

COMMENCEMENT 2005

Saturday, December 17, 2005

10:30 a.m.

Dee Glen Smith Spectrum

*EVERYONE WILL REMAIN STANDING UNTIL AFTER THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS
PLAYED AND THE COLOR GUARD HAS DEPARTED THE HALL.*

*ONCE THE PROCESSION HAS ENDED
AND ALL FACULTY ARE IN THEIR PLACES...*

RICHARD L. SHIPLEY: Welcome to the 114th Commencement
Exercise of Utah State University.

We will begin by asking the Air Force ROTC Color Guard to
present the colors of the United States of America and the State of
Utah, after which The Caine Brass Quintet will play the National
Anthem. Please remain standing until the Color Guard leaves the
hall.

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

(FLAGS WILL BE MARCHED PAST THE PODIUM AFTER THE ANTHEM)

COLOR GUARD EXITS THE HALL

RICHARD L. SHIPLEY: Thank you. Please be seated.

We are pleased to welcome each of you to the program this morning – members of the Fall graduating class of 2005, your families and friends, faculty, and alumni. We ask that you please refrain from coming to the Spectrum floor to take photographs during the ceremony.

We recognize dedicated leaders of the state and many special guests, including legislators, other government officials, and church and civic leaders.

We also welcome from the Utah Board of Regents:

Chair Nolan E. Karras

Vice Chair Jed H. Pitcher

Katherine B. Garff

Megan Holbrook

From the Utah State University Board of Trustees, we welcome members:

Douglas D. Anderson

Robert L. Foley

Lynnette T. Hansen

Quinn W. Millet (President of the Associated Students of
Utah State University)

R. Brent Nyman

We are pleased to acknowledge the presence of members of the administration of the University. And it is an honor to be in the midst of so many faculty and other valued colleagues.

Would all the faculty please rise now, and accept the warm appreciation of graduates and of the audience.

Nolan E. Karras, chair of the Utah Board of Regents, will now proceed with the charge to and investiture of President Albrecht.
Chariman Karras...

NOLAN KARRAS: *[Speech unavailable]*

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT:

In 1849, Harvard University inaugurated its 17th president. In reporting on that event, one local newspaper noted that the “speeches were horribly long, without possessing any extraordinary compensating merits.” The paper also reported that the aisles of the hall where the inauguration was held were crowded with a “heated and panting congregation,” obviously not a problem for us today.

One of the advantages of having foregone a formal inaugural event and doing, instead, this small investiture as part of our Fall Commencement, is that we get to skip long speeches. Chairman Karras and members of the State Board of Regents, as I noted on January 18 of this year when you granted me the opportunity to serve as Utah State University’s 15th president, I accept this assignment both joyfully and with great humility. I am deeply honored by the trust you have placed in me. To mark an occasion like this, we use a somewhat funny term: “Investiture.” But I believe it is appropriate — I am completely, totally, thoroughly, lock-stock-

and-barrel invested in Utah State University.

While this institution has gone through an enormously difficult and challenging Fall, the experiences of the last 11 months have only amplified and made more inclusive my great love for Utah State University. Thank you, again, for the confidence you have placed in me. During the time I serve, I will do everything in my capacity to be worthy of that trust. Each day will be embraced for the new opportunity it provides.

Once again, thank you to my administrative colleagues, deans, department heads, faculty, students, staff members, donors, alumni, state and community leaders, and other friends of the university who, together, make this place what it is. We will continue our untiring effort to build on the great foundation left us by others as we move this great institution forward. I gratefully accept the charge given.

Now we will be pleased to hear from The Caine Brass Quintet.

[Musical Selection, The Caine Brass Quintet]

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT:

We are privileged to be in the midst of this great assemblage of students. They are represented by some of their most outstanding members in the persons of the valedictorians of the seven academic colleges. Each valedictorian is escorted by a professor chosen as highly influential in the life of the student being honored.

These students are seated at the front of their colleges. We request that they and their faculty escorts stand as their names are called, and remain standing. Please hold your applause until they have all been introduced:

College of Agriculture: Camille Gourley Walker [GORE-LEE]
Escort: Professor Betty J. Murri [MURRAY]

College of Business: Bryan David Cook
Escort: Professor Rosemary R. Fullerton

College of Education and Human Services:
Brooke Christensen Sorenson
Escort: Professor Martha T. Dever

College of Engineering: Brandon Boldt
Escort: Professor Paul A. Wheeler

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences:
Steven T. Stoddard
Escort: Professor William L. Furlong

College of Natural Resources: Alan J. Luce [LOOSE]
Escort: Professor R. Douglas Ramsey

College of Science: Maria E. Horrocks [sounds like it looks]
Escort: Professor James S. Cangelosi [CAN-GELL-Ó-SI]

Please join in congratulating all these outstanding students.

We are gathered here today to recognize and honor our degree candidates, and with them their families, friends, and colleagues.

Since opening its doors in 1888, Utah State has held 113 Commencement exercises. But yours, number 114, is our second Fall Commencement. Congratulations! Today we salute the achievements of over 1900 candidates who have completed

requirements for their undergraduate degrees from this University.

Our bachelor's degree graduates represent 22 countries and 45 states. Fifty percent are female, and 50 percent are male.

Among the hundreds of success stories sitting in front of me right now, I want to highlight just a few for you.

- Wanda Banham (BAN-UM) is graduating in Family and Consumer Science Education in the Agriculture Systems Technology and Education Department. Wanda is in her '60s, has raised nine children and is a cancer survivor.
- Andrew Auman, (AWE-MAN) graduating in physics today, was coordinator of the Get Away Special program here since his freshman year at Utah State. He has been the “go-to-guy” for information about one of our most famous bragging points – that “Utah State has sent more student-built experiments into space than any other university in the world.” We will miss him, but he's entering the graduate physics program.

- We can all be a little jealous of Janelle Wilson, graduating today from the School of Accountancy. She leaves Sunday for London where she begins an extremely prestigious internship with Deloitte and Touche, one the largest and most respected accounting firms in the world.
- And, as the last of eight children who have come to Utah State, Clark Johnson of Delta, Utah, has been called the “caboose” of the family. He graduates today in business administration, leaving what his parents have affectionately called the “Johnson Family University.”

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On behalf of the University, the administration, faculty and staff, I congratulate all of our graduates.

A distinguished faculty has prepared you. Respected alumni have gone before you.

We wish you well and thank you for the ways in which you have enriched our lives.

Long after you have left Utah State, your best memories are likely to be those spent here with friends and roommates and with favorite instructors – in the classroom or laboratory.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT:

Our Commencement speaker this year is someone well loved and well respected by those of you who've had the chance to have her as a professor. Sonia Manuel-Dupont is an Associate Professor of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education, Civil and Environmental Engineering, and English. She received the Carnegie Foundation's CASE Teacher of the Year award as Utah's best professor in 1997.

Professor Manuel-Dupont...

[Commencement Address by Sonia Manuel-Dupont]

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Sonia, for that inspiring

address. On behalf of the graduates and all our guests, it is an honor for Utah State University to have our Commencement address delivered by so distinguished a faculty member and extraordinary teacher.

There are many factors that contribute to the quality of Utah State University. Likely the most important of these are the achievements of our faculty. They are the foundation upon which a university is built.

Our faculty members, the product of more than 250 strong institutions in the United States and other nations, are highly productive. All are deserving of recognition.

Our student commencement speaker is Brooke Christensen Sorenson, valedictorian for the College of Education and Human Services. She was competitively selected by other valedictorians to address us. Brooke is graduating with a bachelor of science degree

in Elementary Education, and moving to Virginia where she has accepted a teaching position.

Brooke Sorenson
Valedictorian Speech

When I was in high school, I attended an international conference with my father on God, Religion, and Families in Washington DC where I spoke with a distinguished panel of professors, religious leaders, and government officials. During a lengthy question and answer session following the speeches, one mid-Eastern man approached a microphone and stated that he felt despair raising children in a society unmoored from tradition and ethics. He asked me, “In light of all the problems, negative influences, and confusion in the world, do you, as a young person, believe there is hope for this generation?”

“Yes!” I answered. I thought so then and I think so even more now. My Utah State experience confirms that I gave the right answer. The question, “is there hope for this generation?” is repeatedly answered when I see many colleagues display the academic excellence, service, unity, compassion, and personal integrity this world needs. .

Academic Excellence

First, I have reason to hope for our generation when I realize that Utah State currently has over 23,000 bright, capable students enrolled in various fields, each struggling, working hard, and developing their talents! We are joined all over the world by other quality academic institutions preparing their young people to lead, contribute in their chosen professions, and hopefully form and provide for their families. Aggies know learning is not static and does not end here, but continues the rest of our lives.

One of the unique features of Utah State University is that student researchers in nearly every department are searching for new ways to look at subjects and presenting cutting edge research at Student Showcase, Posters on the Hill, and other conferences. We have an Honors Program with 300 students who are going the extra mile to achieve and make the most of their education. We have others receiving national recognition for their outstanding academics with Rhodes, Truman, or Goldwater scholarships. At various levels throughout this university, students are excelling.

This kind of talent and concentrated effort gives me hope! If we can excel in our studies, we can excel in our careers, with our families, and as leaders.

Service

Next, every community needs people who are not only willing to take care of themselves and their families but reach out to strangers. Voluntary service binds an otherwise detached society and world. Aggies convene countless cancer drives, blood drives, and fundraisers. Our Val R. Christensen Service Center now has over 16 working volunteer service programs. Students serve hundreds of hours reading, tutoring, and teaching students and children in Cache Valley.

Another service group, instead of partying, takes an Alternative Spring Break in Mexico to build schools or work on humanitarian projects. I have hope for our future when I see demonstrations of

service.

Unity

Societies and nations thrive when the people are unified. I have hope for our generation when I see students display respect and support for our school and country. We become one as we fill up the stands and root for our fellow Aggie Athletes, which is not hard to do with such great teams.

I feel an even greater sense of hope and unity when I attend a campus Candlelight Vigil to honor the contributions of Martin Luther King or to remember the events of September 11th. It is quite a sight to see hundreds of flags displayed on the campus QUAD, representing our soldiers willing to pay the ultimate price for freedom and the opportunities we each enjoy. I have hope because I know that we, the student body, will continue the fight for the rights and liberties of Americans and people throughout the world.

Compassion

There is not a person who doesn't need compassion from another, and I have hope when I see empathy and love freely given at Utah State. I saw true compassion and nobility when 4,700 people attended a memorial service to honor our 8 colleagues and professor killed in a tragic van accident.

Personal Integrity

Finally, I have hope for our generation when I see students display personal courage and integrity. I know it is values, integrity, and ethics that keep this country free and good. Society needs people willing to stand up for what is right, honest, and decent. I have witnessed so many examples of personal integrity. One that comes to mind is a class I attended where we were given a choice between taking a 2 hour essay test or watching a video many of us deemed inappropriate. 25 of the 30 students opted to take the test rather than compromise personal standards. This small display of integrity, and many others I've observed here, confirms my hope for the future and faith in this generation. If we can carry our values with us in minor choices, we can face the big ethical decisions that come our way.

The experiences I have had here and the excellent people I've met at Utah State University, including my wonderful husband, Tim, give me great hope and confidence for the future. As a graduating class, we will be prepared when the time comes for us to lead our communities, institutions, and families. Congratulations and good luck graduating class of 2005!

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Brooke.

All candidates who have been recommended for graduation are listed in the Commencement program. We will now proceed to confer their degrees.

The candidates from the School of Graduate Studies and the seven colleges of the University will be presented by Dr. Noelle E. Cockett, Interim Provost of the University. Provost Cockett...

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Laurens Smith, Interim Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, and all candidates for graduate degrees, please rise and remain standing until all of the colleges have been presented.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the School of Graduate Studies—those serving the vital scientific, cultural, and economic needs of the nation and global community.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Paul Rasmussen, Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture, all candidates for degrees, and faculty members in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the College of Agriculture — the people who use the science of life to sustain others throughout the world and care for the planet we share.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Scott Hinton, Dean of the College of Engineering, all candidates for degrees, and the faculty in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, as Interim Provost, I am honored to present the College of Engineering — they develop new technologies and services that improve tomorrow's economy and environment—creating tomorrow...today!

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Chris Luecke, Interim Dean of the College of Natural Resources, all candidates for degrees, and faculty members in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the College of Natural Resources — promoting and shaping the healthy ecosystems upon which human communities depend.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Don Fiesinger, Dean of the College of Science, all candidates for degrees, and faculty members in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the College of Science — the college of discovery and home of these visionaries, who will answer the unanswered for us.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Carol Strong, Dean of the College of Education and Human Services, all candidates for degrees, and faculty members in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the College of Education and Human Services — our next generation of outstanding educators and human services professionals who will touch countless lives in countless ways.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT:: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Caryn Beck-Dudley, Dean of the College of Business, all candidates for degrees, and faculty members in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the College of Business — where entrepreneurial spirit, strong ethics and vision transform opportunities into careers and lives.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Will Gary Kiger, Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, all candidates for degrees, and faculty members in that college, please rise.

President Albrecht, I am honored to present the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences — the intellectual, artistic and human hearts that elevate our university, and our world.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: Thank you, Provost Cockett.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: President Albrecht, these students have fulfilled all the requirements for degrees in their respective colleges and have been approved for graduation by the faculty of the University. I therefore recommend that the appropriate degrees be conferred upon them. A number of graduates are not present but have been officially excused. Their names, however, are included in the printed program.

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT: By virtue of the authority vested in me by the State of Utah and the State Board of Regents, I confer upon you the degree appropriate to the requirements you have met.
Congratulations, Utah State University Class of 2005.

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: Graduates, please be seated. We will now proceed with the hooding of graduate degree recipients and the presentation of diplomas by the college deans. The hooding of graduate degree recipients continues a time-honored academic tradition. The hooding of each graduate represents a public avowal and confirmation of the student's academic achievement and success. Doctoral candidates will be hooded on the platform by their college deans and major professor. The Graduate Council representatives from our seven colleges will help our master's candidates don their hoods. We will begin with the hooding of our doctoral candidates. Would the candidates for the doctoral degree please stand and come forward to be hooded.

*INTERIM DEAN LAURENS SMITH AND INTERIM ASSOCIATE DEAN
SHELLEY LINDAUER COME TO THE STAGE*

[Candidates come to the platform and are hooded by their college dean and major professor. Each candidate will receive his or her diploma from Interim Dean Smith. President Albrecht and Interim Provost Cockett will congratulate the candidates after they receive their diplomas.]

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: We will now hood candidates for the master's degree. We will begin with the hooding of our candidates from the Colleges of Agriculture and Business.

*THE FACULTY MARSHALS WILL ESCORT THE GRADUATES
TO RESPECTIVE SIDES OF THE STAGE*

[Candidates come forward and are hooded by Graduate Council members. Once hooded, each candidate will walk forward to receive his or her diploma from Interim Dean Smith and Interim Associate Dean Lindauer. President Albrecht and Interim Provost Cockett will congratulate the candidates after they receive their diplomas.]

INTERIM PROVOST COCKETT: We will now proceed with the presentation of undergraduate diplomas by the college deans. Would Interim Dean Rasmussen and Dean Strong please come forward.

*RASMUSSEN AND STRONG COME TO THE STAGE.
THE FACULTY MARSHALS WILL ESCORT THE GRADUATES
TO RESPECTIVE SIDES OF THE STAGE*

PRESIDENT ALBRECHT:

Let me conclude today's ceremony by saying, simply, congratulations on the great accomplishments that bring each of you to this important passage. You are an amazing group and we are so proud of each one of you. If you and we have succeeded, you leave with an increased ability to speak, to listen, to read and to write. You leave with a greater historical consciousness, and a better sense of your place in a global environment. You leave with an increased appreciation of the humanities, the arts, the sciences, and the social sciences. In the words of Daniel Bell, you leave with

greater ability to conserve the past, to understand the present, and to make possible an even better future. You leave with a greater appreciation for your heritage, as well as what we hope is an enlarged respect for the heritage and culture of others, because you enter a world where understanding and appreciating those who are different will be critical to your success.

So, we send you off into the world to do just what this place is meant to prepare you to do, live, serve, enjoy, build things, keep learning, make your lives and those of your families and communities better places because you are there. Congratulations, good luck, and God bless.

Families and friends of graduates are requested to remain standing during the recessional until the platform guests, then graduates, have departed the building. Immediately following this ceremony, please join us in the student center for a reception in your honor. A shuttle bus will be available.

Please now join me in singing the Alma Mater Hymn.

[Alma Mater Hymn]

With the Recessional we complete the 114th Commencement of Utah State University. These ceremonies stand adjourned.

[Musical Selection, The Caine Brass Quintet]

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