



IMAGINE

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2019



INSIDE:

W. M. Keck Foundation Dark Sky Award
\$30 Million Huntsman Foundation Gift
U's Innovative Income Share Agreement
U of U Health Premieres *One in a Million*
New National Advisory Council Members
Imagine New Heights Campaign Update
Alumni Association Membership is Free
Imagine More — U Giving Day

Keck Foundation Funds U Dark Sky Studies

Transdisciplinary minor the first of its kind in the United States

The W. M. Keck Foundation has awarded \$250,000 to the University of Utah to establish a new undergraduate minor in dark sky studies, the first of its kind in the U.S. Dark sky studies is an emerging field that explores the impacts of artificial light at night and the loss of our night skies through a broad range of disciplines. Housed in the College of Architecture + Planning, the minor is open to all students across the university and will explore issues through a myriad of lenses including the sciences, public health, urban planning, engineering, tourism, the arts, and the humanities.

“Exploring ways to bring faculty together from across the campus and create inspiring, transdisciplinary courses finally came together with the W. M. Keck Foundation’s invitation for proposals,” said Stephen Goldsmith, associate professor in the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning and principal investigator for the project. “Their award paves the way for the creation of new knowledge and invites creative responses to the challenges that surround the disappearing dark.”

The minor is the substantive next step for the U-based Consortium for Dark Sky Studies (CDSS), the first research center in the world focused on the interdisciplinary connections of artificial light and dark skies. The minor further illuminates the field.

A minor with major reach across campus

The minor in dark sky studies seeks to expand a new pedagogical model for transdisciplinary undergraduate studies. The minor’s core faculty reflect this philosophy, collaborating from all corners of campus to develop syllabi and refine courses that break down the traditional silos between different departments. These course instructors will become a new cohort of scholars in dark sky studies, providing them a platform for collaborating with peers from other institutions.

“The minor in dark sky studies provides students across campus with the opportunity to engage in highly relevant inquiry regarding a universally

inspiring natural, cultural, and economic resource that is clearly disappearing due to human habitat,” said Keith Diaz Moore, dean of the College of Architecture + Planning.

Undergraduate research experience

The minor also offers undergraduates research opportunities. The first is inventing a new tool for understanding the impact of artificial light at night in areas affected by skyglow, a phenomenon in which artificial light scatters into the atmosphere and creates a diffuse glow that is visible across long distances.

In subsequent courses, students will use the new device to collect, map, and analyze data within communities along the Colorado Plateau interested in improving their night skies. The students will identify lighting hot spots and implement creative solutions, such as designing and installing cost-effective fixtures that address community needs. Additionally, the technology could be patentable and become a vital tool for the increasing number of communities looking to improve their night skies and boost astro-tourism in their areas.

“The dark skies minor will prepare students for the modern world by engaging them in truly integrated thinking and experience that locates their learning in the context of complex systems – an example of the best in undergraduate education at the University of Utah,” said Martha S. Bradley, senior associate vice president of undergraduate studies.

“The W. M. Keck Foundation has an outstanding reputation of supporting distinctive learning experiences for undergraduate students. This was a competitive process, and we are so proud the University of Utah was one of the few research institutions supported in the foundation’s Undergraduate Education program area. This special collaboration expands the U’s ability to provide undergraduate students with a truly holistic look at the night skies.”

Dhiraj Chand, Director,
Corporate and Foundation Relations

15

DARK SKY MINOR SCHOLARS

- BRYAN BOULANGER**
 Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
- CORD BOWEN**
 Director, Multi-Disciplinary Design Program
- KELLY S. BRICKER**
 Professor, chair, director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
- AMY BRONSON**
 Adjunct instructor, Department of Film and Media Arts
- ERIN CARRAHER**
 Associate professor, School of Architecture
- KATHARINE COLES**
 Distinguished professor, Department of English
- ANIL CHANDRA SETH**
 Associate professor, Department of Physics & Astronomy
- STEPHEN GOLDSMITH**
 Co-director, Consortium for Dark Sky Studies; Coordinator, Urban Ecology Program
- DAVID KIEDA**
 Co-director, Consortium for Dark Sky Studies; Professor, Department of Physics & Astronomy
- KATE MACARGAL**
 Graduate research assistant, Department of Anthropology
- DANIEL MENDOZA**
 Research assistant professor, Department of Atmospheric Sciences: Pulmonary Division
- AMANDA SMITH**
 Assistant professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
- GREGORY SMOAK**
 Associate professor, Department of History; Director, American West Center
- ELPITHA TSOUTSOUNAKIS**
 Assistant professor, Multi-Disciplinary Design Program
- JIM VANDERSLICE**
 Associate professor, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine

The W. M. Keck Foundation

Based in Los Angeles, the W. M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late W. M. Keck, founder of the Superior Oil Company. The foundation’s grantmaking is focused primarily on pioneering efforts in the areas of medical research, science and engineering research, and undergraduate education. The foundation also maintains a Southern California grant program that provides support for the Los Angeles community, with a special emphasis on children and youth. For more information, please visit wmkeck.org.



Huntsman Cancer Institute's Next Expansion for Cancer Patients Nearly Doubles in Size Thanks to a \$30 Million Gift from the Huntsman Foundation

Peter Huntsman, CEO of the Huntsman Foundation and chairman and CEO of the Huntsman Cancer Foundation (HCF), announced on January 11, 2019, a transformational \$30 million gift from the family's foundation. This donation allows Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) at the University of Utah to better plan for and address the future needs of cancer patients in the Mountain West. The gift is in addition to the \$40 million already raised by HCF to support the construction of the Kathryn F. Kirk Center for Comprehensive Cancer Care and Women's Cancers at HCI.

The gift will allow the planned HCI expansion to grow from 102,000 square feet of new space to 200,000 square feet, and from four to eight stories. Since the initial announcement of this new expansion, the Huntsman family has worked in cooperation with the U and U of U Health to address HCI's longer-term needs.

After a Huntsman Foundation board meeting, members unanimously decided to commit further resources for additional capabilities. "My mother Karen, our family foundation's chairwoman, my siblings, and I are honored to continue to invest in the future of HCI. Combined with the more than one million donors who help support this globally recognized institute, we are committed to eradicating this disease," said Huntsman.

Susan Sheehan, president and COO of HCF, noted, "The Huntsman family has once again extended immense generosity and kindness to help our community in an area of critical need. As it has done since HCI's founding in 1993, the family is looking toward the future and anticipating ways they can offer hope and optimism in the face of this dreaded disease. We are very grateful for the family's vision and loyal support."

Other major donors to the expansion are the Spencer and Kristen Kirk family, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and dōTerra International.

The major expansion of HCI is projected to cost \$129 million, of which more than \$70 million will come from philanthropic funds. The new patient care facility will include four floors of clinical space, an expanded wellness center, two floors to house faculty offices, and two floors available for future build-out based on cancer patient needs. Pending final approval by state and university entities, construction is slated to begin in December 2019 and the building is anticipated to open to patients in September 2022.



U Leads Nation in Launching Innovative Funding Effort for College Completion

Paying for college can be a challenge. For many University of Utah students, completing their degree means starting and stopping school or reducing their course load in order to save money and avoid taking on debt. Yet prolonging a student's time to graduation reduces their chance of finishing, costs more in educational expenses, and delays increased earning potential tied to a college degree. To address these challenges, the U strategically developed a new program – Invest in U – which provides students with an additional funding option called an income share agreement (ISA). The U is the first major university in the West to launch an ISA program at scale.

The \$6 million Invest in U Fund is composed of donor, investor, and university capital. Lead support came from the Clark and Christine Ivory Foundation. Clark Ivory said, "I'm thrilled to support this innovative initiative to fund and graduate more students, and particularly excited to see our philanthropic resources support the development of a perpetual fund to help students."

Launching this spring, the Invest in U pilot program will provide students with \$3,000-\$10,000 to help pay education-related expenses so they can complete their degrees faster and embark on their professional careers. Students will pay

2.85% of their income after graduation (above a certain threshold) for a fixed period of time, ranging from three to 10.5 years, depending on major and amount received. Payments go back into the Invest in U fund to support the success of future students.

During the pilot stage, Invest in U is open to students who are within 32 hours of graduating and majoring in one of 18 selected majors. The majors come from nine colleges across the university and represent a wide range of areas of study including education, humanities, social science, business, engineering, and health-related fields.

"This is a way for the university, our donors and our investor community to say, 'We trust you. We have faith in your future. We are supporting you,'" University of Utah President Ruth V. Watkins said. "I'm really grateful to the donors and investors who are helping us fill funding gaps so more students can complete their degrees."

The program also is attracting attention from national media and philanthropic organizations.

The university developed its income share agreement program over the past year with help from students and university leaders and the U's Sorenson Impact Center. Further information may be found at isa.utah.edu.



\$6M Fund

SERVES 1,000-2,000 STUDENTS



18

MAJORS



\$3,000-\$10,000

AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS



U of U Health Premieres *One in a Million* during Sundance

The remarkable short film was made possible by the Kahlert Foundation and the Penelope Program



In late January, during the Sundance Film Festival, University of Utah Health premiered *One in a Million*, an original short documentary co-directed by two acclaimed independent filmmakers, Jeremiah Zagar and Ross Kauffman. The film tells the story of Tyler, who lost his ability to walk, see, and hear by the time he was 10. The cause remained a mystery until U of U Health scientists searched his DNA for clues. What they found led to a discovery that changed the life of one remarkable boy.

Zagar directed *We the Animals*, which premiered at last year's festival and is now nominated for five Independent Spirit Awards. Kauffman is the Academy Award®-winning filmmaker of the documentaries *Born into Brothels* and *Tigerland*, the latter an official selection in the 2019 Sundance Film Festival.

"Hope is always my motivation when taking on a project, whether it be a feature-length documentary or a short film," said Kauffman. "*One in a Million* is a story that lifts the spirit and creates a space to understand the intricacies of life." The film was co-produced by award-winning documentarian Geryl Dreyfous and Heather Kahlert, vice president of the Kahlert Foundation, which generously provided funding for the film.

The renowned filmmakers were drawn to Tyler's unwavering spirit and incredible recovery, made possible by a diagnosis from the Penelope Undiagnosed and Rare Disease Clinic (aka the Penelope Program) at U of U Health. The program focuses on tackling some of the most complex medical cases in the country by searching for diagnoses for diseases that have remained unsolved. The Penelope Program combines the expertise of medical specialists, comprehensive care doctors, and molecular geneticists who thoroughly examine each patient, then sequence and analyze their DNA. In this case,

the answer led to a treatment that significantly improved Tyler's quality of life. The Penelope Program is made possible by a collaboration between U of U Health, ARUP Laboratories, the USTAR Center for Genetic Discovery, Primary Children's Hospital, the U's Center for Genomic Medicine, and the U's Department of Pediatrics, where it originated.

"Tyler is a remarkable boy with an incredible story," said Kahlert. "I was deeply honored to be a part of this project. We hope the film will inspire all who see it to participate in the remarkable, life-changing work happening here at University of Utah Health."



To see the film, visit: oneinamillion.uofuhealth.org



U Welcomes New Members to National Advisory Council

The National Advisory Council is a group of approximately 130 individuals who work closely with the university's leadership and administration to improve the relationships between the U and its constituencies throughout the state and beyond. Council members help implement programs necessary for the development and maintenance of the university's resources and contribute to a clear sense of university purpose and direction. Members graciously contribute their time, judgment, and insight to further the university's mission and assist in its advancement.



REBECCA CHAVEZ-HOUCK

A Utah native, Rebecca Chavez-Houck holds a B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication and a Master of Public Administration (MPA), both from the University of Utah. She represented Salt Lake City's District 24 in the Utah House of Representatives from 2008-18, focusing primarily on public policy related to health and human services as well as voter engagement and access. She served as House Minority Whip (2014-16) and House Minority Assistant Whip (2012-14). Rebecca came to the state legislature with a 30-year track record as a media relations and public affairs staffer for a variety of Utah nonprofits, including Centro de la Familia de Utah, the Natural History Museum of Utah, and Girl Scouts of Utah.



LILY ESKELSEN GARCÍA

Lily Eskelsen García started her career in education as a school lunch lady in a Head Start preschool. She worked her way through the University of Utah as a starving folk singer, earning a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's in Instructional Technology. Named 1989 Utah Teacher of the Year, Lily then was chosen to represent Utah teachers as president of the Utah Education Association. She's also been a candidate for U.S. Congress and president of the Utah State Retirement System. Today, Lily is president of the nation's largest union, the National Education Association, and serves an appointment on the U.S. President's Advisory Commission on Education Excellence for Hispanics.



JIM QUIGLEY

Jim Quigley is well established in the world of high finance. He originates from Kanosh in southern Utah (population 400) and received an undergraduate degree from Utah State University. He rose to become global CEO of Deloitte & Touche, the largest professional services company in the world. Since retiring from his active role at Deloitte & Touche, he has dedicated himself to writing books, public speaking, board service, and helping other professionals become more effective leaders.



KIRK RIRIE

Kirk Ririe has had a distinguished career in science and technology, one that earned him several professional awards for his personal contributions and for the success of his companies. In 2011, he invented and subsequently secured FDA approval for the FilmArray System and Respiratory Panel, a user-friendly advancement in point-of-care medical diagnostics. He is broadly educated in chemistry, education, languages, and communication. In 2014, the College of Science inducted Kirk into the Science Hall of Fame.



KHOSROW SEMNANI

Born in Iran, Khosrow first studied in England before immigrating to the United States in 1968. He completed his undergraduate work in physics and chemistry at Westminster College. Khosrow then went on to earn his graduate degree in engineering management at the U before starting his professional career at Kennecott Copper. Eventually, he founded several companies, including Envirocare (now EnergySolutions under new ownership) and S.K. Hart Management. He and his wife, Ghazaleh, in 1993 created the Semnani Family Foundation, which focuses on humanitarian relief across the globe. The foundation also created the Maliheh Free Clinic in 2005 to provide free health care to uninsured and low-income people in the Salt Lake City area.

Imagine New Heights Campaign Update

— OUR GOAL —

\$2 BILLION



\$1,187,751,166

Progress to date (July 1, 2014 - March 12, 2019)



DISTINCT DONORS
85,851



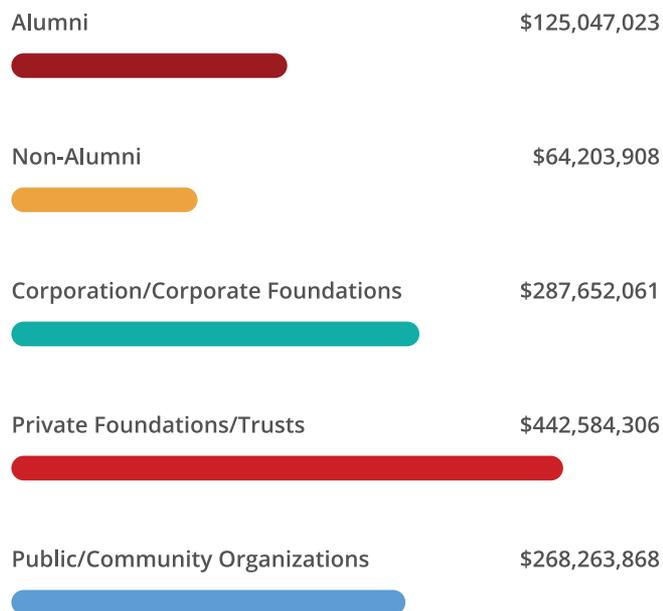
DISTINCT TRANSACTIONS
392,533

ALLOCATION OF GIFTS BY PURPOSE



- Research
- Scholarships/Fellowships
- Public Programs
- Buildings/Facilities
- Academic Support
- Faculty/Staff Support
- Other Purposes
- Libraries

GIFTS BY DONOR TYPE



For additional information, visit giving.utah.edu/imaginewheights.



Welcome, Heidi Woodbury

Heidi DeWitt Woodbury joined the University of Utah's senior leadership team as the new vice president for institutional advancement on February 1, 2019. Previously, she served as the assistant dean for external relations at the David Eccles School of Business. An alumna of the U, she was selected after a vigorous, competitive national search. She succeeds Fred Esplin, who is retiring.

"Heidi is trusted and respected by her colleagues," said President Ruth V. Watkins. "She is widely recognized for her collaborative, positive, and team-building style, her remarkable ability to build long-standing relationships with external stakeholders, and her impressive work ethic."

Woodbury began her career at the U as chief advancement officer for KUER-FM, the university's public radio station. She joined the Eccles School in 1996, serving in various leadership roles before becoming assistant dean. In that position, Woodbury was responsible for guiding all aspects of the business school's advancement efforts.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the University of Utah as vice president for institutional advancement," Woodbury said. "Fred Esplin has done an amazing job in this role, and, because of his attention and dedication, I have a solid foundation to build on. I am excited to work with President Watkins and the leadership team in the years ahead as we strive to continue the university's momentum."



Alumni Association Membership is Free

All alumni of the University of Utah are now members of the Alumni Association! Membership is automatic and dues-free, thanks to a decision made by the Alumni Association Board of Governors. The board felt it was vital that all U alumni have the opportunity to connect with their alma mater and fellow alums as full-fledged members.

To make your connection convenient, we've developed a free smartphone app. Download *Utah Alumni* from your app store and check out the next alumni event, pay it forward through scholarship support, mentor a student preparing for a career, or access U alumni benefits such as:

- Reduced registration for many Continuing Education courses
- Utah Red Zone gear discounts, in-store or online
- Special ticket pricing for select university cultural and athletic events
- Discounts at more than 150,000 retailers nationwide

For more information about free membership, visit alumni.utah.edu/membership.



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Imagine More — U Giving Day

The University of Utah is excited to announce our first-ever Imagine More U Giving Day, a 36-hour effort in support of students, programs, and initiatives campuswide.

U Giving Day, slated for May 21-22, 2019, will be a unique opportunity for the University of Utah community – including alumni, friends, students, faculty, and staff – to advance the U's trajectory of excellence. U Giving Day promises to be an engaging and fun event, and we welcome participation from all members of the University of Utah family.

Please visit giving.utah.edu for updates and more information, including details on challenge and matching gift grants and other ways to become involved.

SPRING 2019

IMPACT is now IMAGINE
The University of Utah Development Newsletter
available online at giving.utah.edu.

