



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
Professors Emeriti Club

emeriti.utah.edu

Newsletter / No. 4 December 2024

Taylor R. Randall was selected by the Utah Board of Higher Education as the 17th president of the University of Utah in August 2021. An award-winning educator, innovative leader, and champion of higher education, he comes to the position with more than two decades of experience at the U, serving as both dean of and an accounting professor in the David Eccles School of Business. He is the first alumnus since 1973 to serve as president.

Randall began his tenure by declaring a bold vision to make the U a top 10 public university with unsurpassed societal impact. *His strategy outlines three objectives:* to **inspire** a new generation of students by revolutionizing the student experience, **innovate** and generate discoveries that change the world, and **serve** our state to impact the lives of all 3.5 million Utahns. The vision includes goals to increase enrollment to 40,000 students and secure \$1 billion in research funding annually.

Taylor Randall



“Seeking the Soul Of the Secular University”

Among his long list of significant achievements:

- Jointly initiated the Great Salt Lake Strike Team with Utah State University.
- Launched the Wilkes Center for Policy and Change.
- Announced the Climate Change Action Plan to move the U’s net-zero emissions from 2050 to 2040.
- Launched the West Valley Initiative, with its hospital and outpatient health center.
- Launched the Stena Center for Financial Technology, designed to accelerate financial technology innovation.
- Announced a \$100 million investment in the newly created Responsible AI Initiative.

Randall and his wife, Janet, have four children, one daughter-in-law, and one son-in-law. He loves spending family time playing games, relaxing in the backyard, mountain biking, road biking, and golfing.

*Luncheon will be held in the Saltair Room, **Tuesday, January 7.***

(Notice change in week.)

You are encouraged to arrive by 11:30 if you wish to socialize.

Lunch will be served at noon.

Orders due by noon, Tuesday, December 31. (Ordering will close at that time.)

President's Message

TIM CHAMBLESS

Welcome everyone! December has arrived. Hope Thanksgiving was Happy.

Updates

Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine Building will open in 2026.

- \$185 million facility will have 211,457 sq. ft. on eight levels
- It will have high-tech labs and classrooms serving more than 500 students

John and Marcia Price Computing and Engineering Bldg

- Will house Kahlert School of Computing focused on artificial intelligence
- Will be funded by private donations and \$118 million in state funds

James LeVoy Sorenson Center for Medical Innovation will open in spring 2026.

- Will have 60,000 square feet on four levels costing \$50 million
- Purpose: To advance medical research into innovative patient care

Huntsman Mental Health Institute

implementing new program for substance abuse disorders.

- "Welcome Leap" grant will aid in ultrasound brain treatment
- \$50 million Untangling Addiction Program is one of 14 such programs worldwide

Craig H. Neilsen Rehabilitation Hospital

is helping Utahns with special needs.

- Its Advanced Rehabilitation Technology Research Studio invites volunteers
- It has opportunities to provide hands-on patient care

Emeriti Club Completion Scholarship

is a need-based initiative

- Goal: \$15,000 in contributions by June 30, 2025. Currently \$800 received.
- Emeriti Club members can contribute to the U's Advancement Office at:
 - <https://giving.ustarter.utah.edu/campaigns/professors-emeriti-club-completion-scholarship-fy-25>
 - Contact person: Chelsie Armstrong at Chelsie.armstrong@admin.utah.edu

2025 Concerns

Legislature is considering a 10% cut in state funds to higher education

- In Spring 2024 Legislature imposed a 1.5% cut in state funds.
- Legislators think enrollment will slow in 2027 and drop in 2032.
- Legislators want to cut administrative/departmental costs.
- Lawmakers want more "workforce development".
- Some majors may be reduced; others could become 3-year programs.

[Source: *SL Tribune*, October 17th, 2024]

U of U 2030 Goals

- 40,000 students (currently 36,970, fall semester 2024)

2025 Luncheon Speakers

January 7

Taylor Randall

President of the U of U

February 11

Erin Mendenhall

Mayor of Salt Lake City

March 11

Bonnie Baxter

Director of the Great Salt Lake Institute

April 8

Jennifer Mayer-Glenn

Director of University Neighborhood Partners

May 13

Doug Fabrizio

Host and producer of *Radio West*

Television Suggestions

DON STRASSBERG

Happy holidays! This month, my media suggestions focus on holiday-themed films.

Prime Video

Miracle on 34th Street (1947 & 1994). One of the best-known and most-loved Christmas movies. Dated...sure, but still a heart-warming tribute to the real meaning of the holiday. Kris Kringle, a Macy's Santa, surprises customers and employee alike by claiming he is the real Santa.

It's a Wonderful Life (1946) Another classic Christmas movie in which George Bailey (James Stewart) learns how many lives he has impacted and how they would be different if he had not been born.

The Man Who Invented Christmas (2017). In 1843 London, Charles Dickens, a writer desperate for a hit, relies on real-life inspiration and a vivid imagination to bring Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and others characters to life in *A Christmas Carol*.

Max

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989). A charming tale in which Clark Griswold's (Chevy Chase) attempt to have a perfect family Christmas goes delightfully awry.

A Christmas Story (1983). This beloved holiday movie follows the wintry exploits of youngster Ralphie Parker, who spends most of his time dodging a bully and dreaming of his ideal Christmas gift, a Red Ryder air rifle.

Elf (2003). Buddy (Will Ferrell), raised as one of Santa's elves in the North Pole, travels to New York in search of his real father, with increasingly chaotic results.

Disney +

Home Alone (1990). A modern classic holiday film in which a bratty 8-year-old is accidentally left by himself and must defend his home from two men trying to rob it.

Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993). A beloved Pumpkin King becomes bored with the annual routine of frightening people in the "real world." He accidentally stumbles on Christmastown and plans to kidnap Santa and take over his role.

Apple +

A Charlie Brown Christmas (1965). Christmas lights may be twinkling red and green, but Charlie Brown has the Yuletide blues. To get into the holiday spirit, he directs a Christmas play featuring a short, spindly Christmas tree that helps teach all the gang about the real meaning of Christmas. Great family flick.



Hiking Group

The hiking group has dug out their handwarmers, ski poles, snowshoes, Yaktrax and other paraphernalia necessary to confront the cold after a brilliant and colorful fall.

Timid at first and dreading all the gear, we gave in to the call for Monday hikes. We started with an easy snowshoe walkaround on the trails in the Spruces campground. Then, it was time to remove our down jackets and enjoy the sun on the south-facing slopes. We followed that by yaktraking up to the Salt Lake Overlook from Millcreek on a brilliant and clear day, and we never miss a chance to walk through the aspen forest on the way to ice-covered Willow Heights Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

We seem to be getting a little slower, so some new leaders to expand our range would be wonderful. To receive the weekly outing announcement, contact suzanne.stensaas@hsc.utah.edu.



Happy Holidays!
From the Hiking Group

In Memoriam

Walter P. Gnemi
October, 1930 – October 25, 2024
Administration

Franklin E. Massoth
March 14, 1926 – Nov. 26, 2024
Chemical Engineering



Pioneer Memorial Theater

PLAY

Dial M for Murder

Beautiful

A Case for the Existence of God

Waitress

TICKETS AVAILABLE

December 16, 2024

January 27, 2025

March 10, 2025

April 14, 2025

PREVIEW PERFORMANCE

January 9, 2025

February 13, 2025

March 27, 2025

May 1, 2025

If you are unable to pick up tickets when they become available, check with the PMT Ticket Office.

Often, there still are tickets obtainable up until the preview performance.

Osher News

Osher winter term registration opens on Dec 2 at 9:00 am.

U Emeriti Osher instructors this term include: **David Derezotes**, *Developing Spiritual Maturity in Our Aging Process*; **Larry Gerlach**, *Christmas History Part II: Traditional Customs and Celebrations*; **Walter Jones**, *The 20th Century Wars in Vietnam*; **Gene Fitzgerald**, *Russian Consciousness in Context of Cultural History: 863-2024*; **Fred Esplin**, *The Settlement of Utah: Conflict, Accommodation, and the Struggle for Statehood, 1847-1896*; and **Tim Chambless**, *Current Issues in American Public Affairs and Politics*.

Other highlights include: **Elizabeth Whitsett**, *The US Supreme Court: Origins, Evolution, Future*; and **Richard Bell**,

Fighting Slavery in Early America. **Sue Niblock** has started an Osher at the U chapter for *Great Decisions*, bringing this popular policy class back this term.

Painting Art Studio is where Osher members will gather and create their chosen art form together in our art room. We also have special event tours of the Downtown SLC Library on January 10 at 2 pm. <https://continue.utah.edu/osher/special-events>

Our FREE Lunch & Learn series is on our website now at <https://continue.utah.edu/osher/lectures>. We recently received a ZAP grant to create a brochure to help us promote these lectures, including to Meals on Wheels customers. So we're quite excited about that.

DIS and DATA

Emeriti Access to “Elements”

Emeritus is a faculty rank at the University of Utah. Nonetheless, it has been all too common for emeriti to disappear from the University’s digital system, e.g. the University Directory, the “Find a Researcher” module or Departmental faculty listings (you might check your department website).

Fortunately, the U has recently implemented a new system, “Elements”, and in collaboration with the office of the Associate Vice President for Faculty, most emeriti, outside of some Health Sciences units, can be part of that system and have their professional activities displayed in accessible form.

To activate the system, in CIS go to: <https://profiles.faculty.utah.edu/> and search under your name. You can also use the Elements Faculty Support site for the search: <https://officeforfaculty.utah.edu/elements/>

You should find your entry that has been populated from a previous “Faculty Activity Report,” which contained biographical information as well as Honors and Awards. Publications found in fifteen external research databases are listed and can be “claimed.” Other information, e.g. community engagement, will be transferred to your profile by the end of the year. You can edit the profile, adding and correcting the information it contains. The “Elements” link (above called “Discovery”) will be the gateway for external searches for emeritus expertise, by name, subject or topic. Further information on the system and support for its use is available on the Elements Faculty Support site: <https://officeforfaculty.utah.edu/elements/>

Ken Jameson

Emeritus Donations to the UofU, Updated

We have obtained updated calculations on Emeritus donations to the University of Utah. Between 2020 and 2024, emeriti committed \$26,995,005, while \$14,291,292 was actually received by the U.

When tabulated from the earliest records, in total, emeriti have committed \$83,820,445 and the U has received \$65,879,150. So emeriti continue as integral members of the University community, long after their retirement.

You can see the areas that receive funds, e.g. scholarships, academic support, etc., by downloading the 2023 spreadsheet available at

<https://emeriti.utah.edu/announcements/>

Ken Jameson

Access to Parashar Slides

For those of you wanting to access the slides that accompanied the talk on “Responsible AI” given last month by Manish Parashar, they can be found at:

https://mediaspace.utah.edu/media/t/1_aiztydjn

Ryck Luthi

Tuesday, January 7 Luncheon Menu

Entrée Choices:

Beef lasagna

or

Vegetable lasagna

or

Fruit plate with yogurt and granola

Luncheon Reservation and Dues Payment Form

Voluntary Dues for 2024 - 2025: \$12/Single, \$24/Couple

Attendees are encouraged to arrive by 11:30 if you wish to socialize.

Online and print ordering deadline is noon, December 31.

To pay by credit card (preferred): <https://umarket.utah.edu/um2/uuemeriticlub/product.php?product=1>

(Please use the dropdown menu to select your meal choice. If you plan on bringing a spouse/guest, be sure to update the quantity box to "2", and fill out the info for your guest's lunch selection.

Make sure you get an email with "Payment Confirmation" in the subject line after online ordering.)

To pay by check:

Name _____	Beef lasagna _____	Vegetable lasagna _____	Fruit plate _____
Spouse/Partner _____	Beef lasagna _____	Vegetable lasagna _____	Fruit plate _____
Guest(s) _____	Beef lasagna _____	Vegetable lasagna _____	Fruit plate _____

Email: _____ Telephone # _____

Number attending @ \$20 each _____ Luncheon \$ _____

Dues \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please check here _____ if this is your first luncheon as a new member or you are 100+ years.

(Hey! It's a free lunch!)

Make out the check to *Professors Emeriti Club* and send to:

Kari Ellingson

2618 E. Creighton Way

Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121