Recognizing undergraduate research as an increasingly important aspect of higher education, the Office of Engaged Learning provides resources for students to participate in cutting edge research in their field of study.

In 2008, Utah Valley University received the prestigious Carnegie Foundation as a “community institution”. This elite classification reflects UVU’s curricular emphasis on engaged learning and long-standing role as a community problem-solver.

So what is engaged learning? Engaged learning is traditional classroom teaching integrated with hands-on education. This type of teaching provides students with a rich and meaningful educational experience. No matter what a student chooses to study, they can find an engaged learning experience at UVU. For entrepreneurship students, engaged learning may mean starting a business as a class assignment. For automotive students, it may be fine-tuning the engine of a race car. For literature students, it may mean teaching Shakespeare to disadvantaged youth.

A variety of programs across campus provide support for engaged learning activities. The university’s “Grants for Engaged Learning” program provides approximately $400,000 annually to support student and faculty projects. For more information on how to help your child's experience at UVU be more engaging, please visit www.uvu.edu/gel.

At UVU, engaged learning is woven into the curriculum at every programmatic level and across the university's eight colleges and schools. Beyond the curriculum, engaged learning occurs through internships, service learning, career development and other programs.

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Engaged Learning
Graduate with a Degree and a Resume!

Building on UVU’s community focus and civic engagement, engaged learning integrates the classroom with hands-on education experiences to give students a rich and meaningful educational experience. No matter what a student chooses to study, they can find an engaged learning experience at UVU. For entrepreneurship students, engaged learning may mean starting a business as a class assignment. For automotive students, it may be fine-tuning the engine of a race car. For literature students, it may mean teaching Shakespeare to disadvantaged youth.

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A day long celebration took place on September 3rd, that included a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a student activity promoting inter-religious understanding, a presidential lecture, and the screening of an independent film.

The day’s events were primarily focused on the completion of UVU’s new Reflection Center, a space created to gather for prayer, reflection and meditation. “We have a large and increasingly diverse student body from all 50 states and nearly 70 countries,” said Brian D. Birch, director of UVU’s Religious Studies Program. “We wanted a space for our students to develop their whole selves, where they can develop their social, intellectual, and spiritual capacities as they define them.”

In addition to the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the fall presidential lecture, entitled, “Changing the World through Interfaith Cooperation” was presented by Eboo Patel, founder of Interfaith Youth Core, a nonprofit organization aimed at promoting interfaith cooperation.

Brian Birch stated, “The idea for the Reflection Center has been almost 15 years in the making. Most campuses have a designated space for prayer, but we wanted a facility that would accommodate not only religious expression, but also interfaith interaction, dialogue, and academic pursuits.”

With an eye to the future, the Utah Valley University administration finalized the purchase of 125 acres from Anderson Geneva Development located in Vineyard, Utah. Along with the 100 acres the university currently owns in this area, this new purchase will effectively double the university’s footprint in Utah County.

“In the years to come, UVU will need to look at a variety of options to accommodate our growth,” stated President Holland. “Given our growth projections, we are always looking for new ways to educate more students and fulfill our state-mandated mission of open access, and we have a responsibility to do that for both the current generation and future generations. This will open up a whole new set of possibilities for this institution as it grows.”
UVU Claims National Title
SkillsUSA Championships

During the last week in June, Utah Valley University was awarded the national title at the 50th Annual SkillsUSA National Championships. Students from UVU came away with 17 medals, including eight gold, five silver, and four bronze. UVU students continue to rank among the top three in the nation during the last 14 years.

Nearly 6,000 students from across the nation competed in 99 different trade, technical, and management fields. UVU students competed in 27 of the categories. “To bring this into perspective, there were 46 states that did not earn as many national post-secondary medals as UVU did as a single institution. This speaks volumes about the quality of students, faculty and programs we have at UVU,” said Darin Taylor, director of UVU’s SkillsUSA.

Did you know that in 2009, UVU’s state-of-the-art library was featured in the American Library Association’s magazine? Your student probably doesn’t either! “The UVU Library is designed to foster the intellectual, technical and cultural growth of students,” said former library director Michael Freeman. Many students leave college without a full understanding of all the benefits our Digital Learning Center has to offer.

Course Reserves
One of the many features of our library is an online reserve of course material. You can browse by instructor, department or even course pages to find what you are looking for. This is an easy and inexpensive alternative way to read your course’s textbook, without ever opening a book!

Library Services
Helping Students Along the Way

Mike Rowe from the television series “Dirty Jobs” attended the championships and filmed a segment. He chose UVU’s Paul Smith from culinary arts to be part of his new TV series “Somebody’s Gotta Do It.” Rowe spent nearly an hour of filming in a head-to-head cake decorating competition against Smith. Smith, who won the gold in commercial baking, won the contest.

Media Equipment
UVU has a variety of equipment available for students to check-out for free! The library’s reserve consists of cameras and video equipment, computers, peripherals, sound equipment and much more! So the next time your student needs special equipment for a school project, you’ll know right where to go.

Study Rooms
Our library has 29 group study rooms located throughout the building. Group study rooms can seat two to four students, while large group study rooms can seat up to ten students. Media viewing rooms are also available.

Text a Librarian
Does your student ever need help at the library, and isn’t quite sure who to ask? Text a librarian! It’s a quick and easy way to get answers quickly. Simply text 801.362.8176 and receive answers in an instant.

The UVU library offers an abundance of services for your student through their entire academic career. For questions, contact the Utah Valley Library at 801.863.8265, or visit their website at www.uvu.edu/library.
Fútbul is Here
Utah Debuts Utah’s Only NCAA Division I Men’s Soccer Program

Soccer is the world’s most popular sport. The number of players and fans in the United States has never been higher. Yet no university in Utah has had a men’s team playing at the sport’s highest collegiate level...until now! Led by a coach who has shaped the soccer landscape in Utah, and with a roster spanning four countries and ten states, Utah Valley University debuted the state’s first NCAA Division I men’s soccer team in August. The team plans to show, both on and off the field, what it means to be a Wolverine.

The addition of a men’s soccer program is another symbol of the unprecedented growth seen in Wolverine Athletics over the past 10 years. In 2009, UVU became the only university in the history of the NCAA to achieve D-I status straight from junior college, moving from the junior college ranks to the top level of collegiate athletics in just seven years.

UVU took the next big stop in its athletic ascent by officially joining the Western Athletic Conference in 2013, dramatically increasing opportunities for national post-season play and boosting student-athlete recruitment.

“When we began the search for UVU’s first men’s soccer coach, we had lofty aspirations,” says UVU associate athletic director Jared Sumision. Administrators didn’t have to look far to find their man. Sumision first contacted Greg Maas, who was serving as technical director for the Utah Youth Soccer Association at the time. “The opportunity to be part of something brand new and historic doesn’t come around very often,” stated Maas.

It’s not enough for these Wolverines to just be competitive. They want to show people “the beautiful game,” to help soccer spread throughout Utah and raise UVU athletics to new heights.

“We always hear around the school how everyone is so excited, and I feel like it puts something on our shoulders to prove that,” says Karson Payton, forward. “When they come out to the pitch and watch us play, they’re going to see beautiful soccer.”

To show the significance of fan support to his team, Maas says he has excluded his players from wearing the uniform number 12. That number, he says, is reserved for the UVU students and community, so they can stand with the 11 players on the field in Wolverine green.

“No matter what, I want people who watch this team to feel inspired,” Maas says. “I want them to know that we went to battle for them. There aren't many sports in the world that inspire that passion. Soccer is one of them.”

“Every program had to start at zero at some point,” Payton says. “We get to create those traditions at UVU. Expectations are high, but they’re even higher for us as a team. We’re going to try to achieve those expectations and go beyond.”