

HIGHER ED MATTERS

Utah System of Higher Education, June 2012

Bonnie Jean Beesley Installed as Regents' Chair

Regent Dan W. Campbell becomes Vice Chair



Chair Bonnie Jean Beesley

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

Beesley, of Salt Lake City, had been Vice Chair since 2006 and previously served as chair of the Salt Lake Community College Board of Trustees. One of Beesley's top priorities as chair is to move forward the Regents' goal that 66% of all Utahns ages 25-64 have earned a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020. "I look forward to working closely with our state's university and college presidents, and their institutions, to increase retention and program completion for students engaged in post-secondary education.

We are especially focused on narrowing the achievement gap for women and students who come from underrepresented communities," said Beesley.

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



Vice Chair Dan Campbell



Artist Rendering of the Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons Building at Dixie State College



The Center for New Media Under Construction at Salt Lake Community College



Artist Rendering of the Science Building at Utah Valley University

Utah Campuses Building for the Future

Thanks to funding from the Utah Legislature appropriated in 2009 and 2010, Dixie State College, Salt Lake Community College, and Utah Valley University are able to respond to the changing educational needs of their students by investing in new buildings on their campuses. Combined, these three institutions have added over 13,000 students (FTE) since 2007.

Dixie State College completed construction of its Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons Building in May. The 170,000 square foot, five-story building, to be dedicated in September, will serve as the intellectual and academic hub of Dixie State, and symbolizes the College's transition toward a four-year university.

The Holland Centennial Commons Building will house the Val A. Browning Library and the English Department. Considered a top priority by DSC administrators and the Board of Regents, the new building is the keystone to Dixie's campus master plan to accommodate the growth (by 64% or 3,329 students in its Fall FTE enrollment between 2007 and 2011) that has already begun to transform the institution.

Salt Lake Community College is responding to the growing need for a highly trained technical and professional digital arts labor force with its Center for New Media. Located at the College's South City cam-

pus, the Center for New Media features 180,000 square feet of open collaborative space. SLCC saw growth of 13.5% in its Fall FTE enrollment between 2007 and 2011, with an increase of 3,217 students.

The Center will house programs, curricula, learning spaces, advanced technology design labs, public galleries, and exhibit space for the College's School of Arts, Communications, and New Media programs, which include Visual Art and Design, Performing Arts, and the Design Institute.

Utah Valley University celebrated the opening of its new Science Building in April of this year. The 160,000 square foot glass and steel edifice boasts state-of-the-art science teaching technology and will accommodate the record growth UVU has experienced in recent years. UVU grew by 33% in its Fall FTE enrollment, with an increase of 6,864 students between 2007 and 2011.

The building marks a new era in science and health education for the University, where 60% of students take courses from the College of Science and Health each semester. The College offers associate, bachelor, and master degrees in a wide range of programs, including biology, chemistry, dental hygiene, mathematics, nursing, physics, and public health.