



A Message from *President Noelle E. Cockett*

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As I conclude my sixth year as president and my 32nd year at Utah State University, I've reflected on how I can continue to serve and support the institution I love so much. This reflection has led me to announce that I'm stepping down as president on July 1, 2023. That timeframe will allow USU to conduct a national search for its next president. It is my great honor to know this transition to a new leader is occurring at a time when USU is solidly on its trajectory to greatness, which will ensure that the pool of applicants will be deep.

I am proud of the newly developed [Aggie Action 2028 strategic plan](#), and I am confident it will be an important tool for guiding the new president and the institution in the coming years. The recently launched [Create Your Aggie Impact fundraising campaign](#) will ensure that philanthropy plays a critical role in supporting the success of the strategic plan.

USU's successful trajectory can be demonstrated in many ways, including by the largest ever first-time student enrollment in fall 2022; Carnegie's designation of USU as an R1 research institution in 2021; the launch of the Janet Quinney Lawson Institute of Land, Water, and Air; creation of the USU College of Veterinary Medicine; and the university-wide commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The decades I have been at USU have convinced me that all of our amazing institutional accomplishments have been possible because of the hard work and commitment of each one of you and those who preceded you as university faculty, staff, and supporters.

John and I wish you all the very best as we move into the 2022 holiday season.

Sincerely,

Noelle E. Cockett