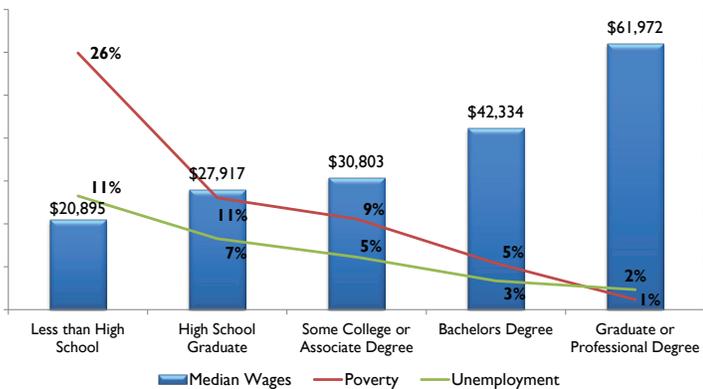


HIGHER ED MATTERS

Utah System of Higher Education, December 2013

Update on the Economic Impact of Utah's "66 by 2020" Goal

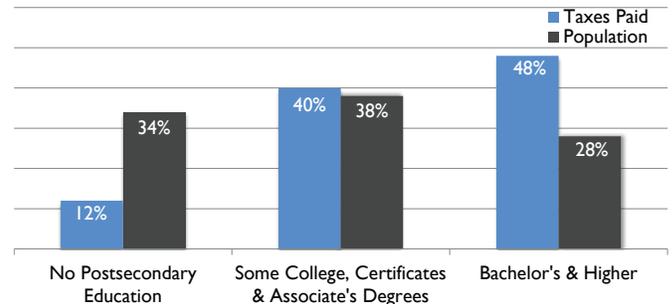
The State Board of Regents and the Governor's Commission on Education Excellence have endorsed the goal of having 66% of Utah's adults hold a post-secondary degree or certificate by the year 2020. There are numerous benefits of higher education, among which are the reduced likelihood of unemployment or living in poverty. Recent data from the U.S. Census reinforce these findings. In 2012, bachelor's degree holders experienced unemployment at a rate 4% lower than individuals with only a high school education. Those holding bachelor's degrees are 6% less likely to be living in poverty than high school graduates. Conversely, people who did not graduate from high school have a 17% greater chance of being poor than those with an associate degree.



Poverty & Unemployment by Level of Educational Attainment

In order for Utah to meet the 66% goal, the Utah System of Higher Education has estimated it would need to award 371,400 degrees and certificates between 2010 and 2020. In previous issues of Higher Ed Matters (March 2013), we have provided data on the wage premiums realized for each successive level of educational attainment. It is also the case that college graduates contribute to the Utah economy in the proportion of taxes paid. Individuals holding a bachelor's degree or higher make up 28% of the state's population, yet pay 48% of the taxes. Conversely, individuals with no

postsecondary education make up 34% of the population and pay only 12% of the taxes.



Utah Population by Education & Tax Contribution

When the goal is broken down by the mix of degrees for the total 371,400 credentials the USHE has proposed to award by 2020, the economic impact for Utah's economy becomes even clearer. Using the estimated wage premium earned over a high school diploma, the 371,400 degree earners would add \$4.8 billion dollars in annual wages to Utah's economy. If we assume a 9.86% state and local tax rate as estimated by the Utah Taxpayer's Association, these wage earners would add \$475 million in tax revenue each year beyond what they would contribute with high school education earnings.

Credential	# of Degrees by 2020	Median Earnings over HS Diploma	Total Added Income	Additional Annual Tax Revenue
Certificate	73,160	\$2,886	\$211,139,760	\$20,818,380
Associate	78,780	\$2,886	\$227,359,080	\$22,417,605
Bachelors	157,560	\$14,417	\$2,271,542,520	\$223,974,092
Grad or Prof	61,900	\$34,055	\$2,108,004,500	\$207,849,244
Annual Impact	371,400		\$4,818,045,860	\$475,059,322

Scott L Wyatt Named President of Southern Utah University Current President of Snow College Selected to Take the Lead

The State Board of Regents has selected Scott L Wyatt as the 16th President of Southern Utah University. President Wyatt, who is currently leading Snow College will succeed Interim President Richard Kendell. Kendell was named to the position when Michael Benson was appointed president of Eastern Kentucky University in April of this year. “President Wyatt has expertly guided Snow College through enrollment and budget challenges to become a nationally ranked institution. We are confident that he will bring this same level of leadership to SUU and to the Utah System of Higher Education as a whole,” said Bonnie Jean Beesley, Chair of the Board of Regents. President Wyatt has led Snow College in fundraising, growth initiatives, and strategic planning, including approval of its first four-year degree program, construction of the Karen H. Huntsman Library, and a new 400-bed student housing complex. His administration has raised more money for the College over the last six years than has been raised during any comparable time in the College’s history. He has overseen the enhancement of the Snow College brand and led the College to a 40% increase in student enrollments over the past five years. He has also guided the realignment of Snow’s career and technical education programs to better fit local workforce and economic development needs. During his tenure, Snow College has been consistently ranked in the top 10% of two-year colleges in the U.S. by the Aspen Institute and sixth in the nation for college completion by CNN Money.



Gary Carlston Appointed Interim President of Snow College

Dr. Gary L. Carlston, a faculty member in the Center for Improvement of Teacher Education at Brigham Young University, will take the place of outgoing President Scott Wyatt. He will serve for a year or more until a new president takes office. Originally from Fairview in Sanpete County, Dr. Carlston graduated from Snow College with an associate degree, and from Utah State University with Bachelor and Master of Education degrees. He earned a doctorate in Educational Administration at Brigham Young University. In addition to his current role at BYU, Carlston has been a junior high school teacher, a school principal, district Curriculum Director, and was Superintendent of the Logan City School District. Carlston was a tenured faculty member at Utah State University, Associate Dean in the College of Education, and interim department head of Secondary Education at USU. He has also been Deputy State Superintendent and served as Governor Mike Leavitt’s Deputy for Education. Dr. Carlston served for twelve years on the Snow College Institutional Council/Board of Trustees and was its chair for ten years. He currently serves as an education policy advisor for Prosperity 2020.



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“[UESP] continues to be among the leaders in reducing costs. The plan’s flexible suite of investments and low costs continue to earn it a Gold rating.”

Morningstar Analyst Kathryn Spica, CFA, October 2013

