



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY'S

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# SCHOOL *of* EDUCATION CONVOCAATION

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THIRD OF MAY, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR



McKAY EDUCATION

ME

# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

## Message From the Dean

1

Dear 2024 School of Education Graduates,

Congratulations on your outstanding achievement! On behalf of our faculty and staff, it is my privilege to express our pride in your accomplishments and to recognize you as School of Education graduates.

Your graduation marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance in earning your academic credentials from one of the programs at the UVU School of Education. We are delighted to celebrate you and the successful completion of your studies. With determination and persistence, you built essential academic and professional competencies, knowledge, and skills while preparing to apply your learning and continue to grow in your field.

Your graduation highlights your exemplary ability to set and achieve your goals. Your passion for learning and your unwavering commitment to excellence will serve as guides in your future endeavors.

You have chosen a pathway full of opportunities to positively impact individuals, communities, academic fields, and industries, and we wish you success and new achievements.

You are now UVU alumni. Stay connected with us as members of our large community of students, graduates, faculty, staff, collaborators, and supporters while also serving as ambassadors for UVU and our School of Education!

Congratulations, School of Education graduates! May your journey be filled with countless moments of success, fulfillment, and new opportunities to continue reaching your goals!

Sincerely,

Dr. Vessela Ilieva  
*Dean, School of Education*



# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

8:00 am, Friday, May 3, 2024  
UCCU Center

3

Welcome and Comments .....	Dr. Vessela Ilieva <i>Dean, School of Education</i>
Introduction of Faculty .....	Darin Eckton <i>Department Chair, Student Leadership &amp; Success Studies</i>
Valedictorian Address (Bachelor of Science) .....	Amberly Nielsen <i>Special Education with an Autism Minor</i>
Valedictorian Address (Associate of Science) .....	Trevan Chamomile <i>University Studies</i>
Graduating Student Musical Number (Flute and Piano) .....	“Fantasie” by Georges Huë Mickayla Hunter, <i>Flute, Music Education Graduate</i> Maren Daynes, <i>Piano Accompaniment, Piano Performance Graduate</i>
Graduate Address (Master of Education) .....	Julia De Santiago <i>Teacher Leadership</i>
Presentation of Graduates .....	Dr. Vessela Ilieva <i>Dean, School of Education</i>
Reading of Names .....	Andrew Goodman, Kalani Eggington Keri Measom, Trevor Warburton

## Recessional

A UVU graduation party will be held outside the FL, LA, SL, RL, and SC buildings from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Presidential Reception will be part of this event from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm by the block UVU letters in the SL Plaza. (See the map on the last page of this program.)

Backdrops for photo opportunities are available in the McKay Education Building (ME 101c and ME 133).

# VALEDICTORIANS

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4



## AMBERLY NIELSEN

*Bachelor Valedictorian*

*Bachelor of Science, Special Education*

Amberly Nielsen is from Spanish Fork, Utah, and attended Maple Mountain High School before enrolling at UVU. During her time at UVU, Nielsen represented the Special Education department as the representative for the UVUSA Student Chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. After graduation, she plans to work with the Nebo School District in an initial skills kindergarten classroom and earn a master's degree at UVU to become a board-certified behavior analyst and certified school psychologist. Ultimately, she hopes to be a district-level behavior consultant and school psychologist. She enjoys traveling, reading, and spending time outdoors.



## TREVAN CAMOMILE

*Associate Valedictorian*

*Associate of Science, University Studies*

Trevan Camomile hails from Cedar Hills, Utah, and attended American Fork High School. He is a digital marketer at Infogenix and a freelance music composer with more than 120 five-star ratings. Camomile was awarded a Presidential Scholarship and credited his time at UVU as a “great transformational experience into adulthood.” He plans to continue his education at UVU, aiming for a bachelor's in digital marketing. Ultimately, Camomile plans to be an entrepreneur, utilizing his marketing and creativity skills while awhile potentially earning an MBA. His hobbies include drawing, writing, programming, gaming, and armchair philosophy. He has two younger siblings and credits everything to his loving parents.

# GRADUATE ADDRESS

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5



## JULIA DE SANTIAGO

*Graduate Speaker for the School of Education*

*Master of Education Teacher Leadership*

Julia De Santiago is from Lyman, Wyoming, and has spent the last seven years honing her passion for education and student success. As the first-generation program coordinator, she served, mentored, and supported UVU students with culturally appropriate resources. She has excelled in collaborating closely with organizations such as the Undocumented Student Task Force, the Black, Indigenous, and Women of Color Affinity Group, and the Utah Women of Higher Education Network. De Santiago expressed deep gratitude to her parents and husband for their unwavering support, selfless sacrifices, and boundless love, which have been pillars of strength throughout her educational journey.



UTAH VALLEY

UVU

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# FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS

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7



## KALANI JOY EGGINGTON

*Associate Professor, Elementary Education*

*Faculty Senate Award of Excellence*

Kalani Joy Eggington hails from Brisbane, Australia, and contributes to UVU's high-quality learning environment as an associate professor of elementary education. She holds a Bachelor of Science in biology composite teaching with an emphasis in microbiology from Brigham Young University, a Master of Science in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in teacher education from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a Ph.D. in science education from the University of Queensland. The chair of UVU's For the Love of Reading Conference, Eggington loves the people she works with at UVU and the enthusiastic, intelligent, and creative students she teaches.



## LAURIE BOWEN

*Associate Director, Melisa Nellesen Center for Autism*

*Dean's Award for Staff Excellence*

Laurie Bowen is from Riverton, Utah, and is the associate director for UVU's Melisa Nellesen Center for Autism. She has earned multiple degrees including a bachelor's degree in behavioral science from UVU, a second bachelor's degree from Utah State University in communication disorders, and an advanced degree from Arizona State University in education in curriculum and development. She is currently completing her Ph.D. dissertation in special education at the University of Northern Colorado. She is also a board-certified behavior analyst. She has been a key member of the UVU family for nearly 17 years. Bowen is a proud aunt to eight and enjoys reading, gardening, connecting with friends, and cooking.

# DEAN SUITE, DEPARTMENT CHAIRS, ACADEMIC ADVISORS, AND OFFICE STAFF

8

## DEAN'S OFFICE

Dr. Vessela Ilieva, *Dean*  
Dr. Stan Harward, *Associate Dean*  
Rhet Rowley, *Assistant Dean*  
Wendy Oldroyd, *Financial Manager*  
Leisa Galloway, *Admin Support IV*

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

Dr. Bryan Waite, *SSED*  
Dr. Darin Eckton, *SLSS*  
Dr. Krista Ruggles, *ELED*  
Dr. Mia Kang, *GRAD*

## FACULTY

Dr. Adam Ogurlu, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Andrew Goodman, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Andria Disney, *Associate Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Axel Ramirez, *Professor*  
Dr. Benjamin Johnson, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Bing Han, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Caleb Stanley, *Assistant Professor*  
Cami Burton, *Professional in Residence*  
Dr. Carrie Ashcraft, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Cathy Tingstrom, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Christopher Goslin, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. CC Franklin, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Dale Cox, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Doug Gardner, *Professor*  
Dr. Elaine Tuft, *Professor/Endowed Chair*  
Dr. George Odongo, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Hamed Shafiei, *Assistant Professor*

Joey Foote, *Professional in Residence*  
Dr. Kalani Eggington, *Associate Professor*  
Kalee Crandall, *Professional in Residence*  
Kelly Glynn, *Professional in Residence*  
Keri Measom, *Professional in Residence*  
Dr. Laurel Dias, *Assistant Professor*  
Lisa Lambert, *Associate Professor*  
Lucia Evans, *Lecturer*  
Dr. Malynda Tolbert, *Assistant Professor*  
Marinda Ashman, *Associate Professor*  
Marni Sanft, *Associate Professor*  
Mike Jensen, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Mike Patch, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Nicole Gearing, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Rachel Carlsruh, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Raven Cromwell, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Renee Borns, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Roni Draper, *Lecturer*  
Dr. Sean Crossland, *Assistant Professor*  
Stacy Waddoups, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Theresa Haug-Belvin, *Assistant Professor*  
Tiffany Yoast, *Professional in Residence*  
Dr. Tracy Sermon, *Assistant Professor*  
Dr. Trevor Warburton, *Associate Professor*  
Dr. Wendy Wakefield, *Assistant Professor*

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

Shaunna Requilman, *Early Childhood Education*  
Wendi Hillman, *Admin Support II*  
Rachel Johnson, *Secondary Education, PETE*  
Leslie Hudson, *ELED (Junior & Senior)*  
Sheila Jacklin, *ELED (Freshman & Sophomore)*

## STAFF

Abigail Munoz, *Admin Support III* - GRAD  
 Amy Ripplinger, *Graphic Designer*  
 Andrea Davis, *Admin Support III* - SOE  
 Anna Tibbitts, *Marketing Manager* - SOE  
 Allison Herrera, *Recruitment Coordinator*  
 Angus Mcfarlane, *Program Manager* - SLSS  
 Anna Sisson, *Program Manager* - WE  
 Beth Reid, *Admin Support III* - SLSS  
 Brianna Larson, *Graduate Program Advisor*  
 Brooks Burr, *Director of Development* - SOE  
 Dr. Jane Carlson, *Director* - MNCA  
 Kellie Jorgensen Lake, *Data Coordinator*  
 Kristen Williams, *Admin Support III* -  
 ELED/SSED  
 Laurie Bowen, *Associate Director* - MNCA  
 Madelyn Millet, *School Counseling*  
*Coordinator*  
 Michael Davies, *Program Director* - MNCA  
 Nathan Criman, *GRAD Program Coordinator*  
 Ryan Scott, *IT Area Technician*  
 Sarah Frei, *Admin Support III* - CLS

Bella Trionfo, MNCA  
 Brooke Watkins, MNCA  
 Brynlie Macdonald, MNCA  
 Calvin Packer, MNCA  
 Cassidy Ashby, MNCA  
 Daniel Gardner, MNCA  
 Doc Clegg, MNCA  
 Eden Black, SLSS  
 Elijah McPherson, MNCA  
 Emmalynn Page, SLSS  
 Grace Wingate, MNCA  
 Harkirat Shergill, MNCA  
 Harun Allow, MNCA  
 James Bronson, MNCA  
 Jordan Tietjen, SLSS  
 Kadie Waldron, MNCA  
 Lizzy Wood, MNCA  
 Maliyah Whimpey, SLSS  
 Nicholas Christensen, SLSS  
 Ravin Maclean, MNCA  
 Sam Hyland, MNCA  
 Sloane Gibson, MNCA  
 Wilna Zullo, MNCA

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Brayden Morton, *Student Senator* - SOE  
 Alivia Thorne, *SSED department rep*  
 Brooklyn Moore, *ELED department rep*  
 Kaleb Rodriguez, *SLSS department rep*

SOE - School of Education  
 MNCA - Melisa Nellesen Center for Autism  
 ELED - Elementary Education  
 SSED - Secondary & Special Education  
 SLSS - Student Leadership & Success Studies  
 GRAD - Graduate Programs  
 PETE - Physical Education Teaching  
 CLS - Creative Learning Studio  
 WE - Wolverines Elevated

## STUDENT EMPLOYEES

Ayden Womack, *Dean's Intern*  
 Abigail Johnson, MNCA  
 Adalyn Glade, MNCA  
 Agnieszka Lubowska, MNCA  
 Amy Sygnatowicz, SLSS  
 Aspen Allred, MNCA

# GRAD BASH

10

L13 – SLWC Plaza

Thursday, May 2, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Friday, May 3, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

President's reception: 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. both days

For all graduates and families

