

# The Status of Women Worldwide

## *Becoming Informed & Empowered as Global Citizens*

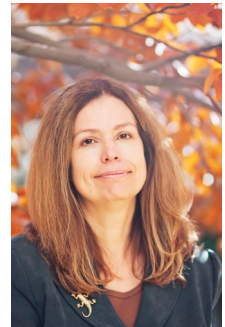
### *Utah Women's Leadership Speaker & Dialogue Series*

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)  
*Auditorium (CB101), Clarke Building, Utah Valley University*

#### **Speakers: Sharon Eubank & Valerie M. Hudson**



Two internationally acclaimed speakers, Sharon Eubank and Dr. Valerie M. Hudson, share their expertise, insights, and research on the status of women worldwide in terms of basic needs, health, violence against women in society, equity for women in families and communities, women's educational attainment, human trafficking, maternal mortality, the extent to which women are involved in societal decision making, leadership, and current humanitarian and policy efforts to address these issues and others. They will also discuss how the



status of women in society is linked to the well-being of communities and nations (see bios on next page). Importantly, each will address why it is important for Utahns to become informed and empowered as global citizens and how to make a difference. Women (12 years and older) and those who influence them are invited (men too)!

RSVP at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) or [www.utwomen.org](http://www.utwomen.org)

Our evening will conclude with light refreshments as attendees dialogue about what they have learned. The event will live stream, and video recordings of the event will be available at [www.uen.org](http://www.uen.org) and rebroadcast on UEN-TV channel 9.1.

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## Speaker Biographies

### **Sharon Eubank, Director of Latter-day Saint Charities**

After federal government and small business experience, Ms. Eubank joined LDS Charities in 1998. She established 17 international employment offices helping women qualify for jobs or start small businesses. For five years, she directed the humanitarian wheelchair donation program, expanding both the number and quality of donations. In 2008 she became regional director of the Latter-day Saint Charities for the Middle East, overseeing humanitarian work in 11 countries.

In 2011, Ms. Eubank was appointed the director of Latter-day Saint Charities' worldwide operations, and she was named President of Latter-day Saint Charities in 2018. In addition, in 2017, she was asked to serve in the general presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints women's Relief Society organization. In this capacity, she helps provide leadership and resources for 7.1 million women in 162 countries.

In describing her commitment to global humanitarian work, Ms. Eubank has stated: "Charity is much more than aid. The holy scriptures define charity as the pure love of God. So, charity is an act of giving and receiving that is accompanied by love and feelings of respect. By its very nature there is no quid pro quo. It 'seeks not its own.' It emphasizes dignity, human worth, cooperation, unity, sacrifice, and the assurance that no one is too poor or too disabled or too marginalized or too much a hardened enemy to contribute something of value to the whole. Charitable acts rooted in a desire to listen, to heal, to cooperate, to respect are as potent a transformational agent for change as anything on the earth."

### **Valerie M. Hudson, Ph.D., Scholar, Author, & Speaker**

Valerie M. Hudson is a University Distinguished Professor and holds the George H. W. Bush Chair in the Department of International Affairs at The Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, where she directs the Program on Women, Peace, and Security. She has previously taught at Brigham Young, Northwestern, and Rutgers universities. Her research foci include foreign policy analysis, security studies, gender and international relations, and methodology. Hudson's many academic articles have appeared in the top journals in her field. She is the author or editor of several books, including (with Andrea Den Boer) *Bare Branches: The Security Implications of Asia's Surplus Male Population* (MIT Press, 2004), which won the American Association of Publishers Award for the Best Book in Political Science, and the Otis Dudley Duncan Award for Best Book in Social Demography, resulting in feature stories in the *New York Times*, *The Economist*, *60 Minutes*, and other news publications.

Hudson was named to the list of Foreign Policy magazine's Top 100 Global Thinkers for 2009, and in 2015 was recognized as Distinguished Scholar of Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA/ISA) and awarded an inaugural Andrew Carnegie Fellowship as well as an inaugural Fulbright Distinguished Chair in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Australian National University (2017). Winner of numerous teaching awards and recipient of a National Science Foundation research grant and a Minerva Initiative grant, she served as the Director of Graduate Studies for the David M. Kennedy Center for International and Area Studies for eight years and served as Vice President of the International Studies Association for 2011.

Hudson is one of the Principal Investigators of The WomanStats Project (<http://womanstats.org>), which includes the largest compilation of data on the status of women in the world today. Her co-authored book, *Sex and World Peace*, was listed by Gloria Steinem in 2014 as one of the top three books on her "Reading Our Way to the Revolution" list. Hudson's most recent book with Patricia Leidl, is entitled *The Hillary Doctrine: Sex and American Foreign Policy*.

Hudson is a founder and editorial board member of the online Latter-day Saint journal *SquareTwo*, the president of the Utah Valley Institute of Cystic Fibrosis, served in the 11th Special Forces US Army Reserve as a wheeled vehicle and power generator mechanic, and has been a La Leche League Leader for 32 years. She is married to David Cassler and is the mother of eight children.