



January 16, 2004

Commissioner's Report Highlights of Notable Accomplishments in USHE

University of Utah:

The U's football team won their conference title outright for the first time since 1957, and went on to win the Liberty Bowl against the University of Mississippi 14-0 on December 31.

The U and a group of U.S. and Japanese universities have announced plans to build a \$17 to \$18 million cosmic ray observatory named the Telescope Array in central Utah's Millard County (with no state funds). In addition to the scientific research potential, it will immediately create 30-50 construction jobs leading to 10-15 permanent jobs in the local economy in Millard County.

Utah State University:

Lara Anderson, a 2003 graduate in Physics and Mathematics, was named a Rhodes Scholar, USU's first since 1982. She will complete a Master's Degree in Physics at USU in May 2004.

President Hall announced this week the largest individual gift ever received by USU, a \$6.3 million donation from two sisters, Kathryn Caine Wanlass and Manon Caine Russell. Their donation will make possible a world class, 14,000 square foot recital hall.

Weber State University:

Political Science Professor and Department Chair Frank Guliuzza was named the 2003 Utah Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

John Armstrong, a professor in WSU's Department of Physics, has received funding from NASA to support his work to more easily identify Earth-like planets elsewhere in the galaxy. The NASA grant is in the form of a post-doctoral fellowship offered through the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and could total \$240,000 over three years.

Southern Utah University:

Dr. Gerald Calvasina, Associate Professor of Management, has been invited to sit at the esteemed Oxford Roundtable of the University of Oxford in England. Only 35 individuals worldwide each year are chosen for this high honor. Dr. Calvasina, who has taught at SUU for four years, is an expert in Human Resource Management.

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Snow College: As reported at the December Board of Regents meeting, Snow College's Football Team participated in the Golden Isles Bowl Game recently and performed well on and of the field (winning 27-21). What is also worth noting is that 50% of the team is on the Dean's List for their scholarship.

Dixie State College: As also reported in December, Dixie won the NJCAA national women's soccer championship for the second time in a row.

Recently Dixie's Dental Hygiene program ranked as among the top two and four-year programs in the nation as measured by student achievement on the national examination. Dixie students placed in the top five percent.

Utah Valley State College:

The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) recently awarded accreditation to the computer science program in the School of Computer Sciences and Engineering at Utah Valley State College. Of the 800 plus computer science programs in the country, only 168 are ABET accredited.

Salt Lake Community College:

The Wasatch Front Consortium, in conjunction with the Jordan School District and Salt Lake Community College, received recognition for its Biotechnology program at the National Tech Prep Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee. Jordan School District and SLCC were singled out as having an "exemplary program of study." The Department of Labor and TPS Clearinghouse surveyed the Biotech program and determined that it met all of the criteria to be selected as one of 15 initial programs to be recognized nationally to promote the success of future technical programs of study.

Utah College of Applied Technology:

Davis Applied Technology College student Matthew Sewell, from Northridge High School, is on track for completing all requirements for the Associate of Applied Technology Degree by his high school graduation in May 2004. He will also complete three certifications: INET+, IC3, and A+.