

# INSIGHTS

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY - COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

*When students and faculty learn together...discovery follows*

SUMMER 2004

## ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

Science Grads Are Reconnecting

Rhodes Scholar Lara Anderson

Emeritus Professors: Dr. Melvin Cannon  
Dr. William Moore

Aerospace Pioneer Receives Honorary Doctorate

UtahState  
UNIVERSITY



Biology | Chemistry and Biochemistry | Computer Science | Geology | Mathematics and Statistics | Physics

# FROM THE DEAN'S OFFICE

Greetings from the College of Science. We are near the end of August and the sense of anticipation has been slowly building these last few weeks as we get closer and closer to the first day of classes. But before we get carried away with the new school year, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our summer issue of *Insights*. You will note from the front cover that we are continuing with our new look which we introduced in the previous issue, and this summer edition is our effort to provide you with two issues a year rather than one.



Dean Don Fiesinger

In this issue, we are pleased to present our spring student and faculty award recipients; profiles of two emeriti faculty from the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, William Moore and Mel Cannon; and our annual donor recognition list. We have also highlighted a number of alumni, such as Ruth Novak, recipient of an honorary degree; Dr. John Nelson, president of the American Medical Association; and a group of biology and chemistry alumni; all of whom are reconnecting with their former academic departments and with Utah State University. Our hope is this will encourage other alumni to step forward and get involved again with their departments, the College of Science, and Utah State University. Please keep in mind there are many ways to get involved and give back, such as providing us with contacts for undergraduate internships and/or employment opportunities, encouraging outstanding high school students to consider studying science at Utah State University, and participating in various alumni events in support of scholarships and endowments. As you know, there are many dimensions to life here on campus and consequently many areas where you might be able to help us.

After reading this issue, I hope you will agree our students and faculty have had another outstanding year. It is very clear they continue to thrive, and our ability to do so is a reflection of the support we receive from friends and alumni. A part of this success has been due to the efforts of our college development officer, Joel Kincart. Unfortunately Joel has left us to pursue professional opportunities at another university and we wish him well in his new position. I look forward to maintaining the many contacts and relationships that Joel has helped establish these past two years.

As we go into this new academic year, please be assured that the College of Science will continue to provide students with a first-rate education, focusing on student

engagement in the classroom and presenting research opportunities with outstanding faculty. These student and faculty researchers are working on many new and exciting projects that have the potential for impacting our lives and changing our understanding of the world and universe.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Insights* and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions for future articles, such as a favorite faculty member or program you would like to see highlighted. *Insights* will be successful only if it provides information of interest and appeal to you, the reader. Please let us know.

Sincerely,

## Inside Insights

<i>From the Dean's Office</i> .....	2
<i>A Professor's Influence</i> .....	3
<i>USU Space Commercial</i> .....	3
<i>Alumni Involvement</i> .....	4
<i>Biotechnology Event</i> .....	5
<i>Emeritus Professor William M. Moore</i> .....	6
<i>Emeritus Professor Melvin C. Cannon</i> .....	8
<i>Honorary Doctorate Recipient Ruth L. Novak</i> .....	9
<i>Rhodes Scholar Lara B. Anderson</i> .....	10
<i>Alumni Gatherings and Student Activities</i> .....	12
<i>Roll of Donors</i> .....	14
<i>Heritage Society</i> .....	16
<i>Where There's a Will, There's a Way</i> .....	17
<i>College Award Recipients</i> .....	18
<i>Awards and Honors: Alumni &amp; Faculty</i> .....	22
<i>Transitions</i> .....	22
<i>ALUMNET Responses</i> .....	23
<i>College of Science Departments</i> .....	23
<i>ALUMNET Response Form</i> .....	24

On the cover: The Atmospheric Lidar Observatory's "Green Beam," a laser used to study atmospheric dynamics, competes for evening spectacle rights with a full moon setting over the Wellsville Mountains.  
Photo by Joel R. Drake, technical writer at Space Dynamics Laboratory.





## LETTERS

### A PROFESSOR'S INFLUENCE

Dear Dean Fiesinger,

I am writing today in response to an article in the Fall 2003 issue of *Insights*. Therein I read that **Dennis Welker** was selected as College of Science *Undergraduate Research Mentor*. I am particularly pleased to see that this distinction and recognition has been given to Dennis. I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have been a researcher in Dennis's laboratory while I was an undergraduate at USU. The time I spent in his lab was during some particularly formative years in my education and life. As such, his influence on me was without a doubt of central importance to my ability to be a scientist.

I came to USU from a small farm in Utah and was the first person in my family to attend college. I wanted to be a scientist, which was (and still is) quite an unorthodox thing to my family. I hadn't the slightest idea if a life for me in science would ever come to be, but I was determined to give it a shot. Of all the fine faculty members I knew at USU (including **Joe Li, Joanne Hughes, Beth Hood, Greg Podgorski, Jon Takemoto**, and the late **Jim Bowman**), Dennis was the one that really taught me that I could be whatever I wanted to be, if only I worked at it.

These years later I have not forgotten (and do my best to maintain) the things that I learned under his mentorship; lessons that include working hard, asking difficult questions, engineering experiments where the data will speak for itself, and even enjoying life beyond the laboratory (such as being a rockhound; an interest that was much amplified by knowing both Dennis and Joanne Hughes). I have every intention of remaining upon the path of science. It is a life I love and I am particularly indebted to certain individuals for their support of my efforts. Dr. Dennis Welker is at the top of my list.

Best wishes,

*Dr. M. William "Willy" Lensch*  
(B.S., Biology, 1991)  
*Harvard University Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Fellow*  
*Children's Hospital*  
*Boston, MA*

We welcome your thoughts and feedback at *Insights*. Please e-mail us at: [colette.yates@usu.edu](mailto:colette.yates@usu.edu), or address correspondence to *Insights*, College of Science, Office of the Dean, 0305 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT, 84322-0305. Letters may be edited for length.

## SPACE COMMERCIAL WINS BEST IN NATION

A captivating commercial that highlights Utah State's space research program was voted the "Best Campus Commercial" in a national competition earlier this year. The promotional television spot, part of the "THINK" campaign created by the University's Public Relations and Marketing office, took top honors at a contest sponsored by Carnegie Communications, a Boston-based market research firm that works exclusively with higher education institutions. Utah State was up against competitors from Ohio State, North Carolina State, and Wake Forest universities. The 60-second commercial features a stirring montage of NASA footage, combined with a moving score and text that reads "Utah State students send more experiments into space than any other university in the world." View the commercial at [www.usu.edu/space](http://www.usu.edu/space). ■





# ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

## RECONNECTING WITH THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

**W**e remember our favorite professors' names and where we sat in a lecture. We recall the countless hours spent holed up in a corner of the Merrill Library, or the time logged in a Widtsoe lab, focused intently on exam day. We all feel it, some connection to our alma mater, a place where our skills and ambitions were developed and put to the test, where discoveries were made, where lifelong friendships began. And, for some, the chance to reconnect with Utah State is also an opportunity to give something back.

**David J. Ecker**, who received his PhD degree in biochemistry from Utah State, has struck a unique partnership with the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. As the president of Ibis Therapeutics, a drug discovery and development division of Isis Pharmaceuticals (a company he helped to found), Ecker has given students an up-close look into his labs—and the industry. "**Lance Seefeldt** came up with the idea," Ecker said. "He asked if I would host a small group of the top chemistry students at my company for a day. The chemists in my company were more than willing to take a little time out and spend it with the students, and many of the students felt it was a major event in their training." The students, who raised the money for the trip themselves—including a departmental contribution and a matching donation from the Dean's Office—gained some invaluable experience by touring a top-notch facility.

Ecker, the recipient of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry's 2004 *Alumni Achievement Award*, was also asked to participate in last fall's Biotechnology Roundtable at the invitation of **Dean Don Fiesinger**, **Development Director Joel Kincart**, and Dr. Seefeldt (see "Follow Your Passion," page 5). "It turned out that a fairly significant number of Aggies from the '70s and '80s became leaders of the biotech revolution," he said. "Now the USU biotech program is plugged into the biotech industry, and can call on its leaders for anything it needs."

The room was packed when alumnus **J. David Higgins**, a venture capitalist and chairman of The Indigo Group, returned to campus this past February to speak at the College of Business' Information Technology Seminar. His

projects. He relayed how his education at Utah State, in statistics, was helpful in making "big-picture" decisions with little information. "For the biggest decisions, you will not have enough information to make them—that's when you're an entrepreneur," he told the audience. At the end of his presentation he asked for ideas from the audience regarding new inventions and company concepts, serving as a sounding board. "The hardest part is to know when



Dr. John Nelson (BS 1965, Zoology) addresses premed students on his visit to Utah State in January 2004.

something is a great idea," he said. To that end, he offered up his personal e-mail address. "Send me your idea," he said, "and I'll give you some ideas."

Last fall, when **John C. Nelson, M.D.**, president of the American Medical Association, was on campus to receive Utah State's prestigious *Alumnus of the Year* award, he was well aware of the University's strengths in premed education. "I was provided with an excellent background for my medical school studies, and **Dr. Tom Bahler** was a significant force in my being accepted into medical school," Nelson said of his undergraduate years and a professor that was integral to the process. But he was pleasantly surprised to learn of Utah State's rate of medical school admissions—which reached 85% in 2003, an acceptance rate much higher than the national average of just below 50%.

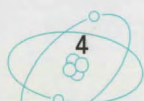
"I believe that the students being prepared for medical school at Utah State are superbly equipped for their upcoming class work," Nelson said. Since then, he has returned to campus to speak with students in the premed program. He visited in January to discuss current issues and challenges facing the medical profession, and spoke with **Department Head Jon Takemoto** and other professors about the direction of Utah State's "sterling" program.

"I am currently working with the College to see what is so special about its premedical education," he shared. He has

**"NOW THE USU BIOTECH PROGRAM IS PLUGGED INTO THE BIOTECH INDUSTRY, AND CAN CALL ON ITS LEADERS FOR ANYTHING IT NEEDS."**

presentation, "The Dynamic World of Technology from its Root: the Entrepreneur," was a shot in the arm for many Utah State entrepreneurs in the making. Higgins, who has spent much of his career providing businesses with high-tech solutions, spoke about companies that were founded on novel concepts, gave tips on how to develop as an entrepreneur, and shared ideas on how to fund

**ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT...**  
Continues on page 16





# "FOLLOW YOUR PASSION"

## ALUMNI BIOTECHNOLOGY EVENT PROVIDES INSIGHTS—AND ADVICE

The question seemed as relevant—and red hot—as any: "What are the emerging and growing areas in biotechnology?" Asked by a student during last fall's College of Science Biotechnology Roundtable, the query was directed at a 12-person panel of distinguished alums, a diverse group made up of CEOs, software specialists, patent attorneys, and others involved in the field of biotechnology, who had graciously returned to Utah State to share their combined experiences and industry knowledge. During the event, a session entitled "My Road from USU to Today and the Future of Biological Science" provided those in attendance an opportunity to direct questions to the panel, and certainly the "Next Big Thing" was on the minds of many eager to make the school-to-workforce transition.



Biotechnology faculty member Daryll DeWald (standing at far corner) makes introductory remarks to initiate discussion at the Biotechnology Roundtable in October 2003.

After several industry-specific replies from the panel (i.e., "there's a shifting from 'data production' to 'knowledge production,'" creating more emphasis for "a need to integrate

information that's already been generated"), **Dr. David J. Ecker**, a co-founder of Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc., imparted this: "Don't chase the latest bubble." Instead, he encouraged students to focus on building a "basic, broad fundamental education in science," as opposed to tailoring one's area of specialty to the market. "And when you come to a fork in the road, take it," he added, employing a quote of Yogi Berra's and suggesting that during the course of one's career, there will be many trends, many changes, and many forks in the road, and a broad-based education is the key—in the name of moving forward—to navigating any and all roads.

**Dr. Raymond "R.J." Tesi**, formerly a senior vice president at SangStat Medical Corporation, a global biopharmaceutical company, echoed this sentiment. "Follow something you're passionate about," he said. "And remember that failure isn't failure, it's a bump in the road," indicating that there will always be a "Next Big Thing," but it is important to stick with something that matters to you—regardless of the shifting demands of the industry. An ability to adapt and grow with an evolving field was a common thread. "There are 12 of us here and we've probably had over 50 jobs," said **Henry Nowak**, CFO and executive vice president of legal affairs at Caprion Pharmaceuticals. Former USU biology professor **Dr. Rex Spendlove**, founder and president of HyClone Laboratories and Spendlove Research Foundation, advised students to be "well read in a variety of fields and be ready to change fields."

Those in attendance received an abundance of advice as well as practical information during the session. The panel

stressed the ability to communicate well, emphasizing a need for writing and presentation skills; one of the panelists even opined that a strong communicator with weak technician skills will go further than a strong technician with a limited ability to communicate. They encouraged an exposure to business experience—dealing with budgets and grants. "You're going to have more receptivity if you know the lingo," said Nowak, in reference to seeking project funding. "None of what you do is done independently, you do it as a team," added **Dr. Annemarie Moseley**, CEO of Cognate Therapeutics, alluding to the importance of having collaboration skills, and taking management and other skill classes. "Along the way, everyone up here has been taking and teaching classes," she added. "It's ongoing."

Questions ran the gamut, with the audience asking about everything from industry ethics to investment strategies. Perhaps the most pointed query of the day was, "What are your career regrets?" Following a sustained silence—and then a collective laugh from the panel—**Jane B. Maxwell**, vice president of sales for SciTegic, shared this: "I stayed in a job too long and got comfortable... I stopped taking risks." Hearing these valuable lessons from alumni who have had myriad career changes, and managed to cope with industry flux—while experiencing a great deal of work satisfaction—was a great way for Utah State biotechnology students to better prepare themselves for their next step. The event also featured a two-part seminar in securing patents and handling intellectual property (offered by Henry Nowak and **Ned A. Israelsen**, managing partner at Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear), which drew an audience of both faculty and students and covered topics such as investment capital, identifying conflict of interest, and the nature of royalties for university-based researchers.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE RECEIVED AN ABUNDANCE OF ADVICE AS WELL AS PRACTICAL INFORMATION DURING THE SESSION.

Thanks to the alumni participants, the Biotech Roundtable was a major success and will be offered again. It was an excellent example of how College of Science alumni are giving back to their University—offering their time and insight while making a genuine difference in peoples' lives. ■

### PARTICIPANTS IN THE 2003 COLLEGE OF SCIENCE BIOTECHNOLOGY ROUNDTABLE:

J. DONALD DEBETHIZY	HENRY NOWAK
DAVID J. ECKER	ALAN K. SMITH
NED A. ISRAELSEN	REX SPENDLOVE
JANE B. MAXWELL	R.J. TESSI
ANNEMARIE MOSELEY	RICHARD D. THOMAS
KEN MOSELEY	



EMERITUS PROFESSOR  
**DR. WILLIAM M. MOORE**

ON CHEMISTRY AND CYCLING—A PROFESSOR REFLECTS

On the high trails around Cache Valley, it is a common thing to encounter mountain bikers most days of the summer: riders decked out with sleek cycling gear and brightly colored helmets, powering up steep climbs, dropping down technical descents, taking on trails that are reserved for the die-hard and the devoted. Among them is a retired Utah State chemistry professor. In fact, since his retirement in 1993, **Dr. William M. Moore** has really caught the cycling bug. "For the last five years, I've tried to do some kind of tour," he said of a pedal passion that combines regional mountain biking with farther-flung bike travel.

From his living room couch, resting his legs after having just returned from a hilly tour of Italy's Tuscany region, William explained that cycling is an interest that really kicked in following retirement. It began with an Elderhostel trip to England, for which he trained on a mountain bike his daughter had given him, cycling on valley roads and in the canyons, quickly finding himself drawn to the sport. After England, he signed up for other trips: cycling Utah's White Rim, a tour near Sun Valley, riding the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. And this spring, before the Italy trip, he did an off-road tour in the Canyonlands/Maze area near Moab. Even during the school year, he bike commutes to campus from his home in Smithfield. Yes, he is still commuting to campus.

"For two years, I stopped teaching and I intended to retire," William said with a chuckle. But the department was in need of someone to run the physical chemistry laboratory and gave him a call. "They asked me if I would come back temporarily—and I've been working ever since." Teaching junior- and senior-level lab courses part-time, he is on campus every day during the school year, and admits that it is a pretty busy schedule, particularly for someone who thought he was set to retire. But there was a void when he left Utah State. "I really jumped at the chance to come back," he said. "I found that I missed being around students."

William came to Utah State in 1960, sight unseen, and was hired without even a formal interview. At the time, he was finishing a postdoctoral fellowship through the National Institutes of Health at Cambridge University and spoke with **Dr. Melvin Cannon** about the job from the confines of an urban phone booth. The Department of Chemistry was facing a sudden loss of personnel, knew William would be a great addition to the faculty, and offered him a position. And though he had never been to Utah, William had been raised on the front range in Colorado and felt he wanted to resettle in the mountains, together with his wife, Patricia, and his young son. So with his work in England wrapping up, he took the job.

But arrival in Logan was a bit of a shock. Coming from the Rockies, he expected more in the way of mountainous topography, and the smaller-scale Bear River range took some getting used to. Other aspects of his arrival were

shocking as well. Chemistry was then an eight-person department, small but growing, and obtaining equipment and supplies for research and lab classes was an ongoing struggle. "Just getting things like liquid nitrogen, the things I was accustomed to having at big schools, I didn't have here," he said. On top of that, he had a full teaching load. "Since I was the only physical chemist for the first two years, I taught all physical chemistry courses." The classes were just as large then as they are now, he said, but were comprised mostly of graduate students from other departments that required some physical chemistry. (Now they are predominantly chemistry majors.) Chemistry only had about ten graduate students at the time. "The first years," he said, "were very difficult."

William himself was at one time destined to be a geologist. At Colorado College he "put off chemistry as long as possible," but when he enrolled in his first chemistry class, as a junior, he discovered an affinity for the subject and shifted his major late in the game. He then compressed a BA degree in chemistry into those two years, while simultaneously working no fewer than two jobs at a time, putting himself through school. "I had a hard time studying I had to work so much," he said. Not getting the support of his parents, it was sheer determination that saw him through.

**"I REALLY JUMPED AT THE CHANCE TO COME BACK," HE SAID. "I FOUND THAT I MISSED BEING AROUND STUDENTS."**

Following graduation, William got a job as a general chemist for Monsanto Chemical Co., in St. Louis, Missouri, working with processes to examine the quality of agricultural chemicals. It was a position that lasted only a year before he was drafted into the US Army.

The year was 1953, nearing the end of the Korean War, and after training in light infantry, William found himself stationed stateside at Fort Bliss in Texas to discharge returning soldiers. At the same time, he began doing coursework and research at the University of Texas at El Paso, where he developed a means to examine blood serum for multiple myeloma. It was also during this time that he convinced himself of an earlier notion: to go back to school, to pursue a career in chemistry that sidestepped the corporate world. "I'd seen what PhD chemists had done at Monsanto," he said, while also realizing that the "big company life" was not for him.

A roommate from his days in St. Louis had told him of someone at Iowa State University, Dr. George Hammond, who was engaged in free radical chemistry and cage effects, and who was starting to study photochemistry, which piqued William's interest. He applied the GI Bill, got a graduate school position with Dr. Hammond, and began work at Iowa State, where he eventually received



a PhD degree in physical chemistry. Their work was in photochemistry studies—light effects in chemical action—and William focused on the photoreduction of benzophenone. The project met with some hurdles and dead-ends, until William got an idea to use a particular compound. “At that point, things really started to gel and I suppose I got the major part of my research done in about six months.” And when Hammond transferred to the California Institute of Technology, William went with him, as a research associate. But he began to realize that if he wanted to teach, he needed a postdoctoral position—which is when he applied for and later received the NIH one-year fellowship to study at Cambridge under R.G.W. Norrish (who would be a co-recipient of the Noble Prize in Chemistry several years later).

Reflecting on his time at USU, William said, “I did a number of different things—a lot of photochemistry, then upper



atmosphere studies, metal-gas interface kinetics...and work with the water lab to see if we could use photochemistry to treat pollutants.” A partial list of his grants shows the range of his work: funding from the NSF, the USGS, NASA, and the US Air Force, among others. “I never got bored. I was very happy because I got to do about anything I wanted to do.” He spent a sabbatical at the University of Colorado at Boulder and a one-year appointment as a visiting professor at the Air Force Academy. But USU was a place where he would make some lasting connections. “I’ve always had friends within the chemistry department, we have a very good department in terms of interaction,” he said.

“**Jack Spence** came here in 1958...I met him the very first day I arrived here and we’ve been friends ever since.” Other colleagues that became close friends include the late **Garth Lee, Ed McCullogh, Vernon Parker, John Hubbard,** and the late **Tom Emery**. His long-term connections have included graduate students also. “It has always been satisfying to see that my graduate students have done well after graduation,” he said. “I have developed close ties and friendships with several former students including **William King, Dennis Fife, Jim Dyer, Marshall Ketchum** and **Mary Nubbe**. It was Dennis Fife, while second in command of the chemistry department at the Air Force Academy, who enticed me to spend a year there.”

And how does one keep a subject fresh for over 30 years?

“Well, the computers have really made a tremendous difference in the laboratory,” he said. In the early 1990s there was only one computer in the physical chemistry laboratory. Now there is one for every experiment. William actually had one of the first computers at the university—with 8k of memory. Later, he paid a graduate student in electrical engineering to build him a unit (as a “central” computer simply would not cut it), for which they wrote their own machine language program. “To make the alphabet for plotting, we had to program it,” he said.

Besides computers, there have certainly been other changes to the department. The graduate program is larger; so is the staff. Emphases have changed and expanded. Today’s facilities—Widtsoe, Maeser, the libraries—are vastly superior. It’s a satisfying time for William, too. “I think I’m a better teacher now,” he said, “because I don’t have to worry about administration, research, and getting money. The only thing I’m worried about is how well the students are doing.”

In addition to bicycling, William enjoys hiking, backcountry skiing, his grandchildren, and his family. He has been married twice: with Patricia he had three boys, Bill, Toby, and Sean; with Susan, a daughter, Sophia. They are scattered between Florida, California, and Utah, and he tries to spend time with everyone most summers. But come September, he will be back at work, cycling from Smithfield to Logan when the weather is good, and keeping quite involved for a “retired” professor. ■

*Moore’s new passion: biking in the local mountains.*



EMERITUS PROFESSOR  
**DR. MELVIN C. CANNON**

THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF A FORMER CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT HEAD



Dr. Melvin C. Cannon, Former Department Head of Chemistry and Biochemistry (1953-1968).

**H**is legacy might be with the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, but **Dr. Melvin "Mel" C. Cannon's** love of minerals has certainly made a lasting impression with the folks over in geology, too. "My main hobby," the former department head recalled in a letter to *Insights*, "was collecting minerals and rocks, especially micro-specimens and rare minerals. I have about 300 mounted minerals and donated 900 micro-mounted specimens to the Department of Geology."

Following retirement in 1978, after 30 years with the chemistry department, Mel had more time for minerals—and for travel. He and his wife, Anne, would travel extensively in the years that followed, to many places, plenty of which featured a geological draw. They have traveled throughout Utah, Nevada, California, New Mexico, Alaska, Mexico, and Israel, visiting some 17 countries in all.

And through geology, he was able to maintain his USU roots. Before retirement, Mel had taken geology classes to hone his hobby, and later he assisted in a multi-year endeavor to identify mineral specimens in the Wilfred Gray Collection, a demanding project that involved using X-ray diffraction. He also remained involved with students. "Many were the times I went with the graduate and senior students on required visits to places of geological interest," he writes of his post-retirement forays. **Dean Donald Fiesinger**, associate professor of geology, has called him "one of the best amateur mineralogists in Cache Valley." But Mel's involvement with the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is what first comes to mind: as a dedicated professor and department head.

"MANY WERE THE TIMES I WENT WITH THE GRADUATE AND SENIOR STUDENTS ON REQUIRED VISITS TO PLACES OF GEOLOGICAL INTEREST," HE WRITES OF HIS POST-RETIREMENT FORAYS.

After studying at the University of Utah for an undergraduate degree (he grew up in Salt Lake City), and settling with Anne in New York during World War II (they met during high school when they lived across the street from one another in Salt Lake), Mel earned a PhD degree from Cornell University, and then ended up with a teaching job in Colorado. The year was 1947.

"I was teaching at the University of Denver," Mel remembered, "when I had a call from **Dr. Theodore M. Burton**, who was

on the chemistry faculty, saying that their analytical chemist was leaving. Would I like to apply for the position? Yes!" He gladly accepted the job—eager to return to Utah—and began teaching that year. "The early days at USU were difficult," he remembered, "because I had to learn how to teach effectively, get acquainted with my colleagues, both in and out of the department. However, I was happy and tried to do a good job."

In 1953, **Dr. Sherwin Maeser** resigned as department head and Mel was appointed as his replacement, also advancing to full professor. In those days the department was occupying but a small part of Widtsoe Hall, and there was a need for growth, both to facilities and to programs. "There had not been an effort to get the approval for a doctoral program," Mel said, so that became his first goal as department head. And he raised the bar for departmental expectations, putting more emphasis on faculty research. "Mel was a low-key department head," **Dr. William Moore** recalled, "but he was the leader that changed the department from very little research on the part of faculty, to all new faculty being expected to get grants and carry on graduate-level research."

As an advocate for the development of the physical plant and laboratory facilities, he obtained funding for a renovation of the old Widtsoe Hall, which involved updating the ground floor, and adding new offices, the library and conference room, research labs, and the analytical chemistry laboratory. He later received funding to redo the third floor and overhauled the electrical and ventilation system in the building. "This was all before we got state and federal funds for Maeser Hall," said Moore. "Administrators would tell him no, and then the next week he would show up again in their offices. But he was never pushy, only persistent." Moore, at the time of his own retirement, acknowledged Mel as "one who deserves most of the credit for what we have at present."

Mel is quite impressed with more recent additions and improvements to campus. "My friend **Glen Thornley** took me on tours of the new facilities, both during construction of the new chemistry building, and after it was finished," he said. "I think the new building is great and has stimulated the chemistry and biochemistry faculty to achieve higher and more important goals in their teaching and research activities."

Mel served as department head until 1968, when his health necessitated resignation from the position, but he continued to teach analytical and inorganic chemistry coursework until retirement. His own research was a focus on high-temperature absorption of hydrogen by heavy metals (uranium alloy and similar alloys combined with carbon at various concentrations), but "departmental duties made it difficult to do research."

**DR. MELVIN C. CANNON...**  
*Continues on page 17*



## HONORARY DOCTORATE AWARDED TO AEROSPACE PIONEER



Ruth L. Novak

In her very first math class at Utah State University, **Ruth L. Novak** no doubt stood out among her peers—she was the only woman in the room. The year was 1955, times were rather different, and taking “Introduction to College Algebra” just was not on the radar for most female undergraduates. But Ruth decided to make a switch from her art studies—after she concluded that she wasn’t destined to be an artist—and try math, something she had been good at in high

school, even if the curriculum at her school in the small farm community of Francis, Utah, had been a bit limited. At Utah State, Ruth’s math professor saw her potential and advised her to stick with it. So she started down a rather uncharted road, one that would lead her to receive a BS degree in 1958, majoring in mathematics with a minor in physics, and two years after that, to earn a master’s degree from USU in mathematics and statistics. Ruth returned to campus this past commencement to receive one more degree from Utah State University, an honorary doctorate, in recognition of the many professional achievements and community contributions that she has made in the ensuing years.

“Ruth L. Novak is an innovative scientist whose career in the aerospace industries spans decades,” read Richard Shipley, member of the USU Board of Trustees, during graduation ceremonies. “She has influenced the development of new technologies and products that have contributed to national security, and that are vital to the safety of the space program.” Ruth’s role as an innovator and contributor to US space program successes began soon after graduation. In 1960, she went to work for Hercules Aerospace Corp., in Magna, Utah, just as the company was entering the Minuteman missile program. (A few brushstrokes of history surrounding the times: Sputnik 1 was launched by the Soviet Union in 1957; in 1958, the US launched an overdrive Explorer 1; also in that year, NASA was founded; the accelerating

“space race,” under the veil of the Cold War, was on.) And talented individuals who could bring an inventiveness to the aerospace industry were much in demand.

Ruth began at Hercules as a statistician, and contributed to the company’s quality-assurance programs as they worked with the US Air Force to construct a third stage of the three-stage Minuteman missile. During the 1960s and ‘70s, she supervised measurement and instrumentation processes and was later named manager of quality assurance. Her ingenuity and leadership abilities took her higher into management levels. She contributed to a team that successfully designed a solid-propellant rocket motor and was selected as program manager for the development of motors for the Pershing II missile system. She oversaw many scientists and engineers, and was ultimately a part of almost every strategic weapons system in production at the company.

Working on both Army and Navy programs, Ruth became manager and later vice president of Navy programs at Hercules, and was responsible for directing the Navy Fleet Ballistic Missile Programs. In 1987, she was named general manager of the corporation, heading up all operations—from strategic & space to science & technology—with approximately 3,800 personnel to oversee. And in the early ‘90s, three decades after the space race began, with the reunification of Germany and the fall of the Soviet Union,

**AND IN THE EARLY ‘90S, THREE DECADES AFTER THE SPACE RACE BEGAN, WITH THE REUNIFICATION OF GERMANY AND THE FALL OF THE SOVIET UNION, SHE WAS CHARGED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY AT HERCULES.**

she was charged with implementation of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty at Hercules. Now retired, Ruth continues to work as an aerospace management consultant and serves on several boards, including for the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory and the Aerospace Corporation.

In addition to building an impressive career for herself, Ruth has also helped create opportunities for the careers of others. She was a co-founder and served as president of the Utah Math/Science Network, an organization that encourages and enthuses young women to consider career options in math and science fields. Traveling with the Network to high schools and educational conferences throughout the state, and sharing her experiences and knowledge with countless students, Ruth has been an inspiration for many aspiring young scientists.



Receiving degree from President  
Kermit Hall at Commencement 2004.

**HONORARY DOCTORATE...**  
Continues on page 17



## Rhodes Scholar Lara Briana Anderson

### PHYSICIST FINDS HERSELF DRAWN TO "FUNDAMENTAL, BEAUTIFUL QUESTIONS"

When *Insights* caught up with Lara Briana Anderson, she had just returned from a University "Road Scholars" tour of Utah. Yes, that reads Road Scholars, not Rhodes Scholars. But in a wonderfully apt twist, the Road Scholars tour—a traveling, ambassador-type showcase of new Utah State faculty and staff—was able to deliver on its play with words, for the tour did indeed feature a Rhodes Scholar. Lara was on board, meeting with potential USU students, alumni, and educators, and sharing her passion for physics and math, a passion that she will take with her to Oxford University this fall.

Lara is the seventh student in Utah State University's history to receive the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, and it is an honor she shares with a very select group of individuals across the globe; roughly 95 scholarships are awarded annually. And while earning the endorsement of one's university or college for a chance at a Rhodes is itself an incredible accomplishment, getting through the rigorous interview process that follows, on both state and regional levels, is a major feat.

"I was very determined," Lara said, thinking back on the multi-stage interviews, "to demonstrate...what I thought I was about." Citing a determination that centered not so much on winning the Rhodes (although she had long ago made a "book" of every available scholarship, and was on her way to receiving three of them, including a Marshall Scholarship), but on being herself throughout the judging process, Lara was determined that the judges see her for who she is—not as someone who tried to say the "right" thing. "I knew I would feel okay about the outcome either way if I did that," she reasoned. Applicants are evaluated on far more than academics and a keen knowledge of their field, as the scholarship selection committees place an emphasis on well-roundedness, and candidates are asked to delve into larger issues, such as religion, current affairs, political policy, and offer, essentially, their sense of the world. "I was prepared to be intimidated," Lara said of being interviewed by the 12-person panel. "But universally they were very friendly...it made me a lot more comfortable with the whole thing." Throughout the interviews, particularly at the regional level, she was happy to find herself among peers that she could see herself befriending, and said the overall experience was a bonding one.

Her hard work and genuineness paid off. Last November, Lara received notice that she had been chosen. After carefully thinking about her other scholarship options, she selected the Rhodes Scholarship, knowing that she wanted to attend Oxford and because the Marshall Scholarship, if passed over, is awarded to another deserving student while the Rhodes Scholarship would go unused.

Here at Utah State, Lara received a BS degree with a double major in mathematics and physics in 2003, and completed an MS degree in theoretical physics this past May. Presently, the 23-year-old is continuing her research



Dr. James Wheeler and Lara Anderson

with **Dr. James Wheeler**, her advisor of four years. Beginning with her sophomore year, Lara began work with Dr. Wheeler on a project in mathematical physics, researching supergravity models and quantum field theory. It was a head start that she credits as helping to affirm her motivation for a career in science. She also acknowledges the College of Science's emphasis on "encouraging everyone to do a senior project and to do research" for helping her begin down her path. Lara has excelled as a student during her time at Utah State. In 2001, she received the *Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship*, one of only two awarded to Utah students, and other merits include earning a *College of Science Theodore M. Burton Scholarship* and a *USU Presidential Fellowship*.

A poised and sharp young woman, Lara is also a down-to-earth individual with a good sense of humor. Those who know her well are fast to point out her capacity for understanding complex ideas and her strong work ethic, but place special emphasis on her personality, her likeability. She was chosen as the 2003 *College of Science Valedictorian* and spoke at commencement as the 2003 *University Valedictorian*. Lara holds a black belt in both karate and aikido (volunteer teaching these disciplines in her spare time), plays the violin, and has been learning to play soccer on the Physics Department intramural team—a pursuit she hopes to continue in England. Literature, writing, and poetry are among her other interests, and she admits to a green thumb as well, having taken over the family garden and flowerbeds when she was 14—bringing order to a smaller, yard-bound universe.

Always interested in literature, and later mathematics, Lara said she became interested in science "sort of from



a young age, without really knowing what it was about," attributing some of those early fascinations to the influence of her father, **Dr. David (Andy) Anderson**, a professor in Utah State's Department of Biology. Before coming to USU, Lara was home-schooled by her parents, Andy and Sher, who provided an education that she said "prepared me very well." From the age of 11 or so, she recalled, "I determined what I was going to do every day. My parents were actually incredibly clever in that regard, because they made me feel it was my idea...of not making me feel forced. I value my [home-schooling] education a lot."

**SOMETHING BRILLIANT AND VAST OPENED THAT DAY, AND AFTERWARD, ON THE WAY OUT OF THE BUILDING, LARA PROCLAIMED TO HER PARENTS THAT SHE WANTED TO BE A PHYSICIST ONE DAY.**

And incredibly, Lara's curiosity in physics can be traced to an experience she had at the age of 12, during a visit to the former Hansen Planetarium in Salt Lake City, Utah. On that memorable trip, Lara and her family were treated to a star show designed by Stephen Hawking. "It was totally cool," she remembered. "I was completely dazzled." Something brilliant and vast opened that day, and afterward, on the way out of the building, Lara proclaimed to her parents that she wanted to be a physicist one day. Since then, her perception of the universe has only deepened, and it is now something that she refers to as encompassing "fundamental, beautiful questions." She is fast to use that word, "beautiful," almost reflexively, to describe her sense of a theory that brings "really small things and really big things together." And when asked to qualify this, to bring meaning to beauty in this context, Lara smiles and thinks for a moment as this writer prepares to decipher some hard-to-handle mathematical musings. "You know the soft belly fur of a kitten?" she finally concludes. "That's what it is like for me." At first, the reply is a little perplexing. But then it becomes



Lara Briana Anderson

clear: For Lara, her work offers something of an irresistible design—and is something from which she takes great joy and contentment.

At Oxford, Lara will pursue a doctorate in mathematical physics, working with an advisor whom she has only corresponded with via e-mail. She is excited to be studying at a place steeped in such tradition and history, and when asked about her living situation there, makes reference to the dormitories depicted in the "Hogwarts School" from Harry Potter—likening them to Oxford's dorms aesthetically, but also to describe how the students, of mixed disciplines, are grouped together. The comparison relates to more practical matters, too. "Things I took for granted—central heating, telephone access, and Internet access—are limited," she said with a good-natured smile.

When asked about her long-term goals, Lara said she is just focused on working toward a PhD degree. Beyond that, she shared, "I want to contribute to meaningful research in physics," while also admitting to the possibility of teaching college-level physics someday. She has already had the opportunity to do a fair amount of teaching, through labs and tutoring at Utah State, to pass some of what she has called her professors' "infectious enthusiasm" along to others, and it has been a positive and rewarding part of her university experience. Even at home, she has seen the effect of extending her knowledge and passion for the subject. From time to time her teenage brother, Luke, and his friends when they visit the Anderson home, ask Lara to tell them "something cool." So she will share something that, as Lara puts it, "changes the way they look at things a little bit." Because Lara knows just how cool it can be. ■

The Anderson family: Luke, Sher, Lara, Andy



## ALUMNI GATHERING



*Dean Fiesinger, Development Director Joel Kincart, and Don Cooley, head of the Department of Computer Science, posing with College of Science alums and spouses in Boise, Idaho, February 2004.*

### **Back Row**

**Left to right**-Mike Hayhurst (BS '70), Don Cooley, Gary Godderidge (BA '90, MS '94), Frank Fuller (BS '03), Lori Allan (BS '98, MS '00), Mark Salisbury (BS '02), Dean Fiesinger.

### **Front Row**

**Left to right**-Joel Kincart, Michelle Morris, Lyle Taylor (BA '99), Beth Godderidge, Brook Fuller (Biology Comp Teaching BS '03), Kim Salisbury (BS '00, MS '02).

*Gary Godderidge in animated discussion with fellow Computer Science alums, in Boise, Idaho, February 2004.*



*The Big West Basketball Tournament in Anaheim, California, was the occasion for a mini-Geology reunion in March 2004. Pictured here are Elio Torrealba (BS '83); Peter Wong (BS '78) with sons Daniel and Thomas; George (MS Geol '74) and Karen (BS EL Ed '69) DeVries; and Cliff Wallman (BS '85).*



## ALUMNI GATHERINGS STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES



*Chemistry students visit Isis Pharmaceuticals in San Diego, California, hosted by Chemistry alum, Dave Ecker, in April 2004.*  
**Back Row-**Lance Seefeldt, Landon Karren, Dave Ecker (PhD, 1983, Biochemistry), Rex Watkins, Matt Fowers, Matt Wheatley.  
**Front Row-**Brett Hamilton, Chad Wasden, Jamie Purcell, Chelsey Ashcroft, Crystal Shipley.

### ALUMNI GATHERING



*Dean Fiesinger listens to Zoology alums Dr. Keith Gates (BS '42) and Richard Hafen (BS '57) during a breakfast visit in St. George, December 5, 2003.*



*A St. George visit with retired Science faculty and staff: Tony and Marilyn Bringham, Duane Loveland, Dean Fiesinger, and Tamara and Kimber Atkinson, December 5, 2003.*



# YEAR 2004 ROLL OF DONORS

We gratefully acknowledge the 727 donors who contributed in excess of \$711,576 to the College of Science in the fiscal year 2004 (1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004). Alumni, friends, foundations, corporations, faculty, and staff have all donated generously. Every department, several special programs and projects, and numerous scholarships benefited from your contributions. Thank you for enhancing the College's commitment to excellence in science education and research.

Your support is critical each year. You may contact Dean Don Fiesinger at (435) 797-2478 or [don.fiesinger@usu.edu](mailto:don.fiesinger@usu.edu) for additional information on opportunities to support the College of Science.

## CORPORATE & FOUNDATION DONORS

Abbott Laboratories  
Alliant Techsystems\*  
Alliant Techsystems Community Investment Foundation\*  
American International Group, Inc.  
Amsted Industries, Inc.  
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation\*  
Bitner Vineyards  
Boeing Company\*  
Bryant Laboratories  
Crompton Corporation  
Dimella Shaffer Associates, Inc.

Dudley T. Dougherty Foundation, Inc.\*  
Exxon Mobil, Corp.  
ExxonMobil Foundation\*  
First Security Foundation\*  
The Williams Companies Foundation, Inc.\*  
Hewlett-Packard\*  
Household International, Inc.\*  
IBM Corporation\*  
Jones Family Charitable Foundation  
KFH Consultation & Design, Inc.  
Lockheed Martin\*  
Lundahl Rentals, LLC

Marathon Oil Company  
Micron Technology Foundation, Inc.  
Microsoft Corporation  
Newmont Mining Corporation\*  
Nitroclision, LLC  
Osborn Orthodontic Lab  
Pfizer Foundation\*  
Premier Dental Care, P.C.  
Rockwell Collins  
Sun Microsystems Foundation\*  
Texaco, Inc.  
The B.H.A.R.E. Foundation\*

The Coca-Cola Company  
The J. P. Morgan Chase Foundation\*  
Thiokol Propulsion\*  
UF3, LLC\*  
University of Idaho\*  
Unocal Foundation  
Vitalsmarts, LLC  
Western Anesthesia Relief\*  
Western Geologic, LLC  
Willard L. Eccles Foundation  
Wyeth International, Inc.\*

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Anonymous Donors  
Carolyn Kay Abbott, PhD  
Linda C. Abbott  
Robert Dell Adamson\*  
Vikas & Anagha Agnihotri  
Shelley Agricola  
Ramakalyani Akkiraju  
Ali Al-bitar\*  
Steve & Vicki Allan\*  
Clyde Jesse Allen  
A. David & Janet L. Allen  
Dennis Kay Allen  
Lori M. Allen  
Ross R., Jr. & Tana Allen  
Chris E. Allgower\*  
Minnie M. Allison\*  
Kirk & Leslie Allred  
Jill Martindale Allsop  
Richard L. Andersen  
Allison B. Anderson  
Craig J. Anderson  
Doug R. & Mary Anderson  
Douglas & Janet Anderson  
Marc O. & Diana Anderson\*  
Matthew B. & Valerie Anderson  
Roger W. Anderson  
Steven & Nicole Anderson\*  
Tom Anderson  
Lyle H. Archibald  
Karl & Joyce Armstrong  
Roas Asay  
Tamara S. Atkinson  
Rex Averett  
Chris & Nancy Avery  
Catherine T. Bailey  
Maurice & Laura Baker  
Richard Paul Baker\*  
Terrell & Laurie Baldwin  
Michael I. Ball  
Martha H. Balph  
Donna M. Baranowski  
Richard T. Barber  
Ruth G. Barker\*  
Scott L. Bartlett  
Bevan & Gay Bastian  
Philip D. Baugh\*  
Mike & Julia Bava\*  
Isabel H. Beck  
Melissa E. Beck  
Patrick M. & Becky H. Beck  
Robert A. Bell  
Glenn B. Bergeson\*  
Joseph S. & Patricia Bergeson  
Lisa M. Berreau  
Lori Lin Barrett  
Katie A. Berry\*  
Carma & Stanley Beus\*

Stephen Bialkowski & Agnes Chartier\*  
The Bickmore Family Trust  
Ray W. & Mary Jo Bills  
Karen O. Bindrup\*  
Brandon Bingham  
Keith & Debbie Bingham  
Korth & Adoree Bingham  
Marriner & Maralyn Bingham  
Ralph & Jane Binns  
Mark U. Birch  
Ron M. Bitner  
Kris H. & Julie Blauer\*  
Brandon & Anne Bodily  
Travis & Laura Bodraro\*  
George E. Bohart Family Trust  
Alexander I. Boldyrev  
Randy A. Booth  
Joseph & Carrie Borondy  
Daniel A. & Traci Boston  
David P. Bouchard  
Harold D. Bowles\*  
William M. Bracken  
Carl B. Bradshaw\*  
Paul Brenchley  
William A. Brindley\*  
Terry L. & Verna Broadbent\*  
Edmund D. Brodie, Jr.\*  
Duane & Maria Brown  
Gordon Daniels Brown  
Joanna & Rodney Brown  
Robert S. Brown\*  
Rodney A. Brown  
William Lee Brown  
Charles J. & Linda Broz\*  
Cari & Kay Bruce\*  
Kay Bruce\*  
Perry S. Bruno  
Gerry & Debra Bryant  
Robert H. Burgoyne\*  
James & Lynette Burhop  
Joanne W. Bumett  
Bruce & Kathleen Burtenshaw  
Brent S. Butler\*  
Richard J. Butler\*  
Nathan H. Call  
Val D. Campbell\*  
Janet M. Canann  
Dean & Peggy Candland  
Scott & Claudia Cannon  
Robert & Pauline Capener  
Darin C. Carlson  
Anne Carter  
John E. & Laree A. Cartar  
Patrick Carter  
Roger Carter  
W. O. & Sylvia S. Carter  
Rex & Janette Case

Frank & Rebecca Casperson  
Richard S. Chambers  
Hwai-hwei & Shih-chu Chen  
Li Chen & Lan Zhang  
Matthew & Jerolee Cheney  
Jeffrey & Kathryn Chevalier  
Yen-Po Chiu & Hsiu-Hui Wang  
Chi Ken Choi  
Clint & Michelle Christensen  
Janene Christensen\*  
Randall & Rhonda Christensen  
Grant & Geniel Christian\*  
Brian Christensen  
Deborah Ciul\*  
Robert G. Clark\*  
Scott & Martha Clark  
Theron W. Class  
John E. & Carol W. Clay  
Roberta E. Clement\*  
Stephen W. Clyde\*  
James & Alenda Coburn  
Sherri Dawn Code  
Peter Codella  
Neil F. Collins  
George & Sandra Comish\*  
Marvin William Conley\*  
Donald & Nancy Cooley\*  
Gayle Coon  
Thomas D. & Joanne Coppin\*  
Chris & Bobbie Coray\*  
Daniel C. & Sherri Coster\*  
Kay J. Crandall  
Matthew & Rachel Crane  
McKell Crawford  
Andrew J. & Rita W. Critchfield\*  
Kay Cruson  
Daniel Cummings  
James J. Curtin  
Steven B. Curtis  
Preston & Barbara Cutler\*  
Richard & Adele Cutler\*  
Wendy Czamecki\*  
Jim W. Dahl\*  
Merrill C. & Betty Daines  
Paul H. Daines\*  
Craig & Susan Davis  
Roy Kim Davis  
Steven R. Davis  
Mariowe Dayley  
Richard Everett Dayton  
Steven & Rochelle De Spain  
Harold E. & Carolyn J. DeLaMare\*  
John Robert Dennison\*  
Jack Faulkner Dexter  
Keith & Martha Dixon  
John Domina\*  
Jason R. & Dawn M. Douglas\*

Dr. Melvin K. Knight, D.D.S.  
Mark & Diana DuBois\*  
Durrell Duce\*  
Ralph & Lorraine Duce  
Lynn Dudley & Caryn Beck-Dudley  
Burton H. Duke  
M. Guy Durrant  
Charles & Ellen Duwe  
William H. Eckensberger  
David & Victoria Edwards\*  
John M. Edwards  
Dr. Richard & Joan Egan\*  
Ann Elder  
Dean & Montana Eliason  
David L. Ellsworth\*  
Gerald D. Elseth\*  
Donald W. Emerich\*  
George H. & Billie Bush Emerit\*  
Edward & Debi Evans\*  
James Evans & Susanne Janecke\*  
Aaron G. Faatz  
Charles & Anna Field\*  
Donald W. & Janet Fiesinger\*  
Dennis J. Fife\*  
Linda Hansen Finchum\*  
James R. Fisher\*  
Elno L. Fluckiger\*  
Lana Fomesbeck  
Walter Fox\*  
Laurie Fraser\*  
Osamu Fujiwara  
Clarence J. & Joan Funk\*  
Anna L. Furniss  
Craig M. & Lorraine Gale  
Donald & Kathryn Gardner  
Joseph H. Gardner  
Ronald J. Gardner  
Oliver & Marian Garrard  
Lawrence, Jr. & Jennifer Gates\*  
Dennis & Nancy Gay  
John Evan Gee  
Joseph Norman Gee  
Randy & Katie Geldmacher  
Lynn H. Gerber  
Harry L. Gibbons  
Scott & Toni Gibbons\*  
Ronald & Jill Gihring  
Arnold B. & Janet Gilbert  
Estella Gilbert  
David Glenn  
Clinton Goldsberry  
George & Jean Gowans  
Allen W. & Colleen Graves  
Estate of Marguerite Greaves  
Dale W. & Sharon O. Greenwood\*  
George R. Griffin\*  
Miroslaw Gruca

\*Consecutive Year Donor



Natalie Grush\*  
 Robert Gubernick\*  
 Darrel J. Gunderson  
 Spencer & Nancy Guthrie  
 Joel H. & Peggy Gyllenskog  
 Douglas & Polly Hablison  
 Bretton & Kimberleigh Hadfield\*  
 Ross S. Hadfield  
 Richard B. Hafen  
 Rodney & Angela Hale  
 Mark Carter Hall\*  
 Melvin Spencer Hamilton, Jr.  
 Brian F. Hammond\*  
 Lonn P. Hamp\*  
 Weiwei Han  
 William Hanohano, Jr.  
 Anna Lou Hansen  
 Lars P. Hansen & Grace Tsiang\*  
 Matthew & Keri Hansen  
 Terry & Mary Hansen  
 Wilford J. Hanson\*  
 Larry Dean Haramoto  
 James Lee Hargrove  
 M. Judd & Helen Hermon  
 Brent & Janet Harris  
 Dr. Chauncy S. Harris\*  
 Jennifer Harris\*  
 Evan M. Harrison\*  
 Roger & Carole Harrison\*  
 Blake & LuAnn Hart\*  
 Phillip J. Hart\*  
 Albert & Jane Hartman  
 Marty R. Haslam  
 Eastman & Anne Hatch\*  
 Robert & Kristine Hatch  
 Charles & Annette Haws\*  
 Glenn Hazekamp  
 E. Robert & Christi Heal\*  
 Don L. Healey  
 Todd & Raini Heap  
 Randall & Carissa Heaps  
 Hoyt J. Heaton  
 Scott Hebertson\*  
 Corinne Heggie\*  
 Scott S. & Sharon Heiner\*  
 Sheri W. Heiter  
 Christopher B. Heki\*  
 Christopher & Nicole Hellewell  
 Ruth B. Helm  
 Alvan C. & Maribeth Hengge  
 Alan L. Hermansen\*  
 Gordon & Jan Heward  
 Larry Eugene Hibbert  
 David & Cecile Higgins  
 Joseph Dale Hillam  
 Chad L. & Teana Hillyard\*  
 Gerald Jay Hilton  
 R. Michael & Janice Histon  
 Raymond & LouAnn Hlavaty  
 Richard H. & Anne Hoff  
 Robert & Sally Hoffmann  
 Steven & Rebecca Hogan\*  
 Ruth L. Holm  
 Alan D. Holt\*  
 Kelly & Shaula P. Holt\*  
 Ted M. Holtz\*  
 Jack W. Homeyer  
 Clair, Jr. & Julia Hopkins  
 Clifford & Mollyanne Hopkins  
 Winifred B. Horspool  
 Gregory R. Housekeeper\*  
 Stacy Vail Howard\*  
 Cody Lamont Howell  
 Laura Grant Howells  
 Wen-ching S. Huang  
 Sidney D. Hughes\*  
 Don F. & Annette Hull  
 Robert C. Hull  
 Denise P. Hume\*  
 Michael H. Hunsaker\*  
 Stanley R. Hunt\*  
 Richard Bruce Hunter\*  
 Mateusz L. Hupert  
 Ned & Cynthia Israelsen  
 Jeffery B. & Michelle Jacobsen  
 Garth A. James  
 Randy & Ruth Ann James\*  
 William Calvin James

Nrupal R. Jani  
 Larry & Lynn Jech  
 Steven Ralph & LeAnn Jenkins  
 Clay John Jensen\*  
 Donald Reed Jensen\*  
 Earl & Mary Ann Jensen  
 Mark & Cami Jensen  
 Douglas O. Johns  
 Douglas A. & Shawna Johnson\*  
 Kelly L. & Sharon S. Johnson  
 Russell Johnson  
 Sherman & Janis Johnson  
 Steven A. Johnson  
 Todd & Marcia Johnson  
 Richard K. & Lisa Jolley  
 Wendell L. & Sharlene M. Jolley\*  
 Gordon Jones  
 Leon L. & Judith Jones  
 Norman Jones & Lynn Meeks  
 William & Lila Jones  
 Brett Judd  
 Ray N. Kahler\*  
 Stephen & Teresa Kan  
 David W. Keetch  
 Susan G. Kelley  
 Michael I. Kelrick  
 Helen M. Kampenich\*  
 Patricia Kennedy\*  
 Tariq Abdul Rahman Kergaya\*  
 Michael O. Killpack\*  
 DuWayna R. Kleinschmidt\*  
 Melvin Keith Knight  
 Molly J. Koch  
 Joe & Nan Koebbe\*  
 James F. & Shirley Kohler\*  
 Peter T. & Mary V. Kolesar\*  
 Timothy Francis Kowalik\*  
 Neil L. Kunz  
 Michael Lamb  
 David Lancy & Joyce Kinkead  
 Robert Lane  
 Reed Langford  
 Eugene & Noreen Larkin  
 Frederick R. Larsen\*  
 Michelle A. Larsen  
 Paul Alan Larson\*  
 Zoltan Laszlo  
 Debra C. Lavitt  
 Tamra Lawrence  
 Kenneth Byron Layton  
 Douglas & Alice Lemon  
 Jonathan L. Len  
 Edward W. Laung  
 David & Sheila Lewis\*  
 Howard S. Lewis, Jr.\*  
 Jerry H. Lewis  
 Joseph K. K. Li\*  
 Gordon Lind  
 Carl Lindahl, Jr.  
 Douglas & Vurvan Linford  
 Lance & Wendy Littlejohn\*  
 Nancy L. Livingston  
 Marliese Lloyd  
 Michael & Tracie Lockhart  
 Bruce & Marianne Lorenzen  
 Martin J. Loveless  
 Ray Dean Lowe  
 Robert & DeVona Luke  
 Carl & Mary Sue Lundahl  
 Yijing Luo  
 Tex Luthi\*  
 Scott N. Lutz\*  
 Daniel J. & Andrea MacFarlane  
 James A. & Patty MacMahon\*  
 John Madany  
 Darrell Royal Maddock  
 Todd D. Maddox  
 Dan B. Madsen  
 Pablo Viray Magat  
 Nolan & Marian Mangelson  
 Phillip D. Markham  
 Don & Tamara Marshall\*  
 Gregg A. Marshall  
 Karen Bennion Martin  
 Richard Denton Matthews  
 Jackie Matosian  
 Robert Y. & Karleen Maughan  
 Glenn H. Maurer

Jerrold N. Mayer\*  
 Patrick H. McClellan  
 David McComb\*  
 John W. McConnell  
 Dale McCormick  
 Lillyan McCormick  
 Larry R. & Julie O. McCullough\*  
 Matthew McKay  
 James McMickell  
 Dr. Dean S. & Mrs. Mary A. McNeil  
 Robins J. & Kimberly McPherson  
 Janet K. McWhorter  
 Jeffrey David Meaders  
 Lynn Niles Mecham  
 Dr. A. Wayne & Sharon W. Meikle  
 Jeramie C. & Margo Memmott  
 Donald R. Menick\*  
 Richard & Nancy Menlove  
 Christon & Kathleen Merkle\*  
 Kevin H. Merkle  
 Elizabeth Munson Merrill  
 Monte Merrill\*  
 Frank J. Messina\*  
 Christopher Mikesell  
 Gail Pulsipher Miles  
 Gene W. & Ruth E. Miller\*  
 Ralph W. Miller\*  
 Robert & Larue Miller  
 Todd & Kathleen Miller  
 Larry K. Millward\*  
 Michael C. Minnotte\*  
 Michael E. Minock\*  
 Sandy Mintz  
 Troy & Kathryn Mitchell\*  
 James E. Mohr\*  
 Larry R. Moncur  
 Thomas W. Moon\*  
 Steven W. Mortenson  
 Gerald & Linda Mortimer  
 Arthur L. & Ruth Moss  
 Charles R. Munns  
 Margaret A. Munoz  
 Takanobu Murayama  
 Wallace & Paulina Murdoch\*  
 Robert Dean Murdock  
 R. Pepper & Rachelle Murray  
 James P. & Linda R. Neeley  
 Craig V. Nelson  
 John C. Nelson  
 John M. & Ruth Neuhold  
 Tracy S. & Faith Neuhold  
 Timothy & Sylvia Newman  
 Michael L. & Linda Nicholls  
 Chad M. Nichols\*  
 James F. Nichols  
 Kelly R. Norman  
 Maria C. Norton  
 Matthew & Holly Novak  
 Ruth L. Novak  
 Robert Thomas & Crisy Nunn  
 Frank Q. Nuttall  
 Loveday Elechi Nwobilor  
 Jennifer C. Ogle  
 Melanie Oldroyd\*  
 Mark Oliver  
 Barney & Christine Olsen  
 Eugene K. Olsen  
 Richard & LaVina Olsen\*  
 Stephen & Debra Olsen  
 Duane & Joan Orullian  
 David J. Osborn  
 Gary & Sylvia Pack  
 Ned A. & Marva P. Packer  
 Dr. Robert A. & Mrs. Marlene Palmer  
 Rodney I. Palmer\*  
 Donovan E. & Donna R. Park  
 Norman S. Parker  
 Vernon & Monica Parker\*  
 Jon G. Parry  
 Lynn R. Parlington\*  
 Hugh W. & Peggy A. Patton\*  
 Julie A. Paul\*  
 Alan J. Paxman  
 David & Terry Peak  
 David & Suzanne Pearson  
 Lee H. Pearson  
 Orson Perkes\*  
 Richard W. Perkins

Stephen F. Personius  
 Gary V. Petersen  
 Kyle & Karen Petersen  
 Michael & Arlene Petersen  
 Nannette L. Petersen\*  
 Rodney & Marilyn Petersen\*  
 S. Keith Petersen\*  
 Charles G. Peterson\*  
 Daryl E. & Mildred F. Peterson  
 Lawrence A. Peterson, Jr.  
 Murray B. Peterson\*  
 Donald Phillips & Cory Arentz  
 Rhonda M. Pikelny  
 Michael V. Plummer  
 Gregory & Stephanie Podgorski\*  
 Caleb & Shelly Pollock  
 Stanley & Sherry Pollock  
 Wendell L. & Marilyn S. Pope\*  
 Gordon E. & Lorraine Porter  
 Clint Powell  
 The L.&J. Pribble Family Trust\*  
 Tim B. Price\*  
 Lain-Jue Pu  
 Shon R. Pulley\*  
 Jerrad M. Pullum, Sr.  
 Harlan G. & Marilyn Pulsipher\*  
 D. J. & Phyllis Purdy  
 Marie H. Putnam  
 W. John Raitt\*  
 David C. Ramos  
 Karalee Ransom\*  
 Eric Rasmussen  
 Shon D. & Sherilyn Rasmussen  
 Mark & Kerri Rawlins\*  
 Floyd A. Raymond\*  
 Donald S. Reber  
 Nelson W. Rebert\*  
 Antonio & Shelby Redondo\*  
 Vincent L. & Audrea K. Rees\*  
 David Reif  
 David J. Remondini  
 John Rice  
 Michelle Cooper Richins  
 Mont & Melinda Ringer  
 Donald W. & Mae Roberts\*  
 Jeremy D. Roberts  
 Steven Alan Roberts  
 Myma N. Robertson\*  
 Verdel Theo Robinson  
 Thomas J. Rocchio\*  
 Daniel & Vivian Rogers  
 Marlan & Patricia Roper  
 Christopher & Kriste Rose\*  
 Malcolm Ross\*  
 Andrew & Jannifer Rowland  
 Eric & Brenda Rowley\*  
 Eric Saderholm  
 Bruce & Nancy Sailor  
 David R. Sandberg  
 Raymond & Roselena Sanders  
 Brent & Barbara Sanford\*  
 Yogesh R. Sarda  
 Renate Schaal\*  
 Steven E. Schulz  
 Russell & Gail Seamons\*  
 Clinton K. Searle  
 Eleanor H. Sedgwick  
 Averil Seely  
 Estate of Justus F. Seely  
 Clyde Marie Senger  
 Karen Y. Sewalson  
 Shannon Shaffer\*  
 Richard J. & Marion A. Shaw  
 James J. Shieh  
 Arthur Lee Shomo  
 James Grant Shupe  
 Ali Syeed Siahpush\*  
 John & Helen Simmons\*  
 Matthew W. Sines\*  
 Robert E. & Janet Skabelund  
 John J. Skujlins\*  
 Bart Smith  
 Carrie L. Smith  
 Delmont King Smith  
 J. Hamilton Smith\*  
 James George Smith  
 Steven G. Smith  
 Thane W. Smith\*



Jan Josef Sojka\*  
 John L. & Lyndyl Sorensen\*  
 Royal & Alice Sorensen  
 Wallace Sorensen\*  
 Wanless Southwick\*  
 Julie Spear  
 Earl P. Spencer\*  
 Melissa Spencer  
 Douglas & Brenda Sprinkel  
 James & Carolyn Stahl  
 Roy Stanko\*  
 Martin & Lynda Steed\*  
 Kenneth R. Stevens\*  
 George, Jr. & Barbara Stewart  
 Dean L. Stimpson  
 Randall Jay Stockham\*  
 Tommy J. Stokes\*  
 Graham Stork\*  
 Paul E., Jr. & Kathy A. Stover\*  
 Jin Su\*  
 David & Karen Suisse  
 Scott Dee Swift  
 John B. Syverud  
 Jon & Lynnette Takemoto  
 Kui-Fong Echo Tan  
 Tim & Johnna Tanner

Floyd Lee Tarbet\*  
 Thomas M. Tarbet  
 Allen Gary Taylor\*  
 Robert Don Taylor  
 Daniel & Lina Teng\*  
 Eric S. & Kim M. Teot  
 R. J. Tesi  
 Jeff Theurer\*  
 Richard Dean Thomas  
 Harold & Irene Thomason\*  
 Russell C. Thompson\*  
 Alison C. Thome  
 Glen Jay Thornley\*  
 Wayne & Loreline Thorpe  
 Randall K. Thunell  
 Richard D. & Terry H. Tift  
 Richard D. Tift Jr.  
 Kenneth S. Todd, Jr.  
 Lewis M. Turner, Jr.  
 Allen Tygesen\*  
 Robert L. Vadas\*  
 John Valberg  
 Allan & Diane Vance  
 Estate of Arthur VanVliet\*  
 Rolland L. Voit

Brad D. Wade  
 Douglas & Wendy Wagstaff  
 Allen & Sherry Wallace  
 Rhea H. Wallentine  
 Gordon D. Waller\*  
 Jeffrey Louis Walters  
 The Ward Family Living Trust\*  
 Robert B. & Christine Wardle  
 Gary & Mildred Watts\*  
 Hubert A. Way  
 Michael & Tami Weaver  
 Victoria L. Weaver  
 Christine Webb  
 Jungang Wei & Hao Li  
 George W. & Barbara Welkie  
 Robert Welkie  
 Sally S. Welling\*  
 Dallas L. Wheat  
 David H. Wheelwright  
 Mark & Markel Wheldon\*  
 Danny & Joanne White\*  
 Thomas W. White\*  
 David & Susan Whitney\*  
 Emery H. Willas, Jr.  
 A. Thomas & Sue Williams\*

Christina Williams  
 Edmund & Arlene Williams  
 Brad & Lori Wilson  
 Vanez Budge Wilson\*  
 George & Nancy Winder  
 Michael & Carol Windham  
 Bert W. Winterton  
 Arthur & Mary Wittwer  
 Carvel W. Wood\*  
 John K. & Margaret Wood  
 Willis A. & Kitty Wood\*  
 Robert & Diane Wray\*  
 Gena M. Wright  
 Sing-Chou & Ellen C. Wu\*  
 Jan E. Wynn\*  
 Shang Fa Yang\*  
 J. Greg Yates\*  
 Gary L. & Sarah Young  
 Nabil Youssef & Kandy Baumgardner\*  
 Ming-Ho & Ervena Pi-Lian Yu  
 Kamyar A. Zahedi  
 David & Delores Zaugg  
 Gang Zheng & Dr. Zhihua Shan  
 Kun Yan Zhu\*  
 Kenneth Zobell

Individuals who have made more than one gift are listed once. Every attempt is made to cite donors accurately.  
 If an error or omission has occurred, please notify Julie Shumway (435) 797-2488 or [jshumway@cc.usu.edu](mailto:jshumway@cc.usu.edu).  
 This list includes only donations made before 31 July 2004 (end of fiscal year).  
 Please let us know if you prefer your name to appear in another way.

## Heritage Society

The Heritage Society was established to recognize those individuals who have made bequests or other planned gifts to Utah State University. Such generosity and commitment honors the rich heritage of Utah State and helps prepare for a brighter future. Partnerships in philanthropy are increasingly vital to the future of Utah State as it fulfills its vision of becoming one of the nation's leading research and teaching universities. We invite you to join the Heritage Society.

*If you would like more information about including Utah State and the College of Science in your will, or if you would like to make a planned gift, please contact Dean Don Fiesinger at (435) 797-2478 or [don.fiesinger@usu.edu](mailto:don.fiesinger@usu.edu).*

Tom K.\* and Esther Archuleta  
 Dr. Melvin C. Cannon  
 Ralph S. Christensen\*  
 Dr. John W. and Norda F. Emmett  
 Keith W. and Beverly Fullmer  
 Dr. Marguerite Greaves\*  
 C.T. and Jo Ann K. Griffiths  
 Ronney Dean and LuAnn Harris  
 Robert Q., Jr. and Luella F. Oaks  
 Dr. Grant M. Reeder\*  
 Dr. Jay R. and Lorraine M. West

\*Deceased

## ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT...

*Continued from page 4*

hopes of understanding the successes of the system, and, in doing so, maybe being able to replicate it for others.

Other alumni reconnections at Utah State have created internships and jobs for students. For instance, the Department of Geology's advisory board includes alumni professionals from companies like ExxonMobil and Anadarko. Members of the board, who provide input on geology programs and overall direction, are in a great position to recruit students and have tapped into Utah State talent.

From industry tours to internships, there are many ways that alumni are contributing their time and experience to the mission of the College of Science. But it should come as no surprise. As Ecker summarized, "There is a great deal of expertise in the world that originates in Logan. And Aggies will always give something back." ■

To find out how you can get involved with the College of Science, please contact **Dean Don Fiesinger** at (435) 797-2478 or [don.fiesinger@usu.edu](mailto:don.fiesinger@usu.edu).



## HONORARY DOCTORATE...

*Continued from page 9*

Her dedication and energy has been directed towards other civic contributions as well, including stints on the Governor's Clean Air Commission, the Governor's Aerospace Council, and the Utah Safety Council. She received the Governor's Medal for Science and Technology in 1991 and was chosen as a Utah Business Magazine Woman of the Year in 1988.

At Utah State, Ruth has served on the National Advisory Board Round Table, and, in 1984, when she was the recipient of an *Alumni Merit Citation* from the Utah State University Alumni Association, the award was presented with these words: "While others have sought to advance themselves with great fanfare and notoriety, you have chosen a less ostentatious route, but one with great substance. The quiet capability which has been your watchword and your hallmark has allowed you to achieve your goals." Goals which began for Ruth at Utah State, where she believed enough in herself to eschew convention and instead pursue a career in mathematics, and so becoming a notable pioneer in her field. The College of Science proudly welcomes Ruth Novak into the distinguished circle of honorary doctorate recipients. ■

## DR. MELVIN C. CANNON...

*Continued from page 8*

"I cannot remember any faculty member ever making negative remarks about Mel," said Moore. "He was and is a wonderful human being."

Mel turns 91 this year. He and Anne still live in Logan. They have four children, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. ■

## 2004 GRADUATION DAY



Karen Perry, Valedictorian, with her faculty escort, Vicki Allan, Department of Computer Science, Graduation Day, May 2004.

## WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY

### MAKING TIME FOR ESTATE PLANNING

Almost everyone intends to write a will, but many of us never do. The most common reason is not a lack of money, knowledge, or opportunity—it is a matter of making time. Take the time to organize your affairs and prepare a will. By planning for the future, you can ensure that your loved ones and the charities that you care about are provided for, even after you are gone.

People often think they only need a will if they possess substantial wealth, but those with modest assets have every reason to plan their estates. A will can waive bonding expenses from your executor, and may save other fees that would be incurred in the absence of one. The worst outcome is passing away without a will. If no will exists, the probate court applies state law, essentially involving an all-purpose will that is drafted by the state legislature. And this "generic" will may not reflect your wishes. Financial needs, tax planning, or other important factors are not taken into account, and no provisions are made for friends, charitable interests, or other important beneficiaries.

There are several options that are available for making gifts through your estate:

1. Fixed Amount: A specific dollar amount to be given is named.
2. Percentage: Naming a percentage of your estate allows the size of the gift to remain in proportion to the size of your estate.
3. Specific personal and real property: It can be good tax planning to use securities, real estate, or other property, such as a valuable collection, to make a gift.
4. Contingent: A contingent gift only occurs in the case that other beneficiaries are pre-deceased or in the event of a specific condition. Without a contingent beneficiary, your property might pass to beneficiaries in whom you have no interest. Utah State University is often named as a contingent beneficiary in wills, living trusts, and other estate plans.
5. Residue: This is a gift of whatever property remains after other distributions have been fulfilled.

Prospective donors should not make final gift decisions without first consulting their personal legal and financial advisors.

If you have already included the College of Science in your estate plans, or if you wish to receive estate and gift planning materials, please contact Dean Don Fiesinger at 435-797-2478 or [don.fiesinger@usu.edu](mailto:don.fiesinger@usu.edu). ■

BY ANGELINA M. WILKINSON,  
USU DIRECTOR OF PLANNED GIVING



# 2004 COLLEGE AWARD RECIPIENTS

## College of Science Valedictorian

**Karen Perry**, graduate of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, was chosen as this year's *College of Science Valedictorian*.

Karen grew up in Livermore, California, and said it was her father (Ted Perry, Jr., 1974 Valedictorian; BS Mathematics, 1974; BS Physics, 1975; MS Mathematics, 1977) who really got her hooked on math. She came to Utah State on a *University Club Scholarship*—the most prestigious of the University scholarships offered—having been first introduced to the school by her parents, both of whom attended USU. She has other ties to the area also, with relatives living in Cache Valley.

As an undergraduate at Utah State, Karen has had many accomplishments. She received a *Phi Kappa Phi Academic Scholarship* and a *Sharon Ellis Scholarship* for outstanding seniors in math education. She twice participated in the Putnam Competition, a North American mathematics contest for college students which *Time* magazine has deemed the most difficult of its kind. In the 2002 contest, Karen received the second-highest score out of all Utah State participants.

Last summer, she was selected to participate in a National Science Foundation-sponsored research opportunity—its Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program—through the University of Washington's Department of Mathematics. This 8-week course had students investigating complex problems involving planar and non-planar networks.

"You look at students with a 4.0 GPA and think, 'Yeah, it comes easy for them,' but Karen works diligently for each A she earns," said **Dr. Vicki Allan**, Karen's faculty escort at commencement. "She never glosses over details, but wants to fully understand each principle."

Of her academic experiences, Karen said that all of her professors have contributed something unique to her education. "I appreciate **Dr. Chris Coray** and **Dr. Lance Littlejohn** for coaching the Putnam Math Team and for teaching me multivariable calculus, linear algebra and differential equations, and analysis," she said. "This past year, I have had many classes from **Jim Cangelosi**, who specializes in math education. In the classroom, he not only shared strategies for teaching math, but he arranged for me to spend hours in middle and high school classrooms teaching math. As an advisor, he does everything possible for the needs of the students."

Karen's full-on approach to academia was matched by her enthusiasm for the total college experience. "One of my favorite parts about college," she said, "was getting to meet so many people. I love talking to different people, making friends, and finding out what peoples' interests and areas of study are."

"Karen loves life," added Allan. "She enjoys people, ideas, and learning."

Currently working on her teaching certificate, Karen will return to the Cache Valley this fall and be student teaching at Logan High School to complete the requirements for a second BS degree in math education. "So I can share my love of mathematics with others," she said of her career choice.

## College of Science Scholar of the Year

"I chose to pursue a career in medicine because it fits my personality and my tastes perfectly," said **Kurtis B. Reed**, this year's *College of Science Scholar of the Year*, who majored in biology and minored in chemistry. "I enjoy the challenge of problem-solving, the reward of interpersonal relationships, and the opportunity to help other people with the most basic aspect of life: health."

Growing up on a potato farm in Idaho Falls, Kurtis says he became familiar with Utah State University during his high school years when he would travel to Logan to attend basketball camps. "I was impressed with the campus and the people," he recalled of those visits. Attending Utah State on a scholarship, Kurtis maintained a 4.0 GPA during his time here, was a member of the Science Council, and devoted time as a peer advisor and a teaching aide. He also volunteered in the radiology department at Logan Regional Hospital. And in addition to being named *Scholar of the Year*, Kurtis has been recognized with a *Robins Award*, a *Utah State University Presidential Scholarship*, an *Eldon J. Gardner Endowed Research Award*, and the *Associated Students of Utah State's Distinguished Service Award*.

Kurtis credits **Dr. Mike Pfrender** for instilling him with "a love of basic scientific research," referring to a long-term research project in the field of evolutionary biology. The study was of a lake zooplankton, *Daphnia*, in an effort to learn exactly how fish introductions affect *Daphnia* populations. "It was primarily directed towards the rapid adaptation of species to imposed selective pressures," Kurtis explained.

"During the three years Kurtis worked with me, he made significant contributions to ecological genetic research in my lab," Pfrender said. "He helped train numerous younger undergraduates, and set a standard of excellence that will motivate others for years to come. I've often said that Kurtis is one of the most capable individuals I have ever met. If you give him a job, he'll figure out a way to get it done and he'll have it finished much sooner than expected."

Kurtis said he has enjoyed the relationships forged with a number of professors. "I have found the faculty here at Utah State to be very open to student inquiries and comments," he said, and extends special gratitude to **Dr. Andy Anderson** and **Dr. Greg Podgorski**.

The recipient of a *Phi Kappa Phi National Fellowship*, Kurtis will attend the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine this fall. His hobbies include fly-fishing, basketball, softball, camping, and spending time with his family.

## College of Science Dean's Scholar

**James Cazier** was named the *College of Science Dean's Scholar*, a new award given in recognition of a student who maintains a cumulative 4.0 GPA. He graduated with a BS degree that coupled a computer science major and a mathematics minor.

Raised in Rupert, Idaho, a small farming town two hours from Logan, James admitted that growing up he felt destined to attend BYU—with numerous members of his family being alums of that university, including his parents and three siblings. But a trip to Utah State, with some friends who were





Student Award Recipients: Karen Perry, Valedictorian; David Hatch, Undergraduate Researcher of the Year; Curtis Reed, Scholar of the Year; and Jason Heath, MS Graduate Researcher of the Year, at the College of Science Awards Reception, April 15, 2004. Not Pictured: James Cazier, Dan Mulcahy, and Davut Tuncer.

moving to Logan and looking for housing, convinced him otherwise. "I was hooked," he said. "I fell in love with the campus and the overall feel of Logan. USU has been the perfect school." In fact, he hopes to return to Utah State in the not-too-distant future to earn an MS degree in computer science.

James said he first became drawn to his field through a brother-in-law, a network technician, who exposed him to the world of computers. "I saw him working on computers and it got me interested to see what it was all about—and I have loved it ever since," he shared. "I especially have enjoyed the studies of distributed systems and project design."

At present, James is working as a software engineer in the Logan office of Barco Media & Entertainment, a place where he completed an internship. "I have the opportunity to work on some wonderful projects," he said, "including a current project for the Miami Heat."

Looking back on his university experience, he said that he appreciates getting to know so many outstanding people, including other computer science majors. "I loved learning with them," he said. And while he said that it is hard to single out just one or two teachers who had an effect on him, he shared that **Vicki Allan** had a great impact. "It was her patience and willingness to help each student excel that kept me in the program when it got tough," he said. "**Lance Littlejohn**, from the math department, made a huge difference in helping me to change my math classes from something to painfully endure into something I really enjoyed," he added. "His influence helped me to decide to major in computer science, with an option that requires the most math as well as to earn a minor in mathematics."

James was also recognized as the *Computer Science Student of the Year*. "It was an honor to be part of something so wonderful as the department," he said, "and then to be chosen as the Student of the Year was very special."

James is married and has a little girl. He said, "Outside of work and family, I like to golf, fish, and just plain have fun."

#### College of Science Undergraduate Student Researcher

**David R. Hatch**, a physics and mathematics double major, was chosen as the *College of Science Undergraduate Student Researcher* for his work in atmospheric physics.

"One of my main projects has been photographing noctilucent clouds in Finland," David said, regarding a study that involves capturing the highest clouds in the Earth's atmosphere. This work, with physics professor **Dr. Mike Taylor**, has been

conducted for more than two years and has been a defining part of his Utah State experience. "Dr. Taylor has given me some great opportunities to do undergraduate research. In addition, the professors and advisors in the physics department have been great."

A native of Wellsville, Utah, David has been interested in math and science since high school. He found a calling for physics at Utah State, a place he knew he wanted to attend, particularly since both of his grandfathers were Utah State professors and both of his parents are Utah State graduates. "I always planned to go into some science or engineering field," David said. "My brother was in the physics program and I decided to try the same thing."

His work has led to some notable achievements. He presented a poster at a CEDAR conference (for atmospheric physics) on concurrent gravity wave imaging and the wind speeds above Bear Lake, and also gave a presentation on noctilucent clouds at a joint Japanese-U.S. conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. "It has been great to have a job in the physics department," David said. "I have been able to do something as a job that is in my field rather than a typical student job."

David will graduate next spring and hopes to later obtain a PhD degree in theoretical physics; he will apply to graduate schools this fall. He was awarded a 2004 *Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship*, one of only six Utah students to receive the scholarship this year.

An enthusiast of many sports, including skiing and biking, David is also a well-versed musician—plays the piano, organ, and guitar—and admits to "reading just about anything."

#### College of Science Graduate Student Researcher of the Year (MS)

**Jason E. Heath**, a master's candidate in the Department of Geology, was selected as the *College of Science Graduate Student Researcher of the Year (MS)*. The award is given in "recognition of an outstanding graduate student who shows independent grantsmanship and professional accomplishments in their field."

Jason is working on a project in hydrogeology/structural geology, focusing on the ground water chemistry of deep aquifers. His goal is to determine their suitability for storing carbon dioxide, as a means to reduce atmospheric emissions. "The quality of his thesis research," said **Dr. Tom Lachmar**, "is comparable to some PhD students whose graduate committees I have served on."

In addition to publishing research in the *Journal of Geophysical Research*, Jason has presented at numerous meetings. "He has made presentations at so many professional meetings, that I honestly have lost count," said Lachmar. "What's more, he prepared all of his presentations by himself, with little or no assistance from me." In October of 2002, Jason gave a hydrogeochemical analysis presentation at the Geological Society of America annual meeting. He presented a poster at the 2003 annual meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists on the Little Grand and Salt Wash fault zones, providing him with an opportunity to study a system that is leaking naturally sourced carbon dioxide. This past March, at the USU Water Initiative 2004 Spring Runoff Conference, he presented "Hydrogeochemical Characterization of Leaking Carbon Dioxide-Charged Fault Zones in East-Central Utah."

"He is hard working, works independently, and takes direction well," said Lachmar. "Jason may well be the most intelligent student who has ever worked under me."



#### College of Science Graduate Student Researcher of Year (PhD)

**Daniel G. Mulcahy**, Department of Biology, was selected as the *College of Science Graduate Student Researcher of Year (PhD)*. The award is given in "recognition of an outstanding graduate student who shows independent grantsmanship and professional accomplishments in their field."

Dan, who came to Utah State in 1998, is a PhD candidate in the lab of **Joe Mendelson**. "I heard about USU because of [Joe]," he said. "A professor at Berkeley knew him, and recommended I apply to his lab." Dan's dissertation research is on a group of snakes that are found throughout the deserts of western North America. "For his graduate research, he aggressively developed his own research program on the evolution and biogeography of an assemblage of desert reptile species," said Mendelson. "I initially considered the project to be a bit too large to be handled effectively, but Dan persevered and has proven my concerns to be completely invalid."

Dan's work has been featured in such publications as *Biological Conservation* (in press), *Journal of Herpetology*, *Herpetological Review*, and *Western North American Naturalist*. He has made numerous presentations of his research, including papers at two international conferences. In 2003, Dan gave a talk titled "Vicariance and Dispersal: A Novel Hypothesis for Baja California Biogeography" at the Joint Meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution, the Society of Systemic Biologists, and the American Society of Naturalists. And this past May, he presented a poster at the Joint Meeting of The American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, The Herpetologists' League, and The Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. He is the recipient of a *School of Graduate Studies Dissertation Fellowship* (2003-2004) and the Department of Biology's *MacMahon Scholarship*.

"To only consider Dan's amazing research skills," Mendelson said, "would be to severely underestimate his overall persona. Dan is a real leader in our lab group and is constantly on hand to help people with his considerable computer and scientific skills." A teaching assistant for a number of courses, Dan has taught biology, herpetology, and a molecular population genetic laboratory.

Currently, Dan is looking at postdoctoral opportunities. "I want to continue studying biogeography of amphibians and reptiles in western North America," he said. "I'm also interested in gene rearrangements." He hopes to become a professor.

Of his interests and hobbies he shares, "I enjoy 'herping,' hiking, skiing, biking, baseball, cooking gourmet meals, and eating in really good restaurants."

#### College of Science Graduate Student Teacher of the Year

**Davut Tuncer**, the *College of Science Graduate Student Teacher of the Year*, said the decision to combine his fascination for math with an ambition to teach has been a rewarding one. "After my first year of teaching at Utah State," he recalled, "one of my students wrote a letter after the end of the semester and said in that letter that I had changed his life with regard to education. What could be better than giving a new horizon to a young person?"

Davut's own horizon was first seen from his homeland of Istanbul, Turkey, where he excelled in mathematics and was given a scholarship from the Turkish Ministry of Education to come to Utah State. "While I was a kid I had an interest in science," he shared, "and after my graduation from high school, I made my decision to be an educator and a scientist."

Now working towards a PhD degree in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Davut's main academic interests

are in orthogonal polynomials and special functions, spectral theory of differential operators, general functional analysis and operator theory, and optimization problems and inequalities. He works with advisor **Dr. Lance Littlejohn**, who Davut says has had a great affect on him. "I consider myself lucky for being a student of his."

"He is a very caring individual and this shows in the respect that his students give him in the classroom," Littlejohn said. "He is passionate about both his teaching and his research, exactly the type of student—or colleague for that matter—that I like to have."

Davut, who is presently finishing up his remaining doctoral work, said the most rewarding part of his experience here at Utah is "the feeling of being part of the USU family."

"Davut is making excellent progress on a difficult problem in analysis and combinatorics," Littlejohn said. "And I have no doubt that he will solve it. Really, he's a dream student."

A self-described outgoing individual, Davut includes reading, making and listening to music, basketball, volleyball, soccer, and hiking among his interests. He hopes to eventually write a book in his field.

#### College of Science Undergraduate Research Mentor

For **Dr. Daryll B. DeWald**, being selected as this year's *College of Science Undergraduate Research Mentor* is particularly meaningful—as he credits his own undergrad research for steering him into science. "My [undergraduate] work in a research lab is what motivated me to start this career," said the Department of Biology associate professor. "I feel that it is very important to provide bioscience students the opportunity to perform research."

Daryll, who teaches cell biology, has mentored some 30 undergraduates on sponsored research. His lab examines cellular processes and mechanisms used by cells to transport proteins, centering on the role of phosphoinositides in eukaryotic cellular processes. He chose the field of cell biology/biochemistry, he explained, because of the "discovery aspect of the research, the idea that there is always something new to uncover."

Daryll's own undergraduate work was at the University of Wyoming, where he earned a degree in biochemistry. He worked as a biochemist with the Upjohn Company for the next five years before returning to school to pursue a PhD degree in biochemistry from Texas A&M University. Following this, he completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the University of California, San Diego, and then joined the faculty at Utah State in 1995.

In addition to working with undergraduates, and teaching upper-division and graduate classes in cell biology and plant physiology, Daryll has served on numerous graduate student committees as well, nearly 30 to date. He finds his role as a teacher and mentor, with the opportunity to "work with highly qualified and motivated students," the most rewarding part of his career.

In the course of a decade, Daryll has served on no less than 15 departmental committees. He is a co-founder and co-director of the Multicultural Student Research Fellowship Program, a unique program that enables underrepresented groups to engage in research projects in life sciences at Utah State. He has served as interim director of the electron microscopy facility and as director of the confocal microscopy facility. And since 2002, Daryll has been the associate director for the Center for Integrated Biosystems.



His hobbies include fishing and hunting, and he also coaches local soccer and baseball teams.

#### College of Science Researcher of the Year

This year's *College of Science Researcher of the Year*, **Dr. Lance C. Seefeldt**, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is presently involved in studies of metalloenzymes relating to bioenergy conversions. "We have been investigating the biological processes for conversion of N<sub>2</sub> in air into forms of nitrogen that can be used by all living organisms," he said of his lab's work. "It is this latter work on the enzyme nitrogenase that is our main research focus today."

A faculty member in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry since 1993, Lance did his undergraduate studies in chemistry at the University of Redlands before earning a PhD degree in biochemistry at the University of California, Riverside. His doctoral research focused on a bacterial enzyme, hydrogenase, which converts protons and electrons to hydrogen gas. "Hydrogen gas has become the favorite choice as an energy carrier molecule of late," he said, "and our work in hydrogenase, which continued with me to my faculty position here, is directly related to how to use biomolecules to catalytically generate hydrogen gas." After completing a postdoctoral fellowship with the Center for Metalloenzyme Studies at the University of Georgia, Lance was hired by Utah State.

The focus of his research has since shifted into global nitrogen cycling, work that has been rewarding, he said, for the "advancements that we have been able to make in understanding challenging scientific problems."

"We have been fortunate to work with some of the best people in the field in these efforts—Dennis Dean at Virginia Tech, Brian Hoffman at Northwestern—and the combined efforts of our groups have contributed to a more detailed understanding of these complex systems," he said. "This has been great fun."

Helping put students on the path to becoming scientists is what Lance enjoys most—seeing their progress both before and after they earn their degree. "Three colleagues who worked in my laboratory are now faculty members at the University of Georgia, the University of Florida, and Utah Valley State College," he said. "Other colleagues who I have worked with are medical doctors and scientists at biotechnology companies. Working day to day with these colleagues is very stimulating and rewarding."

Lance enjoys skiing, biking, swimming, and fishing. He and his wife Kimberly have two young sons, Christopher and Nicholas.

#### College of Science Advisor of the Year

**Dr. David Wallace**, a lecturer in the Department of Biology, was named *College of Science Advisor of the Year*.

Raised in the small town of Terra, Utah, Dave came to Utah State to earn a BS degree in biology (beginning as a botany major), and afterward worked for the chemical and metallurgical industry. He returned to school for an education in industrial hygiene and was awarded an MSPH degree in 1991 from the University of Utah. He has been at Utah State since 1999, where he teaches in the public health program and is the advisor for public health majors.

"Dave demonstrates all the best characteristics of what an outstanding faculty advisor should be," said **Dean Don Fiesinger**, who has interviewed countless public health majors and heard extensive praise for Dave. "He is extremely outgoing and friendly, which the students recognize and appreciate," he added.

Last year, when the Industrial Hygiene component of the department's Public Health Program was reviewed by ABET, a national accrediting organization, the feedback was complimentary of the program's advising and instruction, a positive reflection on the efforts of Dave and his interactions with students. Besides teaching a wide range of public health coursework, he is a true advocate of his students, even assisting them in ways that go beyond the classroom. "He is very active in placing students in internships," said **Associate Dean Richard Mueller**.

In addition to his work with Utah State, Dave volunteers to assist local emergency response organizations, and occasionally does some consulting work. He has been a clinical instructor with the University of Utah's Rocky Mountain Center for Environmental and Occupational Health and participates in a program with health educators in the Salt Lake Valley Health Department's "Lead Free Kids" program.

An expert in native plants, Dave's garden is a veritable showcase of native species. He is also an outdoors enthusiast, enjoying activities like skiing and backpacking. "He's fanatical about backpacking," said Mueller. "And he's also rather fanatical about his VW Vanagon," he added.



Faculty award recipients for 2004: David Wallace, Advisor of the Year; Joe Mendelson, Teacher of the Year; Lance Seefeldt, Researcher of the Year; and Daryll DeWald, Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year; at the College Awards Reception, April 15, 2004.

#### College of Science Teacher of the Year

The *College of Science Teacher of the Year* is **Dr. Joseph R. Mendelson III**, from the Department of Biology.

An associate professor, Joe received a PhD degree from the University of Kansas (1997) before coming to Utah State. He has taught, among other courses, a class in natural history of amphibians and reptiles, a herpetology course, and "Biology and the Citizen," (a class in understanding one's relationship to the biosphere).

"Joe is a great professor," said **Dan Mulcahy**. "He showed me the ropes on many things. And he provided a great lab—the physical space and resources (computers, maps, etc.)—as well as great mental guidance."

Joe's interest in herpetology began early on in life—at age five. These days, while he teaches and researches both amphibians and reptiles, he works mostly with frogs and snakes. In fact, his research—which has taken him from Oregon to Guatemala—has led to the discovery and naming of some 20 species of frogs. In the summer of 2000, Joe and other scientists from the United States and Mexico drove nearly 9,000 miles around Mexico on a *National Geographic*-funded project, conducting surveys of frogs in rain and cloud forests of southern Mexico. The group found a new species of salamander and several rare frogs.

**AWARD RECIPIENTS...**  
Continues on page 22



## AWARDS AND HONORS

### Alumni Awards & Honors

**Aleksey Kuznetsov (PhD, Chemistry, 2003)** received a fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Aleksey is currently working at the Fritz-Haber Institut in Berlin.

**David J. Ecker (PhD, Biochemistry, 1982)** received the USU Chemistry & Biochemistry Department 2004 Alumni Achievement Award. He received his PhD degree in Biochemistry working in the lab of Dr. Thomas Emery. He credits his career to "Dr. Emery, who inspired a whole generation of biochemistry students." After two years as an American Cancer Society postdoctoral fellow in the Chemistry Department at UC Berkeley, he became co-founder of Isis Pharmaceuticals and founder of the Isis Therapeutics Division. He serves on editorial boards on a number of journals, publishing nearly 80 articles in peer-reviewed journals and holds numerous patents.

### Faculty Awards and Honors

**Alex Boldyrev** was highlighted in an article titled "Deciphering Metal Antiaromaticity" by Stephen K. Ritter in *Chemical & Engineering News*, 15 December 2003 and in an article titled "Chemistry Highlights 2003, Inorganic Chemistry" by Stu Borman in *Chemical & Engineering News* 22 December 2003.

The 27 April 2004 Science Section of The New York Times ran an article that featured the research done by Kevin Young and **Butch Brodie, Jr.** (Utah State University) and Butch Brodie III (Indiana University) <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/04/27/science/27LIZA.html>. The article references the paper published by Young et al. in the 2 April 2004 Science that discusses the evolution of the horns of the horned lizard. This paper has received quite a bit of attention and has also been featured on Canada's Discover Channel, as well as the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC) Radio. Kevin is a USU graduate student in the lab of Butch Brodie, Jr.

**Brad Ritts**, Assistant Professor of Geology, and **Vladimir Kulyukin**, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, have each received NSF Career Development grants, providing them with five years of research support. ■

It's been some time since we have heard from you. Please submit to us your awards and honors by e-mailing Colette Yates at [colette.yates@usu.edu](mailto:colette.yates@usu.edu).

### AWARD RECIPIENTS...

*Continued from page 21*

Joe's research has been widely published in journals such as *Herpetologica*, *The Southwestern Naturalist*, *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, *Journal of Herpetology*, and *The Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*. He has presented on numerous occasions, including places such as Brazil and Ecuador—the latter a seminar he gave entirely in Spanish. Joe serves on the Board of Directors for the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.

"Joe always had time to talk with me, whether it was for five minutes about an immediate problem, or just to shoot the breeze about far-out ideas," Mulcahy said. ■

## TRANSITIONS

### 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Department of Biology  
Mary E. Barkworth

Department of Physics  
Jan Josef Sojka

### RETIRING FACULTY AND STAFF

Office of the Dean  
Kandy D. Baumgardner (June 2004)

### TENURE AND PROMOTION

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Alvan Hengge, Professor  
Lisa Berreau, Associate Professor

Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
Piotr Kokoszka, Associate Professor  
Richard Cutler, Professor

### IN MEMORIAM

Department of Biology  
Thomas Lee Bahler, Emeritus Professor  
Professor from 1949-1985  
(passed away on 16 February 2004)

Frederick J. Post, Emeritus Professor  
Professor from 1965-1990  
(passed away on 2 April 2004)

Department of Computer Science  
Rex LeRoy Hurst, Emeritus Professor  
Professor from 1953-1990; Head,  
Department of Applied Statistics  
(passed away on 11 March 2004)

Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
David White, Emeritus Professor  
Professor from 1965-1987  
(passed away on 10 April 2004)

### Dr. Thomas Lee Bahler Remembered

Thomas Bahler joined the Department of Biology in 1949. For the next 30 years, as both a teacher and an advisor, Tom would make a lasting impact on scores of students. And even after his retirement, he was a department regular. He was a professor of physiology, anatomy, and histology, and it is estimated that during his years at the University, 335 students went on to become physicians or dentists. A respected and well-liked professor, he was the recipient of multiple teaching awards and his legacy is very much felt today: Last year, 85% of USU students who applied to medical school were accepted, far above the national average, and dental school admission rates also exceed the national average. In 1993, a scholarship endowment was established in his honor to assist students planning to go to medical or dental school, and the Tom Bahler Scholarship is awarded annually. He passed away February 16, 2004, at the age of 84. Tom is survived by his wife of 55 years, Patricia; children, David and Katherine (Tim) Roark; and grandchildren, Teresa and Conor Roark. ■



## ALUMNET RESPONSES

### 1980s

**Steven A. Roberts** (BS 1981 & MS 1985, Physics), Lakewood, Colorado. Steven works at Ciber Inc. in Greenwood Village, Colorado.

### 1990s

**Don Hamilton** (BS 1996, Geology), Wellington, Utah. Don is owner and operator of Star Point Inc., an environmental and regulatory consulting firm for the oil and gas industry, writing permits and environmental documents. "My wife Jeri (BA 1997, Business) and I live on a ranch outside of Price, Utah."

### The USU College of Science

undergraduate and graduate level degrees

0305 Old Main • Logan, Utah 84322-0305 • Phone: 435-797-2478

[scido@cc.usu.edu](mailto:scido@cc.usu.edu) <http://www.usu.edu/science/>

#### DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

435.797.2485 [www.biology.usu.edu](http://www.biology.usu.edu)

#### DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

435.797.1619 [www.chem.usu.edu](http://www.chem.usu.edu)

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

435.797.2451 [www.cs.usu.edu](http://www.cs.usu.edu)

#### DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY

435.797.1273 [www.usu.edu/geoldept](http://www.usu.edu/geoldept)

#### DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

435.797.2809 [www.math.usu.edu](http://www.math.usu.edu)

#### DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

435.797.2857 [www.physics.usu.edu](http://www.physics.usu.edu)

**UtahState**  
UNIVERSITY



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE  
0305 OLD MAIN HILL  
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY  
LOGAN UT 84321-9981

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 115  
LOGAN UT

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



FROM

# ALUMNET

Dear College of Science Alumni and Friends,

We always enjoy hearing from you and hope you will take a moment to complete and mail this alumni information form. Please note the postage-paid format—simply cut off this last page of the newsletter, fold along the lines marked on page 23, tape it shut, and drop it in the mail. You can also email your information to [colette.yates@usu.edu](mailto:colette.yates@usu.edu) or fax it to us at (435)797-3378.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ WEB PAGE URL \_\_\_\_\_

USU DEGREE(S) \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR(S) \_\_\_\_\_ MAJOR(S) \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER DEGREE(S) \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR(S) \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL(S) \_\_\_\_\_

PROFESSION/EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

PROFESSIONAL/PERSONAL AWARDS \_\_\_\_\_

BOOKS PUBLISHED \_\_\_\_\_

ABOUT YOURSELF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Insights is the alumni newsletter of Utah State University College of Science. Its purpose is to inform alumni and friends of current events, projects, and changes within the College. The newsletter also provides a forum for alumni to follow one another's careers and professional development.*

*This issue of Insights was produced under the direction of Colette Yates, editor, and Mark R. Johnson, writer, with special thanks to Dean Don Fiesinger, Associate Dean Dick Mueller, Maren Cartwright, and Ashley Stolworthy for editorial assistance. Photos provided by Joel R. Drake and USU Photo Services. Special thanks to Joel Kincart, Julie Shumway, Lara Anderson, Melvin Cannon, Daryll DeWald, David Hatch, Joseph Mendelson, William Moore, Ruth Novak, Karen Perry, Kurtis Reed, Lance Seefeldt, Davut Tuncer, and Angelina Wilkinson. Printed at Publication Design and Production.*

**UtahState**  
**UNIVERSITY**

College of Science  
Office of the Dean  
0305 Old Main Hill  
Logan, UT 84322-0305

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LOGAN UT  
PERMIT 1



Printed on recycled paper