

UVU magazine

ALSO INSIDE \\
IT CHANGES EVERYTHING \\
LOVE AT FIRST BITE \\
PG. 12
PG. 30



algo más

UVU'S LATINO INITIATIVE
IS REACHING OUT AND RAISING UP
PG. 22

75

YEARS STRONG

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Learn more about 75th anniversary events at www.uvu.edu/anniversary/75th

Pictured in background: Utah Trade Technical Institute Nurses in 1963. Current UVU student nurse caring for children in Samoa (foreground).



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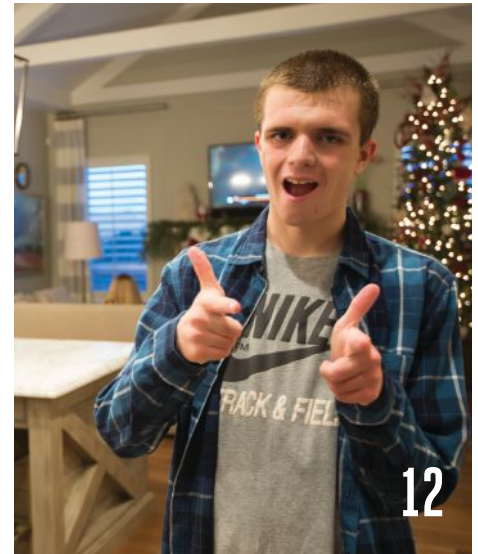
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ON THE COVER: LATINO INITIATIVE

As an institution committed to diversity, UVU has been nationally recognized for the Initiative's efforts in reaching out to the Latino community.

Cover photo by Nathaniel Ray Edwards



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Honoring the Past, Looking to the Future



This issue of UVU Magazine marks an exciting milestone for the University. As we usher in 2016, we will kick off the beginning of our 75th anniversary.

Throughout the next 12 months, we will be commemorating our long tradition of excellence with a variety of activities, publications, and events (see “75 Years Strong” on page 42). Our 75th anniversary is designed to engage UVU stakeholders who have a past, present, and future connection to this tremendous institution. As particular events draw near, we will provide greater details to enable your participation in this yearlong celebration.

A common thread among all of our events will be a focus on the transformation that has shaped UVU over the past seven decades. Our journey from a humble trade school to the largest institution of higher education in the state of Utah is filled with inspirational stories of the people who make this University what it is. The magazine this year will feature these individuals and their contributions in making UVU such a distinctive institution of higher learning.

UVU provides an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and supporters to be engaged in what has become one of the most innovative educational experiences available in the nation. This approach is key to the core of our mission: student success. This commitment to student success — which starts in the classroom — is what has driven us to this 75 Years Strong moment, and it will be what continues to propel us as we journey toward our next 75 years of success.

Please join me as we honor our past and look to the future of Utah Valley University.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew S. Holland'.

Matthew S. Holland
President

UVU Now Utah's Largest Institution



PHOTO BY NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS

Enrollment at Utah Valley University for fall 2015 crested the 33,000 mark, making UVU the largest public institution of higher education in the state.

UVU has an additional 1,879 students on campus this fall — a 6 percent increase — bringing total enrollment to 33,211.

“One of the marked differences between this year’s growth and previous years is we are positioned better than we have been to serve this surge in enrollment,” said UVU President Matthew S. Holland. “We wouldn’t be able to do this without the recent support we’ve received from the state.”

As part of its enrollment increase this year, UVU has experienced a spike in 21-year-old female students and 20-year-old male students, many of whom have returned from serving LDS missions in the wake of the LDS Church lowering its age requirement for missionary service in 2012. UVU has now nearly returned to its previous enrollment watermark of 33,395, which it had reached prior to that announcement.

UVU also saw a 13 percent jump in enrollment for freshmen, 7 percent for continuing students, 9 percent for concurrent enrollment, and 9 percent for graduate students. Full-time equivalent enrollment is up nearly 6 percent as well.

Women's, Men's Soccer Teams Earn First-Ever NCAA Tournament Berths



PHOTOGRAPHY BY AUGUST MILLER

Utah Valley University's soccer programs reached unprecedented heights in 2015, with both the women's and men's teams earning their first-ever NCAA tournament berths.

The Wolverine women finished second in the WAC season standings and upset top-ranked Seattle University 2-0 in the WAC tournament title game, breaking Seattle's 16-game unbeaten streak. The win, which was head coach Brent Anderson's 100th at UVU, gave the Wolverines the WAC's automatic NCAA tournament bid, where they lost 1-0 to nationally ranked BYU.

UVU's men's team narrowly missed its own upset of Seattle U, losing a penalty shootout after a 1-1 draw in the WAC tournament title game. But the NCAA tournament selection committee rewarded the Wolverines' successful season with an at-large berth against Southern Methodist University. While UVU lost that matchup 2-0, reaching the NCAA tournament in the program's second year was a notable achievement for the Wolverines.

"Garnering an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament is a testament to the body of work our team has compiled throughout the year," said UVU men's soccer coach Greg Maas.

University Is 'Institution Committed to Diversity'

UVU has received the distinction as an "Institution Committed to Diversity" by Minority Access, Inc. The award was presented at the 16th National Role Models Conference held Sept. 25-27 in Baltimore, Md.

Fewer than 120 universities in the United States have received the distinction, which is given to universities that are enriching the lives of their students and concurrently contributing to the strength of the nation.

"Inclusion is one of our four core themes, so receiving the distinction is certainly recognition that we are achieving what we've set out to do," said UVU President Matthew S. Holland. "We are committed to providing educational opportunities for individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives. I applaud all those who are successfully transforming our commitment to diversity into real-life experiences for our students."



PHOTO BY NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS

New Vice President Named

Scott W. Cooksey, senior associate vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement for the Texas Tech University System, has been appointed vice president for development & alumni relations at Utah Valley University. He will also serve as CEO of the UVU Foundation.

Cooksey was selected from an extraordinarily strong pool of candidates following a national search.

From 2013-2015 Cooksey served as the interim vice chancellor for 18 months where he managed all institutional advancement programs in the TTU System and its four component institutions. As interim vice chancellor, Cooksey increased gifts to the system by 14 percent in 2014, the second highest fundraising year in the system's history. He assisted in the completion of the Vision & Tradition Campaign, which raised \$1.069 billion. He also served as COO of Texas Tech Foundation with total assets of nearly \$542 million.

Classroom Building Earns Gold LEED Distinction for Sustainability

PHOTO BY NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS



Exceeding Utah's requirement that all new state buildings receive silver certification, UVU has received a gold distinction from Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design for its new Classroom Building.

To receive LEED certification, building projects must satisfy prerequisites and earn points to achieve different levels, which range from certified to platinum, with gold being the second highest ranking possible.

"We're pleased that the Classroom Building scored at this level," said Frank Young, associate vice president of facilities planning. "This rating shows our students and faculty the commitment we have to using our resources sustainably and wisely."

The Classroom Building is the newest and largest addition to UVU campus. With the expansion, more than 3,000 classroom seats are offered per hour, which is a much-needed increase for the growing population at the University.

School of Education Ranked Nationally

TOP 25

In October 2015, the National Council on Teacher Quality released its Best Value ratings of colleges of education and named Utah Valley University's School of Education as one of the top 25 in the nation.

To determine the best value, the comprehensive measure took into account the quality of education programs and the cost of attendance for each program. UVU's selection as one of the top 25 in the nation means that it ranks among the best from both a financial and quality perspective.

"The ranking of our teacher preparation programs in the School of Education by NCTQ is one more national recognition of the quality work we are doing to prepare outstanding teachers at UVU," said Parker Fawson, dean of the School of Education.

Colleges, schools, and programs included in the Best Value analysis range from undergraduate to graduate and those that specialize in elementary or secondary preparedness.

This marks the first time that a national education policy organization has conducted a comprehensive measure of quality that factored in affordability, average teacher salary, and ability to prepare future teachers for the classroom.

Student Alumni Association Wins National Engagement Honor

UVU's Student Alumni Association won its first-ever national honor for its student engagement campaign, "Stop Being Boring." The University was awarded the Outstanding Internal Program National Award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Affiliated Student Advancement Program. "Stop Being Boring" won the district award last spring, which sent UVU to this competition.

The annual awards recognize outstanding student and advisor leadership and achievements as well as outstanding student educational advancement programming by CASE ASAP member organizations.

"We're pleased to receive this recognition," said Kevin Walkenhorst, assistant director of alumni relations. "We build loyalty, educate students on what it means to be alumni, connect students with alumni, promote a culture of philanthropy so students have an opportunity to give back to other students and the University, and develop leaders."



PHOTO BY NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS

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FINDING STRENGTH

UVU STUDENT FACILITATES HEALING PROCESS IN THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING



PHOTO BY NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS

One in 20 children will experience the death of a parent before the age of 18, according to the Center for Loss and Life Transition. Children who have lost a parent are five times more likely to commit suicide, nine times more likely to drop out of high school, and 20 times more likely to participate in risk behaviors than their peers.

Utah Valley University has partnered with the Bradley Center for Grieving Children and Families to provide resources for students and community members who have lost a loved one. UVU provides a place where they can begin the healing process — and facilitate that healing in others.

UVU student Kelly Leon is hoping she can provide the help others need. Leon, a junior pursuing a bachelor's degree in behavioral science with an emphasis in family studies, is a facilitator of the grief group, which meets weekly on campus. She hopes that the experience she is gaining by working with this program will give her skills

she needs to become a licensed social worker.

“I am going through loss myself,” she says. “Because of this, I can help others in the group and they can always count on me to be there with them.”

Leon was introduced to the group through Grace Chou, a professor of sociology.

“I felt that I was meant to be a part of this program,” Leon says. “Not only am I gaining hands-on experience that I can use for my career, but I am also able to be a part of this support system.”

She hopes that by helping those who are involved with this program she can make a difference in their lives and their education. And as a student herself, Leon wants to remind others that even as times get hard, they cannot turn their backs on completing their education.

“It’s hard to keep being involved and to keep going to class when you are grieving with no one to support you,” says Leon. “By providing sup-

port, we have a better chance of students getting a degree and adding to the community.”

The Bradley Center, located in South Jordan, Utah, was founded by Carrie Moore and Janice Taylor in 2011 after both women lost their husbands. The center is dedicated to providing children and families with a supportive peer community while grieving. The participants are encouraged to draw on their own inner strength and faith to begin healing after the death of a loved one.

The center is one of five faith-based community partners that UVU is working with in order to cultivate understanding across religious boundaries and further the mission of the University.

“Not only am I experiencing what other members are going through, I am able to help others as well,” Leon says. “There is a lot of satisfaction in what I do.”

— Tasia Briggs

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SEEING THE OTHER SIDE OF THINGS

STUDENT CHOOSES
EMS EDUCATION AT
UVU BECAUSE OF ITS
ENGAGED LEARNING

In the rapidly evolving industry of emergency medical services, Utah Valley University's 15-year commitment to providing students with excellence in paramedic education has never been better, which attracts exceptional students such as freshman Katherine Nichols of Farmington, N.Y.

"I got involved with the medical field when I was about 13 or 14, when I was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes," says Nichols. "Because of my experience with that, family and friends recruited me to help them with their various ailments."

Nichols' personal health issues have led her to pursue a career in health services ever since. Immediately following high school graduation, she became a certified nursing assistant and began work in the long-term healthcare industry. After her experiences there, Nichols quickly found she wanted more. "I learned I had an appreciation for acute care," says Nichols. "I had a desire to be an ER nurse, but I knew I wanted to be able to see the other side of things too. That's why I wanted to get involved with EMS."

Her pursuit to "see the other side of things" led her to look for schools to further her education and advance her necessary qualifications. In considering universities and programs to help her achieve her EMS goals, she finally settled on UVU — more than 2,000 miles from her hometown.

"I heard that UVU was a great school in terms of engaged learning — just



PHOTO BY NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS

getting students more involved — and that matches up with how I learn," she says. "I knew it would be a good fit."

Nichols believes that in an industry such as EMS, learning and training in hands-on situations will better prepare students for real-life experiences they will face in the field following their formal education.

UVU and the College of Aviation & Public Services are committed to providing engaged learning environments. Students enrolled in emergency services

programs have access to those who currently work in the field, allowing students the opportunity to participate in ride-alongs, among other things. These firsthand experiences give students the opportunity to regularly see the intense and serious reality of emergency services.

Nichols will complete her paramedic certification this spring and will pursue a bachelor's degree in emergency management.

— Gabriel Smith

'It Changes Everything'

Their son's diagnosis of autism turned their world upside down, but Keith and Melisa Nellesen's selfless response will allow UVU to help others walking the same path

by Kellene Ricks Adams | photography by August Miller

Melisa Nellesen knew from the day her son, Cole, was born 17 years ago that something wasn't right. "Even as a baby, he just always seemed to have a glazed look," she says. "He wasn't 'there.' He didn't like to snuggle or be held; he just wanted to be in his crib."

Then Cole started missing important milestones – crawling, walking, talking. By the time he was two, he'd only said one word. And then he lost the ability to even say that.

"We took him to our pediatrician, who mentioned autism and referred us to Primary Children's Hospital," said Melisa's husband, Keith. "After a neuropsychologist looked at him and did testing, that was the diagnosis."

"I don't remember a lot of what happened at the hospital," he continues. "It's kind of a blur. But one thing I do remember: When the doctor gave us the diagnosis, she said, 'I've been in a room when we've told parents their child has cancer, and I've been in a room when we've told parents their child has autism, and the emotions are the same.' It definitely means the end of certain hopes and dreams you have for your child. It changes everything."

"Instead of picturing Cole going on dates and graduating, we focus on sharing toys and potty training," says Melisa, who notes that individuals on the autism spectrum can function on vastly different levels.





COLE NELLESEN AND HIS FAMILY, PARENTS KEITH AND MELISA AND TWO SISTERS, SPEND AN EVENING AT HOME.



TUTOR BREE FOWLES COMES TO THE NELLESEN HOME TO WORK WITH COLE.

A Central Resource

Initially, Keith said his first thought was, “How can I fix this?” It didn’t take him long to discover he couldn’t. Nothing he or Melisa – or anyone else, for that matter – could do would change Cole’s diagnosis. Instead, the Nellesens have devoted their time learning all they could about autism and changing the hopes and dreams they have for Cole.

One of the most daunting challenges the Nellesens faced was finding out more about autism and how they could best help their son. “It was a scary time,” remembers Melisa. “We had no idea what to do, and there weren’t a lot of resources out there. There weren’t any programs or schools. We really had to figure it out for ourselves.”

That lack of a central resource for people dealing with autism – individuals, families, teachers, and others – is one of the main reasons the Nellesens made the cornerstone gift for Utah Valley University’s new autism facility, recently approved by

the Board of Regents and aptly named the Melisa Nellesen Autism Center.

The 10,000-square-foot building will bring together national best practices, innovative educational research, and insights gained from community partners to provide a resource for students and families affected by autism. The center is completely funded by private and corporate donations and will house therapy rooms for counseling, diagnostics, social skills groups, and family support; sensory rooms, playgrounds, and a landscape that will enhance children’s motor skills and ability to engage in science exploration.

The building will also be used by UVU’s Passages program, which provides the opportunity for young adults on the autism spectrum to enroll in noncredit college-level classes. These courses are designed to enhance the social and independent life skills necessary for them to be successful in a higher education setting.

The second floor of the center is expected to feature a flexible space for training and engagement for families and community members; this space is made possible through a donation by Brent and Kathryn Wood, owners of Clear Horizons Academy in Orem. The two playground areas and sensory landscaping are being funded by dōTERRA. Vivint has donated funding for two sensory room suites, and Vivint CEO Todd Pedersen and his wife, Andrea, are personally funding the pre-K classroom. Casey Baugh, a vice president of sales at Vivint, is funding the Casey and Chelsea Baugh Classroom, and John R. Pestana, cofounder of Omniture, has donated additional funding for an interior space.

Others who have made significant donations include Mitch Burton, The Kahlert Foundation, Scott McLachlan, Sorensen Legacy Foundation, and Utah Community Credit Union.

The Ripple Effect

“The Nellesens’ kind and generous donation, along with the other amazing donations we have received, is significant in breadth and depth because it impacts families now and also has a substantial ripple effect going forward,” observes Laurie Bowen, director of community services for the Melisa Nellesen Autism Center. “And it isn’t just the money – while that is amazing on its own – but it is their personal dedication to assisting those in our community. The Nellesens have always demonstrated a care and love for the families and children in our community to have access to the support needed for best outcomes in autism.”

One in 54 children in Utah is diagnosed each year with autism spectrum disorder – the second highest in the nation – and UVU is leading out regionally in providing resources for these families, as well as students and professionals who want to serve them. The University has formed the Autism Initiative Committee, co-chaired by David Yells, dean of the College of Humanities & Social Sciences, and Parker Fawson, dean of the School of Education; the University also offers an autism studies minor and autism certificate program.

“This donation comes at a critical time for autism and UVU,” observes Teresa Cardon, the center’s interim director. “Wait lists for autism supports in Utah are getting longer and longer, and UVU is ready to train more and more people who want to learn about autism. The Nellesens’ generosity will allow us to have a dedicated space where we can train special education students, autism studies students, community partners, first responders, businesses, and anyone else who is interested in becoming part of the autism community.”



COLE OFTEN EATS ALONE TO AVOID SENSORY OVERLOAD.

Intense, Emotionally Exhausting Work

The Nellesens understand the importance of finding help in a very personal way. Ultimately, they chose to start Cole in applied behavior analysis therapy and paid for private tutors to come to their home 40 hours a week to work with their son; they actually spent much of their time teaching the tutors who came to work with Cole. “There’s a huge need for people who have skills in this field,” Keith points out.

It was intense, emotionally exhausting work for everyone, but it was also rewarding. Cole had one therapist who was a hemophiliac. “Cole would bite him, but he still came back because he loved our son,” says Melisa. “We have

another therapist who started with Cole when he was four and still works with him today. When people choose to be a therapist of an autistic child, they have something amazing in them.

“We were blessed,” Melisa continues. “We had the financial resources to get the help we needed. So many other families don’t. Through the years, we’ve tried to help individual families. We’d hear about one family and then another, and our heart went out to all of them, but we couldn’t help everyone. This center is the most effective way for us to use our money.”

Today, Cole’s abilities are fairly basic. He attends school in a contained

classroom and is able to communicate on a fundamental level, although Keith and Melisa aren’t sure how much he actually comprehends. What they are sure of, however, is that helping him learn even the basics has made a huge difference to them.

“Our family life is much better because Cole can communicate with us and function,” Keith says. “And we reached this point because we found information and help. That’s what we’re hoping this center will become – a place where families can find a small army of people who are trained and educated and who can offer them help and hope.”



Led by new head coach Mark Pope, UVU men's basketball team enters the Cougars' den for the first of four annual matchups with BYU

PHOTOGRAPHY BY AUGUST MILLER, NATHANIEL RAY EDWARDS, AND JAY DROWNS

A distance of only five miles separates Utah Valley University from its nearest academic neighbor. But despite the proximity, Brigham Young University has only faced the Wolverines once in men's basketball — in Provo back in 2003.

Since then, UVU hoops has come a long way: full Division-I status, a WAC regular-season title, even a star alum still playing in the NBA in Ronnie Price. But the Wolverines haven't had another opportunity to travel those five miles to face BYU — until this past November.

New head coach Mark Pope, who made that five-mile journey in the opposite direction when he left his position as a BYU assistant coach to join UVU, led the Wolverines into the Marriott Center for the first time in over a decade. And while UVU lost the game, the team will have another shot at the Cougars in each of the next three seasons, including a first-ever matchup at the UCCU Center in 2017.



While the matchup is new, UVU and BYU know each other well, with former BYU assistant coach Cody Fueger and forward Isaac Neilson joining UVU.





Hundreds of fans in UVU green dotted the Marriott Center crowd, including more than 100 MAWL (Mighty Athletic Wolverine League) representatives. Even as UVU trailed on the scoreboard, Wolverine supporters could be heard throughout the arena, at times louder than BYU's home fans.



Pope's first season has been hampered by player injuries, but ambitions are high. "I have a lot of faith in these players," Pope says. "They are terrific young men."



It's a new era

UTAH VALLEY BASKETBALL



DATE	OPPONENT	TIME (MT)
1/2/2016	VS SAN DIEGO CHRISTIAN	7 PM
1/7/2016	VS NEW MEXICO STATE *	7 PM
1/9/2016	VS UTRGV *	7 PM
1/16/2016	AT GRAND CANYON *	7 PM
1/21/2016	AT MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY *	6 PM
1/23/2016	AT CHICAGO STATE *	1 PM
1/28/2016	VS SEATTLE U *	7 PM
1/30/2016	VS CSU BAKERSFIELD *	7 PM
2/4/2016	AT UTRGV *	6 PM
2/6/2016	AT NEW MEXICO STATE *	7 PM
2/13/2016	AT CSU BAKERSFIELD *	8 PM
2/18/2016	VS CHICAGO STATE *	7 PM
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Más

THE LATINO INITIATIVE AT UVU ISN'T JUST ABOUT STUDENT SUCCESS; IT'S ABOUT BUILDING 'SOMETHING MORE' FOR THE GENERATIONS TO COME

BY ALEX SOUSA

It's late, and the hallways of Pleasant Grove Junior High are empty. Everything is quiet except for a single classroom tucked away in the corner of the school's guidance center. About 40 people, parents and students — families — are gathered there, all sitting in plastic chairs arranged in a loose semicircle. Behind them, refreshments are laid out on a table. Principal Brian Jolley stands at the head of the room, his Powerpoint presentation at the ready.

"Bienvenidos," he says. "Vamos a hablar del éxito de los estudiantes." *We're going to talk about student success.*

The crowd nods as he turns the time over to Yudi Lewis. She's the program director for the Latino Initiative at Utah Valley University, and this is just one of several orientations she'll give this week.

"Who wants to go to college?" she says, speaking in her native Spanish. All of the teenagers raise their hands. So do some of the parents. "Perfecto," she says.

The Latino Initiative at UVU has proven to be a success. What began as a question and an idea in 2007 has grown to a nationally recognized effort in higher education to provide pathways to success for a historically underrepresented demographic.

Ask Lewis what the key to that success has been and she'll list off any number of elements that have made the program work: a collaborative relationship with the administration and faculty, a myriad of programs designed toward engagement and retention, a strong community of support from school districts and community organizations. The list goes on.

"We have very passionate individuals on campus who are willing to do so much to make sure that students have access to higher education," Lewis

says. "There is a lot of value in having students bring their culture to campus, along with their individual narratives."

The truth is, the unparalleled success that UVU has seen with its Latino Initiative could be from any one of the many elements that make up the program, or the synergy of them all working together. But at the root of the initiative is a simple campaign geared toward community outreach, which seems to be what drives everything that has happened. And all the progress can be attributed to the dedicated staff working to find the ones who need the initiative the most.

EN EL PRINCIPIO

IN THE BEGINNING

In 2007, just before UVSC began transitioning to a university, then-president William A. Sederburg was asked a question: What are you doing for Hispanic students? In response, he began researching the answer. There were programs around campus focused on helping Latino students, but they were small and disconnected from one another, operating quietly on their own. Because of that, their successes had been understandably limited.

The presence of those programs proved their need, but what had been done so far didn't seem to be enough. The 980 Latino students who were attending the school at that time needed something more. Their families and community needed something more. A state college on the cusp of becoming a university was the perfect place to figure out what that something was.

"I still remember sitting in the room following my interview, after accepting the position," says Kyle Reyes, who took the job as the first director of the

Latino Initiative before becoming the special assistant to President Matthew S. Holland for inclusion. In those early days, he helped lay the groundwork for what the program would become.

"I sat across from Wayne Mangelson, the associate vice president for career and academic advisement, and I asked him how I would know when the initiative had become a success. What were the metrics by which I could measure the success of an initiative like this?

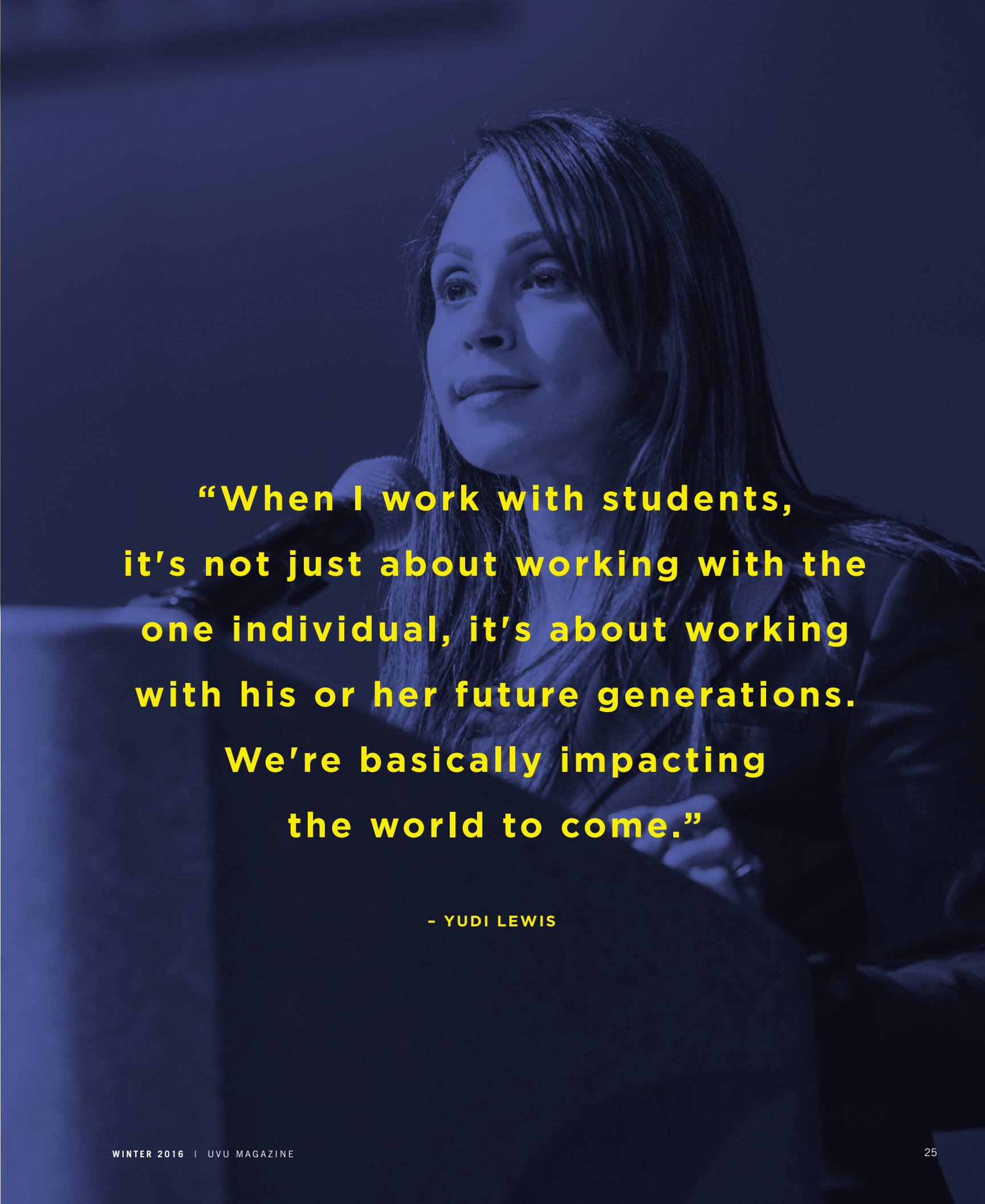
"Mangelson looked at me and he put his hands up. 'We don't know. That's why we hired you,' he told me. 'But we are committed to this.'"

For four months, Reyes conducted research, contacting Latino community members in their homes and asking what they would want from the school if they could have anything. In that first year, a dozen programs began, including Latinos Unidos, Latinos in Business Related Education, and Celebración Latinoamericana, where 20 scholarships were awarded to Latino students. The celebración was a huge success, filling the Grande Ballroom with members of the Latino community and opening the eyes of the University's administration to just how expansive that community was.

EN SU PROPIA MANERA

IN THEIR OWN WAY

Eight years have passed since those early days of the initiative, and the number of Latino students at UVU has tripled, the graduation numbers have increased by 118 percent, and UVU is recognized for having the highest Latino student enrollment numbers — 3,332 in fall 2015 — in the state of Utah among all four-year institutions. The initiative has been honored by the

A woman with long dark hair is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to her left. She is holding a microphone in front of her. The entire image has a blue color cast. Overlaid on the image is a quote in yellow text.

**“When I work with students,
it’s not just about working with the
one individual, it’s about working
with his or her future generations.
We’re basically impacting
the world to come.”**

- YUDI LEWIS

White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics and was named one of the top five finalists in the 2013 and 2015 Excelencia in Education's Examples of Excellence.

People often ask what UVU is doing differently than other institutions to reach the Latino population. "We're trying to meet the Latino community where it's at," says Reyes. "Rather than say, 'Come to campus for this financial aid night,' we'll say, 'How about UVU sponsors 15 orientations or financial-aid nights at the high school nearest you?' It's still UVU, but we're in their comfort zone, their culturally relevant space."

From the beginning of the initiative, those involved were committed to serving the regional Latinos in a place they knew and understood. Perhaps this is the reason UVU has become so approachable.

"It's about the ability to go out and have a conversation with parents and students about college," says Lewis. "And in that conversation, what I have found is that students want to pursue a college education, but a lot of the time they don't know how to do that. We go out and provide that information. Now students see UVU as an option — an option to have a better future."

Before taking the post as the director of the Latino Initiative, Lewis had worked at the University for 12 years as both an academic and career counselor. When the initiative first started, she joined committees and involved herself in the program, which two years later she would be running. Born in the Dominican Republic and raised in New York, she saw an opportunity to give back and help others the same way she'd been helped.

"We're giving individuals the oppor-

tunity to reach for something higher," Lewis says. "So when I work with students, it's not just about working with the one individual, it's about working with his or her future generations. We're basically impacting the world to come."

The concern for the community as a whole has been the guiding directive behind the Latino Initiative. In the early years of the program, a portion of its budget was spent on TV and radio spots. Reyes and Lewis quickly realized that approach might work to reach statewide and national communities, but if they wanted to reach the regional community, they needed to do something different.

"We knew that the local Latino network was more powerful than these social media announcements," says Reyes. "We knew that was only going to reach a certain population, and we wanted to make sure that we were reaching the



“We’re giving individuals the opportunity to reach for something higher.”

- YUDI LEWIS

historically underserved Latino population — those who weren’t accessing the information.”

They began to blitz the community with fliers. Soccer games on Sunday, malls, hair salons, *tiendas*, *mercados*, churches — every possible place that the community they were trying to reach frequented, UVU was there. With boots on the ground, UVU found the community it had always wanted to reach and began to earn its trust.

The initiative served to strengthen that relationship, promoting an active interest in the lives of community members. Reyes and his small team began a partnership with Provo School District, which has a large Latino population. They started the Latino Educators of Tomorrow, a program encouraging students to pursue careers as educators and helping them enter UVU’s School of Education. The first year the program had 30 students involved, the second year 60 students enrolled — proof of the impact the

University’s efforts were having.

“We already had the critical mass in the community,” says Reyes. “We sort of set this informal goal that the UVU student community would at least match the demographics of the broader Utah County community.”

Under the guidance of Lewis, who has been director of the Latino Initiative since 2009, the program has exploded. With limited resources and small teams staffed largely with interns, the directors of the initiative have successfully communicated with the greater part of the Latino community, reaching them in their own environment, earning their trust, and letting them know they have a place at UVU.

“I think that if any university is authentic to this idea of being an inclusive institution — which we declare we are — then we’ve got to recognize historical inequities,” says Reyes. “We say, ‘Do we continue to create this space for the Latino community, or do we stop?’ And I can’t imagine we’ll stop.”

HASTA EL FUTURO

TO THE FUTURE

“Necesitamos algo más,” says one of the mothers at Pleasant Grove Junior High. *We need something more.* Lewis nods her head, tells the woman she’s right. Doing something more is exactly what the Latino Initiative is about. It’s about educating people, about giving them the resources to succeed. It’s helping them find a direction that they had always wanted to find for themselves, their children, and the generations to come.

The Latino Initiative isn’t only about the individual, it’s about building a firm foundation for the future. The program lives and dies on individuals succeeding so that the lives of everyone around them can be better. The students sitting in that classroom at Pleasant Grove Junior High will be able to go to college; maybe some of their parents will go too. Eventually, the children of those students, a new and rising generation, will attend as well.

When asked, the students say they want to be teachers, lawyers, and engineers, and with the guidance they’re receiving now, they’ll be on track to do that. And if the Latino Initiative does its job, those students will be successful and give back to help their communities grow.

A father sitting in the back row with his son raises his hand. “This program helped us so much,” he says. *Nos ayudó bastante.* He’s emphatic, passionate; his voice even wavers a little as he continues. “I’ve had two daughters go through the program, and now I have my son here. Everyone should do this. It helped us so much.” Lewis nods again. “Perfecto,” she says.

A HOME for THE ARTS

*Businessman Kem Gardner
believes that UVU — and the Utah
Valley community as a whole —
deserve a beautiful, state-of-the-art
facility where performers can share
their skills and talents.*

Last year, Utah Valley University announced it had raised nearly \$16.5 million in private donations to build a performing and visual arts facility, a much-needed addition to its growing campus. Approval for design and planning of this project was given during the 2015 legislative session, and UVU is requesting \$30 million to assist in the funding of the 140,000-square-foot facility during this legislative session.

Kem Gardner is working alongside other key private donors to lead the efforts to build the facility. Gardner, chairman of the Gardner Company, a private commercial real estate firm, and his wife, Carolyn, have pledged a \$1.5 million gift.



Kem Gardner

Why do you personally feel so strongly about the need for UVU to have a performing and visual arts facility?

I have always loved music, especially classical music. I currently serve as an executive committee member on the Board of Trustees for the Utah Symphony, and I believe that a symphony is the flagship of any community's culture. The Utah Symphony has a goal to become one of America's top orchestras, and we hope to achieve that, in part,

by creating a home for the symphony in key communities spread throughout Utah. Utah County is one of those key communities, but currently our options are limited for spaces where the symphony can perform there.

Of course, a concert hall fit for the Utah Symphony will be only one piece of this gorgeous facility, which will also house public areas for art exhibits; venues for dance, music, and theater performances; and essential teaching, learning, and collaborative spaces. Every area of fine arts will finally have a home at UVU. As part of this project, the University will also renovate space for a dance complex featuring six large teaching studios.

Why is it important for UVU to have this facility?

I've heard President Matthew S. Holland say that the mark of any serious university is its commitment to the arts, and I absolutely agree. The University's School of the Arts includes the departments of Art & Visual Communications, Dance, Music, and Theatrical Arts for Stage & Screen. Students and groups in all of these departments have earned prestigious national and international awards.

Most of us recognize the value of quality learning environments and labs for science- and math-based education, but we often don't understand the importance of providing the same quality learning environments for students who are studying the arts.

As the largest public institution in the state, the time has definitely come for this building. UVU students — and the Utah Valley community as a whole — deserve a beautiful, state-of-the-art facility where performers can share their skills and talents with appreciative audiences that can enjoy and applaud all that the arts bring into our lives.

Which groups will be served by a new performing and visual arts center?

This facility is not just for fine arts majors; two-thirds of students at UVU

take at least one fine arts class, so this building will benefit a significant majority of UVU students.

In addition, research indicates that significant cognitive abilities are developed through arts classes that strengthen other skills, including learning and performance in the areas of math and science. Again, these are benefits enjoyed by UVU students in every major and in every department.

And it's not just the students who benefit from a facility like this. As president of one of the largest development companies in the state, I meet regularly with people who are considering moving into Utah to establish their businesses. They look at the culture of a region — the availability of symphonies and orchestras and the ballet and theater — because they know these types of things indicate a strong, vibrant community.

Where does the project currently stand?

We are committed to raising \$20 million, which is the largest amount of private funding raised for a new facility in the history of the University. We plan on requesting the remaining \$30 million (\$20 million for construction and \$10 million for ongoing maintenance) from the Utah Legislature this year.

Funding for the project has come from a variety of sources, including the Ray & Tye Noorda Foundation, which provided the anchor gift. Other donations have come from the Marriott Foundation, Ira Fulton, Scott Anderson, Utah County, the UVU Foundation, and hundreds of other private donors.

I would encourage everyone to get involved; no donation is too small, and of course, no donation is too large.

Visit uvu.edu/bemoved to find out more about the performing and visual arts facility and how you can help.

Love at First Bite

UVU alumnus follows dreams and develops nationally acclaimed Waffle Love food truck business

by Melinda R. Colton

Four years ago Adam Terry was standing in a freezing parking lot with tears in his eyes, trying to figure out how to tell his wife, Melissa, he had just lost his job at the bank.

The couple had been living the past seven years in a one-bedroom apartment with their three sons and had just made an offer on a home. It was the worst day of his life. He felt desperate. He was panicked. How was he going to take care of his family?

After graduating from Utah Valley University in 2009 with a degree in international business, Terry landed a position at a local bank. It was the pivotal year of the economic downturn and finding employment was highly competitive. For the next two years he worked hard at becoming one of the top bankers at his branch. He had just switched to another bank that he thought would provide more upward opportunities for him. Two weeks later he was let go.





PHOTO BY FOOD NETWORK

ADAM TERRY, WITH HIS TWO BROTHERS, STEVEN AND JARED, COMPETED ON THE SIXTH SEASON OF FOOD NETWORK'S "THE GREAT FOOD TRUCK RACE," SENDING THEM ALONG ROUTE 66 IN PURSUIT OF THE \$50,000 GRAND PRIZE.

Terry and his family survived on their savings for the next seven months. As the fifth of 14 children, Terry knew how to work. He spent the next year working temporary jobs that brought in just enough money to survive. He also spent a lot of time thinking about what his next steps would be.

His entrepreneurial ambition had long been drawn to the idea of running his own restaurant — a high-risk, competitive market for start-ups. Melissa worried that it was too risky and encouraged him to find employment that was more secure, but Terry decided it was finally time to see if he could make a go of his own business. “In my heart of hearts, I knew I could make it work,” he says.

His first inkling of owning his own business occurred at UVU during his capstone course. Terry’s team received the highest score for running a simulated business. “UVU is a unique place,” he observes. “I worked closely with my professors because class sizes were smaller. UVU is a wonderful school that is serving a niche. It is fulfilling a fantastic need for so many.”

As Terry developed his business plan he realized the importance of the financial classes he had taken. “I had been exposed to all different kinds of businesses and entrepreneurs in my classes at UVU,” he says, “and I could immediately see the applications of all the things I had learned. It took me five years to get through college, but it

helped me clarify what I was interested in.”

As his business plan began to materialize, Terry originally considered opening a full-scale restaurant but knew he couldn’t even afford to pay for a sign. As he considered the emerging trend of food trucks in urban settings, he realized a food truck was the better way to go.

With a family loan of \$5,000, he bought his first truck in 2012 and started his dream business — Waffle Love. Melissa, an artist, designed the company’s logo around their slogan: Love at first bite.

Waffle Love doesn’t offer just any waffle. First introduced in Belgium, the liege waffle is an indulgence,

known for its caramelized sugar atop a sweet and crispy brioche-style delight.

“I am the type of guy who, when I find a food I like, becomes obsessed with making it until I get it just right,” Terry explains. “I became obsessed with perfecting the liege waffle.”

Waffle Love was one of the first food trucks in Provo. Terry recalls parking his truck on Center Street in Provo and having the police stop by and tell him they weren’t sure if he could park downtown. “I spent the next several months working with the city and the county health department to get all of the rules and regulations determined so I could run my business,” he says.

Today, food trucks have grown in popularity. Utah County has more than 30 trucks, many of which participate in Food Truck Round-ups throughout the county.

According to Terry’s business plan, he knew he needed to sell 100 waffles a day to break even. His first day he only sold 13 — he didn’t hit the 100-waffle mark for another three months. “I had to keep my chin up,” he says. “I had to think as though I was selling 100 waffles a day. It was easy to get discouraged in the early days, but I kept at it and knew I would figure it out eventually.”

Melissa began using social media to build momentum for Waffle Love. It worked. Today, the food truck has more than 6,200 Twitter followers, 50,000 followers on Instagram, and approximately 44,000 likes on Facebook.

And the days of selling 100 waffles are long gone. Terry added five more trucks, and he and his 70 employees sell 1,700 waffles a day. The trucks can be found in Utah, Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber counties, as well as in St. George, Utah, and Gilbert, Ariz. Terry is also in negotiations for trucks in Long Beach, Calif., and Las Vegas, and he hopes to one day open a shop on the UVU campus.

The past few years Terry has focused on growing his business. “We’ve tried not to grow too fast,” he notes. “We only grow when sales support another truck.”

A Royal Delicacy

The liege waffle comes from the city of Liege in the Wallonia region of Belgium. The tasty treat was first made in the 18th century by the chef of the Prince-Bishop of Liege. The delicacy is made by adding pearl sugar to dough similar to that of brioche; when cooked on the iron, the pearls melt and caramelize, forming big bites of crisp, browned sugar.



Belgium

● Liege

He said the most difficult part about starting his own business was the daily battle in his head. “As you start a business, you’ll always face plenty of obstacles. People will think you are crazy and discourage you from following your dream,” Terry says. “Be diligent about keeping positive thoughts in your head. Be your biggest fan.”

He is definitely a fan of his product; the biscoff and cream waffle is his favorite. His family members are some of his biggest fans too, even though he requires them to stand in line like everyone else whenever they stop by.

Terry continues to refine his product, using fresh ingredients grown right here in Utah. He buys wheat from

a company in Logan, fruit from local farms from Payson to Paradise, and fresh honey from a Provo-based company. “I am a business owner and want to do whatever I can to support other small business owners,” he says. “A quality waffle also keeps people coming back for more.”



PHOTO BY FOOD NETWORK

THE WAFFLE LOVE TEAM AND OTHER FOOD TRUCK COMPETITORS LISTEN TO INSTRUCTIONS DURING THE FOOD TRUCK COMPETITION.

Food Network Fan Favorite

Waffle Love customers have told Adam Terry for years that he needed to audition for the Food Network series, “The Great Food Truck Race.” When season six featured established food trucks for the first time, Terry knew this was his chance.

With only two weeks until the start of the show’s production, Terry and his two brothers, Steve and Jared, sent an audition tape to Food Network producers. The network had already selected five trucks to be on the show, but after watching the tape, Waffle Love was added.

Following historic Route 66, the food trucks competed in cooking and selling challenges in Santa Monica, Calif.; Flagstaff, Lake Havasu, and Sedona, Ariz.; Santa Fe, N.M.; Amarillo, Texas; Tulsa, Okla.; St. Louis, Mo.; and Chicago. The final prize was \$50,000.

“This was the first time the three of us had ever worked together on a truck,” Terry said. “It was a high-stress situation. I am a self-taught cook, so some of the cooking challenges were pretty difficult for me.”

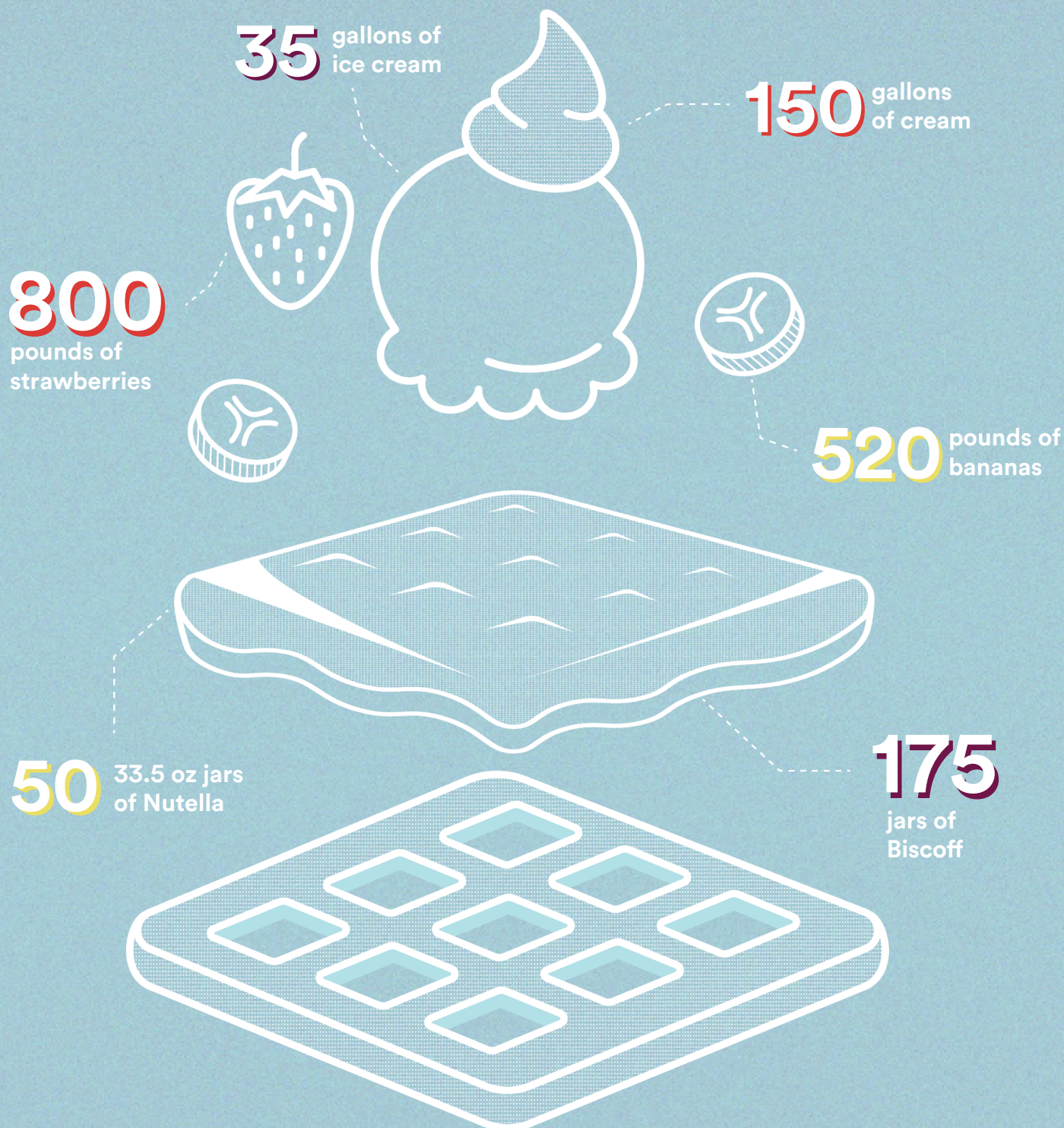
Being a finalist on the show was serendipitous for Terry. The show propelled his business into the national spotlight. Although Waffle Love finished second on “The Great Food Truck Race,” the brothers received 86 percent of the vote as the fan favorite.

Finishing second by a matter of minutes, Waffle Love is now a celebrated brand on Food Network with a national social media following, and Terry is tight with foodies across the nation. And it all started with an impulsive, last-minute call to a producer at the Food Network.

Season six can be viewed at www.thefoodnetwork.com

Waffle Love Weekly

Although Adam Terry says love is the main ingredient in his waffles, he also uses other locally sourced ingredients to make the 1,700 waffles he sells every week.



Generosity Instills Hope

UVU celebrates 25th anniversary of the President's Scholarship Ball, which raises money for UVU's most prestigious scholarship

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Ransom Cundick, a junior accounting major from Santaquin, Utah, was the student speaker at the 25th annual President's Scholarship Ball held October 2015. Through the years, more than 800 students have received the Presidential Scholarship, which assists with full tuition, fees, books, and a monthly stipend. These are his remarks.*

Growing up, I lived in a household without college graduates that was also under the poverty line. My parents did their best, but money was a constant struggle for our family.

As a kid I never noticed — we were poor and that was that. But as a high school student, I just couldn't help but wonder why. I realized that the choices we make at every stage in our lives impact who we can become.

This realization led me to a fascination with numbers. I wanted to understand how money works. Luckily for me, my high school offered an introductory accounting class, and I immediately fell in love. I knew what I wanted to study, but how could I possibly afford a college degree? It seemed financially unattainable.

My older brother decided there wasn't a way — our family simply did not have enough money. He was a 4.0 student and dropped out of high school because he just didn't see a point in finishing if he couldn't afford a college degree.

My older sister, however, told me that there are people out there, humanitarians, who didn't want money to hold me back. If I'm willing to work for it, they want to see me succeed, she said. She instilled a hope in me that college was possible and even went on to lead by example. Not only did she earn a scholarship here at Utah Valley University, she graduated valedictorian of her class.

Luckily for me, the lessons my sister taught me stuck. After a hyper-focused high school experience, and the immense generosity of donors like you, I was honored to receive the UVU Presidential Scholarship.

This scholarship has allowed me to do more than I could possibly imagine. Without this scholarship, I know that attending college would not have been an option for me given my financial status. I'm now a junior in the accounting program and am currently working my dream job as an internal auditor at UVU.

Lastly, and even more importantly for my family, this scholarship has allowed me to be actively engaged

in my son's life, while still preparing for his future. Not only do I get to see him pretend to be a fireman, running around the house, yelling, "Saved you," but I also don't have to worry about my ability to provide for his future. I know that because of the choices I'm making now, he will never have to wonder, like I did, whether or not he will be able to afford college.

This scholarship has not only opened up a world of possibilities for me but also for my son. On behalf of me and my family, and the other 50 Presidential Scholarship recipients, thank you for creating this opportunity.

To find out how you can help make college possible for UVU students, visit donate.supportuvu.org or call the UVU Foundation at 801-863-8568.



PHOTO BY JAY DROWNS



SOCIAL STORYTELLING

BY LAYTON SHUMWAY
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MACY MCCLELLAN



From business to news to American Idol, UVU prepares students to tell stories — and find new ones — using social media

Cori Fox didn't set out to become a public presence for some of the biggest shows on television. But when the opportunity arose, she knew exactly what to say. After graduating from Utah Valley University in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in public relations, Fox snagged a temporary position as a production assistant for "American Idol." From there, she landed script coordinating and social media positions on several other programs, including "Dancing with the Stars," "Jimmy Kimmel Live," and the "Primetime Emmy Awards."

"I never thought about getting into

TV — I just kind of fell into it," Fox says.

Now working on "American Idol" in its final season, Fox credits her success to the wide breadth of experience she received at UVU. In addition to social media courses, Fox completed four internships, all centered on social media work, including becoming the communication department's first international intern.

"My internships at UVU and elsewhere had the biggest impact on my life," she says. "They filled my résumé with experience gained outside the classroom."

Fox has learned what much of the

rest of the professional world is still struggling to accept: Social media isn't just for wasting time at the office — it's a key tool in modern communication.

PRODUCERS & CONSUMERS

UVU students — and many employees — are familiar with the personal uses of social media. But they may not realize the effect this new technology has had on society, says UVU communications professor David Morin.

"In the past, civilizations used storytelling as both producers and consumers," Morin says. "People would tell a

story, add some components, and retell it in the oral tradition. With the advent of print media, most people became consumers, reading what the producers on high created for them. I think social media is driving us to revert back to that oral tradition of thousands of years ago.”

Morin points to newer technologies such as camera phones, free photo and video editing software, and platforms such as YouTube and Instagram as examples of how average people become both content producers and consumers, sometimes simultaneously.

“When you wake up in the morning, what do you automatically do? Most students say they check Facebook or Twitter or Instagram,” Morin says. “We’re inundated by social media now; we have our phones on us at all times. That’s affecting us in ways we’re only starting to investigate.”

A GLOBAL PARTY

Social media isn’t just for telling people what you had for breakfast though. UVU Review adviser Vegor Pedersen, who has also taught classes on social media, says this new form of commu-

nication can help people learn information in new ways.

“Social media is the first communication technology that amplifies our ability to listen,” Pedersen says. “If I own a radio station or a newspaper, my editorial voice can reach millions, but it is essentially a one-way conversation; I can’t really use that platform to listen in any meaningful way. I think social media is teaching big companies how important it is to listen.”

Fox has experienced this principle firsthand in her work in television, representing shows that regularly draw millions of viewers.

“You hear straight from your audience immediately and publicly,” Fox says. “It’s so crucial, because the whole audience can see what you’re saying and how long it took you to respond.”

Pedersen says he thinks of social media as a crowded party, where us-

ers hear bits and pieces of different conversations as they walk across the room. “That seems trivial until you consider the scale,” he says. “This is a global party. Everyone is invited, and everyone is talking and listening at the same time.”

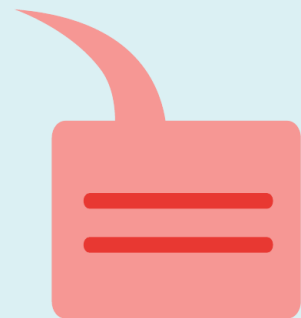
BEING HUMAN

With so many people talking, students need to learn how to separate the important information from the chatter. Morin says that’s why UVU is continuing to add more courses and expand its efforts in social media analytics — teaching students how to synthesize all those Facebook and Twitter posts into useful, actionable data.

“Social media is a powerful medium for businesses to connect with their customers,” says Paige Gardiner, digital marketing professional in residence in the Woodbury School of Business, which offers a digital marketing track as part of its marketing program. “Businesses can test innovative new products, listen to customer feedback,

“Social media is a global party. Everyone is invited, and everyone is talking and listening at the same time.”

— UVU Review adviser Vegor Pedersen



generate leads, and sell to specific target audiences.”

Dealing with hard numbers isn't anything to scoff at, Morin says. “Large organizations spend millions of dollars for social media campaigns to reach these key stakeholders. You can target your content and see the effects immediately.”

Of course, that doesn't mean those effects will always be positive. Morin says he prepares a whole lecture every semester where students study social media failures. And it's often the biggest companies who make the worst mistakes.

“There are countless examples of people who lose jobs because they take the human side of social media to a point where it becomes unprofessional,” Morin says. “I tell my students that it's a balancing act. You can be funny at times, but be aware, you also need to be professional.”

That balancing act is one of the biggest reasons that social media needs to be studied at the college level, Morin says. On top of that, companies often turn over responsibility for social media

accounts to their youngest employees, who suddenly have to act as spokespeople for the entire company online.

“That's why I think having classes to learn what good content is and what you should and shouldn't say are worth it,” Morin says.

“I ask my students to take social media seriously, treat it like an art form, an avenue for self-expression,” Pedersen agrees. “And never automate things. Don't let a program or an algorithm do the engaging. Get in there and be a human being, talking and listening to other human beings as authentically as possible.”

VIRTUAL GRAFFITI

To those who think of social media as nothing more than self-absorbed shouting, Morin points to the way his own teaching has improved through its use.

“I tell my students that I respond quicker via Twitter than email,” Morin says. “Twitter is the new inbox. And I think you have to embrace that instead of ignoring it.”

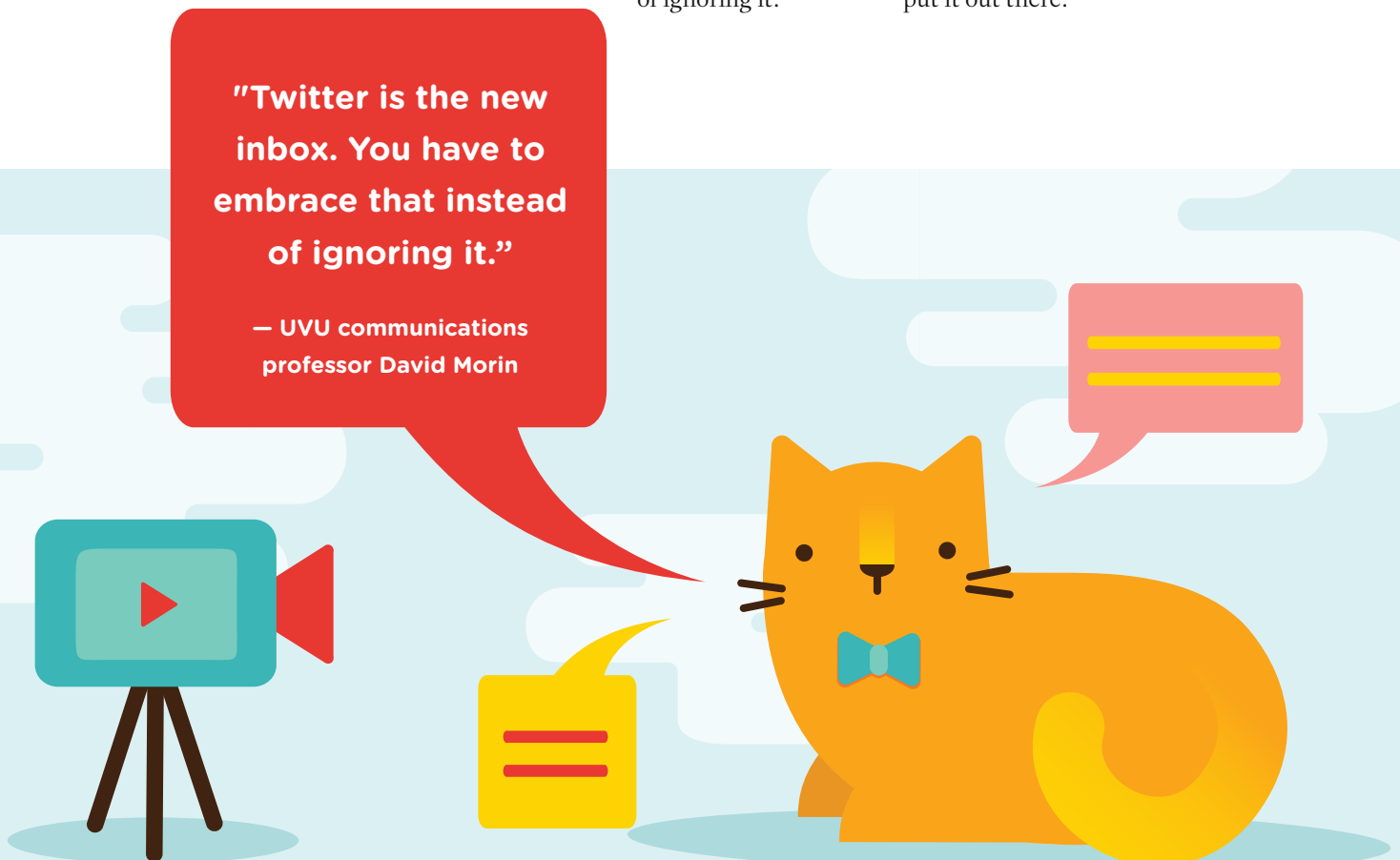
Ignoring it, Morin tells his students, could mean the difference between losing a job to another candidate or missing out on opportunities for advancement. And that goes for teachers and professionals as well, he says.

Many UVU instructors, even those who don't teach communication or marketing, are following Morin's advice and integrating social media into their teaching methods and classes. But more importantly, Pedersen says, teachers should use these new tools to motivate students to become creators.

“I do a lecture that compares social media to graffiti, because I think they are similar impulses,” Pedersen says. “People who don't understand social media tend to discount it as a symptom of the current generation's vanity. But I believe that the reason why we update, tweet, and post pictures comes out of a primal need to be understood and remembered. I hope what we are doing is encouraging our students to be typers and not just clickers. Don't just consume content — create your own and put it out there.”

“Twitter is the new inbox. You have to embrace that instead of ignoring it.”

— UVU communications professor David Morin





YEARS STRONG

Alumni invited to campus during 2016 to join UVU as it celebrates its 75th anniversary

In 1982, President Wilson W. Sorensen described the rapid development of this institution as a “miracle” — its transformation into a major public university over the 30 years to follow is even more so. And now in 2016, Utah Valley University will celebrate its 75th anniversary as it remembers the past and looks to the future.

As part of the yearlong celebration, UVU is hosting several marquee events. “The 75th anniversary is the perfect time for alumni everywhere to come see how UVU has grown and evolved into the largest university in Utah,” says Jeri Allphin, senior director of alumni relations and annual giving. “There will be celebrations and events all year, with something for everyone.”

The University’s 75th anniversary launches with President Matthew S. Holland’s State of the University address on Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. in the Science Building auditorium. Immediately following his address, there will be a kickoff celebration for employees.

Former presidents have been invited to the annual Appreciation Banquet on

March 23 and will be recognized for their service to the institution. The Alumni Association will also unveil a commissioned UVU historical puzzle by Utah folk artist Eric Dowdle at the banquet. The puzzle will be available for purchase through the Alumni Association for \$19.41, in honor of UVU’s founding year.

A history book has also been written by adjunct history professor Sondra Jones and will be available for purchase this spring, also for \$19.41.

UVU will hold its 75th Commencement on April 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the UCCU Center.

A commemorative issue of UVU Magazine will be sent to all alumni in August. “In preparation for that edition, we ask alumni to submit their favorite memories from their time at the institution,” says Melinda Colton, editor-in-chief. “We have successful alumni all over the country and are anxious to share their stories of reflection.” Submit memories to 75th@uvu.edu. Submissions should be no longer than 200 words and are due April 1.

Alumni are invited to return to campus during Homecoming 2016 in mid-September. Homecoming Week will

feature UVUphoria, a celebration concert and fireworks display; men’s and women’s soccer games; the Alumni Awards Banquet; the annual Alumni Family Fun Fair; Founders Day events; and a former employee reception. Watch for more details in the Spring 2016 issue of UVU Magazine.

On Nov. 18, renowned local artist and UVU alumnus Tom Holdman will unveil “The Roots of Knowledge.” Rendered in stained glass, the work artistically depicts thousands of years of the human quest for intellectual advancement and progress. Spanning 200 feet in length and more than nine feet in height, the piece will include more than 90 intricately designed and handcrafted panes of glass. The work of art will be installed in the front windows of the entrance to the UVU Library.

**For more information,
visit uvu.edu/75th.**



“

We have successful alumni
all over the country and
are anxious to share
their stories of reflection.

”

— Melinda Colton

NEW ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS



KARA NORTH

Kara North graduated in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in business management. While attending UVU, she participated in the symphony and chamber orchestras and performed as a featured violinist. She went on to earn her juris doctor from the S. J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah. Upon graduating, North practiced with a large insurance defense firm in Las Vegas; in 2011, she returned to Utah and currently practices at Fillmore Spencer, LLC, in Provo. As Miss Orem 2003, North also organized "Read with a Queen and a Wolverine," which featured UVU athletes and Willy the Wolverine. For her service, she was given the Presidential Student Community Service Award from President George W. Bush.



EMILY GAPPMAYER ROWLEY

Emily Gappmayer Rowley graduated with honors from UVU in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in behavioral science. Born and raised in Utah, she has stayed connected with the community as a mortgage lender with First Colony Mortgage. She has played an integral role in the growth and success of the company and continues to work hard to serve the members of this community. Rowley has a love for learning and looks forward to sharing her passion and experience while serving on the UVU Alumni Board.



EZEQUIEL GUZMAN

After earning a bachelor's degree in hospitality management from Utah Valley University in 2000, Ezequiel Guzman was recruited by Marriott International, Inc., to complete its Management Training Program. In the ensuing years, Guzman worked at multiple locations in the various Marriott brands. He earned numerous awards, including Opening Hotel of the Year and Sales General Manager of the Year. During his career with Marriott, Guzman has directed service efforts with departments and customers around the world, including the complete restructure of the service operations of Marriott Vacations Worldwide, Latin Division. He is currently the general manager of the Courtyard by Marriott in Ogden, Utah.

ALUMNI, COME CELEBRATE OUR 75TH WITH US

UVU ALUMNI RELATIONS STAFF FROM LEFT: MATTHEW BRYSON, TESS RICE, BRITTAN PLANTE, KEVIN WALKENHORST, JERI ALLPHIN, JUSTIN FERRELL, AMIE HUNTSMAN, BRIGHTON BROOKSBY, AND STACY SMITHER.



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ISAAC HALASIMA

I am UVU

ISAAC HALASIMA. Independent film director, writer and editor.

"What drew me to UVU was how the school was embracing evolving technology in TV and Film. I wanted to be surrounded by instructors and fellow students that would look beyond 'the way it's done,' because a new way of doing things was happening every day.

Share your story at uvualumni.org

