



October 19, 2004

## **Commissioner's Report Highlights of Notable Accomplishments in USHE**

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### **Grants and Contracts Awarded**

**As detailed in the Regents' "General Consent Calendar," the University of Utah has been awarded seven research grants totaling \$10.5 million since the last Board meeting.**

- University of Utah:** Governor Walker recently recognized the state's top scientists from academia, industry and government, including three from the U of U: The 2004 Governor's Medal for Science and Technology was awarded to A. Lorris Betz, senior vice president for health sciences, Gordon K. Lark, Ph.D., distinguished professor of biology (emeritus), and Joel S. Miller, Ph.D., distinguished professor of chemistry.
- Utah State University:** The Edith Bowen Laboratory School and the Emma Eccles Jones Center for Early Childhood Education was dedicated this month. The project was made possible through the Emma Eccles Jones Foundation and a \$12.5 million donation.
- Weber State University:** For the second year in a row, Weber State University was the winner of the Sterling Savings Big Sky Conference Presidents Cup. The award recognizes the academic achievement of student-athletes at Big Sky institutions as well as performance on the athletic field.
- Southern Utah University:** Approximately 2,500 school-age thespians from a half-dozen states converged on the SUU campus over the first weekend in October for the 28th annual High School Shakespeare Competition. More than 85 schools from around the west compete in the competition founded by a former Provo High School Drama teacher and the Utah Shakespearian Festival's own founder, Fred C. Adams.
- Snow College:** Snow College recently received a \$50,000 Federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Grant from the Utah State Office of Education. The College plans to partner with local school districts to promote literacy among Sanpete County's growing Hispanic population.

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**Dixie State College:** Dixie State College kicked off the DSC Street Fair in October to raise money for student scholarships. Over 60 vendors rented booth space in the fair's opening week. All vendor rental fees go directly to the DSC scholarship fund. In its inaugural year, the Street Fair will be open the first Saturday of every month on the DSC campus through the academic year.

**College of Eastern Utah:** Students in CEU's Automotive Technology program have distinguished themselves by placing first in the SkillsUSA competition at the regional level and competing nationally. Their program has been designated a national test-site for certification.

**Utah Valley State College:** To date, dental schools have admitted 100% of Utah Valley State graduates who applied; medical schools have admitted 91% of UVSC graduates who applied.

**Salt Lake Community College:** Lyle Archibald, director of SLCC Choirs as well as conductor of Odyssey Chorale, has received the Pearl Award for one of his recordings of the SLCC ensembles' "Good Tidings." The Pearl Awards are given to achievements of excellence by the recording industry. *Salt Lake City Weekly* also named South City Jazz the "Best of Utah." South City Jazz is SLCC's highly select vocal jazz ensemble under Archibald's direction.

**Utah College of Applied Technology:** The Southern Utah Manufacturers Association (SUMA) has invited the Southwest Applied Technology College to have a representative on the group's steering committee and be an integral part of assisting the group in meeting its objectives of helping their members recruit retain good employees. SWATC is offering a "manufacturing technology" endorsement program that would provide pre-employment training for people interested in manufacturing. Dixie ATC has a similar program in place with Washington County's manufacturing association.