

UHESA News

“Utah Higher Education Staff Association” Newsletter

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January 2000

What is “UHESA?”

The Utah Higher Education Staff Association (UHESA) was established several years ago to serve all staff employees in higher education. UHESA provides a means of association and intercommunication among the staff associations of each institution of the Utah System of Higher Education.

Membership of UHESA consists of delegates from each institution’s staff association officers. UHESA meets twice yearly with special meetings as needed.

1999-2000 UHESA Officers

Jim Reese, UHESA President (USU)
Wes Brinkerhof, UHESA Pres-Elect (SUU)
Luanne Holden, UHESA Past Pres. (SLCC)
Leila Neilson, UHESA Secretary (USU)

Staff Association Officers

College of Eastern Utah

Darlene Severeid, President-Professional
Todd Olsen, Pres. Elect-Professional
Susan Wilstead, President-Classified
Hank Savage, Pres Elect-Classified

Dixie College

Donna Stafford, President
Cyndy Smith, President-Elect

Salt Lake Community College

Mark Hamilton, President
Mike Thurman, President-Elect

Snow College

Katie Jean Larsen, President-Professional

Southern Utah University

Wes Brinkerhof, President
Bill Moody, President-Elect

University of Utah - Staff Advisory Council

Jim Cook, President

Dori Fortune, President Elect

Jerry Jensen, Representative

Utah State University

Leila Neilson, President-Professional
Teresa McKnight, Pres. Elect-Professional

Jim Reese, President-Classified

Sally Meikle, Pres. Elect-Classified

Utah Valley State College

Gary Griffin, President

Merrill Oyler, President-Elect

Weber State University

Christine Colestock, Chair-Professional
Brooke Chase, Vice Chair-Professional

Kay Brown, Chair-Classified

Karren Schick, Vice Chair-Classified

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

UHESA met in December to discuss concerns of staff employees that need to be communicated to Legislators. The main concerns are:

- ◆ benefits are funded separately when considering compensation increases (similar to the funding of benefits and compensation for state employees); and
- ◆ salary equity.

The Board of Regents, responding to the concerns of each Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) President, directed the Commissioner’s Office to develop a Salary Equity Adjustment study to support a USHE request for equity funding for 2000-2001. The study results show that at six of the nine higher education institutions, staff salaries need more funding than faculty salaries to reach 90% of market salary rates. The results of this study and the request for additional salary equity funding has been presented to the Legislature with the 2000-2001 budget request of the Board of Regents.

(Contact your Staff Association President for a copy of the study results.)

The most effective way to educate the Legislature about staff employees’ salaries and benefits concerns is to contact your legislators.

NOW is the time for staff employees to make their voices heard. Your Senators and Representatives need to hear your compensation concerns. The interest in staff salary issues is now, during this legislative session, and the opportunity may not present itself again for several years.

Call or e-mail your Senator and Representative today!

Find who your legislator is at <http://www.sltrib.com/politics/maps/>
Utah State Legislature home page <http://www.le.state.ut.us/>
Members of the Higher Education Appropriation Subcommittee
<http://www.le.state.ut.us/~2000/agenda/apphed.htm>

When contacting your Senator and Representative:

- Identify yourself by name and address as a voter in their district (It is important that you not represent yourself as a representative of your college or university);
- State your purpose for calling giving one or more brief reason(s) for your position;
- Be brief, informed and polite;
- Always thank them for their time and for listening.

A Higher Education Rally at the Capitol is being organized (by some other groups) on **Wednesday, February 16**. We don’t have a lot of information about this rally yet, but when more information is received, we will pass it along to your Staff Association President. If you would like to support this rally, it is recommended that you use vacation time and prior to the rally, contact your legislator and let them know that you will be at the rally and perhaps they could find a few minutes to meet with you.