

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

FALL 2020 SEMESTER NEWSLETTER

DEAN'S CORNER



Jean Boreen | Dean of HSS

It's 2021...and I suspect that like many of you, I am cautiously optimistic that this year will be so much better than 2020. We will be welcoming students back to campus in a few days and we are offering various teaching modalities to accommodate the needs of our students and faculty. I am looking forward to teaching my Young Adult Literature course on Tuesday afternoons.

SUU made it through the fall semester surprisingly well. We offered courses as a mix of face-to-face, on-line (synchronous and asynchronous), and hybrid modalities and these approaches allowed our students and faculty to interact in ways that promoted social distancing and supported

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UTAH BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES SUU'S FIRST DOCTORATE PROGRAM

By: David Bishop

For the first time in its history, Southern Utah University will offer a doctorate-level program. The Utah Board of Higher Education gave its final approval Friday, October 30th on SUU's new Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.). The program will prepare students to practice psychotherapy and psychological testing.

"When our first doctorate program begins in the Fall of 2022, it'll be Southern Utah University's 125th year of providing higher education in our region. That's a significant achievement in our history," said SUU President Scott L Wyatt. "Just as important, this new program will help solve a problem found in rural Utah and throughout the country

- the availability of mental health practitioners."

The new doctorate program must still receive final approval from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, SUU's regional accreditation higher-education agency.

This will be the only Doctorate of Psychology (Psy.D.) program focusing on mental health offered in the state of Utah. It differs from a Ph.D. degree which places a greater emphasis on research rather than specifically training professionals for practical application.

"This program will make a significant difference in people's lives," said SUU

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HSS SURPRISES STUDENT WITH MPA SCHOLARSHIP

By: Angela Pool-Funai | Special Thanks: Morgan Jensen

Our first endowed scholarship in the MPA program was a labor of love that spanned several years in the making. It started with the efforts of one of our former MPA directors, Dr. Patricia Keehley, along with a handful of alumni and donors who wanted to do something tangible to support our grad students. It blossomed into a truly grassroots effort to raise funds to support MPA students. Financial aid at the graduate level is scarce and hard to come by, so we are thrilled to have this opportunity to help our MPA students.

The global health crisis put many things on hold in the spring semester, including the ability for our scholarship committee to meet in person and review applications. We handled the process virtually, and once we narrowed down the strong pool of applicants to our selected student, we wanted to do something special for the announcement. I've never hosted a virtual surprise party before, and it was by far one of the funnest days of my career. Alicia was certainly surprised, and I don't think there was a dry eye on the video call. I look forward to seeing the Patricia Keehley MPA Endowed Scholarship fund grow and grow in the years to come, so that we can help more students in the future.

[View Video](#)

BIS PROGRAM

By: Nathan Wiggins

This past year, the College of HSS was assigned to manage one of the newest undergraduate degree programs on campus, and is excited about the developments that have taken place during this past semester. The Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) program offers students the opportunity to have more control over how their degree is built, and allows students who typically struggle

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WRITING AWARD

Featuring: Danielle Dubrasky
Special Thanks: Morgan Jensen

Lighting Out for the Invisible is a collection of poems that meditates on the intersection of landscape, myth, and loss from various imagistic perspectives that weave distinctly feminine narrative poems exploring relationships, loss, and a sense of place from the lush green of the south to the stark red rock of the southwest. These poems grew out of my own interest in various myths--Persephone, the darker

[View Poems](#)

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EXCELLENCE IN WRITING

Several projects written by students at SUU's Writing Center have been accepted to present at the Southern California Writing Centers Association Peer Tutoring Conference, which will be held virtually in February 2021. The projects are:

- Elliani Bailey: "Decisions... Decisions: Changing the Way We Help International Students"
- Sarah Penner: "Speaking of Change: Writing Center and Speech/Presentation Center Collaborations,"
- Jack Nielsen and Kylie Park: "A Tale of Two Prose: A Comparison Between Scientific and Creative Writing,"

These students will represent the Writing Center and the College of HSS well at their conference. Their work reflects all of the skilled writers who attend and have attended Southern Utah University.



HSS STUDENT SENATOR | AMANDA WALTON

By: Aspen Slider

Amanda Walton is our HSS representative for the SUU USA senate. Amanda plans to graduate with a double major in Communication and English, with a minor in Film Studies this coming spring. She hopes to involve writing in her future career as she enjoys her current job working for the University Journal. She would also love to work for a non-profit organization for women and survivors of sexual assault in a position that involves writing. In her free time, Amanda loves to watch movies, hang out with friends and family, go running, read, and cuddle with her dog, Phil. When asked about the Student Advisory Board, Amanda stated that she loves being a part of bettering SUU every day, and being a senator gives her

the opportunity to do so. Being a senator means that she gets to listen to students and help make the environment at SUU a place where everyone can thrive, which is something she enjoys doing. She says that SUUSA is all about service of all kinds, big and small. The senate holds weekly meetings where they discuss and propose bills aimed at bettering SUU. This semester, Amanda has focused on providing more resources and support for survivors of sexual assault attending SUU. For HSS specifically, she wants to create more unity between each department in hopes that students will be able to collaborate with students from other departments, make more connections, and work on unique projects together.

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT | CHRIS CRAWFORD

By: Aspen Slider

Chris Crawford, an SUU HSS alumni, currently works as a Foreign Service Officer stationed in Lyon, France. He graduated from SUU with a BA in Criminal Justice. When asked about what he learned at SUU, Chris replied, "My time at SUU was where I really learned how to learn, and it gave me the confidence to know I could achieve my dreams". He stated that clubs, being an SUU Ambassador, and student government, all helped him get to where he is today. Chris wanted to take a year off after completing school to live overseas and learn a new language. He ended up joining the Utah Army National Guard and living in Iraq before taking the LSAT and working toward being a Foreign Service Officer. With a 3-6% acceptance rate, becoming a Foreign Service Officer is no small feat. Chris shared that he and his family move to new countries every few years, something that they love, but that is also very difficult. He has lived in Sydney, Australia; Paris, France; East Timor; Kabul; Afghanistan; and Lyon, France. Chris' job in Lyon includes many things - from helping a restaurant get permission to open a new store, to arranging for an American author to speak with high school students and introduce them to a writing program, and even to reporting on French film festivals and their response to COVID-19. He has also been responsible for issuing visas, finding housing for new diplomats, scheduling travel for the General Consul, and much more.



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