

Report of the Chair

September 2007

- University of Utah:

University of Utah student **Ronnie Boutte** recently won the Technology Titans Innovation Challenge \$5,000 grand prize for a miniature camera to be used in cell phones. This competition is designed specifically for student inventors with early-stage or emerging ideas and designs. The Micron Engineering Prize was awarded to the University of Utah team of **Zivile Dobson** and **Jennifer Wheelwright** for bioengineering technology. The Humanitarian Prize was awarded to **Dolly Holt** for a hydrogel-coated technology used in hygiene products. More than 115 teams from around the state entered the 2006-2007 competition.

- Utah State University:

Thirty-seven Utah State University students participated in an intensive, hands-on study experience in Europe with the Department of Art's 2007 USU Summer Design Program in Switzerland. Working with the International Olympic Museum, the students were assigned to produce prototype Olympic torch designs for the Olympics in Vancouver (2010) and London (2012). The museum's administration was so impressed with the nine torch designs that they were put on exhibition at the museum during the summer tourist high season, an unexpected honor for the USU students.

- Weber State University:

Weber State University English major **Kory Fluckiger** had a collection of his poems published as a result of being selected as the best in the nation by the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. Fluckiger's collection of original poems was awarded the Florence Kahn Memorial Publication Award-University Level. As part of the honor, Fluckiger received \$500 and had 100 copies of his poetry chapbook published.

- Southern Utah University:

At the beginning of September, SUU Alumnus **Karen W. Leigh** received Granite School District's 2008 Teacher of the Year Award. Leigh, who currently teaches in the fourth grade at Carl Sandburg Elementary, recently graduated from Southern Utah University with her master's degree in Education. She also received her bachelor's degree from SUU in Elementary Education in 1980. In addition to being named Teacher of the Year, Leigh was also named as one of the 2007 Granite Education Foundation Excel Educators.

- Snow College:

Many Snow College student-athletes are finding success both in and out of the classroom. Sophomore **Adam Frandsen**, a wide receiver on the Snow College football team, is a perfect example. Along with being named a preseason All-American and receiving recruitment interest from schools such as Oregon, Washington State and Stanford, Frandsen has carried a Dean's List-worthy grade point average.

Student Success



- **College of Eastern Utah:**

Jeremiah Stettler worked on the staff of the CEU student newspaper, the *Eagle*, as a freshman and sophomore. Upon graduation, Jeremiah transferred to Utah State University and landed his first job in professional journalism at the *Herald Journal* in Logan which he held for four years covering sports, agriculture and city politics. Jeremiah graduated in journalism and pre-law with a bachelor's degree and later with a master's degree in political science. From there Jeremiah moved to Saginaw, Michigan where he worked at the *Saginaw News*, covering environmental news, before he accepted a job in 2006 as the crime reporter for the *Salt Lake Tribune*. Jeremiah currently works at the government desk, covering Salt Lake County politics. Jeremiah attributes his success to the exposure to journalism provided by College of Eastern Utah's newspaper and training provided by his advisor, Susan Poslter.

- **Dixie State College:**

This past June, **Amber Webb** of Santa Clara, Utah, just missed out on her third-straight gold medal at the SkillsUSA National Championships held in Kansas City, Mo. She took home a silver medal in Extemporeaneous Speaking. She competed against 23 other candidates from across the United States. More than 13,000 students and advisors attended the national conference, competing in more than 80 different categories. Webb recently transferred to the University of Utah.

- **Utah Valley State College:**

UVSC senior **Melina Jones** interned this past summer as the personal executive assistant to Mexican First Lady Margarita Zavala de Calderón. Perhaps you saw Melina on television during the recent summit in Ottawa next to the First Lady when the Mexican, U.S. and Canadian heads of state and spouses met. Melina is the daughter of Senator Jeffrey Jones, Mexican Undersecretary of Agriculture, and a member of the National President Advisory Board at UVSC. The First Lady requested that Melina return another semester to intern with her.

- **Salt Lake Community College:**

Salt Lake Community College Fashion Institute students **Jordan Halversen, Krista Nielson, and Riva Juarez** were featured in *Salt Lake Magazine* as three up-and-coming designers. The article "SLC Style" featured original work of the students, and each student designer received a full page dedicated to his or her own designs. All three students shared their experiences that led them to SLCC's Fashion Institute program and discussed their respective senses of style and career aspirations.

- **Utah College of Applied Technology:**

Nakari Rodriguez arrived in the United States 13 years ago from Venezuela. She decided to enroll in the CNA course at UCAT's Davis Campus (DATC) after her youngest of five children began first grade. She didn't speak any English. However, with great motivation from her instructors, Nakari was told that she had the ability to graduate from the program and become employable. Nakari graduated after three months of training. Immediately after receiving her CNA certificate, her instructor offered her a position as a teaching assistant. Nakari will be receiving her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) certification in December, after which she will begin working toward her goal of becoming a Registered Nurse (RN). She has already been offered a position working at Davis Hospital once she receives her diploma.

