW) Program. Shortly after being accepted, though, he was drafted by the New York Mets in the 31st round of the amateur

draft. He decided to play with the team’s minor leagues through the summer before returning to Salt Lake City for fall semester. And then, “I did better than anyone expected,” recalls Theodore. So he put graduate school on hold.

Over the next few years, Theodore climbed the minor league ladder, playing with teams in Virginia, Florida, California, and Tennessee. During spring training in 1973, he finally got a spot on a major league team—the New York Mets. “I was delighted to be there!” Theodore recalls. He’d played first base in the minor leagues, but his tall build, impressive wingspan, and great speed made him a strong asset to the Mets in the outfield... if only for a short period of time.



On July 7, 1973, the Mets were playing the Atlanta Braves at home in Shea Stadium. In the seventh inning, the Braves' Ralph Garr hit the ball deep toward left center field. With eyes on the ball and running at full tilt, Theodore and center fielder Don Hahn collided with each other and the wall, then fell to the ground. Theodore was carried off the field on a stretcher. Although he broke no bones, the collision dislocated Theodore's hip. "I was never the same player after that," he says. Theodore rejoined the team in mid-September and returned to the field just in time for the postseason.

The Mets won the National League East title, as well as the National League pennant that year, sending them to the 1973 World Series.

On October 13, 1973, the Mets faced the Oakland Athletics in the first game of the World Series. The team had won the series just four years earlier, so the franchise's second shot at the title came with some extra pressure. Yet Theodore recalls feeling prepared for the no-doubt overwhelming experience. "In my backyard growing up, I played a thousand championship teams," he chuckles. It was a hard-fought series between two talented and well-matched teams. But in Game 7, the A's defeated the Mets and won the World Series. It was a disappointment, to be sure, but Theodore's spirits were soon lifted.

The next year, he met Sabrina BFA'81, a charming fan from Jackson Heights, New York. "I found out the reason I was on the Mets," he says. "It was fate." The two eventually married, and, now 39 years later, Sabrina teaches art at Uintah and Oakridge elementary schools in Salt Lake City.

Theodore played sparingly during the 1974 season. Although he wasn't experiencing pain, after his injury, he didn't have as much motion or strength as he'd had before. His last game with the Mets was October 2, 1974.

He returned to Salt Lake City in 1975 and, the following year, was once again accepted into the U's MSW Program. Theodore focused his education on medical social work and completed his practicum in the VA Hospital in Helena, Montana. Upon graduating in the spring of 1978, he found few open positions for medical social workers, so he accepted a position with the Granite School District's elementary counseling program. It turned out to be the perfect fit.

As a school social worker, he towered above the young people with whom he worked, yet his warm demeanor, quirky sense of humor, and terrific baseball stories made him easily accessible to both kids and parents. For many years, Theodore spent one day each week working at Granite High School. But when the school permanently closed in 2009, he began spending the whole week at Lincoln Elementary. He loved working with kids. "You can see a lot of change in a hurry," he remarks. With the elementary-aged children, he could observe improvements



George Theodore at bat in 1973 for the New York Mets.

in self-esteem and social skills in just a few sessions. (With teens, he notes, it often took longer for students to see the changes they worked toward.)

This May, after 38 years with the school district, Theodore said his goodbyes and retired. He proudly shares that Lincoln became increasingly diverse during his tenure, and that when he left, the student body included 70 children with refugee backgrounds, and 30 different languages echoed through the halls. Of his nearly four decades as a school social worker, he remarks, "It's gone by kind of fast." During his time, he supervised 10 MSW students from the U in their practicum placements, seven of whom went on to be hired by the district. "It has been a wonderful profession," he says, "very energizing."

Theodore is directing his energy elsewhere these days—settling into retirement; golfing with one of his former social work professors, Larry Smith BS'70 MSW'72 DSW'74; grooming the family poodles; and spending more time with his wife and their son, Alexander BS'08, who is a professional golfer. Perhaps his retirement will also include cheering for the Mets in another shot at a World Series title. "One game doesn't mean a thing," says The Stork of their 2015 loss. "The Mets are a team of destiny." **U**

—Jennifer Nozawa is a public relations specialist for the College of Social Work.



Conceptual rendering

A New Place for Alumni to Call Home

BE A PART OF HISTORY

Parker Ence HBS'11 was only nine years old, but he still remembers his first experience at the University of Utah's Alumni House. "My cousins and I were playing hide-and-seek when we should have been listening to speeches and toasts at my grandparents' 50th wedding anniversary celebration." Parker didn't realize the significance of his grandfather choosing to have the party at the Alumni House until he was much older. "I learned that after serving in World War II, my grandfather didn't have the financial resources to finish his undergraduate degree at the U," Parker explains. "He returned to school later, and ended up earning his degree at age 40. In fact, he and his oldest daughter, my Aunt Karen, walked at Commencement together."

Since that night, Parker has added many more memories of his own associated with the Alumni House. "As president of the Student Alumni Board, I schemed ways to beat BYU in our annual food drive competition, helped grow the prestige of The MUSS, and planned Homecoming and many other events," he recalls.

Since 1980, the Alumni House—located at 155 S. Central Campus Drive—has been the on-campus home for alumni such as Parker and his family as well as students and the community. It is also the headquarters for the U's Alumni Association, which connects the U with more than 265,000 alumni worldwide through a variety of services:

- Engages 17 national alumni chapters and 12 international alumni clubs
- Raises more than \$550,000 each year in student scholarships
- Runs The MUSS, the U's famed 6,000-member student athletics fan club
- Organizes one of the largest annual food drives in the state for the Utah Food Bank
- Produces and distributes some 270,000 issues annually of *Continuum* magazine as well as a monthly e-newsletter and various email updates
- Provides career coaching and professional development opportunities



The new and improved alumni headquarters will feature:

- a two-story atrium with cozy gathering areas
- an elegant ballroom capable of seating more than 400 people (600 people conference-style)
- modern catering facilities
- a variety of meeting rooms, including a formal boardroom where the U's Board of Trustees and others will meet
- a memorabilia area, class link wall, and donor tributes
- beautiful outdoor patios, terraces, and gardens

The Alumni House has also served as a meeting and gathering place, hosting more than 500 alumni, campus, and community events every year. It is the venue for awards ceremonies, conferences, campus orientations, service projects, MUSS ticket distribution, and wedding receptions.

With a nearly 40 percent increase in the student population since 1980, entry into the Pac-12, and the U's growing national and international reputation, the Alumni House can no longer keep up with internal and external demands. A major expansion and renovation

is currently under way, thanks to a \$4 million lead gift from the Spencer F. and Cleone Peterson Eccles family, and the generosity of other supporters including the O.C. Tanner Charitable Trust, Kem (BA'67 JD'70) and Carolyn Gardner, the Zeke and Kay Dumke family, the Sorenson Legacy Foundation, and Jeff (BS'80) and Helen Cardon.

The new facility will be named in honor of Cleone Peterson Eccles BS'57, an active U alumna and benefactor, former vice president of the Alumni Association, and a 10-year member of the U's Board of Trustees. In the 1970s, her husband Spencer F. Eccles BS'56 led the successful campaign to raise funds for the original Alumni House. "This gift brings the ongoing, generous involvement of the Spence and Cleone Eccles family 'full circle' with our Alumni Association," says Alumni Association Executive Director M. John Ashton BS'66 JD'69.

The new Cleone Peterson Eccles Alumni House belongs to all graduates and friends of the U. It will serve as a new home for generations of Utah alumni. "My closest and most lasting college relationships were forged because of connections I made at the Alumni House," Parker continues, "including meeting my wife, Laci, and getting my first real job. Although my career has taken our family to Dallas, Texas, the bonds created through the Alumni Association remain strong." **U**

All alumni and friends are invited to participate in this exciting building transformation as we seek to reach our \$10 million fundraising goal. This is a unique moment in the history of the U and the Alumni Association, and a unique opportunity to make your mark or pay tribute to a loved one or mentor. For more information or to make your gift, visit alumni.utah.edu/transformation or call 801-585-9021.



Spencer F. Eccles (far left) led the successful campaign to raise funds for the original Alumni House, which opened with this ribbon-cutting ceremony in 1980. Also pictured, from left to right: Afton B. Bradshaw, R.J. Snow, Howard A. Jorgensen, U President David P. Gardner, Anne Decker, and D. Brent Scott.



A Harvest of Hope

U ALUMS AND FRIENDS RAISE FUNDS FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

By Lisa Ann Thomson

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon on October 2, 2015, a microburst swept the northeast corner of the Salt Lake Valley. Rain, wind, thunder, lightning. It was a once-every-10-years weather event. But on a cul-de-sac just beyond the University of Utah campus, a dedicated handful of neighbors were not going to let a little nickel-sized hail stop them.

They grabbed towels, opened garages, threw things in trunks—whatever it took to protect tables and displays while the storm roared through. They were determined to be ready by 5:30 that evening, come hell or high water (and both were surely coming), for the fourth Gracey's Harvest of Hope. The street festival was a fundraiser for a woman with young special-needs triplets who herself was fighting two different forms of breast cancer. They would not let her down.

And they didn't. That stormy night was one of Gracey's Harvest of Hope's best years.

"We are continually inspired by all that people can accomplish by working together for a common cause," says alumna Mindy Hughes BS'94 MS'96, who along with her husband Mike BS'98, is the founder and primary organizer of this now-annual fundraising event.

Gracey's Harvest of Hope was started in 2012. In Mindy and Mike's neighborhood that year, two families faced devastating challenges. One was a young mother diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer, and the other was a toddler whose heart was attacked by a virus.

"When our friends were struggling with life-altering illnesses, our entire neighborhood was trying to figure out a way to help," Mindy remembers. "So we all decided to do a fundraiser, to show our support and love for them, and also to help raise money for medical expenses."

Mindy was a perfect fit to head the effort. Before becoming a full-time mother to five children,



Mindy used her management education in the offices of the Utah Jazz and the University of Utah men's basketball program. She organized a committee, and they decided to close off a cul-de-sac in the neighborhood and hold a street festival that included a silent auction, boutique, bake sale, children's games, and food.

"The first year, we were a little worried that no people would show up," says Mike, who also got his degree in business and is now a senior account executive for KSL TV in Salt Lake City. But they were overwhelmed by the turnout and generosity, and they knew they were onto something special.

"We had such an amazing experience with the first festival that we wanted to replicate it year after year. It was incredible to see the neighborhood all come together," says Mindy.

Harvest of Hope is now a 501(c)(3) charitable organization with the express mission to help local families and individuals facing extreme challenges. So far the festival has helped five families and has raised tens of thousands of dollars each year. The past two

years, they have also donated to Dr. Joshua Schiffman's pediatric cancer research at the U's Huntsman Cancer Institute. And while it may seem that being a graduate of the U is a requirement to participate—because most of the recipients and volunteers have attended the university—it actually is not. The only requirement is to have a need or a desire to help.

"We have become very attached to each and every recipient," says Mike. "Each of them has had their own unique set of circumstances and struggles that may seem unbearable to many of us. However, it is encouraging to see these families rise above their difficulties."

The same could be said for Mindy and Mike themselves. They also happen to be parents of triplets. However, they lost one of their baby girls when she was just one month old due to necrotizing fasciitis—a flesh-eating bacteria—contracted in the hospital.

"Mike and I had always wanted to do something in her name to keep her memory alive and for our other children to feel like they had a connection to her,"

Mindy says. "We knew this effort and festival should be called 'Gracey's' Harvest of Hope in her honor."

This year's festival will be held on October 7, in that same neighborhood cul-de-sac—hopefully sans rain—with a new recipient family benefiting from the efforts of this determined community. And once again, attendees will share in the generosity and feel just a little inspired by what can be accomplished when people decide to rally. **U**

—Lisa Thomson is a freelance writer in Salt Lake City and serves as chair of the festival's silent auction.



Visit continuum.utah.edu to view a gallery with more photos of the festival, including past recipients.

EMERITUS REUNION

OCT.
05

5:30 p.m., Wall Mansion

CRIMSON RALLY

OCT.
06

7:30 p.m., Union Lawn

GOLF TOURNAMENT

OCT.
07

9 a.m.,
Bonneville Golf Course



THROWBACK
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EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Sept. 30-Oct. 9



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

SCHOLARSHIP 5K

OCT.
08

8 a.m., Old Law School

TAILGATE PARTY

OCT.
08

2 hours before kickoff
550 S. Guardsman Way

FOOTBALL GAME

OCT.
08

Utah vs. Arizona,
Rice-Eccles Stadium

For the full schedule, visit alumni.utah.edu/homecoming or call 801-581-6995.

1960s

**John S. Edwards**

BS'63 has been inducted into the National Army ROTC Hall of Fame. He is a distinguished alumnus of the U's Army ROTC

program and a longtime journalist. After taking command of an Armored Cavalry Reconnaissance Platoon in the 1960s, Edwards led surveillance and security missions along the east-west German border in the strategic Fulda Gap. After being honorably released from active duty, he commanded a tank company of the 81st Tank Battalion at Fort Douglas, Utah. His 30-year career in broadcast journalism began in Salt Lake City at KUTV. He spent 15 years as news director at KTVX and six years with the U's Health Sciences Development Office as a director of major gifts and communications. Edwards received a bachelor's degree in communication and journalism from the U. He is serving his 14th year as the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for Utah and his 13th year as a member of the U's Veterans Day Committee.

1970s



Mike Gloor MS'76, Nebraska state senator, has received the Chancellor Robert D. Sparks, M.D. Award in Public Health and Preventive

Medicine, from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health. The award recognizes outstanding innovation, collaboration, and impact on health promotion, disease prevention, and public health. Gloor is a champion of public health practices and policies that help decrease and prevent smoking. Prior to joining the legislature, Gloor was president and chief executive officer of St. Francis Medical Center and chairman of the Nebraska Hospital Association. He received a bachelor's degree in 1972 from Hastings College, a master's degree in human resource management from the U, and a second master's degree in 1987 from the University of Minnesota.



AT 101, AN ALUM RECALLS CAMPUS LIFE IN THE 1930s

By Ann Floor

Life was not easy for American women coming of age in the 1930s. Just as the impacts of World War I were fading, the Great Depression began to take hold. "During those years, there were very few opportunities for women," says U alumna Leslee Anderson Bond BA'39, known as Elma Anderson when she was a U student. "It was a bleak world with no promising future ahead."

Leslee's parents were educated and thoughtful—her mother was a teacher, and her father attended college—but, like so many other Americans, they had hit hard times. The family moved often—from Elsinore, Utah, where Leslee was born in 1915, to the Uinta Basin; Soda Springs, Idaho; and Salt Lake City, where she attended West High. "There wasn't government help for people who were swept under the rug," she says. "There were no jobs, unless you were rich and had connections, so my folks moved back to Elsinore."

As a child, Leslee was imaginative and loved telling stories. "My family and friends predicted I was going to be a writer. That became my inner wish, my mantra," she says. "But how was I going to go to a university when my family couldn't help pay for it?" Fortunately, she was able to earn about \$46 cleaning motel rooms in Elsinore during the summer before she started at the U. "My mother made me a skirt from a pair of my dad's old trousers, a cousin gave me

a blouse she was discarding, and a friend gave me a free ride back to Salt Lake," she recalls. "That and a small scholarship from West High and my family's prayers gave me the courage to try for a college education and a job as a teacher."

Once in Salt Lake, she procured a place to work for room and board and got a job on campus, earning enough to cover her tuition, books, and other expenses. "Thank God for our wonderful President Roosevelt," she says. Leslee credits his programs, supervised at the U by Myrtle Austin, dean of women, with making it possible for thousands of students to work on campus and pay for school.

As a freshman in 1934, Leslee took a geology class from Frederick J. Pack, a well-known geologist. He became her favorite professor. She vividly remembers her first exam in his class. "I was an avid reader of the textbook, and by my standards,

I prepared myself very well for that first big test," she says. "When he gave the exam, I knew all the answers, and wrote and wrote. I was sure it was an A paper." It came back as a D paper. "Most of us in the class did poorly," she recalls. "He explained how we didn't properly evaluate how to read the questions and so we didn't know how to properly answer them." Pack's explanation helped Leslee in all her classes throughout college. "He taught me how to read and take a test," she says, "I loved his class."

The following year, Leslee found part-time work at the U's newly completed library in the George Thomas Building on

Presidents Circle (then called the Horseshoe). At the time, Thomas was president of the U. "The first year, I dusted and shelved the books. The second year, I worked in the circulation department. The third year, my duties expanded to include working in the reserves," she says. "I felt like I was running the library."

During the time Leslee was a student at the U, from 1934 to 1939, in addition to the George Thomas library building, 61 acres were added to campus from Fort Douglas Reservation (1934); the Graduate School of Social Work was organized (1937); and Carlson Hall (1938) and the Mines Building (1939) were erected. Of the buildings, just the George Thomas remains (and it is currently undergoing a major renovation to house the new Crocker Science Center).

Leslee graduated in 1939 with a bachelor's degree in English and got a job organizing a high school library in Salina, Utah. When World War II broke out,

she moved to Santa Monica, California, to work for the war effort. Later, she returned to being a librarian and worked at public libraries in Santa Monica, including at a technical library for RCA. She married twice, and has four daughters, four granddaughters, and eight great-grandchildren. Today, Leslee lives in an assisted living community for seniors north of San Francisco.

"Those years I spent at the U were my growing years. The friendships with professors and instructors gave me new depth and understanding," says Leslee. "It's where I learned about the possibilities of life and formed a positive philosophy that still carries me forward, even at age 101."



Leslee "Elma" Anderson Bond in the U's 1939 Utonian yearbook.

"Those years I spent at the U were my growing years. The friendships with professors and instructors gave me new depth and understanding."

1980s



Julia Bailey-Serres

BS'81, a professor of genetics at the University of California, Riverside, has been elected a member of the National Academy

of Sciences. Membership in the academy is one of the highest honors given to a scientist or engineer in the United States. Bailey-Serres was recognized for her excellence in original scientific research, and specifically for her role in the discovery and characterization of a gene that allows rice to survive under water. That gene has subsequently been introduced through breeding by the International Rice Research Institute and others, creating flood-tolerant rice varieties that are grown by more than five million farmers in flood-prone areas of Asia. Bailey-Serres received a bachelor's degree in biology from the College of Science at the University of Utah, and a doctorate from Edinburgh University. She has been a member of the faculty at UC Riverside since 1990.



Jill E. Carter HBA'80

MPA'82 received the Ted Herbert Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Contributions to Public Administration from

the Utah Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration. The award recognizes Carter's significant contributions to public administration that have helped make Utah a better state. As one of the principal creators of the Certified Public Manager Program in Utah, Carter was on the team that developed the original curriculum and taught it for many years. She has been a stand-out leader for strengthening the human resource management functions in city, county, and state government, and has taught numerous courses in human resource management for the U. Carter currently is director of human resources for Questar Corporation and continues to teach human resource courses in the U's master's in public administration program and Continuing Education department.

1990s



Jennifer Robinson BS'98 MPA'01 PhD'10 was honored with the David Eccles Award for Leadership. Robinson serves

as associate director in the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the U. She also holds community leadership roles with groups including the Utah Commission on Women and the Economy (a gubernatorial appointment), the U's Veterans Day Committee, and the Salt Lake Chamber Capitol Club. She is a frequent advisor to legislators, local elected officials, and senior public employees. In her role at the Gardner Institute, she has worked for the past three years to build critical relationships with stakeholders across campus, locally, and statewide. Robinson received a bachelor's degree in political science, a master's degree in public administration, and a doctorate in political science, all from the U's College of Social and Behavioral Science.

2010s



Cody Broderick MS'15, co-founder and CEO of the translation services company "inwhatlanguage," has been named Emerging

Executive of the Year by the Utah Technology Council, a professional association for high-tech industries. Using their proprietary cloud-based translation management system Unify, Broderick and his team provide businesses with opportunities to reach their target audience in more than 160 languages, across virtually any platform and any file format. As an industry leader for the past 10 years, Broderick has shown a strong understanding of quality translations and software development. He received his master's degree in information technology from the U.

ALUMNI BOARD WELCOMES FOUR NEW DIRECTORS



Pam Clawson



Dave Gessel



Alise Orlandi



Ross Romero

The Alumni Association has added four new members to its board of directors, as well as electing new presidents for three of the board's five affiliates. The new directors are **Pam Clawson** BS'91 MPA'96, **Dave Gessel** BS'83, **Alise Orlandi** BS'89, and **Ross Romero** BS'93.

Clawson received both her bachelor's degree and master's of public administration from the U. She works as an executive recruiter for Recruiting Connection and serves on the board of the University Hospital Foundation.

Gessel graduated from the U with a degree in political science and went on to get his law degree from the University of Virginia in 1991. A former member of the Beehive Honor Society board, he is an attorney with the Utah Hospital Association.

Orlandi received a bachelor's degree in finance from the U. A former member of the association's L.A. Chapter board, she is currently a homemaker and volunteer with PTA boards and the Junior League of Salt Lake City.

Romero received a bachelor's degree from the U in political science and a law degree from the University of Michigan. A former member of the association's Young Alumni and Beehive boards, he is a banker at Zions Bank.

The new presidents of the affiliated boards are **Sauna Young** BS'64, Emeritus Alumni Board; **Brian Rosander** BS'01 JD'05, Young Alumni Board; and **Daniel Folsom**, Student Alumni Board. While the Beehive Honor Society is now a committee rather than an affiliated board, its new chair **Sammy Fan** BS'02 MAcc'05 will also serve on the association's board of directors.

FRIENDLY FACES TO GREET VISITING FOOTBALL FANS

A group of Ute fans were so impressed with Notre Dame's warm welcome to their football stadium in 2010, they initiated efforts to create a U Alumni Ambassador football program to do the same for visiting fans at Rice-Eccles Stadium. The program is taking off this fall, thanks to Alumni Emeritus Board



members **Mary Thornton** BS'71 and **Jim Cannon** BA'68 (board president) and the director of guest services for Rice-Eccles, **Dave Wakefield** BA'05. Identifiable by their bright green vests, 80 Alumni Ambassadors are expected to greet and assist visitors at this season's home games. To find out more, visit alumni.utah.edu/ambassadors



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154

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Total Dollar Amount
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**Based on college acceptance rates*

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25 Years of *Continuum*

In this, our 102nd issue, we pause to celebrate 25 years of exploring the traditions, heritage, and evolving excellence of the University of Utah. We thank you, our readers, for sharing this journey with us. Together, we've watched many chapters of university history unfold within these pages.

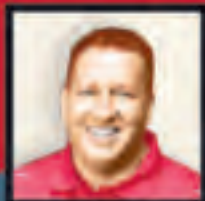
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