

WINTER 2018-19

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

CONTINUUM

IMAGINE NEW HEIGHTS

The climb is on as the U launches a new capital campaign.

BEST IN SNOW :: PRESIDENT WATKINS INAUGURATED :: CHRONY ARCHIVES ONLINE :: BODY DONATION 101



WHERE HEALTH MEETS TECH

University of Utah Health Plans is proud to be the exclusive health partner for Silicon Slopes — where health meets tech to create a unique opportunity for employers to access world-class care and affordable health insurance solutions.



This is more than insurance, this is personal.

To learn more, call or click today.



801.587.2875



uhealthplan.utah.edu



HEALTH PLANS
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



24

Imagine New Heights

The climb is on as the U launches a new capital campaign.

14

Old News is Good News

A century of *The Daily Utah Chronicle* has been digitized and archived.

16

The Inauguration of Ruth Watkins

It's time to transform education for the 21st century, she says.

20

Best in Snow

The U's 'Powder Professor' unpacks Utah's claim to fame.

34

A Virtuous Circle

Nearly 250 people a year donate their bodies to science at the U.

DEPARTMENTS

2 Feedback

4 Campus Scene

6 Updates

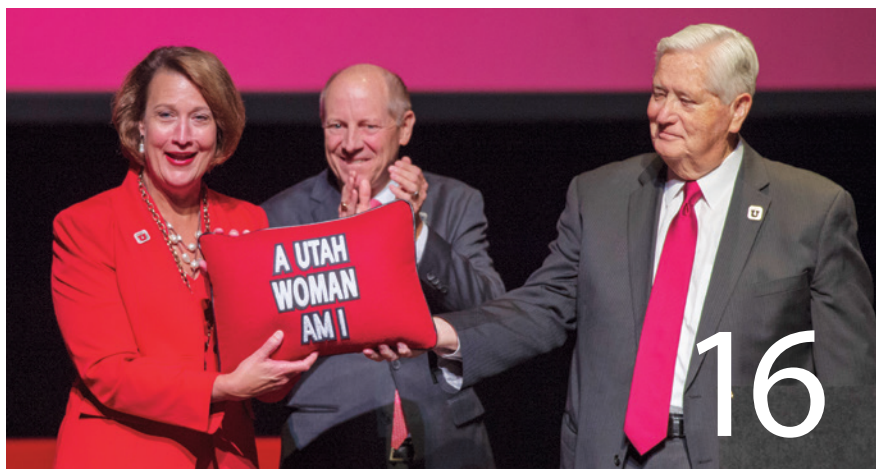
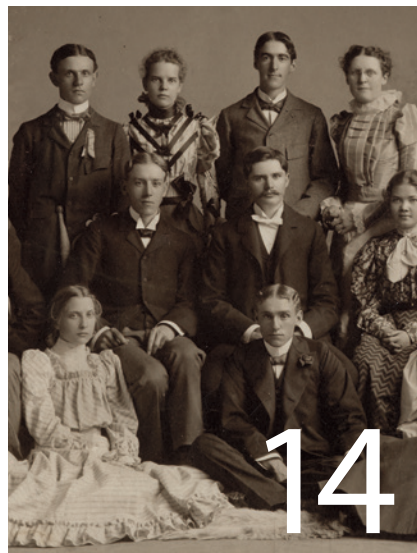
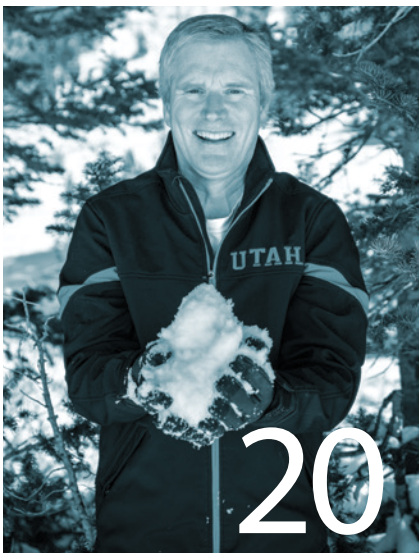
10 Bookshelf

12 Discovery

40 Alum News

48 One More

Cover photo by Emily Jeppson,
taken at the Badlands of central Utah.





“

I wanted her autograph so I could be reminded of her commitment to individuals, not just to institutions.”

Celebrating President Watkins

Doctoral candidate Rob Kent de Grey MS'14 took the opportunity at a recent student social to have President Ruth Watkins sign his copy of the Summer 2018 *Continuum*. “She has the most important quality a leader can possess: a real commitment to doing as much as she can to improve conditions for as many

people as possible,” Grey says. “I wanted her autograph so I could be reminded of her commitment to individuals, not just to institutions.”

Inclusion & Diversity

I really enjoyed the Fall 2018 issue. I'm so proud to be an alum!... One reason I loved this issue is because of the stories about diversity and inclusiveness—“The Cry Closet,” “Finding Refuge in Education,” and “A Harmonic Progression.” I was thrilled to see how the U is a leader in bringing these important qualities to Salt Lake City specifically but also the state. I'm also excited to see that the university has a woman president—another great example of diversity. Keep up the great work!

*Lynda Roberts BFA'98
MPA'05
Sausalito, California*

Working Hard, Giving Back

What a great example of making the most of opportunities, working hard, excelling, and then going back to his roots to help others to achieve. [“e-Commerce Mogul in Tanzania,” Summer 2018].... If more people did this, think of what a wonderful world it would be!

*Janet Gillette BA'69
Salt Lake City*

Library Memories

[“What Have We Here?” Fall 2018] I was a sophomore when the Marriott Library opened.... How thrilled we were to have such a modern and beautiful building to study in.... At about the same time, the “U” built the Special Events Center later named the Huntsman

Center. The campus felt like we were moving from the old and outdated to new and modern.

*Scott Tennis BS'71
MEd'79
Layton, Utah*

I remember many long nights in the old library on the circle and the new Marriott Library. I also have fond memories of the old lower campus library and the new (now old) remodeled Marriott.... I'm the first in my extended family to receive a college degree. Now, all my family that are old enough are graduates and fans and loyal Utes.

*Gary L. Webster BA'65
MSW'67
Salt Lake City*

Coach's Picks

Dear Coach Whittingham: Thanks for some very interesting selections. [“Books that Score Points with a Coach,” Fall 2018] I am struck by the diversity and the vibrant messages you drew from each of these books....

*Stephan Stringham
BS'83
Oldsmar, Florida*

CONTINUUM

*Publisher
William Warren*

*Editor-in-Chief
J. Melody Murdock*

*Art Director/Photographer
David E. Titensor BFA'91*

*Managing Editor
Marcia C. Dibble*

*Associate Editors
Ann Floor BFA'85
Seth Bracken*

*Business Manager
Brian Rasmussen*

*Corporate Sponsors
ARUP Laboratories
Intermountain Healthcare
University Credit Union
University of Utah Health Plans*

*Editorial Advisory Committee
Joe Borgenicht
Neelam Chand BS'08
Andy Cier
Debra Daniels MSW'84
Greta Belanger deJong
Peter Esko BA'03
Lindsey Ferrari
Greg Jones MBA'01
Mike Lageschulte
Joe Sargetakis BA'80
Laura Snow BA'88*

Continuum is published in summer, fall, winter, and spring by University Marketing & Communications.

Subscriptions are available to U faculty/staff at continuum.utah.edu/subscribe

Call (801) 581-6773 for more information.

For advertising opportunities, please contact Brian Rasmussen brian.rasmussen@utah.edu or (801) 581-3051.

Send address changes to: continuum@utah.edu

*Continuum, University of Utah
75 Fort Douglas Blvd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84113*

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

Opinions expressed in Continuum are not necessarily those of the University of Utah administration. Copyright ©2018 by the University of Utah. The university is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.



We're eager to hear from you! Please visit continuum.utah.edu/contact-us



MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C104484

IT ALL HAPPENS HERE



LIVE WANDER HERE



Courtesy of Red Butte Garden

Take a morning run through Memory Grove. Pack a lunch for Red Butte Garden. Catch the sunset from Ensign Peak. All these getaways and more are within minutes of your City Creek Living home. Call today to schedule a tour of City Creek's designer model homes and explore adventurous condominium living in the heart of Salt Lake City.

CITY CREEK | LIVING

99 WEST • RICHARDS COURT • THE REGENT

 CityCreekLiving.com | 801.240.8600



Walk the Line

Despite what the name might suggest, slacklining is not for slackers. The sport requires walking on thin webbing suspended between two objects and is all about testing balance—and gravity. And it's not just an exercise for the body: it also helps focus the mind. Here, Nina Borzoni, the director of sustainability for Associated Students of the University of Utah, participates in *Wasatch Magazine's* slackline competition on campus this fall. Competitors were judged on the variety and difficulty of their tricks.



Photo by Dave Titensor

BUT I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT

What exactly are microaggressions, and why are they a big deal? A new series of posters on campus highlights common microaggressions. The posters show faces behind short sentences that say things such as, “Where are you really from?” “You’re pretty for a dark-skin girl,” and “What are you?”

Microaggressions are subtle—often unintentional—statements or actions that reveal unconscious biases toward members of marginalized communities. While anyone may experience prejudice or stereotyping, the term “microaggressions” is used specifically in connection with historically marginalized groups, which include those based on gender, race, ethnicity, veteran status, sexual orientation, religion, age, ability, national origin, citizenship status, or any of these intersecting identities.

Even though these comments and behaviors are not always intended to be rude or insulting, the impact of microaggressions is harmful because they perpetuate stereotypes in both casual and systemic ways. At a personal level, they communicate that a person doesn’t belong. For example, when someone tells a person of color that they speak English well, it might imply that the person doesn’t look like English is their first language. The impact of this statement labels the person of color as an outsider, which can be alienating.

“It feels much more welcoming when people start by assuming that we belong here,” says Belinda Otukolo Saltiban BS’00 MSW’04 PhD’12, director of the U’s Office for Inclusive Excellence. “The goal in raising awareness around this issue is simply to recognize what microaggressions are, better understand how they impact others, and promote respectful and productive dialogue around the topic.”



"You're pretty for a dark-skin girl."



"I don't think of you as person with a disability."

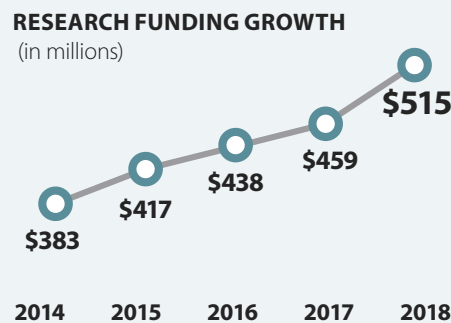


"You don't look like a lesbian."

U Receives Record-breaking \$500M for Research

Half a billion dollars. That’s about how much the U took home in research funding last year—the most in the school’s history. With a final total of \$515 million, the assets include large and small grants—from thousands of dollars to study the structural health of Utah’s rock arches, to millions of dollars to discover non-opioid painkillers.

Scholarly production metrics across the university, including the number of citations, published books, and journal articles, are also on the rise. “I think the data speak to the quality of the U’s remarkable faculty, trainees, and staff whose increased scholarly activity has enabled us to achieve such a significant funding milestone,” says Andy Weyrich, vice president for research.



Unearthing History: Military Artifacts Found at Fort Douglas

When contractors started digging for a new utility trench on campus four years ago, they discovered something unexpected—a sandstone foundation of a military barracks dating back to the Civil War. The trench project was put on hold, and this fall an official archeological dig was conducted at Fort Douglas on upper campus.

Excavation crews carefully removed the top layers of paving and meticulously began digging just inches, or even centimeters, deep at a time. Archeologists recovered various artifacts, including stoneware, military insignia, and Civil War-era buttons. The artifacts they found will be displayed at the adjacent Fort Douglas Military Museum.

The fort was established in 1862 when Union soldiers were ordered to the post to guard the mail route and keep an eye on early settlers in the area. It continued to serve as a training garrison, as well as a prisoner of war camp during both world wars.



Gardner Commons Now Stands Where OSH Once Was

What goes down must come up... or at least in this case it did. In 2016, Orson Spencer Hall (OSH) was demolished. And after much anticipation, the new Carolyn and Kem Gardner Commons opened in 2018 in the same spot on the hillside east of the library in the center of campus.

Gardner Commons provides a home to the U's largest college—the College of Social and Behavioral Science—the seven departments of which account for 27 percent of undergraduate degrees awarded. The building has 37 classrooms, two auditoriums, study spaces, food and dining options, and a U welcome center. Fourteen additional departments also have space in the new building.

Gardner Commons was designed with sustainability at its core. It's 100 percent electric-based, using primarily renewable energy, and will eventually become carbon neutral. It's

also heated and cooled by the first geothermal ground-source heat pump on campus, saving more than \$70,000 annually in energy costs.

Carolyn [BS'69] and Kem [BA'67 JD'70] Gardner provided the lead gift toward the \$68 million project. "We hope that this new structure will be a place where students can learn and grow together," Carolyn said at the groundbreaking. "Both Kem and I are alumni from the U, and some of our favorite experiences here were in the classroom learning from amazing professors and in the halls befriending fellow students."



To see more photos and watch a time-lapse video of the construction of Gardner Commons, go to continuum.utah.edu



10 Ideas that Could Change the Future for Utah's Middle Class



THE AMERICAN DREAM IDEAS CHALLENGE

The 10 finalists in the first round of a competition for ideas to strengthen Utah's middle class came up with proposals ranging from helping single parents save money through shared living arrangements to boosting opportunities for freelance workers in the state's rural areas.

The American Dream Ideas Challenge is a statewide call for policy or investable concepts that have the potential to increase net income by 10 percent for 10,000 middle-class households in Utah by the end of 2020. The U is one of four public universities in the U.S. participating in the competition.

In late November 2018 (while *Continuum* was at press), three entries were selected from the 10 finalists to receive \$30,000 to refine their ideas and compete at the national level for up to \$1 million from the Alliance for the American Dream. The national-level finalists will be announced in January 2019. Updates can be found at americandream.utah.edu.

The top finalists include:

- **Community Design Innovation Hub:** Create a community hub on Salt Lake's west side to connect residents to innovative educational and career pathways.
- **Autism Futures:** Expand employment and services for adults on the autism spectrum through a platform that connects them with employers.
- **Coal Country Strike Team:** Create a "strike team" in Emery and Carbon counties to address problems and promote opportunities in health care, housing, and other areas.
- **DASH Digital Pathways:** DASH (Design, Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities) would help professionals develop digital skills for careers in Utah's classrooms and high-tech sector.
- **Debt-free Middle Class:** Develop an app that creates a new culture of saving money by helping people get out of debt faster and make smarter financial decisions.
- **Developing Skills and Rural Businesses in the Gig Economy:** Increase gig-economy employment in rural Utah through education and outreach.
- **Convert Health Care Premiums to Income:** Partner with health insurers to focus on reducing health care premiums through value-based insurance design and other efforts.
- **Mobility as a Service:** Save transportation-related expenses by encouraging more public options such as transit, ride hailing, and bike sharing.
- **Neighbor:** Allow Utahns to rent their RV pads, basements, sheds, closets, attics, etc. to others for storage, both reducing costs and providing income.
- **Single Parent Shared Living:** An app that matches single-parent families with shared living arrangements to save money and reduce child care costs.

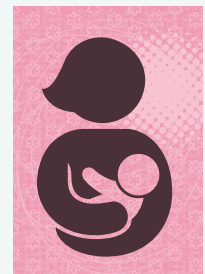
Upping Parental Perks for U Staff



Eligible staff will soon have access to paid parental leave following the birth or adoption of a child. Starting in January 2019, eligible parents will receive 50 percent salary for six weeks to extend the use of their sick and vacation accruals. This time runs concurrently with up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave covered by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. It doesn't extend or defer the leave.

"This new parental leave rule is an important step in helping show our staff they are valued and appreciated for their service to the university," says Jeff Herring, chief human resources officer. To use the benefit, the employee must hold a full-time benefited nonmedical staff position and be employed for the prior 12 months, and the child must be born or adopted on or after Jan. 1, 2019.

Lactation Spaces Make the Map



New mothers on campus can now more easily find lactation spaces. The campus map (map.utah.edu) has added a feature pinpointing the 21 known lactation rooms. As part of the campus master plan, the university now requires new buildings built or renovated for \$10 million or more to include a lactation space.

"We're always looking to find more ways to serve women, and we hope this resource will make things a little easier for our nursing mothers," says Barb Snyder, vice president for student affairs. "When mothers are supported and able to succeed, their children and families also benefit."

51K Strong: Rice-Eccles Stadium Expanding

After 56 straight sellout crowds, dating back to 2010, the Rice-Eccles Stadium is getting an expansion and upgrade. The renovation is slated to be complete for the 2021 football season.

The estimated \$80 million project will connect the east and west concourses on the south end zone, increasing audience capacity from 45,807 to 51,444. The expansion also includes adding new luxury suites and boxes, as well as club, ledge, and rooftop seating. In addition, the area beneath the stands will get new locker rooms, training and recruiting spaces, and rooms for coaches, officials, the press, and the marching band.

The stadium upgrade will help ease the mounting demand for seats, which includes a season ticket waitlist of nearly 3,000 fans. Costs for the expansion will not come from state or taxpayer dollars but will be covered through fundraising, sponsorships, and revenues generated by the new premium seating areas.



New Garff Building to House MBA Programs

U business students will have a lot more room to learn—150,000 square feet more, to be exact—with the opening of the Robert H. and Katharine B. Garff Building. Dedicated in October, the building houses the David Eccles School of Business MBA, professional MBA, executive MBA, and MBA online programs.

The children of Robert [BS'66 MBA'67] and Katharine [BS'64] Garff surprised their parents at the groundbreaking last year with the lead gift for the new building. "This building is symbolic of the appreciation the Garff family has for education," Katharine said at the dedication. "Education has always been the focus in our family."



U of U Health Scores Three Major Rankings

University of Utah Health is on a roll. It was again ranked among the best in the country for high quality care, recognized for the best hospital in the state by *U.S. News & World Report* for the fifth year in a row, and named as one of the best places in the country to work by *Forbes*—coming in at No. 35. And that's just this year.

For the ninth year in a row, U of U Health was ranked in the top 10 in the nation for safety, timeliness, effectiveness, and equity of its care, as well as its focus on patients. Hundreds of other academic medical centers and community hospitals were included in the study, administered by the health care performance improvement company Vizient.

In addition to its fifth year running with recognition for the state's best hospital, U of U Health was ranked nationally for cancer care (No. 48), gynecology (No. 32), and ear, nose, and throat (No. 31) by *U.S. News*.



Examining Complicity

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING BAD HAPPENING,
SHOULD YOU BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE IF YOU
DON'T TRY TO STOP IT?

By Melinda Rogers

Amos Guiora recently visited the villa on the outskirts of Berlin where high-ranking Nazi officials made the decision to proceed with the “Final Solution” more than 75 years ago. The plan would lead to the genocide of 6 million European Jews, including the S.J. Quinney College of Law professor’s grandparents on May 26, 1944.

Returning to the place where his grandparents received their death sentence is always difficult for Guiora. “The first time I went, I feared I’d become physically ill... I made myself stand where Adolf Eichmann and Reinhard Heydrich (high-ranking Nazi officials) drank cognac and smoked cigars at the meeting. As a cigar smoker myself (and knowing the history of the meeting), I brought one with me and smoked it as soon as possible,” says Guiora. “It was, for me, victory.”

Guiora has visited Europe for research on several occasions. His interest started after telling a friend about what happened to his family during the Holocaust. She asked, “How the hell did this happen?” And Guiora says that’s the real question that intrigued him—not how the Nazis could be so evil, but, how could bystanders sit by and watch it happen? And he’s come to a remarkable conclusion: that bystanders should have a legal obligation, not just a moral obligation, to act. And that bystander inaction should be considered a crime punishable by law.

Guiora explores this legal obligation in his book *The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander in the Holocaust*. After years of study, he concluded that without bystander complicity, the Holocaust would never have happened.

Intertwined with the stories of his parents and grandparents, his book explores how bystanders could have intervened in three distinct events during World War II. He also examines recent and relevant examples where bystander action could have prevented serious crimes. For example, a Vanderbilt football player named Brandon Vandenburg was convicted in 2016 of raping an unconscious girl in his dorm room while his roommate Mack Prioleau pretended to be asleep. Prioleau later went across the hall without alerting authorities or checking on the woman. Vandenburg was sentenced to 17 years in prison, and Prioleau faced no criminal charges. In this case, Guiora says, the bystander had an obligation to intervene.

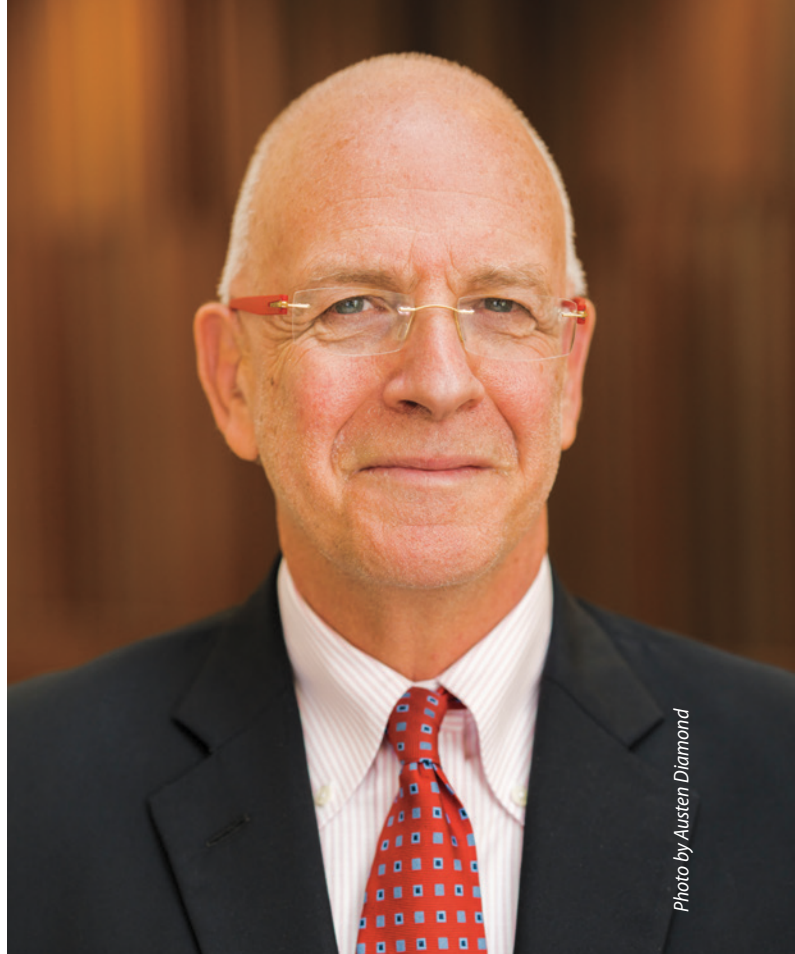
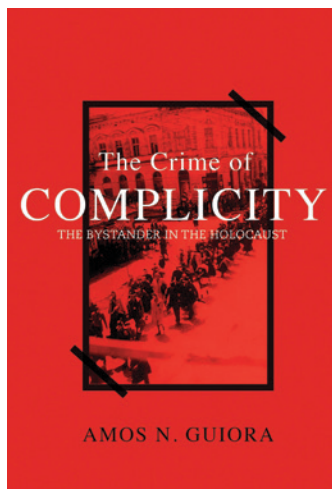


Photo by Austen Diamond



However, Guiora doesn’t propose that bystanders have an obligation to physically intervene and, in most cases, says this obligation could be met by simply dialing 911 or otherwise alerting the authorities.

His own father, who had a harrowing ordeal escaping the Nazis during WWII, and who passed away while Guiora was writing this book, pushed back on the idea of bystander complicity.

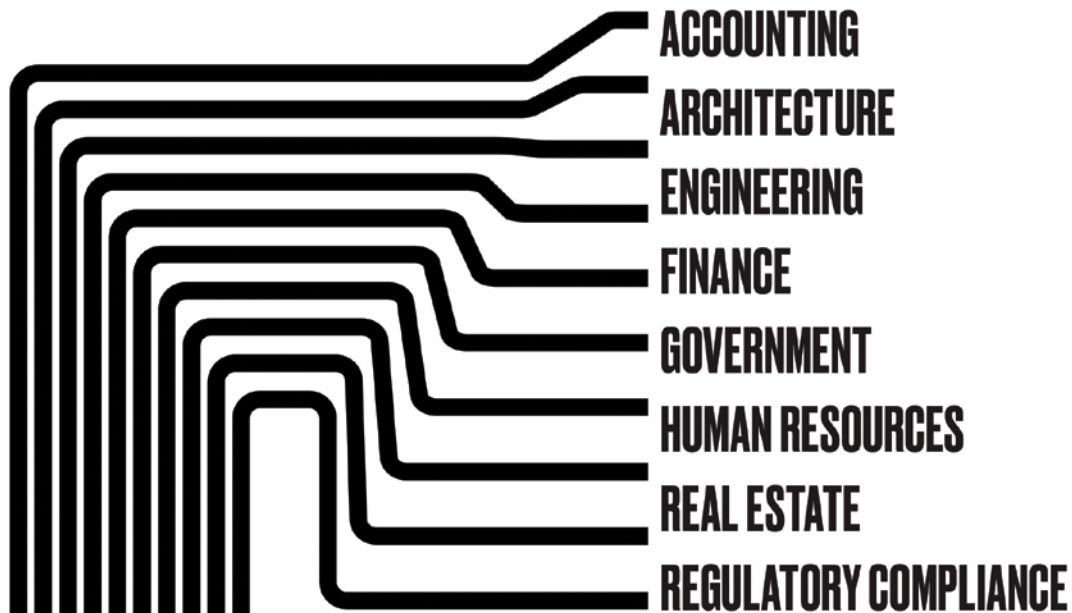
He told his son, “You weren’t there; you don’t know.”

And Guiora understands the criticism. While drawing lessons from history is complex and immensely difficult, rigorously examining our past is necessary to improve the future, he says.

Guiora is working with Utah State Representative Brian King to legislate a “Bystander Bill” imposing on bystanders the obligation to dial 911 when seeing someone in peril. And he hopes continued discussion about issues related to his teaching and research at the U will bring to light broader contemplation in the community about standing up for what is right. **U**

—Melinda Rogers is the director of editorial, media, and content strategy at the S.J. Quinney College of Law.

LAW SCHOOL **FOR THE** NON-LAWYER



ACCOUNTING

ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING

FINANCE

GOVERNMENT

HUMAN RESOURCES

REAL ESTATE

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE



**MASTER OF
LEGAL
STUDIES**

THE DEGREE FOR EVERY PROFESSION

PICTURE THIS: A WINDOW THAT WORKS AS A CAMERA

Photo by Dan Hixson



Imagine your car windshield as a giant camera, sensing objects on the road, or the windows in your home serving as security cameras. Soon, these scenarios could become realities thanks to a team of U electrical and computer engineers led by Professor Rajesh Menon. The researchers have invented a camera in which a regular pane of glass or any see-through window can become the lens.

Cameras were developed first with the idea that humans look at and decipher the pictures. But Menon wondered if, instead, a camera could be developed that would be interpreted by a computer running an algorithm.

If a normal digital camera sensor, such as one for a mobile phone, is pointed at an object, without a lens, the result is a

pixelated, blob-like image. But within that blob is still enough digital information to detect the object if a computer program is properly designed to identify it.

Through a series of experiments, researchers developed a method to do just that. The result is a low-resolution, black and white picture good enough for applications such as obstacle-avoidance sensors for autonomous cars. The method can also produce full-motion video as well as color images, and more powerful camera sensors can produce higher-resolution images. Applications for lens-less cameras are endless.

Menon and his team will continue to develop the system to include 3-D images, higher color resolution, and photographing objects in regular household light.

Having ADHD Could Increase Risk of Parkinson's Disease

A new study by a team of U researchers indicates that an early-onset form of Parkinson's disease may be more likely to develop in people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD.

Parkinson's is a neurodegenerative illness, mostly affecting people 60 or older, with symptoms including rigidity, tremors, difficulty walking, and then cognitive issues at later stages of the disease. Its cause has not yet been determined, but scientists believe it could be a combination of genetic and environmental factors. In the United States, about 50,000 people

are diagnosed with the disease each year.

The U study analyzed roughly 200,000 Utah residents with Parkinson's who were born between 1950 and 1992. Of those, around 32,000 had also been diagnosed with ADHD. Those with ADHD who had not been treated with any stimulants were more than twice as likely to develop Parkinson's or Parkinson's-like disorders than similar individuals without ADHD. If ADHD patients had been treated with Ritalin or other amphetamines, the likelihood of developing a Parkinson's-like disease was six to eight times higher.

The researchers noted that patients with more severe ADHD may inherently be at an increased risk for motor neuron diseases like Parkinson's, and the findings may or may not be a result of the stimulants. Future studies are needed to confirm a conclusion.



Why Diverse Forests are Stronger Against Drought

Diversity indicates strength, even among forests. And according to a team of researchers led by U biologist William Anderegg, forests with trees that have a high diversity of traits specifically related to water use (hydraulic diversity) suffer less impact from drought. That fact is very helpful to those who work to rebuild forests after damage caused by logging or wildfires, because droughts don't go after individual trees but affect entire ecosystems.

The term "hydraulic diversity" refers to variations in how water moves inside trees and is the leading predictor of how well a forest can handle drought. Researchers found that the most resilient forests had many different kinds of trees, such as both conifers and deciduous types, and different rooting depths.

For the study, researchers compiled data from 40 forest sites around the world,

measuring their flows of carbon, water, and energy. That data was merged with what is known about the tree species at each site, and the known hydraulic traits associated with those species. Forests with a greater diversity of hydraulic traits in their tree species maintained higher forest function than less diverse forests, such as a Christmas tree farm. So, in considering ecosystem recovery from trauma such as fire and logging (and for resilience to future climate), the researchers are now thinking about the best mixes of multiple species to increase landscape resilience.

In October, Anderegg received the prestigious Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation for his research on the effects of climate change and drought on forests. He was awarded a five-year, \$875,000 grant to further his research.



How HVAC Systems Can Control Indoor Air Quality

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems (HVAC) are not only great for keeping a home warm or cool, but they also help clean the air of harmful pollutants. While standard home thermostats control HVAC systems based on temperature alone, U engineers studied the effects of also controlling them based on a home's indoor air quality. They discovered that programming an air conditioner and furnace to turn on and off based on both the indoor air quality and the temperature uses only slightly more energy but keeps the air much cleaner.

The researchers figured this out by purchasing a series of off-the-shelf portable air pollution sensors and connecting them wirelessly to small and inexpensive computers. Sensor settings included "Normal" (turned on and off based on temperature only), "Always On," (operating continuously all day), and "SmartAir" (fan turned on and off based on the pollution

measurement in the house as well as the thermostat's temperature setting). The five-month study revealed that using the SmartAir setting cleaned the air almost as well as if the HVAC fan were operating all day but used 58 percent less energy. Using the Normal setting resulted in 31 percent dirtier air and used only 18 percent less energy.

Ordinary home activities such as cooking, vacuuming, and running a clothes dryer can cause inside air to be much worse than outside air, and continual exposure to indoor air pollutants can lead to negative health effects. To date, there are no known home or commercial HVAC systems that are controlled by air quality sensors.

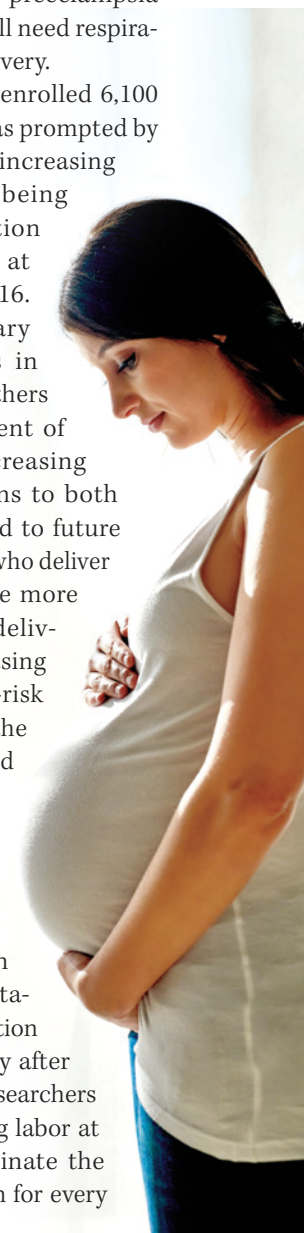


Induce at 39 Weeks or Risk C-section at Term?

To induce or not to induce? That is a question many expecting parents ask themselves and their doctors. Shedding more light on the topic, a new U study found that inducing labor in healthy women at 39 weeks into their pregnancy can reduce the need for cesarean sections and is at least as safe for mother and baby as waiting for spontaneous labor. Choosing to induce also could reduce the risk that mothers will develop preeclampsia and that newborns will need respiratory support after delivery.

The study, which enrolled 6,100 first-time mothers, was prompted by concern around the increasing number of babies being delivered by C-section in the U.S., holding at 32 percent since 2016. Medically unnecessary caesarian deliveries in healthy first-time mothers account for 80 percent of those deliveries, increasing risk for complications to both mother and baby, and to future pregnancies. Women who deliver by C-section once are more likely to continue delivering that way, increasing the likelihood of high-risk complications, since the procedure is considered major surgery.

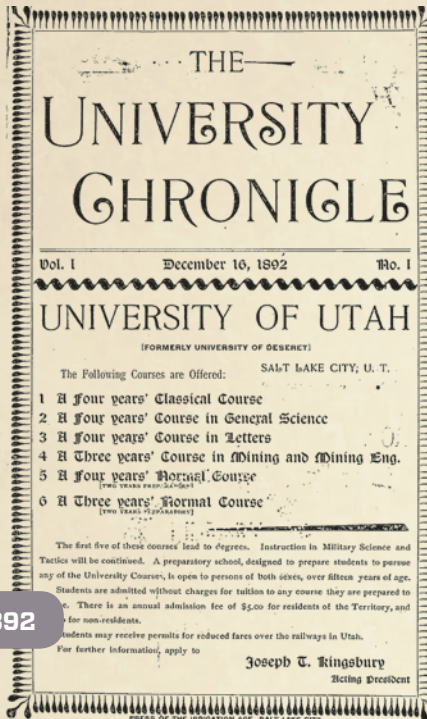
On average, women who chose to induce at 39 weeks delivered about one week earlier than women who waited for spontaneous labor, and C-section delivery was less likely after elective induction. Researchers estimate that inducing labor at 39 weeks could eliminate the need for one C-section for every 28 deliveries.



Old News is Good News

A century of *The Daily Utah Chronicle* has been digitized and archived.

By Tina Kirkham



1892

"The loyalty of every student to the college is, in a great measure, determined by the support he or she is rendering the college paper. Perhaps nothing that the student can carry away from college, in memory of college days, will be referred to with so much interest as a file of" *The University Chronicle*.

1892



1904

Feeling nostalgia for your college days? Need to help your kids with a Utah history assignment? Or curious about what campus life was like when your grandmother attended? All this and more is now available at your fingertips. The first 100 years of the University of Utah's student newspaper, *The Daily Utah Chronicle*, have been digitized and placed online.

Every page of every issue, from 1892 through 1992, can now be found at the website Utah Digital Newspapers (digitalnewspapers.org)—along with more than two million pages from newspapers from every corner of the state.

A key advantage of digitization is searchability: Researchers can enter a term and uncover every page on which a particular topic or name appears. A century of *Chrony* editions in digital form is a gold mine of information waiting to be discovered.

The Daily Utah Chronicle, or the *Chrony*, is one of more than 800 university-based student newspapers in the U.S. but one of the few to remain continually in print for more than a century.

The inaugural issue, published on December 16, 1892, includes this astonishing news: A year of tuition cost only \$5. But while the economics of higher education have obviously changed dramatically, one of the pleasures of exploring historical newspapers is finding out how similar those "old-fashioned" students were to their present-day counterparts.

"Having the first 100 years of the *Chrony* available online is a fantastic resource for those interested in the history of the University of Utah," says Jeremy Mynetti, head of Digital Library Services at the J. Willard Marriott Library. "Not only does it provide a unique view of the university throughout that century, but it also provides glimpses into the lives of many noted alumni—people such as [computer scientist] Ed Catmull, [writers] Laurel Thatcher Ulrich and Wallace Stegner, and countless others." **U**

—Tina Kirkham is a digital projects manager at the J. Willard Marriott Library.

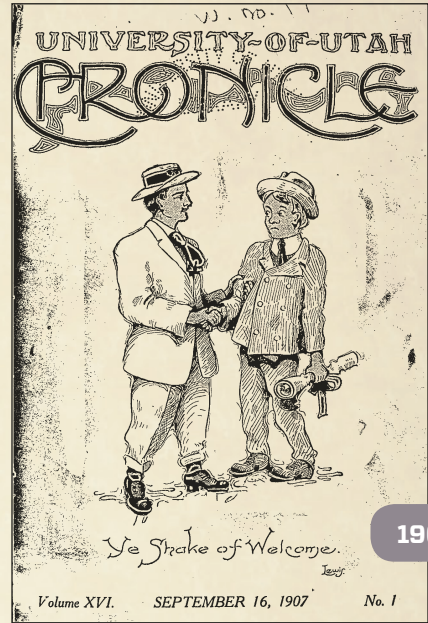


To see more selected images from the archives, visit continuum.utah.edu.

1897



The Chronicle's staff was coed from the start. Here the 1896-97 students pose. Back: Grace Nelson, Stephen L. Richards, Estell Watson, A. E. Pritchard, Lucille Hewlett, Jean Hyde, Chester Ames. Middle: Joseph J. Cannon, George Q. Morris, J. Reuben Clark, Jr., Dorothy Cannon, Seth F. Rigby, Frank Evans. Front: Mabel Wallace, Howard Snelgrove, Virginia Bush.



1907

Woodbury To Reign As 'Spur of the Moment'

Campus Spurs will be honored Saturday night, January 14, when the local "Scalpers" chapter of Intercollegiate Knights swings out with the first basketball game of the season in the Union Building ballroom, immediately following the Colorado

1939

UTAH TEAM WINS FIRST CONFERENCE GAME

Aggies Defeated With 24-15 Score In Speedy Game

Utah Team Shows Marked Improvement as Result of Northern Trip

The county basketball team was in fine fettle yesterday afternoon when they played against the Eastern Aggies in a hard-fought contest which ended 24-15 in their favor. The team, which was coached by Coach J. H. ...

Varsity Team Meets Illinois Athletic Club Champions Tonight

Easterners Possess Splendid Record. Packer Will Play for Utah

The University of Utah basketball team will have a chance to test its strength against a real team when it meets the Illinois Athletic Club champions tonight at the University of Utah ...

Professor Reynolds to Leave for Fair

Professor Reynolds is leaving for the Tri-School League ...

Aggies' Scheme for Tri-School League Does Not Make Hit

The scheme for a tri-school league ...

Utah Relics to Be Seen at Exposition

A representative collection of relics ...

1915

MODERNAIRES — Popular recording stars, the Modernaires, will stage the floor show for the University of Utah's Homecoming dance Saturday night. The group has recorded for Coral Records and has had a steady spot on the

1957

The Daily Utah

CHRONICLE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1982 THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH VOL. 92 NO. 54

Heart implant an apparent success

by Steve Green Chronicle staff

To the tune of "Baker," University Medical Center surgeons successfully implanted the Jarvik-7 artificial heart in the chest of a 61-year-old man early Thursday in a 7½-hour experimental procedure led by Dr. William DeVries, the only doctor authorized by the

1982

CONTINUUM WINTER 2018 15



Today I officially take responsibility for an institution that has been loved and well cared for since its inception. Each of the 15 presidents who preceded me lifted this university to new heights.... It is such a tribute to my predecessors' vision and leadership that I take over a university that has never been stronger. And yet, there is so much more we can do.

I am confident that we can work together to achieve even greater heights in our quest to make this one of the truly great public universities in this country, even as we fulfill the hopes, dreams, and needs of the people in this great state. Our aim: to advance our stature as the University of Utah, while increasing our impact as the University *for* Utah.

I must confess that, on this occasion and many others in the past few months, I've asked myself—why me? How did it come to be that I have the honor of leading this great university?

Many people helped me along the way, unselfish in your guidance and support, generous in your commitment to the U, and to me. I thank each of you. But I know that the sequence of events that led to this humbling and wonderful opportunity for me were set in motion much longer ago—with my parents and their experience with the life-changing impact that education can have.

My father was born in 1932 in very difficult circumstances. My dad's mom died when he was born. His father lost a business and left his family. My father was fortunate to be raised by loving

grandparents, very hardworking people during a challenging time in America, a time of severe economic hardship.

From that very difficult start, my dad—who always said he wasn't as smart as his peers but instead got through by working very hard—ultimately made his way through a doctorate of veterinary medicine, and he did so without accumulating any debt....

How was this accomplishment possible? There were two significant life-changing influences: the G.I. Bill, and the wisdom to marry my mother, a wonderful woman and a second-grade teacher.

The fact that I was born to college-educated parents has no doubt been a significant determinant of the opportunities I've had. The G.I. Bill, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944, was a life-changer that provided access to higher education for millions of Americans who were the first in their families to attend and finish college, including my dad. I am a second-generation beneficiary of that visionary American innovation.

So, today our question is: What are we doing now that will make a college education possible and meaningful for coming generations of students? What do we owe those who are coming of age today in America?

I believe that we have a duty to transform education for the 21st century in the same way the G.I. Bill and, before it, the Morrill Act of 1862—which established land grant universities across our nation—made higher education possible for millions of Americans, allowing them to achieve the American Dream.

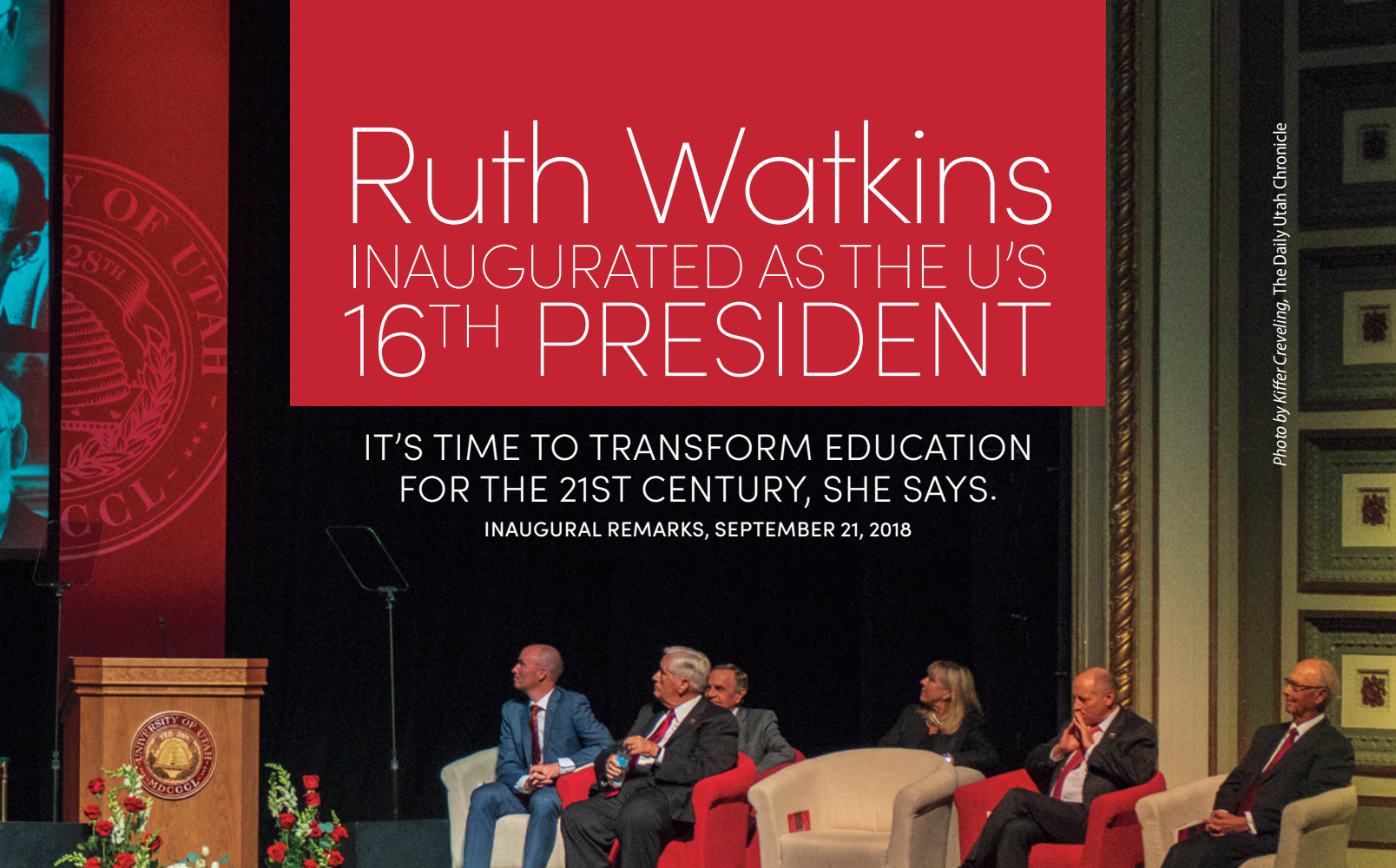
Ruth Watkins

INAUGURATED AS THE U'S 16TH PRESIDENT

IT'S TIME TO TRANSFORM EDUCATION
FOR THE 21ST CENTURY, SHE SAYS.

INAUGURAL REMARKS, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

Photo by Kiffer Creveling, The Daily Utah Chronicle



As we at the University of Utah focus on this obligation, we remain grounded in the values and principles upon which this university was founded. In 1850, just three years after they arrived in the Salt Lake Valley, our founders created a modest institution of higher education to ensure a prosperous and fulfilling future for the people of Utah.

From that humble beginning grew a major research university with global stature. Over decades of growth and change, the university has maintained its commitment to inquiry, innovation, and public service. Inherent in the U's values is a legacy of community—of joining together for the common good.

With that common good in mind, we are thinking about our duty to meet the needs of 21st-century students, much as the G.I. Bill did for those before us—people like my own father.

One strategy now in the works here at the U is an innovative income share program that will use donor investments and institutional funds to help thousands of our students cross the finish line to their degree in a timely manner—getting them into the workforce or on to their next step more quickly, and earning increased wages.

Our vision: a self-perpetuating fund that students who graduate will contribute to, ensuring the success of those who follow

them. This innovative idea, designed by the U for U students, is made possible by creative and generous investors who are working with us to fund this transformative “Invest in U” program, allowing our students to pay today’s tuition with tomorrow’s earnings.

I believe now is the time to build on our country’s proud history of providing access to higher education for individuals from all economic backgrounds with innovations that meet 21st-century needs—the goal of our income share program.

This is the University *for* Utah in action.

This kind of innovation is one of the reasons the U is uniquely positioned to lead as a model public institution in the 21st century, and there are many others. We are delivering value in higher education and health care through an ideal combination of quality and cost.

What is value in health care? In higher education? It is not just what you pay—that’s cost. Value is what you get for what you pay, the intersection of cost and quality. Now, as it turns out, Utah *owns* value in both health care and higher education.... Utah is in the sweet spot of value.

We are proud of what the U has accomplished in delivering value in medicine and in higher education—and we are working to increase this value. This is important

**“Now is the time to build
on our country’s proud
history of providing
access to higher
education for individuals
from all economic
backgrounds.”**

for Utah, and for the nation, as the value of a higher education is called into question and health care spirals beyond affordability.

This is the University *for* Utah in action.

Thanks to the pathbreaking work of our team in health sciences, the U is now known for an exceptional patient experience. Our patient care is consistently ranked in the top 10 nationally. We are extending the road map developed in our academic medical setting to create and ensure the exceptional educational experience.

The U's student population, with its broad interests and needs, brings remarkable diversity and talent to the institution. One example: This year's commencement speaker, Hodan Abdi [BS'18]. Hodan and her family fled Somalia during its civil war and emigrated to the U.S. from an Ethiopian refugee camp. She had a limited formal education, which might have been an obstacle to future success. But not for Hodan.

Hodan's first interaction with the U was as a custodian. This sparked her determination to get an education, and, with the encouragement and help of our staff and faculty, she did. Hodan graduated from the U last spring after completing a degree in chemistry and is now beginning medical school at the University of Minnesota.

We celebrate Hodan's achievements and cherish our ability to provide an exceptional education for all students—our future leaders—like Hodan, as well as the thousands of students from Lehi to Logan, Price to Parowan, Moab to Mount Pleasant, Farmington to Fairview, who look to the U for a life-changing experience. Our aim is simple: every student who comes to the U will have an exceptional educational experience. And they will complete their degrees!

This is the University *for* Utah in action.

The U's value comes not only in our commitment to our students and patients, but from our commitment to innovation and discovery. We have proudly moved to the top tier of public universities in the country, attracting world-class faculty who engage in groundbreaking research and draw inquisitive, smart, creative students who are the change-makers, innovators, and leaders of our future.

Our researchers are recognized with the highest awards in the country... prestigious National Academy memberships, Guggenheim awards. More importantly, they are solving some



**"We have an obligation
to our students,
our state, and our
nation to be a higher
education innovator."**

of the most pressing problems of our time and improving health and quality of life in Utah and beyond.

In part this is happening through the collaboration and transfer of knowledge from one generation of scholars to the next. Craig Selzman's pathbreaking work in cardiothoracic surgery, for example, builds on the shoulders of Russell M. Nelson, a former surgeon and faculty member, now president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The impact of our innovation and discovery is clear: The U.S.

Department of Energy selected the U to develop a Frontier Observatory for Research in Geothermal Energy, FORGE, right here in Utah, to investigate expansion of the nation's geothermal systems.

Many of you have supported the U in these efforts. I am deeply, deeply grateful to our partners in our community, city and state, to our donors and political leaders, and to the talented people of this institution. You truly are a "team of teams" in the best sense, each of you leading in your area while joining us in a network of impact.

This is the University *for* Utah in action.

Your university truly has never been stronger. And yet, we can—and must—do more. We have an obligation to our students, our state, and our nation to be a higher education innovator—leading the way in developing creative strategies that enable success and completion for our students; deliver value and ensure exceptional experiences in health care and higher education; and drive the discoveries that will improve human lives.

As we pursue our vision as the University *for* Utah, I would like to ask you to help us reach new heights, to consider what you can do as a member of our university community, to accelerate the momentum of the University of Utah. With your support, there is much we can do together. The stakes are high. This work matters. Staying true to the values of our founders, we can ensure a vibrant future for the people of Utah and do our part to make a difference in the world. **U**



Watch the full inaugural speech at continuum.utah.edu



**David Eccles
School of Business**
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION



EXECUTIVE EDUCATION: BECAUSE THE BEST LEADERS NEVER STOP LEARNING

Executive Education from the University of Utah David Eccles School of Business provides individuals and organizations with the tools they need to address real-world workplace challenges and opportunities. We offer experiential-based, impact-driven classes for all career stages. And the best part? There's no application process, no exams, and no grades. Simply attend our classes and gain the knowledge and skills you need to return to work ready to make an impact.

OPEN ENROLLMENT CLASSES

Our skills-based on-campus and online classes are for mid-to-senior leaders seeking professional and leadership development. Some upcoming classes include:

- Women's Leadership Classes
- Leading with Ethics and Emotional Intelligence
- Leading High Performance Teams
- Leading Across Generations: From Gen Z to Boomers
- Finance for the Non-Financial Leader
- Collaborative Negotiations
- Lean Six Sigma Green and Black Belt Programs

CUSTOM PROGRAMS

Partner with the David Eccles School of Business and allow us to design an experience that brings together our top-ranked faculty and the employees of your organization.

Custom programs can be tailored in length, scope, and delivery to meet your company's specific needs. Visit our website to request a custom program proposal.

UTAHEXECED.COM

ONCE A UTE, ALWAYS A UTE.

Return to learn with Executive Education open enrollment classes and custom programs. Take your next step. See available classes, download the at-a-glance calendar, and register today.

Best in Snow



THE U'S 'POWDER PROFESSOR' UNPACKS UTAH'S CLAIM TO FAME.

By Paul Gabrielsen

In 1960, a Utah journalist first called Utah's powder "The Greatest Snow on Earth." The phrase took off, bedecking Utah license plates now since 1985. The lore went that the winter storms dumped most of their moisture on the Sierra Nevada mountain range on their way east, leaving the driest, fluffiest snow for Utah.

Few people know the ins and outs of Wasatch Mountain snow better than Jim Steenburgh, professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Utah, whose twitter handle is @ProfessorPowder. In 2008, he started examining the "greatest" claim with meteorological science, an effort that culminated in a 2014 book, *Secrets of the Greatest Snow on Earth*. Since 2010, he's blogged regularly about Utah's weather at wasatchweatherweenies.blogspot.com. The blog often documents the so-called Steenburgh Effect. "Whenever [Steenburgh] leaves Utah in the winter, it tends to snow," a colleague wrote in 2017, "and often it snows a lot."

Steenburgh's research has taken him to the Tug Hill Plateau in New York and to the mountains of Japan. He served on the weather support team for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games and has consulted with teams for most of the winter games since then. I talked with Steenburgh about some of his most-frequently asked questions, and about both the past and the future of Utah's superlative snow.

Gabrielsen: People often ask you if Utah really does have the Greatest Snow on Earth. What do you tell them?

Steenburgh: Well, there really is no scientific test for "Greatest Snow on Earth." As I like to say, the greatness of snow, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. It is clear, however, that the Cottonwood canyons are a special place for deep powder skiing.

Gabrielsen: What are the qualities behind Utah's claim to the greatest snow?

Steenburgh: Utah snow is not unusually dry, as many people suspect. Also, Utah's powder reputation is based largely on what happens in the Cottonwood canyons.

If you want great deep powder skiing, you need abundant natural snowfall, frequent deep powder days (which I define as days with at least 10 inches of snow), and snowfalls that produce enough "body" to enable ski flotation. That body is produced not in the driest snow, but in snow in which the lightest, driest



snow sits on top of higher-density snow. This allows optimal ski flotation and produces what is known as “hero” snow.

The Cottonwood canyons really are a special place, because they tick off all three of these boxes. Alta, for example, averages 500 inches of snow and 18 deep powder days per season. In addition, many storms in the Cottonwoods start out warm and get colder over time, and this produces snowfalls that are stacked right for ski flotation. You can find snowier ski areas, such as Mount Baker in Washington State, but they get heavy snow known as Cascade Concrete. You can find ski areas that get drier snow, like Steamboat Springs, Colorado, but they get less total snowfall and see fewer deep powder days. Alta is the birthplace of deep powder skiing for a reason—it has a great powder climate.

Gabrielsen: With all of that snow comes the risk of avalanche. What makes snowpacks unstable, and what avalanche warning signs should skiers look for?

Steenburgh: Four major risk factors produce injuries or fatalities in avalanches: terrain, snowpack, weather, and humans. The human factor is probably most critical. On low-hazard days,

most terrain can be skied safely. On high-hazard days, most skiers avoid avalanche terrain—typically, slopes that are 30 degrees or steeper, although there are exceptions.

Most accidents happen, however, on days when the information available is less complete and humans elect to ski a slope that ends up avalanching. While there are important warning signs, such as recent avalanche activity, collapsing or “whumpfing” snow, or weak layers in the snowpack, perhaps the hardest ones to see are the shortcuts that we make as humans when evaluating risk and making decisions.

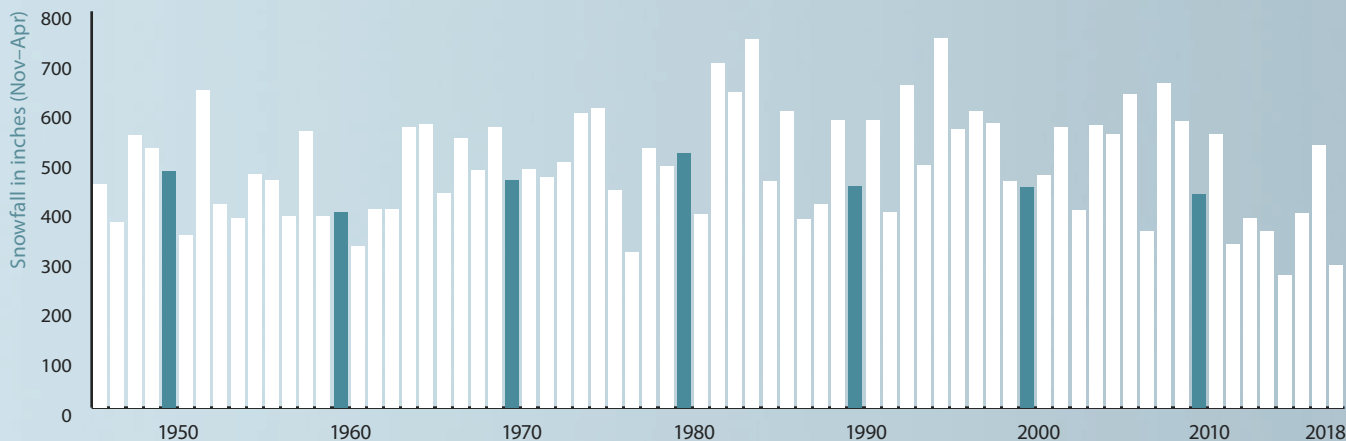
Gabrielsen: You’ve skied all over the country, and internationally, as well. Where else could lay claim to the greatest snow?

Steenburgh: Four mountainous regions have outstanding powder skiing climate. Three are in North America: The Wasatch Range, the Teton Range, and the mountains of interior British Columbia. These receive abundant, high-quality snowfall and also have great terrain.

The fourth is the mountains of northwest Honshu and western Hokkaido, Japan. This is my favorite snow climate.

LITTLE COTTONWOOD'S ANNUAL SNOWFALL

This chart contains the historical snowfall data as recorded in Little Cottonwood Canyon at the Alta Guard Station, which is now part of the Utah Department of Transportation's avalanche snow safety operation.



Source: utahavalanchecenter.org/alta-monthly-snowfall

Those regions are inundated by “sea-effect” snowfall from about mid-December through February during what they call the winter monsoon. The Sukayu Onsen observing site in the Hakkoda area of northern Honshu is probably the snowiest regular observing site in the world, with an average annual snowfall of 694 inches. In January, the average snowfall is 181 inches. There is no surer climatological bet for deep powder skiing than northwest Honshu and western Hokkaido in late January.

Gabrielsen: People also frequently ask if recent poor skiing seasons are due to climate change. Are they?

Steenburgh: This is a complex question. Yes and no. Our warming climate is decreasing the amount of wintertime precipitation that falls as snow and increasing snowmelt events. There is a lot of variability from winter to winter, but the dice are becoming loaded for warmer winters. The lack of wintertime precipitation in recent years appears to be due to the whims of the jet stream. We’ve simply gotten into a period where precipitation has been subpar.

Gabrielsen: Was there a “golden era” of skiing weather in Utah sometime in the last 50 years?

Steenburgh: Meticulous snowfall records show that the 1980s and 1990s were the two biggest decades at Alta based on mean annual snowfall. Sorry, kiddos, but your parents had it better than you.

Gabrielsen: What are some things meteorologists can do now with snow forecasting that they couldn’t in past years?

Steenburgh: Forecasts are demonstrably better today than they used to be, although we struggle more here than just about anywhere else. But we can access real-time weather

observations and radar imagery easily, so I can make my ski plans when I wake up in the morning. I think we will see dramatic improvements in forecasts as our computer models become detailed enough to properly account for the effects of the Wasatch Mountains and Great Salt Lake. My group developed computer models that were used for weather forecasting during the 2002 Winter Olympics, and I’m chomping at the bit to do it again if we get the 2030 games.

Gabrielsen: How might the winter climate in Utah change over the next 50 years?

Steenburgh: There will still be year-to-year and decade-to-decade variations in snowfall and skiing quality, but global warming is going to have an increasingly caustic effect on Utah snow. This means warmer winters, a greater fraction of wintertime precipitation falling as rain instead of snow, more midwinter snow loss events, and heavier snow. These changes will be most obvious and emerge most rapidly in the lower elevations, but the upper elevations will eventually suffer, too. I suspect that upper-elevation ski terrain in the Cottonwood canyons will become an increasingly precious and valued commodity as we move through the 21st century.

Gabrielsen: What might the rest of this ski season hold in store? Will it end up as a good year or a bad year?

Steenburgh: I have absolutely no idea. If anyone tells you anything different, don’t buy what they are selling. There’s never been much skill in seasonal forecasts for northern Utah, and I’m not going to pretend that there is. **U**

—Paul Gabrielsen is a science writer for University Marketing & Communications.

Born with half a heart.

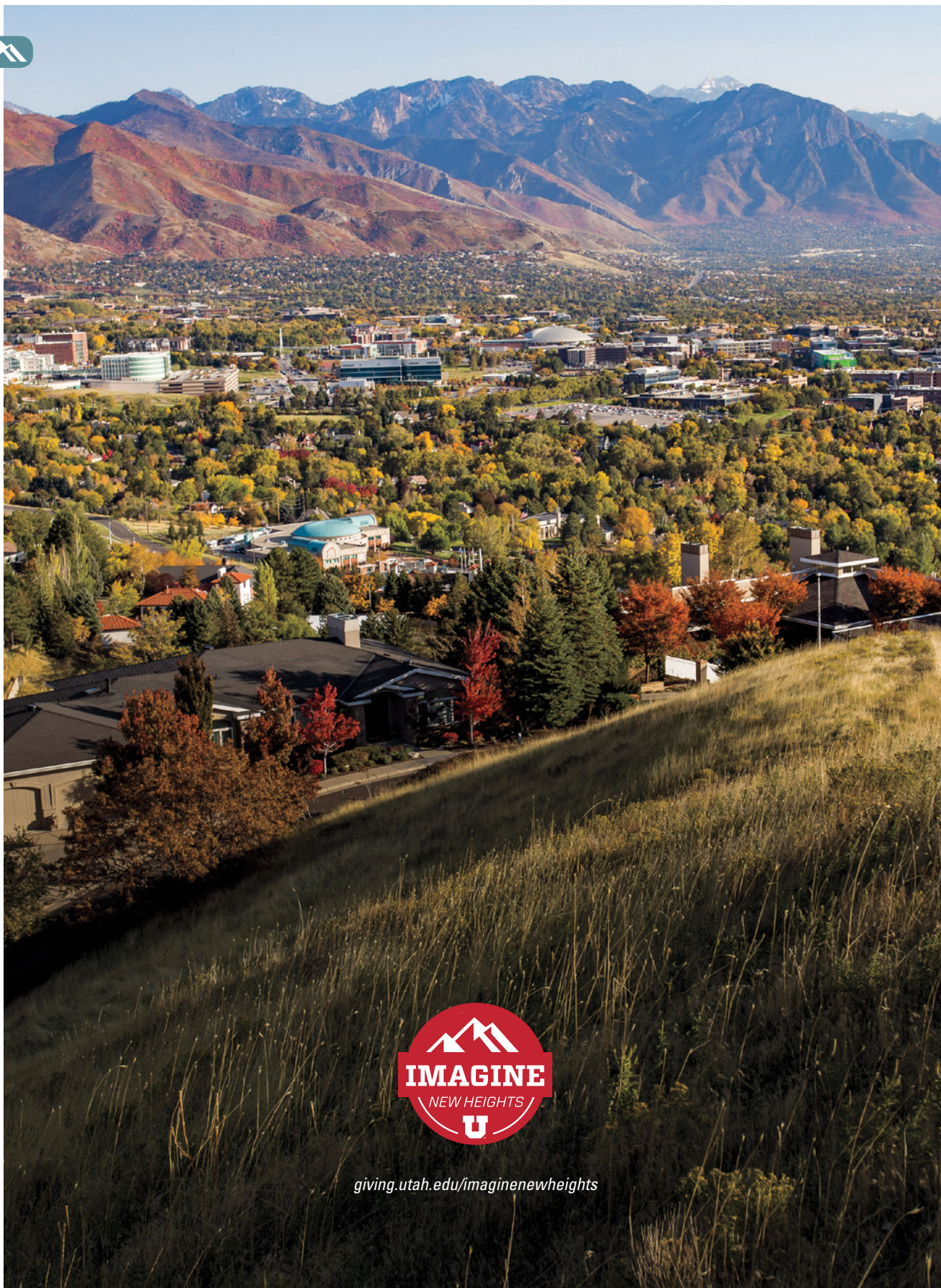
**But made up for it with
twice the courage.**



Alex has had more major health issues than most people have in a lifetime. Now, his focus is on being an everyday kid. At Intermountain, we help patients live the lives they want to live, which makes entire communities stronger.



Visit www.Intermountain.Health to watch Alex's incredible story





IMAGINE NEW HEIGHTS

THE CLIMB IS ON

Private philanthropy has always been central to the University of Utah's story line and our ability to deliver on our mission at the highest levels. Today we're stronger than ever, by all measures, from student achievement and graduation rates to health outcomes and patient satisfaction, and from scientific breakthroughs and new business start-ups to the performing stage and the playing field.

"There is a palpable excitement about the university's future," says Fred Esplin MA'74, longtime vice president for Institutional Advancement at the U. "It's the perfect time to ensure that we have a solid foundation to better serve our students, the state, and the nation."

It is in this spirit that the U celebrated the public launch of "Imagine New Heights" in September. Funds raised during this comprehensive campaign, which began in 2014 and is slated to run through 2022, will enable the U to accelerate its upward trajectory in the following five key areas:

- 1 **Enhance our exceptional student experience** by offering additional scholarships, investing in real-world experiences that enrich learning, and supporting student success initiatives
- 2 **Lead biomedical discovery and transform health care** by revitalizing our health sciences campus, pioneering a new era of precision medicine, and training the health care leaders of the future
- 3 **Elevate research and engineer innovative solutions** by creating new endowed chairs and professorships, establishing undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships in STEM disciplines, and expanding research and sustainability programs
- 4 **Enrich the arts, culture, and the human experience** by creating learning and performance spaces for students in the arts, establishing endowed professorships and chairs in the arts and humanities, and supporting the cultural venues and organizations on our campus
- 5 **Foster healthy, resilient, and inclusive communities** by supporting university-community partnerships, expanding programs that advance diversity and inclusion, and investing in our student-athletes and sports facilities

Every day, thousands of students, faculty, staff, researchers, and health care providers work to imagine new heights and to make the University of Utah the university *for* Utah. The following pages are a sampling of these remarkable stories.

Our mindset is simple. And powerful. **Imagine. Then Do.**

\$1.07 billion
committed
to date

\$111 million
donated by
U alumni

1937–2018
alumni classes
that have given

355,000
gifts
recorded

250,000
gifts of less
than \$100

(July 2014 – October 2018)



"My mom and I always joke that they only hire happy people [at the Huntsman Cancer Institute] because it does not feel like a hospital."

—WHITNEY BITNER

See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
remission](https://continuum.utah.edu/remission)



FROM DIAGNOSIS TO REMISSION

A MATH AND STATISTICS STUDENT FINISHES SCHOOL WHILE BATTLING CANCER—ALL ON OUR CAMPUS

Whitney Bitner BS'18 started chemotherapy just three days before her senior year at the U. The math and statistics major had been diagnosed with nodular sclerosis classical Hodgkin lymphoma after she noticed a lump on her neck while vacationing with her family at Lake Powell.

"It was just like, 'How can this have happened?'" says Bitner. Rather than postpone her schooling, she started treatment 10 days after diagnosis and finished her senior year while undergoing chemotherapy.

She says her professors and the outstanding doctors and staff at Huntsman Cancer Institute, where she received treatment, made it possible. Her professors were accommodating, and she was able to schedule treatment on days without class. Her

colleagues at the Park Building, where she was a receptionist, sent her encouraging videos throughout her treatment and even threw her a surprise party on her last day of chemo.

While it was a difficult year, Bitner's advice to anyone going through something similar is to just keep going—no matter how hard it gets. "Throughout my treatment, I was going to yoga, football games, and school," she says. "I kept doing the things I love to do."

A few months before graduation, Bitner received the good news that her cancer was in remission. This fall, she started graduate school at Columbia University in New York.



MORE THAN A NUMBER

STUDENT SUCCESS ADVOCATES HELP PEERS PLUG INTO CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Derek Young BS'18 grew up in a town with just nine stoplights. And when he came to study biology at the U, the number of students was more than three times the population of his hometown, Price, Utah. While he was excited to be around other people who were passionate about learning, and he liked that there was a lot more to do, he found it difficult to navigate a much larger campus and city, he says.

"When I first moved here, I didn't know anyone," says Young. When he heard about a social gathering for transfer students, he decided to check it out, and that's where he met Student Success Advocate Tramaine Jones.

Student Success Advocates help students connect to resources on campus and beyond. Whether it's scholarships, job opportunities, or finding a sense of belonging, the advocates are a front-line resource for students, Jones says. They also can help in crisis situations, such as housing or food emergencies. "It's important for us to meet students where they're at, wherever that may be," Jones says.

"For me, the biggest thing was to have someone to talk to, someone to help me navigate campus," says Young. "Tramaine told me about events that were coming up and ways to get involved."

Young graduated in May, and he's applied to pharmacy schools and hopes to eventually work in his hometown hospital.

"Without Tramaine, my college experience would have been: go to school and go home. I wouldn't have gotten as involved in school life as I did."

—DEREK YOUNG

Tramaine Jones and Derek Young

See the video at
continuum.utah.edu/advocates



DISCOVERY: A TEAM EFFORT

STUDENTS WORK WITH RENOWNED U SCIENTISTS TO PUSH THE BOUNDARIES OF GENETIC RESEARCH

For most people, a doctorate in human genetics isn't a fallback career. But when Kristi Russell injured her hip as a tennis player at Weber State University, she says the injury changed the course of her education and profession.

She asked her doctor, "Why would this happen to someone so young?" The doctor's response: sports and genetics. "That really piqued my interest in human genetics," she says. Although she was always a self-described science nerd and was studying microbiology, the discovery that hip dysplasia may run in her family was a catalyst for her to better understand genetics.

Now a grad student at the U, Russell says she's grateful to study with some of the field's leading researchers. After all, she works directly with the U's chair of human genetics, Lynn Jorde, who has authored more than 250 scientific papers and holds one of the most prestigious grants available to genetics researchers.

Among other things, Russell and Jorde are trying to understand the genetic mutations that cause Lou Gehrig's disease (also known as ALS). They've already uncovered two genes that contribute to the disease. And with each new gene discovered, potential new treatments can be found, says Jorde.

Their work leverages the Utah Population Database (UPDB), the world's largest genetic database, with information on more than 10 million individuals. Through the UPDB, U researchers have identified genes and risk factors for more than 30 conditions.

"Science is not easy. It's mostly disappointing. But once in a while, we're rewarded with a real path-breaking discovery. And those are the times that keep us going."

—LYNN JORDE



See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
discovery](https://continuum.utah.edu/discovery)



See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
bridge](https://continuum.utah.edu/bridge)

BRIDGING THE PATH

THE U PARTNERS WITH THE WEST SIDE COMMUNITY TO INCREASE ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY

Sayro Paw was 12 when she arrived in Utah from the Mae La Refugee Camp in Thailand. She recalls being totally overwhelmed by the language and cultural differences. “I didn’t know how to communicate with anyone,” she says. “I didn’t know anyone at school, and I couldn’t do homework.”

Gradually things improved for Paw, especially once she connected with the U’s own University Neighborhood Partners (UNP) Hartland Partnership Center, one of more than 30 sites where UNP engages with west side neighborhoods. At UNP Hartland, Paw had faculty and student mentors who helped her with language and study skills and eventually helped her apply to college. In addition, Paw made new friends participating in UNP Hartland’s outdoors programs, where she got out on weekends to rock climb, canoe, and hike.

“UNP builds partnerships between the university and west side neighborhoods that reduce barriers to education and opportunity,” explains UNP director Sarah Munro. UNP brings together partners who work with about 4,000 west side residents each year on issues ranging from English language acquisition to mental health support, education and employment pathways, and after-school programs.

Paw is now studying at the U and wants to be a middle or high school art or English teacher. “I want to show my students that I made it this far and they can too,” she says.

“I’m so grateful for everyone at Hartland. They were always there for me. Without them, I wouldn’t be where I am now.”

—SAYRO PAW



"These are crucial issues happening right here, and it's all the more important that we approach these issues from as many perspectives as possible."

—JEFF MCCARTHY



STEWARDS OF OUR NATURAL WORLD

WHEN IT COMES TO ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, RESEARCHERS FROM DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES NEED EACH OTHER

Utah is at the heart of many recent environmental debates, ranging from national parks and water to land use and air quality. These crucial issues can seem impossibly complex, and finding solutions requires collaboration and creativity. Here are just two of many researchers exploring these topics from different perspectives.

A cultural perspective: The data is available. And brilliant minds are working tirelessly to create solutions to big environmental questions. So why is change so hard? Why isn't adoption of environmental solutions more widespread?

Oftentimes the real barrier to change is related to culture, says Jeff McCarthy, the director of environmental humanities at the U. Approaching climate

change from just the hard sciences isn't enough, he says. Instead, we also need to view it through the lenses of aesthetics, religion, history, and literature to create more effective solutions and have a wider adoption of those solutions.

And that's where environmental humanities come in. "We have bigger storms, more heat, rising oceans," says McCarthy—and the environmental humanities look at what these challenges mean to people who live on coastlines, or who rely on irrigation water for farming, or those who will be displaced from their homes by the changing climate. And the U is a leader in this field, he says. Students from the environmental humanities go on to work in journalism, academics, and nonprofits, and are helping communities learn to adapt to changing climates.



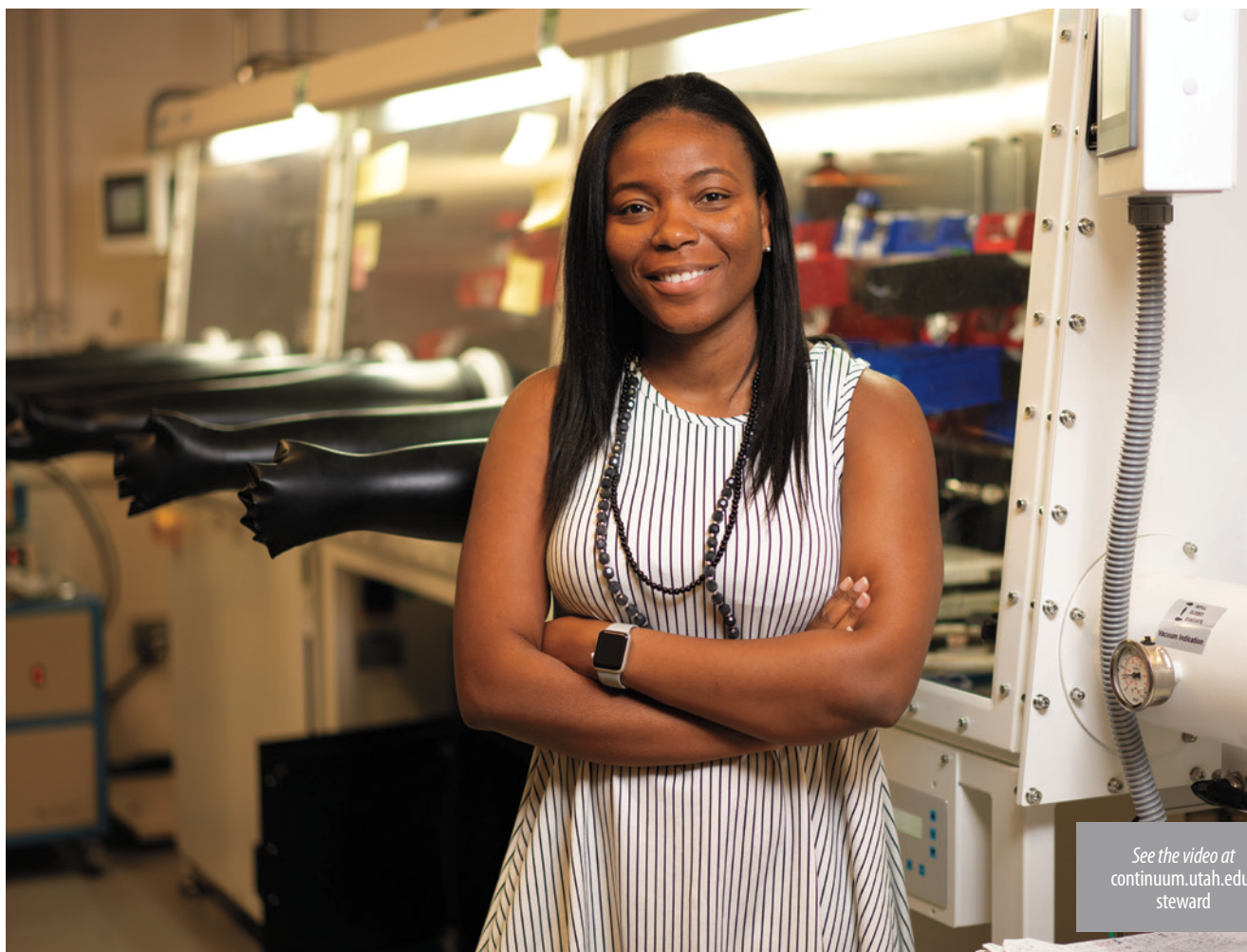
“When our students leave, they have the know-how to proactively change people’s mindsets about the environment.”

—LUIA WHITTAKER-BROOKS

A chemist’s point of view: It may not be immediately intuitive for a chemistry professor to be focused on improving the environment. But Luisa Whittaker-Brooks, an assistant professor of chemistry at the U, is doing just that by training the next generation of researchers to create new materials to improve renewable energy and use fewer resources.

“Scientists used to just think about solving problems at a fundamental level, and then engineers would make devices. But that’s not how it works anymore. Now it’s blended,” Whittaker-Brooks says. And at the U, students and faculty frequently collaborate across departments. “We have this interdisciplinary network where we can address a problem from different perspectives.”

Passionate about the environment, Whittaker-Brooks hopes to inspire a new generation of critical thinkers and scientists to help address climate change. Her passion is fueled from her experiences growing up in Panama, where she saw a growing population stress already taxed natural resources. That’s one of the benefits to bettering our environment, she says: it doesn’t just benefit a single group of people—it helps the whole world.



See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
steward](https://continuum.utah.edu/steward)



See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
service](https://continuum.utah.edu/service)



See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
support](https://continuum.utah.edu/support)

“Sometimes things get stressful and I just want to quit. But then I look back at my deployments and I say to myself, ‘You did that, you totally have this.’”

—DANIELA DES ISLETS

A LIFE OF SERVICE

VETERANS RECEIVE AND OFFER SUPPORT THROUGH TWO UNIQUE CENTERS ON CAMPUS

Service is in Daniela des Islets’ blood. Her father was an infantry officer in the Honduran military, and she’s been deployed with the U.S. Air Force twice, once in Afghanistan and once in Qatar. And now she’s studying biology, chemistry, and Spanish at the U, with plans to go on to medical school.

“I wanted to combine my passion for science and for people,” she says. The U’s research environment drew her to Utah. And at the U, the Veterans Support Center (VSC) has been a vital resource for her. The VSC helps veteran students or prospective students find services, support, and, perhaps most importantly, camaraderie.

“Having the opportunity to interact with other students who have had experiences similar to mine has been really reassuring,” says des Islets. “I have somebody to relate to, somebody who knows the experiences we have been through.”

Another U veteran, Craig Bryan, also understands the importance of veterans supporting each other—only

his team’s focus is on the research end of that support. Bryan is an associate professor of psychology and executive director of the U’s National Center for Veterans Studies (NCVS), which focuses on research, outreach, and advocacy.

He says veterans’ unique life experiences provide irreplaceable insight when creating research to help improve the lives of veterans and active military. Some examples of the research from NCVS include understanding brain injuries, suicide, and novel treatments for PTSD.

“A lot of the research ideas we come up with are informed by our personal experiences,” says Bryan. “We’re reflecting upon the things we saw and experienced as veterans. And we’re now putting that into a scientific format so we can help our brothers and sisters in arms.”



FINDING THE RIGHT BALANCE

FROM TUMBLING PASSES TO QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS, THIS U GYMNAST SCORES BIG

Shannon McNatt is no stranger to rigorous training. The U senior and NCAA regional beam champion gymnast spends more than 20 hours training each week preparing for competition. And her dedication in the gym is paralleled in her coursework. She's in one of the David S. Eccles School of Business' most demanding majors, Quantitative Analysis of Markets and Organizations (QAMO), which requires advanced courses in mathematics, statistics, economics, and business.

The QAMO major helps put the Eccles School on level with places such as Berkeley, Columbia, and other top schools from around the country, says Adam Meirowitz, director of the Marriner S. Eccles Institute for Economics and Quantitative Analysis. And in a competitive market, graduates like McNatt—with exhaustive training both in the gym and in the classroom—enter the business world on even better footing. Skills such as time management and teamwork that student-athletes excel at have tremendous value in both the classroom and the workplace, adds Meirowitz.

In addition to a successful gymnastics career, including a 2017 NCAA regional beam win with a 9.9 score, McNatt is a two-time Pac-12 All-Academic first-team member, a College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District first-team honoree, and a three-time Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association Scholastic All-American. She's currently an intern at the U's Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute and is exploring career options for utilizing her analytical and leadership skills after she graduates. **U**



"You don't just go from the floor to the high beam and say, 'I hope it goes well.' We have progressions for how we learn skills... and that progression is the same in academics."

—SHANNON MCNATT

See the video at
[continuum.utah.edu/
balance](http://continuum.utah.edu/balance)

A Virtuous Circle

Nearly 250 people a year donate
their bodies to science at the U
as a final act of generosity.

*Story by Heather May
Photography by Austen Diamond*



Kerry Peterson at the Celebration of Life Monument, which honors body and organ donors

Kerry Peterson speaks up for the dead.

As manager of the U's Body Donor Program and instructor in the medical school's anatomy lab, he has preserved, studied, and kept tabs on thousands of bodies given to the U in an ultimate act of service.

He is on call around the clock all year long, comforting family members whose loved ones have recently died or who have wondered how scientists and students are learning from their bodies. And sometimes he must ensure that the bodies are used as intended: Years ago, Peterson ended a program that allowed youth groups and others to tour cadaver labs, calling it a "sideshow."

Bodies are donated to the U for future doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals to better understand human anatomy, and to practice operations and life-saving procedures. They've helped develop artificial hearts, lungs, and vertebrae; assisted in the creation of genetic tests; improved catheters, intubation techniques, and methods to harvest stem cells. They've also enhanced knee, spine, and brain operations. And they've expanded what researchers and doctors know about dementia, autism, strokes, and other conditions.

"The sacrifice the family makes is, they wake up every morning and mom's not in the ground," Peterson says. "They look toward the University of Utah and go,

'Mom's being worked on today. I wonder how long that's gonna last?' Because they care.
... Somebody needs to look out for their interests."

Peterson calls the donors "bars of gold"—and he is their guardian.

LEARNING THE ROPES

Peterson estimates he has embalmed around 10,000 bodies, both through his 34 years at the U and 13 as a funeral director. He even co-wrote a human anatomy dissection guide.

As a child, the last place he pictured working was at a morgue. Growing up in the rural northern Utah town of Tremonton, he hunted and fished and cleaned his own game. But he avoided the mortuary when he rode his bike downtown. "The mortuary creeped me out," he says.

Years later, after working long hours pulling sugar beets from the frozen mud while in high school, the idea of working at the morgue didn't seem so bad. And when the opportunity came up, he took it. Peterson started out washing the hearse, running errands, vacuuming the chapel—with his head firmly averted from the body in the coffin.

Eventually, he began to understand and appreciate the nuances of the funeral business. "It's art, science, law, business," he explains. But, the "big hook," he says, is that on a family's worst day after a loved one's death, "you're the guy they call."

He brought that sense of reverence and family service to the U's Body Donor Program. But when Peterson arrived, he says, the U wasn't ready to face its fears, either.

GRIEVING A BODY DONOR

How do you mark the passing of a life when you don't have a body to bury? That's a question that confronted Jennifer Toomer-Cook BA'95 and her siblings twice—when their father and then, years later, mother chose to donate their bodies to the U's Body Donor Program.

Their answer: Throw a party—a celebration of life, where they displayed their parents' pictures and mementos, served their favorite foods and drinks, and toasted their memories. But that doesn't mean it was easy. The rituals that traditionally mark the end of life—the viewing, funeral, and burial—weren't available.

In remembering when Gerald Ross Toomer died in 2005, Toomer-Cook recalls thinking, "Off he went, and he was gone forever. We didn't have the prayers and the funeral and all those things that we rely on in times of uncertainty. We had to make them up."

Technically, families can hold a funeral with the body present. The mortuary can embalm and prepare the body, and the U would pick up the body later. Instead, Toomer-Cook, her two siblings, and their mother turned their family home into a museum. They displayed their father's saxophone from when he played in a jazz band, his published poetry, his diploma from the United States Military Academy at West Point, and pictures from his travels around the world. His favorite swing music played while guests ate chocolate chip cookies.

Toomer-Cook says his decision to donate was noble—and in keeping with how he lived. "He thought learning was the reason we're here.... He was generous with his time and knowledge. That was his final act of generosity."

Barbara Toomer announced her own decision to donate her body 48 hours before her death earlier this year, but it didn't come as too much of a surprise. As a well-known champion for people with disabilities and the poor, Toomer (who contracted polio and used a wheelchair) was "an advocate for people who didn't have a voice to speak out," says Toomer-Cook.

Having fond memories of her husband's celebration of life, Barbara Toomer requested one, too. "She was as unconventional as they come," Toomer-Cook says. "How fun to raise a glass and tell fun stories and laugh through your tears."





THE EARLY DAYS

The U's medical school opened in 1905 as a two-year program taught by "frontier doctors." There was no law allowing students to study cadavers, but a photo from the time shows what may have been the first human cadaver used at the school. The picture of men wearing white smocks, but no gloves, gathered around a decomposing body on a medical table hangs in Peterson's office.

The U's "donors" were mostly the poor—sent by cooperating county physicians who were allowed to dispose of unclaimed bodies—until the 1930s or 1940s, when Edward I. Hashimoto BA'30 (and medical certificate, 1932), a U anatomy professor from 1935 to 1985, created the U's first body donor program. Peterson joined the U at the end of Hashimoto's tenure.

But even then, the program flew under the radar. "We didn't have literature. We didn't have a number in the phone book. People who wanted to donate their bodies to science called the general number of the university hospital, and they'd get transferred all over until they finally sometimes got to us," Peterson recalls. "They had to be persistent."

In Peterson's telling, the body donor program was viewed by some as a potential liability. Nobody wanted to end up as front-page news like the University of California, Irvine. In the late 1990s, the director of their body donor program was caught stealing and selling body parts and losing track of donors. At the time, Peterson testified about how programs should be run.

"This business has been strewn with scandal from the day anybody even thought about drawing anatomy," Peterson says, explaining that body snatchers in the 1800s stole corpses from graves and sometimes committed murder to supply anatomy professors and medical students.

Controversies in other parts of the country aren't ancient history: Earlier this year, a man in Michigan who sold or leased donated body parts went on trial for defrauding customers by selling infected body parts.

Even though the U's program hasn't been involved in such controversy, when Peterson first started he was told to keep the phone number hidden. In the late 1980s, after having to turn away potential research recruits because the U didn't have enough bodies to meet the demand for study, Peterson placed an ad in the Yellow Pages under the category of "pre-need" funeral arrangements, and the program got its own listing in the phone book. With a little publicity, and some literature, donations doubled from 40 to 80 that year.



Jane Nelson

‘DOING HER WORK’

When Lori Ellen Nelson BS’86 died last year of complications related to Crohn’s disease, her death was unexpected. But the 56-year-old’s plans for after were very clear: Printed on a white sheet of paper were the music and Bible verses she wanted at her funeral, along with decorations of “bright, happy wildflowers,” and a short list of other requests.

Her first priority on that list: that her body go to the U, which made perfect sense to her family. She was a teacher (winner of the Huntsman Award for Excellence) and would want her body to benefit the training of the next generation of physicians and researchers.

When her mother, Jane Nelson, called the Body Donor Program for an update, she was happy to hear that her daughter’s body was continuing what she did in life. “Well, let me look her up,” Jane recalls a program employee telling her. “Yes, she’s currently doing her work at Snow College.” And that made me feel good,” Jane says.

Jane’s mother, Nadine Baker, may have inspired Lori. Baker also gave her body to the U after she died at age 93 in 2002. Both devout Christians, they were certain that their bodies could be put to better use. Jane recalls her mother saying, “Jane, now why would anybody want to put a dead body in the ground when you know that I’m in heaven with the Lord? ... You know they can really learn from me.”

Initially, Jane wasn’t so sure. And the thought of her mother’s body being cut bothered her. Talking to Peterson put her at ease. “He assured me by saying, ‘We are respectful. She will be given a name. She will be cared for.’ And it just made me feel peaceful, that this was something she wanted and that they would take care of her and honor her.”

BODY DONATION FACTS AND FAQs

40

average number of bodies donated per year in the 1980s



244

bodies donated in 2017

400

number of bodies in use by the program today

3 months to 2 years

the length of time a donor body will be used

\$1,000-\$10,000

amount donors save on funeral and mortuary expenses by donating

WHO CAN DONATE AND HOW?

The U accepts a wide range of bodies from throughout the Intermountain West. The donor, or their surviving family, must fill out a bequeathal form and return it to the U.

WHO CAN’T DONATE?

The U doesn’t accept infants or small children because of a lack of research funding for those age groups. Donors can’t have communicable diseases, such as HIV or tuberculosis.

And donors who have had a major surgery within two months of death, who have been in a traumatic accident, are obese, or have ascites, edema, or jaundice are usually turned down because those conditions are incompatible with the process used to preserve bodies.

WHERE DO THE BODIES GO?

The first priority is medical education at the U for undergraduates, graduate and medical students, and residents. The U also supplies bodies to colleges throughout Utah, as well as in Idaho, Colorado, and Wyoming.

HOW ARE DONORS HONORED?

Donors are recognized at an annual Celebration of Life Monument Gathering at Library Square in Salt Lake City, where their names can be engraved on the monument, along with the names of organ donors.

WHEN IS THE RESEARCH FINISHED?

The U pays for cremation of the remains, which are then placed in the University Donors Grave at the Salt Lake City Cemetery, picked up by the family at the U, or returned to the family via U.S. mail.



Most families choose the U (private companies seek body donations, too) after hearing from donor families about their experiences. And besides the benefits to science, donation can also take some of the pressure off grieving families. As the final part of the process, the U cremates the bodies, files the death certificate, and notifies the Social Security Administration. And while families of donors can hold funerals (and can receive their loved one's cremated remains from the U), they don't need to buy caskets.

The U's mission is to further medical education and research, Peterson says. But "our first order of business is attending to the families of the donors. Above all—above the needs of science, above the needs of education, above the University of Utah—this donor program advocates for the families of the donors. And then we perform our mission."

Lori's sons weren't with her when she died, and they wanted to see her one last time after she had already been taken to the U. Jane remembers trying to dissuade them. But when they arrived at the U's morgue, "Lori was laid out, and she looked beautiful," Jane says. "All three boys got to kiss their mom goodbye."

FIRST PATIENTS

Donors often have special requests, which Peterson does his best to honor. One donor was a doctor and wanted his stethoscope hung above his body. Another donor's photo album was displayed near her body, with pictures of her as a newborn through the time she jumped out of an airplane on her 90th birthday.

Medical students in the anatomy lab learn not just the cause of death, gender, and age of the donors, but also the first name of their "first patient." They often address the cadavers by name and talk to them before each dissection to explain what they are going to do.

"They're not treated like dolls," Peterson says. "I don't know how many times I've felt this, you're sitting there dissecting a hand and you wonder, did those fingers play the piano? Did they change diapers? Did they turn wrenches on a car?"

Working on the dead exacts a toll, but Peterson says he's involved in a virtuous circle. Donors give to benefit the health of future generations. Medical students and researchers work on the bodies to benefit humanity. "It's an honor," he says, "to do what I do." **U**

—Heather May is a Salt Lake City-based freelance writer and former Salt Lake Tribune reporter.



Listen to the U's award-winning podcast series called "Campus Cadavers," available at continuum.utah.edu.

Conservation in Common

HOW AN ARCHITECT AND AN EDUCATOR FOUND TRUE LOVE IN THE NATURAL WORLD.

By Ann Floor



Anyone who knows Angela Dean or Tim Brown would understand why they had an immediate connection when they met as coeds at the U in the 1990s. They not only share a love for Utah's deserts and mountains but also a deep interest in conservation that has fueled both of their professional paths. An architect dedicated to sustainable design, Dean established her own firm, AMD Architecture, in 1997. Brown is director of Tracy Aviary, which he has dramatically transformed during his 14 years of leadership. Together for more than two decades, and now with two teenage kids, the couple's passion for their individual work is entwined with their shared passion for sustainability and environmental education.

HER: Dean BS'92 MAR'94 was born in upstate New York. At 15, she moved from Long Island to Lehi, Utah. After attending Utah State University for a couple of years, she transferred to the U to pursue her passion for architecture. "I had many inspiring teachers who made an impact on my development in the field," she says, mentioning Tom Kass, Bob Hermanson, Tony Serrato-Combe, and Peter Goss.

During their studies at the U, she and Brown spent a good deal of time in southern Utah—running rivers, hiking, and exploring the wonders of early Native American dwellings. "This spurred a deep passion to provide architecture that was as naturally harmonized with its surroundings and climate as these cultures had been," says Dean.

To pursue this approach in her graduate studies, Dean was proactive in customizing her own curriculum at the U and received a research fellowship grant that gave her the time and resources to pursue architecture studies outside of formal class time. "It was a game changer in terms of my professional path," she says.

Three years after finishing her master's degree, she founded AMD Architecture in Salt Lake City, with the goal of providing quality building design that is equally responsible to her clients and the greater environment. Her 2003 book, *Green by Design: Creating a Home for Sustainable Living*, describes the environmentally responsible design principles she holds dear: to make green building and healthy living accessible to everyone.

HIM: Tim Brown ex'90, a native of Salt Lake City, pursued graduate studies at the U after earning his bachelor's degree at the University of Vermont. He had nearly completed his master's in education before deciding he wanted to add a community component to his studies, which the U had yet to offer. So, he transferred to Antioch University Seattle, where he completed his degree.

Committed to the environment and with a belief that education and conservation were two means by which he could make a

difference, Brown returned to Utah with a plan to position himself to lead a top environmental education organization. After working for a decade with the Utah Society for Environmental Education, seven of those as its executive director, he found himself drawn to the Tracy Aviary in Liberty Park. After the executive director position opened in 2004, he landed the job.

The aviary, founded in the late 1930s, has experienced periods of neglect over the years, and Brown says the biggest challenge has been "recasting people's memory of the facility." During his tenure, more than \$35 million has been invested in transforming the nine-acre oasis. "It's a treasure today unlike anything else in the country, and we hear that feedback every day. But convincing people to give it a second try is a challenge," says Brown. Giving credit to her husband, Dean adds that "everyone who sets foot in the aviary [today] comments on the positive transformations that have taken place during Tim's tenure."

TOGETHER: When Brown started working at the aviary, he discovered an untapped opportunity to renovate the historic Chase Mill (built between 1848 and 1852) into a much-needed indoor program space. The charming mill is the oldest commercial building still standing in Utah and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A previous effort to revitalize it had been unsuccessful. Turning it into a family affair, Dean offered her assistance in programming potential uses of the space, providing designs for renovation, and organizing educational building workshops with volunteers to help complete the project.

Dean's architecture firm received a 2009 Heritage Award for the project, and subsequently a 2015 Associated General Contractors Cultural Award for design of the aviary's Treasures of the Rainforest indoor exhibit and another in 2017 for its Bird Feeder Café. Dean continues to volunteer at the aviary, including as a participant in its citizen science program, which has more than a half-dozen projects and 100-plus volunteers. "Our kids have also been volunteers (or 'voluntolds,' as Tim likes to call it) throughout these 15 or so years," she says.

Brown has been in the nonprofit world about as long as he and Dean have been together. And because the organizations he's been involved with have been focused on community services that she believes in, too—environmental education and conservation—it has been a natural fit for her to offer support. "It's been an honor to be able to put my skills to use and be a part of that positive change," she says.

"We're making a difference," Brown says. "It's awesome to see the impact we're having on the community in our work in citizen science, in the faces of young people participating in our education programs, and in saving birds and habitats throughout the world." **U**

Sorority Sisters for Life

THESE U KAPPA KAPPA GAMMAS HAVE SUSTAINED MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS FOR MORE THAN 65 YEARS.

By Ann Floor



Nine of the Kappas gathered in September at the Town Club in Salt Lake City. Seated (left to right): Mimi Byrd Mortensen, Marie Barker Bennett, Jeanne Forrest Christensen, Virginia Isaacson Peterson, and Joyce Beck Barnes. Standing: Pat Warshaw Ferrin, Frances Johnson Darger, Jewel Johnson Cutler, and Kay Reynolds Patterson.

The simple act of getting together monthly has kept a remarkable group of women firmly bonded since the late 1940s. They first met as U “coeds” at the Kappa house at 33 South Wolcott, where they played a lot of bridge. As they married and their families grew, they began meeting in the evenings. Now in their late 80s and 90s, the remaining 11 members now meet once a month for lunch, where they share updates on their lives and often have the occasion to sing “Happy Birthday”—which they’ve now been doing for more than six decades.

Paige Paulsen Erickson BS’80, daughter of Kappa sister BJ Paulsen, who passed away in July, was fortunate enough to be a guest at a gathering last year. “Even though my mom had talked about her Kappa friends for years, I had no idea how extraordinary this group of women is. They come from all walks of life.”


Some are true pioneers, Erickson says, like Frances Johnson Darger BA’46, who played the violin in the Utah Symphony from the time she was 17 until she retired at 87. Darger’s sister, Jewel Johnson Cutler BA’48, who sang lead roles in U opera productions and was a longtime member of the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square, is also a member of the group. Virginia Isaacson Peterson BS’47 spent decades making outfits for members of the Tabernacle Choir and laughs as she relates how so many of the women fibbed about their dress size.

Then there is Pat Warshaw Ferrin BS’47, who always has a new report about her ever-popular husband Arnie, a former U and NBA basketball star who was also the U’s athletic director for nine years. Twins Marillyn Barker Johnson BA’47 and Marie Barker Bennett BA’47 MA’51 PhD’80 went on to earn graduate

degrees at Yale, where one (Marillyn) studied English and the other (Marie) studied music. Erickson says that on the day she was there, “Marillyn read a poem she had written, and Marie invited the group to an opera she had recently composed that was produced last fall.”

Joyce Beck Barnes BS’48 earned a degree in management from the business school and went on to own The Inn at Mazatlan, a popular destination for many Salt Lakers. Others in the group include Kay Reynolds Patterson BA’47 MSW’69; Marian Cheney Baldwin BS’47; Jeanne Forrest Christensen BS’49; and Mimi Byrd Mortensen JD’47.

Some of the women have lost their spouses, but many are still married and serve as caretakers for loved ones. Not surprisingly, they take great pride in their families. Some were full-time moms, some worked full time outside the home, and some worked part time. Some are financially well off, while others are not. But no matter their paths, the bonds these women share are unbreakable. Their genuine affection for each other is palpable. And to boot, they’re still huge U sports fans. At a recent lunch in September, they were all aflutter, discussing the Utes’ latest football loss, some of them suggesting with good humor that they should coach the next game.

“Their friendship is founded on trust. They’ve been there for each other through the trials and tribulations life throws at all of us—and all the joy as well,” says Erickson. “The key is that they have experienced life together. They are an amazing and unique group of women who learned early on that bonds created in college and nurtured throughout their lives really do create honest-to-goodness lifelong friendships.” 

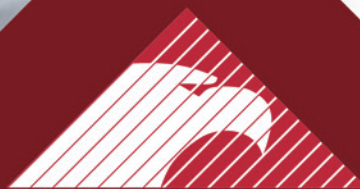
Rewarding **You** and the **U**

Support the Alumni Association—and earn rewards in the process—with the University of Utah Rewards Credit Card from Mountain America.



- ▶ Low, competitive rates
- ▶ Generous rewards program
- ▶ Each purchase benefits the **U of U Alumni Association**

Visit your nearest branch today!



MOUNTAIN AMERICA
CREDIT UNION

*On approved credit. Variable annual percentage rate.
Membership required—based on eligibility. Federally insured by NCUA.

'50s



U.S. Senator **Jake Garn** BS'55, the first sitting U.S. Congress member to fly in space, in 1985, is the 2018 David Eccles

School of Business Hall of Fame inductee. Garn was elected to the Salt Lake City Commission and as mayor of the city before joining the Senate in 1974. He also served in the U.S. Navy and Utah Air National Guard as a pilot, retired as a colonel, and was promoted to brigadier general after his Space Shuttle mission.

'60s



Richard D. Burbidge BS'69 JD'72—managing partner of Burbidge | Mitchell, and the Utah Minority Bar Association's 2017

Distinguished Lawyer of the Year—is on the team of lawyers recently honored for their 13-year effort to change seat belt safety requirements. The fight went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which found that federal safety regulations related to seat belts do not preempt a state tort lawsuit, a finding that will help others in similar cases nationwide.

'70s



Marsha Knight BFA'79 MFA'83, an award-winning professor at the University of Wyoming, had her original

multimedia dance-theater piece *Six Songs from Ellis* selected as the topic of UW's Fall 2018 President's Speaker Series. The work centers on the oral histories of immigrants and refugees who passed through Ellis Island during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Knight has researched some 500 oral histories, with 88 individuals represented in the piece to date.

Links that Bind

A TRADITION FOR EACH U GRADUATING CLASS, NEARLY 100 YEARS STRONG.

By Shawn Wood



Here's a riddle: What's the U's longest tradition linking the present day to 1919? Rattled? Okay, here's a clue. This hard-forged tradition is strong as steel and represents something even more durable.

Give up? If you've been to the new Cleone Peterson Eccles Alumni House, you might have guessed—it's the U's graduating class chain. Back in 1919, Adam S. Bennion, a U professor and senior class advisor, had an idea to start a new campus tradition. He met with Eugene W. Sloan, then senior class president, and suggested the idea of a class chain. Each graduating class would produce a link and add it to an ever-growing chain as a symbol of the ties that bind U alumni together.

Today, each link is as unique as the students and experiences of that class. The 2018 class link pays homage to the year's groundbreaking women's sociopolitical movements and Ruth Watkins becoming the first female president of the University of Utah—a momentous milestone for the U.

Saeed Shihab BS'18, this past year's vice president of student relations for the Associated Students of the University of Utah, says that in coming up with a design for the link, it helps to define what the year has been not just for the U campus, but for society as a whole. He says the “#MeToo” and “Time's Up” movements had a huge impact on society in 2018. “Women around the world stepped forward and spoke out against sexual violence and harassment in all its forms,” Shihab says. “So, we took inspiration from those events and designed our link as a block U with a ribbon that reads ‘2018 Women's Empowerment’ and ‘RW.’ The RW is in honor of Ruth Watkins becoming the first female president of the U.”



Hanging two stories long in an open stairwell at the Alumni House, the links now form an artful focal point that draws the eye. Visitors can take time to find the covered wagon marking the centennial of the pioneers' arrival in Utah in 1847. Sports fans can cheer when they spot the link noting the U joining the Pac-12 in 2011 and various championships' commemorative links. Class links from 1977, '79, '81, '83, '85, '91, 2004, and '05 all celebrate victories in men's and women's basketball, tennis, gymnastics, swimming, skiing, and women's softball.

John F. Kennedy is remembered by the class of 1963. The moon walk is up there from the class of 1970, and the first-ever implanted artificial heart in 1983. (Well, not the real heart of course.) The year 2002 recognizes the U hosting the Olympic Winter Games, and 2007 honors U geneticist and Nobel Prize recipient Mario Capecchi. Also commemorated is something that every student and alum has experienced, the ongoing campus construction, from the first year of Orson Spencer Hall in 1956, to 2006, when the theme was "Building a Better U" with a link designed as a screwdriver and a hammer.

When asked what advice he would give to future students who are tasked with designing their class link, Shihab says students should focus on what's happening in the world at the time, then reduce ideas down to two or three words. "The inspiration for the design will follow. Make your link as impactful as you can. It's going to be on display for years to come," he says. "Hopefully you'll show it to your kids when they enroll in their first year at the U." **U**

—Shawn Wood is a communications specialist for University Marketing & Communications.



Jerold G. Oldroyd

BS'73 JD'76 was honored with the 2018 Thayne Robson Award for Leadership by the Economic Development

Corporation of Utah. Named for the late U professor, the award recognizes excellence through collaboration, statewide vision, private sector leadership, and public-private-partnerships. Oldroyd is senior counsel at Ballard Spahr, where he focuses on lobbying, government affairs, and legislative initiatives relating to financing and technology. A longtime EDCU board member, he currently serves as its chair.



Claudia Sisemore

MFA'76 received the U's 2018 College of Fine Arts Distinguished Alumni Legacy Award. Sisemore

studied with Utah artists Lee Deffebach BA'49 MFA'89 and David Chaplin BFA'59 and exhibits and teaches in the arts. Her production company, Canyon Video, produces historical documentaries and independent films. She has produced national award-winning educational films for the Utah State Office of Education and has recorded the histories of more than 20 outstanding Utah artists.

'80s



Jerre Holmes BA'86

was named the 2019 Utah School Superintendent of the Year by the state school superintendents association.

Holmes has worked for 31 years as a teacher, administrator, and state championship-winning coach. Under his leadership, the North Summit School District has implemented a technology initiative to benefit students; launched a district-wide program to ensure that students who are struggling mentally, emotionally, or academically receive resources to succeed; and raised pay and benefits for all staff.

'00s



Mike White PhD'07 received the Anthony Hecht Prize for his poetry collection *Addendum to a Miracle*. White notes that he worked

on the book while a grad student at the U from 2001-07, "so some of the poems got their start in poetry workshop classes taught by [U professors] Jacqueline Osherow, Paisley Rekdal, and Donald Revell." White is now an associate professor at the U, teaching for both the LEAP program and the English Department.

'10s



Susanna Cohen DNP'14 was named a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing at its 2018 policy conference in Washington, D.C. The

honor is reserved for highly distinguished nurse leaders. Cohen's research interests include improving the management of obstetric and neonatal emergencies, simulation learning, and humanized birth. An associate professor at the U, her current projects include interprofessional team training in Mexico, Guatemala, Kenya, and India, and low-tech, high-fidelity training in midwifery and women's health.

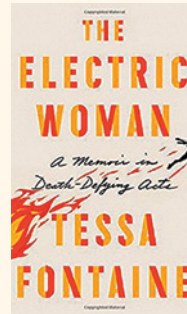


José Ángel Maldonado PhD'17 received the Rhetoric Society of America's 2018 Dissertation Award for his paper "Diana's Confession:

Precarious Rhetoric in Post-NAFTA Mexico." The award recognizes the best dissertation in rhetorical studies completed by a student member of the society. Maldonado's groundbreaking thesis looks at violence and death in Mexico in relation to larger geopolitical and economic shifts. Now an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he was the first U student to win the award.

Written by Our Own

SNUGGLE UP THIS WINTER WITH A GOOD READ FROM ONE OF YOUR U PEERS.



The Electric Woman: A Memoir in Death-Defying Acts By Tessa Fontaine, PhD candidate, creative writing
Fontaine isn't your typical doctoral student. Not long ago, she was on the road with the last American traveling sideshow. Her captivating memoir is for anyone who has ever wanted to run away with the circus or to be someone else.



I Will Send Rain By Rae Meadows MFA'00
In her fourth award-winning novel, Meadows depicts an Oklahoma family struggling as the Dust Bowl storms descend on their farm in 1934. All around them, the crops are dying, and people are heading west. As the family waits for the rains to come, each member is pulled in a different direction.



Handicap By John Pace BS'86
Pace studied behavioral health and management at the U, so naturally, he became a writer. In this, his first full-length novel, he introduces Thom Loudon, a little person and self-taught scratch golfer who finds himself trying to solve a murder that he finds hauntingly similar to his own mother's death.



Underground Fugue By Margot Singer PhD'05
After a decade in management consulting, Singer switched gears to study creative writing at the U and now teaches at Denison University. Her novel, set against the backdrop of the 2005 London bombings, interweaves the stories of four characters dislocated by personal loss, political violence, and betrayal.



Supreme Power: 7 Pivotal Supreme Court Decisions That Had a Major Impact on America By Ted Stewart JD'75
Former U.S. District Court Judge Ted Stewart explains why the Supreme Court now stands at a crucial point in power to hand down momentous and far-ranging decisions. He unfolds the court's complex history as told through seven pivotal decisions.

PHILANTHROPY. FAMILY STYLE.



A YEAR AND A HALF AGO, Craig Judd, a financial advisor, created a Deseret Trust Company donor advised fund as a way to set aside some funds tax-free. But he says that what started off as just “a good tax play” turned into his family’s “most charitable year ever” and has blossomed into a charitable awakening.

Through their donor advised fund (DAF), Craig and his family have been able to receive immediate charitable-giving tax deductions on money invested while letting them decide later which charities to support.

“I can’t imagine any DAF that doesn’t make the world a better place. We’re all more compassionate if we engage in helping others. Take the step and open a DAF. You’ll never regret it.”

If you would like information on how to use a Deseret Trust donor advised fund to facilitate your charitable giving, contact LDS Philanthropies Gift Planning Services at 1-877-650-5377 or giftplanning@ldschurch.org.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

LDS Philanthropies

give.lds.org/donorfund
1-877-650-5377

 **Deseret Trust**
Company

daf.deserettrust.org
Serving the LDS community since 1972.

IN MEMORIAM

Lauren McCluskey

1997–2018

This fall, the U community joined together to grieve the passing of one of our own. On Oct. 22, Lauren McCluskey, an accomplished student-athlete from Pullman, Washington, was killed on campus in a senseless act of violence. The senior was a highly regarded member of the university's track and field team, specializing in the high jump and majoring in communication. She's remembered for her determination, diligence, and kindness. It has been touching to see the outpouring of support and compassion—from across the campus, the state, and even the country—for Lauren's family and those who knew her.



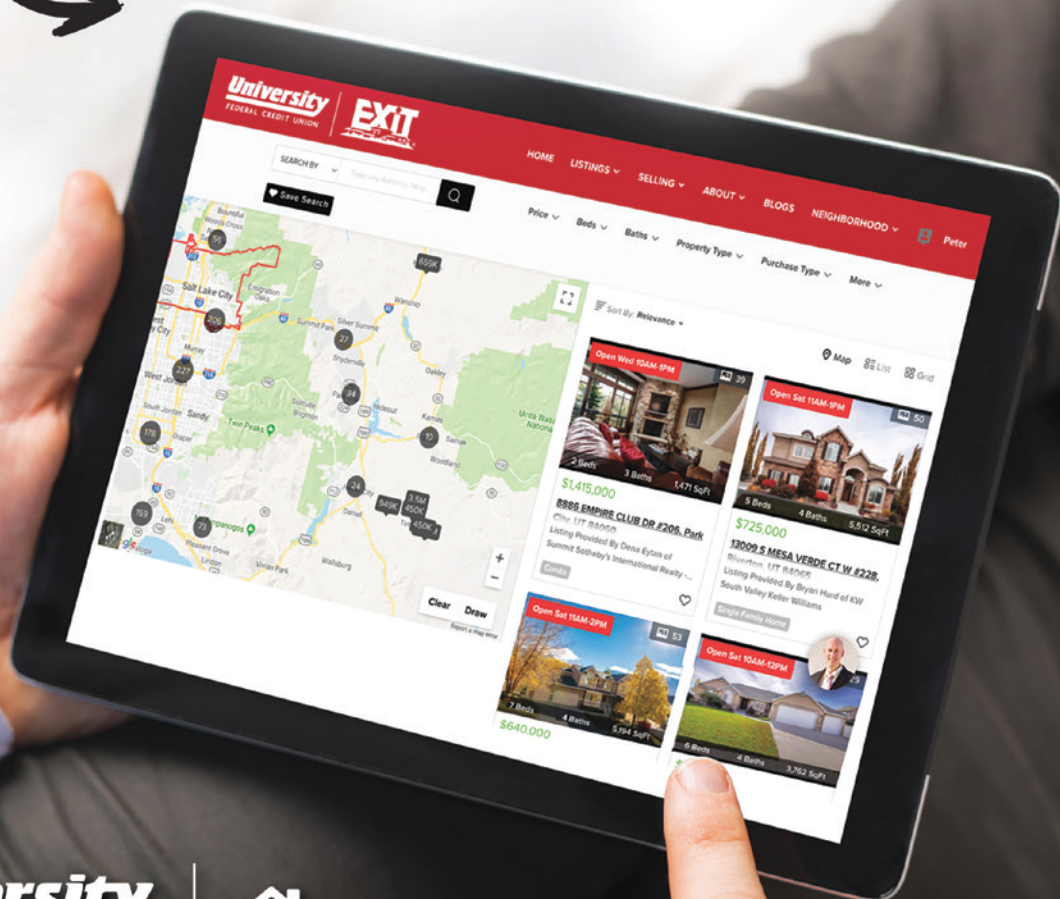
To share your condolences and/or contribute to a scholarship in Lauren's honor, visit continuum.utah.edu/lauren-mccluskey

Photo courtesy University of Utah Athletics

FINDING A HOME JUST GOT BETTER

Visit UcreditU.com to find your
new home today.

**FIND HOMES BY NEIGHBORHOOD
GET THE VALUE OF YOUR HOME
PERSONALIZED MLS SEARCH**



University
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION





Dr. Agarwal
ARUP Laboratories
Hematopathology expert



Gary Hecox
Grandfather, geologist,
cyclist, ski-race volunteer



Dr. Kovacovics
Huntsman Cancer Institute
Blood cancer specialist

When a patient is sick, ARUP is a key piece of the healthcare puzzle.

A tweaked back turned out to be broken; annual bloodwork seemed off. Find out how the pieces connected to help Gary in the fight for his life.

ARUP LABORATORIES

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

► go.aruplab.com/gary