



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
Professors Emeriti Club

emeriti.utah.edu

Newsletter / No. 6 February 2025



Bonnie Baxter

Acclaimed Environmentalist
To Speak at March Luncheon

TOPIC:

*“Communities and the Foundation
Of the Great Salt Lake Ecosystem”*

Bonnie K. Baxter, Ph.D. is a **Professor of Biology** and the **Director of Great Salt Lake Institute** at Westminster University, which focuses on collaborative research and community connections. Dr. Baxter researches the lake’s extreme microbiology, especially the foundation of the ecosystem — the algae and cyanobacteria that feed the brine shrimp and flies. She has published dozens of scientific articles on the lake’s extreme biology, the first academic book on the biology of Great Salt Lake, and the first children’s book about this lake. Dedicated to public speaking, Dr. Baxter has become a “**spokesscientist**”, explaining the water crisis at the lake to government representatives, the media, and the community.

*Luncheon will be held in the Saltair Room, **Tuesday, March 11.***

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

***Orders due by noon, Tuesday, March 4, 2025.** (Ordering will close at that time.)*

President's Message

TIM CHAMBLESS

UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE 2025 SESSION

- \$60 million in cuts to higher education are expected from the Legislature, with the UofU absorbing \$19.6 million of them. U of U has the largest cut of state's 8 public colleges.
- HB 267 would bar public employers from recognizing a union "as a bargaining agent." U of U is a public employer with professors and staff who want to belong to a union.

"OPERATION EXCELLENCE"

- U is spending \$6M on a global consulting firm to ascertain how to be more efficient and save money. "Operation Excellence" seeks to end duplications, improve processes, and focus on the goal of graduating more students. Fiscal goal is to save the U \$100 million in the next 10 years. The consultant, McKinsey & Co., advises other public universities. Possible changes:
 - Savings could go to faculty and staff salaries and benefits. Specifically, which faculty and staff are pending.
 - Or drivers seeking an empty parking space would be helped by cameras that show open parking spaces.

"IMPACT 2030" GOALS

- 40,000 undergraduate enrollment; 35,000 today.
- 80% B.A./B.S. graduation rate in 6 years; 64% today.
- \$1 billion annual research funding; in 2024 it was \$691 million.
- Top 10 public research university; today ranks #43.
- Top 10 overall public university; ranked #69 in 2024.

UPDATES

- July 1, 2024, HB 261 ended equity, diversity, inclusion U offices; it protected grants, academic research and eligibility requirements; related staff members would change job titles and most moved into Student Affairs. 2025 new federal guidelines are now pending.
- U wants a "Medical Humanities" B.S. degree to train doctors. Goal is to give doctors more comprehensive training to treat patients' physical, mental, and emotional needs. The U already has a minor in Medical Humanities.

- U's Wilkes Center for Climate Science and Policy has awarded \$500,000 for a plan to harvest waste product from corn plants; this would reduce climate change.
- U's Energy & Geoscience Institute is advancing geothermal energy research in southwestern Utah. It partners with academia, industry, and federal Department of Energy to produce clean energy with no environmental risks. Sustainability is a primary goal.

2025 Luncheon Speakers

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*

President-elect's Message

HARRY R. HILL



Harry R. Hill, MD

Clinical Immunology/Immunodeficiency

Dear Emeriti Professors of the University of Utah Health Sciences Center and Lower Campus:

I warmly invite you to join and participate in the Emeriti Club, which serves retired Emeriti Professors across the University of Utah. The Club unites faculty from both lower campus departments and the upper campus Health Sciences Center.

By way of introduction, my name is Harry R. Hill, MD. I am an Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics and Pathology, as well as a Retired Adjunct Professor of Medicine. Over the past 48 years at the U of U, I have cared for patients with immune deficiencies, primarily due to molecular causes. Additionally, I established the Immunology Laboratory at the University, which has since grown to become the second-largest laboratory at ARUP Laboratories, an Institution I also helped found.

I learned about the Emeriti Club through newsletters emailed to emeritus faculty across campus. The Club meets monthly, typically on the second Tuesday, in the Saltair Room of the Union Building on lower campus. Meetings run from approximately 11:30 AM to 1:00 to 1:30 PM, featuring lunch and a lecture from a distinguished speaker. Topics span politics, science, business, sports, entertainment and environmental issues relevant to Utah. Luncheons cost approximately \$20, for Emeriti attendees, and \$20 for spouses or partners. All of whom are required to pre-register and select their meal of choice at least one week in advance. Voluntary annual membership dues are only \$12 for Emeritus Faculty and \$12 for their spouses or partners.

The meetings are an excellent opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, engage in stimulating discussions, and enjoy a delightful prepared meal while learning about compelling local and national topics and interacting with Emeriti from the upper and lower campuses!

Additional member benefits include:

- Lifetime library privileges at the University.
- Free parking in designated campus lots with an Emeritus-registered license plate.
- Free tuition for OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) courses.
- Free tickets for preview nights at Pioneer Memorial Theater.
- Upper and lower Campus Store discounts and access to legal insurance options.

The Club also organizes hiking and skiing activities, campouts, and events such as Pioneer Memorial Theater tours. Additionally, the Club supports a scholarship fund for students needing financial assistance to complete their degrees.

Since becoming an Emeritus Professor, I have attended these meetings for over two years and have greatly enjoyed the experience. I've had the pleasure of reconnecting with old friends, meeting new colleagues, and participating in insightful discussions with faculty from across the University. Amazingly, an Emeritus colleague for many years, Karen Buschi, MD and her Emeritus husband, Ken, nominated me to be the President-elect for 2024-25, which was approved by the Emeriti Board of Directors, an honor but slightly scary task for Ole Harry as next year I'll be President!

I believe faculty from the Medical School and other Health Sciences Departments would find immense value in participating in the Emeriti Club. I encourage you to consider becoming active and even exploring opportunities to serve on the Board or as a future President of the Club. I and my colleagues on the Board will gladly be here to nominate anyone from the Health Sciences or lower campus if interested!

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the Club further, please feel free to contact me at Harry.Hill@hsc.utah.edu and I will provide my cell number. I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you all at an upcoming meeting!

Warm regards to my many long-term colleagues in the Health Sciences as well as the Lower Campus Departments!

Harry R. Hill, MD

Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics and Pathology, and
Retired Adjunct Professor of Medicine; Clinical Immunology and Immune Deficiency Diseases

Television Suggestions

DON STRASSBERG

Dear Colleagues: There are so many good movies and series available online these days that it's hard to pick just a few. Still, here are some I offer for your consideration this month.

Prime Video

Rock Solid Trust (2022): "Armed with only a collection of cell phones and a unique talent, a hacker orchestrates an elaborate bank heist from an abandoned building." I quite liked this one.

Wild Boys (2023): When her father's will demands her to undertake a treasure hunt, a reclusive woman teams up with a pair of feral young men on a life-changing adventure.

Everything Will Be Fine in the End (2023): In this comedy-drama, a single act of violence forces three grifting best friends to confront their aimless existence.

Netflix

Number 24 (2024): Based on the real-life story of World War II resistance fighter Gunnar Sønsteby, this is a "handsomely mounted period piece depicting the emotional toll required for freedom." My wife and I really liked this movie.

One Hundred Years of Solitude (2024): In the timeless town of Macondo, seven generations of the Buendía family navigate love, oblivion and the inescapability of their past and their fate.

Max

The Pitt (2025): A realistic examination of the many challenges facing healthcare workers in a big-city hospital's emergency room. My wife and I have watched the first few episodes of this show and we (1) are hooked, (2) can only watch one episode at a time because of its intensity, and (3) have a renewed appreciation for the medical professionals who do this kind of work.

Hulu

Perfect Days (2023): "A quaint and poignant film about a man who cleans public toilets in Tokyo for a living and enjoys the little things in life."

Answers to last month's quiz

"You shall not pass." (*Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*)

"You can't handle the truth." (*A Few Good Men*)

"Carpe diem. Seize the day boys. Make your lives extraordinary." (*Dead Poets Society*)

"My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die." (*The Princess Bride*)

"It's just a flesh wound." (*Monty Python and the Holy Grail*)

"Here's Johnny!" (*The Shining*)

"Go ahead, make my day." (*Dirty Harry*)

"But what I do have are a very particular set of skills, skills I have acquired over a very long career. Skills that make me a nightmare for people like you." (*Taken*)

"Don't forget: I'm also just a girl, standing in front of boy asking him to love her." (*Notting Hill*)

"I do wish I could chat longer, but...I'm having a friend for dinner." (*Silence of the Lambs*)

In Memoriam

Gabriel Della-Piana
April 14, 1926 – December 25, 2024
Educational Psychology

G. Lloyd Drecksel
5/24/32 – 1/6/25
Communication

Harold H. Wolf
1934 – January 22, 2025
Pharmacy/Pharmacology



Pioneer Memorial Theater

PLAY

A Case for the Existence of God

Waitress

TICKETS AVAILABLE

March 10, 2025

April 14, 2025

PREVIEW PERFORMANCE

March 27, 2025

May 1, 2025

Hiking Group



Granite Flat

Working with the weather the group had four wonderful outings. One of our favorites was walking along the Little Emigration Canyon Road above Jeremy Ranch. A beautiful day to see the winding stream and willows as we walked the closed road and celebrated the new year. Another great hike in Dimple Dell viewing the snow-covered Wasatch, hiking east and looping back. Snowshoeing up American Fork Canyon from Tibble Fork Reservoir to the Granite Flat Campground provided wonderful views of Red and White Baldy and of Mt Timpanogos on the return. Mixing it up was an easy walk on the Jordan River Trail from the Multi-cultural Center, where there is an excellent art show of the

Great Salt Lake and exquisite bird photos.

Plans have been finalized for the annual "Camping" trip. It will be at Capitol Reef National Park April 28-May 3, 2025. Thousand Lakes RV Park in Torrey provides everything from tent space to cabins, as well as a pavilion for our pot-luck. Judy Pechman will be using her Girl Scout organizing experiences to provide options for easy-to-difficult hiking and car excursions. All notices are going through the hiking group e-mail list. If you are not on the list, you can sign up with Suzanne.Stensaas@hsc.utah.edu

DIS and DATA

Print is Dying!

At least the print version of the Emeriti Club newsletter.

That's because the largest yearly expense for the Emeriti Club is printing and mailing the newsletter — approximately \$5,000 per year. While most of the 1000+ emeriti in the club have chosen to receive only the digital version of the newsletter, there are about 200 members who like receiving a printed copy, in addition to the digital version, which they automatically get.

This concern has come up repeatedly in Emeriti Club Board meetings. We've considered several options, but ultimately, it's unsustainable, both financially and ecologically, to continue the print version. While it's sad to see print slowly dying out, the movement is inexorable.

Consequently, we will discontinue printing and mailing the paper newsletter at the end of this academic year. The *May Newsletter* will be the last printed newsletter distributed.

We don't want to lose you. It may be that you've moved or use a different email address, but we need to hear from you.

If you have been receiving both the print and digital versions and would like to continue receiving the digital version, please let us know by affirmatively giving us the email address where you'd like the digital newsletter sent. You should send that request to the Emeriti Club email address:

emeriti@utah.edu

Link to President Randall's January talk to the Emeritus Club

If you missed President Randall's talk to the Emeritus Club last month or would like to refresh your memory, you can access the talk at:

https://mediaspace.utah.edu/media/t/1_6v6fx4j9

Heart of England Tour

Visiting the heart of England in May: Sounds delightful! If you are interested in joining the tour, contact Michele Margetts at:

1elizabethan@comcast.net

Tour of the Simulation Center In the College of Nursing

Arrangements have been made for two tours of the Simulation Center through a generous offer of time and expertise by Director Ann Butt, EdD, RN, (<https://profiles.faculty.utah.edu/u6008923>)

The visit will demonstrate how students are trained using our complex patient rooms, chart and clinical information system, as well as simulator models of adults and children. With the opening of the new medical school building in Fall 2026, simulation resources in health sciences will be combined into a Center for Interprofessional Simulation-based Experiential Learning.

During our tour we will have access to a simulated live-patient and can try interviewing him/her. We will see \$100,000 adult mannequins along with infant and child mannequins. Two dates:

Friday, February 14, 2025 from 10:30-12:00 noon

Friday, February 21, 2025 from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

You can sign up at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JK3XP7G>

Be sure to include your email and cell phone number. You will not receive a confirmation, and if the tour is full you will not be able to sign up. For questions or cancellations contact Suzanne Stensaas, 801-466-9050.

Parking is always a problem, but those with emeritus status who have signed up with Commuter Services will be happy to know that there is one lot nearby, although it's not easily accessible by wheelchair. (See the parking map at https://emeriti.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/59/2022/08/kiosk_lots_2022.pdf)

Look for the lot in the upper right corner colored purple.)

You must enter the parking structure on the west side and park on Level 1. You can ignore the self-pay machine. The College of Nursing is two buildings to the west. Allow time to get lost! Here is the College of Nursing map link: CNB located at E5 on the map grid, <https://www.utah.edu/printable-maps/assets/health-sciences-map.pdf>

DIS and DATA ²

Osher News

Spring Term:

Registration will open on March 7 at 9:00 a.m., and the term begins March 24.

Emeriti teaching in spring include *Tim Chambliss, Larry Gerlach, and David Derezotes.*

Summer Term:

Course proposals for summer term are due March 1; the term will run from mid-May through the end of June.

We have a new course proposal form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdMQm-C760oUWvcxVnLk5X8-OfW49RidnwGyV1gAvMoA-n4OADQ/viewform>

Special Events:

PBS Utah Movies for Grownups Awards at Salt Lake Film Society

Step into a night of glamour and inspiration as PBS Utah and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute present an evening dedicated to the art of filmmaking. Tailored for cinephiles with a sophisticated sensibility, this event honors the visionary artists behind and in front of the silver screen. The legendary Alan Cumming returns as host, bringing his charm and wit as we celebrate cinematic excellence. The illustrious Glenn Close, an eight-time Academy Award nominee, will receive the coveted Career Achievement Award, marking an iconic milestone in her career. We'll have a reception first with drinks and cookies, and guests will be treated to giveaways, adding an extra touch of excitement and surprise to this star-studded celebration.

Wednesday February 26 at 3:30 p.m.

Registration Deadline: February 23

Register at:

<https://continue.utah.edu/osher/special-event/1622>

The Warning Signs of Elderly Abuse

Megan Schmidt from Adult Protective Services will go through the warning signs of emotional abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and exploitation. She will also be available to answer any questions that we may have.

Thursday February 27 at 11:00 a.m.

<https://continue.utah.edu/osher/special-event/1621>

Tuesday, March 11 Luncheon Menu

Entrée Choices:

Herb ricotta stuffed shells with beef Bolognese

or

Cheese ravioli with mushrooms and brown butter cream sauce

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, March 4.

To pay by credit card (preferred): <https://umarket.utah.edu/um2/uuemeriticlub/product.php?product=38>

(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 _____ Stuffed shells _____ Cheese ravioli _____ Fruit plate _____
Spouse/Partner _____ Stuffed shells _____ Cheese ravioli _____ Fruit plate _____
Guest(s) _____ Stuffed shells _____ Cheese ravioli _____ 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