S N A P S H O T S

We’ve Got Heart: Dr. Clifton Sanders, SLCC provost, center, in a promotional video with Academic Advising Director Ashley Sokia, far left, and Institute of Public Safety Administrative Assistant Stormie Dawn, right of Sanders. Students are in the background.
Top: Junior high and high school students break it down at Grand Youth Camp, hosted by SLCC’s Grand Theatre.

Middle: Students Carlina Matayo, left, and Simba Kunda, on the first day of Fall Semester 2018.

Bottom: SLCC faculty, staff and students march in the 2018 Utah Pride Parade.
The Tim and Brenda Huval Child Care Center is expanding to serve more SLCC students with children.

SOUTH CITY CAMPUS
A $1.1 million grant offers more child care for SLCC students.

REACHING DREAMS
Jasmin Topete is driven to become a social worker, aided by a scholarship.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Natalie Kaddas credits SLCC for success in business.

SLCC @ 70
Celebrating seven decades, a look back in photos.
The Gail Miller Utah Leadership Cup raises a record amount for scholarships.
SLCC faculty have attended Harvard, Columbia and other prestigious schools. They’ve received top honors from Utah’s best schools, and represent a diverse mix of educational technique, innovation and devotion to student success.

328 Full-time faculty

3,633 Combined years teaching

11 Average years teaching

1,186 Part-time faculty

716 Total degrees

66 Doctorate degrees

260 Master’s degrees

296 Bachelor’s degrees

94 Associate’s degrees

All stats are for full-time faculty, unless otherwise noted. Source: SLCC Institutional Research and Reporting.

Read more about SLCC’s accomplished faculty. P. 18
The Tim and Brenda Huval Child Care Center at South City Campus will expand to serve more children of SLCC students, broadening support for parents seeking careers and degrees.

The center recently was awarded a $1.1 million U.S. Department of Education grant. Funds will be used to expand hours until 10 p.m. and add classrooms, effectively doubling capacity to 180 enrolled children. The grant will enable hiring more full-time, benefited staff. The college will match the four-year grant by applying $390,000, or 36 percent of the project cost, for child care vouchers and to support one-time renovation and ongoing program costs. The federal grant makes up 64 percent of project costs and runs through September 2022.

“For students who have children at SLCC, this means that they can focus their attention from juggling the cost of child care to successfully finishing their educational goals,” says Holly Garcia, director of the center. “They will be able to afford to take more classes, have child care while they study, and graduate with less debt. This can make all the difference in the world.”
SLCC EXPANDS TO HERRIMAN

In August, SLCC began offering general education classes in Herriman at the former City Hall. Future plans call for building a new campus on acreage owned by SLCC in that city.

The college is pursuing state funding to build the first building on the site. It will be a joint effort with the University of Utah. Students will be able to earn certificates and associate’s degrees from SLCC and continue seamlessly on-site to earn baccalaureate degrees offered by the University of Utah.

When completed, the new building will include programs in nursing, information systems and computer science, teacher training, economics, business, criminology, sustainable tourism and hospitality management. The building will offer a full range of services including admissions, advising, tutoring and transfer support for both SLCC and the University of Utah.

CHEMISTRY STUDENTS GET REACTION

SLCC’s student affiliate chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) won the Outstanding Chapter Award for 2017/2018, the highest ACS honor bestowed on student chapters.

The award will be presented at the ACS national conference in Orlando, Florida, in spring 2019. It also will be announced in Chemical and Engineering News, the official ACS magazine. In addition, the chapter was awarded the ACS Green Chemistry award and designated a green chemistry chapter for the 2018/2019 school year.

The chapter in the past year raised nearly $18,000 through service projects for six local charities; visited 14 elementary schools, providing hands-on chemical demonstrations to over 1,000 students; and presented undergraduate research at the ACS National Meeting in New Orleans.

SLCC WINS COVETED DIVERSITY GRANT

Salt Lake Community College was one of 19 applicants to receive a coveted diversity grant from the Lumina Foundation. More than 300 applied for the $25,000 award to fund efforts to foster social and racial justice.

The money will be used to create recommendations and guidelines for improving racial justice at SLCC and to provide training for faculty on social and racial justice awareness. It will be used to implement socially equitable practices in classrooms and to fund workshops on social and racial justice for the college community.

The Indianapolis-based Lumina Foundation is a private organization committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available for all. College officials hope to expand partnerships with Lumina in the future.
Wherever you go and whatever you do, Salt Lake Community College is a part of your journey.

We value our graduates and want you to stay connected.

If you’ve graduated with a degree from Salt Lake Community College or even attended one class, you’re one of hundreds of thousands whose lives have been touched by SLCC.

Be a part of our Alumni Association and receive the free biannual SLCC Magazine and our email newsletter, as well as a host of other benefits.

Learn more at slcc.edu/alumni

To join the alumni association and enjoy free benefits, contact Laurie Staton at Laurie.Statons@slcc.edu or 801-957-4654.
MEETING WORKFORCE NEEDS

SLCC’s new Westpointe Workforce Training & Education Center near Salt Lake City International Airport officially opened in September with a community celebration and nontraditional ribbon-joining ceremony.

The 121,000-square-foot center trains students for in-demand tech and vocational careers, preparing them to meet the needs of Utah’s high-growth economy for decades to come. The $43 million facility was funded by the State Legislature and more than $1.5 million in private donations.

Private donors:
Kenworth Sales Company, Inc.
The Katherine W. Dumke and Ezekiel R. Dumke, Jr. Foundation
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Sorenson Legacy Foundation
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Lincoln Electric Company
Frank Buckler
In one year, Dillon Rasmussen went from working in retail to serving a critical role in patient care as a pharmacy technician.

Rasmussen, 27, had considered careers from history teacher to truck driver, but injuries from a car accident altered his options. An SLCC staff member encouraged him to apply to the pharmacy technician program.

The three-semester program teaches students to use computer systems that allow pharmacies to fill prescriptions. Curriculum includes medications and how they work, insurance claim processing, state and federal laws and more.

“This training is a very affordable option for a career that is in high demand and offers areas for specialization and upward mobility,” says Kristie Fitzgerald, R.Ph. and program manager of SLCC’s pharmacy technician program.

Graduates receive a certificate of completion from SLCC and are prepared to sit for the national certification exam. They also may apply for licensure with the Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.

Training from the accredited program is recognized in all 50 states and qualifies graduates for a higher entry-level pay rate. Starting wage for SLCC pharmacy technicians locally is about $30,000 a year.

Rasmussen completed his program externship, a required 200 hours of on-the-job training in a working pharmacy, in August 2018 for Magellan Health. The company hired him full time as a pharmacy technician, the fifth SLCC student to join Magellan.

**Prescription for high-demand career**

*Pharmacy tech options are plentiful*

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS

- Retail pharmacies
- Hospitals
- Clinics
- Sterile compounding pharmacies
- Home health
- Hospice
- Claims adjudication
- Specialty pharmacies
Kelly Wallis had just sold his concert-production rental company and was well-positioned to enjoy decades of retirement when he got the call that changed everything.

Park City School District needed a mid-year replacement teacher for a middle school music program. “Because I was a member of the community, I was able to step in quickly and help the students finish the year successfully,” Wallis says.

With a bachelor’s degree in music and an impressive performance resume that included work with Chuck Berry, Colin Raye and Amy Grant, as well as being an adjunct professor at the University of Utah, Wallis was missing one thing: his state secondary teaching license.

Enter the Transition to Teaching program at SLCC, offered by the Division of Workforce & Economic Development. SLCC partners with the Utah State Board of Education to provide courses that allow individuals to fulfill the requirements for an Alternative Route to Licensure (ARL), to teach in Utah public schools.

Wallis is one of hundreds of ARL candidates who have earned their Utah teaching license through the SLCC program in the last four years. He finished the required coursework in summer 2018 and began his third year of teaching at Ecker Hill Middle School in fall 2018. The program is helping ease teacher shortages in public schools across the state.

“One unique aspect of this program is that when our adult learners finish training and go to work, they immediately begin to shape the future of the next generation of Utah’s workforce,” says Rick Bouillon, associate vice president for Workforce & Economic Development at SLCC.

Wallis sees his mission as making sure kids are engaged and excited about learning. “Through music, I can show connections between rhythm and math, song composition and structure to language arts, and lyrics to writing and creativity,” he says. “The discipline and habits learned in music can be guiding principles transferable to any endeavor in life.”
Teeing off for scholarships

Gail Miller
Utah Leadership Cup
For Student Scholarships
More than 200 golfers on 53 teams participated in the sixth annual Gail Miller Utah Leadership Cup at Hidden Valley Country Club in September. The tournament raised a record $320,000 to support student scholarships at SLCC.

One hundred volunteers helped stage the event, organized by the SLCC Foundation. Golfers had the opportunity to talk with more than 50 SLCC student leaders and athletes stationed at each of the holes in the tournament.

SLCC Trustee Emeritus and Utah Jazz owner Gail Miller attended the tournament named in her honor and Utah Jazz Dancers gave away prizes. Local celebrities also were on hand, including Utah Jazz commentator Ron Boone, 2017 U.S. Women’s Mid-Amateur Championship winner Kelsey Chugg and long-ball legend Mark Frampton (he can drive a ball 415 yards).

SLCC Trustee Emeritus Gail Miller greets golfers at the Gail Miller Utah Leadership Cup.

SLCC Trustee Emeritus Gail Miller greets golfers at the Gail Miller Utah Leadership Cup.

SLCC President Deneece G. Huftalin and the Jazz Bear.
“The professors are amazing. I AM LEARNING SO MUCH.”

Jasmin Topete’s parents struggled to make ends meet and she didn’t think she would be able to go to college.

That changed when she learned about SLCC’s PACE college-prep scholarship program while attending West High School. The four-year program includes career education events and visits to SLCC’s campuses. Topete received guidance from PACE mentors to help her stay motivated and succeed at West High. She graduated in 2017.

Now she studies social work at SLCC and loves it. “I’ve met such great people,” she says.

“The professors are amazing. I am learning so much.” She also works part time as a program assistant at the Youth City afterschool program at the Sorensen Unity Center.

After Topete finishes her Associate of Arts degree at SLCC in 2019, she plans to attend the University of Utah for a bachelor’s degree in social work with a minor in Spanish. The 19-year-old also wants to pursue a master’s degree in social work.

Topete’s strong work ethic drives her academic success and she credits PACE with providing the tools to help her progress. “It is really helping me to achieve my dreams.”

What is PACE?

A partnership between local high schools, businesses and SLCC designed to increase high school graduation rates and college attendance.

Provides mentors, job shadowing and field trips during high school.

Participants earn college credit in high school and receive a two-year scholarship to SLCC.

402 students at Cottonwood, East, Highland and West high schools

47 PACE graduates attending SLCC

slcc.edu/pace
John Elkins faced more health challenges as a boy than most people do in a lifetime, but they didn’t slow him down.

The 25-year-old studies diesel systems technology at Salt Lake Community College and is on track to graduate in spring 2019 with an Associate of Science degree. He plans to become a diesel technician or mechanic.

Elkins had a stroke after he was born, resulting in developmental delays and a seizure disorder. He ultimately was diagnosed with high-functioning autism. As a teen, doctors surgically removed a brain tumor. He also suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

None of that has hindered his pursuits. “My life experiences have made me who I am,” he says.

After graduating from Coronado High School in 2012, he took time to decide what he wanted to do. Now he feels he has found the right path at SLCC. “I’ve always been interested in working with my hands,” he says. “When I heard about the diesel program, I knew right away that was the right choice for me.”

Change the lives of students through a gift to our scholarship fund. To learn more, contact Nancy Michalko, 801-957-4247 or Nancy.Michalko@slcc.edu
SHARP LENS ON THE FUTURE

Veteran student wins national photography award
After 9/11, Troy Koltermann joined the U.S. Army and in the years that followed was deployed twice to Mosul, Iraq, running convoy security and supply logistics. In 2017, he received a medical discharge from the Army and continued dealing with anxiety and PTSD. “My therapist suggested I do something creative,” he says. “I can’t draw, so, I decided to pick up a camera.”

Koltermann took advantage of the GI Bill at Salt Lake Community College and enrolled in photography classes. His work caught the eye of Professor Ed Rosenberger, who suggested he enter the SkillsUSA competition for photography. Koltermann won the state competition, then headed to Louisville, Kentucky and won the 2018 national competition.

“The judges would walk by quickly and they’d get to mine, stop and come back,” Koltermann says. He won a camera for himself and one for SLCC, now used by students, as well as a $200 gift certificate, a gold medal and a bit of celebrity status, with someone stopping him at the airport to say, “You’re the guy who won the photo competition.”

Koltermann seized on the confidence he had built and contacted New York-based portrait and fashion photographer Lindsay Adler to ask if he could shadow her. She agreed and, for two weeks, he learned from one of the industry’s best, discovering along the way that some of the techniques she was using were being taught at SLCC. He plans to finish his Associate of Applied Science degree in Visual Art and Design – Photography in 2019, then move to New York. “My ultimate goal,” he says without flinching, “is to be the best fashion photographer in America.”
Dedicated, devoted, determined, SLCC faculty give their all to lift students
They have taught at universities and colleges nationwide and abroad. Some studied at Harvard, Princeton, Pepperdine, Northwestern, Columbia or Cornell, among other prestigious schools. They infuse in students a thirst for learning and knowledge. They are the professors and instructors at Salt Lake Community College who prepare career-minded and would-be scholars in the pursuit of meaningful vocations and higher-level degrees. It is impossible in these pages to highlight the hundreds of SLCC teachers who work each day to instill knowledge, passion and skills in SLCC students, but here are a few highlights:
Associate professor
Mathematics

PhD, Harvard University, 1989
MA, Harvard University, 1986
BA, Columbia University, 1983

Teaching
Salt Lake Community College since 2009
University of Utah 1994-1999
University of Chicago 1989-1993
Harvard University 1985-1989
For Robert Morelli, mathematics is the quintessential pursuit of truth and beauty. It’s devoid of uncertainty and absent of inherent baser influences of human nature. It goes to the core of reality, because all theories of physics, ultimately, have a mathematical construct, he asserts.

This certainty, and reaching for finite answers, propels Morelli in mathematical research and in his passion for teaching. The one-time computer programmer and hobbyist musician, who grew up listening to Led Zeppelin, is deeply rooted in algebraic geometry.

Morelli’s best-known work is solving the Weak Factorization Theorem for Oda Conjecture in the mid-1990s. The theorem deals with the structure of geometric shapes and extent to which they’re related and their degrees of separation. It was proposed by mathematician Tadao Oda in the early 1970s. Morelli’s research was furthered by researchers in Séminaire Bourbaki, a series of published seminars in contemporary mathematics held in Paris.

Like many thinkers, Morelli strives for efficiency and created software to better manage his math classes, freeing time for direct contact with SLCC students, whom he characterizes as serious and respectful. Morelli continues research in his spare time and wants to develop a comprehensive theory of processes. Among other honors he lists a Sloan Research Fellowship and National Science Foundation Fellowship.

“I see teaching math as a journey. You never really arrive, you’re always just thinking, ‘How can I get better, how can I bring more?’”

Robert Morelli
Melissa Schaefer

La Selva Biological Research Station in Costa Rica’s Sarapiquis rain forest is far from the air-conditioned classrooms of SLCC. But each year, Melissa Schaefer takes a group of eager students there to conduct primate and ecology research under the jungle canopy. Students ultimately write research reports and present findings at the Utah Conference for Undergraduate Research.

As a primatologist with dozens of published papers and dozens more in the pipeline, Schaefer instills awareness, if not activism, in students. Her anthropology primates class hosts a lemur festival each fall, highlighting the plight of what she calls the world’s most-endangered species. Last year, the festival raised $1,000 for the cause.

Schaefer is an expert on lemurs, having spent months in Madagascar researching the species’ third-largest threat, being kept as pets. Shrinking habitat and being eaten by indigenous people are the top threats. She has conducted field research on monkeys in Equatorial Guinea and with captive colonies of galagos, a nocturnal primate about half the size of a squirrel. Schaefer started a sabbatical from SLCC this fall to conduct further research on the species.

“I get a lot of academic freedom at SLCC that I really enjoy, so I get to try new things in my classes.”

Associate Professor
Anthropology

PhD, Arizona State University, 2011
MS, Arizona State University, 1995
BS, Iowa State University, 1988

Teaching
Salt Lake Community College since 2000
University of Utah, adjunct faculty since 1997
When he was 10 years old, Ashley Cox’s grandfather gave him a small golf club and everything changed. Cox, known as AC, is a marketing professor at SLCC and former PGA golf pro – two disciplines that wouldn’t exist in his life without each other. After studying professional golf management as an undergraduate at Campbell University, he was hired there to teach marketing. Around that same time, he was completing the process of becoming a professional member of the PGA.

Cox developed the curriculum for the PGA Golf Management Program at Campbell University and is piloting an Intro to Sports Management/Marketing class at SLCC. He relishes the topic of the nature of conspicuous consumption in consumerism, and regularly treats students to doses of his honest, real-life examples, metaphors and anecdotes.

He is recognized as the first African American graduate of the golf management program at Mississippi State University and the second to graduate from any such program of its kind in the United States. He was elected to the Colorado PGA Board of Directors in 2014.

Ashley “AC” Cox

“Every time a person leaves their home, they are participating in a form of marketing. From the clothes they’ve selected to the car they drive, they are presenting to the world their preferences for products and brands.”
“Seeing how my videos can help others to get started with programming and to build confidence gives me joy and a sense of accomplishment.”

Margarethe Posch

With more than 1 million views of her lessons on YouTube and over 8,000 subscribers, it’s clear that Margarethe Posch teaches more students than those enrolled in her SLCC classes. Programmers, coding professionals and students all over the world use her instructional videos to dive deep into her succinct lessons or to brush up on some tip or trick of the trade.

At SLCC, Posch teaches “flipped” courses that use time outside of class for students to work on traditional lessons, replacing lectures with hands-on exercises. Pioneering the method, she regularly supports instructors who use her teaching materials. Other innovative projects have included a biannual programming jamboree; the Computer Science Information Science Game Jam, in which high school, two-year and four-year students develop a computer game in 36 hours; and development and support of an open-source programming club.

As an active member of the Association for Computing Machinery, Posch keeps up with the industry and latest inventive ways to teach computer science.
David Lehleitner

Not long ago, David Lehleitner was finding regular work on sets in the film capital of the world, Los Angeles. The behind-the-scenes credits on his IMDb page are voluminous, working in various electrical and setup roles, including gaffer, best boy, grip, key grip, swing grip, electrician and camera operator on 26 short films, music videos, commercials, TV series and feature-length movies. These days, his nine years in LA benefits SLCC students pursuing careers in film industry supporting roles.

Lehleitner has toured the film festival circuit and his 23-minute short film, “Reclamation,” that he wrote and directed in 2012, won the American Society of Cinematographers Heritage Award. Students come in their first year, he says, wanting to become directors, to make their own stuff. But he teaches them that having a practical, diverse skillset will help pay the bills until the directing jobs come along.

Lehleitner’s goal is to help students navigate a changing workplace in the film industry, one in which they’re more likely to find work on smaller, lower-budget projects for platforms like Netflix or YouTube than on a feature-length Hollywood production.

“The film industry is very regimented and particular, and my students learn very technical skills so they can walk onto any professional production after they graduate.”
Robert Adamson  
*SLCC Alumnus*

On the final day of Rob Adamson’s summer painting class, he has all of the students line their works up for group discussions. They begin to parrot back what they’ve learned, like what you see first in a setting is what you’ll likely paint last on a canvas. He reminds them that they don’t have to include all the details to tell a story, and they talk about things such as linear perspective, lighting, contrast and value.

Adamson likes to think of himself as a coach, one who tells students they are hard workers or that they have learned how to solve problems. He rarely tells someone they’re “talented” or “gifted.” His own hard work over the decades includes creating oil paintings for galleries, shows and juried competitions. He has won multiple awards for his artistry and his pieces are on display all over Utah.

Skills learned in painting and drawing classes are more relevant now than ever in the job market, he says. Both disciplines teach people about creativity and imagination and how to think differently, he says, all of which have applications in areas such as biology, engineering and in anything that involves problem-solving.

“A painter will place brush strokes to say something about a scene. It’s a way to express how you’re feeling. ...It’s a way to express in a visual way. It’s a projecting of yourself.”
Robyn Thompson encourages people to live their best lives. She oversees the occupational therapy assistant program, including SLCC’s Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Clinic at the Jordan Campus.

The clinic offers pro bono therapy services to the public, providing students the opportunity to practice the tools and interventions for working with individuals with injuries and disabilities. The hands-on training transforms SLCC students into confident medical professionals, ready to help others pursue their best lives.

Occupational therapy assists children and adults with physical, developmental, social or emotional issues to improve skills for successful, day-to-day living. Innovations in technology and treatment methodologies are common in the occupational therapy field and Thompson is an avid researcher, having studied occupational therapy since the 1990s.

She has published many papers on advancements in pediatric occupational therapy and conducts national and international workshops on topics ranging from handwriting interventions to strategies for treating sensory integration disorders. She finds reward in helping people improve their abilities.

“It’s rewarding to watch students develop critical thinking skills and confidence in their abilities over time.”

Robyn Thompson

Assistant Professor and Program Director
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

PhD, University of Utah, 2015
MS, University of Utah, 2011
BS, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1999
AS, Brigham Young University-Idaho, 1997

Teaching
Salt Lake Community College since 2016
University of Utah since 2009
Brigham Young University-Idaho online learning 2012-2013
Conflict management. Communication. Managing expectations. All are tools taught by Mark Jarvis to build and maintain successful relationships.

Couples should realize, Jarvis says, that conflict and disappointment are normal life patterns. How we deal with them determines success or failure in relationships. That’s why understanding and managing expectations and conflict are keys to success.

Jarvis, a licensed attorney, is chair of the Family and Human Development Majors Committee for the Utah System of Higher Education and past president of the Utah Council on Family Relations. He’s the supervisor of a Utah Marriage Commission grant that pays for SLCC to provide free marriage workshops for low-income couples.

He spends a fair amount of time individually coaching students to self-analyze study practices and thinking patterns, so they can teach themselves to improve their learning. He integrates technology into his courses, including “clickers,” handheld devices that allow students to anonymously respond to sensitive questions on subjects such as domestic violence, abuse, eating disorders, suicide, bullying and more. Reluctant students better engage as a result, Jarvis says, adding impact to their learning. He works daily to change student perceptions about their capabilities, to help them realize they can achieve anything.

“Getting students to think about how they think is the primary goal.”
Assistant Professor
Spanish and Latin American Studies

MA, University of Utah, 2012
BA, University of Utah, 2010
AS, LDS Business College, 2006

Teaching
SLCC since 2016
University of Utah 2010-2016
Westminster College 2012-2016
Capitalizing on language and cultural strengths underpins Carolina Bloem’s motivation to teach. The Venezuelan native, who at 18 left her country by herself when socialist President Hugo Chávez came to power, focuses on improving students’ Spanish as a means to help them succeed.

She developed courses at SLCC that correlate language with workforce and cultural skills, including medical Spanish, to prepare for work in medical interpreting, and Spanish for Spanish speakers. The latter refines skills of heritage speakers (those who learned Spanish at home) to ready them for more advanced courses and proficiency. Bloem is exploring the viability of using the CLAC (culture and languages across the curriculum) model at SLCC. The language-based content-instruction teaches specific disciplines, such as history, sociology, political science and more, through language and culture.

Bloem’s linguistic drive is informed by her seven years as a medical interpreter. She also is a former Westminster College admissions counselor. She volunteers with Artes de Mexico en Utah and with the American Venezuelan Association of Utah.

She is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Utah and for her dissertation is researching indigenous women’s literature of the Wayuu people, who span the Venezuela/Colombia border.

“I want to help students discover new things, and in the realm of languages and culture, I just want to expand their worldview.”
Frank Buckler’s mother, who learned to weld in a shipyard during World War II, taught him her craft at an early age. He turned the fabrication skills he learned into a career showing others how to use electricity and fire to reshape metal.

His first foray into teaching was a 10-year stint as a vocational welding instructor at his high school in Brighton, Michigan. From there, he spent more than 20 years on the industrial sales teams at General Electric and U.S. Welding teaching others to weld. Buckler is devoted to training and supporting the next generation of welders, especially in light of a nationwide shortage of skilled fabricators.

His skills led to an opportunity to restore the engine of The Mormon Meteor, which broke the land-speed record in the 1930s. His involvement earned him a credited role in the 2011 documentary about the race car, “The Boys of Bonneville.”

He used his welding sales background to develop and design the fabrication lab at SLCC’s new Westpointe Workforce Training & Education Center, and he is a key donor for the center. He is civically engaged with the Mountain Trails Foundation in Park City, Summit County Recycling and Habitat for Humanity.

“Every time I help a student get a job, that’s an accomplishment.”
Most people don’t think about teeth beyond everyday brushing and flossing. Not so for Renee Mendenhall. The work performed by dental hygienists has fascinated her since she was a teen.

Over the years, she has focused her fascination into a teaching career to instruct others on the finest details of the profession. She interfaces with every student in Salt Lake Community College’s Dental Hygiene program and offers instruction on nearly everything, from proper handwashing techniques to administering anesthesia.

Mendenhall recently led a successful effort to receive program accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation. She is working to transform SLCC’s Dental Hygiene course of study into a civically engaged program, which requires students to participate in at least 150 hours of service learning to graduate.

That effort is an extension of Mendenhall’s personal practice of giving back to the community. She volunteers for several charities, including the Special Olympics. She has also donated her dental hygienist skills to the VA Hospital and to the Midvale Community Clinic, which provides discounted dental hygiene treatment to those in need.

“My favorite thing is to watch students learn new skills and apply them while working with patients, and I love seeing them progress and succeed.”
“Building a home is fun, and it’s rewarding to see the students get excited about their work.”

Boyd Johnson

What lies beneath the facade of a building is of the utmost importance to Boyd Johnson. Without a proper frame, a building is useless, and worse, dangerous.

Johnson, a licensed general contractor since 1980, teaches students the importance of structure through his building construction courses. With a booming local construction industry and too few skilled workers to meet demand, he is instructing students to help build the region’s economy. His primary goal is to teach students to construct the best homes possible: structurally sound, cost-effective and energy-efficient.

Students in Johnson’s classes put their knowledge to the test when each year they frame and build a home, from excavating a foundation hole to completing interior finish work. Some of the student-built homes are sold by the college to help fund the program while others are constructed for Habitat for Humanity.

To Johnson’s credit, one house built by his students earned the People’s Choice Award in the Salt Lake Parade of Homes. Students also won gold medals in the SkillsUSA TeamWorks competition each of the last 11 years as well as one silver and eight gold medals at the national competition.
Associate Professor
Construction Management

Experience
Teaching at SLCC since 2006
Owner, Boyd C Johnson Construction, 1980-2006
"I feel like SLCC has supported us in a lot of endeavors."
Natalie Kaddas hopes to more than double her plastics manufacturing business in five years and is on track to do it.

In 2018, the CEO of family-owned Kaddas Enterprises Inc. opened a new manufacturing plant, expanding the plastics thermoforming company from 15,000 to 50,000 square feet. Her workforce increased from 23 to 28 employees. The company added two production machines for a total of six, and the new plant in Salt Lake City’s booming industrial westside has space to triple production.

“We’re really focusing on our strategic planning,” says Kaddas, who credits her five-month training in SLCC’s Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program with giving her knowledge to grow the company.

Founded in 1966 by Kaddas’ in-laws John and Carol Kaddas, the company today offers more than 300 different products. Kaddas’ husband, Jay Kaddas, oversees design and development. He studied architectural drafting and electronics from 1983 to 1986 at Utah Technical College at Salt Lake, which became SLCC in 1987.

The company’s main product line, BirdguarD, protects power lines and outdoor power equipment from wildlife. Kaddas says 20 percent of all power outages are wildlife caused. BirdguarD makes up 85 percent of company sales.

The plant also manufactures plastic components for the airline industry, public transportation, and automotive and high-tech industrial equipment manufacturers. It has focused on international growth and sells products in 14 countries. Annual sales total $5 million.

Finding qualified employees is the greatest challenge, Kaddas says. One incentive the company offers is a four-day work week. Kaddas Enterprises is also ISO certified, practices lean manufacturing and annually recycles 32 tons of plastics locally.

Through the years, Kaddas and the company have relied on SLCC for expertise and training in areas including employment law, harassment, sales, first-time manager, lean manufacturing simulation, accounting and custom-fit training. “I feel like SLCC has supported us in a lot of endeavors,” Kaddas says.

Natalie Kaddas
CEO, Kaddas Enterprises Inc.

- SLCC Goldman Sachs
  10,000 Small Businesses,
  May 2013
- SLCC, Business Management, 1994-1995
- SLCC, Travel and Tourism, 1990-1992
A feeling of uncertainty gnawed at Jonathan Madison in 2012 during a pivotal time in his life. He thought he should go to college, but wasn’t sure what he wanted to do.

Enrolling at Salt Lake Community College changed that. He fell in love with anthropology and set his life on a sure course. “Anthropology, specifically archaeology, united my love of history with science and real-world applications,” says Madison.

He graduated from SLCC in 2014 with an Associate of Arts degree in general studies. Next up: the University of Utah. His SLCC degree allowed him to continue seamlessly at the U, where in 2016 he earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in anthropology and history.

He set his sights higher and was accepted to the Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Program at George Washington University and earned a Master of Arts degree in 2018. He began applying to multiple institutions to get a PhD and was accepted to the history program at the University of Oxford. “I was shocked and humbled all at once,” he says.

Madison, now 27, began his Oxford studies to obtain a DPhil degree (the European equivalent of a PhD) in October. He considers it the crowning achievement of a long academic career.

“I would not have been able to get into Oxford for my doctorate if I had not started out with the excellent education at SLCC,” he says.
Pianist, composer, and producer Paul Cardall has a life philosophy: “Even if you are going to die tomorrow, you still need to live today.” The SLCC alumnus speaks from experience, having suffered from congenital heart disease most of his life.

But that all changed when Cardall received a heart transplant in September 2009. Today, at 45, he is living proof that a medical diagnosis doesn’t have to determine your fate.

Even before his transplant, Cardall didn’t allow his condition to hold him back. He received a full scholarship from SLCC and served as fine arts president and public relations vice president in student leadership.

While at SLCC, he worked as a pianist at Nordstrom. He released his first album in 1994 and achieved his first big break when best-selling author Richard Paul Evans asked him to create a musical adaption of his book “The Christmas Box.”

Cardall’s illness gave him empathy for others who suffer. He realized health issues and resulting expenses can keep people from attending college, so he endowed a scholarship at SLCC for students affected with congenital heart disease.

His latest philanthropic project is as chief composer for the proposed George Washington Museum of American History, a multimedia exhibit that will travel to each state before residing in Utah in 2026, the 250th anniversary year of America’s independence. Cardall says he hopes the museum will create an authentic story of America.

For information on the Paul Cardall Family Foundation Congenital Heart Disease Scholarship or about donating to SLCC, visit slcc.edu/development or call 801-957-4247.

PAUL CARDALL

- Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, SLCC, 2011
- SLCC Distinguished Alumni, 2009
- AAS, General Studies, SLCC, 1997

"As someone who’s faced death my entire life, every minute of every hour is precious time."
Most of the first 175 students at Salt Lake Area Vocational School, the forerunner of SLCC, were veterans returning from World War II. SLCC now has 11 locations serving over 60,000 students a year and the commitment to U.S. veterans has not wavered. More than 800 have graduated from the college in the last five years.

Veterans receive access to scholarships, events, career guidance and a host of other services and benefits through centers on five campuses. The centers help vets navigate college life and succeed in their chosen academic and career paths.

SLCC Veterans Services Director Steve Hill oversees centers on five campuses to help veterans succeed at the college and beyond.

**TOP PROGRAMS OF STUDY FOR VETS 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program of Study</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science &amp; Information Systems</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Health Sciences</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

For nine consecutive years, Military Times has ranked SLCC as a Best for Vets two-year college.
VET DREAMS OF BECOMING ‘JEFF BEZOS OF FITNESS’

He’s on his way with help from SLCC Veterans Services

As a student in SLCC’s fitness technician program, Saad Alkashif has the lofty dream of opening a full-service gym.

“I want it to be old school — lifting, cardio, CrossFit, all of it,” says the 31-year-old former U.S. Army sergeant who served in Virginia and South Korea from 2007-2013. He is one of hundreds of veterans who access resources provided by SLCC’s Veterans Services center.

“The center provides a place for those who served to meet together, share stories and enjoy the camaraderie that they experienced while in the military,” says Cory Pearson, director of veterans services with the Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs. The center is a great partner in helping vets and educating them about benefits they can receive while in school, he says.

Alkashif received guidance from staff at the center to apply for financial assistance. “When I needed help doing my certification for my GI Bill, they really helped out a lot,” he says.

He visits the center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus a couple of times a week and uses the computer lab or receives tutoring. “They’re very helpful,” he says. “It’s kind of like you fit in.”

Alkashif says services and education received at SLCC are top quality. “I feel it’s right on par with some universities,” he says.

He plans to graduate from SLCC in spring 2019 with an Associate of Applied Science degree, and he is converting his four-car garage into a gym to start his fledgling business. “I want to be the Jeff Bezos of fitness,” he says.

“I FEEL IT’S RIGHT ON PAR WITH SOME UNIVERSITIES.”
“We have every kind of human being ever born in one country at the same time, and frankly we mostly get along.”

The Tanner Forum is sponsored annually, in part, with support from the O.C. Tanner Company.
CNN commentator, author Van Jones offers hope in divisive times

“I’ve never seen a bird fly with only a left wing,” said Van Jones, speaking of the differences between the two major political parties. “Never seen a bird fly only with a right wing,” he added. “We need each other. It takes two wings to fly.”

Jones, 50, offered this unifying message to a roomful of college students and then to an audience of almost 600 in the Grand Theatre at South City Campus in October as the featured speaker at the 2018 Tanner Forum on Social Ethics.

The Dream Corps founder and CNN political commentator encouraged attendees to appreciate their challenges in life. “You need your setbacks. Your successes give you confidence. But your setbacks give you your character — and your character is the most important thing.”

He advised students and attendees to hold tightly to dreams as a means to succeed. “You got these dreams inside of you that just seem so big they hurt,” he said. They need to be cultivated, “because that little dream is going to bug you and bug you and bug you and keep you going and keep you striving and keep you trying and keep you learning.”

In the gathering with students, many who are interested in journalism, Jones, who worked in the Obama White House and has two bestselling books, said students’ career paths likely won’t resemble his. “You’re going to have to go build your own audience first,” he said about future journalists’ need to utilize technology and social media.

The “workaday” journalism skills he acquired at the University of Tennessee at Martin have served him more than anything he learned at the White House, CNN or studying law at Yale, he said. News consumers these days, he added, want information for free. “How you get paid is going to be a big problem.”

Jones said his father was passionate about helping others, and he choked up when speaking about living up to that legacy. “How can I, his son, with a Yale law degree, do less than my dad,” he said. “I’m never going to live up to Willie Jones, but I’m going to keep trying.”
Salt Lake Community College traces its roots to 1948 with the opening of Salt Lake Area Vocational School in an old laundry building near downtown Salt Lake City. It started with 175 registered students and 14 courses. The school grew to become SLCC, with 11 campuses and sites, and more than 60,000 students annually.

Pictured here are glimpses of SLCC and its students through the years.
MILESTONES

Hundreds graduated in 1976 from Utah Technical College, a forerunner to SLCC.

Motherboards have evolved since this student learned electronics.

Students train to be auto mechanic technicians.

Early computer technology and electronics could be a handful.

A student gives a straight razor shave in the one-time cosmetology program.
College cheerleading never goes out of style.

The color guard presents flags at the 1981 Utah Technical College graduation.

A student learns new skills in the computer-aided drawing and design program.

Students practice bricklaying in masonry class.

Youngsters perform in a cultural celebration sponsored by the SLCC Hispanic Club.

Freshman and private pilot Barbara Reams learns aviation technology.
SLCC alumna Lynae Om rehearses with the SLCC Dance Company in 2016.

A student edits film at SLCC’s Center for Arts and Media.

Students on the first day of Fall Semester 2018.

The Westpointe Workforce Training & Education Center opened in fall 2018.

The college has grown through the years, and so has the number of students. More than 4,000 graduated in 2018.
Invest in a Student
It’s easier than you think.

WAYS TO GIVE:
General scholarship fund | Designate to a specific program | SLCC Promise
Name an annual scholarship | Endow a scholarship | Athletic scholarships
Unique scholarships

To learn more, contact Nancy Michalko, 801-957-4247 or Nancy.Michalko@slcc.edu