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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**May 23, 2012**

**Regent Bonnie Jean Beesley Installed as Board of Regents Chair**

*Regent Dan W. Campbell becomes Vice Chair*

EPHRAIM, UT – The gavel of the State Board of Regents has been passed to Regent Bonnie Jean Beesley. Beesley, who has served on the Board of Regents since 2003, assumes the post of chair from David Jordan, who had served in that capacity since 2010 and stepped down to accept an LDS mission call in London. Regent Dan Campbell became Vice Chair at the Regents meeting at Snow College on Friday, May 18th.

Beesley, of Salt Lake City, had been Vice Chair since 2006 and has also previously served as chair of the Salt Lake Community College Board of Trustees. One of Beesley’s top priorities as chair is to move forward the Regents’ goal that 66% of all Utahns ages 25-64 have earned a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020. “I look forward to working closely with our state’s university and college presidents, and their institutions, to increase retention and program completion for students engaged in post-secondary education. We are especially focused on narrowing the achievement gap for women and students who come from underrepresented communities,” said Beesley.

Campbell, of Provo, is a managing general partner at EsNet Group, a privately held investment company. He previously served as a member of Utah Valley University’s Board of Trustees. Joining Beesley and Campbell on the Regents’ Executive Committee are Pastor France Davis, Meghan Holbrook, Nolan E. Karras, and Jed H. Pitcher. Davis will also serve as Chair of the Programs and Planning Committee, with Robert Prince as Vice Chair for Programs and John H. Zenger as Vice Chair for Planning. Pitcher will preside over the Finance Committee, with Robert S. Marquardt as Vice Chair of that committee.

*About The Utah System of Higher Education:* USHE includes all of Utah’s eight public colleges and universities: The University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, Southern Utah University, Snow College, Dixie State College, Utah Valley University and Salt Lake Community College. For more information on the Utah System of Higher Education, visit our website at <http://www.higheredutah.org>.