

UVSELF

Utah Valley
Senior Executive
Leadership Forum

2026 - 2027 COHORT





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At Utah Valley University, we recognize that developing leadership skills is a complex path. Leaders may come into their roles at different career stages. Whether chosen for field-specific skills, growth potential, or demonstrated performance, taking on a leadership role can challenge even the seasoned professional. With this in mind, the Utah Valley Senior Executive Leadership Forum was developed to give forum participants, or fellows, the opportunity to participate in and learn about senior leadership in a university setting. The forum provides an intellectually stimulating leadership exploration and discovery experience for faculty and staff who have demonstrated exceptional promise in contributing to excellence at Utah Valley University. Forum fellows engage in thought-provoking, stimulating discussions and learning activities related to critical issues and opportunities that arise in leading and managing in higher education.

FORUM LEADERSHIP

The President of UVU serves as the forum director. The Executive Committee is comprised of a representative from the Office of the President, People & Culture, Academic Affairs, and Student Affairs. The President and other members of the Cabinet participate in forum activities as often as their schedules permit.

THE PROGRAM

UVSELF runs for approximately 11 months and includes a two-day retreat, six full-day seminars, as well as other engaging and enriching experiences to complement the forum experience. Fellows must attend the retreat and at least five seminars.

THE RETREAT

The forum is a two-day event on June 18 & 19, held at Daniels Summit Lodge. The purposes of the retreat are to:

- Get acquainted with the background and aspirations of all members of the cohort.
- Receive a comprehensive orientation of anticipated forum activities.
- Develop the schedule of events and topics for consideration during the upcoming year, focusing on specific issues and questions to be explored.
- Identify and outline supporting reading and study materials.
- Participate in some relaxing and recreational activities together.

The retreat provides the foundation on which the diverse and rich UVSELF experiences build.

FORUM SEMINARS

Identified and developed during the retreat by fellows and forum leadership, UVSELF seminars focus on a detailed review and discussion of various university and leadership topics. Fellows explore seminar topics through such activities as literature reviews, guest presentations, and think-tank theory discussions of application, practice, and implication for current university management.

Sample topics explored by previous UVSELF cohorts include:

- Organizational leadership
- Personal leadership
- Legislative issues in higher education
- Planning for and implementing change
- Budgeting and finance in higher education
- Careers in higher education
- Global implications for higher education
- Demographic changes and their impact on higher education

ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCES

In addition to routinely scheduled forum experiences, fellows will receive a mentor from among UVU's executive leadership, and occasionally be invited, either individually or collectively, by members of the Cabinet to participate in ongoing intellectual, academic, and social activities, either on- or off-campus, that relate to UVU. Special discussion sessions before or after such activities, relevant online chats, or other forms of professional engagement may be scheduled throughout the year.

QUICK INFO

Applications Due

5 p.m. Thursday,
March 19, 2026

The Retreat

June 18 - 19

Daniels Summit Lodge
Heber City, Utah

For more information and to access and complete an application, please visit the President's website at

www.uvu.edu/president/office/uvself.html or

contact [Christine Peterson](#), Executive Program Manager, People & Culture, at (801) 863-6797.

THE SCHEDULE

For the 2026-2027 forum, the retreat begins mid morning of June 18 and runs through the afternoon of June 19. Accommodations and meals are included as part of the forum retreat.

Seminars will be held in September, October, November, January, February, and March and are typically a full day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

The forum concludes in April with an evaluation of the year's activities and a brief graduation ceremony.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

A diverse cohort of 2026-2027 UVSELF fellows will be selected through an application process from a pool of applicants across campus.

Employees interested in participating in UVSELF should submit an application, current resume or curriculum vitae, and a one-page statement of intent. Applications must be received by 5 p.m., Thursday, March 19, 2026.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of the members of the President's Cabinet. The selection committee will screen applications against, but not limited to, the following characteristics:

- Demonstrated leadership potential
- Commitment to UVU's core values of exceptional care, exceptional accountability, and exceptional results
- Sense of intellectual engagement
- Career aspirations
- Availability to participate
- Expression of interest

Employee's supervisors must be willing to endorse and support the applicant's participation.

Because of the limited number of seats available in the cohort, applicants not selected are encouraged to reapply in succeeding years.





Executive Committee

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Marilyn Meyer

Vice President of People & Culture

Kat Brown

Deputy Provost of Academic Affairs

Alexis Palmer

Associate Vice President of Student Life

Clark Collings

General Counsel for Utah Valley University & Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Christine Peterson

Executive Program Manager, People & Culture

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UVU Office of the President

(801) 863-3000

