



Semester Break E-Newsletter  
Spring 2010

## *Dean's Welcome*



Welcome to the May 2010 issue of the College of Education's e-Newsletter. The *now U know* e-newsletter is published each fall and spring and is also available on-line at [www.ed.utah.edu](http://www.ed.utah.edu) or through Rob Hunsaker, College Director of Development ([Robert.Hunsaker@utah.edu](mailto:Robert.Hunsaker@utah.edu)). Each of the brief articles in this issue reflects the important work happening within the College of Education to generate and advance new knowledge in the field of education; highlight innovative instructional programs and partnerships across the university and with public education; and describe national and community-engaged service activities that are making a difference in people's lives. We hope you find our May 2010 e-Newsletter interesting and informative. We welcome your feedback and ideas for future issues.

### ***IN THIS ISSUE***

<http://www.ed.utah.edu/Newsletter/Issues/Spring2010/index.html>

**College News and Views**



Left to Right:  
Randy Dryer, Chair,  
University Board of  
Trustees; Leslie Manuel  
Yockey, B.S., Elementary  
Education; and Michael  
Hardman, Dean.

## **Congratulations to the Class of 2010!**

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the College of Education held its annual convocation, awarding 314 degrees to graduating students from four departments. Of the total graduating class, 92 students (29%) received bachelor's degrees, 162 (52%) were awarded the masters degree, and 60 (19%) earned their doctorate. The 2010 graduating class is 77% female, 23% male, and represents 9 countries, 27 states, and 15 of Utah's counties. The youngest graduate is 19 years of age and the oldest is 64. This year's student speaker, Marjan Fairclough, described her experiences at the U as "an incredible journey" leading to a career that is ". . . one of the noblest causes of all: helping to prepare the future leaders of our communities, country and world to carry on successfully." To see the 2010 College Convocation video, please visit <http://www.ed.utah.edu/videos/convocation2010.html>.

## **Four College Faculty Members Honored for Contributions to Research, Teaching and Service**



Dr. Enrique  
Aleman



Dr. Dolores  
Delgado Bernal



Dr. Sue Morrow



Mrs. Kathy Hill

Each year the College of Education honors faculty for outstanding contributions in research, teaching, and service. These awards are particularly meaningful since the selection of recipients is made by the faculty. Dr. Enrique Aleman, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, and Dr. Dolores Delgado Bernal, Department of Education, Culture and Society, received the College Research Award for their important scholarship in partnership with the Salt Lake City Schools. Their research focuses on enhancing the educational pipeline and applies an array of theoretical frameworks to outline the findings from ethnographic study. It is multi-disciplinary and has a major impact on the way their departments benefit from collaborative work and engage historically underrepresented communities and students. Dr. Sue Morrow, Department of Educational Psychology, received the College Teaching Award for her contributions instruction, mentoring and advising of students. She has truly established a balance of instructional rigor and high expectations with genuine concern for students. Kathy Hill, Department of Special Education, received the College Service Award. Kathy has gone far beyond the expected level of service for a faculty member and is a model representative of what service means to the university, the community and her profession. She continuously and tirelessly makes exceptional contributions to lives of her students and the faculty. Congratulations to Enrique, Dolores, Sue and Kathy from your College of Education colleagues!

### **College Partners with Korean Universities and Schools to Establish Exciting New Exchange Programs**



Over the past several years, the College of Education has worked closely with the Gyeongin National University of Education to bring Korean undergraduate students to the U and provide an opportunity for faculty from both universities to engage in scholarly presentations. This successful exchange program has been expanded to include three additional Korean universities and Incheon International High School. Under the leadership of Dr. In Han, Director of the College's Asian International Programs, agreements are now in place with Hanyang University, Chonnam National University, and Nam Seoul University, all highly ranked institutions of higher education in Korea. This summer, Dr. Dan Olympia, Department of

Educational Psychology, will teach at the Chonnam National University as a Visiting Scholar, and Dr. Amy Bergerson, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, has been invited to present at an international conference at Gyeongin National University in November. To complement the exchange programs with Korean universities, the Urban Institute for Teacher Education will host 13 Korean students from Incheon International High School this summer for a special internship program with university faculty. Additionally, Tayler Clough, former ASUU President and his wife, Meghan, have accepted teaching positions at Incheon International High School where they will work with Korean students for a year and a half beginning January 1, 2011. For more information on College of Education international initiatives, including opportunities in Korea and the summer 2010 Study Abroad Program in Peru, please visit [www.ed.utah.edu](http://www.ed.utah.edu) and click on "International Programs" in the left column.

### **Two College Departments Ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* Among the Top 25 in the Nation**

Two University of Utah College of Education graduate programs are among the nation's elite in the 2011 *U.S. News and World Report's* ranking of universities and colleges. These two programs, Special Education and Educational Leadership and Policy, have been consistently ranked in the top 25 for the past decade by U.S. News. This year the Department of Special Education is ranked 17th and Educational Leadership and Policy is ranked 25th.

### **ASUU and the Urban Institute for Teacher Education to Offer Student Peer Mentoring Program**



The Associated Students of the University of Utah (ASUU) and the Urban Institute for Teacher Education (UITE) are partnering to support 15 U of U undergraduates to work as peer mentors in local middle schools. These U of U student mentors will work with middle students enrolled in the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) programs in their preparation for college. Weekly mentoring will take place within the context of school-based mentoring programs. Peer Mentors are expected to complete a 12 hour per month time commitment and receive a stipend of \$1,000 for the academic year.

## **Teacher Candidates Learn About Social Justice Through the Arts**



The College's Urban Institute of Teacher Education recently teamed up with the UCAN Serve Grant program and AmeriCorps to hold an elementary and early childhood teacher candidate training workshop at Mountain View Elementary School on Salt Lake's west side. Focused on art and social justice, the workshop was conducted by Kristi Burns from the College of Fine Arts and Kelby McIntyre, Director of the University of Utah Beverley Taylor Sorenson Professional Development Program in coordination with Peggy McCandless, College Faculty Liaison for Arts and Education. The workshop was attended by 90 teacher candidates from the elementary and early childhood programs in the Urban Institute of Teacher Education.

Using experiential art-based activities, teacher candidates from the U. and students from both Mountain View Elementary and Glendale Middle School joined together in learning based on an integrated approach in which the arts are used to teach specific content areas—in this case social justice and social studies. Besides the teacher candidates and students, in attendance were Beverley Taylor Sorenson and Lisa Cluff from Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program, and Kim Schmitt from Utah Neighborhood Partnerships. Mary Burbank, Urban Institute Director, said: "The event was a great success and an example of what can happen when different organizations work together to support the common goal of professional development for our future teachers."

## **Educational Assessment Clinic Provides Critical Evaluations for Individuals with Brain Injury**

The University of Utah Educational Assessment and Student Support Clinic within the Department of Educational Psychology has established a partnership with the Utah Department of Health to perform neuropsychological evaluations for individuals referred by the Brain Injury Association of Utah or Phoenix Services. Many of the individuals

referred to the Clinic for assistance are homeless, unemployed, or have a history of substance abuse. All individuals have a traumatic brain injury, thus representing a seriously underserved group of people in our community. Without the funding provided by the Department of Health and the nominal cost of these evaluations provided through the Clinic, most of these individuals would be unable to obtain services. The Clinic is pleased to be providing high-quality services and assist in the treatment for these individuals, facilitate their recovery, and determine their eligibility for other services. For more information about the programs and services offered through the University of Utah Educational Assessment and Student Support Clinic, please visit <http://clinic.ed.utah.edu/index.html>.

### **Special Education Distance Program Prepares New Teachers for Rural Areas**

The Distance Teacher Education Program (DTEP) in the Department of Special Education has completed a two-year research-based teacher training initiative in central and southern Utah. DTEP, a program funded through the Office of Special Education in the U.S. Department of Education, provided courses and field experiences using Internet based Video Conferencing (IVC) systems, or live on-site instruction with faculty from the cooperating school districts. Project staff (Dr. John McDonnell and Dr. Matt Jameson) worked with school district core adjunct faculty to provide direct field supervision through a collaborative observation process with students seeking a state teaching license in the area of severe disabilities. The project successfully prepared 31 highly qualified teachers to serve students with low incidence disabilities across 6 rural Utah counties. In addition, 11 teachers have continued on with the Department of Special Education program in pursuit of a Master of Education degree through the University of Utah Graduate Center in St. George.



### **Paula Smith Honored as Mercersburg Academy Regent**

*Mpact: Sharing the impact of philanthropy at Mercersburg, January 2010 article: (article, next page)*

## Mercersburg Regent Leads Community of Caring

BY NATASHA BROWN

IN THE EARLY '80S, WHEN New York City native Paula Johnson Smith '83 entered Mercersburg Academy, she quickly noticed that teachers were deeply involved in the lives of students. She realized how much they wanted her to succeed. Smith would later learn that many of the Mercersburg traditions – family-style interaction, community trust, and responsibility – are also the components that create school environments that help students succeed.

The Mercersburg experience and her own love for education developed into a lifelong passion for Smith to create school communities that are inclusive of all children. In addition to her volunteer role on the Mercersburg Board of Regents, she fuels this passion as the executive director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Center for Community of Caring, based at the University of Utah.

“Essentially what I have been doing throughout my career is designing programs that schools can implement to help kids avoid problem behavior. One of the ways to accomplish this is to make sure kids feel socially and emotionally safe,” Smith said. “By changing environments so that students are socially and emotionally safe, students actually perform better and they are more likely to avoid problem behavior.”

Caring, respect, responsibility, trust, and family are the five core values of Community of Caring, a K-12 comprehensive character-education program with a unique focus on disabilities. The organization was founded in 1982 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who also founded Special Olympics. Community of Caring has been adopted by almost 1,400 schools nationwide and in Canada.

Since 2007, Smith has led the organization’s effort to implement school programs that develop the character, social, and emotional skills students need to succeed in life. For instance, as part of their science class, students from Sarasota Middle School in Sarasota, Florida, participated in a shore cleanup. According to Smith, the students were shocked to see so much pollution on the shore.

“They were able to reflect on why the shore cleanup was important and what it meant for the ecology. That kind of event not only brings in science, but it allows students to be stewards of the earth,” she said.

Another school, Woodstock Elementary School, in Salt Lake City, integrated a history lesson about World War II with a hands-on community service project. After the National World War II (WWII) Memorial in Washington, D.C., was constructed, the school invited war veterans to the campus to share their stories about how the war impacted them. As a thank-you, students made blankets for the veterans, personalized with WWII mementos.

“That’s the kind of integrated learning that not only teaches kids, but internalizes and develops their empathy and sense of community passion,” Smith said.

She stressed that Community of Caring focuses on making school environments inclusive for all children, including students with disabilities. Smith’s experiences as a student and Mercersburg Regent have enhanced her understanding of how the life-changing programs she creates in her professional life make a difference for students throughout their entire lives.

“From my Mercersburg involvement, as a student and now as a Regent, I have learned that a caring school community that includes students, alumni, parents, and friends of the school can make all the difference in the options and availability of a quality education.”

# *College Office of Research Support Undertakes New Faculty Initiatives*



Dr. John McDonnell, Associate Dean for Faculty Research Support, announced that the College has undertaken several new initiatives, including a research web-page designed to assist faculty to identify potential funding sources and develop grant proposals. (See <http://www.ed.utah.edu/Research/index.html> or go to the College website at [www.ed.utah.edu](http://www.ed.utah.edu) and click on Office of Faculty Research Support in the left column.) Additionally,

the College has established:

- a *New Faculty Research Grant Program* designed to assist faculty who are within five years of their original appointment to establish a line of research that can provide the basis for future applications for grant funding. Applications will be accepted during fall and spring semesters of each academic year. The first round of applications was reviewed in Spring, 2010. Five of the seven applications received funding with awards ranging from \$1,560 to \$2,000.
- a *Proposal Development Grants Program* to support faculty efforts to develop and submit grant proposals to agencies and foundations. One application has been received and approved for \$1,800 to support the opportunity for a faculty member to meet with project officers in the U. S. Department of Education.

The successful *College Faculty Grant Incentive Award Program* continued this past year with a total of 13 awards to faculty members. Thirty-three grant or contract proposals, totaling \$5,633,070, were submitted by College faculty in 2010-2011. As of this date, ten of the proposals have been funded and 23 are pending.

## **Andrea McDonnell and David Sperry Return to Faculty Positions**

Professor Andrea McDonnell is stepping down on June 30th from her role as Chair of the Department of Special Education to return to a



full-time faculty role in research and teaching. Dr. McDonnell has been a very effective, tireless, and collaborative leader. The Department of Special Education is currently in the process of selecting a new Chair.



Professor David Sperry is also returning to the faculty and leaving his role as Interim Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy. Dr. Sperry, former dean of the College of Education from 1999 to 2006, agreed to take on this important interim role during the past year and his strong leadership within the department and college is greatly appreciated. Professor Paula Smith has been appointed the new Chair of the ELP Department.

## *Spotlight on Faculty and Student Honors*



### **Enrique Alemán, Jr. Awarded Prestigious Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Dr. Enrique Alemán, Jr., Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, has been awarded a 2010 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship. Sponsored by the Ford Foundation and

administered by the National Research Council of the National Academies, Dr. Alemán's award notification came with this statement: "Your selection for this prestigious award reflects our review panelists' judgment of your professional and scholarly competence".

A primary goal of the Fellowship Program is to increase the diversity of the nation's college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

The award is a major endorsement of the quality of Dr. Alemán's academic career and research. This year only 18 postdoctoral fellowships were awarded nationwide. The postdoctoral fellowships provide one year of support of \$40,000 for individuals engaged in postdoctoral study after the attainment of the Ph.D.



### **Elaine Clark Honored by the American Psychological Association**

The American Psychological Association has announced that Dr. Elaine Clark, Professor and Chair in our Department of Educational Psychology, has been selected by the Council for Directors of School Psychology Programs to be honored as an individual who has made significant and enduring contributions to the field of school psychology. Dr. Clark will be recognized at a dinner during the 2010 APA Convention to be held in San Diego later this summer. This honor represents a well deserved recognition of Dr. Clark's major contributions on national and international levels and her dedication to the field of school psychology.



### **College Early Career Diversity Scholar Award Goes to David Quijada**

Dr. David Quijada, Department of Education, Culture and Society and the Ethnic Studies Program, is the recipient of the 2010 Early Career Diversity Scholar

Award in the College of Education. Dr. Quijada was selected by faculty representing every department within the College of Education, and was among an exceptionally talented group of faculty nominees. Dr. Quijada will be leaving the University of Utah this summer and returning home to California and a faculty position at St. Mary's College. The faculty, staff and students wish him all the very best.

## **Dolores Delgado Bernal Receives CSCE AERA Distinguished Scholar**



Professor Dolores Delgado Bernal, Department of Education, Culture and Society and the Ethnic Studies Program, is the 2010 Distinguished Scholar Award recipient of the Committee on Scholars of Color in Education (CSCE) of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). This prestigious AERA award is intended to recognize (1) scholars in mid-career stages who have made significant contributions to the understanding of issues that disproportionately affect ethnic and social minority populations, and (2) minority scholars who have made a significant contribution to educational research and development.

## **University of Utah Honors Lauren Liang with Early Career Teaching Award**



Professor Lauren Liang, Department of Educational Psychology, is the recipient of a 2010 University of Utah Early Career Teaching Award. Each year, the University of Utah recognizes outstanding faculty at an early stage in their professional career through the Early Career Teaching Award. This university award recognizes distinction in teaching as demonstrated by activities that result in increased learning by students, such as the development of new instructional methods or other innovations in teaching. Dr. Liang is in a very select group of only five faculty members from across the university who are recipients of this honor.

## **Sue Morrow Receives National Mentoring Award**



The Association for Women in Psychology has named Professor Sue Morrow in the Department of Educational Psychology as the 2010 recipient of the Florence Denmark Award for outstanding contributions as a mentor who continuously provides feminist support, supervision and guidance to her undergraduate or graduate students in psychology.



### **Wazir Jefferson Elected to the Judicial Commission of the NBGSA**

Wazir Jefferson, doctoral degree candidate in the Department of Educational Leadership & Policy, has been elected to the Judicial Commission of the National Black Graduate Student Association (NBGSA).

### **Briana Williams Named Outstanding College of Education Senior**

The University of Utah Young Alumni Association has named Briana Williams, an Elementary Education Program major who graduated this May, the Outstanding 2010 Senior in the College of Education. During the course of this past year, while Briana has been involved with an intense course load, plus full time student teaching, she still finds time to volunteer. Briana is currently volunteering with an after school program at Rose Park Elementary called, Kid's Court. Kid's Court is run by the Department of Sociology and the College of Law in cooperation with the College of Education. Briana works with two College of Law students helping them think through age appropriate curriculum and designing lesson plans. Besides volunteering with Kid's Court, Briana works closely with the school where she is student teaching, Escalante Elementary, and coordinates extracurricular activities for her fifth graders. In class, Briana makes insightful comments about current issues related to teaching and teachers. She is always an enthusiastic class participant. She comes prepared to class having read the material and ready to add her thoughts into the class discussion. Briana is passionate about educational issues and often stops by her professor's offices wanting to further discuss topics that have been brought up in class.

**Congratulations to all of you!**

# *Spotlight on Recent Faculty and Student Publications/Presentations*



**Kirsten Butcher**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, has had a paper accepted in a special issue of the *Human Computer Interaction Journal* (ranked #1 of 17, and #3 of 85 in Computer Science journal categories; see <http://hci-journal.com/>). Dr. Butcher's paper explores the difficulties of students' making sense of educational materials during self-directed, online learning.

**Butcher, K. R.**, & Sumner, T. (in press). Self-directed learning and the sense making paradox. *Human Computer Interaction*.

In related work, Dr. Butcher is exploring how student knowledge and learning strategies predict the depth of student learning during online educational tasks. This work was presented at the American Educational Research Association's annual conference:

**Butcher, K. R.**, & Sumner, T. (2010, May). *What predicts learning with web resources? Relationships between prior knowledge, approaches to online learning, and learning outcomes*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association 2010, Denver, Colorado.

Additionally, Dr. Butcher's co-authored paper, *Automatically characterizing resource quality for educational digital libraries*. Has won the Vannevar Bush Best Paper award at the Joint Conference on Digital Libraries. In this work, the authors discuss the processes by which human experts assess the educational quality of web-based materials and detail our efforts to generate computer algorithms that can approximate human judgments about the educational quality of online resources.

Bethard, S., Wetzler, P., **Butcher, K. R.**, Martin, J. H., Sumner, T. (2009). Automatically characterizing resource quality for educational digital libraries. *ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries, JCDL 2009*.

## Donna Deyhle's New Book Chronicles the Lives of Three Navajo Women and Their Families

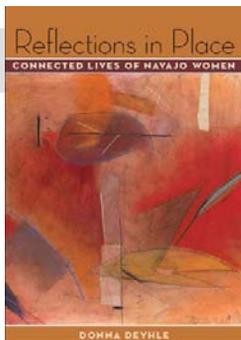


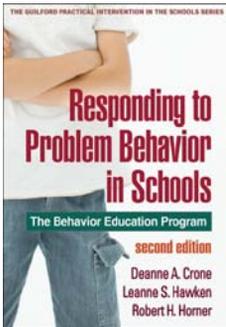
Photo by Rosie Dayze

Donna Deyhle, Professor in the Department of Education, Culture and Society and Coordinator of American Indian Studies in the Ethnic Studies Program, is the author of new book, "*Reflections in Place: Connected Lives of Navajo Women.*" The book, recently published by Arizona Press,

chronicles the lives and "survivance" of three Navajo women and their families—women Dr. Deyhle meet in 1984 when she went to San Juan School District to study Navajo and Ute school dropouts and graduates. Interwoven in their stories are poems by Native women—Luci Tapahonso, Joy Harjo, Nila Northsun, Nia Franciso, Norla Chee and Laura Tohe. These Native women's' voices are mirror reflections of the women Deyhle writes about.

Professor Deyhle's research and fieldwork has focused on educational issues in cross-cultural settings in Brazil, Peru, Australia, the Navajo Nation, and other American Indian tribes and nations in the United States. Her research publications cover such issues as parent empowerment, cultural integrity, cultural and racial warfare, mothers and daughters, critical race theory, cross-cultural child development, and school success. Over the past 25 years her research and professional services have focused on Navajo youth and their schooling experiences in Southeastern Utah. In recognition of this body of research she received the first ***Distinguished Diversity Senior Scholar Award*** given by the College of Education in 2009. Dr. Deyhle indicates: "I'm deeply honored by this award. To me it is an acknowledgement of our commitment to the importance of engaging with diversity in our research, the training of teachers, and as we prepare all youth for in success our schools."

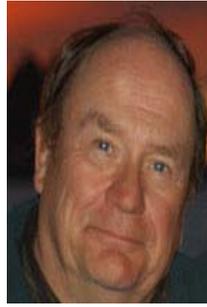
For more information on "*Reflections in Place: Connected Lives of Navajo Women,*" visit the Arizona Press website at <https://www.uapress.arizona.edu/BOOKS/bid2153.htm>.



The second edition of **Dr. Leanne Hawken's** co-authored book (with D. Crone and R Horner), *Responding to Problem Behavior in Schools*, has been published by Guilford. For more information on this new second edition see, link:

[http://www.guilford.com/cgi-bin/cartscript.cgi?page=pr/crone2.htm&dir=edu/PIS\\_series&cart\\_id=882217.30448](http://www.guilford.com/cgi-bin/cartscript.cgi?page=pr/crone2.htm&dir=edu/PIS_series&cart_id=882217.30448).

Much of the content for the book came from Dr. Hawken's research in schools through her Early Career Award from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs.



Professors **Rob O'Neill**, **John McDonnell**, Department of Special Education, and **Bill Jenson**, Department of Educational Psychology,

have co-authored (with J.J. Billingsley) the new book, *Single Case Research Designs in Educational and Community Settings*. Published by the Merrill Company, the book is for researchers and practitioners in regular and special education, school psychology, and other community service providers who are interested in conducting research and evaluation in educational and other applied settings. It provides nuts-and-bolts guidance on choosing research topics, identifying appropriate measurement strategies, selecting appropriate experimental designs, evaluating data, and disseminating the results of research.

O'Neill, R. E., McDonnell, J. J., Billingsley, F. F., & Jenson, W. R. (2010). *Single case research designs in educational and community settings*. Columbus, OH: Merrill.



## *College Development News*

### **Gift Names New McKay Center Suites for Education, the Arts and Science**

A generous gift of \$1.5 million to the new Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex will name the building's Research Suites, *The David O. McKay and Emma Ray McKay Centers for Education, the Arts, and Science*. David O McKay, an alumna of the U College of Education, served as the ninth president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The McKay Suites will be home to two cross-college interdisciplinary centers (The Center for Integrating the Arts into Academic Learning and the Center for Science and Math Education) as well as the College of Education Research Centers.

### **Meldrum Foundation Gift Names Executive Board Room**

College alumna, Catherine R. Meldrum and her husband Peter D. Meldrum, have provided a generous gift of \$200,000 which will name the Executive Board Room in the new Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex. Catherine is a former member of the College of Education Advisory Board and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She taught elementary and pre-school for ten years. Catherine and her husband established the Ada Roper Scholarship in the College to honor Catherine's mother, a former public school teacher who taught in the Salt Lake City and Murray Schools Districts for six years in Utah. Peter Meldrum is President and CEO of Myriad Genetics. Mr. Meldrum received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering and his MBA from the University of Utah. The Meldrums reside in Salt Lake City, Utah.

## **Invest in the College of Education's Greatest Asset**

Did you know that there are ways to support the College of Education without sacrificing the income you need now? You may find that you can make a larger gift than you ever thought possible by making a contribution to the College through a planned gift.

You can include a charitable gift to the College in our Will or Trust without affecting the current income you need now.

Money that is kept in a savings account, stocks or certificates of deposit may be invested in a Charitable Gift Annuity that provides a lifetime payment to you at an excellent rate of return, while the proceeds provide for generations of College of Education students and faculty.

For more information about the planned giving options that may be right for you, contact:

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-or-

Karin Hardy

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**For more news, events, and information, please visit our  
College of Education website at [www.ed.utah.edu](http://www.ed.utah.edu)**