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## **College and University Faculty honored for Innovative Use of Technology**

Interim Commissioner of Higher Education David L. Buhler honored Utah's college and university faculty for their use and implementation of technology into distance learning and classroom instruction. During a recognition luncheon held Friday, May 23, the Commissioner presented 18 faculty members from Utah's 10 public institutions as recipients of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Utah System of Higher Education Exemplary Use of Technology Award."

These instructors are being recognized for their innovative use of technologies in their teaching such as podcasts of lectures, course text developed through a student-produced wiki, or a verbal narrative recording to enhance written feedback on assignments.

"These awards highlight the impact of effectively incorporating technologies into distance learning and classroom instruction," remarked Interim Commissioner Buhler. "Today's students are coming to expect to use the same social media tools – such as podcasts, wikis, and web video – for education as they already do for entertainment. We applaud the innovative work and commitment of the award recipients."

A list of award recipients with descriptions of their accomplishments follows (5 pages):

## **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (pages 2-3)**

### **Deborah Byrnes**

Curriculum and Instruction Doctoral Program, Utah State University  
Increasing Access to Higher Education

Since 2002, Deborah Byrnes has been the architect and director of Utah State's distance delivered EdD program. This highly successful program has delivered quality instruction via Interactive Broadcast and the Internet to many of Utah's rural and remote communities. Doctoral students in this program prepare for leadership roles in public and higher education. Deborah is widely known for the excellence of her instruction, high academic standards, and a personal touch with working professionals, all of which support the EdD program.

### **Beth Foley**

Communication Disorders and Deaf Education, Utah State University  
Increasing Access to Higher Education

Beth Foley has been a proponent, during her entire career, of using technology to deliver clinical services to those with communication disorders. As head of the Department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education, Beth has embraced the use of technology to deliver high-quality pre-professional training for students seeking a second bachelor degree in order to apply to graduate training programs. She encouraged the comprehensive development of courses to include all experiences that would occur in a face-to-face class. The department's focus on quality teaching was further recognized through the 2008 USU Department Teaching Excellence Award.

### **Janet Campbell, Linda Rogers, and Becky A. Smith**

Computer Information Systems, Dixie State College  
Collaboration and Technology Enhanced Instruction

Through the innovative use of technology, three faculty members, Janet Campbell, Linda Rogers, and Becky Smith, with eight computer instruction specialists, are able to provide 14 classes to an average student enrollment of 1300 per semester. Hard copy, hand-graded tests, up to 7000 per semester, have been replaced with online testing alternatives that produce immediate feedback. Live class orientations were replaced with a *Sonic Foundry Media* site to webcast these sessions. Certain course lectures have been recorded for use to supplement assignment outlines and textbook and course procedures. What started 10 years ago as the challenge of an institution computer literacy requirement that would increase CIS enrollments from 200 to 1,500 students has resulted in quality technology enhanced instruction for Dixie State College students.

### **Elaine Elgelhardt**

School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Utah Valley State College  
Distance Education and Mentoring

Elaine Englehardt is a pioneer in her use of distance education. She is well known for her innovative broadcast television courses and has participated in the State of Utah's Distance Education program from 1988 to the present. She has taught two courses on Channel 9 and EDNET, Ethics and Values and Mass Communication. About 200 students take Dr. Englehardt's courses every semester with over 7,000 taking her distance education courses since 1988. She was chosen as Outstanding Distance Education Professor in 2003 and won Outstanding Distance Education Program, National, in 2004.

**James G. Harris**

Biology, Utah Valley State College  
Distance Education and Mentoring

Dr. Jim Harris is a professor of Biology at UVSC and specializes in plant taxonomy and plant genetics. He was an early pioneer at UVSC developing and teaching courses using technology. Jim could be seen on Channel 9 teaching and explaining the intricacies of Biology to registered students, where he had a following of viewers who were simply fascinated with his teaching. Dr. Harris has served as the Dean of Science at UVSC, and co-director of the UVSC Herbarium. In 2005, Professor Harris rediscovered a plant living in the Northwest Territories that had not been seen for 150 years. Jim has had a significant impact on students, UVSC (soon to be UVU), and his profession.

**AWARD OF MERIT (Pages 3-6)**

**Renate Kesler**

AOCE Distance Education, University of Utah  
Distance Education

Renate Kesler teaches MUSIC 3715 *Fine Arts Teaching Methods* online. She is a student-centered instructor who measures personal success by the success of her students. Her use of technology makes her class more interesting, better suited to the target audience, and more pedagogically sound. She thoroughly reviews course objectives, then selects the appropriate technology tool to meet the needs of individual students. Her class is used as an example to other departments and faculty members interested in creating online courses.

**Kevin V. Young**

Biology, Utah State University Brigham City Regional Campus  
Innovative Use of Technology

Kevin V. Young is proficient at incorporating technology into his teaching and in using technology to improve instruction. He teaches Anatomy and Physiology over IP Video. He has incorporated the use of video iPods so that students can acquire additional instruction away from class, creating some podcasts and pointing students to others available at other universities. Unable to find a suitable published textbook for his course, he had his students write a Wikibook. Each semester students add to and edit this text.

**David L. Ferro**

Department of Computer Science, Weber State University  
Technology Enhanced Instruction and Mentoring

During sabbatical leave, David Ferro collaborated with faculty at the University of Tampere, Finland, on a research project on the use of student response systems, or “clickers.” The study found that clickers have potential as a peer evaluation tool. David is a campus leader in investigating alternatives to Weber’s enterprise LMS; he has taught online using tools such as Sakai and Moodle and disseminated information on these experiences to the broader campus. He has inspired other faculty members to research innovative technologies that could improve student instruction.

**Evelyn Draper, Valerie Gooder, and Lori Hart**

Department of Nursing, Weber State University  
Innovative Use of Technology

Weber State University’s Department of Nursing recognized the limited critical student-faculty interaction of online course instruction as well as the added demands of in-class instruction. Evelyn Draper, Valerie Gooder, and Lori Hart adapted online and face-to-face curriculum in Weber State’s RN-BSN program to a hybrid teaching format. This new teaching format allows for the convenience of online classes balanced with in-class interaction with professors. Students learn theory online, and then travel to campus for scheduled day-long interactions with faculty focused on application activities.

**Jan Hamer**

Department of English, Weber State University  
Creative Use of Multiple Media

When Weber State licensed Turnitin, a plagiarism detection application, Jan Hamer explored this tool in-depth, becoming quite adept as using the inline markup grading tool to provide students with quality feedback on writing assignments. She uses the plagiarism tool to teach students the importance of citing sources. She uses Wimba Voice Tools to add verbal narrative to her written feedback. This combination of technology tools makes Jan’s feedback highly valuable to students who say Jan goes the “extra yard” in being responsive to their academic needs.

**Joe G. Baker**

Department of Economics and Finance, Southern Utah University  
Distance Education

Joe Baker provides the best learning experience available to SUU’s distance education students. He elevates the quality of online content by seeking and implementing materials and learning tools that will contribute to student success. Joe is currently developing a collaborative partnership with Freedom Fast Track, an organization that designs learning modules and tools to provide empowering, comprehensive, enlightening education. Joe’s students know him to be genuinely

interested in them. He is an advocate among his peers for using technology to extend the institution's resources to students wherever they may be.

**Tyler J. Gardner**

Department of Biology, Snow College  
Innovative Use of Technology and Mentoring

Ty Gardner has been in the forefront of technology delivered education since he arrived at Snow College. He was the first faculty member to use IVC to broadcast classes to Snow's Richfield campus. He developed Human Biology online in 2005. In 2006, he mentored another faculty member in developing an online Physics course. He has since begun using podcasting technology to enhance his classes, developing audio flashcard podcasts for students to learn Anatomy terms.

**Susan Neel**

Department of History, College of Eastern Utah  
Creative Use of Multiple Media

Susan Neel teaches four History classes over IVC. She incorporates Bb VISTA course web pages, podcasts and blogs, multimedia assignments in QuickTime or MediaPlayer, and student web pages. She has weekly contact through VISTA with all her students – distance and classroom. This combination of real-time and asynchronous delivery makes her classes highly engaging for distance-learning students. Susan also engages her peers, working with CEU's Faculty Assistance Center to provide technology training opportunities for other faculty.

**Patty Bingham**

Art Department, Dixie State College  
Creative Use of Multiple Media

Many students who gravitate to an online art class because they are afraid of being required to create art, leave Patty Bingham's class to enroll in advanced art classes to enjoy the creative outlet they provide. Patty was one of the first faculty members at Dixie to explore distance education. She has delivered Art courses over KCEC television, Internet, and hybrid formats. The television course she developed in the 1990s involved live artists who demonstrated skills and debated topics related to art. To ensure students had hands on experience in her online class, she created digital instructional presentations to set up hands-on activities and a kit of materials to complete assignments. Students post artwork online for peer review. Patty constantly refines and updates her curriculum to ensure the best experience possible for Dixie students.

**Kim Abunuwara**

Department of Theatre Arts, Utah Valley State College  
Using Technology to Engage Distance Students

Kim Abunuwara is all about engaging ALL her students. She is a master at using EDNET equipment to engage distance students in class discussion. She originates the broadcast class from off-campus sites to add variety and involve all her students. In her online classes she requires

an introductory e-mail from students – with photos – which she posts online to ensure distance-learning students get to know each other. Kim has assigned students to groups to perform scenes from multiple sites. Students collaborate through Bb VISTA and e-mail to practice their scene, then perform the scene over EDNET from their respective sites.

### **Adam Dastrup**

Department of Geoscience, Salt Lake Community College  
Distance Education

Adam Dastrup's passion for the use of technology in his teaching stems from his teaching discipline: Geosciences. Technology plays a vital role in collecting, analyzing, and understanding the effects of geology upon the world around us. He has developed several online classes, hybrid, and technology-enhanced courses that incorporate various aspects of technology including streaming video, flash, slideshows, discussion threads, podcasts and RSS feeds, Web 2.0 applications, and web links to current geological events and activities. These technologies assist Adam's students in understanding and applying natural sciences to the world around them.

### **Lily Yang**

Information and Media Design Technology,  
Utah College of Applied Technology/Davis ATC  
Technology Enhanced Instruction

Lily Yang stands out as a dedicated educator who constantly strives to improve her skills and increase her knowledge ... and her students benefit as a result of her mastery of webpage development, 3-D animation, and digital manipulation. Since arriving at DATC in 2002, she has improved and expanded Media Design courses to the point that she required a larger classroom which is now filled to near capacity most of the time. She built and maintains a 3-D rendering program that students use to augment classroom equipment. She has integrated Mac computers into her curriculum to give students two platforms to learn from. Lily manages to use existing resources and cutting-edge knowledge to stimulate learning and challenge students.

### **Peggy Green**

Business Technology Department,  
Utah College of Applied Technology/Southwest ATC  
Technology Enhanced Instruction and Mentoring

Peggy Green uses technology to deliver online orientations about the college and her program, quizzes and tests, as well as to create a social network that enriches students' experiences in Business Technology classes. Her online student discussion forum, required for all students, builds a social network and teaches crucial soft skills needed in the workplace. Peggy successfully engages a mix of students from high school students to adults returning to the workforce. A self-described "technology nerd," she also regularly engages office staff, faculty, even her campus president, on the uses of technology.

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