

winter  
13-14

# Continuum

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

VOL. 23 NO. 3

## Global U

THE UNIVERSITY'S PLAN FOR  
EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL  
EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS

▶ **IDITAROD DREAMS:** TWO U ALUMNI AND THEIR DOGS  
▶ **PATHWAYS IN BOOKS:** A LIBRARY DEAN AND A DIGITAL FUTURE

▶ **SNOWFLAKES' SIGNIFICANCE:** A U PROFESSOR'S CAMERA  
▶ **PROVIDING AID, AND HOPE:** AN ALUM'S EFFORTS IN INDIA

# TOP TEN

## AGAIN, AGAIN, AGAIN & AGAIN

University of Utah Health Care has been named one of the top ten Academic Medical Centers in the UHC Quality and Accountability Study *four years in a row* by the University HealthSystem Consortium.\*

— AND —

## TOP FIVE

**for Supply Chain cost effectiveness.**

For every health need, there's an expert for you. With four hospitals, ten community clinics and over 1,000 physicians, University of Utah Health Care offers award winning quality and value to keep your family healthy, no matter what age or need.



Your Choice. Our Experts.

[healthcare.utah.edu](http://healthcare.utah.edu)

\*University HealthSystem Consortium 2013 Quality Leadership Award - [www.uhc.edu](http://www.uhc.edu)

## 2 Feedback

Your comments

## 4 Campus Notebook

New U center in Montana's Centennial Valley, the Huntsman Cancer Institute's expansion, and more



## 8 Discovery

U research and medical developments



## 10 Alum Profile

Two U alumni are living their Alaska dreams by running dogs in the iconic Iditarod.  
*By Stephen Speckman*



*The University of Utah is a partner in a new campus in Songdo, South Korea.*

*Photo by Nick Steffens*

## COVER STORY

# Global U 22

The University of Utah is unifying and expanding its endeavors to bring international experiences to all students.

*By Kim M. Horiuchi*

## SPOTLIGHT

# A Snowflake's Significance 32

U professor Tim Garrett's 3-D images of falling snow illuminate global warming research and more.

*By Patty Henetz*



## 16 Bookshelf

U dean Alberta Comer is leading the Marriott Library farther into its digital future.

*By Elaine Jarvik*

## 38 Association News

Merit of Honor Award winners, and more

## 42 Through the Years

Keeping up with alumni



## 48 And Finally...

Remembering Carlson Hall

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) for additional photos, videos, and more.



# Your Comments

## QUITE A JOURNEY

Loved the photo essay ["Dinosaur Caravan," Fall 2013]. Had no idea that a highway was not in place in the 1920s and that a ferry and dirt roads were the mode of travel.

What a historical journey to Salt Lake City. I still own the house that my mother was raised in on Park Street. I was raised there also. This journey took place only 10 years later than our home was built in 1914. My mother was a young teenager. I am really surprised that horse and wagon transportation was still so prominent in those days.

*Kent Rich HBA'66 MSW'68  
Salt Lake City, Utah*

The caravan of dinosaurs must have been quite a sight, better than the arrival of a circus in town!

*Akhlesh Lakhtakia MS'81 PhD'83  
State College, Pennsylvania*

## PRAISE FOR A LEADER

What an amazing woman ["Of Multitasking and Medicine," Fall 2013]! So many achievements, yet [U health care chief Vivian S. Lee] is so humble and down to earth. She truly is an inspiration.

*Susan Bird  
Salt Lake City, Utah*

## FILLING THE STANDS

The University of Utah women's basketball program currently does not seem to do much recruiting of local female basketball players ["Building a Team," Fall 2013]. In my opinion, having more local athletes involved would increase interest in the program and attendance at games.

*David Taylor BS'91 DPT'09  
Salt Lake City, Utah*

## LINGERING QUESTIONS

This is a subject that has long plagued my heart of hearts with a heavy sadness. Like our brother Mr. [A.J.] Kanip noted in this article ["The Heartbeat of the People," Fall 2012], the drum and feather hold profound spiritual significance to the Native people.

Demeaning the people so blatantly creates an unwelcome place. Replace the drum and feather with LDS temple robes and aprons and see what happens. Can you picture turning any religious regalia into costumes for all to wear during recreation and public display rather than respected privately in a sacred manner? Is this really the message the U wants sent out to the world?

Again, this brings much heaviness and sadness to my heart that the people continue to be treated as less than human.

*Deb Williams  
Salt Lake City, Utah*

Maybe a Ute drum group or performer(s) could be invited to play before home Ute games, along with an explanation of what the drum and feather mean to the tribe. I've seen this done at other sporting events.

*Christine Cape  
Sanders, Arizona*

All comments submitted via [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu)

*We're eager to hear from you. Please go to [continuum.utah.edu/contact-us/](http://continuum.utah.edu/contact-us/) for our contact information.*



*Publisher*  
William Warren

*Executive Editor*  
M. John Ashton BS'66 JD'69

*Editor*  
Julianne Basinger BA'87 MA'91

*Managing Editor*  
Marcia C. Dibble

*Associate Editors*  
Ann Floor BFA'85  
Kim M. Horiuchi

*Advertising Manager*  
Bill Lines BS'83

*Art Direction/Design*  
David E. Titensor BFA'91

*Corporate Sponsors*  
ARUP Laboratories  
Continuing Education at the University of Utah  
David Eccles School of Business at the University of Utah  
Homestead and Zermatt Resort  
Intermountain Healthcare Physician Recruiting  
Rowland Hall  
University Credit Union  
University of Utah Development Office  
University of Utah Health Care  
The Waterford School

*Editorial Advisory Committee*  
Sonya Alemán PhD'09  
Collin B. Barrett BA'05  
Marc E. Day BS'76  
Tal Harry BS'87  
Rosemarie Hunter PhD'04  
Mike Lageschulte  
Holly Mullen BS'81  
Traci O'Very Covey BFA'83  
Jodi Patterson  
Keven M. Rowe BS'83 JD'86  
Kathy Wilets BA'89  
Craig Wirth BS'73

*Continuum* is published in summer, fall, winter, and spring by the University of Utah Alumni Association and University Marketing & Communications. Subscriptions are available to U faculty/staff (visit [continuum.utah.edu/subscribe.php](http://continuum.utah.edu/subscribe.php)) and through membership in the Alumni Association (\$50/year). Call (801) 581-6995 for more information.

Opinions expressed in *Continuum* are not necessarily those of the University of Utah administration. Copyright ©2013 by the University of Utah Alumni Association. The University of Utah is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

For advertising opportunities, please call Bill Lines at (801) 581-3718.

Standard postage paid at Salt Lake City and additional mailing offices.

Send address changes to:  
*Continuum*  
Alumni House  
University of Utah  
155 S. Central Campus Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT  
84112

WHAT COLOR  
IS YOUR  
**CREDIT**  
UNION?

GO RED!  
[UCREDITU.COM](http://UCREDITU.COM)



**University**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

®

## U Center in Montana Will Focus on Conservation



Photo by Hattie Macleod

**T**he University of Utah now has 16 acres of land and a renovated former ghost town in Montana's Centennial Valley that will be used for courses in environmental conservation and related interdisciplinary study.

The U's College of Humanities for the past three years has hosted pilot programs and workshops at the Environmental Humanities Education Center in Lakeview, Montana. In October, the University announced that the property's owners, John and Melody Taft, and their friends Bill and Sandi Nicholson, who had helped support the renovations, were generously giving it to the U. The newly renamed Taft Nicholson Environmental Humanities Education Center is now a fully approved center operated by the University of Utah.

"We are truly grateful to the Tafts and Nicholsons as well as to the Conservation Endowment Fund for creating a center that allows all those who visit a rare opportunity to explore an environment with incredibly diverse ecosystems," says Robert Newman, dean of the College of Humanities. "This gift represents a tremendous resource for the University of Utah as an education center for environmental research and transformative pedagogy."

Melody and John Taft, a retired developer from California, years ago had

built a cabin in the Centennial Valley and worked to help create conservation easements to preserve the land. To date, they have been the catalyst for successfully protecting more than 90 percent of the valley. As part of their conservation efforts, they also wanted to create a world-class education center. A dozen years ago, they purchased the nearby ghost town of Lakeview, located on the former stagecoach trail that cuts through the valley and leads into West Yellowstone, and set about renovating it. Sandi and Bill Nicholson, a former president of the multilevel marketing company Amway, also owned property nearby and helped contribute to the restoration. Together, the two couples have invested millions of dollars restoring and furnishing buildings and



Photo by Jonathan Royce

installing infrastructure and additional facilities so the town could function as an education center.

The Tafts approached colleges in Montana about creating the center, and when those talks didn't pan out, the couple approached the University of Utah. While the U will own and operate the new center, other colleges also will continue to offer courses there, and the center will serve nonprofit organizations and private groups wishing to host programs that combine the humanities, arts, and environmental studies. The facilities include housing and meeting spaces for workshops, research activities, private events, and corporate retreats.

Located north and east of the Continental Divide along the Montana-Idaho border, the Centennial Valley is



Photo by Mary Tull

near the western edge of Yellowstone National Park and contains the largest wetland complex in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The programs and workshops at the center provide an innovative educational experience that

introduces students and visitors to the ecology, history, wildlife, and conservation value of the area. "The center allows students to go beyond the traditional classroom experience," says Mary Tull, the center's director. "Here, students take their classroom knowledge into the field, where they can apply what they're learning

to practical solutions for real-world ecological problems." **U**

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) to view a video about the center and a gallery with more photos.



## Huntsman Institute Expands to Focus on Cancer in Children

The University of Utah's Huntsman Cancer Institute will create a 220,000-square-foot addition to house research laboratories that will study cancer in children and families and seek to develop treatments.

The new cancer research facility is projected to cost \$100 million and will house laboratories and technology that will allow Huntsman researchers to study many more aspects of cancers that affect families, including the three leading causes of disease death in children: leukemia, sarcoma, and brain cancer. The new addition will be named the Primary Children's and Families' Research Center in honor of one of the principal donors of the expansion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, reflecting the church's historical emphasis on children and families.

"From an empty hillside to one of the world's leading cancer research and treatment facilities, our vision has always been to improve cancer outcomes for children and adults through innova-



tive research," says Jon M. Huntsman, Sr., the institute's founder and principal benefactor. "To fulfill that dream, our world-class researchers need more space and equipment. Huntsman Cancer Institute's research labs are at full capacity, yet patients all over the world are looking to us for new treatments to save their lives. This new addition will double our research space."

The institute's expansion comes at a time when the incidence and prevalence of cancers in all age groups—including children—is increasing, while funding for cancer research is on the decline. "Jon has for more than 20 years brought to life his vision for exceptional cancer research and care," says U President David W. Pershing. "We are grateful that he has entrusted the University of Utah to carry out that vision."

Programming and design for the new, six-floor expansion is already under way, and construction is slated to begin in 2014. The addition, which is the institute's fourth major construction phase, is projected to extend from the southeast corner of the research arm of the original building. "Building on our strong foundation of achievement in cancer genetics, risk assessment, and prevention, the new facility will allow us to expand in areas of critical need and will dramatically accelerate our progress," says Mary Beckerle, the institute's chief executive officer and director. **U**



## U's Pac-12 Move Helps Economy

An ongoing study shows the University of Utah's move to the Pac-12 Conference in 2011 continues to generate substantial economic gains as well as improved perceptions of the University and the state.

According to the study, out-of-state football fans attending four Pac-12 football games at the U in 2012 spent an estimated \$2.3 million on travel, food, and lodging. Television revenues brought in an additional \$8 million. Total revenues increased \$1.8 million over the inaugural 2011 season, and are projected to support 275 jobs—generating earnings of \$6.6 million and state tax revenue of approximately \$660,000.

The study, which is being conducted over multiple years by the U's Center for Public Policy & Administration and the Bureau of Business and Economic Research, also showed that the vast majority of visiting fans had a good experience during their stay. Of the fans polled, 87 percent said they were treated well or very well by Utah fans. Asked if their impressions of the University had changed during their visit, 43 percent said they had, and 98 percent of those say it changed for the better. Further, 62 percent said they were more likely to visit in the future because of their experience at the U.

## Supercomputer Research Focuses on Clean Coal Energy

University of Utah engineers will use a five-year, \$16 million grant to conduct supercomputer simulations aimed at developing a prototype of a low-cost, low-emissions coal power plant that could electrify a midsized city. The goal of this "predictive science" effort is to help power poor nations while also reducing greenhouse emissions in developed ones.

The grant by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration is enabling University



The researchers will use supercomputers to simulate and predict performance for a proposed 350-megawatt boiler system that would burn pulverized coal with pure oxygen rather than air. The design, which hasn't yet been built, would capture carbon dioxide released during power generation.

## U Team Helps Excavate New Species of Tyrannosaurus



A remarkable new species of tyrannosaurus has been unearthed in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, in southern Utah. The huge carnivore lived 70 million to 95 million years ago, during the Late Cretaceous Period, and belongs to the same evolutionary branch as the *Tyrannosaurus rex*.

researchers Philip J. Smith and Martin Berzins, along with U President David W. Pershing, to establish the Carbon Capture Multidisciplinary Simulation Center. All three are professors in the U's College of Engineering.

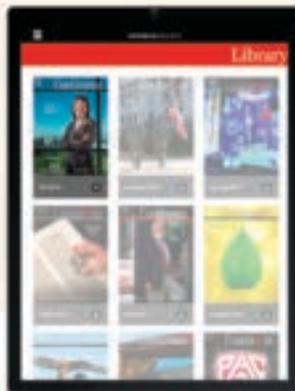
The discovery was announced in October in the open-access scientific journal *PLoS ONE* and unveiled on permanent exhibit in the Past Worlds Gallery at the Natural History Museum of Utah. The new species, *Lythronax argestes*, had a short narrow snout, a wide back of the skull, and forward-oriented eyes. *Lythronax* translates as "king of gore," and *argestes* refers to the dinosaur's geographic location in the American Southwest. Previously, paleontologists had thought this type of wide-skulled tyrannosaurid only appeared 70 million years ago, whereas *Lythronax* shows it had evolved at least 10 million years earlier.

The study, funded in large part by the Bureau of Land Management and the National Science Foundation, was led by Mark Loewen PhD'09, a research associate at the Natural History Museum of Utah who is also a U adjunct assistant professor of geology and geophysics. The skeleton was discovered by BLM employee Scott Richardson and excavated by a team from the museum and the national monument.

## World Trade Center Piece Comes to Fort Douglas

The Fort Douglas Military Museum, housed on the University of Utah campus, is the first location to acquire one of nine pieces of foundation saved from the World Trade Center after the September 11, 2001, terror attacks. The 4.5-ton piece of concrete, rock, and steel rebar is the centerpiece of the museum's new Utah's Fallen Warrior Memorial, and Utah Governor Gary Herbert participated in a

## Continuum Offers iPad App for Digital Reading



*Continuum* has launched a new app that allows iPad owners to read the online edition of the magazine on their tablet computers. The app includes all the articles, images, and multimedia features that the magazine's website offers, all optimized for viewing on a tablet device. To download the free app, simply go to the App Store in iTunes and search for "Continuum Magazine."



dedication ceremony in October.

The artifact will be housed in the new Fort Douglas Memorial Park, behind the museum. The park's development was initiated by Park City resident Raette Belcher. "After meeting several Gold Star mothers, those whose sons or daughters lost their lives in military service, my heart was touched, and I set out to bring this memorial to Utah," Belcher says.

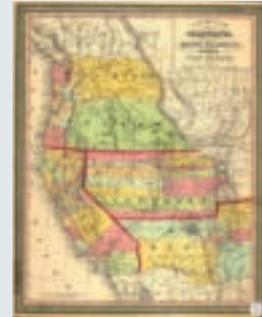
In addition to the twin towers artifact, the park will feature a six-statue exhibit

designed to salute women in military service. This exhibit is scheduled to be completed in early 2014.

## University's Marriott Library Helps Digitize Pioneer History

As part of the Utah Academic Library Consortium, the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah, in conjunction with the Mountain West Digital Library, has launched a project to digitize historical items from Western settlers. The program, called Pioneers In Your Attic, will examine 19th-century overland migration from every aspect: transportation, trail and camp life, diseases, medicine and surgery, politics and government, gold rush, religion, company organization, path finding, and settlers' encounters with American Indians. Wherever possible, the project seeks to study perspectives from nontraditional viewpoints.

The goal is to create an extensive online collection that will be available free of charge to the public. Scanning sessions were held this past fall in public



libraries across the state. The families who own the materials retain ownership and receive high quality digital

files of their family materials. Items have ranged from single letters and diaries to photographs to substantial collections of correspondences between pioneers and their families. Interested individuals can either make an appointment with the library or stop by with the materials they would like to include.

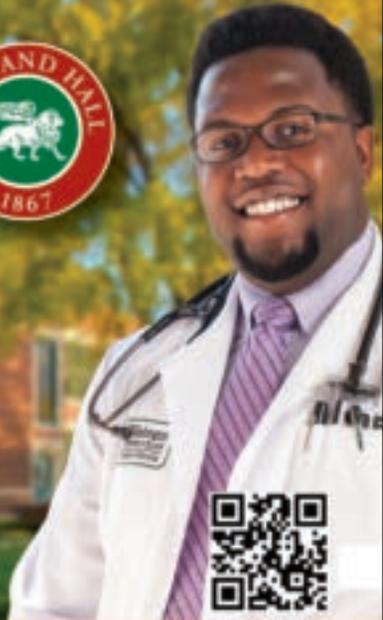
ROWLAND HALL IS MY ...

# Foundation

LAWRENCE BENJAMIN '07

Harvard 2011, Washington University Medical School







INDEPENDENT | COLLEGE PREP | 2PreK - 12th GRADE | 801.355.7485 | [ROWLANDHALL.ORG/LAWRENCE](http://ROWLANDHALL.ORG/LAWRENCE)

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND ADMISSION EVENTS FOR GRADES 2PreK-12  
 See the January and February Open House Schedule at [www.rowlandhall.org/events](http://www.rowlandhall.org/events)

## Bad Day of Skiing Leads to Fresh Idea for Skiers

For University of Utah undergraduate student Alex Carr, a bad day of skiing led to an innovative idea: Chār Poles, a sort of ski pole equivalent of a Swiss Army knife.

Carr says he got the idea for the poles one day after he hiked up a mountain in the Utah backcountry in order to ski down, only to realize his ski bindings

weren't adjusted properly. "After failed attempts using rocks and twigs as screwdrivers, I decided to make it my mission to create ski poles with screwdrivers." He brainstormed during the long trek back down the hill, eventually coming up with the model that has just hit the market.

Chār Poles not only feature screwdrivers built into the handles, they also have bottle openers and camera mounts, and are customizable. These four aspects of the poles garnered them the name *char*, the Farsi word for four. (Carr, a senior, has been studying Farsi and entrepreneurship at the U,

though he took a leave in spring 2013 to focus on his business.)

*Skiing Magazine* named Chār Poles to its 2013 Top 10 list of innovative and creative products, and the poles also garnered a spot on the 2013 "Wish List" of the SnowSports Industries America trade show.

Carr credits as crucial to his success several programs at the U's Pierre Lassonde Entrepreneur Center, including its Startup Center for Students, Innovation Scholar program, and The Foundry, and he remains active with the entrepreneurship program's student advisory board. His company, established as an LLC in 2012, when it filed its first patents, was then reorganized as a corporation in 2013. Like most businesses that arise from undergraduate work at the U, it is independently owned by its creator, Carr. Chār Poles are now available through the namesake company's website.



Photo courtesy U Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute

## 3-D Visualization Tool Aids Biological Research

FluoRender, a free tool developed at the University of Utah for studying three-dimensional images of biological samples, is now seeing diverse applications in biological research and has been used to create stunning images that have garnered awards in international biology image competitions. Version 2.13 was just released in mid-2013, and the next release is expected in spring 2014.

FluoRender is an interactive, flexible software tool for confocal microscopy visualization. Confocal microscopy has become an important imaging tool in biology research in recent years. The technique—which uses fluorescent stains to delineate separate parts of a biological sample—creates a 3-D visualization of the sample. Before FluoRender, most of the visualization tools that were available created images that, though complex, were static and unable to be

manipulated. FluoRender images are interactive. For example, users can "paint" directly on the visuals and select particular structures for closer analysis and manipulation.

The late University of Utah biologist Chi-Bin Chien (who died of cancer in 2011) and his postdoctoral fellow Hideo Otsuna, now a research associate in the U's Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy, partnered with Charles Hansen, associate director of the U's Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute, and his graduate student Yong Wan (now PhD'13

and a postdoc with Hansen's group) to design and develop the software tool starting in 2008, with the earliest version coming out in 2009. The project received National Institutes of Health awards in 2010 and 2011, ultimately resulting in the latest FluoRender software package.

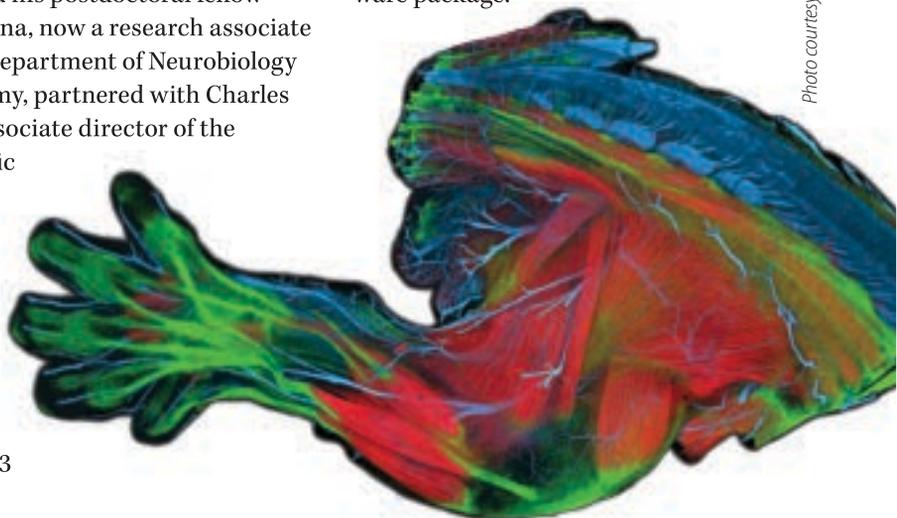


Photo courtesy U Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute

# PowerPot Creates Portable Outdoor Power Source

Even when camping, people often want to have battery power in their smart devices for evening reading, listening to music, and ready connectivity when they need to get back in touch with civilization. The PowerPot, created by University of Utah alumni Paul Slusser BMA'09 MS'09 and David Toledo BMA'10, provides a solution.

The small cook pot contains a thermoelectric generator that charges USB devices by using the heat of water in the pot as it is warmed. The basic model, the PowerPot V, weighs less than a pound and produces five volts, enough to charge a cell phone in 60 to 90 minutes. Larger models, such as the PowerPot X, produce 10 volts and can charge larger devices, such as a tablet computer.

Toledo and Slusser came up with the idea while studying thermoelectricity at the U in 2008. They bought a thermoelectric cooling device on eBay, began manipulating it, and eventually built the first PowerPot prototype using an old pot from Toledo's mom. Then the project hit some roadblocks, and Toledo and Slusser both graduated and moved on, Toledo to working on a doctorate at Cornell University, Slusser to a job in Silicon Valley. Then, while surfing the Internet, Toledo made a breakthrough, finding a key missing piece to their engineering puzzle: a cheap power regulator designed for hobbyists. Toledo took a leave of absence from Cornell, and he and Slusser moved back to Salt Lake to resume work on the project. They used the crowd-funding tool Kickstarter to get startup money and officially founded their new company Power Practical in 2011.

Though Power Practical is an independent company owned by Toledo and Slusser, the team received essential support from the University of Utah's Foundry program (a student startup incubator that is part of the Lassonde Entrepreneur Center of the U's David Eccles School of Business) in the early



Photo courtesy: U Technology Venture Development

stages of business development. The team also received seed funding from the Utah Entrepreneur Challenge, a student business plan competition offered by

the Lassonde Entrepreneur Center. PowerPots are now available through the company website, as well as retailers such as Sportsman's Warehouse.

## By the Numbers

**\$361 million**

research award dollars received by colleges and departments across the University of Utah campus in the 2013 fiscal year



U faculty members who disclosed an invention this past fiscal year, including 73 new inventors and 94 repeat inventors

**167**

**88**

U.S. patents issued in the 2013 fiscal year for U technologies ranging from medical devices to software



*Source: Innovate, 2013 edition, a University of Utah publication produced with oversight from the U's Internal Commercialization Coordinating Council*



All photos courtesy Rebecca and Justin Savidis

Justin Savidis guides his team of dogs as they run up Front Street to the 2012 Iditarod finish line in Nome, Alaska.



# THE Mushers Savidis

*By Stephen Speckman*

Two U alumni are living their Alaska dreams by running dogs in the iconic Iditarod.

**J**ustin Savidis was one of the frontrunners about 300 miles into the 2010 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, his first attempt at the grueling trek, when he pulled into McGrath minus one sled dog, Whitey-Lance. It was about minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit at 4 a.m. on that March day when something had spooked the dog. Whitey had backed out of his harness amid a tangle of dogs and had taken off into the harsh wintry Alaskan outback. One by one, other mushers passed Savidis who, bound by race rules and fueled by his wife's clear directive, was to stay in McGrath until he found Whitey. "I told him, 'Don't come back without my dog,'" Rebecca Savidis recalls. It had long been her dream to be a musher in the Iditarod, but injury forced her to permanently change course.

Her dream instead became manifested in Justin's first race. The dogs were their children then, as they are now, and when Whitey went missing, there was no question Justin had to find him.

Justin and Rebecca (both BA'02) had met in a French class their senior year at the University of Utah. He was majoring in parks, recreation, and tourism, and she was studying communications. Their first date was climbing rocks up Little Cottonwood Canyon. Less than two weeks later, they were engaged. "You know when you know," Justin says about meeting Rebecca. "It's hard to describe."

A year later, they married at Bridal Veil Falls near Provo, surrounded by mountain bikers, climbers, friends, and dogs. "It was very simple, very much like us," Rebecca says of the short ceremony.



*Justin Savidis makes a training run with the dogs in Willow, Alaska.*

Until late summer of 2004, they lived in a tiny log cabin in a small mountain community nestled in Tollgate Canyon outside of Park City. They used a snow machine to access their home in the deep winter, occasionally employing their first two dogs, Tenzing and Luna, to haul groceries on a sled to the cabin.

Justin worked as an instructor for at-risk youth at a residential treatment center, teaching photography, white-water kayaking, and snowboarding. Rebecca was in charge of developing a human resources function for a startup company. “It was a lot of work, long hours, and a blast,” Rebecca recalls. But it was a means toward a goal, a dream in the mind’s eye that had the couple moving to Alaska and Rebecca someday competing in the Iditarod. It was all part of Rebecca’s “master plan,” one that had germinated for years.

Childhood letters to Santa and school reports Rebecca wrote, which her parents saved, are early evidence of her love of dogs and her unexplainable fixation on the Iditarod, a race that starts the first weekend of March and has been run every year since 1973. The race’s ceremonial start is in Anchorage. The next day, dozens of mushers and their teams of 16 dogs take off from Willow for a roughly 1,000-mile trek to Nome,

Alaska. The race, which celebrates the state’s long history of dog mushing, follows a trail once used as a sort of highway in the 1800s and early 1900s.

Although no musher has ever died during the Iditarod, the terrain is often treacherous. Racers and dogs trek over mountain passes, through open water, in between ice jams with blocks as big as houses, through blizzards and whiteout conditions, and across remote landscapes that last for miles without signs of human life between small towns and settlements of Eskimo, Athabaskan, and other Alaskan Natives. The dangers are balanced somewhat by the course’s beauty, particularly at night under crystalline skies without any light pollution, paired with a stunning quiet and calm.

During the years when Rebecca was growing up, women were winning the Iditarod. Libby Riddles was the first woman to win it, in 1985. Susan Butcher then won the race in 1986 and three more times over the next four years.

While Rebecca was a freshman at Idaho’s Ricks College, where her father Ron Haun was the football coach, she was cross-country skiing with a friend one winter day when they met two recreational dogsled teams on a trail near the Montana border. One of the mushers stopped and taught Rebecca

a bit about mushing. “I remember thinking, ‘That’s what I’m going to do someday,’” she says.

After meeting and marrying Justin, also known as AJ (after the so-called angry Jesus he resembles with a full beard when he’s mad), Step One of her master plan was moving to Alaska. “I called AJ one day and asked him what he thought about applying for jobs in Alaska,” she says. “His response was simple, ‘Yeah, sure, whatever.’ I don’t think he took me seriously.” But Rebecca sent out résumés for both of them, and after a long search, they both received job offers on the same day. They followed Justin’s offer to Anchorage, where he took a job working for the Great Alaska Council of the Boy Scouts of America as a camp administration director.

“We made the decision, then told our families,” Rebecca says. “We are ‘all-in’ type of people. Once the decision was made, we went full force into making the move.” On August 13, 2004, they loaded up a 14-foot trailer with the few belongings they had left after selling stuff they didn’t need, and they drove for six days, living on beef jerky and Snickers bars. Among their first furnishings after moving to Anchorage were a bookshelf, coffee table, and desk that Justin made out of wood from downed trees. (He had once made a promise to Rebecca that he would give her everything he was able to make with his hands.)

But Willow was where they wanted to be for a run at the Iditarod. Within a year of moving to Anchorage, they found and purchased an old 20-acre fixer-upper homestead in Willow (population less than 3,000), across the street from where the Iditarod officially starts. The house is surrounded by lakes, and in the thawing of a spring “break-up,” their half-mile driveway turns to a sea of mud. In the winter, a resident cow moose at the property has been known to charge and try to stomp on the dogs.

Located about 80 miles north of Anchorage, Willow has two gas stations, one video/liquor store, one restaurant/bar, and an elementary school. Summers

are short in Willow, with lots of mosquitoes, and winters are long, with sustained temperatures of minus 20 to minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit. "Give me a minus 40 any day over mosquitoes," says Rebecca, who travels all over Alaska in her job as director of human resources for The Foraker Group, which works to increase the leadership and management skills of professionals and volunteers in Alaska's nonprofit and tribal organizations.

Once Rebecca and Justin were settled in at the homestead, she befriended a mushing mentor in Willow and began training, learning about the nuances of racing and how to care for and train the dogs. She and Justin accumulated more and more dogs, many of them rescued, and laid the foundation for their thriving Snowhook Kennel outfit, which today has 52 Alaskan Huskies, "which is a nice way of saying that they are mutts," Rebecca notes. The one thing the dogs all have in common, she adds, is that "they are loved."

The dogs each have their own houses that Justin maintains. They all get daily hugs. And they're all fed a stew that includes thawed blocks of meat, chicken, lard, and supplements from a feed store 20 miles away. During winter, the dogs get fresh straw for bedding, and in the weeks before the big race in March, the canine race team consumes upwards of 10,000 calories a day, while Justin increases his own caloric intake by eating more ice cream.

"They put their dogs first," says Philip Walters, a middle-school band teacher who in 2004 moved from Maryland to Alaska. Walters has used the Savidises' dogs in qualifying races to pursue his own Iditarod dreams for 2015. "They're incredible with their dog care," he says. "They love their dogs. They're basically sacrificing everything for their dogs. I don't know how they make ends meet."

The couple take it in stride as part of achieving their larger goals. But along the path of her master plan, Rebecca's Iditarod dream literally shattered when she fractured several vertebrae in her

*"Once the decision was made, we went full force into making the move."*



*Justin and Rebecca Savidis*

back in 2004 after falling off a four-wheeler while training dogs. By 2008, after several more "dog-related" back injuries, she could no longer gut it out, needing emergency back surgery to address a shattered lumbar vertebra. "I have very expensive hardware holding me up," she says. The sport, she notes, is not "gentle" on the mushers, and the learning curve is "straight up."

After the surgery, an even more painful reality set in. "I had to have an honest conversation with myself," Rebecca says. "If something happened [during a race], I could be paralyzed and put the dogs at risk. That's not fair to the dogs." Rebecca and her husband decided to switch roles, and the Iditarod became a "shared dream," with Justin taking over as musher, while she continues to manage logistics behind the scenes.

Justin came to the intimidating Iditarod start line equipped with a figurative spine of steel. He had grown up with three sisters in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Their family worked in cattle ranching and construction. Justin was handling horses, herding cows, and working with tools by middle school. Meanwhile, his interest in challenging outdoor sports such as rock climbing, whitewater rafting, and snowboarding grew and grew. "You name it, I've done it," he says. During college, he worked for a University of Utah-run camp for at-risk youths, leading them into the Uinta and Wasatch mountains, among other wilderness locations in Utah.

All those experiences had prepared him for that first try at the Iditarod in



*Belle Starr, left, keeps watch with Luna, the matriach and mascot of the Savidises' Snowhook Kennel.*



Justin Savidis plays with the dogs at home in Willow, a town that is also the Iditarod's starting point.

2010, namely by helping him develop the coping skills that go with getting out of jams on your own. "He is the toughest person I know, mentally and physically," Rebecca says. The 6-foot 3-inch Justin cuts wood all summer for the long winters in Willow. He keeps the homestead humming in the harshest conditions. His expressed attitude toward everyday life in Willow is, "No matter what, you're going to get through and continue on," an approach that has served him well during the Iditarod.

Working his way toward that shared dream, he began by competing in qualifying races. He continued to work his full-time job, knowing he'd be competing in the 2010 Iditarod against people who do nothing but train for it the entire year.

Then, when that first Iditarod came, Whitey disappeared, about a third of the way into the race. Craig Medred, a reporter with the *Alaska Dispatch*, wrote on March 12, 2010, "No sadder sight can be found in this Kuskokwim River community than Justin Savidis wandering into the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race checkpoint to check for word on 'Whitey.'"

Justin had been one of the leaders in the race when Whitey went missing. For five days, Justin searched on foot, by snow machine, and in a plane provided by the Alaska State Police. Two trappers in the area found Whitey's tracks, which were paired with paw prints of a lynx and wolves. Eventually, the last musher passed through McGrath.

Meanwhile, word had spread among Iditarod watchers all over the world of Whitey's disappearance, and even prayer groups in New York and West Virginia were asking for the dog's safe return. "Whatever they did worked," Rebecca says. Justin received a call that a resident in McGrath had spotted a very "skit-tish" Whitey on the edge of town. Justin borrowed a snow machine and raced to find Whitey cornered by searchers and about to bolt. But a little salmon and patience helped coax Whitey into Justin's arms, which is right where he stayed, next to the pilot of a small plane as they headed back to Willow to join the rest of the team that had flown home the previous day.

It had been too late to continue the race. "Not finishing haunted us," Rebecca says. As soon as the scratch was

made, there was no question they would make another Iditarod attempt.

Justin competed the following year and finished in 12 days, six hours, eight minutes, and three seconds. Musher John Baker won that race in what would become the fastest-ever winning time, at just under eight days and 19 hours.

Justin went on to win another race, the 300-mile Don Bowers Memorial Dog Race, in both 2011 and 2012. One of his two humanitarian awards came from that 2011 race. In the 2013 Northern Lights 300, Justin also took home the equivalent humanitarian award called "For the Love of Dogs." Justin and Rebecca consider those awards to be bigger honors than winning the races, because they recognize team owners for their exemplary treatment of their dogs.

Justin also finished the Iditarod in 2012, and in 2013, he completed the course in just a little over 11 days. The Savidises' total prize earnings to date amount to \$3,147, which means they'll again rely on sponsors to get them to the starting line of the next Iditarod.

And Rebecca may have found a way to get herself back on a sled. On February 13, 2014, as a training run leading up to Iditarod, she will be the second musher in the Denali Doubles Invitational Sled Dog Race, a 265-mile race from Cantwell to Paxson. She'll be tethered on a second sled behind Justin, being pulled by a 20-dog team. "I can't wait," Rebecca says. "We want to be as competitive as possible in this race—it's not our way to do anything less." **U**

—Stephen Speckman is a journalist and photographer based in Salt Lake City and a frequent contributor to Continuum.

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) to view a gallery with more photos, as well as two videos of the Savidises and their team.



# Give Your Meeting a Breath of Fresh Air



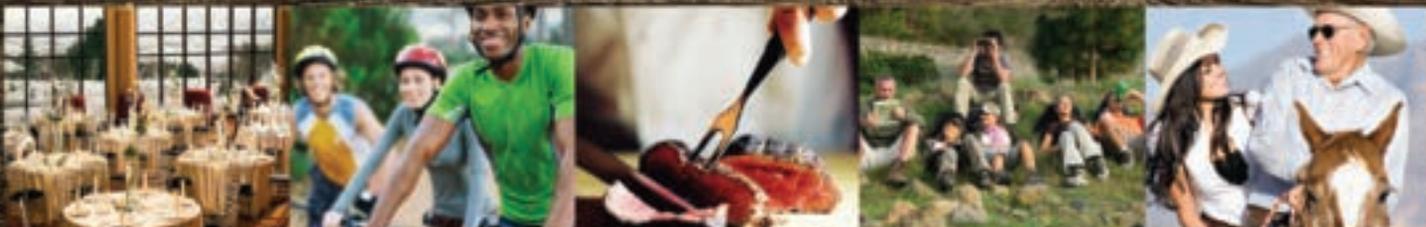
Take your meeting to new heights at the Zermatt Resort or Homestead Resort in the beautiful Heber Valley. Uniquely distinct meeting packages are available starting at \$159\* per person, includes:

- Luxury Guest Room
- Professional Meeting Space
- Continental Breakfast
- Morning Break Coffee Service
- Catered Lunch
- Basic Audio Visual

\*Meeting special available for new bookings only.

Call to reserve your meeting today.

**866.937.6288**



**Homestead**  
RESORT  
WELCOME HOME  
[homesteadresort.com](http://homesteadresort.com)

**Zermatt**  
RESORT  
[zermattresort.com](http://zermattresort.com)

Located in Midway, Utah



*Alberta Comer became dean of the U's J. Willard Marriott Library in June.*

Photo by August Miller

# A Pathway THROUGH BOOKS

**U Dean Alberta Comer is leading the Marriott Library farther into its digital future.**

*By Elaine Jarvik*

**W**hen she was little, Alberta Comer was an enthusiastic reader in a house with no books, near a tiny Oklahoma town with no library. She read whatever she could find, including the weekly *Stigler News-Sentinel*. At six years old, she took to wading through the obituaries, having figured out that obituaries are a kind of story (even if the ending always comes before the rest of the plot).

She was smitten the first time she laid eyes on the county bookmobile. Her father had driven her a half hour down the dirt road that led from their house to the town of Keota, where the bookmobile was parked. Once she had climbed inside, she was dazzled. She had never seen or imagined such a place. Books from floor to ceiling! In alphabetical order by the name of the author! Looking back now, she figures the bookmobile was probably pretty small. “But at the time I had no idea so many books existed,” she says.

A half century later, still crazy about books and libraries, Comer is the new dean of the University of Utah’s J. Willard Marriott Library, where she oversees a 3.2 million-piece collection. Books brought the big, unimaginable world to Comer as a child. And it was the idea of managing and sorting books—of organizing knowledge so she could bring the world to other people—that led her to become a librarian, and eventually to this spot as head of, in her words, “one of the best libraries in the country.”

Comer comes to the U from Indiana State University, where since 2007 she was dean of the Cunningham Memorial Library, housed in a once-dreary building she worked hard to turn into a comfortable, lively place where students wanted to spend time.

“No new library building was constructed, no additional staff were hired, no new funds were allocated,” Comer explained in a 2011 paper titled “Redefining Relevancy in the Electronic

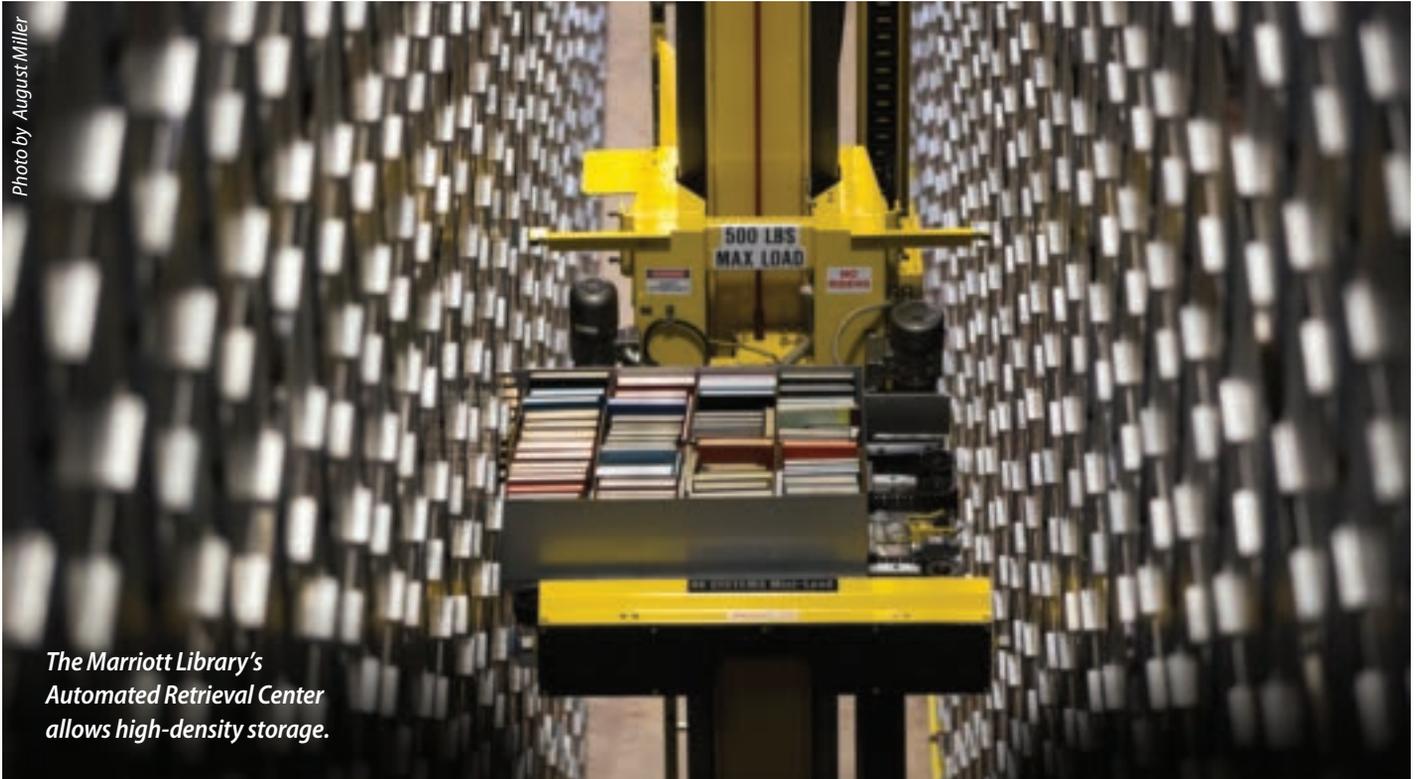
Age: The Library as a Real Place.” Instead, the library staff, making incremental changes, repurposed what they already had and paid for it with existing dollars.

“Many are still in mourning that she left,” says Indiana State’s provost, Richard B. Williams. “She wasn’t just the dean of Library Services, she was a leader of our campus. ...I’ve never met a more engaged dean.”

At the University of Utah, the search committee found Comer to be forward thinking, witty, and collaborative, says committee member Sylvia Torti PhD’98, dean of the U’s Honors College. Associate Librarian Alison Regan, another committee member, says she was struck by Comer’s “emotional intelligence that’s way off the scale.”

In the eastern Oklahoma area where Comer grew up, most people were farmers, including Comer’s parents. Her mother was Choctaw and her father Cherokee, and together they farmed vegetables. Both parents had been forced

Photo by August Miller



*The Marriott Library's Automated Retrieval Center allows high-density storage.*

to drop out of school when they were little—her father to go to work, her mother because there was only one pair of shoes for two sisters.

In Comer's house, there was no TV and no indoor toilet, and there were no siblings. A congenital condition required her to wear leg braces. Books became her companion and provided an entryway into a world populated by princesses and Louisa May Alcott's four March sisters. Once a month, Comer's father made the hour-long round-trip to take

her to the bookmobile. She says she also spent a lot of time "listening to adults talk," including the Choctaw stories her mother told, often about animals who behaved in human ways. Even now, says Comer, she can't resist a good tale, and often finds herself listening to the stories of strangers who come up to her at the supermarket or in the airport.

"Through reading, I met people who thought about things more deeply and broadly," she says. "I remember sitting on a large rock, quite a ways from my house, reading *A Lantern in Her Hand*, the way the author talked about time as if it were tangible, and how it 'slipped away.' I was probably eight. I can remember sitting on that rock and wondering if time really would just slip away."

Her high school didn't have a library until a teacher decided to create

one in a small storeroom and needed a student volunteer. "I was the one who was nerdy enough to want to do it," Comer says. "I liked the sense of having things be orderly and easy to find. I liked having people come in and ask for something and being able to help them connect with the information."

In those days, that meant looking on a bookshelf or opening an encyclopedia. Today, navigating the landscape of the digital age requires a guide who can machete her way through thickets of facts and opinions. "For so many years, libraries owned the information. We were the brokers," Comer says. Now, information is everywhere, all the time, and libraries have had to reinvent themselves to keep up.

When she walked into the U's Marriott Library on her first visit to the University, it was a bit like that initial glimpse of the bookmobile, she says: "I needed a jaw strap." She was stunned by the inviting physical space and the number of students using the library.

"Many libraries are designed so the architect can say 'Look at my beautiful building,'" she says. "But this library keeps

Photo by August Miller



*Library employee Chad Jones operates the automated retrieval machinery.*

the user in the forefront,” with its mix of quiet spaces and group study areas, big rooms and small reading nooks. Renovated between 2005 and 2009, the library now offers a café, panoramic views of the Salt Lake Valley, a “Knowledge Commons” full of computers, and a “Great Reading Room” equipped with white boards. Library users can take advantage of printing, scanning, and video editing support, as well as have access to hundreds of software programs and billions of research articles.

Still, Comer says, a cleverly designed building and a mountain of data wouldn’t have been enough to convince her to leave her home and her job and move halfway across the country to Utah, far from her two grown children and three grandchildren. “What convinced me to come was not the beautiful building but the people, because they put the students and faculty first.” It

She was smitten the first time she laid eyes on the county bookmobile. Her father had driven her a half hour down the dirt road that led from their house to the town of Keota... .

also didn’t hurt that both Comer and her husband, John, a retired geologist, have hiked in Utah for years and can’t wait to explore even more of the state.

That hiking is all part of a joy in motion that Comer discovered as an adult. Her parents had been told when she was a child that she would never walk unassisted unless her legs were broken and reset. Instead, they opted for the braces. Eventually, she *was* able to walk, and in 2003, she decided to take up running and now enjoys participating in local races. “I’m hoping to run some half-marathons here when I’ve adjusted to the altitude and to the land-

scape being uphill in both directions,” she says.

It has been a long journey from the bookmobile in Keota to the Marriott Library, which is one of only 108 research-intensive libraries in the United States and is known for its fabled Middle East collection, the third largest in the world, as well as its book arts program, its university press, and its three million archived photographs.

Along the way, Comer got a bachelor’s degree in general studies and a master’s degree in library science from Indiana University, graduating in both cases with a 4.0 grade point average.

- Top 25 Entrepreneurship Program - 3 years running
- Entrepreneurship Major + Minor
- New Entrepreneurship Certificate for non-majors

**business.utah.edu**  
**the sky’s the limit**



“For so many years, libraries owned the information. We were the brokers,” Comer says. Now, information is everywhere, and libraries have had to reinvent themselves to keep up.

She has worked in military libraries, a religious library, and public libraries, starting in the era of the card catalog. She remembers the thrill of being the one who got to carefully put the catalog rod back in place after new cards were added to a drawer.

She also remembers being on the staff of McFarlin Library at the University of Tulsa in the 1980s when cataloguing became automated. As they carted off one of the card catalogs to the street, she says, a professor threw himself across it, as if it were a casket.

These days, at the U’s Marriott Library and on other campuses around the world, a student researching global warming, say, can have tens of thousands of Googleable articles to choose from, with Wikipedia always elbowing its way to the top. It’s the librarian’s job to help drill down to a manageable list of scholarly sources from reputable journals. So librarians are also teachers, helping students learn to both access

and assess information. Those skills, says Comer, are ones students will use for the rest of their lives.

“In some of the staff’s working lifetime,” notes Greg Thompson, Marriott’s associate dean for special collections, “they’ve moved from passive, paper-based resources to cloud-held digital resources, and the thought pattern in the way you do that is enormously different,” a leap across “several Grand Canyons” of expertise, he says. “There is a constant need to train and keep staff and faculty current.”

Comer oversees a staff of 370 full-time and part-time employees, including 41 librarians. Many of the librarians have multiple graduate degrees, in fields ranging from the sciences to the humanities, as well as master’s degrees in library science. Among their many duties, the librarians also help faculty members write grants and create digital textbooks, a savings for students overwhelmed by the costs of standard textbooks.

The library often now buys e-books (a good e-version of a book, notes Associate Librarian Alfred Mowdood, head of Marriott’s research and information services, can search a full text in five seconds, open high-resolution paintings, and link to videos of experiments). The library also saves money and space by buying or printing some books on demand. Comer says that in the past, libraries would buy books “just in case.” Now, she notes, “It’s ‘just in time.’”

The Marriott Library also has been able to free up space by investing in a high-density storage and retrieval system. If you stand in the storage and retrieval area on the second floor of the library and gaze down, there are metal boxes stretching downwards for three and a half stories, a futuristic slot canyon of literature and information. Books are stored inside the boxes and are fetched by a large, yellow robotic device that can find and deliver a book within minutes.

All that high-density storage means that the library’s “collection footprint”—the area reserved for the books and materials that used to be a library’s essence—is only 25 percent of the building’s 500,000-plus square feet. Included in that 25 percent are 100,000 linear feet of Special Collections materials, items ranging from Mormon diaries to the memorabilia of Utah’s ski pioneers. Only a fraction of the materials have been digitized, because of cost limitations.

Comer remembers the days of card catalogs fondly, but she is not the kind of person who grieves for the simpler past. She embraces the digitizing, robotic-retrieving, print-on-demand present, and says she is ready for whatever comes next. She hopes to make the library more family-friendly but is still gathering data, she says, about other changes.

“I’m big on planning,” she says. “And I’m big on having participation across the library and campus. It will start with a lot of conversations.” **U**

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



Photo by Kip Macy

University of Utah library dean Alberta Comer and her husband, John Comer, with three of their grandchildren.

# YOUR CHOICE

13 Convenient Moran Eye Center Locations

# OUR EXPERTS

45 Specialists Deliver Hope, Understanding,  
& Treatment in Vision Care

Moran Eye Center   
[healthcare.utah.edu/moran](http://healthcare.utah.edu/moran)



Your Choice. Our Experts.



Photo courtesy Lisa Hawkins

*U student Lisa Hawkins visits the Bara Gumbad Mosque in Lodi Gardens, in Delhi, while working as an intern in India.*



# Global U

The University is unifying and expanding its endeavors to bring international experiences to all students.

*By Kim M. Horiuchi*

**L**isa Hawkins had never spent any significant amount of time outside the United States while she was growing up in Seattle. She participated in a couple of school field trips to Canada and took a “random cruise to Mexico” as a nanny for her sister’s baby. Even then, she says, “I didn’t get off the boat.” She doesn’t speak a foreign language, had never given international news much thought, and considered herself a typical American teenager, spending most of her free time on her high school dance team.

After graduating from high school two years ago, though, she came to the University of Utah, where she soon decided she was ready for an adventure. She signed up for a global internship through the Hinckley Institute of Politics, and it led her to India. She spent three months this past summer working for Maitri India, a nongovernmental organization based in New Delhi that advocates for India’s most vulnerable, including children, the homeless, and elderly widows. The internship took her half a world away from the comforts of home, and it was eye-opening. “So many things I’ve grown up

with, things that seem so basic to me, are never attainable by people in India,” she says.

In the area around Alleppey, she witnessed the resilience of villagers drawing water from rice fields after a devastating monsoon. In Vrindavan, she held the knotted hands of a few of the more than 15,000 widows who have escaped to the city after being ostracized following the death of a husband. In New Delhi, she placed broken eggshells around her apartment to keep the lizards away. And in many places, she struggled to comprehend the reality of starving children begging in the streets.

“It opens up a whole part of you that you didn’t know you had,” she says. “You can’t experience something like that and not be changed by it.”

“The Global U initiative is a campuswide commitment to the importance of developing international citizens through teaching, research, service, and engagement.”

*The U's international efforts include being a partner in a new satellite campus in Songdo, South Korea.*



Photo by Nick Steffens

Hawkins' transformative international experience is an aspect of education that University of Utah President David W. Pershing wants for all U students. As a key initiative of his presidency, Pershing in 2013 appointed Michael Hardman BS'71 MEd'73 PhD'75 to be chief global officer for a new U Office for Global Engagement. The office, which was unveiled at an open house in the fall, is charged with bringing together under one umbrella a variety of international programs that previously had operated independently, and expanding on them. The U's international strategy also includes a new Asia campus at Songdo Global University in South Korea, scheduled to open this spring.

"The Global U initiative is a campuswide commitment to the importance of developing international citizens through teaching, research, service, and engagement," Pershing says. "Our goal is to create truly meaningful learning and service opportunities."

The new initiative will serve U.S. students, many of whom have had little exposure to global issues and the larger world around them, as well as international students navigating the challenges of leaving their home country to study at the University. The connections that international alumni have formed across the world also are "essential to achieving the Global U vision and goals," Pershing says.

The U services that the office will oversee include the Learning Abroad program, which last year helped about 600



Photo by Nick Steffens

University of Utah President David W. Pershing, right, takes a tour of the Songdo Global University campus in South Korea in November with Heeyhon Song, president and CEO of the Songdo Global University Foundation.

**GRADUATES: STOP OVERPAYING ON YOUR STUDENT LOANS**  
Join other University of Utah Alumni - ReFi with SoFi

**WHY REFINANCE WITH SOFI?**

**IT'S EASY**

Quick online application.  
Dedicated customer service.

**IT SAVES YOU MONEY**

Fixed rates as low as **4.99% APR** (with AutoPay)\*

**START SAVING NOW**  
[SOFI.COM/SWOOP](http://SOFI.COM/SWOOP)

**IT SIMPLIFIES YOUR LIFE**

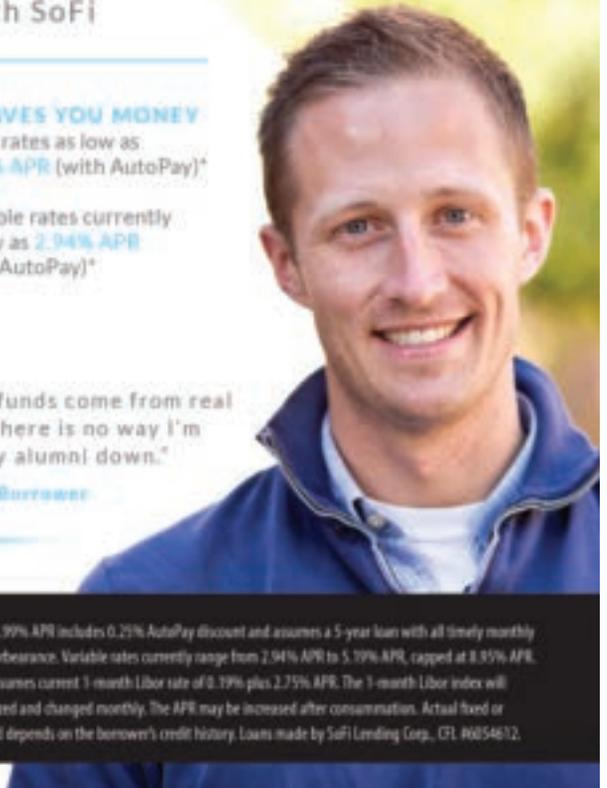
Consolidate your federal and private student loans into one loan with one monthly payment.

Variable rates currently as low as **2.94% APR** (with AutoPay)\*



"My borrowed funds come from real people, and there is no way I'm going to let my alumni down."

David Bowman, SoFi Borrower



**SoFi**

Alumni-funded student loans

\*Fixed rates range from 4.99% APR to 6.99% APR. 4.99% APR includes 0.25% AutoPay discount and assumes a 5-year loan with all timely monthly payments, no grace period, no delinquent, and no forbearance. Variable rates currently range from 2.94% APR to 5.79% APR, capped at 8.95% APR. 2.94% APR includes 0.25% AutoPay discount and assumes current 1-month Libor rate of 0.19% plus 2.75% APR. The 1-month Libor index will adjust monthly and loan payment will be re-amortized and changed monthly. The APR may be increased after consummation. Actual fixed or variable interest rate offered within the ranges listed depends on the borrower's credit history. Loans made by SoFi Lending Corp., CFI 16054612.

students, representing 76 majors, study in 42 countries. The U also has an English Language Institute, which enrolls about 900 students a year from 43 countries in its noncredit program aimed at improving English-language proficiency. The Hinckley Institute's Global Internships Program has placed 400 students in internships in 51 countries during the past seven years. The U's International Student and Scholar Services assists the 9 percent of the University's 31,000 students who come from foreign countries to study on the Utah campus and contribute an estimated \$75 million, including tuition, to the Utah economy. And the University of Utah Alumni Association connects more than 5,000 international alumni worldwide.

Pershing hopes to eventually house all of the U's international programs in a "new state-of-the-art main campus facility," currently in the planning phase. "We realize the importance of being a part of the global community," he says. Development of the U's global initiative stems from a desire to prepare students for a complex global economy, as well as provide them with profound learning experiences. "We are confident they will view the world with a greater perspective, will generate new knowledge, make a difference, and exemplify educational excellence here in Utah and globally," Pershing says.

As a young assistant professor in the U's Chemical Engineering Department, Pershing had the opportunity about 35 years ago to travel internationally as part of a consulting job for a company in California, and he came to realize the educational value of international experience firsthand: "We were working with energy people in various parts of the world, and it certainly changed my views and introduced me to the global nature of business today." That globalization and its importance for education have only grown in the years since then, he notes.

Sabine Klahr, the U's deputy chief global officer, says universities across the world are trying to figure out the best ways to suffuse their campuses with international understanding and appreciation, especially as graduates face an economy and workforce that have become ever more global. Klahr also serves as president of the Association of International Education Administrators, whose membership



Photo courtesy Lisa Hawkins

University of Utah student Lisa Hawkins, center, shown here with Indian children in New Delhi's Red Fort complex last May, was an intern with Maitri India, a nongovernmental organization that advocates for India's most vulnerable.

includes about 700 institutions worldwide, a role that has helped hone her perspective.

"All of our students need to develop global competency to be successful in today's world," says Klahr, who was born in Germany and came to the United States as a high-school exchange student. The role of the U's Office for Global Engagement will be to work with colleges and other entities across campus to make sure that happens in substantive ways. "We're here to make sure it's not just a buzzword."



Photo courtesy UAlumni Association

U alum Gohar Stepanyan MBA'04, center, and Nelly Divricean, the University's international alumni manager, at the 2012 European Alumni Reunion in Germany.

The U's efforts also will include working with faculty and students at a brand-new satellite campus in Songdo, South Korea. In 2008, South Korean officials began courting universities listed in the top 100 in world rankings as they sought to build an international university campus as part of the \$40 billion Songdo International Business District. At the time, the U was ranked 79th in the Academic Ranking of World Universities, compiled each year by researchers at the Center for World-Class Universities of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. The rankings are based on the numbers of alumni and staff winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals, highly cited researchers selected by Thomson Scientific, and articles published in citation indexes and journals of nature and science, as well as per capita performance with respect to the size of the institution. Invited by the South Korean officials, the U agreed to participate in Songdo Global University, along with Ghent University, located in Belgium; George Mason University, in Virginia; and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Developed on 1,500 acres of reclaimed land along the port city of Incheon's waterfront, the Songdo Business District

"It's how they can contribute, where they would see themselves, understanding not only the bigger global picture but understanding 'me' as a person."

is located in a free economic zone and includes office space, urban housing, museums, a hospital, an 18-hole championship golf course named after Jack Nicklaus, and a 100-acre park patterned after New York's Central Park.

"It's a little strange, because we'd never do this in the U.S.," Hardman says. "They

built this city, they built this university, and they said, 'Now come.' That's *Field of Dreams*."

In anticipation of the campus opening, Pershing and Hardman led a delegation of University of Utah and legislative representatives to visit South Korea in November. The itinerary included tours of Songdo Global University and the city of Incheon, recruiting visits to area high schools, meetings with Korean officials, and several receptions, including a dinner at the Jack Nicklaus Country Club, where Pershing and U Alumni Association Executive Director John Ashton BS'66 JD'69 spoke to alumni about the historic venture.

The South Korean government and the Songdo Global University Foundation have pledged up to \$17 million to the University of Utah over 10 years for operations at the Songdo campus, and they are subsidizing infrastructure costs. No



## The Savage Poem Around Me: Alfred Lambourne's Great Salt Lake

December 13, 2013–June 15, 2014

**UMFA**  
UTAH MUSEUM  
FINE ARTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH®

MARCIA AND JOHN PRICE MUSEUM BUILDING | 410 Campus Center Drive | Salt Lake City, UT 84112-0350 | [umfa.utah.edu](http://umfa.utah.edu)

Alfred Lambourne (English, 1880–1926), *Great Salt Lake*, n.d., detail, oil painting. Courtesy of Snow, Christensen, and Martineau.

FRIENDS of  
Great Salt Lake  
[www.greatsaltlake.org](http://www.greatsaltlake.org)

artis100



state funds are being spent on the Songdo campus nor is the U investing capital in any facilities there. The U plans to initially enroll about 200 students and expand to 2,000 students by 2020, with tuition set at \$20,000 a year. The University is recruiting students to attend from across Asia, including Vietnam, China, Thailand, and, of course, South Korea, which is already home to 900 U alumni. The University of Utah also has ties to South Korea through the College of Pharmacy, which has operated a joint research lab at Inha University in Incheon for the past four years. "Songdo will be a gateway for our students into Asia," Hardman says.

The changes for the U come as the state of Utah itself has become more diverse and more connected to the international economy in recent years. Salt Lake City was recognized



Photo by Nick Steffens

South Korean students walk past a building on the new Songdo campus.

Invited by South Korean officials, the University of Utah agreed to participate in the brand-new Songdo Global University, located in the Songdo International Business District of the port city of Incheon.

by *Global Trade* magazine this past May as one of America's Top 50 Cities for Global Trade, coming in at No. 25 on the list, which noted the city's \$10.7 billion in annual exports. The 2002 Winter Olympics also were "a major turning point for the state," Hardman says. "I think the Olympics are a perfect example of how we translated where we were as a state into a global context." The drive to host the Olympics in Utah in part stemmed from wanting to belong to the larger global community, he says. "We wanted to be able to say we are very much a part of the world and engaged in world activities." Those attitudes have remained among people in the state, long after the Winter Games ended. "We want people to come here and see who we are, and we want to learn from them," Hardman says.



Photo by Stephen Speckman

U Deputy Chief Global Officer Sabine Klahr, shown here in the U's Union Building, notes college graduates today face a global economy and workforce.

The University's new Office for Global Engagement is focused on bringing those international learning experiences to more students. Julie Clark, a U student who grew up in Idaho Falls, Idaho, discovered this past summer during a Hinckley Institute internship to Romania just how connected the world is. Clark was adopted as a baby from Romania. During her childhood in the United States, she had no desire to locate her birth mother, and at the U, she had planned to complete an internship in France. Instead, she ended up in the country where she was born. "I feel like nothing was left to fate," she says. In Iasi, Clark worked for the Fundatia Alaturi de Voi, which helps people with HIV and AIDS, and its director convinced her to look for her biological mother. While Clark didn't find her, she did locate her own birth record and learned the name of her mother, who was 19 years old and illiterate when Clark was placed for adoption. Clark says she came to some realizations: "My life could have been drastically different, completely different. For me, it made me think, 'I can't waste my life.'"

Students who come from a foreign country to study at the University of Utah also learn from being in a new place and culture, says Varun Gowda MBA'09, who was born and raised in Bangalore, India, and now works as chief technology officer at the U's Energy and Geoscience Institute. "Coming from a city of 13 million people to a place like Salt Lake and landing



U alum Michael Hardman is the University of Utah's new chief global officer.

T H E U N I V E R S I T Y O F U T A H H O N O R S C O L L E G E



**PRAXIS**  
THEORY + ACTION

*A rigorous educational experience that will challenge and inspire you.*

At the U's Honors College, we create opportunities for students from all disciplines to think, explore, collaborate, and find original solutions to pressing social issues. We call our approach Praxis.

How does it work? Led by distinguished faculty and community leaders who work closely with a team of 12 Honors students to analyze real-world issues and develop practical solutions, each Praxis lab is exciting, demanding, and unique. Praxis labs have produced a science curriculum implemented in local schools, patient care guidelines adopted by leading hospitals, a volunteer program for underserved community groups, and more.

**What will the next great answer be to society's toughest questions? Are you ready to be a dynamic part of the solution? Fund a Praxis Lab that moves you. Then see how education and inspiration can come together to make the world a better place.**

**H=(id)<sup>2</sup>**

THE HONORS COLLEGE:  
the power of ideas to shape the world  
honors.utah.edu

IMAGINE  *Honors College*  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

in Salt Lake City on a Sunday night was quite intimidating.” He says he often felt like “the lone man on the street,” and in 2011, he helped start the U’s India Alumni Club to help other students from his home country who are navigating similar culture shock in new countries. “We live in a world that is so dynamic that education goes beyond geographic boundaries,” says Gowda, who also traveled with the U delegation that went to Songdo in November. “Education is an experience, providing the students an experience, as much as it is training.”

U International Alumni Relations Manager Nelly Divricean BS’09 MS’12, who came to the United States from Romania, says alumni including Gowda who have ties around the world serve as global ambassadors for the University, and they also mentor students and provide connections to internships and jobs after graduation. Divricean started tracking international alumni about three years ago; she has since located about 5,000 alumni from countries abroad and is working to find another 1,000. Divricean, who works for the U’s Alumni Association, helps connect alumni and students through seven international alumni clubs, in China, India, Europe, South Korea, Thailand, Taiwan, and Turkey. She also has plans to work with alumni to open more clubs, in Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam, South America, and Mexico.

Students and professors who come to the University from other countries are aided by the U’s International Student and Scholar Services, which serves about 2,900 students and 500 faculty members and researchers. Its director, Chalimar Swain, says the office is primarily responsible for overseeing their compliance with work and immigration laws, but more importantly, she wants to provide them with a “home away from home.”

“I think a lot of our students deal with culture shock and homesickness and the things that you can expect when you are away from your family and friends,” she says. To help, the office

employs several “peer advisors” and supports a number of international student clubs on campus, including the International Student Council and International Women’s Association.

In unifying all of the U’s international efforts, the new Office for Global Engagement is centered on ensuring that all students have “global competency,” whether they are coming from or going to another country or not leaving at all, Hardman says. “We don’t want to lose the fact that it’s a two-way effort. It’s not just our students going out into the international community. It’s scholars and students coming into the University. It enhances our diversity. It enhances our understanding of new ideas within the world.” Ultimately, the U’s global efforts are about helping students figure out where they fit in the world, he says. “It’s how they can contribute, where they would see themselves, understanding not only

“We live in a world that is so dynamic that education goes beyond geographic boundaries.”

the bigger global picture but understanding ‘me’ as a person.”

Since completing her internship to India, Hawkins now hopes to someday work in an international capacity, possibly with the U.S. State Department, USAID, or even the United Nations. Her experience refocused not only her professional aspirations but her entire life. In her personal blog, titled “Finding Sahas” (*sahas* means adventure in Hindi), Hawkins says her months in India were both humbling and transforming. When she reads a newspaper report or clicks on a Web article about India, she doesn’t have a sense of distance. “They don’t tell of global issues, they tell of *here* issues. *Now* issues,” she says. “I wish there was a way for me to convey it, but even then, it would be only words. And that wouldn’t be enough.” **U**

—Kim Horiuchi is an associate editor of Continuum.

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) to view a gallery that includes more photos of the Songdo campus.



Photo courtesy Lisa Hawkins

Lisa Hawkins, shown here at the Salt Lake City Airport as she prepares to depart for India, now wants a career where she can do international work.

# First Imagine, Then Do: One Family's Story

Mike and Nancy Comstock are the proud parents of University of Utah student, Zac, a junior studying Marketing who will be learning abroad in Rome next semester. "We couldn't be more thrilled about what the University of Utah experience has meant to our son, not only academically, but also in terms of life experience."

The Parent Fund plays an integral role in the U's ability to provide students with exceptional opportunities inside and outside the classroom.

Gifts to the Parent Fund provide support to programs like Career Services, the Counseling Center, and the Center for Student Wellness as well as the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program and Learning Abroad. These areas and others guide students along a successful academic career and open doors for realizing life dreams and goals.

Mike Comstock says, "The U has opened up the world to Zac in a way I never could, but for which I am extremely grateful. It's something I can never really pay back, so I



The Comstock Family: Mike, Nancy, Mackenzie, and Zac.

choose to pay it forward in the hopes that my support will help other U students flourish in the way Zac has."

Join the Comstock family today in supporting excellence at the University of Utah with a gift to the Parent Fund. To make a gift to the Parent Fund or learn more about Parent & Family Programs and the Parent Association, please visit [orientation.utah.edu/parents/](http://orientation.utah.edu/parents/) or contact Erica Marken, Director, Undergraduate Advancement, at 801.581.8388 or [erica.marken@utah.edu](mailto:erica.marken@utah.edu).

Learn more about the great things your contributions accomplish at [giving.utah.edu](http://giving.utah.edu)

# A Snowflake's

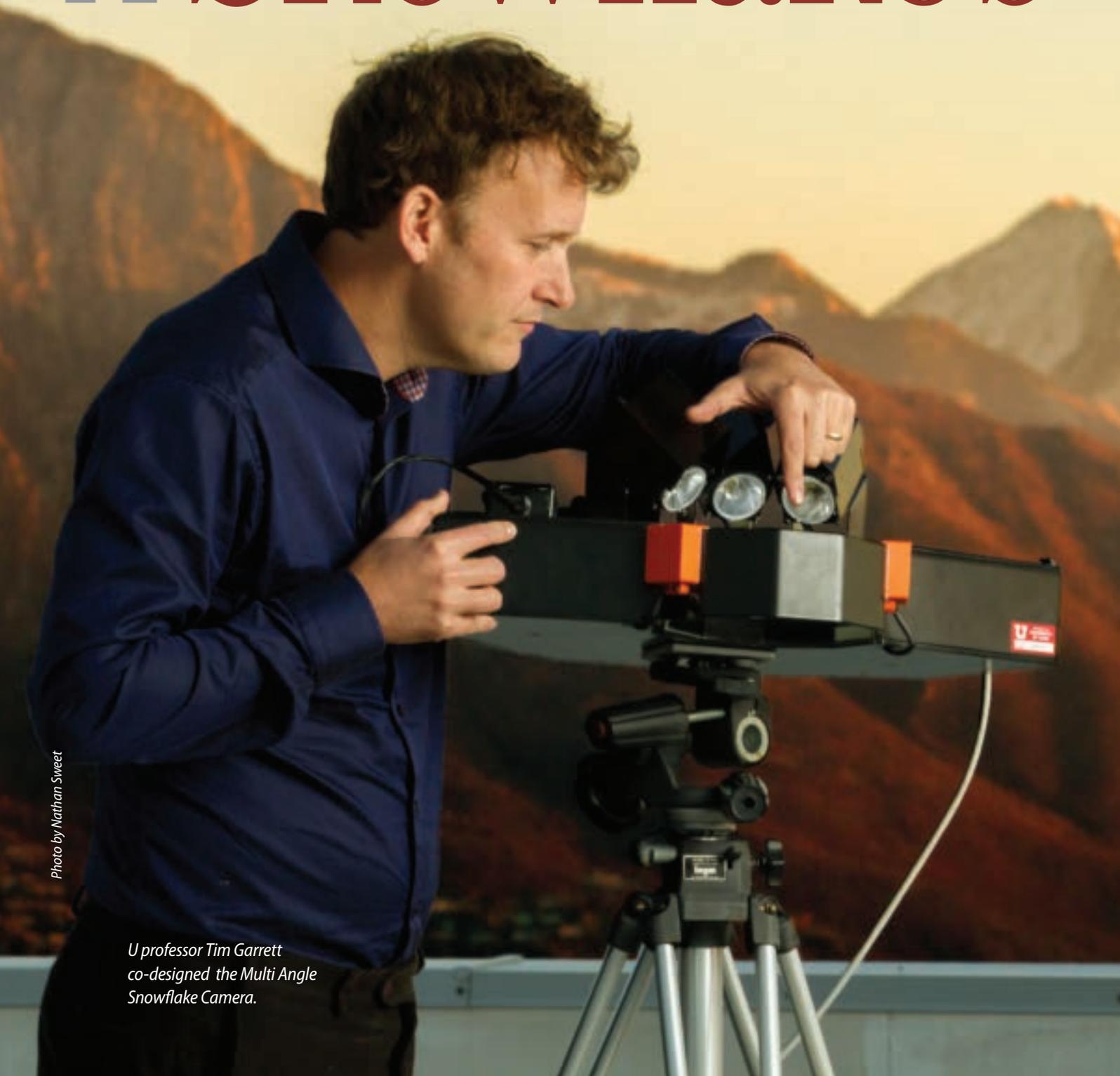


Photo by Nathan Sweet

*U professor Tim Garrett  
co-designed the Multi Angle  
Snowflake Camera.*

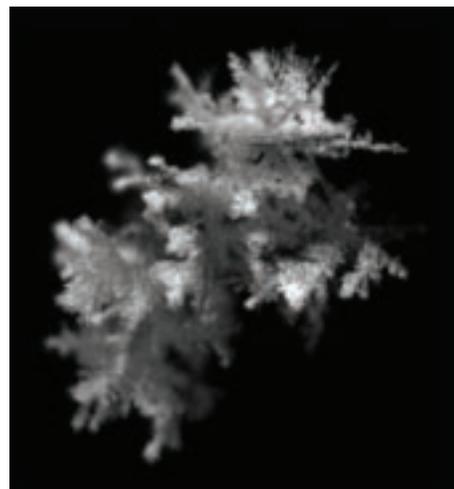
# Significance

U professor Tim Garrett's 3-D images of falling snow illuminate global warming research and more.

By Patty Henetz

**T**im Garrett and a friend went skiing one day during a Washington snowstorm. They were sitting on the ski lift when the friend, a meteorologist, pointed out how abruptly the snowflakes that were landing on their ski clothes changed shape and size. Garrett, who was then a graduate student in atmospheric physics at the University of Washington, hadn't thought much before about the crystals' variations. But the moment of realization stuck with him in the following days. "I remember being on the lift and thinking how cool, how great it would be to study snowflakes in a ski resort," says Garrett, who is now an associate professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Utah.

As a graduate student, Garrett had already participated in a large study of snow and ice crystals in the Arctic, with a group of scientists based in Barrow, Alaska. They had gathered data on clouds that they observed from the air in a turbo-prop that flew hundreds of miles over the Arctic Ocean from Barrow to a Canadian research icebreaker. The experience became part of Garrett's doctoral thesis on how ice crystals and snowflakes interact with light, and how those processes can help determine how much solar radiation is reflected back into space.



*This snowflake's rounded shape is due to riming.*

Garrett did a two-year fellowship at Princeton University after graduate school and then came in 2002 to the University of Utah, where he soon realized that an outdoor laboratory and reams of data were for the taking in the big mountains right up the hill. "I can't *not* try to pursue this while being next to the Wasatch Front," he thought to himself.

Eventually, with the help of his U colleague Cale Fallgatter MS'08, a mechanical engineer, Garrett designed a camera to shoot three-dimensional photos of snowflakes. With support from the University of Utah's Technology



*The Multi Angle Snowflake Camera, developed by Garrett and Cale Fallgatter, took its first images at Alta in 2011.*

Commercialization Office, the two scientists then created Fallgatter Technologies to develop and build their Multi Angle Snowflake Camera. Their prototype took its first images during a storm at the Alta Ski Area on April 30, 2011.

Since then, Garrett, with help from Daniel “Howie” Howlett, an avalanche specialist with the Alta Ski Patrol, has set up two permanent research cameras at Alta, one at the main ski-lift base and the other in Collins Gulch farther up the mountain. Garrett says snowflakes—which, it turns out, only very rarely resemble the symmetrical crystals most of us think they are—deserve study in their own right. But his research with the cameras also contributes to grander study of clouds and global warming.

Garrett grew up in Nova Scotia, Canada, where even as a young student he was intrigued by the physics of ice. It probably helped that his father is an oceanographer. (Garrett’s parents were both British citizens, and his mother was a social worker.) Garrett also learned to play the oboe while in school, and when he went on to the University of Waterloo in

Ontario, he was allowed to include music studies while pursuing his bachelor’s degree in physics and performed with professional groups both as an undergrad and in graduate school. But he decided to make atmospheric science the focus of his



Photo by Derek Smith

*Tim Garrett has two cameras set up at the Alta Ski Area, one at the base and the other in Collins Gulch.*

career because being good at science is easier than being a successful musician, he says. He still sees parallels, though, between music and physics, and the pathways of falling snow that he charts with his cameras at Alta.

The art of photographing snowflakes reaches back to the 19th century. A Vermont farmer, Wilson Alwyn “Snowflake” Bentley, at the age of 19 in 1885 attached a bellows camera to a microscope to take the first-ever photograph of a snowflake. In 1936, Ukichiro Nakaya of Hokkaido University created the first artificial snow crystal. Four decades ago, scientists in the Pacific Northwest’s Cascade Range spent two years hand-collecting individual snowflakes, placing them on slides, and then taking black and white pictures of the crystals in optimal photographic light. Many of the resulting 100 images were what we think snow crystals look like—perfect, symmetrical, six-sided. Kenneth Libbrecht, a physics professor at the California Institute of Technology, has sought to understand the molecular dynamics of ice crystals and has developed methods to grow and analyze snowflakes in his lab.

But no one, until Garrett and his colleagues set up the cameras at Alta, had ever before taken thousands of high-resolution, three-dimensional photos of snowflakes in a single night, untouched as they fall from the sky.

Garrett’s 3-D cameras are mounted on a ring-shaped housing about 12 inches in diameter, with lenses aimed to capture the flakes as they fall through the ring. Motion sensors tell the cameras when to shoot, at a shutter speed of 1/25,000th to 1/40,000th of a second and with three LED flashes. The multi-angle camera array takes only black-and-white images, because color photography would block some light.

Garrett’s research location at Alta includes a radar, located at the base of the hill. Researcher Sandra Yuter of North Carolina State University tracks data from the radar remotely to measure precipitation structure. Garrett uses her data to help determine how

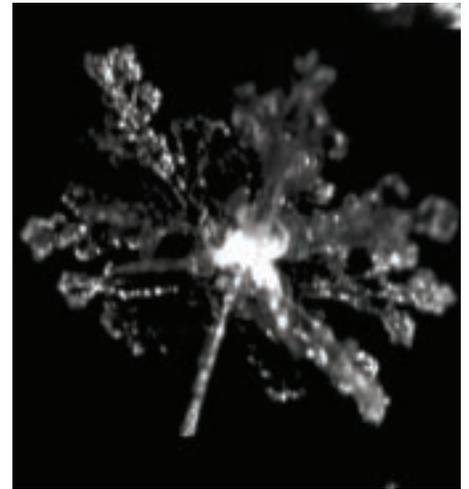
tall and strong a storm is and how the precipitation changes over time. Weather forecasters can then incorporate that information with their own radar readings to determine whether snow or graupel (also known as soft hail) is falling, and if so, how much.

In late 2011, the U.S. Army purchased one of Fallgatter Technologies' Multi Angle Snowflake Cameras for its Cold Regions Research lab at Mammoth Mountain, California. The U.S. Department of Energy bought one for climate studies at Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, home to the largest oilfield in North America. Vanderbilt University also has ordered one to be deployed to the NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory at Greenland Summit, the center of the Greenland ice sheet. Garrett says both orders will be filled by the end of 2013. And the National Science Foundation is now funding his research.

No one, until Garrett and his colleagues set up the cameras at Alta, had ever before taken thousands of high-resolution, 3-D photos of snowflakes in a single night, untouched as they fall from the sky.

The cameras automatically collect the myriad snowflake images. But only about one in 1,000 matches the perfect snowflake icon, Garrett says. In fact, a photo gallery of snowfall at Alta displays flakes that may look like beads, popcorn, a canine tooth, sea sponges, coral, seashells, or Styrofoam packing pellets.

Garrett says snowflakes usually aren't single crystals at all. Rather, they may be rimed as millions of water droplets collide with a flake and freeze on its surface to form graupel. Or the water droplets may collide with other snowflakes to form aggregate, which under



*This crystalline snowflake is formed by condensation.*



## Invest in Your Child's Future

Waterford is Utah's Premier, Private College-Preparatory School

In today's world, providing your child with an extraordinary education is one of the most important things you can do to ensure his success. The Waterford School experience ignites a child's mind, and awakens a passion for learning that lasts a lifetime.



PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 12  
EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY  
LIBERAL ARTS CURRICULUM  
SMALL CLASS SIZES  
VISUAL ARTS, MUSIC, DANCE AND THEATER  
COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS

[www.waterfordschool.org](http://www.waterfordschool.org)

801.816.2203

1480 East 9400 South, Sandy

the right conditions turns into world-famous Alta champagne powder.

The flakes' water content determines their shapes and where the prevailing wind sends them. Warmer weather means more moisture in the air. That changes in midwinter. "One thing we see very often in the Wasatch Front in January and February is very light and fluffy snow," Garrett says.

Heavier snow falls faster and farther upwind. Aggregate flakes, full of little air pockets but not much liquid, fall more slowly and farther downwind. True champagne powder is extraordinarily dry: 30 inches of snow can be equivalent to just one inch of rain, Garrett says

Working to improve computer simulations of falling snow and how it degrades radar transmissions, Garrett studies how snow behaves in clouds. That research can help improve weather forecast accuracy. Meteorologists and hydrologists can use the information to make morning commute predictions, provide information that contributes to avalanche safety, and even evaluate how much water is flowing in the Colorado Basin, the lifeline for more than 35 million people in the West.



Tim Garrett works to create snow crystals in his laboratory in the William Browning Building.

## The cameras have already been purchased by the U.S. Army for its Cold Regions Research lab, by the U.S. Department of Energy for climate studies, and for use at the NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory in Greenland.

Randy Julander, Utah Snow Survey supervisor with the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, says Garrett's work will help him see more closely where snowfall transitions into rainfall. Utah stream flow comes when snow melts after being kept in the mountain deep-freeze and accounts for 90 to 95 percent of the water that flows through the West. Should global warming change the West's hydrology cycles to "rainfall-dominated events," Julander says, the Colorado River and its tributaries will starve and our reservoirs will go dry.

Understanding the snow load in the mountains also affects public safety. Karl Birkeland, director and avalanche scientist with the U.S. Forest Service's National Avalanche Center in Bozeman, Montana, says photos from the Fallgatter Technologies cameras could help snow-safety experts anticipate what they might see when they dig snow pits. "There's some real potential there to translate the images" to gauge the snow properties and how an avalanche might occur, he says.

For his own inquiries, Garrett extends his snowflake research to the science of global warming through his study of clouds. Cloud physics, he says, remains rather mysterious. Scientists know the basics: Clouds remove pollutants from the atmosphere and shield Earth from sunlight. They can also trap heat to warm the planet.

But studying the physics of clouds is crucial for making weather and climate forecasts. Clouds and precipitation are constantly changing, of course, and Garrett says their role in climate change can be either fundamentally simple or impossibly complex. He himself refers to clouds as "ephemeral beasts." Garrett predicts significant regional changes in weather patterns will occur in the years

ahead: few clouds, and little precipitation. Julander notes that the lack of sufficient clouds has already thwarted cloud-seeding efforts in Utah during dry periods when snowstorms were most needed.

Garrett has used data collected by weather stations, satellites, and aircraft to examine the effects of atmospheric pollution on snowfall, ice crystals in cirrus clouds, and sea ice in the Arctic. He also relies on his own cloud-gazing to gather information. Then he looks at his findings from unusual angles, and some of his conclusions have included grim news about climate change, including global warming. "It's pretty safe to say that without an economic collapse, global carbon dioxide emissions will continue to grow unchecked" Garrett says.

Meanwhile, Garrett continues his study of how snowflakes fall, and their effects on larger weather patterns. Before his cameras caught snowflakes in free fall, he says, he had no idea of their immense variety. Now anyone can go online to see the view from his cameras and watch in real time what kind of snow is falling and how fast. What they also can see is that snowflakes are far beyond the simple shapes children cut out of paper.

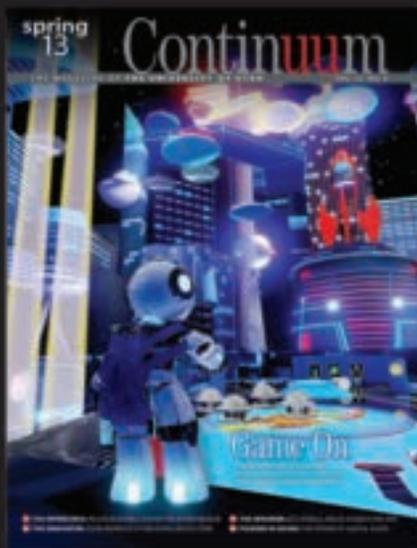
"Why is it we have such an ingrained belief in that? When they land on our sleeves, they are crazy irregular," he notes. Nature is far messier than many of our received conceptualizations of it, he says, "but beautiful, in a different way." 

—Patty Henetz is a longtime journalist who now works as a freelance writer based in Salt Lake City.

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) to view a gallery of more photos of Garrett and falling snowflakes.



# Continuum



Want to receive all four issues  
of *Continuum* every year? Become a member of the  
U Alumni Association.

Join today at [www.alumni.utah.edu/4issues](http://www.alumni.utah.edu/4issues)  
or call 1-888-863-8256



Connect | Engage | Foster Education | Advance Your Career | Get Member Benefits

# Merit of Honor Awards Recognize Five U Alumni



Jess A. Agraz



Virginia Albo



Dixie S. Huefner



Elaine S. Marshall



John C. Nelson

The University of Utah Emeritus Alumni Board selected five exemplary alumni to receive its 2013 Merit of Honor Awards. The annual awards recognize U alumni who graduated 40 or more years ago or who are age 65 or older, and whose careers have been marked by outstanding service to the University, their professions, and their communities. This year's winners were **Jess A. Agraz** BS'65 MS'71, **Virginia "Ginny" Albo** BS'63, **Dixie S. Huefner** MS'77 JD'86, **Elaine S. Marshall** BS'72 MS'79 PhD'88, and **John C. Nelson** MD'69 MPH'93. The Emeritus Alumni Board hosted a Merit of Honor Awards Banquet in November to recognize them.

Agraz, until his retirement in 2004, spent 40 years working on transportation-related issues at the local, state, and national levels. From 1997 to 2004, he served as executive director of the Transportation Management Association of Utah, a public/private partnership formed by the business community to address transportation issues associated with the 2002 Olympics. Before that, he worked as a transportation consultant and project manager in the private sector, with Bingham Engineering. He was elected Salt Lake City Commissioner of Public Works in 1976 and served in the post for four years. His current community involvement includes serving as a board member for the U Hospital Foundation, U Health Science Advocates, the Utah Museum of Fine Arts, and U SAGE Associates.

Albo has been a tireless community advocate and volunteer. She serves on the board and actively volunteers with Catholic Community Services, and she received that group's Award for Community Dedication in 1999, as well as its Humanitarian Award with

her husband, Dr. Dominic Albo, in 2005. She also is a past president and member of the board for the Guadalupe School, and she received

the school's "Yes Santa, There is a Virginia" Award in 1987 and the Suzanne Weiss Believer In Education Award in 2007. At the University of Utah, she has been a member of the Emeritus Alumni Board, the President's Club Committee, and the Pioneer Theatre Company board.

Huefner has had a long and distinguished career as an expert in special-education law. She worked as a full-time faculty member in the U's Department of Special Education from 1990 to 2007 and was a part-time clinical faculty member from 1978 to 1989. Prior to joining the U faculty, she worked with organizations including the Salt Lake County Welfare Department, the Joint Center for Urban Studies of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University, and the Ford Foundation. In 2011, she received the Distinguished Woman of the Year Award from the Salt Lake chapter of the American Association of University Women. In 2013, she was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the U's College of Education.

Marshall will be chair of the Department of Health Restorations and Care Systems Management at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio starting in January. Since 2007, she has worked as a nursing professor at Georgia Southern University, where she also has been director of the Center for Nursing Scholarship and helped launch the first interdisciplinary rural health research institute in Georgia and the Southeast region. Prior to moving to Georgia, she was a dean and professor with Brigham Young University's College of Nursing from 1988 to 2007. In 2012, she was named a Fellow with the American Academy of Nursing, one of the highest honors in the field.

Nelson, a professor in the U's Department of Family and Community Medicine, works as chief medical officer for both Leavitt Partners and TruClinic. He also is a gynecologist and primary care provider for the Health Clinics of Utah, an outpatient clinic that serves patients with little or no medical insurance. From 2004 to 2005, he served as president of the American Medical Association, and he was president of the Utah Medical Association in 1989 and 1990. In 2009, Nelson received the W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Medical Association. As a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, his active duty service included the Vietnam War in 1970 and 1971.

# Nagoya Exchange Program Celebrates 50 Years

The Nagoya Study Tour program celebrated its 50th anniversary with two events at the University of Utah this year.

A collaborative effort between the Nagoya Broadcasting Network (NBN) and the University of Utah, the exchange program brought more than 300 students from Nagoya, Japan, to Utah and the United States over the course of nearly 30 years, from 1963 to 1992. In July of this year, seven former exchange students from Nagoya came back to the U to reunite with members of their Salt Lake City host families and U employees who had helped with the program over the years. Several more former participants reunited for a celebration at the U in September. In addition to attending receptions in honor of the program, the former students also heard from U leaders, including U President **David W. Pershing**, as well as **Fred Esplin** MS'74, the U's vice president for institutional advancement; **Michael Hardman** BS'71 MED'73 PhD'75, the U's chief global officer; **John Ashton** BS'66 JD'69, the Alumni Association's executive director; and **Nelly Divricean** BS'09 MS'12, international alumni relations manager.

The exchange program was the brainchild of then University of Utah President **A. Ray Olpin** and was sponsored by the Nagoya Broadcasting Network. Japanese students visited the United States for five weeks each summer, all expenses paid, staying in University of Utah dorms while studying at the U, touring the nation (including not just visits to classic "tourist" spots but also meeting with select professors on various campuses), and then living with host families in Salt Lake City. Long-lasting relationships developed over the years, and many of the host families from Utah later visited their students in Japan.

Former program administrators **Boyer Jarvis** and **Mel Young** were among the guests from the U at the July celebration, as well as **Mayumi Call**, who helped with the exchange program for many years, when her first husband, **Bob Mukai**, worked with Jarvis on the program. "The Nagoya Study Tour has been a great catalyst in fostering understanding between Utah and Japan," Young says, and it resulted in many business and educational exchanges, in addition to personal friendships.



Top left: Teruo Ishii plays the guitar and leads the alumni group in song at the September luncheon. Top right: From left, Kazuhiko Ohshima, Kojuro Yamamoto, Patricia Jarvis, and Mark Johnston look at keepsakes and photos. Bottom: Michael Sanders, left, and Kojuro Yamamoto look at alumni memorabilia.

## Founders Day Banquet Planned for February

The University of Utah Alumni Association will honor five outstanding graduates of the U and one honorary alumnus with 2014 Founders Day Awards. A scholarship winner also will be recognized. The 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are **Kem Gardner** BA'67 JD'70, **Charlotte Jacobsen** BA'64, **Ted Jacobsen** BS'65, **Frederick Kempe** BA'76, and **Don Yacktman** BS'65. The Honorary Alumnus Award winner is **John Bloomberg** (B.S. 1957, Amherst College; MBA 1962, Harvard). The scholarship winner will be announced at a later date. (Read more about them in the upcoming Spring 2014 issue of *Continuum*.) A Founders Day Banquet will be held in their honor on February 20 at the Little America Hotel. If you'd like to attend, go to [www.alumni.utah.edu](http://www.alumni.utah.edu) for more information and to register.



**FOUNDERS DAY 2014**  
*A Celebration of Innovation*

# Alumni Homecoming Events Net \$73,000 for Scholarships

The University of Utah Alumni Association raised about \$73,000 for U scholarships for deserving students through its fund-raising events during Homecoming week.

Homecoming began Saturday, September 7, when scores of volunteers turned out to participate in the Legacy of Lowell Community Service Day. The following Tuesday, campus groups decorated their areas to reflect this year's Homecoming theme, "True to U."

The U's emeritus alumni—those who graduated 40 or more years ago (or who have reached age 65)—gathered for their Homecoming reunion on Wednesday evening, with dinner and then tours of the new Spence and Cleone Eccles Football Center. Fraternity and sorority members competed in song and dance at Songfest on Thursday. Students and alumni then gathered for a pep rally at the Union Building on Thursday night.

Friday began with the U Alumni Association hosting the Homecoming Scholarship Scramble, a golf tournament at Bonneville Golf Course. Under the leadership of this year's tournament chairman, **Lewis Dickman BS'75**, the golf tourney netted about \$35,000 for U scholarships. Friday night, students gathered for the annual Homecoming dance, held at The Depot at The Gateway shopping center in Salt Lake City.

The Young Alumni 5K and KidsK on Saturday morning, September 14, raised about \$38,000 for U scholarships. The crowds headed in the direction of Rice-Eccles Stadium in the afternoon for the Alumni Association's pregame tailgate party on Guardsman Way and then watched the Utes duke it out with Oregon State in an overtime heartbreaker.



From top, runners begin the Homecoming Young Alumni 5K race; Ryan Boyack BS'98 and children at the KidsK race; a golfer participates in the Homecoming Scholarship Scramble; fans cheer on the Utes during the Homecoming game against Oregon State; and the 2013 Homecoming king and queen, Mackenzie Peyton and Brayden Forbes, with U mascot Swoop at the Crimson Rally.

# We Protect U.

Buy one AAA Membership and get an Associate Membership **FREE**

Home or away, AAA Members always win. In support of the University of Utah, we're proud to offer alumni and friends exclusive savings. For a limited time, join AAA and share the benefits with a Member of your household at no additional cost. Memberships start at just \$52 for a full year of protection\*.

Join a winning team and get valuable AAA benefits, including:

- 24 / 7 Emergency Roadside Assistance
- Thousands of AAA discounts nationwide
- Emergency fuel delivery
- Coverage in any vehicle—even if you're not driving
- Battery delivery and installation service

**Join AAA today and save!**

» Call (801) 872-8679 or visit your local AAA branch.



## VISIT YOUR LOCAL AAA BRANCH TODAY

### DRAPER BRANCH

185 E. 12300 South, Ste.100  
(at Draper Pkwy)  
Draper, Utah 84020  
(801) 878-8500

### MURRAY BRANCH

5207 S State St., Ste. 2  
Murray, Utah 84107  
(801) 266-8472

### OGDEN BRANCH

5705 S. Harrison Blvd.  
(at Washington Blvd.)  
Ogden, Utah 84403  
(801) 605-0098

### OREM BRANCH

160 E University Pkwy., Ste. F  
(at 200 East)  
Orem, Utah 84058  
(801) 788-3300

### SALT LAKE CITY BRANCH

1400 S. Foothill Dr., Ste. 154  
(at Foothill Village)  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108  
(801) 238-1250

### ST. GEORGE BRANCH

844 W Telegraph St., Ste. 4  
St. George, Utah 84780  
(435) 652-6920



\*This FREE Associate Membership offer is available only at AAA branches and requires sign up for automatic renewal. Pricing based on Classic Membership, and includes \$17 savings on waived enrollment fee and \$5 automatic renewal savings. Other Membership types are available. Offer good until March 31, 2014 and may not be combined with other offers. AAA Members are entitled to four FREE service calls per year. Various conditions and restriction apply to all AAA Membership benefits. For full Membership terms and conditions, visit [www.AAA.com/membershipterm](http://www.AAA.com/membershipterm).

# Providing Aid, and Respect

By Marcia C. Dibble



All photos courtesy Sonal Singh Wadhwa

Sonal Singh Wadhwa, CEO of the nonprofit Maitri India, helps serve a meal to elderly widows. The group provides them with a meal once a day so they don't have to beg for food in the streets.

**S**onal Singh Wadhwa BS'01 is chief executive officer of the nonprofit Maitri India, which works to assist some of that country's most vulnerable populations. *Maitri* is the Sanskrit word for loving-kindness, compassion, and friendship. Maitri India's initiatives include improving the health and welfare of migrant populations, such as rickshaw pullers and the homeless; running a

counseling and testing center for HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections; and providing support for abandoned elderly widows. Other projects include addressing domestic violence and providing educational and skill-enhancement opportunities for underprivileged children and women. "The work that Maitri does has an extremely real and deep impact on the lives of the people that we touch," says Singh Wadhwa.

---

*"The work that Maitri does has an extremely real and deep impact on the lives of the people that we touch."*

---

Maitri was founded in 2005 by Sonal's mother, Winnie Singh, and her stepfather, retired General Bhopinder Singh, with the initial goal of generating much-needed awareness among armed forces personnel and their families about health risks such as sexually transmitted infections and tuberculosis. Following its success in this effort, the organization expanded its reach.

Singh Wadhwa joined Maitri in 2006, shortly after its founding, when her family was looking for someone to run the organization. "It seemed like a natural fit," she says. "I was burnt out at my previous job as a consultant and felt very strongly that if I was working that hard, it needed to have a real impact on people's lives."

With a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Utah and an MBA from the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Singh Wadhwa had most recently been working as a consultant with Hewitt Associates (now Aon Hewitt). She had come to the U after finishing high school in India, at the encouragement of **Ted Wilson** BS'64, longtime director of the U's Hinckley Institute of Politics and a close friend of her family. It was at the U that Singh Wadhwa had her first experiences working with vulnerable and/or disadvantaged groups, volunteering with Primary Children's Hospital as well as the American Red Cross. "These experiences contributed to building a sense of understanding that there is much that a single individual can do to alleviate the suffering of another."

After graduating from the U, Singh Wadhwa spent a year as a business information specialist with McKinsey Knowledge Center before becoming a business correspondent with Dow Jones Newswires for more than two years. She then embarked on her MBA, and after its completion in 2004, spent more than two years as a human resources and benefits consultant with Hewitt.

Among its many endeavors, Maitri India works to provide migrant workers and the homeless with forms of identification. “For many individuals, this may be the first time that they have any document that gives them an identity, access to government benefits, and a voice when it comes to voting,” Singh Wadhwa says. Maitri also makes other efforts for this group such as public health assistance for sexually transmitted infections, including workshops and testing services, as well as street plays to increase awareness and aid in prevention.

In Project Jeevan, Maitri provides destitute widows with a cooked meal once a day so they don’t need to beg for food on the streets, where they are left to survive until they die, Singh Wadhwa says. “These women have faced complete rejection from their families and the society. And working and earning money isn’t an option for many of them, because they are so frail in health.”



Sonal Singh Wadhwa, who received her bachelor’s degree in finance from the University of Utah, joined Maitri India in 2006.



Maitri India runs a school that instructs more than 80 children who range in age from 4 to 17. Many of the children come from families where both parents left school early and work as daily wage earners.

Maitri also provides the women with potable water and dietary supplements, blankets and clothing, access to shelter and healthcare, and other essentials, as well as arranging funeral services per their religious preferences, when the time comes.

Maitri’s work with children includes facilitating workshops in schools, as well as providing scholarships and directly teaching courses. Maitri currently instructs more than 80 children ages 4 to 17. The younger students study

English, Hindi, and math, and older students also receive support in science, economics, and career counseling. Many of the children come from families where both parents left school early and work as daily wage earners or in homes as drivers or cleaning help. “It’s ever a cause for celebration when we have underprivileged children from our supportive education program making it to college or medical school or to the Army,” says Singh Wadhwa. “These are dreams that we have had to work hard to make the kids

believe in, and it’s a victory for us as much for them when it comes true.”

Since 2007, the U’s Hinckley Institute of Politics has coordinated an internship program with Maitri every semester. Singh Wadhwa often works directly with the U interns, who help with a range of projects including the organization’s annual report, newsletter, website, grant proposal development and writing, background research for projects, and even development and execution of new projects. **Kirk Jowers** BA’92, current director of the Hinckley Institute, also serves on Maitri’s international advisory board. “Many of our programs became possible because of the initiatives or the hard work that our interns took upon themselves in the initial years,” says Singh Wadhwa.

“The most fulfilling part of this work is the intangible—what can’t be measured,” she notes. “When we go to our communities and they greet us with immense joy, I know that we are doing something right.” **U**

—Marcia Dibble is managing editor of Continuum.

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) to view a gallery of more photos.



## A Horse's Best Friend

By Ann Floor

**Scott Beckstead** JD'91 grew up in Twin Falls, Idaho, surrounded by goats, cattle, cats, dogs, rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, turtles—and horses. “I loved all my pets dearly,” he says. “They were my best friends, and given the choice, I preferred to spend my time with them.” So it was no surprise that as an adult, after obtaining a juris doctorate from the University of Utah’s S.J. Quinney College of Law, he opened his own firm on the Oregon coast and practiced civil law for 17 years, including numerous animal-related cases, and he co-authored a casebook on animal law. Over time, he became known as a leading national expert in animal law.

In 2008, the Humane Society of the United States and the Fund for Animals established the Duchess Sanctuary, a 1,120-acre home for nearly 200 formerly abused and neglected horses, in northern Douglas County, Oregon. Beckstead, with his lifelong passion for horses, experience growing up on his family’s ranch property in Idaho, and his expertise in rescuing and caring for abused and neglected animals as the leader of a local nonprofit animal rescue and foster care group in Oregon, was a natural choice to oversee the arrival of the horses and the opening of the sanctuary.

The Duchess Sanctuary is now considered a national model for the care of rescued horses. After Beckstead got the sanctuary up and running, a ranch manager was hired to take over its operations. Without missing a beat, Beckstead moved in June 2008 into the position of senior director of the

Humane Society of Oregon, where his advocacy and political skills have helped the group protect the state’s animals.

In 2009, Beckstead helped lead lobbying efforts that convinced state lawmakers to pass one of the toughest puppy-mill laws in the nation. In 2011, he successfully worked to urge lawmakers to pass a bill to ban the possession and transfer of shark fins, a measure which has been copied in other states and countries as part of the global effort to protect the world’s shark populations. During Oregon’s 2013 legislative session, his group’s efforts prevailed as the state passed several animal protection laws, including restrictions on the amount of time dogs can be tethered, a ban on rodeo horse tripping (where a lasso is used to snare a horse’s legs—already prohibited by mainstream rodeos in 11 other states, but still a major problem in Oregon), and enhanced penalties for aggravated animal neglect. Beckstead is working with law enforcement officials to ensure that the new laws are fairly and uniformly enforced.

Beckstead, who also now teaches animal law as an adjunct professor at Willamette University, often is called upon by the Humane Society of the United States to serve as a national equine expert. He is a frequent speaker and presenter at equine welfare events and often assists the organization in its fight to stop the slaughter of American horses for human consumption. As he did in Oregon, Beckstead is working with other states to pass bans on horse tripping. He helped the city of Portland pass improved regulations to protect the welfare of carriage horses, and that experience and knowledge is coming to bear in other communities, including Salt Lake City. “It can be difficult to see the terrible things that people do to animals,” he says. “But the flip side is that I am well-equipped to jump in and fight to end animal cruelty, regardless of whether it takes the form of individual criminal acts in my own community, or institutionalized cruelty in places like factory farms and research laboratories across the nation.”

In addition to his animal welfare work, Beckstead served as mayor of Waldport, Oregon, from 2002 to 2007. He considers his education at the University of Utah’s College of Law to be one of his “most cherished assets,” he says. “I was encouraged by my professors to think critically and be a relentless advocate, and that training has paid off in the form of laws that will lead to a kinder and more compassionate world for animals.” **U**

—Ann Floor is an associate editor of Continuum.



Photo courtesy Scott Beckstead

## '50s

**Jeanette Misaka** BS'52 MS'71, an emeritus clinical professor in the University of Utah's Department of Special Education, was a recipient of the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2013. She was one of two individuals selected from within the jurisdiction of the Consulate General of Japan in Denver. Misaka was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the promotion of mutual understanding and goodwill between the people of Japan and the United States. As a former univer-



sity educator specializing in cultural diversity, Misaka has worked to promote the rights of women, the disabled, and racial minorities, particularly Japanese American citizens. A member of the advisory council of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Misaka experienced the internment of Japanese American citizens during World War II at Heart Mountain Internment Camp. She has been a dedicated member of the Japanese American Citizens League since the early 1950s and currently serves as a national

league board member and as governor of its Intermountain District Council. **LM**

## '70s



**Martha Bradley-Evans** BFA'74 PhD'87, senior associate vice president for academic affairs at the University of Utah, has received the Leonard J. Arrington Award from the Mormon History Association, its highest honor. The association is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to the study and understanding of all aspects of Mormon history. Bradley-Evans, who is also dean of undergraduate studies and a professor in the College of Architecture + Planning, writes about communal religious groups such as the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Her latest book, *Plural Wife: The Life Story of Mabel Finlayson Allred*, published in 2012, received the Best Documentary Book Award this past September from the Utah State Historical Society.

**Bryson Garbett** BA'77 has been honored with the 2013 Hearthstone Builder

Humanitarian Award for his work as founder of Foundation Escalera, which has built schools and awarded scholarships benefiting more than 12,000 poor children in Mexico. He is president and founder of Garbett Homes. The company, based in Salt Lake City, has received national and local awards and recognition for pioneering affordable green housing. From 1982 to 1986, he served in the Utah House of Representatives as Utah's youngest legislator. Garbett is a 2000 alumnus of the Harvard Business School and received his undergraduate degree in history from the U. **LM**

**Kenneth R. Lord** HBA'77 MA'81 has been appointed dean of the College of Business & Economics at California State University, Northridge. Lord has more than 25 years of experience in higher education and marketing. Since 2006, he had served as associate dean of the Kania School of Management in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and was a professor of management and marketing. Prior to that, he was a faculty member at



Mercer University, in Atlanta, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and Niagara University. Lord's research

focuses on consumer behavior, and he was ranked among the world's top advertising scholars in a *Journal of Advertising* article in 2008. Lord holds a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in communication from the University of Utah and a doctorate in marketing from Ohio State University.

## '80s

**Paul B. Parker** JD'88, a longtime Salt Lake County prosecutor, has been appointed by Utah Governor Gary Herbert to be a 3rd District Court judge, serving Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele



counties. Parker began his career in 1978 as an officer with the Vernal Police Department and had worked as a deputy Salt Lake County District Attorney since 1989. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in police science from Weber State University in 1985 and then obtained a law degree from the University of Utah. He was a judicial clerk for the Utah Court of Appeals before joining the district attorney's office, where he prosecuted cases ranging from theft and assault to homicide.

## '00s

**Zoë Ujnovich** MBA'04, president and chief executive officer of Canada's largest iron ore producer, the Iron Ore Company of Canada, has been elected chair of the Mining Association of Canada for a two-year term. She is the association's first female chair in its 78-year history. Ujnovich began her mining career in Australia with Rio Tinto (Comalco Smelting) in 1996 as a process and development engineer.



She became a crew supervisor for Comalco and senior business analyst with Rio Tinto Procurement. She then moved to the United States, where she held management positions at Quadrem and Kennecott Land from 2000 to 2004. Ujnovich returned to Australia to work as plant operations manager for the Rio Tinto Pilbara Iron Mine. From 2007 to 2008, she provided advisory support to the chief executive of Rio Tinto at the company's headquarters in London. She served as president of Rio Tinto Brazil from 2008 until her appointment to the Iron Ore Company of Canada in 2009.

**Matt Geraci** PharmD'06, who has a lifelong goal to become an astronaut, recently made it as a quarter-finalist for NASA's astronaut program, receiving a rating of "highly qualified." Although he did not make the most recent cuts, he says he has left a lasting mark on NASA operations through high-end glass signs that he designed for NASA's newest mission control room for the International Space Station, at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama. The signs are designed to change color and thereby allow each control station to communicate in ways never done before at NASA. The project can be traced back to an earlier one he did while a graduate student in the U's College of Pharmacy. In 2006, he and his fellow students renovated a deteriorating outdoor courtyard of the college's Skaggs Hall, using bricks engraved by Geraci, for their senior class gift. They used money raised from engraving supporters' names on the bricks to establish an endowed Class of 2006 Service Scholarship Fund.

**Kevin G. Walthers** PhD'06 is now superintendent and president of Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California. Walthers serves as the fifth permanent superintendent/president in the history of the Allan Hancock Joint Community College District. He came to Allan Hancock after serving as president of Las Positas College in Livermore, California. Prior to that, he served in executive roles with the Utah State Board of Regents, the College of Eastern Utah, and most recently with the West Virginia Community

and Technical College System and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission. Walthers holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin, a master's degree from Texas A&M University-Commerce, and a doctorate in education from the University of Utah.

**Katherine Judd** JD'07, a member of Clyde Snow & Sessions' Employment Law Group, is the new president-elect of the Utah State Bar's Young Lawyers Division, which has more than 2,000 members. The group's efforts include Wills for Heroes, a statewide program to provide wills and other estate planning documents for emergency first responders and their spouses or partners, and Serving our Seniors, which offers pro bono health care directives and powers of attorney to senior citizens. Members of the Young Lawyers Division also offer free services



through legal clinics across the state. Judd has been a member of the division since 2007 and since 2010 served as secretary on the executive board.

**Sonya M. Alemán** PhD'09, a University of Utah assistant professor in communication and ethnic studies, is the recipient of the University

Neighborhood Partners Community Scholar in Residence award for 2013-15. The award of \$5,000 per year for two years will support her work to build the capacity of *Venceremos*, the U's only bilingual, alternative student publication. University Neighborhood Partners' awards committee said it recognizes the potential for her project to foster social justice-oriented journalism in both the local community and in academic settings.

## '10s

**Kim Hackford-Peer** PhD'10, associate director of the University of Utah's Gender Studies Program since 2011, has been recognized as Utah Alumna Regent by the Point Foundation, a national organization dedicated to empowering promising LGBTQ students to achieve their full academic and leadership potential. Hackford-Peer, who also is a U assistant professor (lecturer), is a co-founder of Go YoU, a mentoring program for Bryant Middle School students in Salt Lake City offered through the U's Women's Resource Center and Gender Studies Program, and Bryant's After School Program. She received her doctorate from the U in Education, Culture, & Society.

We want to hear from you! Please submit entries to Ann Floor, [ann.floor@utah.edu](mailto:ann.floor@utah.edu).





**Will next fall be the start of school?**

**Or the start of a lifetime?**

Come see for yourself how a singular focus on the K-8 years can define a lifetime of success – academically and socially. Where children become a part of something greater than themselves. Visit us soon to see our school in action, and find out how your child can have the best start of all. One that lasts their whole life.



# Remembering Carlson Hall

The first residence hall on the U campus is gone, but not forgotten.

By Roy Webb

In the first decades of the University of Utah's existence, students lived off campus in rented rooms in boarding houses or private homes and commuted to campus by riding the Bamberger and other trolleys or by walking. But the University's first dean of women, Lucy Van Cott, who served from 1907 to 1931, had long dreamed of a dormitory for female students. As U President George Thomas noted, "For some reason, there is a disposition not to accept women as readily as men in boarding houses." It was not until the Great Depression that Van Cott's dream was realized, however.

Prior to her death in 1933, Mary P. Carlson in 1931 had made a bequest of more than \$120,000 to the University in honor of her late husband, August W. Carlson. He was a Swedish immigrant who had become treasurer of the Z.C.M.I. system, a director of the Zion's Benefit Building Society, and director of the State Bank of Utah and the Deseret National Bank. He had also served as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Deseret, the precursor to the University of Utah. In 1911, he had a heart attack on a hotel veranda while on vacation with his wife in Santa Barbara, California, and died. His wife, who was from England, never remarried. They had no children.

After her bequest to the U, the University administration approached the Public Works Administration, a New Deal agency, and it provided a further \$90,000 in funding to allow the creation of the new women's dormitory. The building, named Carlson Hall, was completed in the late summer of 1938. Carlson was the first residence hall on the University of Utah campus, and one of the first in the western United States to be built for women.

Planned for 80 students, the dorm's interior design was by noted artist and designer Florence Ware, who also painted the murals in Kingsbury Hall. The rooms at Carlson Hall were furnished in Early American style, but the sun room on the third floor was more modern. The dormitory also featured a dining hall and a "date room," where escorts of Carlson Hall students were expected to wait for the young women.

Carlson Hall served generations of women students, but the wave of new students on campus after World War II meant that other housing for students, both men and women, had to be found. After other residence halls were built on campus, Carlson Hall was converted to offices and classrooms in 1971. The decision was not without controversy, however. Brigham Madsen, who served as the U's administrative vice president from 1967 to 1972, remembered meeting with the law dean in Carlson Hall's dining room. At the end of the meeting, "the door opened suddenly and about a dozen of the women resi-



Photo courtesy: Special Collections, J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah

dents marched in in single file, dressed in the flowing robes of classical Greece, each bearing a lighted candle, and with the last two women bearing Mrs. Carlson's portrait draped in black. They were absolutely silent as their ghostly procession circled around us," Madsen wrote in his unpublished autobiography, a copy of which is in the U's Marriott Library.

In 1996, Carlson Hall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. But by 2012, as the U was planning its new College of Law building, Carlson Hall was deteriorating and in need of costly seismic upgrades and remodeling for handicapped accessibility and code compliance. U administrators decided the best option would be to replace it with a new structure, and this past summer, Carlson Hall was torn down to make way for the new law building. But Carlson won't be forgotten: The new law building will feature a display of commemorative items from the U's first residence hall. **U**

—Roy Webb BA'84 MS'91 is a multimedia archivist with the J. Willard Marriott Library.

Visit [continuum.utah.edu](http://continuum.utah.edu) to view a gallery of more historical photos of Carlson Hall.



# Searching for...

THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE  
IN NORTH AMERICA

by *Places Rated Almanac*

## ...the *perfect practice* opportunity?

Utah has no shortage of outdoor adventure. It's also home to one of the best healthcare networks in the nation. Intermountain Healthcare is recruiting those searching for a better opportunity and a better life.

Cardiology  
Dermatology  
Endocrinology  
Family Practice  
Gastroenterology

Geriatrics  
Hematology  
Hospitalists  
Internal Medicine

Neurohospitalist  
Neurology  
OB/GYN  
Orthopedic Spine

Palliative Care  
Pediatrics  
Psychiatry  
Pulm/Critical Care

Pulm/Sleep  
Rheumatology  
Urogynecology  
Urology  
Vascular Surgery

Intermountain Healthcare is a Utah-based nonprofit system of 22 hospitals, 185 clinics, a Medical Group with some 1,000 employed physicians, a health plans division called SelectHealth, and other health services. Intermountain is widely recognized as a leader in transforming healthcare through high quality and sustainable costs.



For more information: 36 South State Street, 21st floor, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
physicianrecruit@imail.org or 800.888.3134

*PhysicianJobsIntermountain.org*



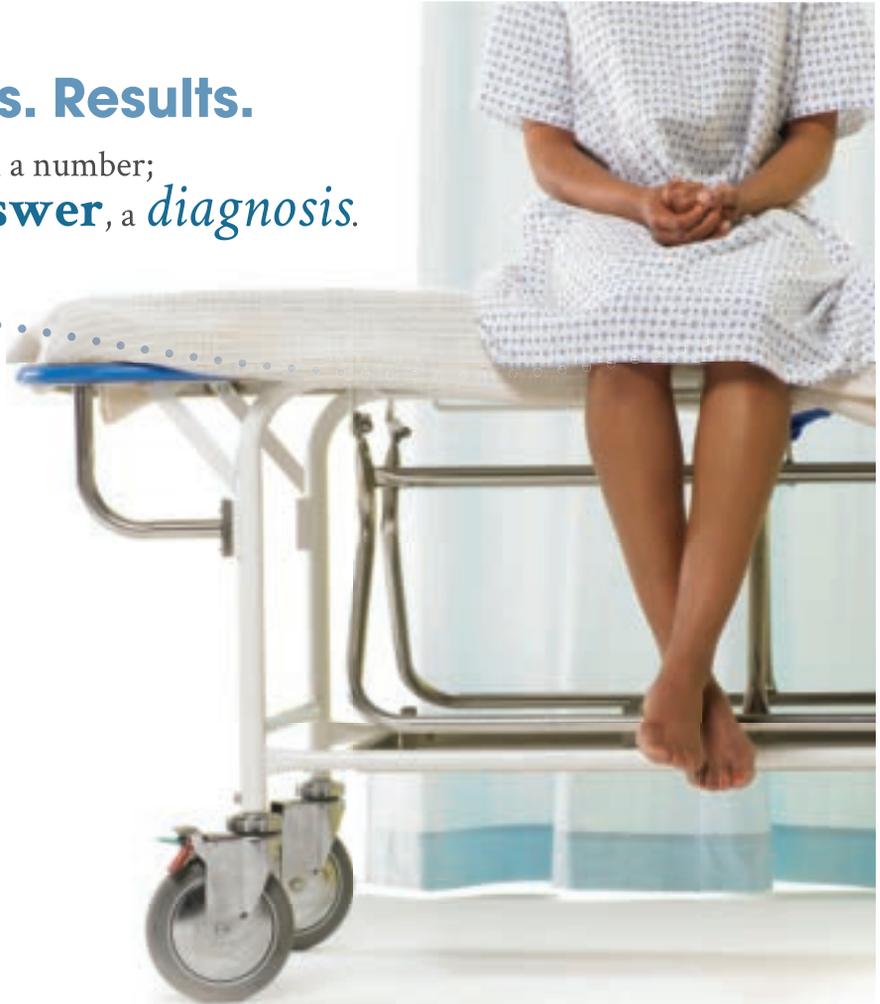


**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
 155 S. Central Campus Drive  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84112

PRSR STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 BOLINGBROOK, IL  
 PERMIT NO. 467

## Patients. Answers. Results.

A laboratory test is more than a number;  
 it is a **person**, an **answer**, a *diagnosis*.



### ARUP is not like other labs:

We are a nonprofit, esoteric reference laboratory and an enterprise of the University of Utah and its Department of Pathology.

We support the community by providing valuable medical services and improving patient care.

We assist our clients with proper utilization, outreach support, and in-sourcing.

We believe in collaborating and sharing knowledge to ensure the best value in patient care.

We think about healthcare differently; do you?



*A nonprofit enterprise of the University of Utah and its Department of Pathology*

**www.aruplab.com**  
**www.utahblood.org**

follow us!



Named by G-2 Reports' *U.S. Laboratory Reference Testing Market Profile & Pricing Trends 2012* as Best Value for National Reference Laboratory (defined as service plus price).

Rather than competing with its clients for physician office business, ARUP chooses instead to support clients' existing test menus by offering highly complex and unique lab tests, with accompanying consultative support, to enhance their abilities to provide laboratory services.