

# Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference

*October 7 – 9, 2015, Utah Valley University*

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## Contact Information

### Public Relations and Fundraising Coordinator

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### For press inquiries, or press credentials

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## Summary of Conference

The intended outcome of the conference is to raise awareness, to mobilize support from institutions within the U.S. mountain states and global mountain entities, and to assist in the sustainable development of the mountain communities of the world, particularly as it applies to women and children, particularly with:

- **Transmitting Family Values, Heritage & Culture:** The role of women in the sustaining of family values, heritage and culture in mountain communities. Modern challenges to traditional family values, generational communication of culture and similar issues in the region.
- **Health of Women & Children:** Challenges of high rates of disease and mortality for mothers and children in mountain communities. New threats in the mountains: HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and other women's health issues. Dealing with the problems of malnutrition, mutilation, abuse and the aftermath of terrorism.
- **Education of Women & Children:** Women's and children's education in highlands. Development of political, legislative and technological framework for the betterment of quality and availability of education. Practical implementation of the framework for the mountain communities. Technology, including use of modern ICT and distance education in remote regions.
- **Economic Issues of Women & Children:** Economic development in local communities. Family and gender policies of the regions. Women's rights to property: issues of equal gender access. Environmental issues and poverty. Also, micro-credit issues and drug production / trafficking.
- **Human Trafficking and Exploitation:** Migration in the mountain areas and mistreatment of women and children. Measures for fighting human trafficking and sexual exploitation in mountain areas.
- **Leadership for Women:** Women in leadership roles in contemporary mountain regions. Developing women's leadership capacities, women leadership in entrepreneurial development and governance.

## Key Details of the Conference

**We anticipate attendance of more than 1000 attendees including officials from the State Department, UNWomen, Mountain Partnership, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, The World Bank, Ambassadors of various mountain nations including by not limited to Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations, Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the U.S., scholars and NGO's from overseas and the Rocky Mountain region. Most important will be involvement from our local institutions and individuals-enthusiasts of gender causes from North America, who would like to make a difference in the lives of mountain communities both in this region and globally.**

The Women of the Mountains Conference (WOMC) is an innovative grass-roots forum, driven, sustained and expanding since 2007 by ordinary people from Utah including university students, showing the power of their networking and partnering with each other while promoting global gender cause as part of the sustainable mountain development (SMD) agenda advocated by the United Nations.

The Women of the Mountains Conference also will help to identify ways to implement on grass-roots level new SDGs and post-2015 agenda adopted during the historic United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015 from September 25-27, 2015.

Our 2007, 2009 and 2013 conferences have been featured by the United Nations Secretary Generals Reports on SMD. This shows recognition of the uniqueness and high level of contributions of this initiative to the global gender agenda. The 2015 conference success will show student innovation and the creative nature of our forum to inspire international organizations to engage more youth to be a driving forces for promotion of both gender and sustainable mountain development agendas. This conference also contributes to the professional growth and recognition the students and volunteers.

## Organizing Committee Bios & Quotes for Media Purposes

### Jenny Starley, Public Relations and Fundraising Coordinator

**Cell:** 801.361.6146

**Email:** jstarley@hotmail.com

**Bio:** In both her professional and personal life, Jenny has worked on several public events and fundraisers. She's excited to utilize some of her learned skills with the Women of the Mountains Conference. Jenny has worked for Provo City since 2001 and has been with Provo Fire & Rescue for six years as an Office Specialist. Her varied job responsibilities with Provo City have included the planning of various social and public events in addition to other administrative office responsibilities. In 2006, she worked with Draper City as an Executive Office Assistant to the City Manager, assisting with the implementation and planning of city events among other duties. In 2008, she and her husband joined 'Africa is Life Changing' a humanitarian organization where they spent time in Tanzania teaching sustainability skills to women and orphanages, teaching life skills to school children and assisting in basic medical care. She was a Site Coordinator for the Utah Community Food Co-op of Utah for several years and is currently a volunteer for Utah County's Habitat for Humanity as a Family Mentor. She's been a member and microloan lender with KIVA since 2007. Jenny grew up in Utah County and has been married for 19 years. She and her husband have enjoyed raising her step-son and son who are now in pursuit of their own adulthood goals. She is a junior at Utah Valley University, seeking BA in Political Science and currently resides in Eagle Mountain.

**Quote:** "I feel passionate about this conference because of the message it's bringing to our local community and to the global community. Far too often we're so involved with our own lives that it's difficult to see how we can be impacted by events that occur in other parts of the world. This conference addresses

just that. It takes global issues that impact women and children and not only addresses regional concerns but also address how our community is impacted by these issues.”

**Quote:** “We’re so excited to bring awareness of these issues to our local community. The Women of the Mountains Organizing Committee has been instrumental in bringing global entities to one place to start communication for change that they can bring back to their organizations and regions world-wide.”

**Quote:** “We’re so excited to be able to discuss ways to implement post-2015 agenda with our classmates, the university faculty and local community leaders and organizations right after the adoption of new SDG indicators by the United Nations.”

### **Kamaile Harris, Community Outreach Liaison**

**Cell:** 385.252-1331

**Email:** [kamailet@yahoo.com](mailto:kamailet@yahoo.com)

**Bio:** Kamaile Harris is a Hawaiian Language and Cultural Studies Teacher at the Pacific Heritage Academy in Rose Park. She attended Kamehameha Schools for primary education. For High School, she attended a Community based Educational Program at Kailua High School called Community Quest. Teachers were College Interns at University of Hawaii in Manoa. The curriculum utilized the Community to conduct classes and educated students by using tools within the Community to exercise understanding. Kamaile has a Degree in Accounting, is experienced in Events, Social Media and Marketing.

**Quote:** “I am most impressed by the Grassroots Organization which we have utilized in planning for this conference.”

**Quote:** “I’m grateful to belong to and work with the Mountain Communities which we’ve rallied in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. As a Native Hawaiian, I am honored to represent Mauna Kea and the struggle to preserve our Ecosystem.”

**Quote:** “I’m most interested in the Gender Equality panel. More than half of our nation’s single income families are supported by Women. With unfair & unequal wages, we can correlate this to be the cause of low income & families living in poverty. We will be one step closer to ending poverty by making pay for Women equal.”

### **Tony Medina, VP of Logistics and Protocols**

**Phone:** 801.573.5401

**Email:** [tony\\_h\\_medina@msn.com](mailto:tony_h_medina@msn.com)

**Bio:** Tony is a Utah native, being born and raised in Salt Lake County. He graduated from Bingham High School in 2005. Following graduation, he immediately joined the US Army as an infantryman and was assigned to the 172<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Brigade in Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. He deployed with his unit to Mosul, Iraq in October 2005 until his unit was involuntarily extended to Baghdad, Iraq during the height of the US troop surge. Following his return home in December of 2006, he was transferred to Ft. Riley, Kansas, where he met and married his wife Stacy. In 2008, he reenlisted for another 5 years, and was given the opportunity to return to Ft. Wainwright, Alaska where he deployed to Diyala, Iraq in 2008-2009, and to Kandahar Province, Afghanistan in 2011 to 2012. Following an injury he sustained once he returned home from Afghanistan, he was honorably discharged from service in October of 2012. He is now a senior at Utah Valley University, majoring in Political Science with an emphasis in international relations. He has been an active member of the UIMF since early 2014, and has worked to help promote the gender equality and sustainable mountain agendas ever since. He currently lives with his wife Stacy in Orem, Utah. Tony enjoys fishing, motorsports, and spending time with his family whenever possible.

**Quote:** “I am honored to be part of the team organizing this impressive grassroots initiative and to advance gender and mountain cause both in Utah and beyond its borders.”

**Quote:** “I am confident that the 2015 Women of the Mountains Conference will help us to raise a new generation of leaders in gender and SMD advocacy and raise profile and respect to our institution and students”

## Deann Torsak, Executive Secretary

Email: [dktorsak@hotmail.com](mailto:dktorsak@hotmail.com)

**Bio:** Deann Torsak was born and raised in the small island community of Wrangell, Alaska. In 1995 she married her husband, Kenneth and together they have four children. A small business owner, she is actively involved in community service. She has managed the Utah Grizzlies Special Needs-South hockey team for 7 years and has been heavily involved with the Boy Scouts of America for the past 8 years. Deann is currently a senior at Utah Valley University studying Political Science with an emphasis in American Government, with two minors: Constitutional Studies and Native American Studies. She is the first recipient of the Rebecca D. Lockhart Endowed Scholarship for students within the Constitutional Studies minor. She has been involved with the Utah International Mountain Forum since 2014, and is currently the President of the Sustainable Mountain Development Club and is the Executive Secretary of this conference.

**Quote:** "I am excited to meet new people from all over the globe and learn from their life experiences."

**Quote:** "I have really enjoyed working with other students and faculty as we move the conference forward to the finish line. It has been both enriching and challenging!"

## Tentative Conference Agenda

Contact **Deann Torsak** for questions regarding the agenda or presenter contact information: [dktorsak@hotmail.com](mailto:dktorsak@hotmail.com)

### Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

6:00PM-8:30PM Welcoming social event – Room LI120  
Play by Dr. Nancy Rushforth and Dr. Kim Abunuara– Associate Professors, Utah Valley University *"In Her Own Hand: The Letters of Mary Hallock Foote"*  
Refreshments

### Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

7:30AM-8:20AM Registration outside of the Ragan Theater  
8:30AM-9:15AM Opening Ceremony - Ragan Theater  
1. Welcoming address by Dr. Danielle Butler, Chairman of the Women of the Mountains Conference  
2. Greetings from Utah Valley University President Matthew Holland  
3. Presentation by Dr. Rusty Butler, Associate Vice President, International Affairs and Diplomacy, Focal Point for the Mountain Partnership, Utah Valley University, *"Women of the Mountains Conferences and promotion of gender and Sustainable Mountain Development Agendas"*  
9:15AM-9:30AM Cultural Performance by Sita Gurung and Hari Maya Gurung, Nepal  
9:30AM-9:45AM Keynote address, Celeste Mergens, Chairman, NGO, Days for Girls Founder *"Women of Strength: The Power of Honoring the Wisdom and Needs of Women and Girls"*  
9:45AM-10:00AM Coffee Break  
10:00AM-10:30AM Presentation of Sara Manuelli, Program and Communication Expert, Mountain Partnership, F.A.O – U.N. *"Gender Issues in the Sustainable Mountain Agenda"* - Room LI120  
10:30AM-1:00PM Panel Session on **Education of Women & Children** - Room LI421  
1. Noorani Barkat, (Pakistan)Graduate Student, Texas A&M *"Education of Women and Children in Pakistan"*  
2. Dr. Vessela Ilieva, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University, *"Mathematics of the Mountains: and Ethnomatematical Approach to mathematics Education"*  
3. Dr. Nichole Wangsgard, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *"Children with Disabilities"*

4. Diana Lucia Chaman Salas,(Peru) Project Coordinator, Red de Agroindustria Rural (REDAR) del Perú, *“Educational Alternatives for Rural Development in the Andes,”*
5. Joseph Loftin, Principal, Wasatch Academy, Mount Pleasant, Utah, *“Access to Educational Opportunities for Women in Communities Throughout the World”*
6. Dr. Keith Snedegar, Professor, Utah Valley University , Robin Bucaria, Teacher, Copper Hills High School and Kiersten Dumas, Utah Valley University Student *“Engaged Learning- High School Essay Contest”*
7. Dr. Alex Yuan, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *“Mountain Women’s Education in China”*

10:30AM-1:00PM

Panel Session on **Economic Issues of Women & Children - Room LI428**

1. Yankila Sherpa, (Nepal)President, Snow Leopard Trek, Nepal, *“Empowering Mountain Women for Sustainable Livelihood through Eco-tourism and Best Practices in the Environment”*
2. Sejuti Sarkar De, (India)Chief Coordinator, Society for Natural Resource Management and Community Development, India, *“Utilization of Forest Products by Mountain Women”*
3. Uday Teki, Director of Special Projects, Pioneer Park Coalition, Salt Lake City, Courtney McBeth, Associate Director, Hinckley Institute, University of Utah, Ruth Gerritsen-McKane, Director, Global Social Work, University of Utah *“Economic Empowerment of Women”*
4. Dr. Warner Woodworth, Professor Emeritus, Brigham Young University, and Global Social Entrepreneur, *“Sustainable Empowerment to Transform Women of the Mountains”*
5. Manzura Makhkamova, (Tajikistan) Business Consultant, Tajikistan, *“Economic Development in Tajikistan”*
6. Connie Lamb, Librarian, Brigham Young University, Donna Lee Bowen, Professor and Margaret Melville, Researcher, WomenStats Project, Brigham Young University *“Berber Women of the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco”*
7. Dr. Sara Ulloa, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University, *“Economics of Peru”*

10:30AM-1:00PM

Panel Session on **Health of Women & Children – Room SC213A**

1. Bernice Anakrah,(Ghana) Director, Days for Girls Ghana
2. Elise Corbett, RN *“The Effects of Gender Inequality on Women’s Health in Rural India”*
3. Dr. Gaya Carlton, Professor, Utah Valley University, *“Vulnerable Women and Children of Haiti”*
4. Dr. Teresa Cardon, Associate Professor/Director Autism Studies Utah Valley University , *“Autism Spectrum Disorders”*
5. Lora Beth Brown EdD, RDN, Professor, Brigham Young University , *“Nutrition Challenges and Opportunities for Women and Children: Important Messages and Lessons Learned along the Way”*
6. Dr. Fern Caka, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *“Concentration of Indoor Air Pollution in Nepal from Yak Dung Combustion”*
7. Taryn Aiken, Utah Chair, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention *“Hope Saves Lives”*
8. Dr. Lynn England, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *“Extending Fundamental Rights to Women of the Mountains: The Cuban Model”*
9. Cheryl Corbett, Associate Professor, Brigham Young University and Jamie Peterson Gettys, Brigham Young University Student, *“Women and Birth: Comparison of Birth Experiences Across Cultures”*

10:30AM-1:00PM

Panel Session on **Human Trafficking and Exploitation of Women and Children – Room SC213B**

1. Evelyn McCoy, Graduate student, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, *“Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Adolescents: Public Policy and Social Interventions in Peru”*
2. Caitlin McDonald, Chairman, Refugee Women’s Empowerment Coordinator at the Refugee and Immigrant Center - Asian Association of Utah, *“Challenges and Solutions: Refugee Women-at-Risk in Salt Lake City, Utah”*
3. Dorie Olds, Master Aesthetician/Massage Therapist *“Living in the Face of Truth Unspoken: The Hidden Culture of the Exploitation of Women”*
4. Samira Harnish, Director, NGO, Women of the World, *“Overcoming Exploitation of Refugee Women”*
5. Brandy Farmer, Domestic Violence Prevention Specialist, Utah *“Why Doesn’t She Just Leave”*
6. Clay Olsen – CEO/Co-Founder, Fight the New Drug *“Porn’s Dirty Little Secret”*
7. Dr. Kristine Frederickson, Brigham Young University, *“Josephine Butler and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century ‘White Slave Trade’: A Comparative Model for Stymieing the Sexual Trafficking of Women and Children in the twenty-first Century”*

1:00PM-2:30PM

Lunch hosted by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, UVU – Room SC206 a-c  
**By invitation only**

1. Keynote speaker: Leslie D. Mower, Co-Founder Neways Int.
2. Musical performance: Keller Family

2:40-3:30PM

Keynote Presentation by Timothy Ballard, Founder and CEO, Operation Underground Railroad, and Sean Reyes, Utah Attorney General, *“Human Trafficking in Utah and Beyond” –Ragan Theater*

3:45PM-4:00PM

Keynote Presentation by Jed Shilling, Board of Trustees, the Mountain Institute – Room LI120

4:00PM-5:00PM

Plenary Session: *“Gender activities and Post-2015 agenda” – Room LI120*

1. Irene Marr, Office of Global Women Issues, United States Department of State, *“Why Investing in Women and Girls Advances US Foreign Policy”*
2. Representative of the UNWomen
3. Andrea Kutter, Sr. Operations Officer, Environment and Natural Resources, The World Bank

5:00PM-5:15PM

Coffee-Break

5:15PM-5:30PM

Keynote Presentation by Alexey Semyonov, President, Andrei Sakharov Foundation, Baktybek Abdrisaev, Lecturer, Utah Valley University - Room LI120

5:30PM-6:30PM

Plenary Session: *“National Policies to Promote Gender Agenda in the SDGs” – Room LI120*

1. Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations, H.E. Talaibek Kydyrov
2. Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations, H.E. Ion Jinga;
3. Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the United States, H.E. Meret Orazov;

6:30PM

Dinner hosted by the Office of VP for Student Affairs at Utah Valley University – Room Oquirrh Mountain North **By invitation only**

1. Keynote address by the Honorable John Valentine, Utah Tax Commissioner, *“Building personal relations between mountain communities in the Rocky Mountain Region and Central Asia Through Legislative Exchanges”*
2. Presentation by Brady Williams and Nina Fae *“Summit Database and Climate Change”*

### **Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:30AM -9:30AM

Natalie Wright Romeri-Lewis, Senior Project Associate, WomanStats Project with Kayla McGill, Margaret Melville, Elvira Correa Lazaro and Baily Lubeck students of the Brigham Young University, *“Data, Mountain Countries, and the Status of Women”* Ragan Theater

- 9:30AM -10:45AM Plenary Session – *“Mountain Partnership and implementation of SMD indicators in post-2015 agenda” – Ragan Theater*  
Meeting of the Mountain Partnership members to discuss joint efforts in North American for promotion of gender and SMD agendas
- 11:00AM-1:00PM Panel Session on **Climate Change and Gender** – Room LI428
1. Phurpa Sherpa, (Nepal) Secretary General, Women’s Foundation of Nepal, *“Change in Nepal and its impacts in Mountain Regions”*
  2. Brady Williams, Utah Valley University student, Nina Fae – *“Climate Change, Women and Children, and the Summit Knowledge and Action Network”*
  3. Dr. Ron Harris – Professor, Brigham Young University, *“Women and Youth as Natural Disaster Mitigators in the Mountain Islands of Indonesia”*
  4. Todd Johnson, Producer, Risan Media, Denver, CO *“An Expedition to the Alaskan Arctic: Dr. Matt Nolan’s Research on the McCall Glacier and People and Ice, a video perspective of Icelandic glacial research, climate change issues and geothermal energy production.”* (Via Skype)
  5. Dr. Daniel Horns, Professor, Utah Valley University, Dr. Ron Harris, Professor, Brigham Young University *“Lessons for Mountain Communities from the 2015 Nepal Earthquake”*
- 11:00AM-1:00PM Panel Session on **Transmitting Family Values, Heritage & Culture** – Room LI421
1. Wendy Jyang, Chairperson, Utah China Friendship Improvement Sharing Hands Development & Commerce United Nations NGO, *“Mothers and the Future of Disadvantaged Youth”*
  2. Dr. Laura Hamblin, Associate Professor Utah Valley University, *“Iraqi Refugee Women”*
  3. Dr. Anna Mlekodaj, Tatra Mountain Cultural Foundation, Novy Targ, Poland, *“The Women and Culture from the High Tatra Mountains of Southern Poland- Case Study from an Academic Standpoint”*
  4. Dr. Deborah Escalante, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *“Arts Education: Telling Our Story”*
  5. Carolina Allen and Erika Decaster, Co-Chairs, NGO, Big Ocean Women *“Music, Motherhood and Mountains”*
  6. Maria Krzeptowski, Tatra Mountain Cultural Foundation, *“The Women and Culture from the High Tatra Mountains of Southern Poland- Through an Immigrants Eyes”*
  7. Marin Underwood, Administrative Assistant, Utah Valley University *“Natural Success Woven from Within”*
  8. Steven Emerman, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *“The Use of Lichenometry to Resolve Gener-Based Discrepancies in the Traditions of Buddhist Sacred walls in Langtang Valley, Nepal Himalaya”*
  9. Shuralai Chernoeva, Graduate Student, Gorno-Altai State University, Russia, *“Altai Heritage”*
- 11:00AM-1:00PM Panel Session on **Leadership for Women** – Room LI 120
1. Jeanetta Williams, NAACP Salt Lake Chapter
  2. Dr. Susan Madsen, Professor, Utah Valley University *“Importance of Women in Leadership”*
  3. Victoria Baird, Co-director, U.N. Women-Utah Chapter *“UN Women's mission for women in mountainous regions around the world”*
  4. Morgan Cotti, State and Local Program Manager, Associate Instructor Hinckley Institute of Politics, University of Utah
  5. Melissa Sevy, Founder and Executive Director Musana, *“The Impact of Employing Women in the Developing World”*
- 11:00AM-1:00PM Panel Session on **Access to information and public services for women** – Room SC206a

1. Dr. Cheryl Hanewicz, Chair, Technology Management, Utah Valley University , Dr. Angela Trego, Associate Professor Utah Valley University , Lisa Barrager, Coordinator, Women Student Initiative Brigham Young University, Susan Thackeray, Assistant Professor Utah Valley University, Kimberly Jones, CEO and Founder, Verite *“Supporting Young Women in STEM Fields”*
2. Perthina Eilers, Representative, Insidesales.com, *“Doing Good. Insidesales.com Girl Focus Coding Camp”*
3. Dr. Susie Cox, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University *“Technology in the Classroom”*
4. Dr. Violeta Vasilevska, Associate Professor Utah Valley University, *“Enhancing High School Girls Education through Technology”*
5. Carlos Alarco, University of Utah, Jordan Giles, Staff to the Congressman Stewart (R-UT) and Yanko Dzhukev, Utah Valley University Student, *“Social Media and UIMF Campaign to Advocate Mountain Indicators Among SDGs”*

12:00PM-6PM Student Research and Study Abroad Showcase - Room Ragan Theater

1. Rosely Zamora, Utah Valley University Student
2. Lisa Shepherd, Utah Valley University Student, *“Reva Beck Bosone, the Ambitious and Illustrious Women of Firsts”*
3. Jesler Molina, President UIMF, Utah Valley University *“Students Efforts in advocacy and implementation of SMD in post-2015 agenda”*
4. Paola Rondon, Utah Valley University Student
5. Kylie Chenn, Founder aCanela/ Brigham Young University Student, *“Unlocking the Potential of Female Culinary Chefs in Mountainous Regions.”*
6. Kamaile Harris, Community Leader, Salt Lake City, *“The American Dream Redefined: Community Based Grassroots Education and Governmental Diplomatic Relationship with the World Economy”*
7. Yanko Dzhukev and Jenny Starley, Utah Valley University Students *“The Women’s Rights in Bulgaria”*
8. Rachel Whipple, Graduate student, Brigham Young University, *“DIY Cultural Conflicts”*
9. Ryan Bastian, MBA Program Graduate, Brigham Young University

1:00-2:30PM

Lunch hosted by the College of Technology/Computing – Room SC213a/b

**By invitation only**

Keynote address: Susan Ann Stell, wife of the Honorable Judge Thomas B. Griffith, federal judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

2:40PM-3:50PM

Continuation of Panels

Room SC206a

1. Dr. M. Lelinneth Novilla, Associate Professor, Jeanette Johnson, Research team member, Melissa Sevy, Founder and Executive Director Musana, Louis Seugchan Kim, Brigham Young University Student *“Social Determinants of Health from a Developing Country Perspective”*

4:00PM-5:00PM

Plenary Session: *“Gender and Sustainable Mountain Development advocacy in the State of Utah”* - Room Ragan Theater

1. Presentation by Dr. David Connelly, Chair, Department of History and Political Science, Utah Valley University, *“Students Engaged Learning Through Sustainable Mountain Development and Gender Advocacy”*
2. Presentation by Don Wilkerson, President, United Nations Association in Utah, Taylor C. Hartley, Esq., United Nations Association in Utah Board Member



- 5:00PM Plenary Session with finalizing results of the conference and adopting draft final document
- 5:30PM Performance of the Cultural Envoy Group, Utah Valley University – Room Centre Stage
- 6:30PM Dinner – Room Oquirrh Mountain North **By invitation only**
1. Keynote presentation: Jason “Singer” Smith, professional climber and author
  2. Performance by Gruppman International Music Institute, member of the Mountain Partnership
- Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**
- 9:20AM Opening of Business Fair – Room Centre Stage
1. Opening address – Derek Miller, Executive Director of the Salt Lake City World Trade Center *“International Business for Utah and You.”*
- 10:00AM-12:00PM Finalizing joint partnership agreement between women entrepreneurs from Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, Ghana, Nepal and Peru with local entrepreneurs in the areas of tourism, agriculture, renewable energy and technology
- 12:30PM Lunch hosted by the Woodbury School of Business, Utah Valley University – Room CB510  
**By invitation only**
1. Keynote Address by Rona Rahlf, Executive Director, Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce *“Find your tribe at a Chamber of Commerce”*
  2. Concluding Remarks by Kena Jo Mathews, the Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity of Utah County. *“The Cost of Living – The Economic Challenges Facing Women and Children in Utah”.*
- 2:00PM-6:00PM Visit to a Habitat for Humanity worksite to help build a home

## Presenters for interviews

Contact **Deann Torsak** for questions regarding the agenda or presenter contact information:  
[dktorsak@hotmail.com](mailto:dktorsak@hotmail.com)

### Sara Manuelli, Program and Communication Expert, Mountain Partnership, F.A.O–U.N.

Email: [Sara.Manuelli@fao.org](mailto:Sara.Manuelli@fao.org)

### Andrea Kutter, Sr. Operations Officer, Environment and Natural Resources, The World Bank

Email: [akutter@worldbank.org](mailto:akutter@worldbank.org)

### Irene Marr, Office of Global Women's Affairs, State Department

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<https://blogs.state.gov/contributors/irene-marr>

Irene Marr has been with the U.S. Department of State since 2000. Currently assigned to the Secretary’s Office of Global Women’s Issues, she serves as Senior Policy Advisor for the Europe and Central Asia portfolio, and has held a variety of other assignments including lead Public Affairs Officer, Social Media Coordinator, and Senior Policy Advisor on Western Hemisphere Affairs. Prior to joining the Office of Global Women’s Issues, Ms. Marr served as a human rights officer at both the U.S. Embassy in Managua, Nicaragua and the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, Cuba. Ms. Marr first joined the Department of State as a foreign media analyst with the Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR). Ms. Marr has extensive experience elsewhere in the federal government including at the U.S. Information Agency (USIA), the Department of Justice, and the JFK Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) where she served as Senior Analyst responsible for reviewing and declassifying government records spanning the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations. She began her career as an intelligence research analyst and linguist with the Department of Defense. Ms. Marr received an M.A. in International Relations from The Fletcher School

of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts. She earned her A.B. in Latin American Studies and Spanish from Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. She also studied liberal arts at the University of Madrid, Spain.

## **H.E. Ion Jinga, Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations**

The new Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations, Ion Jinga, presented his credentials to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on August 13, 2015. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Jinga held diplomatic and Government positions for more than two decades, serving as Ambassador to the United Kingdom between 2008 and 2015 and as Doyen of the European Ambassadors to the United Kingdom from 2012 to 2015. From 2003 to 2008, he served as Ambassador to Belgium. Mr. Jinga was Director-General for European Union Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bucharest from 2002 to 2003. In 2002, he served as a Member of the Romanian delegation to the Convention on the Future of Europe and was Coordinator of the delegation's national secretariat. At the Mission to the European Union, he served as Deputy Head of the Mission and Chargé d'affaires, a.i., from 2000 and 2001, Deputy Head of the Mission from 1998 to 1999 and as First Secretary from 1995 and 1998. Between those appointments, he served, from 1999 to 2000, as Counsellor at the Directorate for European Union Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Also at the Ministry, he was Second Secretary at the Minister's office from 1994 to 1995 and Third Secretary at the Directorate for European Union Affairs from 1992 to 1994. In 1991 and 1992, he was head of the Arges County Council's external relations office, and between 1986 and 1991, was a physicist and engineer at the Institute for Nuclear Energy Reactors at Pitesti, Romania. From 1984 to 1986, he was a teacher at a secondary school in Bucharest. Mr. Jinga holds a PhD in Law at Alexandru Ioan Cuza Academy in Bucharest, master's degrees in Advanced European Studies in Administration from the College of Europe, in Bruges, Belgium, and in Public Administration from the National School for Political and Administrative Studies, in Bucharest, and bachelor's degrees in Law and in Science from the University of Bucharest. He is married and has one child.

## **His Excellency Dr. Meret Orazov, Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the United States**

His Excellency Mr. Meret Orazov is the Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the US, since 2001. During 1991 - 1992 he was Vice Premier of Turkmenistan, First Secretary of Democratic Party of Turkmenistan. Then from 1995 till 1997 was a Minister of Foreign Economic Relations. Since 1987 till 1991 he was a President of Turkmen Economic University, then President of Turkmen State University (1992-2001). Ambassador Orazov received his Degree of Doctor of Physico-Mathematical Sciences at Moscow University (1983) and Doctor of Economics at Saint -Petersburg University of Economy & Finance (1992). M. Orazov has published more than 100 scientific papers in the sphere of mathematics and economics.

## **Jed Shilling, Board of Trustees, the Mountain Institute**

Email: [jed.shilling@verizon.net](mailto:jed.shilling@verizon.net)

John D. Shilling earned his Ph.D. in Economics from MIT, and A.B. in Philosophy and Economics from Stanford University. He met Jane Pratt at MIT, and they got married in June, 1970. He taught at Boston College, advised the Moroccan Planning Ministry, and worked at the World Bank for nearly 30 years. His major work involved country modeling, sustainable development, macroeconomic policy analysis, environmental sustainability, capital flows, and financial markets, especially in Africa and Asia. He wrote *Managing Capital Flows in East Asia* (1996), which highlighted the issues that led to the 1997 Asian financial crisis. He laid the basis for the World Development Report program and helped launch the WDR on Sustainable Development for 2002. He helped create a new Bank Environment Strategy in 2000 after evaluating the Bank's environmental program. His wife's work at the Bank creating the environmental

program and subsequent work establishing the Mountain Institute extended his interest to addressing environmental issues and promoting sustainable development. Now he consults for environmental foundations, the World Bank, UN agencies, and others on environmental economic issues. He led evaluations of the Infrastructure-Environment Nexus for the Bank and the Poverty Environment Nexus for UNDP. He has been very involved with the Millennium Institute, including Chairing the Board 2006-12. MI developed an advanced system dynamics model that integrates economic, social, and environmental factors and generates long term scenarios. It has been used by many countries to develop and implement sustainable strategic plans. He has just joined the Board of The Mountain Institute after Jane sadly dies in August 2013, and he will continue supporting its valuable work in her honor. He was on the Board of Leadership Loudon for 6 years, and the Board of the Piedmont Community Foundation for 3 years, and is currently on the Board of Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the George Mason University Visual Arts Program.

## Igor and Vesna Gruppman, co-directors of Gruppman International Music Institute

**Email:** [gruppman@comcast.net](mailto:gruppman@comcast.net)

Igor Gruppman is one of a rare breed of artist whose career successfully manifests itself in many artistic fields. Critically acclaimed for his richness and beauty of tone, elegant phrasing, drive, passion and virtuosity, Mr. Gruppman enjoys an exciting career as conductor, violin soloist, orchestra leader and chamber musician. As the Concertmaster of the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and a frequent guest leader of such orchestras as the London Symphony Orchestra and London's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Mr. Gruppman has collaborated with and was influenced by some of the most esteemed conductors of his generation including Solti, Gergiev, Rostropovich, Colin Davis, Simon Rattle and Bernard Haitink. In the United States, Mr. Gruppman holds the post of Principal Conductor of the Orchestra at Temple Square in Salt Lake City. His concerts with the Orchestra at Temple Square are broadcast regularly on cable television in the U.S. and abroad. In recent seasons some of the world's great artists have appeared with this orchestra including Renée Fleming, Bryn Terfel and Ida Haendel. Since May of 2009 after several successful appearances Mr. Gruppman is invited by Valery Gergiev to conduct on the regular bases the newly formed Mariinsky Stradivari Orchestra. In January of 2010 Mr. Gruppman was honored as the Artist of the Month by the Mariinsky Theater. The 2006/07 season highlights included Gruppman's conducting debut with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra in special Easter performances of *The Last Seven Words* by Hadyn and Gubaidulina in the Rotterdam Cathedral. He also appeared in a critically acclaimed all -Mozart program at De Doelen Great Hall in Rotterdam where in addition to conducting, Mr. Gruppman gave the Netherlands premiere of Mozart's recently reconstructed *Concerto for Violin and Piano* (Op. 315F) with pianist Ronald Brautigam. In March of 2007 Mr. Gruppman received glowing reviews for his performances of the *Double Concerto* by Brahms under the baton of Valery Gergiev and the *Second Violin Concerto* by Prokofiev under the baton of Yannick Nezet Sequen, both with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. In the 2007/08 season Mr. Gruppman made his conducting debut with the Marinsky Orchestra during the Easter Festival in Moscow. January marked his debut as leader with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields on a tour of Germany. In April Mr. Gruppman made his conducting debut with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra in Korea with all Tchaikovsky program. In the 2008/09 season Mr. Gruppman returned to conduct the Seoul Philharmonic as well as the Mariinsky Orchestra in Mozart/Mendelssohn program. The same season marked Mr. Gruppman's debut with the Tokyo Philharmonic and the start of the new series of concert he will conduct with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. The 2009/10/11 seasons marked the beginning of the series of TV cable broadcasts of the Orchestra at Temple Square concerts from the historic Salt Lake Tabernacle. In July 2010 Mr. Gruppman conducted the Mariinsky Stradivari Orchestra at the opening concert of the Mikkeli Festival and in November 2010 he returned to conduct the Rotterdam Philharmonic Proms series. The future engagements include the tour of Asia with the Mariinsky Stradivari Orchestra. 2009/10 seasons marked the release by Video Artist International of a series of DVDs featuring Mr. Gruppman as conductor, violin soloist and chamber musician in partnership with a variety of artists including his wife, prominent

violinist/violist Vesna Stefanovic Gruppman and a frequent Duo partner. They have been heralded as "violin archangels" for their Koch recording of Malcolm Arnold's Concerto for Two Violins and Orchestra with the San Diego Chamber Orchestra which won its producer Michael Fine a Grammy in 1994. 2008 marks the long awaited release of the reconstructed original string version of the Brahms' F Minor Quintet recorded with the members of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. Igor Gruppman's violin solo recordings have met with enthusiastic reception by the international press: Berlioz' Reverie and Caprice (Naxos); Respighi's Poema Autunnale (Koch); Miklos Rosza's Sinfonia Concertante and the violin Concerto (Koch), which marks the first release of the concerto since the recording by Heifetz for whom this piece was written. In 2010 the Erasmus Foundation generously presented Mr. Gruppman with the special violin by Antonio Stradivari. Igor Gruppman is a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory where he studied with Leonid Kogan and Mstislav Rostropovich, followed by studies with Jasha Heifetz in Los Angeles. In 2002 Mr. and Mrs. Gruppman co-founded the Gruppman International Violin Institute to select, train and develop careers of exceptionally gifted violinists around the world using the latest videoconferencing technology. Mr. Gruppman is on the faculty at the Rotterdam Conservatory Igor and Vesna will be in Utah during that time and we could plan tentatively to have a concert with their participation during the dinner on October 8, 2015.

Igor Gruppman is the conductor of the Orchestra at the Temple Square in SLC. Gruppman and his wife won a [Grammy Award](#) in 1993 for the recording of Malcolm Arnold's Concerto for two violins.

Gruppman International Music Institute is a member of the Mountain Partnership since 2010.

### **Nat Keller, Keller's Family country music ensemble**

He will perform at lunch on October 7, 2015. Keller's family contributed music numbers to a special video prepared by UVU with greetings to the United Nations Rio+20 conference in 2012. Nat currently works a lot with Elizabeth Smart Foundation helping them to raise funds:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dypplfl\\_-yc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dypplfl_-yc)

### **Jason "Singer" Smith, professional climber and author**

E-mail: [singersmith@hotmail.com](mailto:singersmith@hotmail.com);

"Jason "Singer" Smith is a rock climber and global adventurer. In August of 2000, Singer and three other climbers were kidnapped by fighters representing the Islamic movement of Uzbekistan. After seven days of captivity in the remote mountains of Kyrgyzstan, the team ultimately conspired to engineer their own dramatic escape. Prior to relating this engrossing tale, Singer first details the relevant regional history, economics, environmental disasters, and human tragedies that are crucial to understanding this difficult situation. "

### **Susan Ann Stell, wife of the Honorable Judge Thomas B. Griffith, federal judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.**

### **Alexey Semyonov, President, Andrei Sakharov Foundation**

Alexey Semyonov, the CEO&CFO of Advanced Language Systems International, is a computer scientist and a mathematician. His professional work encompasses practical and theoretical system engineering, software development, and IT strategy formulation. In addition to the professional activities, Mr. Semyonov has a long-time involvement in the human rights movement, beginning with his 1970's activities as a dissident in the former Soviet Union. He is a President and Member of the Board of The Andrei Sakharov Foundation (USA) as well as Member of the Board for The Andrei Sakharov Foundation (Russia). Both professionally and as a human rights activist, he has worked in many developing countries

and participated in efforts towards economic development and democratization in places such as Russia, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, and others.

## Conference Presenters

Contact **Deann Torsak** for questions regarding the agenda or presenter contact information: [dktorsak@hotmail.com](mailto:dktorsak@hotmail.com)

### Abdrisaev, Baktybek

From February 11th, 1997 until March 28th, 2005, Baktybek Abdrisaev served as Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to USA and Canada. After graduating from the Bishkek Polytechnic Institute as an engineer with degree in computer sciences in 1980, he obtained a Ph.D. degree in Applied Physics from the Institute of Electronics, Academy of Sciences of Belarus (1990). His professional career includes scientific activities at Bishkek Polytechnic Institute and National Academy of Sciences of Kyrgyzstan, when in 1990 he held the position of Associate Professor. In 1992 he was appointed to the position of expert in the International Affairs Department of the Presidential Administration and further promoted to its chairmanship in 1993. Dr. Abdrisaev was also a Member of the Kyrgyz Parliament from March 1995 until March 2000. Since August 1st, 2005, Dr. Baktybek Abdrisaev has been working as a Distinguished Visiting Professor and then Lecturer at the Department of History and Political Science at Utah Valley University, USA. He has more than one hundred articles related to both the science of applied optics as well as international relations and diplomacy. As UVU lecturer he writes extensively on issues of Central Asia and Kyrgyzstan in international and U.S. media outlets like OpenDemocracy, the Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, and Foreign Policy. On April 22nd, 2010 he testified before the House Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs of the Committee of Oversight and Government Reform about recent upheaval in Kyrgyzstan and the implications it might have on U.S. policies.

### Abunuwara, Kim

After graduating from BYU, Kim received an M.F.A. in Acting from the National Theatre Conservatory in Denver. She then received her Ph.D. in Theater from BYU. She headed the acting program at UTEP for seven years before scaling back her professional life to raise children. In recent years she has taught acting and critical studies at BYU. She currently holds a full-time faculty position in Integrated Studies and Humanities at UVU.

### Baird, Victoria

Victoria Baird -- co-founder and co-president of USNC for UN Women Utah Chapter. I am originally from Russia. I came to the US 18 years ago and I received three American university degrees. I love to travel around the world (more than 40 countries so far), run, play tennis and golf, swim, do yoga and/or Zumba and read. I speak several languages and I am attempting to learn Chinese right now. I am a mother of a set of twins (14 yr. olds). My daytime jobs -- 1) professor, language immersion coordinator and project developer, 2) senior business consultant for Eurasian market at Forevergreen Inc. where I help women around the world to build their own businesses and become economically empowered but my true "labor of love" is with USNC for UN Women Utah Chapter -- my third "baby" so to speak.

### Barkat, Noorani

Noorani Barkat, is 22 years old and from Pakistan. from mountainous region known as Hunza valley. She is currently working on her masters in agriculture from Texas A&M, USA on fully funded scholarship. She is among those very few female students from my country who get such chances to explore the world in form of scholarships.

From her childhood, she has been involved with different organizations. Worked as a happy volunteer, done different community services and got funds to work on different projects for people of community, especially youth. From working as a girl guide to becoming a member of Youth Parliament of Pakistan (YPP) to work as a volunteer with Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) to leading my handball girl university team to talk as a speaker and organizer of community projects. She has been involved in empowering and doing career counseling of girls in rural area of Pakistan.

## **Bowen, Donna Lee**

Donna Lee Bowen is a Professor of Political Science and Middle East Studies at BYU where she teaches courses in comparative politics, Middle East politics, Middle East area studies, and gender politics. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Professor Bowen writes on the intersection of religion, tradition and politics in the Middle East, has authored articles and a forthcoming book on attempts to construct policy which reflects Muslim sensibilities, specifically social policy concerning family planning and abortion. Her edited book, *Everyday Life in the Muslim Middle East* is widely used in universities and a third edition of this popular work with new articles came out in 2014.

She is currently working on research determining the relationship between family law and state peacefulness. A major article from this research is published in the premier journal of the field of political science, the *American Political Science Review*, and this project received three years of funding via a prestigious Minerva Initiative Grant from the Department of Defense.

She has traveled, lived and researched in North Africa and the Middle East, has held two Fulbright grants to Morocco and Tunisia, and also received research funding from the Ford Foundation, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the David M. Kennedy Center.

Professor Bowen has served in numerous administrative capacities at BYU, as well as nationally and internationally. In addition to her academic work, she has completed consulting projects on aspects of population, politics, development and women's status for the World Bank, the Ford Foundation, and the United States Agency for International Development.

She is married to James R. Barnes, professor emeritus, Department of Zoology, and BYU. They are the parents of three daughters and grandparents to 11 grandchildren.

## **Brown, Lora Beth**

Prior to her employment at Brigham Young University in 1974, Dr. Brown was a community nutrition educator in South Texas, teaching nutrition to low income Latino families there and to migrant worker families throughout the Midwest. At BYU her main teaching responsibility has been the introductory course where she has encouraged thousands of undergraduate students to apply nutrition principles in their lives. In addition to her classroom teaching, she has mentored about 130 undergraduate college students and trained about 9- nutrition outreach workers in a variety of local and international internships, including Mexico, Guatemala, Bolivia, Ecuador, Ghana, Mongolia, Western Samoa, and Tonga. Throughout her entire career, Lora Beth's focus has been to simplify complex nutrition information into practical and feasible recommendations for consumers, including college students and various ethnic and international populations.

## **Brown, Kristin**

Kristin Brown received a Bachelor of Science degree from Brigham Young University with a secondary teaching certificate for both biology and health. After nearly 15 years of raising a family, extensive church service and volunteer community and humanitarian work, she received a Masters of Public Health from Brigham Young University in 2008. Her graduate research focused on the barriers which keep girls from attending school in Uganda. Kristin was the founder and President of Grow.Learn.Give., a values-based, comprehensive health education program being implemented in developing countries. Prior to founding Grow.Learn.Give., she was the executive director for Koins for Kenya. Additionally, Kristin has been adjunct faculty in the Health Sciences department for BYU and an institute instructor. She is the mother of two amazing children and wife to one very supportive husband, Dell.

## **Caka, Fern**

Dr. Fern Caka has been a faculty member at Utah Valley University for 15 years. She received a PhD from Brigham Young University in Analytical Chemistry. Her research interest is the chemistry of air pollution, both ambient and indoor.

## **Cardon, Teresa**

Teresa A. Cardon CCC-SLP has worked with individuals on the autism spectrum for over 20 years. Dr. Cardon is currently the Director of Autism Studies at Utah Valley University. She completed her doctoral training in Speech & Hearing Science with an autism emphasis at Arizona State University. Dr. Cardon has published her research on autism in peer-reviewed journals and presents at conferences both nationally

and internationally. Dr. Cardon's research focuses on video modeling with young children with autism, fictional narratives with character's who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder, and evaluating autism programming in higher education.

### **Carlton, Gaya**

Dr. Gaya Carlton is a Professor of Nursing at Utah Valley University (UVU) where she teaches in both graduate and undergraduate programs. She is currently the Graduate Program Coordinator for the Mast of Science in Nursing program and co-director for the Haiti Study Abroad program. She served as Associate Chair of the Nursing Department from 2009-2010 and Faculty Senate President from 1997-98. Dr. Carlton obtained her undergraduate degree in nursing from the University of Utah, a Master of Science degree in nursing administration from the University of Utah, and a Ph.D. in nursing with an emphasis in nursing education/quality and safety outcomes from the University of Colorado Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus. Dr. Carlton has published and presented in the areas of medication errors and reporting of medication administration errors.

### **Chenn, Kylie**

Kylie Trisha Chenn is an undergraduate student at Brigham Young University (BYU) studying Business Strategy and International Development. She attended Cambridge University the summer of 2013 to study social innovation and strategy and has spent the past two summers living in India and Africa. She is a journalist for Progress through Business, an organization that focuses on improving economic opportunities for individuals around the world and has several publications including "Kashmir, the Clash of Identities" and "Guinea Worm Disease"

She is preparing her Honor's Thesis research entitled "The Innovator's DNA in Identifying and Training Successful Agriculture Leaders in Malawi, Africa" which will be presented at BYU and NuSkin's corporate conference this Fall. Kylie is an ambassador for the Global Management Center at BYU and is a representative for Harvard-BYU relations among female students. She is an applicant for the Fulbright scholarship to study economic and entrepreneurial opportunities for women in Poland and plans to obtain a Masters in both Business Administration and Economics for Development from Oxford University.

Kylie's experiences led her to found aCanela, a culinary spice company aimed at improving the economic status of women around the world. aCanela enabled Kylie to meet with women from a variety of countries including India, China, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, and Mozambique. Through her many interactions with women of the world, Kylie has dedicated considerable time to analyzing the progress of women in mountainous regions, such as in the regions of Kashmir, India and in the Virunga Mountain area of Central Africa.

### **Chernoeva, Shuralai**

Shuralai Chernoeva is currently a student majoring in environmental management at Gorno-Altai state University. She was previously pursuing a degree in teaching and the English language. She has a great interest in environmental issues, indigenous upbringing and education in traditional cultures. She participated in the project "Nature & Culture without borders" initiated by regional NGO Foundation for Sustainable Development of Altai in 2014-2015 and embracing management of large parks, preservation and enhancement of indigenous culture, climate change adaptation issues. Her presentation will examine the role of women in Altai culture and transmission of traditional knowledge.

### **Corbett, Elise**

Elise Corbett is a registered nurse currently working in the Emergency Department at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center. She has been involved in various research projects in India including gathering data on anemia prevalence in rural schoolchildren, the meaning of childbirth, and the social impact of leprosy and gender inequalities.

### **Cotti, Mogan Lyon**

Morgan Lyon Cotti joined the Hinckley Institute in May 2012 as Local Program Manager, after serving as Research Director for the Utah Foundation. She has worked as a Policy and Research Analyst at the Utah State Office of Planning and Budget, and as a Research Analyst for the Utah Office of Legislative Research

and General Council. Morgan served as a U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee intern, and as a Page in the U.S. Senate. She has led humanitarian expeditions to Puca Cruz, Ecuador, and Keeraru, Ethiopia. Morgan graduated from the University of Utah with a bachelor's degree in Political Science, from Brigham Young University with a Master's of Public Policy, and received her PhD in Political Science from George Washington University. She is married to Geoff Cotti and has two children.

### **Emerman, Steven**

Prof. Steven H. Emerman has a B.S. in Mathematics from The Ohio State University, M.A. in Geophysics from Princeton University, and Ph.D. in Geophysics from Cornell University. In the 1980s he served in the military wing of the African National Congress and South African Communist Party in the areas of counterintelligence and psychological operations. Prof. Emerman was a Fulbright Professor at Tribhuvan University (Nepal) and is a frequent visitor to Nepal. Prof. Emerman is currently an Associate Professor of Hydrology at Utah Valley University.

### **Farmer, Brandy**

As a survivor of various crimes, Brandy has written dozens of curriculums for law enforcement, faith leaders, judges, healthcare providers and many other business professionals. She has educated journalism students in colleges and universities on the sensitive nature of interviewing victims and survivors of crime. She collaborated on a production of two documentaries through a University of Utah Humanities In Focus film class. One short film was about battered Immigrant women and the other film featured parallels of prisoners of war and victims of abuse. She is the author of the Domestic Violence Related Death Report which has been published twice a year since 2004. Brandy's mission is to save lives and her first priority is always focused on improving the lives of the people she is trying to help.

Through Brandy's accomplishments as a social justice advocate, she has become a successful role model for victims of crime. Her relentless efforts, dedication, and inspiration have resulted in bettering the plight of victims. She has over 30 years' experience of being actively engaged in the legislative process; both state and national, by testifying before legislative committees urging support of desperately needed services and funding. She is personally responsible for getting dating violence added to the first reauthorization of Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA) in the United States Congress.

She serves in many capacities on numerous boards and committees ardently looking for ways to help victims, diverse communities and people she feels are falling through the cracks. As Director of the Utah Attorney General's Domestic Violence Prevention Programs she supervised and lead over 2,000 volunteers statewide as they educated nearly 500,000 Utahans and professionals about legal remedies and resources for victims of abuse. While she was at the AG's, she developed a dating violence prevention programs which they were able to teach in every high school and junior high school in the State of Utah.

Brandy's life has been featured in local & national magazines, four documentaries, and numerous books about domestic violence. She the John Walsh Show as an authority on domestic violence and was recognized by former President Bill Clinton at a National Association of Attorneys General Conference.

### **Frederickson, Kristine Wardle**

Dr. Frederickson teaches in the History and Political Science Department at Utah Valley University and Religious Education Department at Brigham Young University. She received her BA in Communications from BYU, her MA in history from BYU, and her PhD in modern European history from the University of Utah with an emphasis on British, American, religious, and gender history. In 2013 she published, *Extraordinary Courage: Women Empowered by the Gospel of Jesus Christ*, with Deseret Book Company. She recently completed a full-length manuscript on Josephine Butler, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century Christian social reformer who successfully led campaigns to repeal state-regulated prostitution and break up sex slavery rings in Great Britain and on the European Continent. Her manuscript, *Josephine Butler and the Hideous Trade in Women and Children*, is currently in the hands of her publisher. She has contributed to a number of book projects, published articles on a wide variety of topics, and presented at conferences on American, European, Gender and LDS history. Kristine currently writes an online column for the Deseret News edition of Mormon Times and has done so since 2008. She has been writing and presenting on issues related to human trafficking and pornography since 2007, most recently speaking on "Josephine



Butler and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century White Slave Trade: A Context for Human Trafficking,” at the Historians Against Slavery Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. She maintains a website, *moralsocialactivism.com* dedicated to contemporary social concerns and individual moral, social reform.

Kristine and her husband, A. Reid Frederickson, are the parents of six children.

### **Harnish, Samira**

Samira Harnish is the President and Founder of The Women of the World. She arrived in America from her native Iraq as a teen in an arranged marriage. She struggled against bigotry and poverty to get her degree in Civil Engineering and after settling in Boise getting a job as a semiconductor manufacturing engineer. As a research and development engineer, Samira was integral to the development some of the most advanced memory products ever assembled. When she retired, Samira was in charge of storage node development at the largest domestic manufacturer of semiconductor memory.

Samira has always served her community. She has been responsible for educating young women in the sciences as a member of Women in Engineering, assisting the elderly in Meals on Wheels, and interpreting in Arabic in the courts and healthcare sectors. In Utah, she served as an officer in the Iraqi Community of Utah and as a case worker in the Utah Health and Human Rights Department. In 2010, Samira founded Women of the World to fulfill a lifelong dream of assisting women refugees who had suffered mental and physical trauma in war and camps achieve self-sufficiency in her adopted country of America. Women of the World is Samira’s heart on her sleeve, a 24/7 small business with the mission of supporting women of all nations achieve their dreams. Samira has received numerous awards for her service work including a 2012 nomination as a SHERO by SHEROES United and KUED7.

She is the proud mother of five, nana for her two beautiful granddaughters, and the wife of advisory board member Justin Harnish

### **Harris, Kamaile**

Kamaile (Tripp) Harris I live in Salt Lake City. Born in Long Beach, CA to Native Hawaiian Parents divorced. We could rely upon our church & a Hawaiian culture of caring for the village. Economic changes had a profound effect upon our ability to stay in the islands.

I worked a Psychiatric Technician at the Utah State Hospital at 19. Since I’ve worked at every type of Institution with all levels of security, Private Group & Independent Living Homes. I work in Community Outreach & with nonprofit organizations. I am Field Marketing, reach out to providers & citizens in the Community to build relationships of mutual benefit.

Degreed in Accounting I have performed Audit and QA analysis of Financial Records; document control & implemented procedure to improve efficiency & speed. My work with Grassroots reach out gives me the ability to work on every level of Society with People from all walks of life. I am believe in empowerment, education & collaboration. I have my own nonprofits to create solutions for Sexual Harassment, Teach Parents about Mental/Behavioral Healthcare & worked with People to rehabilitate their lives.

In Hawaii, I attended a Community based Education under the Parent of Kailua High School called Community Quest. Our Teachers College Intern Students at UH Manoa. We met in the Community to have discussions. Educated ourselves using tools right in the Community & attend venues or activities to exercise understanding.

Currently I am helping to organize the Women of the Mountain Conference. I have put to use my understanding of Human Behavior, Business, Events, Education and Grassroots Movement. The speech I would deliver at the Conference would be to describe the benefits of a Community Based Education & illuminate the resource of the Community to find their own solutions to Economic Issues.

### **Harris, Ron**

Harris is a professor of geological sciences at Brigham Young University. His research in tectonics integrates many sub-disciplines including structural geology, petrology, geochemistry, geochronology, geophysics, computer modeling, and most of all field geology. This research has led Ron to six different continents. The common thread of his research, teaching and community outreach is the impact of geological processes on man.

### **Horns, Daniel**

Daniel Horns is a Professor of Geology and Associate Dean of the College of Science & Health at Utah Valley University. Dr. Horns earned a B.S. in Geophysics from UCLA and a Ph.D. in Geology from UC Davis. His teaching and research focus on assessment of earthquake and landslide hazards. Dr. Horns uses his expertise in geologic hazards, water resources and groundwater pollution to teach his students and the public at large about the interactions between geology and society.

### **Johnson, Jeanette**

Jeanette Johnson, CPH, MPH (c), has been a member of the BYU Social Determinants of Health (SDH) Research Team since March 2012. She had received training in research and survey design through relevant coursework in the Department of Health Science. She had been involved in the SDH research projects on medical school curricula, policy makers and public health professional's perspectives on the social determinants of health, using data visualization in creating an SDH Profile for Utah communities, and in creating a health equity index. The abstracts of these projects had been presented orally in professional state and national conferences such as the 2013 American Public Health Association Annual Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

### **Jyang, Wendy**

Wendy Jyang, born and raised in Taiwan, came to the United States in 1988 where she studied Theater at Brigham Young University. After graduation, theater became her inroad to humanitarian service as she shared her art with low income families. In 2007 Ms. Jyang founded Beijing- based, WJS Liahona International Services, an organization which provides opportunities for young people from various fields to travel to Asia for humanitarian service.

In 2011 began working with the United Nations on the Millennial Development Goals where she realized that strengthening the family was a salient factor in lifting people out of poverty all over the world. Her organization became a natural fit within the United Nations and was granted NGO status in ECOSOC in 2015 Under the full name Utah China Friendship Improvement Sharing Hands and Development and Commerce, Ms. Jyang's organization is currently open to students interested in humanitarian service opportunities, in China. Ms. Jyang currently lives with her husband and four children in West Valley, Utah

### **Kim, Louis Seungchan**

Louis Seungchan Kim is a senior Public Health student (Epidemiology Emphasis) at Brigham Young University. His research interests include the social determinants of health and mental health issues. He has been assisting with the qualitative analysis of the in-depth interviews of households in Lugazi, Uganda as part of the social determinants of health study.

### **Krzepkowski, Maria**

Maria was born and raised in a mountain village of Witow, Poland. She was raised in a traditional log home and participated in full activities as a young highlander girl and later young woman. After her marriage in 1982, she immigrated to the USA to start life in Chicago's urban setting, a far removal from the magnificent Tatras that she was raised in. Yet the Highlander diaspora community is very strong and ethnically viable, estimated to be at least 50,000 in Chicago alone. The size of the community allows Maria to practice many traditions she was raised with and to be very active in transmitting cultural values to many interested persons and institutions

### **Lamb, Connie**

Connie Lamb is a senior librarian and subject specialist in the Social Sciences Department at the Lee Library, Brigham Young University, with responsibility for the subjects of Anthropology, Middle East Studies, African Studies, and Women's Studies. She has master's degrees in Library Science, Anthropology, and International Relations (Middle East emphasis), and received a Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in Anthropology this year. She is active in several professional library and subject associations, and is an editor for the journal, *Comparative Civilizations Review*, published by the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations.

Connie has served on numerous library and campus committees. She has been president of the Utah Library Association, President of the BYU Faculty Women's Association, various positions in the Middle

East Librarians Association and the BYU Chapter of The Honor society of Phi Kappa Phi. She is currently a member of the Utah Women in Higher Education Network (UWHEN) Executive Board and the BYU Women's Studies Program Executive Committee. She has published several articles and book reviews, has co-edited two book-length bibliographies and created four databases for access to library materials.

### **Lazaro, Elvira Correa**

Elvira Correa Lazaro was born in Peru, but immigrated to the San Francisco Bay Area when seven years old as a political refugee. She is a third-year student at Brigham Young University, majoring in Political Science with an emphasis in International Strategy and Diplomacy. She will minor in International Development, Women's Studies, and Non-Profit Management. Elvira had the opportunity to attend Cambridge University through the Pembroke-Kings Program, where she conducted in-depth research on women's rights and human trafficking. In March, as part of the WomanStats delegation in the United Nation's Beijing+20/CSW59, she presented, collected data for the database, and interviewed experts. This past summer Elvira lived in Chiang Mai, Thailand to research different aspects of the sex trafficking industry. Her research currently focuses on the economic development and the business of human trafficking in Thailand. She studies the importance of capitalism and economic growth in accepting social problems and the side effects of a growing economy. She aims to pursue either a law degree and work in strategic human rights litigation, a Masters in Social Policy and Development/Global Business/or Human Rights at Oxford, or a position with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the Anti-Human Trafficking Division.

### **Loftin, Joseph**

As a dedicated educator for the past 39 years Joseph Loftin taught social science at a public secondary school in Austin, Texas; served as principal of a small community secondary school in northern California; instructed classes in computer literacy at Utah State University; and for the past 29 years has worked as a mathematics and computer teacher and Head of School at Wasatch Academy. Joseph received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Texas; earned a Master of Education degree in Instructional Technology from Utah State University; and is a Klingenstein Fellow at Teachers College, Columbia University. In his role as a leading educator in the western United States Joseph has served as a trustee on the board of the Northwest School in Seattle and as a governor on the Board of Governors of the Northwest Association of Independent Schools, the regional accrediting board for independent schools headquartered in Seattle.

During Joseph's twenty-six year tenure as Head of School he has guided Wasatch Academy, Utah's oldest high school and only traditional college preparatory boarding school, from an enrollment of 75 students in 1988 to a school of 330 students representing 39 countries and 28 U.S. states today. For the past six years Wasatch Academy has received the Best of State award in private school education, K-12.

Throughout Joseph's educational career he has supported the creation of learning environments that optimize the talents of each individual student. His educational initiatives, which include expanding the application of learning technologies, advocacy for pedagogy that address multiple learning intelligences, support of the integration of play in secondary school curricula, shifting instruction from teacher-centered instructional delivery to student-centered learning, and efforts in attracting top students throughout the United States and the world to study at Wasatch Academy, have earned for Joseph the praise of parents, alumni, and educators world-wide.

### **Lubeck, Bailey**

Bailey Lubeck is a senior at BYU majoring in Asian Studies with an emphasis in Mandarin. She lived in Hong Kong for 1.5 years as a missionary where she spoke Cantonese. Her minor is international development. She hopes to use both Mandarin and Cantonese while working with violence against women in parts of Asia, mainly south-east Asia. She also hopes to be a part of providing better opportunities for abandoned girls/babies in China. Bailey recently started working with The WomanStats Project. She also spent 6 months in ShangHai teaching women child development skills and helping parents learn how to better interact with their child, improving parent-child relationships.

## McBeth, Courtney

Courtney H. McBeth is Associate Director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics and oversees the Global Internship program and the academics of the HIP. She also serves as the Director for Global Internships for the University of Utah with the U's Office of Global Engagement. She is a Clinical Instructor for Political Science and oversees the Hinckley's internship courses. She also teaches a course in global community-based research for the College of Social Work. She has worked at the HIP since 2002 and has managed all aspects of the state, local, and national internship programs. Ms. McBeth graduated *summa cum laude* with an Master of Science in Education from the University of Utah with a thesis titled, "Civic Engagement: The Impact of Internships on Political Participation." She also graduated *magna cum laude* with a BA in Political Science and interned for University of Utah President Bernie Machen. Ms. McBeth was a member and captain of the University of Utah Women's Soccer Team and was named to the Freshman All-American team and Academic All-West Region. Courtney also serves as the co-president of Utah's Chapter of UN Women. Courtney is married to Mitch and has three boys.

## McCoy, Evelyn

Evelyn F. McCoy is a graduate student at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. This upcoming December 2015, she will graduate with a Master's Degree in Sociology and a concentration in Development and Public Policy. She is a recipient of the Rotary International Global Grant, which finances her second year of graduate school.

## McDonald, Caitlin

Caitlin McDonald is currently working as the Refugee Women's Empowerment Coordinator at the Refugee and Immigrant Center-Asian Association of Utah. After working for 5 years as an Academic Advisor in International & Area Studies at the University of Utah and graduating with her Master of Arts degree in Asian Studies focusing on women's issues, Caitlin will be leaving in January 2016 to serve in Thailand in the Peace Corps.

## McGill, Kayla

Kayla McGill attends Brigham Young University and is pursuing a degree in Political Science with a Minor in Civic Engagement. Her focus is International Diplomacy and she will graduate with her degree in April of 2016. She is proficient in American Sign Language and has completed two years of College French. Kayla's research experience includes: Human Rights in relation to Cross-Cutting Cleavages in African Nations; Research, Coding, and Data Uploading for The WomanStats Project, as well as representing WomanStats at the UN for Beijing+20/CSW59 in March of 2015; and Research on Supreme Court Nominees. She has been with The WomanStats Project since January 2015. Kayla attended a Study Abroad in the United Kingdom based in Cardiff, Wales. She taught English as a volunteer in China for four months, and then later supervised other volunteer teachers for one year in China. Kayla also lived in Germany, and while there she met her husband Bryan McGill. Her career objective is to work as a Foreign Service Officer focusing on International Diplomacy.

## Medina, Tony

Tony is a Utah native, being born and raised in Salt Lake County. He graduated from Bingham High School in 2005. Following graduation, he immediately joined the US Army as an infantryman and was assigned to the 172<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Brigade in Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. He deployed with his unit to Mosul, Iraq in October 2005 until his unit was involuntarily extended to Baghdad, Iraq during the height of the US troop surge. Following his return home in December of 2006, he was transferred to Ft. Riley, Kansas, where he met and married his wife Stacy. In 2008, he reenlisted for another 5 years, and was given the opportunity to return to Ft. Wainwright, Alaska where he deployed to Diyala, Iraq in 2008-2009, and to Kandahar Province, Afghanistan in 2011 to 2012. Following an injury he sustained once he returned home from Afghanistan, he was honorably discharged from service in October of 2012. He is now a senior at Utah Valley University, majoring in Political Science with an emphasis in international relations. He has been an active member of the UIMF since early 2014, and has worked to help promote the gender equality and sustainable mountain agendas ever since. He currently lives with

his wife Stacy in Orem, Utah. Tony enjoys fishing, motorsports, and spending time with his family whenever possible.

### **Melville, Margaret**

Margaret Melville is an undergraduate student at BYU majoring in business with an emphasis in social innovation and a minor in women's studies. She serves as an executive director with BYUSA and is the student council representative for the Women's Services and Resources Center. She is a member of the Ballard Center's *Social Innovation Leadership Council*, and is the activities director of the *Women in Business Club*. Margaret also volunteers with United Way preparing taxes for low income families and with Project Read as a literacy tutor. In 2014 she was an intern for *Transitions Chalet* of Wasatch County, a transitional women's shelter project. She works as a researcher/coder for the WomanStats Project on BYU campus and attended the United Nation's annual Commission on the Status of Women in New York City last March. In the spring, Margaret spent a month doing fieldwork in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco conducting interviews with Berber women and girls.

### **Minch, Michael**

Michael Minch is Director of Peace and Justice Studies at UVU and Director of *Summit: The Sustainable Mountain Development and Conflict Transformation Global Knowledge and Action Network*. He is also a professor of political philosophy at UVU. He works in democratic theory, political theology, and political ecology, theories of justice, global justice, peace and reconciliation.

### **Mlekodaj, Anna**

Anna Mlekodaj - PhD. Since 2001, lecturer at PPWSZ The Podhale State Higher Professional School, in Nowy Targ Poland - lectures courses in literature and culture of the Tatra Mountain region, amongst others. In 2008-2012, she was the Academic Vice-Rector at the Podhale Vocational School Her areas of academic interest primarily focuses on the dialect of the Tatra region. As an author of a monograph on dialect poetry in Podhala, several significant anthologies of poetry and prose, and more than 50 academic and popular culture articles mostly devoted to the culture and literature of the Podhale area in Poland. She is a very active participant in the substantive work of many committees at various conferences. She was born and resides in the Highlands of Poland's Tatra Mountain region.

### **Novilla, Len**

Dr. Len B. Novilla, M.D., MPH, is an Associate Professor at the Department of Health Science at Brigham Young University. Since 2009, she has been conducting studies on the social determinants of health in consultation with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). She has presented in various professional conferences, professional training workshops, and at a state-level multi-disciplinary panel on the social determinants of health. The research that she headed on the social determinants of health in the Utah setting qualified her to participate in the landmark 2011 Rio World Conference on Social Determinants of Health: Equity for All at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO). Their BYU study entitled, "How Can We Get the Social Determinants of Health Message on the Public Policy and Public Health Agenda? Translating Data into a Social Determinants of Health Information Tool to Inform Policy and Public Health Programs," was selected by the World Health Organization as one of the 28 case studies from around the globe intended to highlight country experiences on implementing action on the social determinants of health. Len was also invited by former Lt. Gov. Greg Bell to present on the social determinants of health at the 2012 Governor's Health Summit. She was also invited to present on the social determinants of health and healthy communities by Mayor Ben McAdams Office & the Salt Lake County Health Department, Mayor Becker's Office of Salt Lake City, Timpanogos Regional Hospital Board of Trustees and the Medical Executive Committee, and by the Iowa Cancer Consortium. Len was accepted to participate in the 2011 Summer School on Health in All Policies, sponsored by the Government of New South Wales in Adelaide, Australia, which provided training on health in all policies and the use of a health impact assessment in translating the social determinants of health at the policy and public health levels. Len remains as determined to mentor students as she is tenacious in developing her research niche on the social determinants of family, mother, and child

health. She believes in learning together with her students and that the success of her students is hers as well.

### **Olds, Dorie**

Dorie Olds is a Licensed Massage Therapist, Board Certified Hypnotist for the National Guild of Hypnotists, Reiki Master, and Master Aesthetician, being a private practice since 2000. She specializes in helping people learn to trust themselves, access their innate brilliance and personal power, and be what they really want in life. She has a gift in creating rapport, in helping people to know what they really want, and how they can achieve it.

She serves as adjunct faculty for the Natural Guild of Hypnotists, and was a keynote speaker along with her business partner Gwyneth McNeil for the Foundation of Emotional Abuse in 2005. Dorie attended Dixie College for two years and graduated in 1978 with an Associate's Degree in Science.

### **Olsen, Clay**

With a passion for film and an entrepreneurial heart, Clay is the vision behind Fight the New Drug. He can be found touring the country, speaking in assemblies, filming and raving about his favorite restaurant of the day. After living in Argentina, founding four businesses, and establishing a solid career path, Clay forsook all logic, quit his day job and began dedicating all of his time towards Fight the New Drug. His idealistic vision and years of hard work have made Fight the New Drug what it is today.

### **Romeri-Lewis, Natalie Wright**

Natalie Wright Romeri-Lewis, Senior Project Associate at The WomanStats Project, studied international development and law. She has explored judicial reform and women's informal power in developing nations and lived in Asia, Europe, and Latin America. She has worked in judicial chambers and NGOs, consulted internationally, and presented to new staff at UN permanent missions on how to improve the quality of contribution and quantity of female negotiators. Currently, she teaches international development and coordinates foreign data collection projects for The WomanStats Project. She also researches urban poverty among women in Colombia as well as the rule of law worldwide. In the future, Natalie hopes to study whether the timing of the creation of power-sharing "institutions" (e.g. free press, courts, elections, constitutions) and high female participation affect the stability or transparency of newly emerging democracies.

### **Rushforth, Nancy**

Nancy Rushforth, Associate Professor of Humanities and Integrated Studies received her B.A. and M.A. in English Literature at BYU where she taught Writing about the Humanities and Introduction to Literature courses for several years. In 2006 Nancy completed a certification in Thanatology. A faculty member at UVU since 2001, she recently retired from teaching Humanities, Integrated Studies, Research Writing and Death Education courses.

### **Sarkar De, Sejuti**

Sejuti Sarkar De is the Chief Coordinator of Society for Natural Resource Management and Community Development (SNRMCD), a NGO working for sustainable and participatory management of natural resources in India. She is working with mountain women for livelihood development based on forest resources and the present study has been supported by WOSB-SISHA Women Scientists Fellowship Programme of Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.

### **Salas, Diana Lucia Chaman**

Diana Chaman has a B.Sc. in Political Science with a Concentration in Comparative Politics from The Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. She works as a project manager for the Rural Agroindustry Network of Peru - REDAR PERU, where her job focuses on sustainable development in rural mountain communities through capacity building. Diana participated in the development of the Peruvian National Strategy for Family Farming and Food Security (ENAF) as a regular member of the Peruvian Multi-Sectorial Commission on Family Farming (CAIAF). Currently, she is a regular member of the regional Parliamentary Front against Hunger (FPH) at the Peruvian Congress. Diana was a speaker at the UN Climate Change Conference - COP20 and at the No More Food to Waste High level Conference at The Hague, Netherlands.

### **Sevy, Melissa MPH**

Melissa is a Founder and Executive Director for Musana, a social enterprise that empowers Ugandan women through education and employment in handcrafting jewelry that is sold on the international market. With a Master of Public Health degree, she is particularly interested in the crossroads between health and development and works as an adjunct instructor at both Brigham Young University and Utah Valley University in public health courses. She has implemented health and community development projects in China, Uganda, and India, spending nearly half of the past 5 years abroad. A serial social entrepreneur, she is full of more ideas than could possibly be carried out in one lifetime, but loves the adventure in attempting to.

### **Teki, Uday**

Uday Teki is Director of Special Projects for The Pioneer Park Coalition Non-Profit, and oversees the Steering Committee of Collective Impact Group in the Salt Lake City Homeless and Public Services and the Director of Impact Research Project at Social Work Department, University of Utah. He also served as the Director for BYUMS chapters in India and Sri Lanka from 2012-2015. He completed the following projects so far: Community Outreach and Rehabilitation Project (2012-2014) with County Office. of Coventry and Birmingham, UK (2008-2009); Public Pvt Partnership Project for the Tribals in Koraput, Odisha (2011-2014); Uday also serves as the co-chair for several non-profits in Asia and making his mark in Utah. Uday Teki met his wife at BYU and married in Draper LDS Temple for time and eternity.

### **Torsak, Deann Sarff**

Deann Torsak was born and raised in the small island community of Wrangell, Alaska. In 1995 she married her husband, Kenneth and together they have four children. A small business owner, she is actively involved in community service. She has managed the Utah Grizzlies Special Needs-South hockey team for 7 years and has been heavily involved with the Boy Scouts of America for the past 8 years. Deann is currently a senior at Utah Valley University studying Political Science with an emphasis in American Government, with two minors: Constitutional Studies and Native American Studies. She is the first recipient of the Rebecca D. Lockhart Endowed Scholarship for students within the Constitutional Studies minor. She has been involved with the Utah International Mountain Forum since 2014, and is currently the President of the Sustainable Mountain Development Club and is the Executive Secretary of this conference.

### **Wheeler, Molly**

Molly Wheeler is the outreach coordinator and research assistant for the Hinckley Institute. She graduated May 2014 with a double major in political science and international studies magna cum laude as well as campaign management minor and Honors certificate. Molly was incredibly active with the Hinckley during her undergraduate experience completing four internships (including the Utah Legislature, DC, and British Parliament programs), co-editing the 2014 Hinckley Journal, and conducting research for Senator Bennett. Molly plans on pursuing an MPP/PhD and is interested in political participation and the electoral process. Molly also serves on the board for Breathe Utah, a group focused on scientific, medical, legal and communications aspects of air quality in Utah. In her free time, Molly enjoys spending time outdoors, playing ultimate frisbee, traveling, and going on various adventures.

### **Whipple, Rachel Mabey**

Rachel Mabey Whipple is pursuing an MA in comparative studies at Brigham Young University. When not engaged in academic studies and community advocacy efforts, she works in her home and garden and plays with various useful textile arts