



Commissioner's Report Highlights of Notable Accomplishments in USHE

As detailed in the Regents' General Consent Calendar, \$7.6 million in research grants has been awarded to the University of Utah since the last Board meeting.

University of Utah: Mario R. Capecchi, Ph.D., distinguished professor and co-chairman of the Department of Human Genetics at the U's School of Medicine, along with a scientist from the University of North Carolina, have been named co-recipients of this year's March of Dimes Prize in Developmental Biology for developing an indispensable tool for today's genetic disease research. They developed gene targeting – the ability to alter particular genes in cultured cells and transfer the targeted genes to laboratory mice. The March of Dimes Prize is \$250,000 and a silver medal in the design of the Roosevelt dime, in honor of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who founded the March of Dimes.

Utah State University: Utah State University is among the four-nation International Sheep Genome Sequencing Consortium that will soon begin work toward mapping the genome of sheep with the goal of improving meat and fiber production as well as animal health. Funded in part with a \$1 million National Research Initiative Grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to USU, the project involves researchers from Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain, as well as the United States.

Weber State University: Weber State University Anthropology student Joshua Blackwelder has been awarded a National Security Education Program scholarship worth \$17,600. The scholarship will allow him to spend the 2005-2006 academic year studying Russian government, politics, and anthropology at universities in Russia and Siberia.

Snow College: Nathan O'Bryant, a bass player in Snow's Jazz Ensemble, earned a spot in the Disney All American College Band. Band members are selected through a nationwide audition process – only one bass player is selected. The Band goes on to perform and record throughout the summer months and is one of the most prestigious opportunities for musicians in the United States.

Commissioner's Report
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Continued

College of Eastern Utah: The College of Eastern Utah's business program did well in the state's Phi Beta Lambda business competition for two and four-year colleges and universities. Four CEU students qualified to participate in the national competition in Orlando this summer. Four of the top five performers in Accounting Principles represented CEU. Tara Jensen finished first, Doug Trease finished second, Landy Alger finished fourth and Chalice Randazzo finished fifth. Tara Jensen also finished second in Hospitality Management, fifth in Finance and fourth in Business Law. Doug Trease finished third in Business Law. Chalice Randazzo finished first in Statistical Analysis.

Dixie State College: The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter, recently announced that Community Education Channel (CEC) executive director and Dixie State broadcasting instructor Stanley Everett was selected by his peers to be inducted into the National Television Academy's Silver Circle. Everett was the only educator and the only Utahn to be inducted this year. He joins other Utah broadcasters Dick Nourse and Mark Eubank of KSL-TV, and Ken Verdoia of KUED-TV as members of the Silver Circle. The Community Education Channel is headquartered on the Dixie State campus.

Utah Valley State College: The Utah Valley State College Ballroom Dance Team won the *Open British Standard Team Championship* at Black Pool, England on June 1, 2005. The Black Pool competition is the world championship event for ballroom dance teams. Additionally, UVSC won second place in the *Open British Latin Formation*, finishing just behind a very talented Chinese team.

Salt Lake Community College: Salt Lake Community College faculty member, Irina Nelson, has been nominated as a candidate to receive the first "Todd B. Hawley Award" of the ISU-USA Alumni Association at the upcoming Congress this month.

The Multicultural Initiatives Center honored 470 students with a 3.5 cumulative GPA and higher and 12 or more hours in a degree or certificate program for their outstanding academic achievements during fall semester.

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Continued**

**Utah College of Applied
Technology:**

During the past year, administrators from Southern Utah University (SUU) and the Southwest Campus of the Utah College of Applied Technology have engaged in discussions regarding each institution's role in providing applied technology education. The discussions have lead to the development of a Strategic Alliance Agreement which has been approved by SUU's Board of Trustees and SWATC's Board of Directors. The agreement lays the groundwork for increased cooperative efforts, mutual long-term planning and formal articulation agreements.

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