



## **Short Bios of Conference Participants**

### **Abdrisaev, Baktybek**

Dr. Baktybek Abdrisaev has been working as a Distinguished Visiting Professor and currently as a Lecturer in the Department of History and Political Science at Utah Valley University (UVU), USA, since 2005. During 2012-2014, he also served as a Distinguished Associated Faculty at the Center of Constitutional Studies at UVU. He teaches courses on International Relations, Comparative Politics, Sustainability and Mountain Development, few to mention. His assignment on teaching classes by using the New York Times is included in the Teaching Toolkit of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. He writes extensively on issues of Central Asia and Kyrgyzstan and sustainable mountain development in international and U.S. media outlets like OpenDemocracy, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, CNN, and Foreign Policy. As a former Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to USA and Canada from 1997-2005, and for his extensive expertise, he testified in 2010 before the US 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. Dr. Abdrisaev's professional career after receiving his Ph.D. in Applied Physics in 1990 and before coming to USA included serving as Associate Professor at Bishkek Polytechnic Institute and National Academy of Sciences of Kyrgyzstan, in addition to his appointment in 1992 to the position of expert in the International Affairs Department of the Presidential Administration which he chaired later in 1993. Furthermore, Dr. Abdrisaev was also a Member of the Kyrgyz Parliament from 1995 to 2000. As an academician, Dr. Abdrisaev has authored more than one hundred articles in the areas of applied optics, international relations, and sustainable development and diplomacy.

### **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.

### **Alarco, Carlos**

Carlos Alarco is the University of Utah Liaison for the Women of the Mountains Conference is currently an Instructional Designer for Teaching and Learning Technologies. He has over 10 years of experience

using technology to enhance education in the public and private sector. He has also worked for Utah Valley University and as a technology instructor for Steven Henager College. He has been involved with the Women of the Mountains and Utah International Mountain Forum organizations since 2010 and has served in other capacities such as International Outreach Coordinator where he made connections with NGO's in Peru and website administrator for the Women of the Mountains website ([www.womenofthemountains.org](http://www.womenofthemountains.org)). In December of 2013 he was part of a delegation from UVU to visit the United Nations in New York to take part in the Sixth session of the Open Working Group Meeting on Sustainable Development Goals. He is an advocate of access to education for all, especially women in mountainous regions, and is a strong believer of the power that education has to transform lives. Carlos holds a Bachelor's of Science in Digital Media and a MEd in Information Science and Learning Technologies and is currently pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Sustainability at the University of Utah. A true Global Citizen, he was born in Lima, Peru, grew up in Sydney, Australia and currently resides in Utah, USA.

### **Allen, Carolina**

Carolina Allen is the Founder and Chair of Big Ocean Women, a maternal feminist organization dedicated to faith, family and motherhood. Carolina holds a B.A. in philosophy from University of Utah. A native of Brazil, Carolina speaks Portuguese, English, and Spanish. She and her husband are the parents of five children whom Carolina educates at home. She resides in Provo, Utah, USA

### **Baird, Victoria**

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

### **Ballard, Timothy**

Timothy Ballard is the Founder and CEO of Operation Underground Railroad (O.U.R.). He also serves as O.U.R.'s Jump Team Commander for rescue operations. Ballard began his career at the Central Intelligence Agency where he worked cases dealing with terrorism and Latin America. He has spent over a decade working as a Special Agent for the Department of Homeland Security where he was assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and deployed as an undercover operative for the U.S. Child Sex Tourism Jump Team. He has worked every type of case imaginable in the fight to dismantle child trafficking rings. Ballard has worked undercover in the United States and in multiple foreign countries to infiltrate child trafficking organizations. In this effort he has successfully dismantled dozens of these organizations and rescued countless children from sex slavery. He is an expert at managing Internet investigations, particularly those dealing with file-share networks where pedophiles and

traffickers go to trade in child pornography. He has trained hundreds of law enforcement officers at home and abroad in best practices to liberate children from sex slavery. Ballard has been featured on many national news outlets to discuss his efforts to combat child trafficking. He has appeared on Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace, The Meredith Vieira Show, CBS Nightly News, ABC Nightline, and CNN Headline News, MSNBC, The Glenn Beck Program, as well as many local news shows. Ballard is the best-selling author of *The Covenant: One Nation Under God* and is the author of the sequel to that work, *The Covenant, Lincoln, and The War*. He has taught American and International Politics courses at Imperial Valley College, San Diego State University and American Heritage School. He has been featured regularly on both local and national TV and radio programs to discuss American history and politics and the role America has played in defending liberty at home and abroad. He has often commented on how his academic work in American history has provided him the inspiration and motivation to rescue children--to carry on the American tradition of liberating the captive. He recently received the distinguished George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. After serving a church mission to Chile, Ballard graduated Cum Laude with a BA in Spanish and Political Science from Brigham Young University. He went on to graduate Summa Cum Laude with an MA in International Politics from the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

### **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.

### **Bastian, Ryan**

Ryan Bastian has beautiful wife and two children. His background is in social entrepreneurship, product management, and multimedia. He is currently working on an online platform to connect adventure travelers and ecotourists to local guides, hospitality providers, and tour operators in Central Asia. His aim is to connect consumers to unparalleled experiences that support efforts in developing the economic and environmental well-being of these remote and mountainous regions. He has spent time living in Russia, Germany, and Tajikistan: volunteering, studying, and working in international development. He is fluent in the languages spoken in those countries and conversational in Spanish.

### **Bauer, Boyd**

Dr. Bauer received his Ph.d. from the School of International Service, American University, Washington, D.C. with a China Area Studies emphasis. He completed an M.A. in Asian Studies from Seton Hall University, a B.A. in Asian Studies from Brigham Young University and is a graduate of the U.S. Army Engineering School. Dr. Bauer has taught a variety of courses including Chinese History and Politics and

International Relations of East Asia. He was a visiting professor at Beijing Information Technology University and directed study abroad China programs for six years. He has traveled to over 30 countries and has studied Mandarin Chinese, French, Russian, Farsi, Hmong, Japanese, Korean and Portuguese. He was the Director of Global Engagement, UVU Woodbury School of Business as well as the Director of the UVU International Center. Formally, he has been a faculty member at Hamline University, Southern Illinois University and Regional Vice President at HASC Corporation in Los Angeles, CA. Although now retired, he continues to consult.

### **Behle, Christine**

Christine is from Alpine, Utah. She is currently a senior at Utah Valley University majoring in Public Relations. Christine just finished an internship with the Utah State Legislature and hopes to do public affairs or lobbying when she graduates from college. Christine has served several roles while with Utah International Mountain Forum such as vice president of Women of the Mountains, social media chair, and is currently in charge of the leadership panel for the current conference. When Christine isn't at school she loves to ski, play tennis, and spend time with family.

### **Blomquist, Roger**

Dr. Roger Blomquist earned his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in American Frontier History spurred by his working for many years working on western films. He spent most of his movie career as a wrangler riding horses and driving wagons for the camera. He has also moved into acting and just recently played Billy the Kid's cohort, Dick Brewer, in the upcoming AMC Channel's *The West*. He is an expert in Wyoming Saddles of the Old West and an award winning saddlemaker of these same kinds of saddles. He is also a documentary filmmaker of films that have been official participants in both the Filmed in Utah Awards and the DocUtah Film Awards. Most recently he has become an author of a young adult faith-based historical fiction novel series, taking place in the mid nineteenth century American West.

### **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. Dr. Brown was recently granted Professor Emeritus.

### **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.

#### **Brunst, Richard F. Jr.**

Richard F. Brunst, Jr. was born on June 1, 1949, in Whittier, California, but was raised in Phoenix, Arizona. During his freshman year of high school, Richard was appointed by Senator Barry Goldwater to serve as a Pageboy in the United States Senate. Richard attended Brigham Young University and graduated in 1974 with a degree in Political Science. During his tenure at BYU he took two years (1970-1972) to serve a mission to Sweden for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In 1988 Richard married the love of his life, Tammy. Together they have raised four wonderful children. Richard was accepted into the MBA Program at Arizona State University, but took a sabbatical to take employment at Western Pipe Coaters & Engineers, Inc. in Utah. In 1985 he decided to purchase the company and still owns it today. In 1997 he was elected as the President of the National Association of Pipe Coating Applicators. Richard has also founded two other companies, Associated Appraisers and Recycle Technologies, which he later sold. Richard and his wife have served diligently in the Boy Scouts of America and in 2014 they both received their “Silver Beaver Awards.” Richard and Tammy have called Orem home since 1992. Richard was elected Mayor of Orem in November, 2013.

#### **Butler, Danielle**

Dr. Butler is the Honorary Consul General of the Kyrgyz Republic in Utah and is the Co-chair of the Organizing Committee of the Women of the Mountains conference. Although retired, she remains active in international women’s issues. Dr. Butler was the president of several women’s organizations in the United States and Canada, and has worked extensively in humanitarian and education issues. She has traveled extensively throughout the world on behalf of women and children. For her work she was awarded the title “Honorary Professor” by the Kyrgyz International University. Dr. Butler is the mother of seven children and 36 grandchildren. She believes that the strength of the home, and the mother, will determine the strength of any nation.

#### **Butler, R.E. “Rusty”**

Dr. Butler is the Associate Vice President for International Affairs & Diplomacy and Director of the Utah-Russia Institute at Utah Valley University. In addition, he is the Honorary Consul General of the Russian Federation in Utah and former president of the Utah Consular Corps which represents all foreign consulates in Utah (34). Dr. Butler’s career started as a professor of linguistics in Canada from which he branched into private business in western Canada and the United States. He later served as a senior staff member in the U.S. Senate and the Reagan Administration before entering management with the Boeing Corporation in its military operations. He returned to the academic world at UVU in 1992. Dr. Butler is two-time recipient of the medal of merit from the Russian Foreign Ministry and has published in the Ministry’s journal, International Affairs. He is an accomplished triathlete, cyclist, marathon runner and plays ice hockey in his spare time.

#### **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.

#### **Cisneros, Mary**

Mary Cisneros is originally from Virginia, but has lived here in Provo for 17 years with her 3 kids. Mary, who is a senior here at UVU, is majoring in integrated studies with emphasis in peace and justice studies and sociology. She also is minoring in political science. This past summer, she took the opportunity to study abroad in Cuba, where she studied its history and politics at the University of Havana, as part of the peace and justice studies program. She says that it was a great experience and that the people of Cuba were very warm and friendly. While she was in Cuba, she attended services at the Baha'i center in Havana, and was told that she was the first Baha'i from the United States to visit them in 15 years. Mary is also the proud grandma of an awesome boy named Xander.

#### **Cockerham, Geoffrey**

Geoffrey Cockerham is an Associate Professor in the Department of History and Political Science at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah. Before joining the faculty at Utah Valley University, he served as a visiting professor at the University of Louisville and Rhodes College. Dr. Cockerham received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Arizona with a specialization in international relations. He also received a J.D. (Juris Doctor) degree in law from Louisiana State University. His research and teaching interests include international cooperation, international institutions, international law and global governance. Recent publications include articles in *International Politics*, *The Latin Americanist*, *East Asia: An International Quarterly*, and the book *Globalization and Health* published by Polity Press in 2010.

#### **Connelly, David**

David Connelly is an Associate Professor at Utah Valley University teaching in the History and Political Science Department. His primary teaching interests are in public administration with specific interests in public management, leadership, performance measurement and survey research. David has worked extensively in economic and community development in rural areas while working for the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) for eight years. He has also worked for five years developing and implementing information technology policy at the local, state and federal level (heavy focus on rural issues) while at the Center for Technology in Government (CTG) at the University at Albany. David has a Ph.D. from the University at Albany while his MPA is from Brigham Young University. His current research interests include public sector sustainability measures, rural policy, information technology applications for government and public management curriculum issues.

#### **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.

#### **Day, Candra**

Candra Day is the Founder and President of Vista 360°, a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering cultural exchange and cooperation among mountain people around the world. She oversees Vista 360°'s cultural exchange programs in Kyrgyzstan and Japan, directs the American Cowboy Show and Rodeo exchange program and manages social enterprises to promote small creative business development in Kyrgyzstan. She is the owner of two social enterprises, AIDAI and Mountain to Mountain, which imports Kyrgyz handmade products in the U.S. and Canada. She has worked as an arts manager, project director and nonprofit consultant since 1978 and has assisted numerous arts, education and civic organizations in strategic planning, program design, development and collaboration. She has been recognized as an innovative social entrepreneur and received the Wyoming Governor's Arts Award in 2006.

#### **Decaster, Erika Edwards**

Erika Edwards Decaster is the President of Big Ocean Women. She holds a B.A. in Latin American Studies and Music from Brigham Young University and an M.B.A. in International Development from the Thunderbird School of Global Management. She previously worked at Feed the World and the Institute for Self-reliant Agriculture. She and her husband are the parents of two children and they reside in Tucson, Arizona USA

#### **DeSart, Jay**

Jay DeSart is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Utah Valley University. Has been at UVU since 2004. Prior to that he taught at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL. He specializes in the fields of American Politics, Public Opinion, and Campaigns and Elections. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. His current research focuses on election campaigns and forecasting the outcomes of Presidential, Senate, and Gubernatorial elections.

#### **Diaz, Daniela Moncada**

Daniela Moncada Diaz is from Bucaramanga, Colombia. I am a senior at Utah Valley University, currently the President of the Model of the UN Club, and I am also part of the Organizing Committee of the Climate Change and Gender Panel at the Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference. I was part of the UVU team for the Model of the United Nations Far West Conference 2015 in San Francisco, California. With an expected graduation in spring 2017 with a bachelor of science in Political Science degree with a concentration on International Relations and a minor in Peace and Justice.

#### **Dzhukev, Yanko**

Yanko is from Bulgaria, a country in Eastern Europe. Both of his parents were professional basketball players. His sister is also professional athlete, so it was no surprise he took the same path. When he was only 17 years old, he earned a basketball scholarship from Wasatch Academy, a prep boarding high school in Mount Pleasant, Utah. After spending three years in Utah, he continued playing college basketball in Rockingham Junior College, North Carolina. Before Yanko completed his bachelor's degree, he returned back in Europe to play professionally. He had spent almost 10 years playing all over Europe. He has never abandoned the idea of getting his degree. Coming to Utah at early age, he chose to return and complete his studies at Utah Valley University. He is a senior, majoring in Political Science and emphasizing in International Relations. He is fluent in French. He has a very strong passion for global issues and cultures and more than anything, Yanko loves to travel. As a professional basketball player, he has performed various volunteer services and work with disadvantaged children, including young basketball player sponsorship, tutoring and working with children without parents in Bulgaria and France. He is engaged to his longtime girlfriend and they have a ten-month old son Antoine.

#### **Eaton, Joshua J.**

Joshua J. Eaton is a history major at Utah Valley University where he is studying to obtain his BA. He got his Associates from Snow College in Ephraim UT. Josh is actively involved in Phi Alpha Theta, the historical honor society and is currently serving as its UVU chapter president. After graduating from UVU he hopes to go on to graduate school to further his studies in history, and to become a American Revolution historian.

#### **Eilers, Perthenia**

Perthenia Eilers is the Director of Project Management at InsideSales.com, a sales acceleration company headquartered in Provo, UT. As part of InsideSales.com's Do Good Foundation, she developed a curriculum for a five-day coding camp for girls 7-14."

#### **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.

#### **England, Lynn**

Lynn England completed work on a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and a Master of Arts Degree in Philosophy from the University of Utah. He was awarded a Ph. D. in Mathematical Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh. He was on the faculty at Brigham Young University in sociology for thirty-five years during which time he was Chair of Sociology for six years, chair of the Faculty Advisory Council for a year, and Acting Director of the Latin American Studies Program. He was active in the development of the bachelor's degree in Latin American Studies and the Master's Degree in International Development. He has been a lecturer at Utah Valley University in Behavioral Science and History and Political Science for the last seven years. He teaches courses in race, Utah history, peace and justice

studies, and political thought. He has lead study abroad groups to Cuba and works with indigenous groups in the mountains of northern Mexico. Lynn's research and writing have centered on bargaining behavior, rural communities, and poverty among the indigenous people of northern Mexico. He has conducted research under grants from the National Science Foundation, United States Forest Service and the Department Of Agriculture.

### **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.

### **Fenwick-Judy, Vicki**

Vicki Fenwick-Judy, Director, Appalachian Program, is a lifelong resident of West Virginia. She returned to TMI in 2014 to lead the Appalachian program's ongoing environmental, watershed, and wilderness education. She had previously worked as a Field Instructor at Spruce Knob, and holds a MA in Psychology from Marshall University. She serves as a representative on the Mid-Atlantic Environmental Education Workgroup, and has worked with the West Virginia Department of Education and the Canaan Valley Institute to develop environmental education.

### **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.

#### **Glad, William**

William Glad is a Psychology Major and an International Development minor studying at Brigham Young University. Additionally, he has spent several years living abroad in Malaysia, and is studying Malay and Indonesian at Brigham Young University. He has been working for the WomanStats project since January 2015 and attended the CSW59 Conference at UN Headquarters in March 2015. William was an integral part of planning the CSW59 women's rights campaign event at BYU in fall 2014, WeForShe, and looks forward to participating in future awareness and development activities.

#### **Gordon, Seth**

Seth Gordon is a senior undergraduate student at Utah Valley University (UVU) studying Philosophy. He is a member of the Philosophy Club. Seth is currently engaged in an internship as an Academic Advisor for CHSS at UVU and hopes to pursue a career in higher education.

#### **Griffith, M'Lissa**

M'Lissa Griffith is a senior in Political Science with an emphasis in International Relations at Utah Valley University. She has her Associates of Science degree, also from UVU, where the focus was in general studies and pre-Nursing. She has had the opportunity to participate in the Anatomy Academy, a joint venture with Brigham Young University that allows university students studying careers in the Health Sciences to teach 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students about nutrition, physiology, and anatomy. After finishing her Bachelor's degree and nursing education, she plans on using both, not only in employment, but in humanitarian service as well. Her interests include supporting her children in their education and activities, church service, and community participation. Being widowed at a young age with four small children at home, she understands the importance of support and opportunities for women and children, and is grateful to be part of the Women of The Mountains organization.

### **Griffith, Susan**

Susan Griffith is a professional genealogist, earning her degree in Family History from Brigham Young University after raising six children. In fact, Susan and her third daughter received their diplomas from BYU on the same day in the same ceremony. A native of Washington, DC, Susan moved to Utah fifteen years ago when her husband took a position at BYU. Her scholarly interests include the family history of African Americans, American Indians, and those in the British Isles. Susan has spoken on family history topics to many audiences and has presented at the BYU Women's Conference. She and her husband Tom, a federal appeals court judge, currently live in Round Hill, VA in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains within 10 minutes of all eight of their grandchildren

### **Gruppman, Igor and Vesna**

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 ianist 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.

### **Hackney, Darian**

Darian Hackney is currently a sophomore studying Political Science at Utah Valley University. She grew up in South Jordan, Utah and attended Bingham High School. She is very passionate about people and leadership. Learning new things and being involved in the community is very important to her. She is currently learning to speak Russian and hopes to attend Law School in the future.

### **Hale, Val**

Val Hale is the executive director of the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), which promotes state growth in business, tourism and film. Hale was appointed to the position in 2014 by Gov. Gary R. Herbert. Before accepting the position as executive director, Hale served for two years as president and CEO of the Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce, leading efforts in business community issues— including regional economic development and branding initiatives. Prior to serving in the chamber, Hale was vice president (2010-2012) for university relations at Utah Valley University (UVU), overseeing legislative affairs, marketing and public, media and community relations. From 2006-2010, Hale worked as advancement vice president at the university, responsible for fund raising and all university external activities. During this time, Hale played a key role in transitioning Utah Valley State College into Utah Valley University. Hale started at UVU as the assistant vice president for external affairs (2005-2006), where he served as legislative liaison and oversaw community relations and economic development activities. Before his career at UVU, Hale began working for the Brigham Young University (BYU) Athletic Department in 1982 and continued with the department for 22 years. He started as promotions and publications coordinator, working his way up in the department until his promotion to athletic director in 1999. Hale left a cherished legacy of athletic department improvements. His success in fundraising resulted in the construction of Miller Park, the Student Athlete Building, the Indoor Practice Facility and the Legacy Seats in the LaVell Edwards Stadium. Hale received his bachelor's degree in public relations in 1981 and a master's degree in communications in 1987—both from BYU. Hale worked as a reporter at the Daily Herald from 1981-1982, covering business, government and BYU. Hale and his wife have three children and 11 grandchildren, and he currently resides in Orem, UT.

### **Hamblin, Laura**

Laura Hamblin received her Ph.D. in creative writing/poetry from the University of Denver. She is a Full Professor at Utah Valley University where she has received awards including the Faculty Ethics Fellow and the Dean's Faculty Creative Award. Hamblin has taught at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Jordan. Her book of poetry, *The Eyes of a Flounder*, was published by Signature Books in 2005. She teaches creative writing, women's literature, the history and theory of the genre of poetry, and topic classes including seminars on Martin Buber and William Blake. From 2007-08 Hamblin lived in Amman, Jordan where she gathered oral histories of Iraqi women refugees.

#### **Hanewicz, Cheryl**

Cheryl Hanewicz is an associate professor and department chair of the Technology Management department at Utah Valley University. She has also served as an Assistant Dean in the College of Technology and Computing as well as Director of Student Success and Retention at UVU. Previously, she taught technology-related courses at Eastern Michigan University in the School of Technology Studies. She received her Bachelor of Science, Master of Liberal Studies in Technology, and Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Technology Management. Dr. Hanewicz has over 20 years of technical and managerial experience in both the business and academic environments. Before teaching she worked as an administrator in software development companies and was a consultant who taught computer skills to airport administrators, edited security manuals, and updated maintenance policies for ISO 9000 compliance. In addition to teaching, Dr. Hanewicz has published technology-related books and articles, participated in national conferences, and consulted with Macmillan and Prentice Hall as a technical editor.

#### **Hansen, Brian**

Brian Hansen has a wonderful wife and two sons that are his richest blessings. Brian has been raised all his life in Utah and hope to travel the world with his wife when he is done with his education. He is interested in history and currently work for Utah's public transportation system called Utah Transit Authority.

#### **Hansen, Christian**

Christian Hansen is 24 years old from Stockholm, Sweden. He has worked with production management, product quality, and customer service within the food manufacturing industry for Svenska Lant Chips Inc. In Stockholm, and SnackCo of America in Clearfield, Utah. Christian has studied agriculture at Berga Natrbruksgymnasium, and Political Science at Kungskaps gymnasiet in Stockholm, Sweden. Served a two year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Wisconsin and Michigan, USA. He is currently a sophomore at Utah Valley University, and is contemplating majoring in Political Science, or Criminal Justice.

#### **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 is Hawaiian Studies Teacher at Pacific Heritage Academy. Degreed in Accounting she has worked in Audit and QA analysis of Financial Records; document control & implemented procedure to improve efficiency & speed. She uses the method of Grassroots which gives her the ability to work on every level of Society with People from all walks of life. She encourages a method of empowerment, education & collaboration. She has built her own nonprofits to create solutions for Sexual Harassment, taught Parents about Mental/Behavioral Healthcare & worked with People to rehabilitate their lives. In Hawaii, she attended a Community based Education at Kailua High School called Community Quest. Teachers were College Interns at UH Manoa. The curriculum utilized the Community to conduct classes, educated students by using tools within the Community to gain & exercise understanding. Kamaile has helped to organize the Women of the Mountain Conference putting to use understanding of Human Behavior, Business, Events, Education and Grassroots. The speech she will deliver at the Conference will 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.

### **Hartley, Taylor**

In the private sector, Taylor Hartley is an attorney and owns his own law firm. He is a published author who wrote a book on the morality of criminal defense from both a legal and religious perspective. He and his late wife were cofounders of a non-profit organization helping people to become more self-reliant who have a life-threatening and severely disabling skin disorder. He is also the Advocacy Committee Chair of the United Nations Association of Utah and has lobbied in Washington D.C. for their causes. In the public sector, he has worked as a judicial law clerk in the Fourth District Court. Politically, he is a registered Utah lobbyist and a moderate democrat. In academia, he has taught as an adjunct professor at Utah Valley University in International Law and Introduction to American Law.

### **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.

### **Ilieva, Vessela**

Vessela Ilieva is an associate professor and an assistant dean for engagement initiatives at the School of Education at UVU. Her teaching of mathematics methods courses is guided by her belief that "math makes sense", and her quest for quality mathematics instruction is complemented by her passion for providing ethnically and linguistically diverse students with equitable opportunities for learning. Vessela also works internationally with students and faculty and continuously seeks meaningful integration of global perspectives into 21st century education

### **His Excellency, Dr. Jinga, Ion H.E.**

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.

### **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.

### **Jones, Andre**

Currently a student at Utah Valley University, Andre is studying International Relations within Political Science. As a sophomore at, he is also the Fine Arts Chair of UVU where he directs events for the 32,000 students on campus. Whenever he isn't doing school work, he is in his office helping students as part of the Student Council here at UVU. Andre returned from Russia in the spring where he was part of a volunteer program for children learning English, all while he took Russian classes. After becoming fluent in Russian, Andre hopes to pursue an internship at the State Department, followed by a master's degree at the University of Utah. In his free time you can catch him participating in Interfaith endeavors on campus, practicing dancing in the studio, and catching up on sleep.

### **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 she 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

### **Keller, Nate**

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)

### **Kim Broadwell, Yeagi**

Heralded for her "flawless performance" on Korean Times of Utah, violinist Yeagi Kim Broadwell has a unique international background. She has performed and studied in Korea, Russia, the Netherlands, Belgium, England, Czech Republic, and the United States. Dr. Broadwell's list of prestigious international venues includes the Concertgebouw Hall, the Doelen in the Netherlands, Queen Elizabeth Hall in Belgium, and the University of Cambridge in England. Dr. Broadwell received her Doctorate of Musical Arts in violin performance at the University of Utah. She also holds a Master of Music from the

Rotterdam Conservatory in the Netherlands and a Bachelor of Music degree from Brigham Young University. Dr. Broadwell is also a graduate of the Novosibirsk Specialized Music School--Lyceum in Russia. Dr. Broadwell currently teaches at Utah Valley University and plays in the Orchestra at Temple Square, the resident ensemble for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Trained by renowned musicians Igor and Vesna Gruppman, Dr. Broadwell is dedicated to cultivating young talented musicians through the Gruppman International Music Institute.

### **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

### **Kutter, Andrea**

Andrea Kutter, a Geographer by training, is currently advising the Sr. Director for the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice in the World Bank. Until recently, she coordinated the Forest Investment Program and the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience, which are part of the Climate Investment Funds. In her work, she focuses on the intersection of natural resources management and international climate policy and finance. Before joining the CIF, Andrea worked in the Global Environment Facility, the German Technical Cooperation Agency and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. She has expertise in natural resources management, including sustainable land and forest management and impacts of climate variability and change, socio-environmental policy, poverty and land tenure on the environment in developing countries. She has worked with various stakeholder groups, including indigenous and traditional communities, the private sector as well as bi-and multi-lateral development partners.

### **Largey, Amelia**

Amelia Largey has a degree from Brigham Young University in Human Development with a minor in Art History. Amelia is passionate about women's rights and was an intern with the Worldwide Organization for Women while completing her undergraduate education. As an intern, Amelia attended, and actively participated in the Conference on the Status of Women at the United Nations in New York City as well as the Human Rights Counsel at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. After completing her education Amelia began a career with MAC Cosmetics as a makeup artist and Retail Manager. While working for MAC Amelia managed one of the top 25 most lucrative locations for the brand in the western United States and was able to train and develop makeup artists from the North West market. In 2014 Amelia was ready to move on from MAC and begin working towards a career in the medical field. She traveled to

Uganda as a volunteer with Help International and was able to work on a wide range of projects including teaching child development classes, building a community chicken coop, setting up a sewing program as an income generating activity for a high school and reforming the administration of a village health clinic. Subsequent to that experience, she was hired as an in-country director to manage HELP's affairs in Uganda. In her free time Amelia enjoys fitness, cooking, watercolor and reading.

### **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.

### **Linder, Rex**

Rex Linder is originally from Sandy, UT and graduated from Brighton High School in 2010. After taking two years off of school to serve as a missionary, he graduated in late 2014 with an associates of science degree from Brigham Young University-Idaho. After which he transferred to Utah Valley University. Rex is now a junior at UVU seeking to double major in political science with an emphasis on world politics and in information technology with an emphasis on computer forensics and security. He also is seeking a minor in Chinese. During his time at UVU, Rex helped establish the Secular Student Alliance club of which he is currently president of. He also is serving as president for the Revive Humanity service club. Halfway into 2015, Rex was asked to become a co-owner of the blog Broad Clarity which writes philosophical articles in regards to current events. His hobbies include hunting, archery, music, philosophy, computers, and politics.

### **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 Southeast 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.

### **MacFarlane, John**

John Macfarlane have been the advisor for History & Political Science since 2008. He serves on the Peace & Justice Executive Committee and helps lead the Study Abroad program to the Middle East focused on peaceful solutions to the Palestine/Israel conflict - 2010, 2012, 2014. John teaches a class on International Terrorism. He is a former Air Force A - 10 pilot. His education: B.S. Degree University of Utah: Political Science; M.Ed. Degree University of Utah: Educational Studies; M.Phil. Degree University of Utah: Political Science; Certificate in Terrorism Studies from St. Andrews University

### **Madsen, Susan**

Dr. Susan R. Madsen is the Orin R. Woodbury Professor of Leadership and Ethics in the Woodbury School of Business at Utah Valley University. She is also a Distinguished Visiting Fellow of the Lancaster Leadership Centre in the U.K, a Visiting Fellow of the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Zagreb (Croatia), and a Fellow of The Leadership Trust Foundation in Ross-on-Wye, England. Dr. Madsen has been heavily involved for the last decade in researching the lifetime development of prominent women leaders. She has personally interviewed a host of women university presidents, U.S. governors, and international leaders, and has a host of books and articles published on her results. Susan has conducted related research in the U.S., the six Arab Gulf countries, China, and recently in Eastern Europe. She has published nearly 100 articles, chapters, and reports and presents often in local, national, and international settings. She has been an invited speaker at the New York Times and in NGO sessions at the United Nations in New York and Geneva. Susan is the founder of numerous successful

networks, including the International Leadership Association's (ILA) Women and Leadership Affinity Group. She has received numerous awards for her teaching, research, and service. She is a co-editor of the ILA/IAP Women and Leadership book series. She received her doctorate from the University of Minnesota in human resource development.

### **Makhkamova, Manzura**

Manzura Makhkamova has two bachelor's degrees in English language and Economics and from universities in Tajikistan and a master's degree in Public Administration from the State University of New York in Binghamton (USA). Manzura has over 15 years of professional experience in managing teams, successfully collaborating with the private sector, international agencies, government and civil society. She successfully accomplished various assignments for UNDP, ADB, ITC, OSCE, GIZ, EBRD, and various private enterprises in Tajikistan. Manzura is a certified trainer and conducted many innovative capacity-building activities. From 2010 to 2013, she worked as a high-level government official in Tajik government. Since 2013, she has been serving as a freelance business development consultant to international agencies operating in Tajikistan.

### **Marr, Irene**

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.

### **Mathews, Kena Jo**

Kena Jo Mathews was raised in Orem, Utah and graduated from Orem High School. She received her Associate's degree in General Education for Utah Valley Community College (now Utah Valley University), a Bachelor's degree in political science and history from the University of Utah, and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Brigham Young University. Ms. Mathews has worked in the local non-profit sector for eighteen years. In the past, she worked as the Associate Director for Neighborhood Housing Services of Provo and as the Mentor Director for the Food and Care Coalition of Utah Valley. For the last ten and half years, she has been the Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity of Utah County. She feels fortunate to work in a profession where she can make a difference in people's lives. Ms. Mathews enjoys serving in the community. She currently serves as a Board Member for the Intermountain Health Care's Women's and Children's Advisory Council, Utah Valley Ministerial Association, Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce, Extended Romney Institute Board, and the Democratic Women of Utah County. She also serves on Orem's Summerfest Committee, as a committee member on

various other community committees, and as an ally for the local Circles Initiative. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Dana Mathews and has two nieces and six nephews.

### **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.

### **Mergens, Celeste**

Celeste Mergens is the Founder and International Executive Director of Days for Girls, an award-winning nonprofit which has been featured in Oprah's O Magazine and has been named by Huffington Post as one of the ten organizations that will "help shape the next decade." Days for Girls was born in an "ah-ha moment," after an event in the slums of Kenya prompted the idea for a simple and sustainable solution to reversing the cycles of poverty and violence for women—sustainable feminine hygiene and women's health education, giving girls and women around the globe more dignity, health and opportunity. Today, just six years later, Days for Girls International empowers girls, women and communities in 85+ nations on 6 continents, with a global grassroots network of more than 450 chapters and teams around the world. Celeste's passion for sustainable global empowerment of girls and women is contagious. Celeste is the mother of six and a grandmother of twelve. She is 2014's Washington State Mother of the Year, a

recipient of the Soroptimist Ruby Award and the Sol Lewis Award, as well as an annual invitee to the World Food Prize. To get to know Celeste better, please check out her recent TEDx talk, “What Are We Not Asking? Simple Solutions for Global Impact.”

### **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, political ecology, theories of justice, global justice, peace and reconciliation.

### **Miller, Derek B.**

Derek B. Miller is the president and CEO of the World Trade Center Utah, an organization dedicated to helping Utah companies “think, act, and succeed globally.” WTC Utah is a member of the World Trade Centers Association headquartered in New York City, a network of more than 300 WTC’s in 100 countries around the world, with the mission to facilitate prosperity through trade and investment. Prior to his current position, Mr. Miller served as chief of staff to Governor Gary R. Herbert, overseeing the Governor’s Office, the Governor’s Cabinet and state operations. Mr. Miller has also served as managing director of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development where he was responsible for recruiting new businesses to the state and helping existing Utah businesses to expand. Before moving back to his home state of Utah, Mr. Miller worked in Washington D.C. for the U.S. House of Representatives as legal counsel and for Arthur Andersen as a management consultant. Mr. Miller is a graduate of the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, and he also holds a Master of Public Administration from the University’s Romney Institute of Public Management.

### **Mlekodaj, Anna**

Anna Mlekodaj - PhD. Since 2001, lecturer at PPWSZ The Podhale State Higher Professional School, in Nowy Targ Poland. She 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.

### **Morris, Paul**

Paul is a native of Utah Valley, majoring in Environmental Science and Management. He sees people as a major piece of the ecosystems in which they live and have the responsibility to care for the land and to use it wisely. His goal is to create a better quality of life for everyone, but especially for women and children who are the builders of future generations. He loves his family. He supports his wife in raising and nurturing their two young children and teaching them to love and respect their place as stewards of this beautiful world around us. When he's not working, he can be found hiking the hills with his dog and family.

### **Murdoch Matt**

Matt Murdoch was born and raised in Alpine, Utah. He spent several years living in Portland, Oregon and in Argentina. Matt is in his senior year at Utah Valley University and will graduate with a degree in Political Science in April 2016. Matt plans to go to law school and pursue JD/MBA degrees beginning in the fall of 2017. In the summer of 2014 Matt completed an internship in Washington DC where he worked on the Senate Judiciary Committee for Senator Orin Hatch (UT-R). Matt currently dedicates much of his time as the President of the Pre-Law Club at UVU, a Board Member of the Foreign Relations Club, and as a Cub Scout Leader as well volunteering with the Women of the Mountains organization. In July 2015 Matt married Emily Costello. They currently live in Lehi, Utah.

#### **Naimova, Vera**

Naimova Vera, received her B.A. in Secondary School Teaching, M.A. in Economics and Sociology and in Ph.D. in Pedagogy, from Moscow State Pedagogical Institute. She worked as a principal of boarding school for deaf children for 9 years; as the chairman of trade union of education and science of the Republic of Tajikistan, then an assistant professor of cultural studies, pedagogy and psychology. During her time at university, Naimova Vera published more than 50 scientific articles and guidelines. Worked in the programs of the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF and other international organizations in the Poverty Reduction Strategy in the education sector, the establishment of women's non-governmental women's organizations, improve the quality of education and other educational issues.

#### **Nielsen, Parker**

Parker Nielsen is a student at Utah Valley University studying Political Science and International Relations. He is working towards a career with the State Department with the hopes of doing diplomacy work around the world. He grew up in Okinawa Japan and spent time in Italy and Malta as well. He speaks Italian and Maltese as well as some Japanese. He attended university in Okinawa and Hawaii as well as Utah. He has been working as the Head of Protocol for the Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference.

#### **Nigro, Jenna**

Jenna Nigro is a historian of modern France and Senegal. Her research and teaching focus on the history of global connections, exchanges, and power relations, in particular modern European imperialism. Her current book project is a study of French experimentation with various colonial practices in Senegal from 1763 to 1870. Professor Nigro teaches courses in world history, modern European history, and African history and serves as the faculty advisor for UVU's History Club.

#### **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.

#### **Nyhus, Stina**

Stina Nyhus is a senior at Utah Valley University studying Applied Mathematics. In the spring of 2015, she volunteered with the *Math Girls Rock!*, working on two projects with the high school participants. One of those projects had a technology component, which inspired her to do research with Dr. Vasilevska on connections between math and art through technology. She received a summer research grant from the UVU Office of Engaged Learning to conduct this research, and recently presented her results at the MathFest, the annual national mathematics conference, held in Washington, DC.

#### **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 hear, 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 is 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.

#### **His Excellency, Dr. Meret Orazov**

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.

### **Orr, Joseph**

Joseph Orr was born In Salt Lake City at the University hospital. He grew up in Park City, and served a two year LDS mission in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Since he has lived in San Antonio Texas, Rexburg Idaho and various places in Utah. When he was little he was fascinated by politics, history and people, and still is. He hopes to raise a family and teach history one day. His hobbies include hiking, exercise, poetry and anything involving a good story.

### **Pacheco, Vinicius**

Vinicius Pacheco is originally from Sao Paulo, Brazil but has spent the majority of his life in Utah Valley, here in the United States. He is now a junior at Utah Valley University seeking a major in political Science with an emphasis on world politics. During his time at UVU, he has spent much time with the physics club and helps them with many of their projects. His hobbies include spending time with my lovely wife, playing soccer, or going for a run up the mountains.

### **Pendleton, Janessa**

Janessa Pendleton was born and raised in Provo, UT. She is a senior at UVU and will be graduating with a major in Behavioral Science this spring. She lived in the Andean region of Peru from June 2013 to June 2014 and has been fascinated with Peruvian culture ever since.

### **Raines, Megan**

Megan Raines is studying Political Science and Chinese. She enjoys teaching voice, blogging, and raising her family of ten children.

### **Rakotoarisaona, Henintsoa**

After receiving her French baccalaureate diploma, Henintsoa Rakotoarisaona came to the United States in December 2013 and started attending UVU as an Environmental Science and Management student. Although she grew up in Kenya, she originally comes from the fourth largest island in the World, Madagascar. Her involvement with the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) and the Women Of the Mountains Conference (WOM) is a result of her interest in the United Nations and its system; she is part of the Utah Valley University MUN (Model United Nations) club which is under the umbrella of the UIMF. Furthermore, the topic of Sustainable Development in Mountains is one of the United Nations current central topics.

### **Reyes, Sean**

In 2013, at the age of 42, the Honorable Sean Reyes was appointed by Governor Gary Herbert as Utah's 21st Attorney General. General Reyes took over an office racked with scandal and inefficiency in the midst of some of the most significant constitutional issues in state history. Within a year, he reorganized and re-energized the office internally and recaptured the trust of the State with striking leadership, innovative programs and historic wins against drug dealers, human traffickers, child predators and white collar criminals. After winning election in 2014 by one of the largest margins nationwide, Reyes was selected in 2015 by the Republican National Committee as one of its four national rising stars. Prior to taking office, Attorney General Reyes was a partner in a small venture fund, general counsel for a tech company and a litigation partner at Utah's largest private law firm. He has been honored nationally and locally with a long list of awards for his legal skills, leadership and unparalleled commitment to public service and has founded and served multiple non-profit organizations. The son of a Spanish-Filipino immigrant father, who fled the Marcos regime and a Japanese-Hawaiian mother, AG Reyes is Utah's first minority elected statewide. General Reyes and his wife, Saysha, are the proud parents of 6 children. He is a former collegiate volleyball player and mixed martial arts fighter who enjoys speaking at Comic Cons, playing basketball, coaching his kids, dancing with Saysha, watching Sports Center, cook-ing, shooting guns and rapping on Bloomberg News.

#### **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.

#### **Rowan, Mia**

Mia Rowan currently lives in Rome, Italy, where she works as a communication and advocacy specialist at the Mountain Partnership Secretariat, which is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Her UN experience also includes writing and managing web content for the Gender Division of FAO, the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the World Food Programme. Prior to the UN, she worked in journalism: as a newswire writer, television news producer, magazine editor and news translator. Mia grew up at the foot of the mountains in Alaska. Her Tlingit grandmother taught her the techniques of gathering food and other goods that were used by her ancestors for generations. Memories of those expeditions, which sometimes entailed a foray up the mountain, inspire her in her work every day.

#### **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 Salas 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.

### **Semyonov, Alexey**

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.

### **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.

### **Shepherd, Lisa**

After twenty-three years of "real life" experience in state and local politics, political activist/consultant, and mother of six, Lisa Shepherd began paving her path to law school by returning to Utah Valley University to obtain a bachelor's degree in Political Science (emphasis Public Law), and a minor in Constitutional Studies. Shepherd, a 1992 AAS graduate of the Woodbury School of Business, has goals upon graduation to serve the community by defending and teaching civil rights, as well as to return to Utah Valley University as a Political Science instructor.

### **Sherpa, Yankila**

Mrs. Yankila (Ruit) Sherpa was (in 1952) and raised in Olangchung Gola, of Taplejung District which is one of the most remote villages of Eastern Nepal. She remembers her years in St. Mary's School in Kathmandu as having to walk ten days from her mountain village to take a flight to Kathmandu from Biratnagar every year to go to school. She feels her struggling childhood was well rewarded by the fact that she not only had the opportunity to get a Senior Cambridge education from St. Mary's School of Kathmandu but was then also the 1<sup>st</sup> woman to get university level education from her district as well as from her community. Today she is the VP of Trans Himalayan Environment and Livelihood Programme (T-HELP) Nepal, Director of Youth and Devevelopment committee of Zonta International in Nepal. She is the chief Advisor of the advisory committee of the executive board of the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), a Nepal member of the South Asian Women's Network (SWAN) She is also the Past President of the Federation of Woman Entrepreneurs Association .of Nepal (FWEAN) and Past President of the Trekking Agents Association of Nepal (TAAN). She has served her country in the capacity of State Minister and Assistant Minster for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation in the year 2005/2006. Before that she also served as a Member of Parliament (MP) of the Upper House (National Assembly) of Nepal from 2001 till 2006. During her period in the parliament she strongly voiced for the development of the mountain regions of Nepal, besides working for tourism and women's economic empowerment. As Hon. Secretary of the Caucus of Women MPs, and Senate member of the TU Council and member of remote areas committee of the parliament and with her mountain background she was able to contribute effectively not only within the country but also during her representation at the United Nations Gen Assembly and at Inter parliamentary meetings held worldwide. Yankila Sherpa has set an example of a survivor to fellow mountain women, being awarded nationally and internationally for her outstanding contribution in the field of mountain tourism and women empowerment and later on representing mountain women in the mainstream development both nationally and internationally. In the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), also as a tourism entrepreneur she has contributed significantly in the development of sustainable eco mountain tourism in the Himalayas, she has been recognized and awarded with the prestigious Abraham Conservation Award by World Wildlife Fund (WWF). She has also been awarded with the "Priyadarshani Award" as the Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur of Nepal of 1999 by the International Summit in New Delhi / India in the year 2000. Having been married to Late Mr. Tendi Sherpa a resident of Solu Khumbu at a young age, Yankila got the opportunity to learn about the Solu Khumbu region (Tendi's home village from where most of the Sherpas come), mountaineering and trekking being the main profession of most of the young Sherpas, she relentlessly worked to promote eco-mountain tourism and sustainable livelihood schemes for these mountain people.. Her work with the Nepalese women has been through economic empowerment through women's entrepreneurship development. Having served for more than 25 years in various sectors for women entrepreneurship development such as FWEAN and now at T-HELP and SWAN Yankila could work for women's issues specially those related to mountain women. During her short 11 months period as State Minister of tourism she focused on developing communication and infrastructure in the remote mountain district (where she comes from), besides trying to improve the administration system in the

Tourism Ministry of the government of Nepal. Even today her village is 4 days walk from the nearest airport.

### **Shilling, John**

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.

### **Smith, Jason "Singer"**

"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. "

### **Snedegar, Keith**

Keith Snedegar is a professor of history at Utah Valley University, where he has taught since 1994. A founding member of the International Big History Association, he is especially interested in the history of science and indigenous knowledge systems in Africa. He lives with his wife Linda Potter and their cat Ziggy.

### **Starley, Jenny**

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.

### **Stewart, Zach**

Zach Stewart is Senior at UVU finishing his International Relations degree. He is working to pass the Foreign Service Officer Test and begin working for the State Department as a Foreign Service Officer. He is married and has two sons and tries to spend as much time as possible with them.

### **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.

### **Thackeray, Susan**

Susan L. Thackeray is an Assistant Professor, Technology Management in the College of Technology and Computing at Utah Valley University. She has over twenty years of demonstrated leadership in industry and education that includes international and domestic higher education instructional design, distance learning development, usability testing, workforce development, and team organization/training. Ms. Thackeray is noted nationally for the innovative UVU Business Engagement Strategy Career Pathways model to prepare and transition students efficiently into the workforce. Susan is currently the state lead for the National Alliance for Partnership in Equity-STEM Equity Pipeline Project. She has received multiple awards and is honored to be the 2012 recipient of the Women Tech Council innovation award for Educational Excellence. Ms. Thackeray holds a bachelor of science in the field of digital media and a master degree in instructional technology from Utah State University. Susan is currently completing her doctorate dissertation through Northeastern University with a research focus of underrepresented populations in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

### **Torsak, Deann**

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 at UVU. 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.

### **Trego, Angela**

Dr. Angela Trego, PE, PMP, currently works at Utah Valley University as an assistant professor in Technology Management. She is also a consultant providing expertise in accident reconstruction and teaching engineering technical short courses. She has worked at Varian Medical Systems, ATK, Becton Dickinson and The Boeing Company. Dr. Trego has two patents and is the author of over 50 publications and presentations. She graduated from Brigham Young University with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. She is an associate fellow member of AIAA. Angela is an associate fellow member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, an alternate member of the Engineering Accreditation Commission for the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, as well as on the executive board of directors for Women Tech Council.

### **Ulloa, Sara**

Sara Ulloa has a Ph. D. in Instructional Psychology and Technology with an emphasis in Second Language Acquisition. She is an Associate Professor for the Languages and Cultures Department at UVU. Sara has engaged with humanitarian projects and organizations to aid children in orphanages nationally and internationally since 2007. She has presented in conferences on service learning, humanitarian service and second language assessment in Spain, Peru, Mexico, Greece, China and Egypt as well as the US. Her most recent presentations were in Peru for the Third International Women of the Mountains conference and Brazil for the RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012. Currently she is the Director for the UVU International Outbound Program Peru 2016. Sara believes that teaching a language conveys intellectual engaging, cultural enlightening and educational empowering to broaden horizons and deepen understanding about other cultures and people.

### **Underwood, Marin**

Marin Reynolds became Marin Underwood when she married her best friend Austin Underwood July of 2015. Marin has a great love for people and is invested in their personal success. She has accomplished much in her 24 years. Recently her accomplishments have held great connection to Utah Valley University. She graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Emergency Management May 2014. During her time at UVU She was an ambassador for four years, a senator for the UVU Student Association, and the second ever female to run for student body president. She has sat on women initiative boards and helped execute engagements for women's success practically in the STEM arena. She has worked with countless politicians, ambassadors and foreign dignitaries. She is a Volunteer and Public Information Officer with the American Red Cross. Currently, Marin is working as an executive assistant to the Director of the Business Resource Center managing operations of Incubator/Accelerators for rising entrepreneurs.

### **Vasilevska, Violeta**

Dr. Violeta Vasilevska is an Associate Professor at UVU Department of Mathematics. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 2004, and since then she has been teaching at teaching-focused institutions. During this time, she has been interested in engaging her students in hands-on activities that encourage critical thinking and show how math is fun, interesting and beautiful. Her passion for origami has led her to become particularly interested in incorporating origami in teaching. In addition, she has been using these kinds of engaging projects in the outreach programs for high school female students that she has been running since 2007. She is an advocate of raising awareness of gender inequalities.

### **Wangsgard, Nichole**

Dr. Nichole Wangsgard is a professor in the School of Education at Utah Valley University (UVU). She is helping the School of Education design a Bachelor of Science in Special Education with an emphasis in Autism. Prior to joining UVU, Dr. Wangsgard was a professor at Southern Utah University for nine years leading students through the special education licensure program. She began her teaching career in special education as a teacher in West Valley City, Utah, where she was department chair of special education and coach of several athletic teams. Dr. Wangsgard's research and publications have been in the areas of assessment, reading motivation, reading strategies, professional learning communities, behavior management, and mild/moderate disabilities. She continues to collaborate and consult with school districts throughout the country.

### **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

### **Wilkerson, Don**

Don Wilkerson, a Utah resident since 1979, has been a member of the UN Association - USA (UNA-USA) and of UN Association of Utah since 2000 and a UNAU board member since 2010. He currently is President of UNAU and Chair of the Model UN committee. He has attended the last 3 annual meetings of UNA-USA where he has participated in the annual advocacy "Day on the Hill," has increased his understanding of the many UNA and UN programs and each year has experienced a boost in enthusiasm

for his work with UNAU. Don is a medical doctor who has practiced both general and child/adolescent psychiatry in Utah since 1979 and now is essentially retired, maintaining only a very small private practice

#### **Williams, Jeanetta**

Jeanetta Williams is President of the NAACP Salt Lake Branch and NAACP Tri-State Conference of Idaho, Nevada and Utah. She was elected to the NAACP National Board of Directors and served six years under the leadership of her friends and Civil Rights icons, Myrlie Evers Williams and Julian Bond. Jeanetta is a member and has served on numerous organizations including the YWCA of Salt Lake City, National Organization for Women, League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women, National Women's Political Caucus and others. She has been instrumental in the passage of numerous legislative Bills in the state of Utah and initiated and led the successful effort to change Utah's Human Rights Day to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the year 2000. She is responsible for the naming of Rosa Parks streets in Utah and a bench dedication. She has received NAACP National Awards and recognitions as well as numerous local awards. Jeanetta retired from Utah Transit Authority and U S West Communications. Jeanetta has a Bachelor of Arts in Management and MBA Degree's.

#### **Williamson, Gabrielle**

Gabrielle Williamson has an associate's degree in business management and will graduate from Utah Valley University in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in marketing. She has been a student worker in the History & Political Science department since 2013. Along with attending school fulltime, making the dean's list every semester, she also works at Victoria's Secret where she was quickly promoted to the inventory and floor set manager. Currently, Gabrielle Williamson lives in Provo, Utah.

#### **Williamson, Kimberly**

Kimberly Williamson became the administrative support for the History & Political Science department at Utah Valley University the summer of 2013. She is a UVU alumna where she earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies and a bachelor's degree in integrated studies. Currently, she is in her first year of Brigham Young University's Marriott School of management's executive master of public administration program. She is a member of both the Golden Key & Phi Alpha Theta Honor Societies. Having a love for collecting oral histories, Kimberly has worked on the Utah Women's Walk Oral History project and is the director for the Vietnam Era Oral History project. In 2015, she received the dean's award for staff for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences through providing outstanding service to others. Presently, Kimberly Williamson lives in Orem, Utah.

#### **Woodworth, Warner**

Dr. Warner Woodworth is a social entrepreneur and Professor Emeritus of Organizational Behavior at the Marriott School, Brigham Young University where he has taught OD, Third World Development, Microcredit, and Social Entrepreneurship. Author of 10 books and over 200 articles, he has been engaged in empowering the poor for two decades. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in organizational behavior from the University of Michigan. He has helped found and/or served on the boards of some 41 NGOs including Mentors International (7 countries), Ouelesseboungou Alliance (Mali), Unitus (16 nations), and HELP International (11 countries), among 20 other nonprofits. In 2014 alone the NGOs and MFIs he helped launch from his campus courses during past decades grew to over 7.1 million clients, and last year raised

some \$29 million, while training over 340,000 microentrepreneurs. He has been honored with the Faculty Pioneer Award for his global impacts from the Aspen Institute in NYC, a Social Entrepreneurship Teaching Award at the Skoll World Forum, Oxford University, and the first Peter Drucker Visiting Scholar at the Drucker School, Claremont University in LA, among other recognitions. He was also appointed by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus to the Advisory Board of Grameen America in NYC.

### **Yuan, Alex**

Professor Alex Yuan is an Assistant Professor of Chinese at Utah Valley University. He received his Ph.D. in Educational Policy. Dr. Yuan's fields of study include comparative education, Chinese education, modern Chinese literature, and Chinese culture and civilization.