

Report of the Chair

Student Success

University of Utah

University of Utah nursing graduate student, **Sarah Iribarren**, has received a prestigious National Institutes of Health/Fogarty Center fellowship. She is only the second nurse to be awarded the honor in the scholarship program's history. She is one of thirty scholars out of 170 applicants around the country who were awarded the fellowships to 22 international sites. Sarah will spend 10 months in Argentina learning about medical and clinical research, specifically mother-and-child health research and health-care policy and research.

Utah State University

For the first time, all four of USU's candidates for the prestigious Goldwater Scholars were accepted for awards. Presented by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation, the award supports students in math, science and engineering. **Tamara Jeppson** and **Jodie Barker-Tvedtnes** were named Goldwater Scholars, and **Sydney Chamberlin** and **Cody Tramp** were awarded honorable mentions in the competition. USU boasts nine Goldwater Scholars and two honorable mention recipients from previous years. The award includes a two-year scholarship of up to \$7,500.

Weber State University

Weber State University student **Issac Goeckeritz's** 2007 documentary "Ogden: Junction City of the West" was broadcast on KUED on May 28. The film focuses on Ogden's transition from a small farming community to a major hub for cross-country travelers on the transcontinental railroad. Copies of the DVD are available for sale on Amazon.com. Issac is wrapping up production on his second documentary, which he expects to complete this fall.

Snow College

Judy Chamberlain of Manti was named the 2008 Valedictorian at Snow College—but that is just one thing she accomplished in her two years here. Chamberlain also served as the student Vice President for Leadership, maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA, competed with the DEX Club at national events, and won the Outstanding Communicators Competition for public speaking.

Dixie State College

Dixie State College sophomore theatre arts student **Guy Smith** won the national Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) make-up competition held April 18, in Washington, D.C. Smith won the title over six other college make-up artists in the nation with his display work and performance in a number of workshops during the five-day festival. Smith, a graduate of Dixie High School in St. George, earned the trip to the national festival by taking top honors in the KCACTF regional design contest for his makeup designs in DSC's production of *Sweeney Todd* last fall. For winning the national award, Smith received \$500 and an opportunity to go to New York City in May for a week-long working experience called *The Clam Bake* with world-renowned designer Ming Cho Lee.

College of Eastern Utah

When **Justin Bechaver** attended College of Eastern Utah in 2000, he found that he enjoyed the Criminal Justice Program. His interest encouraged him to apply to the Utah Crime Scene Academy hosted by College of Eastern Utah where he discovered that he had a real passion for crime scene investigation and forensic science. Justin went on to study Biochemistry at Eastern Oregon University and graduated in 2005. He completed a summer internship with the Utah Bureau of Forensic Services in 2005. The Bureau hired him upon his completion of the internship. Justin now coordinates the State's Crime Scene Response Team. I guess we could accurately call Justin's life: CSI Utah.



Utah Valley State College

Patricia K. Garcia, an earth science and mathematics major at UVSC, received an honorable mention in the 2008 competition for the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. This prestigious national scholarship program supports college juniors and seniors in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering. Patricia ultimately intends to earn a doctorate in earth science and apply her expertise to studying aquifers and the problems of ensuring adequate supplies of safe drinking water. Recently Patricia was honored as a Governor's Scholar and received an Outstanding Student Award from the Department of Earth Science.

Salt Lake Community College

Chad Nelson, a student in film production at Salt Lake Community College, won second-place for his video Public Service Announcement in a National Geographic Channel competition. Nelson's winning PSA focused on the theme of preservation, and his efforts netted him a \$1,000 cash award and a trip to Washington D.C., where he will take part in a special screening of his video. While in the nation's capitol, Nelson will also have the opportunity to be involved in a panel discussion on careers with professionals from National Geographic.

Utah College of Applied Technology

As a struggling single mother of three young boys, Wendy Cronin knew she had to do something to turn her life around. She found herself in a dead-end job with no hope of realizing her potential. "My failed marriage caused me to go back to school. So many times I wanted to quit, but my instructors in the Business Technology Program were so committed to *my* success, they inspired me to keep going." Upon completion at Bridgerland Applied Technology College, Wendy was hired at JC Auto, where she has made profitable contributions to the small collision repair business. She is especially proud of her work on their Web site, which contains a state-of-the-art online tracking system for their customers. Now debt free, she is especially proud that each one of her boys has their own growing college fund accounts.

