

UBATC reaches enrollment record

Submitted by
Therena Morrill

Despite unprecedented budget cuts handed down by the state Legislature, Uintah Basin Applied Technology College posted record-breaking student enrollment numbers and membership hours for the 2009-10 school year, which officially ended June 30.

More than 6,100 students enrolled in one or more classes at UBATC, representing a 9 percent increase in unduplicated head count from the previous year. Those students logged 646,000 membership hours, a 19 percent increase, and the first time the college has ever recorded more than 600,000 membership hours in a single year.

"Statistically, the 2009-10 school year was our best year ever," said UBATC President Paul Hacking. "We've never even come close to seeing these types of increases."

The statistics are even more impressive when considering the total population in the Uintah Basin is only about 42,000, Hacking said.

He cited two reasons for the impressive record set at the college: the completion of the UBATC/USU building in Vernal and the sharp downturn in the local and national economies.

"The new Vernal building has given UBATC a physical

presence in that community for the first time," Hacking said. "Many people have worked hard for many, many years to make this building a reality and now we are seeing the fruits of those efforts."

Last year more Uintah High School students than ever took advantage of UBATC's new accessibility by utilizing the tunnel that crosses underneath 500 North, connecting the two campuses.

"High school students are the foundation of enrollment at UBATC and the increase in Uintah High students now taking UBATC classes is phenomenal," Hacking said. "The new building and new courses are appealing to students. The tunnel provides safe passage for the students and the new campus lends an air of professionalism that we've never had before."

Enrollment of Duchesne County students has remained relatively steady since 2000.

A drastic downturn in the economy has also played a role in enrollment at UBATC. Historically, when unemployment rates rise, enrollment at technology colleges increases as adults seeking employment prepare to be more competitive in the job market.

UBATC's basic skills class — a course designed to boost skill levels in math, language and basic keyboarding prior to admission to a program

— experienced a 119 percent increase in student headcount and a 156 percent increase in membership hours.

"Many of these students are adults who have been in the workforce but were displaced when the economy went south," business instructor Leslie Morris said. "When they took their pre-assessment tests they discovered their skill levels were low. Also a significant number of them are preparing to take their GED test. A lot of people have discovered that they need a high school diploma in order to compete in today's job market."

Most medical professions programs at UBATC experienced enrollment increases, with medical transcription (up 240 percent), medical assistant (up 93 percent) and nurse assistant (up 65 percent) being the most dramatically affected.

The Utah College of Applied Technology, which includes UBATC and seven other campuses, is mandated to meet the needs of Utah's employers by providing market-driven technical education to both secondary and adult students. In an ever-changing job market, accomplishing that mission requires constant re-evaluation and adaptation of the curriculum and programs at UBATC, according to Hacking.

"We're able to do this with the help from advisory committees that are made up of



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Uintah Basin Applied Technology College medical assisting student Lillie Rodriguez, left, watches as teaching assistant Ada Betts, center, demonstrates to student Olivia Welch how to start an IV. Enrollment at UBATC reached an all-time high by the end of the 2009-10 school year.

local employers from each of our program areas," he said.

One such adaptation at the college involves the addition of Safeland Training to the energy services safety program. Safeland Training is a newly mandated safety orientation that most major energy production companies now require all of their contractors to complete.

"Because of the hard work

of our instructors in developing new courses and partnerships with businesses, enrollment in (energy services safety) courses went up the last half of the year," Hacking said.

UCAT President Robert Brems complimented UBATC, referring to the record-breaking year as "Amazing! Incredible!"

"We want you to know how

proud we are of you and the great folks there at UBATC," Brems told Hacking.

Hacking acknowledged that redoubled efforts by the college's faculty and staff was the major contributor to UBATC's success.

"Last year was rewarding, yet challenging... still, we persevered and met our mission," he said.

New pharmacy tech instructor has solid background in the field

The pharmacy technician program at Uintah Basin Applied Technology College will be in new hands when school begins later this month.

Duchesne resident Liz Ivie is replacing Laurie Jo White, who resigned her position at the college last spring after leading the successful program for seven years.

Ivie completed her pharmacy technician training at Snow College in 2001. She has been employed at the Uintah Basin Medical Center pharmacy, working in both the Roosevelt and Duchesne locations, for nine years.

"I'm excited to be teaching pharmacy tech," Ivie said. "I love being a technician. It's a great occupation and we should be able to put some good techs out there in the workforce."

Ivie's former boss, Lonnie Anderson, pharmacy director at UBMC, said Ivie has what it takes to be a successful instructor.

"Liz is a real go-getter," Anderson said. "She's always willing to help and she's good with people. She will make an excellent teacher."

UBATC's pharmacy technician program is open-entry and available to both high school and adult students, Tuesdays to Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Students complete 180 hours of class work and a 180-hour internship at local pharmacies. Class size is limited to 10 students.

"Liz will be taking over a thriving program," UBATC President Paul Hacking said. "We were so pleased to have had Laurie Jo as our instructor for

the past seven years. She single-handedly built the pharmacy tech program from nothing to an excellent program with excellent job opportunities. Now we're excited to pass the baton to Liz."

Hacking expressed praise for Basin pharmacists who provide internship positions for UBATC student technicians.

"Our pharmacists are invaluable partners in providing the required opportunities for our students," he said. "Without them our program could not work."

Although Ivie is new to the classroom setting, she has trained numerous technicians during her years at the UBMC pharmacy. She is married to Shane Ivie, a math teacher at Union High School. They have three children.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Liz Ivie, left, was recently named as the new pharmacy technician instructor at Uintah Basin Applied Technology College, replacing Laurie Jo White, who resigned after seven successful years at the helm of that program. Ivie is pictured with her husband, Shane, and their three children.

State grants available for history programs

The Utah Humanities Council is taking applications for grants that will continue a national initiative called "We The People."

Funded by a special congressional appropriation to the National Endowment for the Humanities, "We The People" supports programs that explore significant events, people and themes in American history. The Utah Humanities Council invites grant proposals that focus on advancing the public's knowledge of America's past and the principles that define our nation.

Examples of projects that may fit the council's criteria include, but are not limited to:

- * an exhibition, public lecture, symposium, or conference that explores any theme, event, or issue associated with American history and culture.
- * Development and production of a documentary film on one or more aspects of America's past with a planned public screening.
- * A program designed to give public audiences an historical explanation of the work of an American artist, author, or poet.
- * A seminar or public lecture series that focuses on the place of Utah in the broader history of the United States.

Proposals for "We The People" funding will be evaluated through the council's established grant review process and must meet already established guidelines posted on its website, www.utahhumanities.org/Grants.php.

Funding may be sought through the major grant, quick grant or research fellowship application processes. The deadlines for the major grant and research fellowship funding is Feb. 1. There is no deadline for quick grant applications.

Any nonprofit organization, institution, or group, whether or not incorporated or tax-exempt, is eligible to submit a

proposal for a "We The People" grant. Funding through the Utah Humanities Council, with the exception of the research fellowship program, is not

available to individuals.

For more information, contact Maria Torres at torres@utahhumanities.org or 801-

359-9670, ext. 105. For more information on the national "We The People" initiative, visit www.wethepeople.gov.

USTAR announces new rounds of grant program

The Utah Science Technology and Research initiative has announced two new rounds of the Technology Commercialization Grant program for Utah public regional higher education institutions and associated companies.

In an effort to bring innovative new technologies to market, USTAR launched the grant program in 2009 and conducted three rounds. Going forward, USTAR plans two more rounds with application deadlines of Sept. 30 and Dec. 31.

With a typical award size of \$30,000, these grants help faculty prototype, test, assess markets, and commercialize new products and services in high-growth markets. Utah-based companies and other third parties willing to sponsor technology development work

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at regional public higher education institutions may jointly apply with a faculty member.

Results from the 27 projects funded in the first three rounds are promising. As of June 30, seven prototypes had been completed, three new patents or disclosures filed, and three new distribution agreements launched.

"USTAR has long recognized the role our regional institutions have in economic development and fostering innovation, and this program has supported that role very effectively," said Steven Roy, central Utah technology outreach director. "To date, most projects have had an industry co-applicant, evidence that 'town and gown' can work together to boost regional economies."

USTAR's technology outreach directors evaluate the overall potential of each opportunity. Some of the factors they weigh include the technical merit of the innovation, size and accessibility of the potential market, potential strength of intellectual property, quality of management team, and financial viability of a business built upon the innovation.

"We purposely kept the criteria broadly defined," Roy said. "This grant program can help to bring together the talents to develop new innovations in the fields of digital media, aerospace technology, alternative energy, and biomedicine, to name just a few opportunities."

Details of the program and application process can be found at: ustarinfo@utah.gov.

Union High to hold school registration

Registration at Union High School will be held today and Wednesday from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. There will be only one registration window available and the school is extending its hours to accommodate working parents.

The counseling department and office administration will be available from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Parents should be aware that qualifying for free lunch does not guarantee qualifying for fee waivers. Students must apply for a fee waiver, with appropriate documentation and should come prepared to pay the basic fee of \$45.

Credit and debit cards are now accepted for payment. Schedules will not be given without payment of basic student fees.

Families who apply for free or reduced lunch must apply each school year. Free and reduced applications must be completed and turned in at the Roosevelt Education Building, 900 E. Lagoon St. Applications are also available at this location.

Many federal- and state-funded educational programs base their funding on the percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. If you think you qualify for free or reduced lunch, you are encouraged to apply.

Lines are expected to be long with only one registration window available, so patience will be necessary. Students' schedules are set and class choice will be open Aug. 19-23.

LEGAL NOTICES

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to the successful bidder within three business days after receipt of the amount bid.

DATED this 11th day of August, 2010.

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Plans for the Neola Spring #1 Redevelopment project will be available at the offices of EPIC ENGINEERING, P.C., 50 East 100 South, Heber City, Utah 84302 or 60 West 800 North, Vernal, Utah 84078 Tuesday August 17th, 2010. The proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday September 1st, 2010, at Epic Engineering P.C. Office located at 60 North 800 West in Vernal Utah. Any bid received after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids will be returned unopened.

A Pre-bid Conference will be held at the Neola Water and Sewer District office located at 1420 East 2850 South in Neola, Utah on Tuesday, August 24th at 3:30 p.m.

Construction work, in general, consists of the

following: Excavation and removal of the existing spring collections system disconnect from service lines during new construction allowing the water from the well to be used by the district during construction then reconnect collections system upon completion with minimal interruption of water services.

Construct the clay dike around two sides of the storage reservoir 471 cubic yards.

Installation of 4,343 square yards of filter fabric encasing the gravel, approximately 360 linear feet of 12 inch C-900 perforated pipe 6 rows of 1/4 inch holes, and 465 feet of 8 inch C-900 perforated laterals 4 rows of 1/4 inch holes, on a 6 inch thick washed gravel bed then covered with 1.5 ft of washed 2 inch gravel 2,023 cubic yards for storage, the storage reservoir will then be covered with 6 ft of embankment. The project is scheduled to enter into a contract with the successful bidder by September 13, 2010, and be completed 75 days thereafter.

Copies of the Plans will be on file at both the office of the Neola Water and Sewer District located at 1420 East 2850 South in Neola, Utah, and EPIC ENGINEERING, P.C. offices 50 East 100 South, Heber City, Utah 84302 or 60 West 800 North, Vernal, Utah 84078; and are open for public inspection and use.

Those interested in having individual sets of Plans, may obtain the plans from either the office of the Neola Water and Sewer District, or Epic Engineering of-

ices, at a cost of forty dollars (\$40.00) a set for half size drawings. Acceptable payment for the above items includes cash, cashier's check, or company check.

Refunds for Contract Documents, Specifications and Plans will not be made.

Bid security in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid shall accompany each proposal.

Neola Water and Sewer District reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Neola Spring #1 Redevelopment Project
By Max Warren
District Chairman
Published in the Uintah Basin Standard August 17 and 24, 2010.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Tridell-LaPoint Water Improvement District is conducting a closed bid sale for two water connections. The minimum bid is \$7500.00 per connection with no water share needed, and bids must be returned to the District office no later than 1 p.m. September 8, 2010. Winning bidder must abide by current District policy regarding movement, reinstallation, and payment of the water connection. These connections are for sale for immediate use only. NO SPECULATION PURCHASES. If you have any questions please call the District office at 435-247-2475 on Wednesdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. or call Jerry Goodrich at 435-247-2419.

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