



## Who's Who On Utah's Public Square

### Robert Adler

As the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and James I. Farr Chair in Law at the S.J. Quinney College of Law, Robert Adler's goal is "to stimulate more interdisciplinary work in this increasingly global world ... [and] to prepare students for that world — an environment that changes almost continuously, and which demands skills that go far beyond what has been traditionally taught in law schools." After completing a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University (1977) and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center, Adler practiced environmental law for 15 years. He has published dozens of articles and reports in law, policy and science journals including *Vanderbilt Law Review*, *Harvard Environmental Law Review*, *Utah Law Review*, and *George Washington Law Review*, and a book on the history and impact of the Clean Water Act. He will publish two books in 2007 — *Environmental Law: A Conceptual and Pragmatic Approach* (with David Driesen, Aspen Publishers) and *Restoring Colorado River Ecosystems: A Troubled Sense of Immensity* (Island Press). He is currently co-designing an interdisciplinary course called "Environmental Law and Engineering," in which law students and environmental engineering graduate students will work together on real-world environmental problems in Utah. Adler loves to spend time in Utah's outdoors, and in 2005 completed the Wasatch Front 100-mile trail race through Utah's beautiful Wasatch Mountains.

### Louis Borgenicht

Louis Borgenicht, a practicing pediatrician in Salt Lake City, has a B.A. in art history from Princeton University and M.D. from Case Western University School of Medicine. After completing his internship in San Francisco, he spent two years on the Wind River Indian reservation in Wyoming as a general medical officer. He came to Salt Lake City for his pediatric residency in 1973. In addition to his medical career, Borgenicht is a writer and a teacher, having taught courses in literature and medicine in the University of Utah's Division of Continuing Education. In 1984 he developed a presentation entitled "The Last Laugh: Nuclear Humor" which he has given around the country, as well as in London and Stockholm. He has been an active member of Physicians for Social Responsibility since 1980.

### Judy Shell Busk

Judy Shell Busk has been a popular weekly columnist for the St. George Daily Spectrum, a local LDS Relief Society president, and director of the Sevier County Oral History Project (excerpts available on the Columbia University New Deal Network website). She has received grants from the Utah Humanities Council and the Utah State Historical Society and has spoken widely throughout the state. A high school English and journalism teacher for twenty-five years, she also received a National Endowment for the Humanities/Reader's Digest Teacher Scholar award and grant for a year's research on the lives of pioneer women. Busk is the author of *A Sum of Our Past: Revisiting Utah's Pioneer Women*. (Ck)

## **Ann Cannon**

Ann Edwards Cannon ([www.aeccannon.com](http://www.aeccannon.com)) is an award-winning writer of fiction for children and young adults. She is also a newspaper columnist, creative writing teacher, and mother of five sons. Her first young adult novel, *Cal Cameron by Day, Spider-man by Night*, won the Delacorte Press Prize for an outstanding first YA novel. Since then, she has published a number of books. Subsequent young adult novels have been named to the ALA's Best Books lists, while her weekly column in the Deseret Morning News has found a wide online readership. Ann's newest books (a series of easy readers) follow the adventures of two dim but good-hearted brothers named Pirate Pete and Pirate Joe. Another young adult novel, *A Loser's Guide to Life and Love*, is due out this summer. Ann lives in Salt Lake City with her family and (too) many pets.

## **Larry Cesspooch**

Larry Cesspooch grew up on the Uintah & Ouray Ute Reservation in Northeastern Utah. He takes care of one of the sweat lodges on the reservation and participates in the Ute Sundances, Bear Dances, and other ceremonies. Cesspooch received his Associate's Degree in Communications Media from the Institute of American Indian Arts in 1975, then graduated from the Anthropology Film Center in 1977, both in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Cesspooch has served two years as a speaker for the Utah Humanities Council, presenting various topics on Ute culture & history. At the Utah Humanities Council's 2002 Governor's Award Ceremony, he received UHC's 2002 Merit Award for his coordination of the "Ute Tribe Cultural Exhibit" at Soldier Hollow, Utah, for the 2002 Olympics. Cesspooch is well known and versed in many areas of media, Ute history, culture, spirituality, music and storytelling.

## **George Cheney**

George Cheney (Ph.D., Purdue University, 1985) is a professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Utah. He is also Director of the Barbara L. and Norman C. Tanner Center for Nonviolent Human Rights Advocacy together with Peace and Conflict Studies. Cheney has taught courses and conducted research on topics ranging from quality of work life to perspectives on globalization. His first book examined the development of the U.S. Catholic bishops' pastoral letter on nuclear arms (1983). He has published five other books and over 80 articles and chapters. Currently, Cheney is working on a book on professional ethics and citizenship and another on the meanings of peace. He has consulted in public, private, and nonprofit sectors, has served on a variety of community boards, and has facilitated discussions on an array of contemporary issues. George believes strongly in a two-way relationship between the university and the larger community. He has had the privilege of traveling to Europe, Latin America, India, Australia and New Zealand. George is an avid hiker and a lover of the Red Rock Country of southern Utah.

## **Hal Crimmel**

Hal Crimmel teaches writing and literature at Weber State University and served in 2004 as a Fulbright scholar to Austria. He is the editor of *Teaching in the Field: Working with Students in the Outdoor Classroom* (University of Utah Press, 2003). His 2007 book, *Rivers of Dinosaur*, is forthcoming from the University of Arizona Press. He has served as a Road Scholar for the Utah Humanities Council for several years, speaking about literature of the environment.

## **Mary Dickson**

Mary Dickson is an award-winning writer who has written about the consequences of nuclear testing and worked on issues of peace and justice for more than 25 years. Her essay, "Downwinders All" is included in the anthology Learning to Glow: A Nuclear Reader, published by the University of Arizona Press. Her extended article, "Living and Dying With Fallout," published in the journal Dialogue, received the publication's Best Article of 2004 award. Her guest editorials have run in newspapers throughout the West. She speaks regularly on issues affecting downwinders and addressed a philosophy/physics Nuclear Revolution symposium at San Francisco State University. She participated as part of Rep.

Shelley Berkley's Shared Legacy, Shared Lessons Symposium with the Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas. Her docuplay, "Exposed," will premiere at Plan B Theatre in October 2007. A downwinder who suffered thyroid cancer, Dickson blends her moving personal story with powerful documentation on testing to show the very real human toll of what The New York Times called "The most prodigiously reckless program of scientific experimentation in U.S. history."

## **Jessie L. Embry**

Jessie L. Embry is the Associate Director of the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies and an associate research professor at Brigham Young University. She is the author of seven books and over one hundred articles on the American West, Utah, and Mormon history. Most of her research is based on oral history. She directed oral history projects on LDS African Americans, LDS Asian Americans, LDS Polynesian Americans, LDS Hispanic Americans, and LDS Native Americans. Her three books Black Saints in a White Church: Contemporary African American Mormons, "In His Own Language:" Mormon Spanish Speaking Congregations in the United States, and Bridging Cultures: Asian American Mormons deal with the area of her presentation for Public Square. In addition to the books, she has written articles on the subject. Embry will provide free copies of the books on Hispanics and/or Asians for the discussions either before or at the presentation.

## **Louise Excell**

Louise Excell is an Emeritus Professor of English and Humanities at Dixie State College of Utah. She is a former board member of the Utah Humanities Council and a UHC Merit Award recipient. A lifetime resident of Utah she resides in Springdale where she currently serves as a member of the Springdale Town Council.

## **Dani Eyer**

Born in San Francisco, Dani Eyer has lived in Utah for over thirty years and received a B.A. in political science and law degree from Brigham Young University. She has been a high school civics teacher, a trial lawyer, owned and operated an independent bookstore in Utah County, and for the past five years was executive director of the American Civil Liberties (ACLU) of Utah. She has appeared before the Utah Supreme Court and the Tenth Circuit federal court. Eyer has given over 100 presentations on

constitutional issues to civic groups, religious groups, secondary, university and law students, and foreign visitors including Imams from Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan.

### **George Handley**

George Handley teaches humanities and comparative literature at Brigham Young University where he has taught for the last nine years. Over that time, he has focused his research and teaching on the relationship between culture (most specifically religion, literature, art, and philosophy) and its relationship to the natural world. He has written extensively about poetry and nature and has written several essays and is the co-editor of a book, *Stewardship and the Creation: LDS Perspectives on the Environment*, that seek to establish a dialogue between Mormonism and the growing interest among world religions in environmental stewardship. An advocate of nature appreciation and conservation, he lives in Provo.

### **Ghulam Hasnain**

Ghulam Hasnain, a Shia Muslim originally from India, came to the United States in 1967 at the age of 21 to attend Claremont McKenna College near Los Angeles. After completing his B.A. in English literature, he earned a M.A. in linguistics, then entered the field of Information Technology and subsequently obtained an M.B.A. in Information Systems. He lived in Kent, Washington until 1996 when he moved to Utah. He lives in Sandy with his wife Ismat, and two sons, Ali Abbas and Ali Akbar, both students at the University of Utah. Hasnain has participated in the growth of the local Muslim community as an activist and in the larger interfaith community particularly as a speaker. He is the organizer of the annual Salt Lake American Muslim Cultural Festival.

### **Lucille Hunt**

Born and raised on Navajoland, Lucille Hunt has been a speaker and presenter of the Navajo culture and language for numerous organizations for many years. She was one of UHC's most popular Road Scholars and a frequent Navajo storyteller at the annual Living Traditions Festival in Salt Lake City. She has taught Navajo language classes for the College of Eastern Utah Community Education Department and a Navajo history class at San Juan High School. She makes her home in Blanding.

### **Therese Jones**

Therese Jones is an Associate Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Medical Ethics and Humanities at the University of Utah School of Medicine. She received her Ph.D. in English from the University of Colorado, Boulder, with major emphases in American literature, modern and contemporary drama, and gender studies. After completing a three-year postdoctoral program in medical humanities at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, she joined the faculty of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Colorado School of Medicine from 1998 – 2002 before moving to the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio where she developed a required and integrated humanities curriculum for the medical school from 2002 - 2006. She has published and presented extensively on HIV/AIDS and the arts; literature, film and medicine; and medical education. She is the editor of the *Journal of Medical Humanities* and an elected officer in the American Association of Bioethics and Humanities. Her current electives at the University of Utah School of Medicine school include "Reel Psychiatry: Cinematic Representations of

Mental Illness,” “How to be old’: Literature, Film and Aging,” and “The Doctor-Patient Relationship in Literature and the Arts.”

## **Yukio Kachi**

Yukio Kachi was born in England, brought up in England and Japan, and schooled in Japan and the U.S. After earning a Ph.D. in philosophy from Princeton University in 1970, Kachi taught in Wisconsin, Ontario, Minnesota, Japan, and Utah. He retired in 2004 after 40 years of teaching. Last year, he was a non-matriculated freshman at the University of Utah, this year a U of U drop-out. A lover of the mountains, he has been walking the Continental Divide of the U.S. little by little for the past decade. Although he will not live to finish at the current rate, he knows it is the journey that matters, not the destination.

## **David Keller**

David Keller (Salt Lake City) is Director of the Center for the Study of Ethics and Associate Professor of Philosophy at Utah Valley State College. His first book, *The Philosophy of Ecology* (2000), reflects his long-standing interest in philosophical issues related to the environment and has been followed by numerous articles and essays in the academic and general press. In addition to his work with the Center of the Study of Ethics, David has served UVSC as Assistant Vice President for Scholarship and Outreach and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. He has worked with UHC as a Road Scholar and frequently been a grantee, receiving a Merit Award for his Religion and Views of Nature Conference in 1998. He currently serves on UHC’s Board of Directors.

## **Matt Mason**

Matthew E. Mason is an assistant professor of history at BYU. He received his B.A. in history from the University of Utah, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from the University of Maryland. After a year teaching at Eastern Michigan University, he began teaching at BYU in 2003. Mason teaches a variety of courses on early American history at BYU and has published articles in numerous national journals. He is the author of *Slavery and Politics in the Early American Republic*, recently published by the University of North Carolina Press.

## **Jeffrey Nielsen**

Jeffrey Nielsen is a philosopher educated at Weber State University and Boston College. He also consults with organizations on management issues and assists organizations in developing peer-based managing, decision-making, and ethical problem solving models. Nielsen has traveled internationally training with many of the Fortune 500 companies. He is the author of *The Myth of Leadership: Creating Leaderless Organizations* ( Davies-Black Publishers, 2004), which offers a new paradigm in peer-based management.

Jeffrey Nielsen’s most recent initiative has been to found the Democracy House Project, an educational program using his peer-based model to teach political literacy in communities, adult education programs, and schools in order to recreate and rejuvenate democracy one person, one household, and one issue at a time. The Democracy House Project also assists local governments in organizing and training citizen councils to serve as advisory bodies on public policy issues. Currently Nielsen is an adjunct professor in the philosophy departments of Westminster College and Utah Valley State

College focusing on issues in ethics and democracy. Nielsen is a frequent guest on Public Radio discussing leadership, ethics, and public policy issues.

## **Susan Sample**

As a medical humanities associate at the University of Utah School of Medicine and University Health Care, Susan Sample uses creative writing to help build bridges between patients and health-care providers. In the Division of Medical Ethics and Humanities, she teaches the writing elective for senior medical students and facilitates literature discussions with physicians. For University Health Care, she leads poetry workshops for cancer patients, their families, and providers, as well as for patients with kidney disease and their families. For the past six years, she has taught poetry to chronically ill teenagers in a project originated for the Utah Arts Council, which has included poetry readings and publication of two chapbooks. Susan holds a B.A. in philosophy from Whitman College and an MFA in creative writing from the University of Arizona, where she was fiction editor for the literary journal *Sonora Review*. She has published fiction and poetry; two of her poetry collections have won recent awards from the Utah Arts Council. She also is editor of the University's Health Sciences Report magazine.

## **John Schaefer**

John Schaefer, director/co-founder of the Children's Media Workshop ([www.mediadivide.org](http://www.mediadivide.org)), is an artist, educator, and community builder who uses innovative media experiences to create macro educational systems. He is a translator of concepts and experiences. His expertise in designing large-scale initiatives is informed by his grass roots experience. One day he is working on major systems (500,000 teachers +), the next he is in an inner city classroom giving cameras to kids while looking for a marker that has ink.

Schaefer is the designer of the Polaroid Education Program, the largest in-service teacher initiative in US History with over 550,000 teachers in hands-on workshops (1988 – 92), resulting in two White House invitations. He has given keynote speeches to the National PTA, National Art Educators Association, and International Schools In Africa and Europe. He conducted the first real-time interactive video workshop with President George Bush Sr. and actress Jody Foster for 35,000 educators. Schaefer designed one of the first online courses, *The Media Savvy Classroom*, in conjunction with Columbia Teachers College and received the Nissan Hometown Hero Award winner on primetime network television, for his community activism.

An original member of the Sundance Institute and Film Festival, Schaefer recently was co-curator of the Temporary Museum of Permanent Change ([www.museumofchange.org](http://www.museumofchange.org)), an innovative downtown invigoration project in Salt Lake City. He is also Director of Education for Choice Humanitarian, developing substantive 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> World partnership experiences.

## **Randy Silverman**

Randy Silverman is the Preservation Librarian at the University of Utah's Marriott Library. He has worked in the field of book conservation since 1978 and holds a Masters degree in Library Science. He initiated the passage of Utah's permanent paper law in 1995 and was the President of the Utah Library Association in 2000. In 2007 he

received the Utah Humanities Council's "Human Ties Award" for work as a Road Scholar presenting "Preserving your Family Heirlooms" throughout the state. Silverman has taught preservation courses at the masters level in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Oregon, and Utah. Since 1987, he has received 11 grants, including one from the National Park Service to investigate "Emergency Mass Drying and Sterilization Techniques for Historically Significant Books." Silverman teaches and consults broadly, is a member of the International Federation of Library Associations and currently working with colleagues at the Library of Congress to establish a National Disaster Center for Cultural Property.

### **Diana Major Spencer**

During her final year of teaching, Diana Major Spencer, Emeritus Dean of Humanities and Professor of English at Snow College, became a founding director of the Casino Star Theatre Foundation, an organization established to purchase and restore the 1912 Beaux Arts-style theatre in Gunnison, Utah. Upon retiring from academia, she also became a member of the Board of Trustees for the Traditional Building Skills Institute, which offers hands-on workshops in using traditional methods and materials in the preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings. A native of Salt Lake City, Spencer has lived in Mayfield for 30 years and served on the faculty at Snow College from 1990 to 2005.

### **Robert C. Steensma**

Robert C. Steensma received his bachelor's degree from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, his master's from the University of South Dakota, and his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. He has taught at Augustana, the University of South Dakota, Utah State University, and the University of Utah, where he taught from 1966 to 2001 and is an professor emeritus of English. He also taught in Finland as a Fulbright lecturer. In 1990 he was honored by the English majors at the University of Utah as the department's "Outstanding Professor for Teaching."

He has published five books, the most recent being *Wallace Stegner's Salt Lake City*, and several hundred articles, reviews, and professional papers. His previous books are an edition of Sir William Temple's *Upon the Original and Nature of Government* (Augustan Reprint Society, 1964 [N.B. not Augustana]), critical biographies of Sir William Temple (Twayne, 1970) and Dr. John Arbuthnot Twayne (1979), and *Drifting to an Unknown Future: The Civil War Letters of James E. Northup and Samuel W. Northup* (Center for Western Studies, 2000).

In 2007 he was given an award for "Distinguished Contribution to the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains" by the Center for Western Studies and the 39<sup>th</sup> annual Dakota History Conference. Dr. Steensma is also a retired Navy captain who served on a variety of warships and with NATO. He and his wife Sharon have five children and thirteen grandchildren.

## **Eileen Hallet Stone**

With thirty years of research, oral history interviewing and writing experience, Eileen Hallet Stone is a professional oral historian and award-winning author of over 200 articles on minority cultures, environmental issues, family dynamics, life challenges, and history. Working on a new novel, she has written two books on diversity published by university presses. Collected stories in *A Homeland in the West: Utah Jews Remember* were developed into a photo-documentary exhibit that was shown as part of the 2002 Winter Olympic Cultural Olympiad Arts Festival at the University of Utah Marriott Library. The exhibit travels statewide. Her earlier book, *Missing Stories: An Oral History of Ethnic and Minority Groups in Utah*, co-authored with Leslie Kelen, has added substantially to Utah's educational curriculum. Hallet Stone also writes a monthly Living History column for *The Salt Lake Tribune*.

## **Tony Yapias**

Tony Yapias is a native of Junin, Peru. In 1981, at the age of fourteen, he immigrated to the United States. He received a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Brigham Young University and served as Director of the Utah State Office of Hispanic Affairs under Governors Michael Leavitt and Olene Walker. Currently, he is a columnist for the weekly newspaper *El Estrandar* and hosts a weekly radio program "Pulso Latino" on Radio Exitos, 1550 AM in Salt Lake City.