

T I D I N G S



SVU's 10th Anniversary

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

SOUTHERN
VIRGINIA
UNIVERSITY

A REVIEW OF FALL SEMESTER 2005

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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

A DECADE OF DEDICATION



This year, Southern Virginia University celebrates the tenth anniversary of our inception of the “college on the hill.” Southern Virginia University has grown dramatically since its rebirth ten years ago, and continues to improve every semester. Our evolution over the last decade is a testament to our permanency and potency.

Our school has grown remarkably in student enrollment, academic disciplines, campus social activities, fine & performing arts, and athletics. Here are some of our significant accomplishments over the last decade:

STUDENTS

- Enrollment has increased almost ten-fold in the last ten years, beginning with approximately 70 students in 1996 to over 700 this fall.
- In Fall Semester, students represented 49 states and 17 different countries.

SPIRITUALITY

- 90% of our LDS Young Single Adult students regularly participate in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints’ C.E.S. Institute Program, in over 50 sections of different courses.
- On average, SVU students provide over 11,000 hours of community service each year.

ACADEMICS

- SVU is nationally accredited by the prestigious American Academy for Liberal Education.
- Our university offers 13 majors and 19 minors.
- Over 80% of Southern Virginia’s full-time faculty have PhDs or other terminal degrees.
- Our average class size of 12 ensures that students receive an engaging classroom experience.

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

- Our Division of Fine Arts facilitates and encourages students’ participation in theatre, visual arts, and music.
- SVU has formal and informal vocal choirs, a flute choir, an orchestra, and a pep band.
- The Theatre Department gives students the opportunity to participate in plays, musicals, and now operas.

ATHLETICS

- Athletics currently includes 11 men’s and 10 women’s teams for various sports.
- SVU has won 23 National Championships for small colleges.

Southern Virginia University continues to provide students with a quality education and opportunities for personal development in a wholesome environment. We wish to thank our friends for their support; we wouldn’t be here without all of their hard work and sacrifice. Our best wishes for the new year. †

Dr. Rodney K. Smith
President

THE ADVENTUROUS ACADEMIC

This summer, President Rodney K. Smith announced the creation of the position of Executive Vice President & Provost, and the simultaneous appointment of Dr. Paul S. Edwards to fill the post. Since his arrival, Dr. Edwards has refined the university's academic mission and invigorated the institution's standard for scholastic excellence.



SVU's new Executive Vice President & Provost, Dr. Paul S. Edwards

A NEW MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

Dr. Paul S. Edwards came to Southern Virginia University directly from George Mason University, where he served as President and Distinguished Research Scholar at the Mercatus Center, and as a research professor at George Mason's School of Law. Before serving George Mason in those positions, Dr. Edwards was Vice President of Academic Affairs at George Mason's Institute for Humane Studies. Dr. Edwards was also a member of the Political Science Department at Brigham Young University, a visiting Professor of Law at the American University of Armenia, and a judicial law clerk.

Dr. Edwards received his PhD in jurisprudence and social policy from the University of California at Berkeley in 1996, his JD from UC Berkeley in 1991, and his BA in History from Brigham Young in 1986. "I have been familiar with Southern Virginia University since its founding as a Latter-day Saint school, and I've watched its development with keen interest," said Dr. Edwards. "Having benefited from a liberal arts education as an undergraduate, I have always wanted to see SVU thrive and prosper." Dr. Edwards was formally introduced to the institution when he met SVU President, Dr. Rodney K. Smith. "I was overwhelmed by his enthusiasm and commitment," he remembers. "Listening to President Smith's vision, I instantly knew that this would be an exciting moment to be involved with Southern Virginia."

"On virtually a daily basis," noted President Smith, "I see small and large blessings from the Lord as we move forward in building SVU." He continued, "Surely, the addition of Paul Edwards as our Provost is a great blessing. We are very fortunate to have a person of his stature and experience serving in this very significant position at this critical time in the development and implementation of the university's academic vision. I cannot think of anyone better suited to serve as an academic leader, effectuating a mission of preparing leader-servants for the work of the twenty-first century, than Paul Edwards."

HONORABLE AMBITIONS

At 2005 convocation ceremonies this August, Dr. Edwards was the keynote speaker. He shared with the audience several *desiderata* (desires, or wishes) he had for the university community, based on the teachings of the prophet Joseph Smith. For Dr. Edwards, Joseph Smith exemplifies what it means to be a "scholar-disciple." Dr. Edwards' *desiderata*, inspired by the prophet's teachings, are goals for the institution to work towards, "a kind of compact, if you will, for Southern Virginia University."



Dr. Edwards speaks at SVU's 2005 Convocation.

SIX DESIDERATA FOR SVU:

1. That we can provide an environment where our reverence for the revealed truth of the Restoration, in word, in thought, and in deed, invites the Spirit to tutor our choices day and night.

2. That we would create a culture where by seeking after the glory of God, which is indeed intelligence, that we would not fall into the temptation of pride that ensnared, among others, the Nephites as they created distinctions and ranks that divided them because of learning rather than uniting them through learning.

3. Through example and precept, we will become accomplished in letters, arts, and sciences. That you as students will learn the joy of that kind of soul-expanding literary, artistic, and scientific accomplishment that can only come from deep humility, from rigorous study, from careful analysis, from honest debate, from disciplined practice, and from thoughtful application of true principles.

4. That we would honor the whole soul by keeping ourselves spiritually, emotionally, and physically fit.

5. That we would cultivate graciousness through understanding and appreciation for arts and literature that refine and edify.

6. That we would help you transform knowledge into know-how by creating ample opportunities for meaningful participation in the classroom, the arts, athletics, and community service. And I would hope that through personalized counsel with mentors and advisors, you would be able to magnify your talents and connect them to valuable work and service in the home, the marketplace, the community, and the Church.

- Dr. Edwards' Convocation address, August 30, 2005 -

Foremost among his desires was that the university family would "sanctify" itself and its practices. He reasoned that if each student, staff, and faculty member would live according to the honor code and devote their lives and efforts to the Lord, that the Lord would bless the institution and people's efforts to support it. Dr. Edwards stressed the importance of "learning by study and also by faith." He encouraged all present to seek diligently to learn, to teach each other, to become broadly educated in letters, arts, and sciences, and deeply educated in their chosen field. He also made it clear that knowledge and expertise do not justify pride. Dr. Edwards summarized the school's academic mission by saying, "the core purpose of Southern Virginia University is to prepare leader-servants, and develop scholar-disciples."

As Southern Virginia's new Provost, one of Dr. Edwards' goals is "to help more students and their families understand the value of what this kind of intensive and personalized education has to offer." Southern Virginia's rigorous training in liberal arts prepares students for the challenges of the future. From basic to complex, public to personal, SVU's academic program develops students' abilities, and gives them the tools necessary to change the world for the better.

"Whenever I read about or meet very successful entrepreneurs, people who are redefining the way we work in the world, I frequently note how many of them came out of a liberal arts or humanities background," said Dr. Edwards. "Somehow, approaching contemporary problems with a foundation of knowledge built on the best that western civilization has given us helps people ask the right questions and solve complex problems, better than a solely technical education can." He continued, "These influential



Dr. John Armstrong, Chair of the Humanities Division at SVU, engages his students in a discussion about Aristotle during a philosophy class.



Dr. Barbara Van Kuiken gives students one-on-one attention during a chemistry lab.



The Knight Academic Bowl Team (left to right): Erik Dryden, Joseph Deaver, Desta Golden, team advisor Dr. Fran MacDonnell, Britt Jones, and Peter DeReus.



The Knight Debate team celebrates their performance at the Bridgewater Invitational competition. From left to right: Nicole Smith, Keith Virgin, Stephanie Cottle, Brittany Andersen, Melanie Blakely, Rachael Dorman.

people are always interested in ideas. The life of the mind seems to be a part and parcel of their make up. In order to succeed professionally, students need the kind of general education provided at Southern Virginia. I can't think of a better preparation for the study of law, medicine, or business management."

BRINGING KNOWLEDGE TO LIFE

Southern Virginia University's liberal arts curriculum trains students to think analytically and to apply general knowledge to solving problems. It teaches them refined writing and communication skills and gives them motivation to be life-long learners.

A key component to the curriculum's effectiveness is teacher-student interaction. The average class-size at Southern Virginia is twelve. In addition, all courses are taught by faculty members and never by graduate students or teaching assistants. These small classes allow our highly qualified instructors to push students beyond typical methods of listening, reading, and recitation, and devote more time to training students in ways that are not feasible at larger universities. Our students and professors know each other. In an atmosphere of mutual trust, students grow in confidence and expertise as they are actively challenged through class discussions and nurtured with one-on-one interaction. It is Southern Virginia's goal to see that every individual undergoes in-depth instruction and receives the necessary guidance to excel academically.

This semester, SVU's commitment to each student was amply demonstrated by the unconventional learning opportunities provided to them by their professors. Under their guidance, SVU students traveled to national competitions, where they were able to gain experience in applying their knowledge and skills.

Dr. Timothy Knudson (Physics) kept tradition alive by organizing his exclusive trip to the World Championship "Punkin Chunkin" contest. The contest is held annually in Delaware, and features teams that shoot pumpkins out of gigantic air cannons, catapults, and centrifuges. A wonderfully vivid display of physics in action, Punkin Chunkin is a unique laboratory where students can observe the principles

they've learned in class, though they do not participate in the competition. This year, Dr. Knudson and his students convinced a team to mount a siren to one of the hurled pumpkins. The siren's sound helped to determine the speed the pumpkin was traveling through the air. Though the data is still being analyzed, Dr. Knudson anticipates it will reflect that the pumpkins travel faster than 100 mph.

Dr. Fran MacDonnell (History) oversaw the training and competition of Southern Virginia's Academic Bowl team. Dr. Barbara Van Kuiken (Chemistry) accompanied the team to their regional tournament at the University of Georgia in October. The Knights finished the tournament in third place, with a record of 5-4. They won a number of impressive victories and nearly caused several major upsets. In the Knight's game against Duke University, Southern Virginia commanded the lead until the win slipped through their fingers in the last few seconds (score: 300-275). The team also put up valiant fights against Vanderbilt, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State. In the playoff round, SVU lost on the final toss-up question to North Carolina State. NCS went on to finish in second place behind tournament champion Vanderbilt University. Knights who excelled individually during the competition included team captain Erik Dryden, who was ranked in the top ten of approximately eighty competitors; history major John Neurberg; biology major Joe Deaver; and business major Brit Jones. The Academic Bowl team is now looking forward to another regional competition in February 2006.

Fall semester was the inaugural season for SVU's first Debate Team, advised by Dr. E. Susan Kellogg (Business). Junior Nicole Smith started the team when she discovered there was not a debate program or club already in place. In December, the Knight Debate Team was invited to compete in the Bridgewater College Regional Debate Championships. Nicole was awarded with first place for her individual performance in impromptu speaking. "Only at Southern Virginia could an ambitious student like Nicole take the initiative and be given the responsibility to create a program like the Debate Team," said President Smith (no relation to Nicole). "Then go on to lead that team to a national championship, proving that SVU truly does prepare leader-servants."

A FUTURE OF PROMISE

In Dr. Edwards' opinion, Southern Virginia's unique approach to education is an essential alternative for Latter-day Saints. "Mormons have a duty to frame the most important questions that face the world today in the light of revelation," he said. "What better way to study politics, philosophy, and science than within the framework of the Gospel?" Commenting on the process through which Southern Virginia's leader-servants can change the world, Dr. Edwards noted that, "through a liberal education, the discerning student can gain an appreciation for the beliefs, culture, and institutions that allow for human flourishing. The discerning student of western civilization can appreciate how it is that the West was able to achieve and maintain the framework for the rule of law and economic prosperity." He went on to say, "What better education could we have for redressing the global challenges of intolerance, poverty, and violence?"

Dr. Edwards spoke of the practical applications of a liberal education by saying, "In the daily life of a working professional, the ability to think critically, to write creatively and persuasively, and to see with perspective, are core competencies that make one successful."

We welcome Dr. Edwards to the Southern Virginia family, and look forward to sharpening our minds with the grit of his wisdom and desiderata. As he begins to mold the university's academic program, our scholar-disciples will continue to prepare to be leader-servants. †

ACADEMIC INFLUENCE

Important texts that have influenced
Dr. Edwards:

1. *Brothers Karamazov*
by Fyodor Dostoevsky
2. *Leviathan*
by Thomas Hobbes
3. *King Lear*
by William Shakespeare
4. *Risks & Wrongs*
by Jules L. Coleman
5. *Law, Legislation, and Liberty*
by Friedrich A. Hayek

EXPANDING OUR HORIZONS

Capital developments and expansion took place on campus this fall. Here are the highlights of SVU's new additions.

One of the most amazing characteristics of Southern Virginia University is the dazzling speed at which it grows. Since the school's rebirth in 1996, the number of attending students has increased nearly ten-fold; Southern Virginia opened with just over seventy students, and began the Fall 2005 semester with over seven hundred. In the next three to five years, it is our goal to raise the student body to one thousand. Of course, welcoming more students means we'll need more places to put them, and more provisions for their proper education.

This fall, the first of our capital expansions were initiated, including a new chemistry lab, additional modular homes, and the Stoddard Activities Center. These new facilities will help SVU keep up with its rapid increase of students and help refine their Southern Virginia experience.

Southern Virginia University is a small and relatively young institution, and hitherto has lacked facilities requisite for an in-depth science program. "Our university has a very significant need for additional lab space," said Dr. Wilford J. Teerlink, Professor of Chemistry. "We currently only have one chemistry lab and one biology lab for the entire school. That limits the number of hours professors can spend with students, the time students can spend experimenting, and the number of students who can take science courses." Dr. Teerlink served as a member of Southern Virginia's Board of Trustees from 1996 to 1998, after retiring from DuPont where he was a Research Chemist. In the spring of 1999, he left the Board to assume a position with SVU's faculty. In the summer of 2005, Dr. Teerlink joined other donors to build a chemistry lab for the university. The lab will be completed by Fall Semester 2006 and will provide students with additional space and comfort. "This means that we can continue to accommodate students who are on the pre-med and pre-dental tracks," said Dr. Teerlink, "and give them as good - or better - a preparation for the future than any other college in the country."



Dr. Wilford Teerlink stands in what will soon be SVU's new chemistry laboratory.



The SVU family gathered for a photo this October, outside of Main Hall. This photo represents only a portion of all the people that make up SVU.

Southern Virginia University is greatly indebted to long-time donor Stanford "Bud" Stoddard, and his wife Dixie, who gave thousands of dollars to the school this fall. Their contributions enabled the installation of additional modular homes on the north side of campus, and the construction of an expansive hall to be used for various activities and assemblies. The modular homes, or "mods" for short, serve as housing for women students. Dormitory space is very limited, and is currently at maximum capacity. Women students who live on campus reside in the upper floors of Main Hall, modular homes adjacent to the Von Cannon

Library, the Carriage Townhouses, and now the modular homes provided by the Stoddards. "With over 18% growth this year, the timing of Brother Stoddard's gift could not have been better," said Dr. Richard G. Whitehead, SVU's Vice President of Institutional Advancement. "They are a welcome addition and students love them."

As part of this year's Homecoming celebration, Southern Virginia University was pleased to dedicate the Stoddard Activities Center, also made possible by Bud & Dixie Stoddard. The large hall will house the university's assemblies and activities such as dances and parties. A special dedication ceremony took place on Thursday, October 13, where the audience heard performances by the SVU Chamber Choir, remarks by Chair of SVU's Board of Trustees Glade Knight, President Rodney Smith, and Brother Stoddard himself. Student Association President Emilie Anne Feinauer also presented Brother Stoddard with a collection of letters from students expressing their thanks for the Stoddard's generosity. Glade Knight and Brother Stoddard joined together to cut the ribbons of the center's front doors, bringing the momentous occasion to a close. That Saturday, the Stoddard Center served as the location for the much-anticipated 2005 Homecoming dance. Decorations from the Dance Committee and giant set pieces from the recent theatre production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* transformed the center into a beautiful ballroom for the evening.

"Seeing construction on campus informs students that SVU is continually progressing and striving to meet their needs," said SA President Feinauer. "It's great to know that the school we care so much about is thriving." SVU reiterates its commitment to the education and prosperity of each of its Knights. We also express our thanks to the devoted physical facilities personnel who work so diligently to transform our campus, and to Dr. Teerlink and the Stoddards for helping SVU to achieve success. †



SVU's new modular homes used for student housing.



Students and faculty joined with staff to help complete the Stoddard Center in time for Homecoming 2005.



The new Stoddard Activities Center, built adjacent to Knight Arena and dedicated in October 2005.



Before the construction of the Stoddard Center, this space was used for storage. In the days of Southern Seminary, it served as a stable for horses.

KNIGHTS IN SHINING ARMOR

The 2005-2006 men's basketball teams excel, thanks to 60% of their players being returned missionaries.

SVU's men's varsity & junior varsity basketball teams began their 2005-2006 seasons this November. This year, the basketball Knights have many praiseworthy attributes. Most unusual, however, are the teams' massive amount of collective missionary experience. Over 60% of SVU's basketball players previously served two-year missions for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. "We recruited approximately thirty-six athletes to play basketball this year," said Head Coach of the varsity team, Don Chamberlain. "Twenty-two of them are returned missionaries. I thought it was very unusual to have all these young men attending the same school and participating in the same sport."

From Great Britain, to Illinois, to Brazil, these Knights have been around the world and speak a myriad of languages, including Spanish, Portuguese, German, and Hmong. Besides being so educated in secular and cultural knowledge, the players also have spiritual knowledge that governs their character.

"With all of our returned missionary players, there's a higher level of maturity from the team than you would expect to see at other schools," said junior Nathaniel Mann. "It's great for the younger players on the team; it gives them good role models." Mann, a 6'8" point-guard from Boise, Idaho, served in the Puerto Rico San Juan Mission. In the 2004-05 season, he was awarded with the title of SVU's Male Athlete of the Year for his dedication to scholarship and service at the university.

Daniel Glazier, from Lakeport, CA, noted that, "when working with returned missionaries, people expect a higher standard." He continued, "Returned missionaries are seen as examples – not only because of their missionary service, but because they are normally older students." Glazier served in the Chile Santiago South Mission and came to SVU to study American History. Recognizing the impact that returned missionaries have on his team's bond and atmosphere, he said, "Returned missionaries set the tone in practice by making the experience positive for all the athletes."



(left to right)

Top row:
Assistant Coach
Ben Lingen
Tanner Johnson
Cameron Gentry
Brad Harmon
Nathaniel Mann
Tyler Proctor
Mitch Philpot
Uchenna Faumuina-Eze

Bottom row:
Assistant Coach
Tony Caputo
Joseph Lovell
Brett Schroeder
Tim Davis
Dillon Farnsworth
Aaron Louder
Reggie Shaw
Matthew Lisonbee
Chris Pendelton
Head Coach
Don Chamberlain

The combination of maturity, discipline, and charity sets the stage for an uplifting environment and beneficial associations – rare treasures in today’s world of college sports. “Undoubtedly the best part of being on a team with so many other returned missionaries is their dedication to morality and upholding high standards,” said Mann. Glazier commented, “I think this is because the returned missionaries, and players who are preparing for missions, know the real purpose of life. We all understand that basketball is a game and for fun. Yes, we want to win, and yes, it gets a little heated at times, but we’re not willing to compromise the values we have in our hearts for just a game.”

Junior point-guard Tanner Johnson from Star Valley, WY said, “It makes it easier to live the way we know is right, because it’s the norm. Being on the team is all about supporting those around you, who in turn lift and build you up.” Like his teammate Glazier, Johnson also served in the Chile Santiago South Mission. Chris Jones, from Orem, UT, commented, “You always have friends who want to do and say the right things. I have never been around a sports team that uses such clean language. I heard more profanity in middle school basketball than I’ve heard at SVU.”

The university’s basketball Knights share a special bond with one another that extends beyond the bounds of the court. “We are all committed to each other,” said Mann. “We are all trying to improve ourselves and each other. We don’t have any inter-squad rivalry. That’s apparent in the way we interact with each other and even in things as small as apologizing for a foul. Every one of us is concerned for our teammates.” The Knights make time to help each other with studies and personal and athletic development and take time out to simply have fun together. “The

players on the team are hilarious, and are all great guys and great examples,” said Jones. “I seriously love each one of them.”



A few of SVU’s Basketball-playing returned missionaries (left to right): Nathaniel Mann, Daniel Glazier, Tanner Johnson, and Brett Schroeder.

An SVU education prepares students to be leader-servants. This is accomplished through rigorous instruction in liberal arts, focus on spiritual development, training in athletics and fine arts, service to the community, and participation in social activities. Many students have found SVU to be the perfect bridge from a missionary experience to meaningful employment and contributions to society. “For me, in many ways, playing basketball at SVU is like being on a mission,” said Mann. “I am still surrounded by people who are dedicated to the Lord and his kingdom; I still have that same satisfaction of productivity and peace.”

Athletics at Southern Virginia provide opportunities for spiritual, physical, and social growth, and help develop and maintain physical and mental health. Athletics also foster leadership and service qualities. Commenting on the preparation of leader-servants, SVU’s Director of Athletics, Thomas Longenecker, said, “Athletes must often forsake their own personal desires for the common good of their teammates. Our athletic programs require integrity and discipline, and teach students to apply the skills they learn on the court, mat, and field to the classroom and other aspects of their lives.”

We congratulate the Knights on their shining commitment to high moral standards and wish them a successful and exciting season. Good luck, Knights! †

COMMEMORATED KNIGHTS

This semester, many prestigious guests traveled from around the world to speak at SVU, including Sister Susan W. Tanner, General President of the Young Women, and her husband, Dr. John Tanner, Academic Vice President at Brigham Young University. Here are some highlights from our guest speakers this fall...

Dr. John S. Tanner is the Academic Vice President & Provost at Brigham Young University, where he helped to streamline the curriculum and write BYU's statement on Academic Freedom. At SVU, Dr. Tanner presented his research on "Shakespeare and the Saints," regarding the tradition of veneration that members of the LDS Church have for William Shakespeare and his literary works. Dr. Tanner categorized his findings into three areas: "Shakespeare on the Stage," "Shakespeare in the Classroom," and "Shakespeare at the Pulpit & Hearth." He gave examples of the sacrifices early members of the church made to foster culture and education in their society. "The pioneers bore Shakespeare into the wilderness as an icon of LDS cultural aspirations" he said. His remarks left many with a burning desire to study Shakespeare's works.



Dr. John S. Tanner - Academic Vice President of Brigham Young University
Susan W. Tanner - General President of the Young Women

Sister Tanner currently serves as the General Young Women's President of the Church. She and Dr. Tanner spoke at a fireside at SVU during their visit. Dr. Tanner counseled young people to have faith in the Lord's promises, and to live the Gospel with diligence until they receive the answers to their prayers. Sister Tanner spoke about miracles. She recounted blessings in her life, each of which she considered to be a miracle. After asking for the Lord's help, it is our challenge to expect our prayers to be answered. Then, we must strive to recognize the miracle when it arrives and be grateful for the blessing. The uplifting fireside was also attended by members of the local Buena Vista, Virginia Stake.



Jenny Oaks Baker

Violinist Jenny Oaks Baker traveled to Southern Virginia to share her talents and words with students and staff. Between breathtaking solos, Sister Baker told the audience about the trials and blessings she encountered in her journey to be a professional instrumentalist. She recounted experiences from her days as a student at The Juilliard School, and various performances throughout her career. Sister Baker shared her belief that talents are blessings we receive from the Lord, which we should use to bless others in return. At times we may be tempted to take pride in our accomplishments and abilities, but we should remember the origin and purpose of our talents and focus our efforts to glorify God.

SVU students were also privileged to hear from:

- Dr. Rodney K. Smith, President of SVU, and his wife, Sister Danielle Smith
- Dr. Jan-Erik Jones, Asst. Prof. of Philosophy at SVU
- Dr. James Allen, Emeritus Professor of History at Brigham Young University
- Mr. Steve Brayton, Founder of *International Language Programs*
- Mrs. Nancy Richardson, Museum Docent

Maurice McTigue was formerly a member of Parliament, and Cabinet Minister for New Zealand. He spoke to SVU about institutional accountability, which he referred to as "the process that requires us to disclose, fully and truthfully, our performance, to those individuals who are entitled to know." Compared to companies in the private sector, governments are remarkably unaccountable for their expenditures and actions, and thus lack motivation to remain ethically and fiscally responsible. Citing examples from his experience as a Cabinet Minister, Mr.

McTigue explained how government spending can be curbed by downsizing bureaucracies and eliminating failing projects. Mr. McTigue's advice was dramatic in its simplicity, and advocated the courageous embrace of institutional reform as refinement for the future.

Rhodes scholar Dr. Amos Jordan has a long list of government administration credentials to his name, including President of the Center for Strategic & International Studies, and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs. Dr. Jordan advised students to prepare for the turbulent and exciting world of the future. The "emerging generation" will have to face revolutionary changes in population, technology, economics, the environment, and international relations. Dr. Jordan counseled students to continue their educations, work hard at being flexible, and spend time giving service to their communities. Most important to their survival and success was his advice "to keep the Lord's teachings at the center and forefront of your life." With his words, Dr. Jordan painted a vivid picture of the future - a place where Southern Virginia's students can fill a need for skilled and compassionate leader-servants.

"What Joseph Smith Would Say to You Today," was the topic of Scott Facer Proctor's remarks to students at SVU. Brother Proctor and his wife, Maurine, are the publishers of Meridian Magazine, an online news publication for Latter-day Saints, and are long-time friends of Southern Virginia University. Brother Proctor has also written and edited several books for the LDS audience. In his talk, Brother Proctor spoke of seven key pieces of advice

that he believes the prophet Joseph would give to young people living in today's world. They were, 1. Seek personal revelation, 2. Search the scriptures, 3. Cleanse yourself, 4. Exercise discernment, 5. Lean on the arm of Jehovah, 6. Never be discouraged, and 7. Obey the Lord's commands with promptness and valiancy.

SVU hosted Dr. Russell B. Clark this November, in honor of his 105th birthday. Dr. Clark began practicing medicine in 1930 in Chicago, during the days of Prohibition and the Great Depression. He retired when he was 83, but continues to manage real estate properties. At SVU, Dr. Clark shared his unique perspective on history, having witnessed first-hand many changes in society. Three individuals whom he believed wielded great influence over civilization were Louis Pasteur, Marie Curie and Sir Alexander Fleming. Dr. Clark also shared his "special list for staying young at heart," which included wise counsel to stay fit with exercise & nutrition, forgive yourself and others, and keep your choice in clothing stylish. Dr. Clark is truly a great example as he has spent his days serving other people and continues to find joy and purpose in lending a helping hand.



Maurice McTigue



Dr. Amos Jordan



Scott F. Proctor



Following Dr. Russell B. Clark's remarks to students, SVU sang to wish him a happy birthday, and presented him with an enormous cake.

We wish to thank all our distinguished guests, for giving of their precious time and inclination, for traveling to our campus so we might host them, and for sharing, in a moment, pearls of wisdom that required a lifetime to obtain. Please accept our gratitude as we commemorate you Knights. May your words ring forever in our halls and hearts. ĩ

HONORING LEADER-SERVANTS

Southern Virginia honored leader-servants Chieko Okazaki, and Glade & Kathleen Knight at special presentations this fall.

In October, Southern Virginia University welcomed visiting members of the school's National Advisory Council and Board of Trustees. The biannual meetings for both organizations were scheduled to coincide with the 2005 Homecoming celebration. The meetings progressed with business as usual, until the conference's concluding dinner, which unexpectedly became the perfect setting for a special program honoring, and surprising, board member Chieko Okazaki. Sister Okazaki was named a recipient of SVU's Leader-Servant award in the fall of 2004 when she spoke at a university forum; but she was not recognized with a formal award presentation until this October.

In addition to remarks from SVU administrators, the presentation consisted of special tributes, prepared ahead of time and read aloud by members of SVU's National Advisory Council. The first tribute was written by Sister Okazaki's son Bob, recounting her love and service as a leader-servant in their home. The second tribute was from Elaine Jack, former President of the General Relief Society. Her comments focused on Sister Okazaki's example in the Church and the community. Sister Jack's tribute was followed by one from Aileen Clyde, former Counselor of the General Relief Society, speaking about Sister Okazaki's service in the workplace and to the world.

Chairman of SVU's Board of Trustees, Glade Knight, and his wife Kathleen, were also named leader-servants in fall of 2004. Like Sister Okazaki, the Knights were formally recognized at a meeting this October. A presentation fireside was hosted by the Chesterfield Stake in Richmond, VA. Those in attendance heard performances by the SVU Chamber Choir, remarks from President Smith, Rod Young - a member of the Board of Trustees, and the Knights' son Justin.



Glade & Kathleen Knight



Chieko Okazaki

Video tributes were shown, featuring interviews with Elder Vaughn J. Featherstone of the First Quorum of the Seventy and former General Young Women's President Ardeth Kapp. The Knight's son Nelson compiled a special video showing Glade & Kathleen interacting with their family, and words of appreciation and support from the Knight grandchildren. It was a very touching meeting and well deserved by leader-servants such as Glade & Kathleen Knight.

The Leader-Servant Award is the highest honor given by Southern Virginia University, to individuals who exemplify compassion, intelligence, and integrity with a history of service to others. SVU students are encouraged to pattern themselves and their lives after these wonderful people. †

LEARNING THAT LIFE IS SERVICE

Students brought the school's motto to life as they gave of their time and hearts serving the community.

Students had their hands full performing and organizing service projects for the community. SVU's Knights have gained a reputation in the community for their honest hard work and generous, happy spirits.



Members of SVU's Equestrian Club spent one morning cleaning saddles and tack for horse owners in Rockbridge County.

The group on campus with the most volunteer hours (340 total during the semester) is the Equestrian Club, initiated and run by junior Brian Groves (seen in above photo: top left corner). Club members dedicate their biweekly activities to caring for horses in the local area. This work typically includes cleaning stables, brushing the animals, and maintaining their health. In exchange for their services, students are occasionally permitted by the owners to ride the horses. The Equestrian Club spends time working with Hoofbeats, an organization that uses horseback riding as a social therapy for the mentally and physically handicapped. They also volunteer on a regular basis at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, one of the largest equestrian centers in the US. Club members recently assisted in a national horse show at the center, where they solicited the help of their fellow Knights to make a lasting impression on those in attendance. SVU's Men's Lacrosse Team answered the call and aided by repairing and monitoring jumps in the dressage stadium. It was a great opportunity for the two groups to mingle and for the community to see such support from Southern Virginia University.

In September, students pooled their limited resources to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. They organized many different activities to raise money to donate to the LDS Church's Humanitarian Aid program and the American Red Cross. Students dedicated one day to a special fast; the administration then used the allotted money from participants' meal plans to make the donation. The Student Association held a special dance with ticket money being contributed to the cause. A hair-cutting activity was set up outside of the men's dorms to also raise money. In addition, students held a blood drive with the Red Cross to help the hurricane victims.

In addition to these specified arenas, the university also participated in more traditional and typical projects. In October, students and staff worked at the Washington, D.C. Temple grounds and prepared flower beds for the winter months. In December, members of SVU's Wrestling Team were celebrities at a retirement home in Lexington where they spent an afternoon moving around heavy furniture for residents.

Southern Virginia is proud of its students, staff, and faculty for all the diligence and sacrifice with which they answer calls for help. Their outreach brings the school, the community, and the world closer together. †



Left to Right: 1. Wrestling team members Jordan Goodsell, Michael Dunn, and Preston Joyner move furniture for residents of a local retirement home. 2. Lacrosse players Peter Mantell, Jesse Draper, James Hartshorn, and Able Smith volunteer their manpower at the latest national horse show. 3. Students gave blood to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

FINE ARTS PERFORMANCES

The Performing Arts flourished this fall at Southern Virginia. In addition to two plays, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *The Tempest*, the Theatre Department collaborated with their Music colleagues to produce SVU's first opera - *The Old Maid & The Thief*. Choir Concerts, instrumental performances, and a special staged reading of *A Christmas Carol* helped to fill the semester with culture and enjoyment.



Jeffrey Gasser & Brittany Johnson embrace during a scene from *The Importance of Being Earnest*.



Morgen Reynolds & Diana Lyons perform before an audience in *The Tempest*.

Southern Virginia University's first theatre production of the season, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, opened in late September to a resounding success. This play by Oscar Wilde is beloved for the genuine human emotion depicted amid biting social satire. "It's as fresh today as it was when it written in 1895," said Dr. Paul Edwards, SVU's Executive Vice President & Provost.

The play starred freshman Jeffrey Gasser from Winchester, Virginia, who anchored the cast in the lead role of John Worthing. He was supported by Adam Flitton (Algernon Moncrieff), Sarah Maxwell (Gwendolen Fairfax), Brittany Johnson (Cecily Cardew), and Amaree Cluff (Lady Bracknell). "Earnest has been on my list of plays to produce for some time," said Professor David Dwyer, the play's director. "I wanted a show that would be challenging for our students and have good audience appeal. *Earnest* was the perfect fit." Through their participation in the play, students gained exposure to several 19th and early 20th century acting and staging practices and conquered the task of mastering a standard British accent.

Earnest was followed by Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, directed by SVU's Special Events Coordinator, Lesley Larsen. Larsen, a Lexington native and graduate of Rockbridge County High School, received her BA in Acting from Brigham Young University and MLIT from Mary Baldwin College in Staunton. Main cast members were Morgen Reynolds, Adjunct Professor of English at SVU, and students Amaree Cluff, Mikaela Shiraki and Elizabeth Bouchelle.

Connecting the play to its Elizabethan roots, Larsen produced *The Tempest* in accordance to "Original Staging Practices" meaning, there was no set, the

lighting was universal, and the cast interacted freely with audience members. The experience was both educational and entertaining.

Opera debuted at Southern Virginia University with the production of *The Old Maid & the Thief* by Gian Carlo Menotti. The short opera was first performed in 1939, and is not a typical grandiose tragedy. "It's not too long, it's quite funny, and it's also very poignant," said musical director Dr. Margaret Gingerich.

In the story, a spinster is persuaded by her frisky maid to allow a handsome beggar into her home. Both women fall in love with him and resort to increasingly dishonest measures to keep him happy. Their growing jealousy is complicated when they learn that the object of their affections fits the description of a thief who has recently escaped from the county jail.



Cindy Keime watches as Byron Richins & Elizabeth Brady face off in the climactic scene of *The Old Maid & The Thief*.

"We're thrilled that SVU has at last been able to introduce opera into its performing curriculum," said Dr. Gingerich, who is a Professor of Voice at the university. "We've staged some very successful opera workshops in the past, but this is our first full-scale production. The students rose to the challenge and did a wonderful job."

Theatre Professor Robert Stoddard said, "This show has been a labor of love, a true collaboration between the Music and Theatre programs." The opera was double cast to preserve the stamina and voices of the performers. Professor Stoddard staged the production, Dr. LaRae Carter served as Assistant Musical Director, and Dr. Mark Taylor directed the SVU Orchestra.

In November, the Music Department presented the SVU Flute Choir in concert, directed by Professor Launa Whitehead. The performance featured music from Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, *Floris Suite* by Catherine McMichael, Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus*, and *Alexander's Ragtime Band* by Irving Berlin. Students played a variety of flutes, from the dainty piccolo, to the elegant alto flute, to the massive bass flute. The concert delighted those in attendance with inspiring and invigorating music.

SVU's Chamber Choir was busy in December as they began the month with a trip to Kensington, MD. The choir was one of the fortunate performing groups invited to share their talents during the Christmas lighting ceremony at the Washington, D.C. Temple. Under the direction of Dr. Keith Bradshaw, students sang for thousands of people from around the world who gathered for the Temple's annual tradition. Later in the month, the Chamber Choir held its annual Christmas Concert in Chandler Hall. Community members, staff, faculty, and families came to take part in the festive celebration.

To wrap up the season, SVU employees were treated to a staged abridged reading of *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens. The reading took place during the staff Christmas party, which was Victorian themed and organized by English Professor Carrie Brotherson and members of the SVU Women's Society. Staff, faculty, and even children joined their talents together for a rich performance filled with the Christmas Spirit. †



Professor of Music, Launa Whitehead, directs the SVU Flute Choir in their Fall Concert.



SVU's Chamber Choir, directed by Dr. Keith Bradshaw, performed at the Christmas Lighting ceremony at the Washington, D.C. Temple.



The staff party reading of *A Christmas Carol* (from left to right): Paul Wright - Narrator, David Dwyer - Jacob Marley, Morgen Reynolds - Ghosts of Christmas Past & Future, Keith Bradshaw - Ghost of Christmas Present, Robert Stoddard - Ebenezer Scrooge, Robert Huch & Richard Whitehead - Collectors for the Poor, Nathan Dransfield - Tiny Tim, Scott Dransfield - Bob Cratchit, Gavin Dransfield - Peter Cratchit, Andrea Dransfield - Mrs. Cratchit.

CHAMPION KNIGHTS

This fall, Southern Virginia's valiant Knights claimed the school's 22nd and 23rd National Championships: one for women's Cross-Country and one for women's Soccer.

KNIGHT CROSS-COUNTRY

In November, Southern Virginia University hosted the USCAA National Cross-Country Championships at Glen Maury Park in Buena Vista, VA. Colleges from across the US came to compete for both men's and women's titles. The Knights ran hard and took fifth place overall. The Lady Knights' captain, Kimberly Andersen, led her team to a first place victory in the women's race. She also claimed her second individual national championship title in three years. The USCAA All-American Winners list included Andersen (1st), her co-captain Jeannie Harmon (5th), and teammate Midge Schroeder (7th). Lady Knights Catherine Pohm (9th), Disa Beck (10th), Molly Murphy (13th), and Laura Wright (14th) helped solidify SVU's win. The SVU Men's Cross-Country Team claimed second place in the USCAA Championships. Team captain Jeff White earned All-American honors with his second place finish. Ben Woods was also named All-American after an exciting battle for sixth place. Kyle Francis (8th), Ben Kolle (14th), Brent Barrowes (17th), Dallas Jausi (20th), and Brendan White (23rd) also scored for the Knights.

These outstanding performances were a tremendous finish to the 2005-06 season, and capped off the Knights' arsenal of awards. Earlier in the season, both the men and women's teams took third place at the NCAA State Championships and second place at the Mason Dixon Conference race. Coach Paul Wright stated, "I cannot be more proud of our cross-country teams. In the history of the university, we have never had a group of men and women who have fought so courageously all season long, and been so selfless in their contributions to their teams and school."

LADY KNIGHT SOCCER

The SVU Women's Soccer Team also participated in USCAA Nationals this season. In the first game of the tournament, Southern Virginia University took on Robert Morris University. Lady Knight Susie Jex scored the single goal of the game, assisted by Natalie Rosvall. SVU's Keeper Mary Ertel made eight saves, insuring the Lady Knights' shutout 1:0 victory. In the second game, SVU was paired up with St. Mary of the Woods College. Lady Knight keeper Ertel was fierce as usual, but one of St. Mary's goals managed to slip by into the net. Before the game could end, however, Southern Virginia scored three more points, ending the match 3:1. The first goal was made by Lindsie Butler off an assist by Jex, the second by Shawna Gunn with the assistance of Rosvall, and the third also by Butler, this time assisted by Shalece Hibbert. Southern Virginia played against New Hampshire Technical Institute in the final game of the tournament. SVU's Butler scored twice in this game, assisted at first by Rosvall, then by Jex. Ertel made a total of thirteen magnificent saves. The Lady Knights finished the game 2:1, with their third win, and claiming the championship title.



The Lady Knight's 2005-06 Soccer Team



The Knights' Men's & Women's Cross-Country teams celebrate their victories at the USCAA Championships this fall, hosted by Southern Virginia University.

The USCAA named Butler as an All-American player for her twenty goals and six assists of the 2005-06 season. Jex was also named All-American for her thirteen goals and eight assists. Lady Knights

named to the All-Tournament team included Hibbert, Jex, and Leslie Clarke. In addition, Leslie Clarke was awarded the title of Most Valuable Player of the Tournament. This marks the third National Championship title for the Lady Knights' Soccer Team.

KNIGHT FOOTBALL

The Knights' Football Team completed their third year of intercollegiate competition and won four of their last six games, finishing this season with an impressive 4-5 record. In their last game, the Knights beat George Mason University with a score of 43-7. The Knights won against Greensboro College, Atlantic College, and the Apprentice School. At SVU's annual football banquet, Head Coach Gary Buer awarded the following players for their performance during the season: *James Yates Distinguished Player of the Year*: Rhett Buer; *Glade Knight Most Inspirational Player of the Year*: Cameron Reynolds; *Dwaine Hatch Most Valuable Offensive Player*: Hayes Page; *Most Valuable Defensive Player*: Drew Manning; *Most Improved Offensive Player*: Michael Brion Morris; *Most Improved Defensive Player*: Nick Maida; *Best Offensive Blocking Percentage*: Nick Surfass; *Defensive Point Leader*: Drew Manning; *Special Teams Player of the Year*: Hayes Page; *Offensive Scout Squad Player of the Year*: Nicolo Scaglia; *Defensive Scout Squad Player of the Year*: Brandon Bartlett; *Captains' Awards*: Rhett Buer, Mario Froster, Brandon Nelson, & Brandon Rockwood.

KNIGHT SOCCER

This season was full of excitement for the SVU Men's Soccer Team. In August, the Knights started off with a 7-0 victory, shutting out Pikeville College in Kentucky. Their next win was against Washington & Lee University, where the Knights and Generals were tied 2-2, until SVU's Greg McClain scored in the final seconds of double overtime. Next, SVU won their second game in a row with their match against Columbia Union College (3-2). In their game with Davis & Elkins College, the Knights shut out the Senators 1-0, thanks to a goal from Brandon Romito's picture-perfect header on a cross from Dax Farnsworth. Another memorable goal took place in the seventieth minute of SVU's game against Liberty University, a Division I school. Cody Anderson surprised the opponents with a stunning goal that gave SVU a temporary lead. For their last game of the season, the Knights tied 2-2 with Bluefield College. SVU qualified for the USCAA National Championships but did not attend the competition this year.

KNIGHT GOLF

The SVU Men's Golf Team completed its first season of intercollegiate competition this fall. The five Knight Golfers are team captain Kevin Meacham, Spencer Boulter, Brad Hale, Joel Marquez, and Cody Brownell. The Knights played in multiple team tournaments, and improved greatly throughout the season. Brownell, a freshman from Avon Park, FL, led SVU's performance by winning one tournament, and finishing within the top four places in others.



The Knight's 2005-06 Football Team



The Knight's 2005-06 Soccer Team



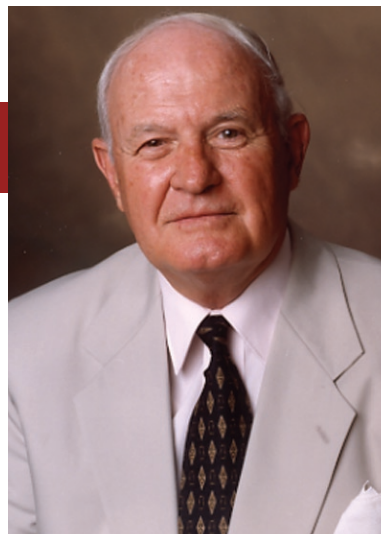
The Knight's 2005-06 Golf Team

We're proud of our exceptional student-athletes, and appreciate the respect they work to earn for Southern Virginia University. We wish them the best in the sporting battles that lie ahead. i

BENEVOLENT GIFTS

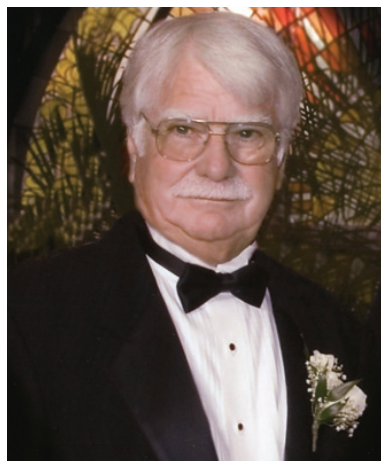
SVU thanks the generous donors who support our school and students.

In 1997, Stanford "Bud" Stoddard first became involved with Southern Virginia University by donating money for scholarships, ground acquisitions, maintenance and beautification of Main Hall, and many other projects. He commissioned the Ann D. Stoddard Living Center in memory of his late wife. This fall, Brother Stoddard and his current wife, Dixie, have been very kind to SVU. Their generous funds allowed for the creation of the new Stoddard Activities Center and the installation of four modular homes for additional student housing. The Stoddard Activities Center was dedicated in October, and in December it was the location for a special fireside featuring Sister Susan W. Tanner, General President of the Young Women's Organization. The Stoddard Center is now used for many of activities, including movie nights, dinners, graduation, and student dances. Brother Stoddard's gifts will continue to bless the lives of hundreds of students and their families for years to come.



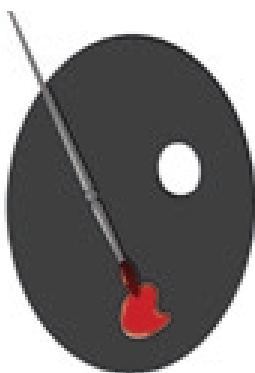
Stanford "Bud" Stoddard

William P. Haslam joined the ranks of Southern Virginia's supporters in 2000 by allowing the university to use one of his vacated properties. The expansive 19,000 sqft. space, once occupied by a grocery store, has hosted student dances and accommodated many of the school's needs. Mr. Haslam recognized SVU's demand for student housing, and in 2003 he built five townhouse-style buildings in a complex northeast of campus. The "Carriage Townhouses" were rented to the university and have become a favorite with the SVU family. In 2005, Mr. Haslam donated nearly half of the real estate and all of the furnishings from the townhouses to the university, and arranged for SVU to secure ownership of the rest of the complex through a long-term buyout agreement. Southern Virginia will dedicate the townhouses this Spring, and rename the complex in Mr. Haslam's honor.



William P. Haslam

Our deepest gratitude is extended to our benefactors. You make our school possible, and your generosity is a force for so much good in the world. We thank you for your enduring friendship and faith in Southern Virginia University. i



ANNOUNCING:

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THE SVU FAMILY

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

DANA THOMAS

- Graduation: Class of 2002
- Hometown: Gloucester, VA
- Major: Business Management & Leadership
- Minor: Multimedia Design
- Favorite Professor: Todd Brotherson,
(But Dr. Kellogg will probably kill me for saying that.)
- Favorite Class taken at SVU: I can't remember the name, but it was the core third level business class. We had to do strategic analyses of real-life cases and it tied all my learning together through application. As tough as it was, I actually loved it.
- Favorite thing about SVU: Family-like feeling of campus
- College Shtick: Computer Geek Guy
- Mission: Anaheim, CA Spanish Speaking
- Married Hannah Berry on September 11, 1999
- First child: Dallin Reed Thomas (August 4, 2002)
- Second child: Afton Belle Thomas (August 9, 2004)
- Third child: Henry Owen Thomas (on the way & due June 15, 2006)
- Currently: Help Desk Director of Information Technology at SVU
- Dream Job: I absolutely love what I do now. I would also love to run a non-profit organization building houses out of recycled materials.



THE ROUND TABLE

Featuring members of the SVU family.

Alumni: Kiley Tompkins Smith

- Graduation 2005
- Currently an SVU Assistant Admissions Counselor
- Favorite part of my job: Feeling like I make a difference in people's decisions to come to SVU.
- Favorite Christmas carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
- Favorite Christmas time activity: Window shopping in New York City with my husband & family.



Student: Luke Skiff

- Hometown: Stephens City, VA
- Senior: Liberal Arts Major, Pre-Dental track
- Favorite Christmas carol: *O Holy Night*
- Favorite Christmas time activity: Decorating the tree. It's always been the job I've been assigned in my family because I'm the tallest.

ALL ARE
EQUAL IN
THE EYES OF
GOD



Staff: Jamie Smith

- Administrative Assistant to the Office of Academic Affairs
- Favorite part of my job: Interacting with the faculty, students, and staff.
- Favorite Christmas carol: *Grown-up Christmas Wish* (I guess it's more of a song than a carol.)
- Favorite Christmas time activity: Baking and decorating cookies with my daughter, Katie.

Faculty: LaRae Carter, PhD

- Professor of Music (volunteer)
- Favorite part of my job: Working with the music students. They're such a committed and talented group of people.
- Favorite Christmas carol: *Silent Night*
- Favorite Christmas time activity: Cooking for my family. They all look forward especially to my stuffing.



Administrator: Joseph Bouchelle

- Registrar
- Favorite part of my job: Interacting with and helping the students. I was a teacher for so long that I guess I'm still very student-focused.
- Favorite Christmas carol: *Angels We Have Heard on High*
- Favorite Christmas time activity: Playing in the snow with my kids.

And they were all young men, and they were exceedingly valiant for courage, and also for strength and activity, but behold, this was not all - they were men who were true at all times in whatsoever thing they were entrusted. Yea, they were men of truth and soberness, for they had been taught to keep the commandments of God and to walk uprightly before him.

Alma 53: 20 - 21



Photo by Paul Cheney

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