

HIGHER ED MATTERS

Utah System of Higher Education, August 2012

SLCC Partners in \$15 Million Economic Development Project

Salt Lake Community College has been named lead educational partner in a new \$15 million dollar project with Goldman Sachs, joining seven other locations nationwide. Through the 10,000 Small Businesses Program, Goldman Sachs will provide \$10 million in loans to Utah businesses and another \$5 million over five years for mentoring programs and education, to be taught by the College's School of Professional and Economic Development.

"As the number of small businesses in Utah has increased steadily for the past decade, we know that the success of the local economy depends on helping these businesses grow and create jobs," said Governor Gary Herbert. "Our partnership with Goldman Sachs will give small business owners the support they need to achieve this growth."

The College was selected as a 10,000 Small Businesses partner as the state's comprehensive community college and USHE's largest provider of workforce development programs. According to President Cynthia Bioteau, "core to the mission of SLCC is economic and workforce development. To be chosen by Goldman Sachs as Utah's national training partner for building 10,000 Small Businesses is affirmation that we are who we say we are, and now in an even bigger way. Goldman Sachs' award of \$15 million over the next five years will greatly support our state's small businesses and corresponding economic outlook."

In other locations, there has been a 99% graduation rate among participants and more than 70% of small business owners who have gone through the program report higher revenues, and more than half have added new jobs.



The partnership was announced at the Utah State Capitol by Governor Herbert



SLCC President Cynthia Bioteau

University of Utah President Goes on Great Red Road Trip

From the red canyons of the south to the lush farmlands in the north, University of Utah President David Pershing has taken to the road this summer bringing a message of collaboration and thanks to every corner of the state.

"The importance of higher education has never been greater in the state of Utah," says President Pershing. "To keep our competitive advantage, all of our universities must work together with our business community to make sure we are preparing the best possible workforce. I have enjoyed traveling the state this summer to meet with business leaders, elected officials and other colleges to create opportunities for unprecedented collaboration."

The first leg of the summer tour took place June 25-28 with stops in St. George, Cedar City, Milford, Beaver, Richfield, Salina and Ephraim. President Pershing participated in events at Dixie State College, Southern Utah University and Snow College. He also toured several local businesses and highlighted the many partnerships in place that provide opportunities for job creation in the state.

Pershing visited Eastern Utah in mid-July, stopping in Wasatch County and visiting Uintah Basin Applied Technical College and the USU Uintah Basin campus in Vernal. The Northern Utah leg of the trip included a visit to manufacturing facilities in Layton, Ogden, Clearfield & Box Elder County. This leg concluded with stops at Utah State University and Gossner Foods in Cache Valley.

The Road Trip will wrap up in October, with visits to Tooele County, Utah County, and Southeastern Utah scheduled.



University of Utah President David Pershing (middle) at Jordanelle Reservoir with Gene Shawcroft of the Central UT Water Conservancy District

Utah Scholars Initiative Celebrates Volunteers

The Utah Scholars Initiative (USI) celebrated its volunteers at the third annual Appreciation Luncheon on June 21st. Keynote speakers Wendy Gibson, District Manager for Check City, and Judy Petersen, Assistant Director for College and Career Readiness for Granite School District, addressed the honorees. Wendy has displayed extraordinary commitment to the USI, due to her own experience as a first-generation college student. She was instrumental in Check City's decision to partner with the Ogden School District, where they conduct all Utah Scholars presentations. Judy Peterson talked about the success of Utah Scholars in the Granite School District, and the culture change effected by making conversations about college of central importance in the schools.

By the end of May 2012, Utah Scholars volunteers gave approximately 699 presentations, reaching over 22,838 students throughout USI's 11 partner school districts.

Kim Gilbert, from Cyprus Credit Union, and Garrett Dutson, from Energy Solutions Inc., received the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Awards. Five additional volunteers have been with USI from the beginning in 2006, and received five-year recognition awards: Treesa Parker, Karen Seo, Debby Lauret, Dustin Phillips, and Diane Bradshaw.



Diane Bradshaw, Direct Communications; Debby Lauret, American Fork Chamber; Karen Seo, Cyprus CU; Treesa Parker, Energy Solutions



Wendy Gibson & Rachel Lopez, Check City

Comings & Goings on the Board of Regents

Recent months have seen some changes in membership at the Utah State Board of Regents. Regents David Jordan and Katharine Garff have stepped down from the Board. David Jordan served as Regent from 1997 to 2012, serving as Chair from 2010 to 2012. Kathi Garff joined the Board of Regents in 2004. Meghan Holbrook is also leaving the Board of Regents after eight years of service. We sincerely appreciate the dedication that each of these Regents have shown to higher education in the state of Utah.

Governor Gary Herbert has appointed two new Regents, who will begin their tenure once they are confirmed by the Utah Senate. A third appointment is expected later this month.



Marlin K. Jensen of Huntsville is an attorney and a General Authority of the LDS Church.



Harris H. Simmons of Salt Lake City is the President & CEO of Zions Bancorporation.
