A New Era in HEALTH SCIENCE at Dixie State page 4 and 16
Health Science Evolves at DSC

Dixie State evolves from a nice springboard to a four-year staying place. In a reversal of trends, students are now coming to Dixie State College to further and finish their schooling in health science.

End of an Era: Ron Garner Retires

Longtime music professor, Dr. Ron Garner, will leave behind 54 years of memories when he retires from Dixie State College in May.

DSC Partners with DRMC

Dixie State and Dixie Regional Medical Center have cooperated in healthcare education since 1996, but the completion of the new Russell C. Taylor Health Science Center has taken the partnership to a new level.

Dixie State Spotlight

Dixie State is full of amazing faculty, staff, and students. Take a closer look at three.

Sports Update

Dixie State athletes shine on the courts and fields, as well as in their service to the community.

Keeping Up With Alumni

Check up on your DSC Classmates, get details on chapter events, and read about the newest additions to Dixie State’s Hall of Fame.
As anyone who proved their merit by earning high marks in Dr. Andrew Barnum’s coursework can attest, it was a rigorous eye-opener to what lay ahead. Still in nearly a century the school has never been able to see those students mature to fruition, and faculty and staff had to be content with planting a seed and then sending students on their way.

Over the last ten years, Dixie State’s administration and faculty have been laboring to bring about a new era in their health science programs where they could offer opportunities that would be more than springboards, but staying places for students to complete their degrees. With the conception and construction of the Russell C. Taylor Health Science Center completed last fall, the 78,000 square foot, three-story building boasting 14 labs, 10 classrooms, a massive lecture hall, 24 dental operatories, three computer labs and office space a plenty, has officially ushered in the Division of Nursing and Allied Health and what will become one of the cornerstones for Dixie’s future.

The building located off campus adjacent to DRMC on River Road has become the hub of Dixie’s entire offering of health science degrees and certifications. The highlight of these offerings are the recent additions of baccalaureate programs in registered nursing and dental hygiene. In addition, DSC offers AAS programs in those fields as well as medical radiography and emergency medical services, and certification in practical nursing, emergency medical technology/paramedic, surgical technology, and phlebotomy. This fall marks the beginning of the respiratory therapy program and the physical therapist assistant program (AAS).

The building located off campus adjacent to DRMC on River Road has become the hub of Dixie’s entire offering of health science degrees and certifications.

The decision making processes that went into selecting the programs and taking the allied health degrees to the forefront was a combination of factors that included market driven indicators like a shortfall of health care workers locally and nationally, good wages and job availability for graduates, and generous partnerships with Intermountain Health Care (the parent company of Dixie Regional Medical Center), along with private donors and businesses.

“When the new hospital went up in St. George there was a growing need for nurses and other medical workers expressed by the community,” said Dr. Victor Haasfurther, Dean of the Division of Nursing and Allied Health. “You combine that need with a viable field for income and it’s easy to see why the programs have grown in scope and popularity.”

He explained as DSC plans for the coming years in terms of growth, the focus is expanding existing programs rather than adding more.

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The overriding accomplishment has been watching quality health care professionals leave Dixie's classrooms and SUCCEED IN THE WORKFORCE.

Our students are very well liked by the hospital and employers. They're just an IMPRESSIVE GROUP OF STUDENTS.”

- Carole Grady, Associate Dean of Nursing, Allied Health and Director of Nursing, gave specific examples of the steps that the nursing program will look to in the future.

“We could increase our enrollment by 48 or more students each fall and spring semester, and we’re also looking at creating a paramedic to RN track. Between 80 to 100 students apply for the 40 RN openings each semester. It’s good in terms of being able to select the cream of the crop for enrollment, but there are still good students waiting to get in, and jobs waiting to be filled.”

She said currently the RN program enrollment is up to 80 students. Add another 80 students in the LPN program, and over 50 in the online BSN program and it’s a heavy load for eight full time faculty and five adjunct professors to carry. “There are two factors that prohibit an increase in enrollment right now—faculty and clinical sites,” Grady said. “There is even more of a nursing faculty shortage that pay fairly well.”

Yet both Hasfurther and Grady concur the over-riding concern and accomplishment has been watching quality health care professionals leave their classrooms and succeed in the workforce.

Since the nursing program began in ‘96, Dixie State College has shown an impressive pass rate for state licensing board exams, and had an impressive 100 percent pass rate on all three required licensing exams.

We always have exceptional students. It’s very competitive with the limited openings we can offer and these are students who want to be here and are willing to work hard,“ said Karmen Aplanalp, DSC dental hygiene program coordinator. “Our students have traditionally stepped up and performed well on every exam.”

Aplanalp also cited the Western Regional Examining Board Anesthetic and Clinical Licensing Exams, as the other two exams in which Dixie students came through with flying colors. The regional based exams have a typical pass rate of 75 percent, and in addition to the DSC graduates earning 100 percent pass rate, two students posted 100 percent scores and several others posted scores between 99.75 and 99 percent on clinicals.

The past year has been a benchmark for the dental hygiene department in terms of success and growth. Gaining approval from the Utah State Board of Regents for a baccalaureate degree and the move to the new Taylor Health Science Center has equaled an 80 percent increase in enrollment. “We took 24 new applicants this year. It’s a huge benefit for everyone involved including the College, the students and the community.”

Hasfurther explained that being able to send students out into the workforce with confidence not only in their skills but in their ability to land a job is why he sees the allied health and nursing field continuing to thrive and sustain support from the community.

“In many respects it raises the education level of our community. If we expect to attract higher level businesses to the area, we have to provide the infrastructure to support it,” he said. “We're starting to produce enough trained professionals for the area’s health care needs to make a significant dent.”

Grady also stressed the advantages of the health care field to prospective career seekers.

“It’s an area where life experiences—whether it’s having a baby, being a caregiver, or a parent—that truly help you in the program.”

As part of a continuing effort to “Give a Kid a Smile” on Feb. 7, in the Dr. Mervyn and Sue Cox Dental Hygiene Clinic at the Russell E. Taylor Health Science Center, the event was held in conjunction with the American Dental Association’s “Give a Kid a Smile Day,” the annual children’s oral health access initiative which mobilizes dental practitioners throughout Utah and across the country to provide free dental screening and treatment to pre-selected, underserved children.

In all, 73 low-income children from the St. George area were given plenty to smile about as they received approximately $15,000 worth of free dental screenings and treatment, all in about a four-hour period, including: cleanings, x-rays, tooth extraction, fillings and other dental services, along with oral hygiene tips for both the child and parents.

DSC Dental Hygiene Program director Carmen Aplanalp said that for most of these kids, it was the first time they had ever visited a dentist. She noted that it was a rewarding day for all 39 of her students, and her faculty and staff, all of whom donated their time. “We did a lot of good that day,” Aplanalp said. “It felt good to be able to provide that service for children that would not have been able to receive or afford any dental care.”

Aplanalp added that this year was DSC’s first involvement with the ADA initiative and the program is already looking forward to 2010, when they hope that they can double the number of kids seen and treated.

Aplanalp said DSC’s Dental Hygiene Program is grateful to all the dentists and businesses that took part in the event, including Dr. Susan Baker, Dr. Chad Booth, Dr. Brett Christiansen, Dr. Richard Demos, Dr. Derek Evans, Dr. John Jennings, Dr. Kyle Lenort, Dr. Kelly Olson, Dr. Jeremy Shoeben, Dr. Robert Stewart, Dr. Scott Stucki and Dr. Woodward Wagner. In addition, Applebee’s, Jimmy John’s, Pizza Factory, Red Robin and Wings, provided meals and other services to help make the day a success.

“It was a rewarding day for all 39 students, and our faculty and staff, all of whom donated their time. It felt good to be able to provide that service for children who can’t afford any dental care.”

Karmen Aplanalp, Dental Hygiene Program Director
God's gift to St. George and Dixie College," he says now, still laughing over the memory. "I thought I was such a hot shot."

In those days, he said, there were fewer than 20 faculty members and everyone pitched in to get the job done, whatever it was. Today, teachers are more compartmentalized and technology is incorporated into nearly every facet of college life. And while Garner doesn't begrudge today's faster pace, he also nurses a healthy dose of nostalgia.

"I always loved writing on a chalkboard. I always knew it would work for me. Now, I'm as slow as my computer and I've got the slowest one on campus," Garner says, insisting he's not joking.

"We've got smart classrooms and I'm not as smart as some of them."

During his tenure at the College, Garner founded the Dixie College marching band and jazz ensemble. He directed the concert band, orchestra, chamber orchestra, theater orchestra and choir. Through the years, Garner and his wife, Susan, also watched four sons and a daughter graduate from Dixie. Another daughter died of cancer at the age of 7.

Garner says he's thankful he's been able to teach at Dixie State College for so many years. When students ask him what's he's planning to do in the near future, Garner is ready with a full lineup of impressive goals.

"I tell them I'm going on African safari to be a great white hunter, or that I'm going sky-diving or bungee-jumping. I figure if the chute doesn't open, I've had a good life," Garner says harshly before breaking into a short burst of laughter. "Really, I have to be careful what I tell the kids because they tend to believe me!"

Garner's deep love of teaching will always be with him, he said, even though he isn't likely to step into a classroom again.

"I think my teaching days are, well, I think I'll say goodbye to it," he said. "I've got other things I want to do."

Usually, it's Garner who is on the receiving end of good-bye hugs and tearful farewells as students thank him before leaving Dixie State College behind. This time around, it's Garner's turn.

"It's just been such a joy ride here," he says. "We've got such a great staff and such great students. Those are the things that matter."
DIXIE STATE ANNOUNCES EXTRAORDINARY ENROLLMENT GROWTH

After waiting nearly seven weeks to publically share the great news, Dixie State College of Utah officials announced an extraordinary rise in the institution’s 2008 fall semester enrollment numbers. When the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) officially released its third week enrollment figures for the fall semester, DSC posted an 8% increase in total headcount with 6,441 students, 499 students ahead of last year’s total of 5,944. DSC’s full-time equivalency (FTE) figures for the fall semester also rose almost 11% with 4,422 students, compared to 3,988 students this time last year. In addition, the College’s budget related FTE experienced the highest percentage increase in the USHE System at nearly 12% overall with 4,312 students, up 460 students from last year’s total of 3,852. College officials attribute the growth to a number of factors, including affordable tuition costs, the addition of new baccalaureate and associate degree programs, the quality and talent of Dixie’s faculty, DSC’s vice president of student services, Frank B. Lojko, is also quick to point out a challenge made by President Dr. Stephen D. Nadauld soon after he took office last spring. “President Nadauld challenged the office of enrollment and the Dixie campus as a whole to set a target of bringing 400 new students to Dixie State,” Lojko said. “In redesigning some of our existing strategies, we developed a special recipe for success, and as everyone can now see, we exceeded our goal. Now we need to go out there and work even harder and continue to build on this success.” Dixie State also saw a 16% increase in upper division enrollment with 1,311 total headcount, up an even 300 students from last year, and a 15% increase in first-time freshman with 1,431 students, compared to 1,249 in the fall of 2007. DSC also welcomed 121 new transfer students from other institutions, a 45% rise from a year ago.

“A lot of work has gone into our retention efforts,” said Lojko. “We remain focused on giving our students every opportunity to complete their two and four-year degrees at Dixie State.”

CAMPUS TO COMMUNITY

DSC students “Clean Up Their Act” in Tuacahn Service Project

DSC students, faculty, and staff banded together to participate in last fall’s Campus to Community service project, which was held at the Tuacahn Amphitheater and Center for the Arts. The project, entitled “Clean Up Your Act,” was created to help the Tuacahn staff prepare for its winter season.

Lauren Jones, vice president of service for NDSC, said Tuacahn officials approached DSC for help in cleaning up and preparing the amphitheater and school grounds before winter set in. Participants in the project were assigned special tasks, including painting, picking up trash, gathering and mowing Christmas lights. Jones noted that Tuacahn students and faculty also participated in the service project. She said that this activity gave students a feeling of service before the Holiday season.

“It is important for students to have positive experiences serving others,” Jones said. “They found that we can help the community even though we are just students.”

The Campus to Community service program was organized by Steve Johnson, director of DSC’s Community service program.

NEW SHOW CHOIR HAS STARTED AT DIXIE

Calling all singers and dancers, and those who are interested in learning, Dixie State College has formed a new show choir that is currently rehearsing and performing during spring semester.

According to choir director Merrilee Webb, the show choir, known as the “Ragin’ Red” Dixie State College Show Choir, is a powerful, exciting, and talented outreach group that will perform and teach in local schools, and at community and college events, in order to recruit and bring more recognition to the College.

For more information contact Merrilee Webb at merrileewebb@gmail.com.
CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

JEFFREY R. HOLLAND CENTENNIAL COMMONS ANNOUNCED

DSC President Stephen D. Nadauld publicly announced the largest fundraising campaign in the College’s history last October during the DSC hosted Centennial Grand Gala Concert in the Burns Arena. The goal of the “Bridging a New Century of Service” campaign is to raise $100 million by 2011, $1 million for every year of DSC’s existence.

“The College’s faithful mission has been to provide quality educational programs which help students establish and expand their world views. Thousands of students, young and not so young, have studied, graduated, and enjoyed successful careers,” Nadauld noted.

The campaign’s goals are also to enhance DSC’s athletic and creative programs, construct state-of-the-art campus buildings, retain and recruit world-class faculty, and create innovative partnerships and collaborations.

“One thing that has enabled our institution to achieve great success is the ‘Dixie Spirit’ has enabled our institution to achieve great success,” said Nadauld. “We continually strive to improve the quality of education available to you, your children and your children’s children, providing a foundation that will serve our future citizens as they play their roles in the dynamic growth of our region.”

As part of the campaign kick-off, Nadauld announced the largest private donation in DSC history, a $10 million anonymous gift, to be used toward the construction of a new Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons on the DSC campus. Elder Holland, ‘61, is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

“I am thrilled with the growth and destiny of Dixie State,” Holland said in a taped video message. “A significant new building of this magnitude will attract students to the school that has always featured its students and has always put them first.”

Holland went on to say that the proposed building is intended to acknowledge the many students who have come and gone at Dixie over the years, and those who will come in the future.

The Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons will be the hub of the DSC campus, housing academic programs and classrooms, library, student support and administrative services, and a student-friendly atmosphere, with a mixture of food and technology that will invite students to remain for extended hours to gain depth of knowledge and breadth of associations.

The quiet phase of the “Bridging a New Century of Service” campaign began in July 2009, and since then DSC has raised close to $78 million.

DOLLS FOR SCHOLARS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

DSC President Stephen D. Nadauld announced in January the formal kick-off of the institution’s new “Dollars for Scholars Campaign,” or “DSC,” with the goal of raising $500,000 in much-needed scholarship funds.

“Dixie State’s enrollment is up and for us to continue this positive trend, we need scholarships to attract and retain students,” President Nadauld said. “Students are the lifeblood of Dixie. Scholarships allow us to recruit and retain the brightest students, as well as support those who would not be able to pursue their education without financial assistance. We are shaping DSC’s destiny.”

Nadauld noted that increased recruitment leads to increased enrollment, which leads to greater program strength. Nadauld also pointed to DSC’s boost in upper-division enrollment and retention, which currently stands at 46% ahead of last year at this time, as a barometer to how the College’s four-year programs have begun to gain traction.

“We believe that programs attract outstanding faculty and outstanding faculty increases our academic reputation,” Nadauld added. “Top-quality programs attract the ability to recruit even more of the best and the brightest students.”

Dixie State College has a long and storied history of reaching out to the community and providing financial assistance to a wide array of students, both traditional and non-traditional, with the goal of giving them a chance at achieving a college education. However, with today’s economic downturn affecting communities across all of Utah, in addition to the state’s colleges and universities, private donations are needed more than ever.

“Our community has always pulled together to support education,” said Christina Schultz, DSC vice president of advancement. “Our students are counting on us and with the expected state budget cuts, it means that we have to be resourceful and rely even on private gifts. Just 1,000 people giving $50 each would allow us to provide over $140,000 in scholarships.

Dixie State’s “Dollars for Scholars Campaign” will continue through August 15, 2009.

STUDENTS PLACE FIRST AT DEX COMPETITION

Six Dixie State College of Utah students recently took first place at the 2009 Utah State Delta Epsilon Chi (DEX) Career Development Competition held on the DSC campus. Those six students, along with 16 other DSC business students, earned the right to advance to the 2009 International DEX Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Calif., April 22-25.

Both annual conferences are a competitive forum for marketing students, specifically members of DEX, an international college level marketing club geared toward providing leadership and career-oriented opportunities to students.

Among the first-place winners is DSC student Wiley McArthur, who claimed top honors in Retail Management and teamed with Blaire Thorpe to win the Business to Business Marketing competition. In addition, Sabrina Daniel was the top competitor in the Restaurant & Food Services Management section, as were the team of Ryan Laken, Karl Blake and Phillip Moore in the Financial Statement Analysis competition.

Other international qualifiers include Krista Florida and Natasha Xu in Entrepreneurship; Connor Bowles in Human Resource Management; Jordan McNair in Internet Marketing; Melissa Cowles and Tanner Lee in Marketing Management; Andrew Merrill in Financial Services; Ben Trump and Ben Coulter in Retail Management; and Mike Sheffield in Sacramento Representative competition.

“We are very pleased with the results of all the efforts of our students,” said DSC business department chair Dr. Phillip Lee. “It’s just another indication of the high quality of programs and students that we have here at Dixie State College.”

Among the group of winners is Haider, Brian Cox, Kaitie Koch, Tim Leeny, and Robert Sennott who are going to the Management Institute, where they will work with a southern California retailer in an actual merchandising-situation management situation. The management workshop will teach DSC students with other students from across the country. They will address the problems facing the retailer and report back to the company with presentations of their ideas of how to problem solve.

Lee added that the St. George business community was very supportive of the state marketing event, as were the over 70 judges that took time to work with the students.

“The Utah State DEX organization was extremely impressed with the quality and experience displayed by the students who competed.” Lee said. “The DSC Business Department also acknowledges the great contribution of our business community to the success of this conference.”

In the state competition, students were judged primarily on their ability to analyze and come up with imperfect solutions to case studies. The competition consists of eighteen different categories. In order to qualify for internationals, students had to at least place in the top eight of their respective categories at the state level.

Approximately 2,200 students from across the country, along with representation from Metro Rico and Canada, will take part in the international competition.

DSC STUDENTS WIN REGIONAL AND NATIONAL AWARDS

Dixie State College theatre arts student Travis Cox was honored at the Region VIII Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) competition held recently in Fullerton, Calif. The festival features the best collegiate designers, technicians and performers from the California, Arizona, Nevada and Utah regions.

Cox won the regional award for his sound design of DSC’s production of “Dancing at Lughnasa,” last fall. Cox’s design, which featured the arrangement of both period and contemporary music and sound effects, was praised for its research, cohesion and integration with the overall production. In addition, he was given specific praise for his inventiveness and creativity in solving problems presented by the production.

DSC’s participation in the KCACTF allows its student designers, technicians and performers to be reviewed by outside respondents and have their work nominated to participate in the festival competitions. To participate, student designers must prepare a display outlining what they have accomplished and the documentation from the production, explaining how the work was completed. The students also prepare a 10-minute oral presentation in front of judges and participate in a question-and-answer session.

Cox’s regional award marks the second-straight year a DSC theatre arts student has won a KCACTF regional award. Last year, DSC student Guy Smith won the KCACTF regional and national college competition for his work in DSC’s production of “Sweeney Todd.”

Staged in 1969, KCACTF is a national theater program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide that honors excellence of overall production and offers student artists individual recognition through awards and scholarships in playwriting, acting, criticism, directing and design.

DSC students show off their collection of trophies and plaques won in the 2009 Utah DEX competition held at DSC in February.

TRAVIS COX

Dixie State DEX students show off their collection of trophies and plaques won in the 2009 Utah DEX competition held at DSC in February.
Futbol Teams
Post Banner

Sports Update

New Head Volleyball Coach at Dixie State

DSC Athletic Director Dexter Irvin lifted the interim tag off of Gregg Jensen’s title and promoted him to full-time head coach of Dixie’s women’s volleyball program. The announcement was made Oct. 28, 2008, at DSC’s bi-monthly Dixie Athletic Club luncheon. Jensen, who had served as an assistant coach for the past five seasons, took over the Dixie women’s volleyball program just eight matches into the 2008 season after first-year head coach Jason Sturt was relieved of his coaching duties. Sturt had led DSC to a 3-5 overall record through the first eight matches of the 2008 campaign.

With Jensen at the helm, DSC played to a 10-7 overall record, including a season-ending five-match winning streak, to close out the year at 13-12, the program’s first winning season at the NCAA Division II level.

Longtime Dixie State Football and Baseball Coach, Gordon Jolley Inducted to Utah Sports Hall of Fame

Dixie State College mathematics instructor and retired DSC head baseball coach and assistant football coach, Gordon Jolley, was among five new members inducted into the Utah Sports Hall of Fame in a dinner and ceremony held last November at the Energy Solutions Arena in Salt Lake City.

Jolley, who was inducted in the sport of football, spent 21 years on the Dixie sidelines as offensive line coach and offensive coordinator. In addition, he served as Dixie’s head baseball coach for 10 years and taught physical education along with his mathematics instruction duties.

Jolley was a three-sport, all-state performer at Salt Lake City’s Granite High School and was an all-conference offensive lineman at the University of Utah. He parlayed his collegiate success with a six-year NFL career, playing for the Detroit Lions, who drafted him in the 17th round in 1971, and the Seattle Seahawks.

Joining Jolley in the Utah Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2008 was retired Weber State track and cross country coach Chick Hindop, U of U three-sport athlete Lori Salvo, former BYU gymnist Dubhie Stark, and legendary mountain and ice climber Jeff Lowe.

DSC Athletes Serve the Community During the Holidays

Dixie State Athletics and the department’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) sponsored a pair of service activities last semester as a way to give back to the community. DSC students-athletes hosted youth from around St. George and Washington County for their first-annual “Trunk or Treat” Halloween event Oct. 30, at a number of DSC athletic complexes, including Hansen Stadium, Burns Arena, Bruce Hunt Field, Cooper Diamonds, the Old Gym, and the DSC Tennis Courts.

The athletes parked their vehicles, decked out in Halloween decor, at each athletic venue, where trick-or-treaters moved from car to car to show off their costumes and collect treats. In addition, Dixie athletes and coaches shared Halloween safety tips with the children and posed for pictures.

In December, DSC’s student-athletes and the St. George Target department store teamed up to bring a little Christmas cheer to two area families in need. DSC athletes donated money to purchase groceries for each family, while Target donated $500 for clothing, toys and other gifts, which Dixie student-athletes went on to purchase during a special shopping spree.

“I can’t tell you enough about what great student-athletes we have here at Dixie State College,” said DSC Head Women’s Basketball Coach and SAAC coordinator Angie Kristensen. “Not only are they excelling in sports and in the classroom, but they still find time to do projects like this.”

DSC Men’s Basketball Plays for National TV Audience

DSC’s Burns Arena became a national stage on Jan. 3, as the venue played host to the first nationally-televised college sporting event in Dixie’s storied athletic history. The game between DSC’s men’s basketball team and PacWest rival Chaminade was broadcast around the country on the CBS College Sports Network. It is estimated that the DSC-Chaminade game was available for viewing in approximately 20 million homes nationwide.

Nearly 3,500 fans packed into Burns Arena to cheer Dixie on to a thrilling 66-64 victory over the Silverswords. Dixie fell behind early as Chaminade jumped out to a quick 9-4 lead. However Dixie clawed back, thanks in part to the perimeter sharp-shooting of sophomore Tom Whitehead and senior Ryan Sanchez, who hit a 3-pointer in the closing seconds of the first half to pull Dixie to within a bucket at 27-25 at the half.

DSC took its first lead of the game on an Adam Ross two-minute stretch in the second stanza, and Dixie would push that lead to as many as seven points midway through the period. Chaminade kept it close and trailed by just two at 62-60 with a minute to play, but Sanchez put the nail in the coffin in a 15-foot leaner that just beat the shot clock, and his two free throws with 0.3 seconds to play sealed the win for DSC.

Sanchez scored 10 of his 13 points in the second half and dished out a game-high seven assists, while Whitehead hit four 3-pointers en route to a team-high 18 points, as the duo led Dixie to its first PacWest win of the season.
Students are the big winners in Dixie State College and Dixie Regional Medical Center’s health science collaboration.

**Story by Diana Stanley, ’99**

Carol Sue Harris appears eager, perched on the edge of a sola in the lounge of Dixie State College’s new Russell C. Taylor Health Science Center. In an academic environment where most of the students are in their twenties, the gray streaks in Harris’s long, dark hair draw attention. It is her enthusiasm, however, that truly makes her stand out from her fellow nursing students.

The Portland, Oregon, native doesn’t fit the mold of a typical nursing student. Twenty years ago she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Reed College and wanted to spend her life outdoors, became a professional river guide and park ranger. Living within eyeball distance of the Colorado River beside a Native American reservation, she escorted park ranger. Living within eyeball distance of the Colorado River beside a Native American reservation, she escorted

Thirteen years ago, however, she married a fellow boatman and joined him in St. George. Over time, her outdoor jobs lost their appeal, with their long commutes and time away from her husband. She looked for work in Washington County, but was unable to find anything that suited her experience. The needed something new, and Dixie State’s expanding health sciences programs offered her a fresh start.

Despite her love of the outdoors, Harris already had training as an emergency medical technician from her years as a river guide. With this background, Harris knew she would enjoy a career in healthcare, so she returned to school a year ago to work on a nursing degree.

“I want a job in the community I’m living in,” she says. “I can be a nurse and enjoy it and have a future in it.”

Harris could not have picked a better time. Dixie State and Dixie Regional Medical Center have cooperated in health-care education since 1996, but the completion of the Russell C. Taylor Health Science Center has taken the partnership to a new level. Associate Dean Carole Grady explains the health science programs consist of classroom theory, laboratory studies, and clinical settings. Dixie Regional assists with all three components. “We can’t do what we want to do without the partnership,” Grady insists.

According to Vicki Wilson, Human Resources Director for Intermountain Healthcare’s Southwest Region, Dixie Regional needs the partnership as much as Dixie State. “Healthcare is notorious for labor shortages,” she points out. “And you really can’t recruit the [healthcare workers] you need. You need to create that in your community.”

When Wilson arrived at Dixie Regional in 2000, approximately 27 nursing students were enrolled at Dixie, and few healthcare education opportunities existed south of Provo. She saw the need for the hospital to help enhance the “breadth and depth” of Dixie State’s health sciences. Being a Dixie College alumnus herself, she got involved with the school and was appointed to its Board of Trustees. She believes the partnership is mutually beneficial because both institutions share the same vision.

Wilson notes that Dixie State wants to be a “center of excellence” for teaching health sciences, and while the school needs training venues, the hospital needs recruits. In the past, Dixie Regional has used traveling healthcare providers to fill their requirements. As the St. George area grows, however, and the demand for health services increases, Dixie Regional can no longer meet that demand without a pool of trained professionals and assistants in the community. When hospital administrators see that a particular specialization is in short supply, they initiate training programs with Dixie State to fill the need.

Grady points out that Dixie Regional donates to the College in significant amounts. The hospital has provided money to start programs such as phlebotomy, operating room technician, respiratory therapy, physical therapist assistant, and medical laboratory technician. Five years ago, it contributed $600,000 to nursing education to add and retain instructors. Today the nursing program has grown to 88 full-time students, a significant increase in less than nine years. “That’s a much-improved opportunity for [the hospital] to recruit locally from the field,” Wilson adds. “It has taken a strong partnership between the College and the medical center to create these programs.”

For small colleges across the country, recruiting faculty remains one of the greatest challenges, and Dixie State is no exception. In addition to financial gifts, Dixie Regional helps overcome this challenge by sharing the costs. According to Grady, the hospital not only provides guest lecturers, it helps with dual appointments for instructors. Those instructors receive half their salaries from Dixie State and half from Dixie Regional, with the hospital providing employee benefits.

“

You don’t typically see education buildings outside of university centers . . . Located classrooms next to a medical facility lends the school a certain prestige.”

...Continued, see PARTNERSHIP, page 19
The next time you visit your doctor or dentist you might want to break out and sing a few measures of the Dixie School Song—they’ll probably join you! Many of our local providers got their start at Dixie State and have returned to the red rocks they love to practice in their chosen fields and raise families. Here’s a brief look at two such successful alumni:

DR. COURT EMPEY, ’95, a highly trained physician/anesthesiologist specializing in interventional pain therapy, doesn’t wait for anyone else to point out he was once a bit of a trouble-maker in his home town of St. George.

“I was a really bad kid. Kind of a punk kid in high school,” says Empey, who owns a spine and pain care center now open at 386 E. Riverside Drive in St. George. “My house was where everyone came to party. When it came to school, I didn’t get very good grades. I even had a Spanish teacher that thought I couldn’t do it.”

Empey said he was challenged at Dixie State College and encouraged to try medical school.” There was no question I would go to Dixie College and once I was there, I got such good grades I thought I’d try medical school.”

“Empey says the foundation of his education at Dixie State College graduates with a fondness for their alma mater Dixie College was a good stepping stone for me,” says Empey’s brother, Joshua, recently joined the family dental practice and, not surprisingly, he’s also a Dixie State College alum.

“I had a Scout leader as a kid who turned out to really spark my interest in biology at the College. That was Bob Coombs, he gave me a great preparatory course in general biology,” Empey adds.

“Empey graduated from Dixie State College in 1995 and went on to earn his bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from the University of Utah. He continued his studies at the George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington D.C., earning his medical doctorate degree. Following an internship in internal medicine and a medical residency in anesthesiology at the University of Utah, Empey completed his training in interventional pain medicine at the Mayo Clinic.

Empey and his wife, Amber, a Dixie native who also attended the college for a time, have five children. Coming home to St. George to open a medical practice has been a part of the couple’s big plan for years, he said.

“We always said we were coming back, no matter what. We love it here,” he says. “My wife and I feel so fortunate and blessed that the community has accepted us back home with open arms. We’re excited to be here.”

Empey said he is passionate about helping his patients regain their lives through a multidisciplinary approach to pain treatment.

“I’m really excited to take care of my patients,” he adds. “I like a challenge. There are probably people out there who knew me beforehand who can’t believe where I am now. But every kid has potential. Dixie College gave me the environment to see mine.”

A FAMILY TRIO OF DIXIE DENTISTS

A local St. George dentist, DR. BRICANE I. DYER, ’93, is following in her father’s footsteps in more ways than one. Both Dyer and her dentist dad, Dr. John Albracht, are Dixie State graduates with a fondness for their alma mater.

“Dixie College was a good stepping stone for me,” says Dyer, who has worked side-by-side in the same dental office with her father for 11 years. “I had a great experience at Dixie and really enjoyed it.”

Dyer’s future as a dentist was kind of a given, she said. “I always hoped I would go to college and pursue a career and I always thought I would return to Dixie to practice with my dad,” Dyer said. “Dixie was such a great experience. I now wish I was going on to grad school.”

“Dixie State College meant something bigger than classes, which kept her stress level to a manageable level, Dyer added.

“Dyer’s brother, Joshua, recently joined the family dental practice and, not surprisingly, he’s also a Dixie State College alum. “I was kind of a punk kid in high school, but every kid has potential. Dixie College gave me the environment to see mine.”

“Empey recalls his time at Dixie State College with fondness and has vivid memories of several teachers whom he considers great friends and mentors.

“I had a Scout leader as a kid who turned out to really spark my interest in biology at the College. That was Bob Coombs, he gave me a great preparatory course in general biology,” Empey says. “The foundation of my study of medicine, anesthesia and interventional spine and pain medicine really began at Dixie.”

“Empey has the most impressive turn of events with the new degree is the buzz it has created statewide,” she said. “When we started the program, we knew going into it that the majority of our students were working RNs and this would be the best way we could serve them,” she said.

“Empey elaborated that the most impressive turn of events with the new degree is the buzz it has created statewide. “When we started the program, our students were 100 percent local. Now it’s fair to say that three-fourths of our enrollment is from the Wasatch Front.”

“For people who don’t know which direction they want to take (with their education), Dixie State College is really a good experience,” she adds. “I think my kids wanted to go to Dixie College; I would definitely encourage it.”

Dyer’s brother, Joshua, recently joined the family dental practice and, not surprisingly, he too has a Dixie State College “That makes all three of us,” says Dyer. “I really did enjoy Dixie and I’m glad I was able to return.”

“I always hoped I would go to college and pursue a career and I always thought I would return to Dixie to practice with my Dad.”

HEALTH SCIENCE

Continued from page 7

PARTNERSHIP

Continued from Page 17

is intangible. She will gain exposure on how to approach and calm worried patients, how to understand their non-verbal cues, and how to care for them on an emotional level.”

“There’s a lot of care that they’re trying to teach that’s not technical,” she explains. “It’s about finding various ways to care for patients’ needs, whether physical or spiritual. It’s about looking at the whole person.”

Harris especially appreciates that most of the instructors are actively employed in healthcare. “I like the fact that they’re up to date on their skills,” she says. “They know what’s going on with patients, what’s currently being seen.”

“Others teach teach students by presenting situations taken from their own experiences and helping the students find ways to handle similar challenges.”

The Russell C. Taylor Health Science building, though, offiers the most visible sign of Dixie State’s partnership with Dixie Regional. Thanks to a generous land donation from the FOREMANS (Family) the hospital encouraged Dixie State to erect its newest building next to the medical center. Not only does this facilitate student and faculty movement between classroom and clinic, it allows the College to expand beyond its boundaries. Locked into a limited amount of land, Dixie State has to make hard choices concerning its physical growth, and building beside Dixie Regional frees up valuable space on the main campus. In return, the medical center can use the building for meetings.

Locating classrooms next to a medical facility also lends the school a certain prestige. “You don’t typically see education buildings on hospital campuses outside of university centers,” Wilson notes. During the planning stage, Dixie State accepted input from hospital professionals on how to set up teaching and lab space, creating an ideal learning facility. “The partnership allows both entities to be better because we can draw upon the expertise of both sides,” Wilson insists.

Wilson expresses pride in the high-quality health science programs that Dixie State has created, and she believes they will greatly benefit the community. “The thing that is really exciting about this,” she asserts, “is, once these programs are all up and running, this community will become known as a hub for health science training.”

Grady points out that Dixie State is becoming a feeder of healthcare practitioners not only for Washington County, but for beyond the local region as well.

For Harris, Dixie State’s growth strikes a more personal chord. She learns forward from a practice that grew together with the excitement.

“I’m really happy that I can live in St. George and go to school in my own backyard,” she smiles.

“We know we need to go into that the majority of our students were working RNs and this would be the best way we could serve them,” she said. Grady elaborated that the most impressive turn of events with the new degree is the buzz it has created statewide. “When we started the program our students were 100 percent local. Now it’s fair to say that three-fourths of our enrollment is from the Wasatch Front.”

“It’s a reversal of trends in that students are now coming to Dixie State College to further and finish their schooling. The new building, new degrees, and increased enrollment have "energized" the faculty and administra- tion to broaden these already strong programs from Associate Degree Grady, "impressed" the community to repeat a phrase from Dean Hasfurther and advanced a new era in health science education.”
**Dixie Spotlight**

**Faculty**

**Adi Thelen, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor of Communication

Adi Thelen's College professor is dedicated to teaching, their students lessons that will help them in their future. Adi Thelen teaches to her students how to stay positive through tough situations in life. In early 2008, Thelen found out she had cervical and uterine cancer. Throughout her radiation and chemotherapy treatments, she remains dedicated to teaching and maintaining an encouraging outlook. She did not have any symptoms, so the discovery of cancer came as a big shock to everyone, including my oncologist.

Since she found out she has cancer, she has received a lot of support from her work family. Other professors step in and teach her classes when she feels ill or has to go for her treatments.

"Other professors have been an amazing support," Thelen said. "They help with anything I need, I don't even have to ask." Through it all, Thelen often uses humor in her classes to keep positive about her situation. Her optimistic perspective is rubbing off on her students and preparing them for hard times of their own.

Brandi Barrett, one of Thelen's students, said Thelen's teaching style and relationship with her students has changed even when she is in pain. Barrett said that Thelen relates well with her students and her methods of teaching are really effective.

With contributions from Rob Hudson.

**Staff**

**Andrew Christensen, Ph.D.**
New member of the National Academy of Sciences

Dr. Andrew Christensen, a DSC staff member, was named to the National Academy of Sciences in July of 2008. Within the NAS, he will serve on the Space Studies Board which provides information to and answers questions from government organizations.

"Members and foreign associates of the Academy are elected to membership on the basis of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research; election to the Academy is considered one of the highest honors that can be accorded a scientist or engineer," according to the NAS website.

Christensen is one of 23 highly qualified people on the Space Studies Board. This group of individuals meets to discuss questions from different government organizations such as NASA and Congress.

"When people have general science questions, or wonder what they should be doing about different situations, they ask us questions, and we put our heads together to figure out the problem," Christensen said.

Christensen started working at DSC in 2004, and has received several students to help him collect and analyze data collected by the GLUE instrument, of which he is the principle investigator on the NASA Timed mission. The GLUE instrument is a device that measures properties of the upper atmosphere.

"It has been a joy to work with all the students that have helped with collecting data," Christensen said. "The officials at DSC have been too receptive to what we want to do as well. We have been encouraged to come and work with the students, and they have been very cooperative."

Christensen came to St. George after retiring as the Chief Scientist at the Northrop-Grumman Corporation. He said he loves living in St. George.

"St. George is out of the L.A. traffic and it is beautiful here," Christensen said. "I have been able to participate in cultural events and also been able to get on the river to fish and hunt."

Christensen earned his Bachelor of Science in Physics from the University of Utah in 1962. He then continued his education at the University of California at Berkeley where he earned his Master's Degree in Physics before earning his Ph.D. from the University of Denver. He has also authored or co-authored over 70 scientific publications in the Journal of Geophysical Research and other space science journals.

Christensen is currently the co-chair of the NASA Mission Planning Working Group, which is preparing the science roadmap for the Heliophysics Division and outlines what research should be done over the next 20 years in that discipline.

*The NAS is an honor society of distinguished scholars engaged in scientific and engineering research, dedicated to the advancement of science and technology, and to their use for the general welfare. In 1963, President Abraham Lincoln signed the NAS into being to help "investigate, narrate, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art." The Academy membership is comprised of approximately 2,100 members and 180 foreign associates, of whom nearly 200 have won Nobel Prizes. Source: NAS website: www.nationalacademies.org.*

**Student**

**Chelsea Gould**

DSC Ambassador serving around the world

Gould was happy about the outcome of the service project, especially since it happened the week before finals.

"A lot of students really got into it," Gould said. "As students we don't have a ton of time to do service, but this was something we could do with the time we had." Gould said she has always liked the idea of service.

"When you give service you are helping people that really need you, and you are helping yourself become a better person," Gould said. "Once you do it, it is hard not to do it again."

Gould has always had a soft spot in her heart for the people of Africa. She was able to raise money to visit Kenya for six weeks with her grandmother who organized some programs for Utah Valley University while in Kenya, Gould taught school, worked in health clinics, taught people how to plant gardens, and educated many about AIDS.

"I had a strong love for the people in Kenya," Gould said. "It had always wanted to go to Africa and being able to help was an amazing experience." Gould brought home from Kenya and her desire to continue serving motivated her to organize this service project at DSC.

Gould is a nursing major at DSC and plans to become an international nurse so she can continue serving people around the world. Becoming an international nurse will make it easier for me to travel to different countries to help people," Gould said.

Gould has been recognized for her service throughout her life. She was named Utah's Young Humanitarian for 2007. She also received the Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer of the Year award, as well as the "Power in Your" service award.
**DSC ALUMNI NAMED AS DIXIE STATE’S TWO NEWEST DEANS**

**DR. VICTOR HASFURTHER, ’77, faculty member and Dixie alum, was named the new dean of the School of Science and Allied Health at Dixie State College. The announcement was made on July 29, 2008, and Dr. Hasfurther assumed his new duties on August 4. He replaces the retiring Dr. David Bovis, who had served as dean of DSC’s Business, Health and Science Division for the past six years.

“Deans are critical positions in an academic environment—they are responsible for the institutional well-being of the faculty they serve,” said Dr. Donna Dillingham-Evans, DSC vice president of academics. “Dr. Hasfurther has previously exhibited able leadership. I am excited about his skills, knowledge, and expectations. I am grateful to work with someone of this caliber.”

Hasfurther has taught at DSC since 2000, and has served as professor of engineering at the College for the past seven years. In August of 2007, he was named the founding chair of DSC’s physical science department. Prior to his tenure at Dixie State, Hasfurther was a Professor Emeritus in Civil Engineering at the University of Wyoming (1981-1999), where he also served as department head of civil and architectural engineering. While at UNW, he earned a number of awards and honors, along with holding a number of other civic and advisory positions, including serving as a state climatologist. Hasfurther received his bachelor’s degree and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Utah State University in 1965 and 1971, respectively.

“I’m excited to be the new dean for our science and health sciences programs,” Dr. Hasfurther said. “Hopefully we can move the two programs forward in those areas to make Dixie State College a better place for all students to attend school.”

**DEL BEATTY, ’99, is excited to be back at Dixie State as the institution’s new Dean of Students. He assumed his duties Oct. 1, 2008.

“I’ve always heard the saying that once you get the red sands of Dixie in your shoes, you’ll never be able to shake your Dixie memories, and they were right,” said Beatty. “It has been a dream come true for me to be back on campus and to be working with great colleagues and of course great Dixie students!”

“Since my wife and I are both alums of Dixie, it seemed like the perfect fit for us, and we are excited to return and raise our kids in Washington County.”

Beatty has 16 years of collegiate student services experience, most recently serving as Dean of Students at College of Eastern Utah. Prior to his tenure at CEU, he was the director of student involvement at Southern Utah University, and prior to that served as a studentbody officer. Beatty holds a bachelor of nursing degree and is scheduled to graduate in December 2008 from Dixie State. He has worked as a registered nurse. He loves helping people and caring for those who require health care. Currently, he is back in school at Dixie State, working to complete his bachelor of nursing degree and is scheduled for graduation in May. His wife, Sheila and brother Jeremy will also graduate from Dixie State at the same time. They are the parents of seven children.

“I have enjoyed learning at the hands of my many professors who are people who were seriously ill and are the parents of seven children.

**DEL & KIMBERLY GUBLER BEATTY and family.**

**DIXIE STATE MAGAZINE**

**DIXIE STATE magazine**
Alumni In the News

TWO DIXIE ALUMNI ARE PART OF THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE CLASS OF 2012

Two Dixie alumni are part of the University of Utah School of Medicine Class of 2012. Phil Blaney, ’05, and Lee Audd, ’06, were introduced into the University of Utah School of Medicine during the Class of 2012’s white coat ceremony. During the ceremony officials from the U of U School of Medicine introduce each student, assist them as they put on their white coat, and give them a stethoscope and a medical book.

“I knew that both students would be admitted into a medical program,” said Jonathan Morrell, one of Phil and Lee’s academic advisors. “The U of U School of Medicine was a favored option for both students based on quality of the program and cost. Phil and Lee are outstanding physicians and wonderful representatives of the academic programs at Dixie State.”

The University of Utah’s medical program is very competitive. For Dixie State to have two recent alumni both admitted to the U of U School of Medicine is a great accomplishment. Both students completed an associate of science at DSC and transferred to Utah State University to complete their bachelor’s degrees, Lee in Biochemistry and Phil in Exercise Science. DSC provided the biology, chemistry and math foundations for their MCAT studies. For Dixie State as well as my dad, so we are definitely a family of Rebels!” he said.

“Almost all of our siblings have gone there and Mike’s mom was the homecoming queen. We are big fans of Dixie State College.”

In between the fun and games, says Barben, she studied hard for a career she knew she always wanted to pursue. “Oh, I knew from the time I was a little girl that I wanted to be a nurse,” she says, noting some of her favorite teachers at Dixie State College taught physiology, anatomy and chemistry. “My teachers had such a profound influence on me.”

Among her many favorites were Tim Eicher, an associate professor of family and consumer sciences, “He was amazing!”, chemistry professor David Feller (“He had this way of teaching a subject that should have been confusing, but it just clicked with me.”), and breadmaking instructor Sherilyn Benson (“She taught me how to make wonderful bread. I think that’s what clinched the deal with Mike!).”

Barben’s dream of becoming a nurse came true after receiving her licensed practical nurse degree from Dixie State College in 1999 and her registered nurse degree from Mohave Community College.

“I could never have known how much being a nurse would enrich our family’s lives,” Barben says, noting there are many people struggling during today’s difficult economic climate. “Being a nurse has been such a blessing. There’s flexibility and stability. It works around our family. I can be a nurse at night and help our three children with their homework in the afternoon.”

Barben’s job in the intensive care unit at Dixie Regional Medical Center is “awesome,” she says. “Nursing is what I always wanted to do and Dixie College helped me realize my goal. We always talk about Dixie College and how much fun it was. It really was the best two years of our lives.”

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“What I loved the very most about Dixie when I was there, was that I really felt like the faculty and staff cared about me as an individual. . . the personal touch is what truly set Dixie apart from other schools.”

Phil Blaney, ’05, current student at U of U Medical School

“Without a doubt, I am proud to claim status as a Dixie State alumna before that of the other prestigious places I have the privilege of attending,” she said. “Earning a degree at Dixie State College gives us the foundation we need to be successful in our future endeavors, whether they be careers or furthering our education.”

Vanessa Bushnell Barben, ’97, calls her education at Dixie College “the best two years of my life,” and she swears she isn’t exaggerating.

“Without a doubt, I am proud to claim status as a Dixie State alumna before that of the other prestigious places I have the privilege of attending,” she said. “Earning a degree at Dixie State College gives us the foundation we need to be successful in our future endeavors, whether they be careers or furthering our education.”

Phil Blaney, who is married to fourth-grade teacher Linda Hyatt, comes from a family of DSC graduates. Almost all of our five kids in my family attended Dixie State as well as my dad, so we are definitely a family of Rebels!” he said.

Phil started out at Dixie as a business major. Then he switched to broadcasting, and finally to pre-med.

“I was always grateful while at Dixie to have the opportunity to explore different majors without going into too much debt. Dixie State gave me the opportunity to explore many different career options. I was able to take a variety of classes that helped me narrow my interests and find a career that I could be interested in and would make me happy.”

Phil was a member of the Dixie Chamber Singers, served on two Student Executive Councils, and participated in many memorable activities such as Mr. Dixie, The Great Race, and D-Week.

Chamber Singers, served on two Student Executive Councils, and participated in many memorable activities such as Mr. Dixie, The Great Race, and D-Week. He also served on the Campus-to-Community service project committee for three years and in 2001 was the recipient of the “Distinguished Service” Rebel Award. In 2005 he was also awarded the “Dixie Spirit” Rebel Award.

Like many students, he had to work his way through school and held many jobs all over campus. He worked as a general assistant and sportscaster for KCEC, as part of Corey Reeves’ event staff in the Gardner Center, and as a peer advisor.

He said his employers were always very understanding of the times he needed to study and would give him opportunities to do that without interrupting his academic pursuits.

“To have an employer who understood what your goals were and who tried to help me achieve my goals is something that I will always be grateful for,” he said.

Phil starts off at Dixie as a business major. Then he switched to broadcasting, and finally to pre-med.

“I was always grateful while at Dixie to have the opportunity to explore different majors without going into too much debt. Dixie State gave me the opportunity to explore many different career options. I was able to take a variety of classes that helped me narrow my interests and find a career that I could be interested in and would make me happy.”

Phil was a member of the Dixie
Dennis Lythgoe of said, “Snell’s volume reveals his huge tal- 
and he hopes it will stop on “Linda Croft, 
Do With Bottles,” talks of bottled fruit
not given to mystical flights of psychedelic
Utah Book Award. “Ned Colwell Snell is
personal, he uses concrete imagery—a
pencil, a hammer—to evoke experiences
from the pail to “wide-mouth bottles where
. . . the myriad traumas to which a rural
people are subjected in order to make
‘a man out of him.’” His poem, “This Is
Do With Bottles,” talks of bottled fruit
(peaches, pears and cherries); milk going
from the pail to “wide-mouth bottles where
it sat until the cream rose to the top”; the
‘mystical flights of psychedelic
unconsciousness’ to which a rural
child is exposed to, but is not able to
express them. He says, “the rural
child’s world is just as complex and
mysterious as the world of the
urban dweller, but they are not able to
express it in the same way.”

Brothers (l to r) Kyle Wells, Spencer Wells and Mason Wells donned their academic regalia in honor
of their Grandmother, Leila Sullivan, a 29-year college employee at the bookstore.

**NED COLWELL SNEILL, ’68** was named Utah State Poet. Society Poet of the Year 2007 for
his book, “Hand Me My Shadow,” which also won
Readers’ Choice Best Collection of Poetry 2006 in
Salt Lake City Weekly. “Hand Me My Shadow” was also runnus in the 2008
Utah Book Award. “Ned Colwell Snell is not
given to mystical flights of psychedelic
unconsciousness” to which a rural
child is exposed to, but is not able to
express them. He says, “the rural
child’s world is just as complex and
mysterious as the world of the
urban dweller, but they are not able to
express it in the same way.”

**WELLS BROTHERS, Kyle, ’96, Spencer, ’98, and Mason, ’03,**
all Dixie alum, donned their academic regalia
in honor of their grandmother, Leila Sullivan, a 29-year college employee at the bookstore.

**STEVEN L. HANSEN, ’93,** was born
and raised in Holladay, Utah and attended
Olympus High School. After high school,
Steven joined the Air Force Reserve where he
was a member of the 405th Combat Logistics
Support Squadron and was activated and deployed for Desert Storm, serving in Saudi Arabia. He received many accolades includ-
ing the 405th CLSS Airman of the Quarter, Air Force
Contribution Medal, and Air Force
Achievement Medal.

In civilian service Steven worked in the
IT field for major companies in help desk, network administration, and network engi-
neering positions. In 2003, after 15 years of IT,
he found himself out of work and losing opportunity
who realized the lack of
degree. He returned to school
in 2006. He is married to
and earned his M.B.A. at Dixie State
and his Bachelor’s degree in
business administration from the University of Utah. His C.M.O.
attitude allowed him to believe that any-	hing was possible. This attitude was
quickly absorbed by his co-workers and
students, and together they helped build
one of the premier dental hygiene pro-
grams in the nation at Dixie State.

Over the years, Hafen has written
numerous articles for regional and nation-
al publications, and has served as publish-
er of important books including *Portraits of Love: Stories of Hope*, which sparked the
multi-million dollar fundraising effort for
victims of the 2005 Santa Clara-Virgin
River Flood. Since 1998 he has served as
executive director of Zioin National History
Association in Zioin National Park. He
launched the Zioin Valley Field Institute in
2003, and the Zion National Park Foundation
in 2005.

Hafen looks back at his time at Dixie College as a turning point in his life. The
same institution where his grandmother,
Arthur K. Hafen, taught English, German,
and Spanish for more than 40 years, is the
place where he received his education
and learning and literature, and came to terms
with the idea that he would spend his life
writing the compelling stories of this
place. He credits his English profes-
sor Ed Reber and his mentor Karl Brooks at
DSC with turning his focus to writing. He
and his wife Debbie have six children.

Dixie State College Inducted
three new members into the
College’s Hall of Fame as part of
Homecoming activities in
October 2008 in the St. George
Tabernacle. The 11th-annual Hall
of Fame Induction Ceremony was
held in conjunction with the
Homecoming Founder’s Day
Assembly.

Dr. Jennings, who realized his lifetime dream of being
a dentist until a thumb injury limited his
full-time dental-career, was committed to
the youth of the community and teaching
was a perfect avenue for him to begin a
new career in education. His “can do”
attitude allowed him to believe that any-	hing was possible. This attitude was
quickly absorbed by his co-workers and
students, and together they helped build
one of the premier dental hygiene pro-
grams in the nation at Dixie State.

Not satisfied with just high pass rates and
national rankings for the dental
hygiene associate degree program,
he moved forward to establish the
Bachelors’ of Science in Dental Hygiene degree at Dixie State College, which offi-
cially began classwork this semester. His concern that all children and
immediate patrons receive dental care, regardless of
family income, championed his idea of a Dixie Mobile Dental Clinic, which
was opened in 2006. Dr. Jennings’ moral,
social and academic values continue to be
an influence within the Dental
Hygiene program as demonstrated by the success of its faculty, staff and students.
After a valiant fight with cancer and
his untimely passing, Dixie State College
established the Gordon D. Jennings
Dental Hygiene Scholarship to ensure that
his spirit and love for the Dixie students
would be ever present. He and his wife
Lori are the parents of two sons, Jared and
Jacob.

Lyman Hafen
Dr. Gordon Jennings
Durrant McArthur

Dixie alum and St. George native
**DR. E. DURRANT MCArTHUR** was honored in the area of science and technology for his more than 30 years
of work in research with the U.S. Forest Service. His research has contributed critically to the understanding of bio-
logical resources in the semi-arid Western United States, particularly to the population genetics, ecology, and
systematics of the dominant shrubs and associated fauna documented by
some 340 publications, more than any other Forest Service

As a recognized authority on all aspects of shrubland biology and restoration, Dr. McArthur’s decisions and
recommendations are readily accepted by land managers across
the western U.S. He has substantially assisted more than 30 graduate students from
more than a dozen U.S. and for-

The Hall of Fame was introduced at Dixie State College in 1998 at which time 18 individuals were inducted as
charter members. The photos and plaques of this year’s inductees joined the past 72 inductees on the
Wall of Fame located in the Avenna Center on campus.

**NEWEST DIXIE STATE COLLEGE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

**Steven L. Hansen, ’93**

**Wells Brothers, Kyle, ’96, Spencer, ’98, and Mason, ’03**

**Eldon Jennings, ’92**

**Dr. Durrant McArthur**

Lyman Hafen
Dr. Gordon Jennings
Durrant McArthur
May 16, 2009
5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Falcon Park
9150 Peruvian Dr in Sandy (approx. 9000 S. 1600 E.)
Fun, Free Family Event
call John Blake 801-253-8848 to RSVP

Alumni Chapter Fun!

Northern Utah Fall Social
November 15, 2008

Little America was once again the setting for the alumni annual fall Northern Utah Chapter event and auction.

“This elegant event is a highlight for alumni in northern Utah,” said Kalynn Larson, DSC Alumni Director. “They love to gather to meet old friends and make new ones.”

In keeping with tradition, MaryLee Anderton chaired the event and arranged for logistics, food, and auction items.

“MaryLee is so fun,” said Larson. “Her unique presentation style in the auction made the items even more desirable.”

President Nadauld gave an update on the state of the College and Sheryn Daugherty entertained the group. More than $1400 was raised for a scholarship for a northern Utah student to attend Dixie State College.

“This evening continues to be a fun way to reconnect and network with Dixie alumni,” said John Blake, northern Utah chapter representative. “It is a tradition that continues to grow each year.”

The next event for this chapter is a Spring BBQ on May 16, 2009.

Alumni enjoy exploring ancient civilizations

The Dixie State Alumni Tour for 2008 was arranged by Liahona Tours with owner and tour guide, Sherry Saberon. The adventure began in Mexico City with a trip to the National Museum of Anthropology, and continued at the ancient metropolis of Teotihuacan. From Teotihuacan it was on to the Maya ruins of Palenque, where archaeologist Alonso Morales was our guide. Alonso has discovered some of the greatest finds of the century, including tombs with murals, hieroglyph-carved thrones, and other fantastic pieces which he shared with us. After leaving Palenque we cooled off at Misul Ha waterfalls where many of the group swam in the pool and discovered the caves beneath the falls.

Dr. Allen Christensen, BYU professor of Mayan studies, accompanied us to the stunning ruins of Yaxchilan and shared his invaluable knowledge of the Mayan culture.

After our visit to Yaxchilan we crossed into Guatemala and continued our tour to the ruins of Tikal, considered by most travelers as the most impressive anywhere in the Americas. We enjoyed the day viewing towering pyramids and breathtaking temples set in the heart of the jungle, before we ended the day in Guatemala City with its wonderful restaurants and accommodations. After exploring the Miraflores private museum with Shelby Saberon, who is a BYU trained archeologist, we traveled to the beautiful shores of Lake Atitlan. The last day was spent in the city of Antigua, the old colonial capital and at a beautiful hotel built on the ruins of a 16th century monastery.

All of those on the tour agreed that this was an adventure of a lifetime. The Dixie State College Alumni group enjoyed renewing their associations with each other.
Alumni Board

DIXIE STATE COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

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Fellow Alumni,

It is an honor for me to serve as your new Dixie State College Alumni President. I have thought often of what I would like to say to such a large group of alumni, many of whom I consider my close friends, and many others I have not personally met. We are all brought together because of a simple choice each of us made, a choice called DIXIE. Some consider themselves Flyers, when the College and high school were together. Most however, consider ourselves Rebels. But regardless of whether we are Flyers or Rebels, we all were and are a part of Dixie.

Dixie is the place where many found love, met lifelong friends or were impacted by the example of a professor or staff member. Some have even mentioned the outpouring of support given by the St. George community. Regardless of what type of impact our college experience had on us, I believe we all can say that Dixie has touched our lives for good. During my college days I remember listening to the stories of individuals who sacrificed so much to enhance the future of Dixie State College. The sacrifice of so many cannot go ignored. This College was built and continues to be built by caring citizens, alumni, and fellow friends of the College. To you who have contributed either financially or through loyal support, I personally say with all sincerity of heart, THANK YOU! Thank you for making Dixie what it is today and allowing future students the opportunity to feel and capture the Dixie Spirit.

As an alumni board we want to hear from you, our valued alumni. We want to hear about your Dixie experiences, and about where you have been since your days at Dixie, and we want to share with all alumni through the alumni magazine. We also want to hear your voice regarding the future of this great College, and your ideas and suggestions to keep it growing. We want to hear your experiences of whether we are Flyers or Rebels, we all were and are a part of Dixie. As an alumni board we want to hear from you, our valued alumni. We want to hear about your Dixie experiences, and about where you have been since your days at Dixie, and we want to share with all alumni through the alumni magazine. We also want to hear your voice regarding the future of this great College, and your ideas and suggestions to keep it growing. We want to hear your experiences of whether we are Flyers or Rebels, we all were and are a part of Dixie.

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Dixie Forever,
— Connor Shakespeare, ’03, DSC Alumni President

DIXIE STATE magazine

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Dixie State College Dental Hygiene students are practicing typodont in one of the state-of-the-art labs at the new Russell C. Taylor Health Science Center, which was dedicated in September. It is located adjacent to Dixie Regional Medical Center in St. George.