

WOMEN'S COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY—REACHED 50/50 ENROLLMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

For the first time in UVU history, we have as many self-identified female students enrolled at UVU as male students. Although we are waiting for the final drop date for the official numbers, the admissions team can confidently say, “we have never seen it this close.”

Dr. Andrew Stone, the Associate Vice President of Student Experience and Enrollment Management, said, “We go to conferences, and everyone is talking about enrolling more men, and we have always been one of the schools with the opposite problem. So, it’s great that we are seeing more female students who come and stay.”

Recruiting and retaining female students has always been a challenge. However, since the start of the Women’s Success Center, UVU has seen a regular increase in female graduates. In 2022-2023, women earned 43.5% of all degrees.

“We are up 463 more newly admitted female students than male students,” said Stone sharing his excitement for those students. “It’s a benefit to UVU, to those students and their families, and their careers,” said Stone.

Dr. Stone told us there is no specific plan to recruit women, but he hopes our growth is coming because we are telling a compelling story. One that resonates with female students and with the community. “We are shifting mindsets about the importance of education for women,” Stone said. “That’s important to me as a father of daughters.”

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WENDY SIMMERMAN AWARDED AS A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT HERO BY THE NAWDP

Workforce Development Hero

UVU's Senior Director of Workforce Alignment Wendy Simmerman was named a "Workforce Development Hero" by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) on September 5, an honor bestowed to professionals that support job seekers and employers. NAWDP recognizes employees like Simmerman in September during Workforce Development Month.

THE UVU WOMEN'S SUCCESS CENTER SHARES RESOURCES AT OPEN HOUSE EVENT

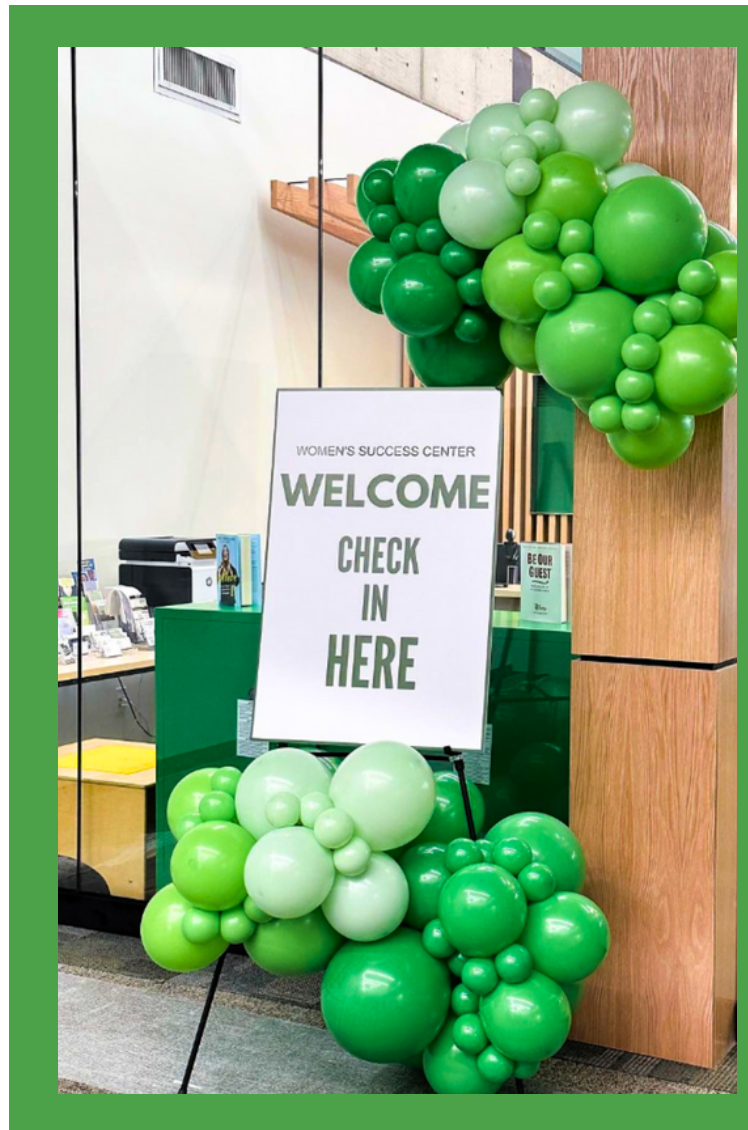
The UVU Women's Success Center recently hosted an inspiring Open House event that brought students and faculty together to explore a wealth of resources and scholarships available on our vibrant campus. The event, held on August 30th, exemplified the commitment to empowering women and fostering their academic and professional growth.

The Open House was a dynamic showcase of our university's remarkable support system. "So much of what we do is help students find the appropriate resources," said Emilee Mabrey, Assistant Director of the Women's Success Center. "Inviting both these resources and our students into the center creates confidence and a sense of safety when they go and utilize the other resources on campus." Mabrey is also grateful for the resources that tabled at the event. "They took time out of their day because they also believe in our mission and its impact on students," she said.

Students and faculty gathered to learn about various services, including the Wee Care Center, the Veterans Success Center, TRIO, and Student Health Services.

Close to 200 people participated in the Open House. Rachel Lund, Senior Director of the Women's Success Center & Wee Care, said, "A highlight of the event was seeing so many male allies attend the event. Seeing our students ask about the center and how it helps the women in their lives and makes a difference in their own was inspiring."

The Women's Success Center Open House was a testament to the inclusive and nurturing environment we strive to create at UVU. It reaffirms our commitment to every woman's success on campus.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT. 15 ————— LIGHT UP THE NIGHT
8:00-10:00 PM FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT
UVU FL QUAD

SEPT. 20 ————— TALK WITH TUMINEZ
11:00 AM
VALLEJO AUDITORIUM

SEPT. 20 ————— UWHEN OPENING FALL SOCIAL
11:30 AM
SC 206A

OCT. 4 ————— UWHEN FACULTY FORUM LUNCHEON
12:00 TO 1:00 PM
SC 213A

OCT. 10 ————— UWHEN VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB
1:00 PM
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE
UVU.EDU/UWHEN

OCT. 11 ————— UWHEN IN-PERSON BOOK CLUB
1:00 PM
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE
UVU.EDU/UWHEN

OCT. 12 ————— UWEHN FALL LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON
11:30 AM
SC 206A
GUEST SPEAKER—PROVO MAYOR
MICHELLE KAUFUSI

UTAH WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION BOOK CLUB

Each year, the UVU Chapter of the Utah Women in Higher Education Network (UWHEN) chooses a book to read and discuss. Anyone is welcome to join the UWHEN book club, and Sabine Berlin, the UWHEN Book Club Coordinator, encourages you to get involved. “Come, it’s casual; you will make friends and connections,” she said. “We are going to have a good time!”

This year’s book is by Sheryl Sandberg, of Facebook fame. It’s titled, ‘Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead.’ “This book will teach us that women can be successful,” Berlin said. “There is a whole lot that we can bring to the game. Women have ways of leading and being successful that are different from men, and that’s not bad; it’s not disparaging. We need all types of leaders to be successful.”

Some of the benefits of joining the UWHEN Book Club include feeling a sense of community, being empowered to lead, and the freedom to participate in whatever way is easiest for you. “It is a unique way to get to know the other people who are interested in women in leadership and UWHEN. It is an opportunity for everyone to discuss. There is no right or wrong answer,” said Berlin.

The meetings started this week, but you can join the UWHEN book club anytime. Meetings are structured face-to-face and virtually every month so everyone can participate and connect.

You can sign up online if you want to join the book club. The book can be picked up at the WSC South Lobby. Sabine Berlin can also bring you your book and drop it off if you are at another campus. Just send her a message to coordinate times.



LEAN IN
WOMEN, WORK, AND
THE WILL TO LEAD

TECH-MOMS PARTNERSHIP WITH UVU CONTINUES

Utah Valley University and the Women's Success Center are thrilled to welcome the latest cohort of Tech-Moms participants to the Lehi campus. Classes started Saturday, September 9th, and will continue until November 4th. Twenty new students will spend each Saturday on UVU's campus while participating in "a part-time technical skills course, professional networking, and a broad range of career exploration through guest speakers," according to the Tech-Moms mission statement.

In an orientation for new students, Trina Limpert, co-founder of Tech-Moms and member of the Women's Success Center Advisory Board, told participants that Tech-Moms is a community of women who celebrate and support each other. Warning students that they were going to make connections that would be there for the rest of their lives, said one of the students on the call.

"The mission of Tech-Moms mirrors the mission of the Women's Success Center and we are proud to support this wonderful organization," said Rachel Lund, Senior Director of the Women's Success Center and Wee Care. "We welcome this new cohort and wish them the very best!"



ANA COLOMA RECEIVES THE 2023 GAMBLE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

We are excited to share the inspiring journey of Ana Coloma, a sophomore from Peru majoring in Computational Data Science at Utah Valley University (UVU). Her story embodies ambition, a passion for driving change through data, and the incredible support she receives from UVU alumni-faculty.

Ana hopes to join the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Hydrology Department, hoping to impact climate change mitigation profoundly. She focuses on hydrological and meteorological data management, aiming to reduce the devastating effects of natural disasters, particularly in her country.

Ana's story stands out because of the unwavering support she receives from a UVU alumni-faculty duo. Ana is the proud recipient of the 2023 Gamble Professional Development Fund, generously awarded by Justine and Rylee Gamble. Justine, an alumna and a current staff member, is an adjunct professor at UVU. Meanwhile, Rylee, also a UVU alumna, previously worked at the university.

Ana's journey exemplifies the power of educated women supporting women's education and highlights UVU's culture of scholarship. We hope this reminds us that remarkable achievements can unfold when we extend a helping hand.

STUDENT RESEARCH TEAM ACCEPTED INTO THE NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

After competing in the local round of the 2022 Map the System research competition hosted by UVU's Center for Social Impact, Estrella Chinchay (left), Rian Wells (middle), and Sieglinde Hugo (right) decided to pursue their research further. This undergraduate research team has dedicated significant time to researching the mental health disparity LGBTQ+ Utah youth face. Through participating in the systems thinking and mapping workshop series that is part of the UVU Map the System competition, the students were able to They have identified key stakeholders and power dynamics that systematically perpetuate these mental health disparities in Utah. The team will present their research with close attention to the important cultural and sociological factors that are impacting the mental health of queer individuals in Utah.

These UVU students were recently accepted into the National Communication Association Conference and will present in Maryland this upcoming November.

