

THE GREATS 2021



UtahStateUniversity



CONTENTS

High-Impact Research PAGE 4

**Transformative Collaboration
on Resources** PAGE 7

Adapting to Change PAGE 10

Shooting for the Stars PAGE 12

Recognitions PAGE 14

Leading the Way PAGE 16

Engaging Utah Communities PAGE 20

Best in the West PAGE 22

IN 2021,

Utah State University's world-class faculty received record funding for high-impact research, earning us the prestigious Carnegie R1 Classification. We were also recognized as the nation's leader in undergraduate programs for research and creative inquiry. These distinctions, as well as the highest recognition for community-engaged learning, translate into unparalleled opportunities for students and statewide communities.

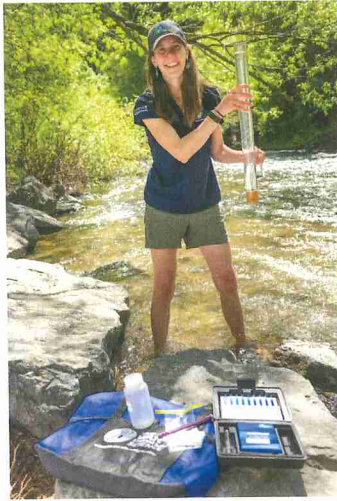




WE'RE R1!

As a national leader in research and graduate education, USU became one of just 137 institutions in the nation to attain the **Carnegie R1 Classification** for demonstrating "very high research activity."

HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH



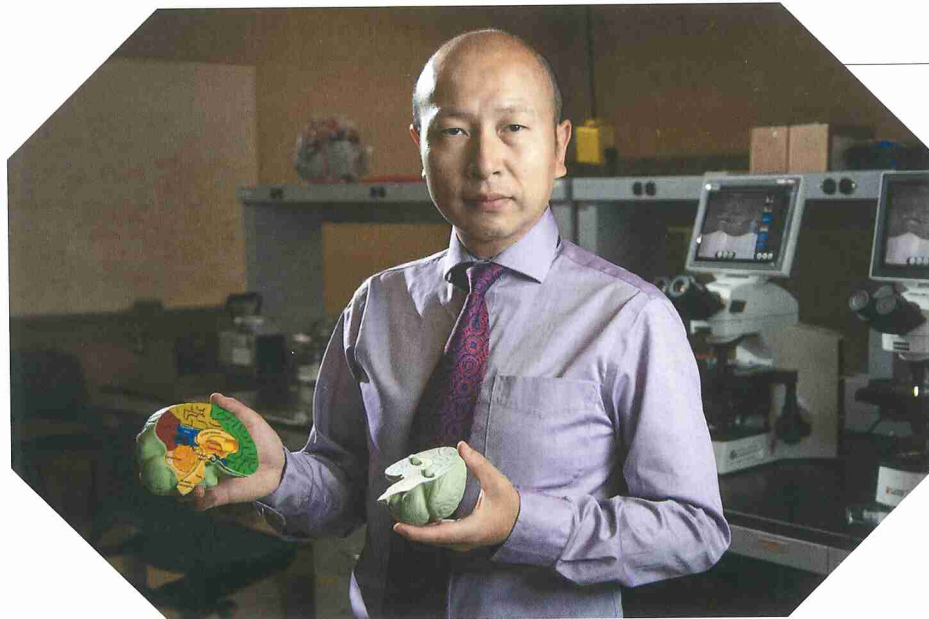
Record \$368.5 Million Total Research Funding

About one-third of USU's revenues come from research funding. Our reputation as a leader in research resulted in **a record amount of research funding in 2021**—26% more than in 2020.



Best in the U.S.

Where most schools focus solely on graduate-level research opportunities, the **Council of Undergraduate Research** recognized our undergraduate research program as the best in the nation.



Brainwaves For a Cure

Assistant Professor Yu Huang was awarded the National Institutes of Health's largest grant—the Maximizing Investigator's Research Award (MIRA)—to study how brains grow and brain cancer spreads.



Scan to watch video.



Opportunities for All

Engineering Professor David Britt established a multidisciplinary program so undergraduates across the country could take advantage of our unique research opportunities. Thanks to a National Science Foundation grant, we welcomed 12 women in STEM majors from 10 states plus Puerto Rico for the 10-week program.



Electrifying New Tech

ASPIRE's director Regan Zane and research engineer Dorai Yelaverthi gained a patent for a more compact, cost-efficient in-road charging technology for electric vehicles.



Helping Utahns Breathe Easy

To better understand **how oxidized mercury impacts our health**, researchers at the Bingham Research Center in Uintah Basin have designed the only real-world-tested atmospheric analyzer.

APPLIED RESEARCH

FOR DECISION MAKERS

TRANSFORMATIVE COLLABORATION ON RESOURCES



Scan to
watch video.



The new Janet Quinney Lawson Institute for Land, Water, and Air (ILWA) connects policy makers, researchers, and problem solvers to provide evidence-based research to inform important decisions and policies affecting the state's crucial resources. The institute released its inaugural report in December.

140

USU faculty **researchers** in the areas of land/water/air.

82%

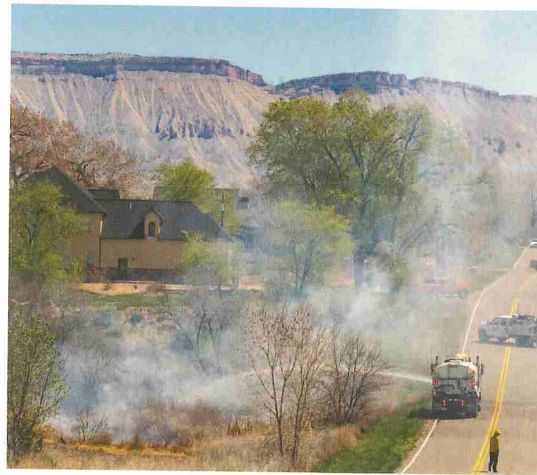
of USU land/water/air **researchers** have Utah research partnerships.

70

Utah **cities** that participated in land/water/air events since 2020.

\$7M

Gift from the **Janet Quinney Lawson Foundation** to support ILWA.



Promoting Stewardship & Resiliency

Courtney Flint leads USU's Transformation Network team in efforts to boost resiliency in communities and ecosystems when faced with complex challenges like drought, wildfire, and population changes.

Our Most Vital Resource

A new report co-authored by **Professor Jack Schmidt, the director of the Center for Colorado River Studies**, provides solutions to manage ever-decreasing water in the face of drought and warming climate throughout the Colorado River basin.



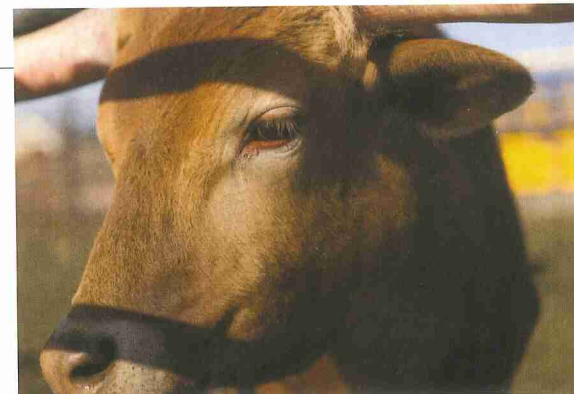
USU Salt Lake Center's New Greenhouse Provides Hands-on Learning for Students & Community

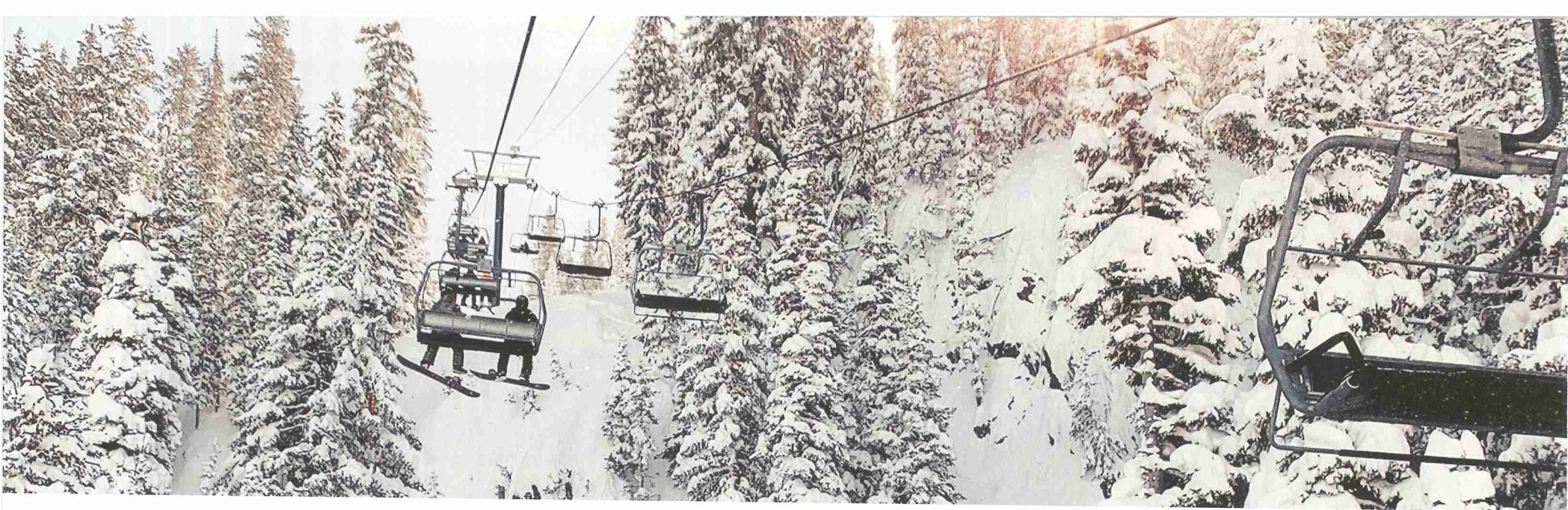


Researchers Partner in Rare Collaboration to Restore Iran's Lake Urmia—A Sister to the Great Salt Lake

Better Biodiversity, Better Beef

Juan Villalba, Eric Thacker, and Jennifer MacAdams are faculty working to improve beef production while reducing environmental impacts, increasing biodiversity, and extending grazing seasons.





CHANGING WINTER RECREATION

New research chronicles **how Utah ski resorts are adapting to climate change as conditions worsen**, shortening ski seasons and reducing snowpack depth and quality. **The Institute of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism** revealed as temperatures continue to rise, how and when people get outdoors will change, too—like mountain biking in the winter instead of skiing.

ADAPTING TO CHANGE



**Researchers Determined
'Best Case' Goals for
Climate Warming Could
Still Result in Massive
Wildfire Risk**

USU Part of New Institute to Understand Climate Change & Other Disasters

David Tarboton, Jeff Horsburgh, and Courtney Flint
are faculty collaborating with nine other partner
institutions to create tools to better understand the
global impact of climate change and other disasters.





SDL RECEIVES

RECORD- BREAKING CONTRACT

In the same year the **Space Dynamics Lab** celebrated its 25th anniversary as a trusted government research center, the **Air Force Research Laboratory** awarded it a **record-breaking \$1B contract**.

SHOOTING FOR THE STARS



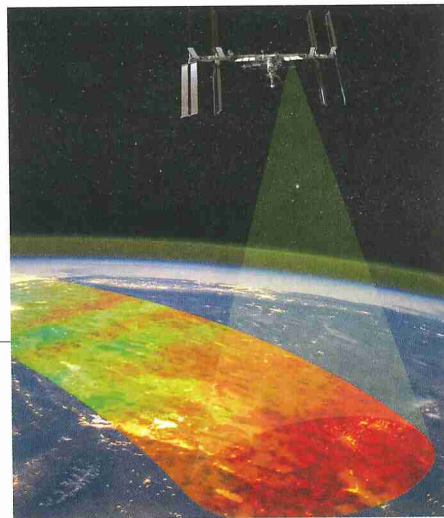
USU Get Away Special (GAS) Team's CubeSat Deployed to International Space Station



Electrical Engineering Researchers Test Satellite Cooling Tech in Space

In AWE of SDL

SDL's Michael Taylor manages the critical Atmospheric Waves Experiment (AWE) to monitor how weather events and patterns move from Earth into our atmosphere and space.





SWEET (& CHEESY) VICTORY

Aggie Creamery and Aggie Chocolate Factory
recognized as best in state.

BEST
OF STATE HONORS:
Specialty cheeses, ice cream, culinary chocolate

SILVER
UTAH CHEESE AWARD:
Old Juniper Cheddar

GOLD
UTAH CHEESE AWARD:
Aggiano

U.S. News and World Report 2021 Rankings

Emma Eccles Jones College of Education & Human Services

- #1 College of Education in Utah for the 21st Year in a Row
- #2 in the Intermountain West

USU Online

- #1 Online School in Utah



2021 Goldwater Scholars

USU undergraduate students **Ethan Ancell and Manuel Santana** were named 2021 Goldwater Scholars in mathematics.

USU was featured on an episode of the worldwide streaming series ***The College Tour*** on Amazon Prime.



Scan to watch video.



RECOGNITIONS



Aggies Give Back

For the third consecutive year, USU surpassed its fundraising goal, raising **\$46.8 million for student scholarships**—a 43% increase over 2020.

USU Eastern Welding Fabrication Team Won National Championship



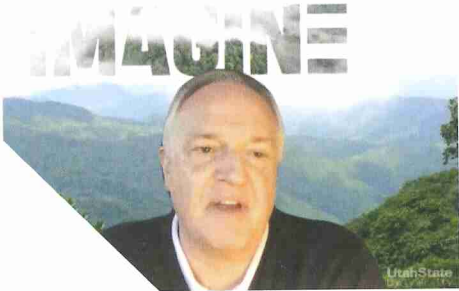
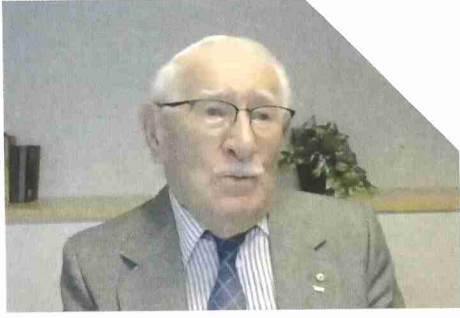


SECURING UTAH'S

The Deep Technology Talent Initiative (DTTI) awarded more than \$5 million to Utah State and Utah Valley University for the industry partnership Intermountain Intelligence, Industry, and Security Consortium (I3SC). This generous appropriation will create a multifaceted academic pipeline for students at USU and UVU.

None

LEADING THE WAY



Scan to watch video.

Leading by Example

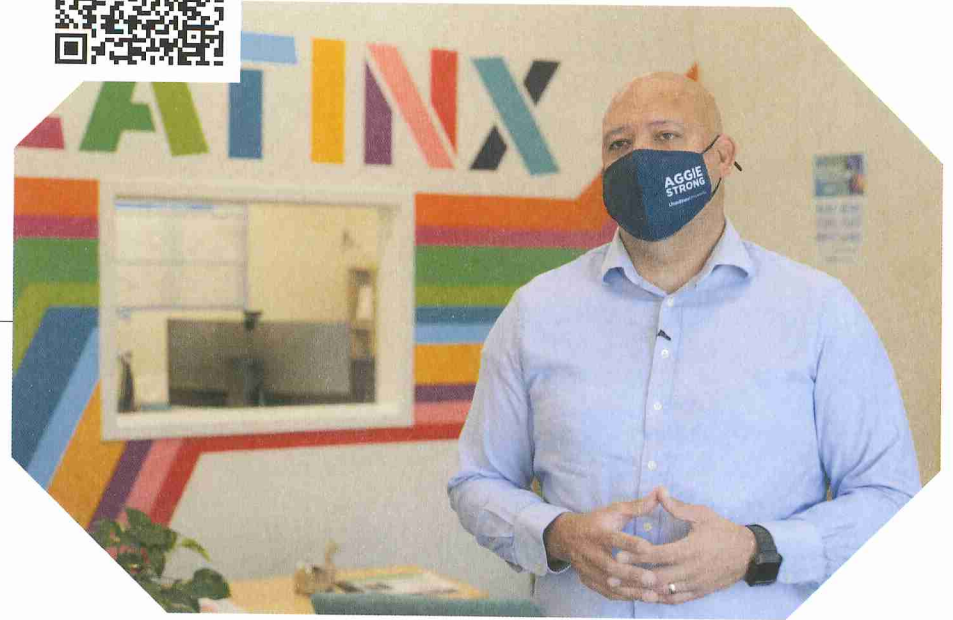
The World's Principled Leaders video series, organized by the Covey Leadership Center in the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business, showcases distinguished leaders in their fields from around the world who speak to their experiences and successes.

TECH SECTOR

Latinx Cultural Center Debuted New Space in Taggart Student Center



Scan to watch video.

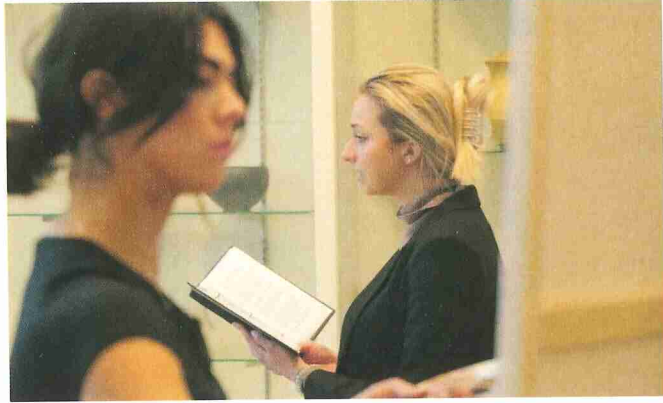


Scan to watch video.

A Changing of the Guard

Industry veteran **Jed Hancock** was appointed president of the Space Dynamics Laboratory.

Alan L. Smith was appointed the dean of the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education & Human Services.



Two Students Highlighted Women ‘MUSES’ in Art History Museum Theatre Project

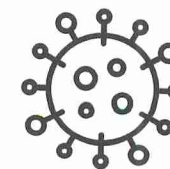
USU Department of Public Safety Became Official Accredited Agency



USU's Department of Public Safety received official agency accreditation from the Utah Chiefs of Police, making the **USU police the second accredited university police department**—and part of less than 10% of total law enforcement agencies—in the state.

Looking Forward

The Caine College of the Arts (CCA) announced **composer Gabriela Lena Frank** will join the Fry Street Quartet in a four-year residency. Though born with moderate-to-severe hearing loss, she has had an extraordinary, award-winning career that highlights her experience as a multiracial Latina woman.



COVID-19 by the Numbers

33,978
COVID-19 Tests

15,000+
Hours Worked by
Case Containment

85%
of Students
Fully Vaccinated

EXPANDING RURAL HEALTHCARE

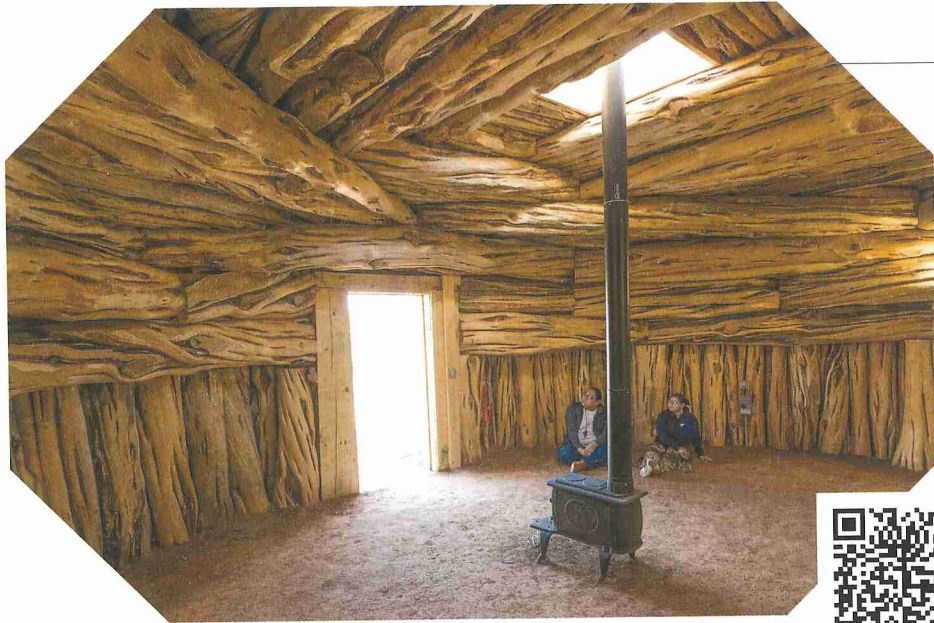
To address the mental health needs of Utah's farmers, ranchers, and others involved in agriculture, **USU Extension launched the Ag Wellness program**, complete with resources, online and in-person courses, and a podcast.



ENGAGING UTAH COMMUNITIES

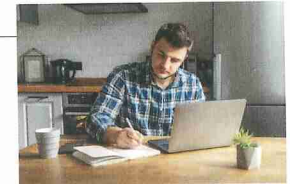
A Home Away From Home

The **USU Blanding campus** built a **Hogan for Native American students** as a place to practice traditional ceremonies, meditate, and study. In Blanding, 68% of our students are Native American, and 90% of them are Navajo.



Scan to watch video.

USU Extension Awarded \$1.1 Million for Remote Work Training

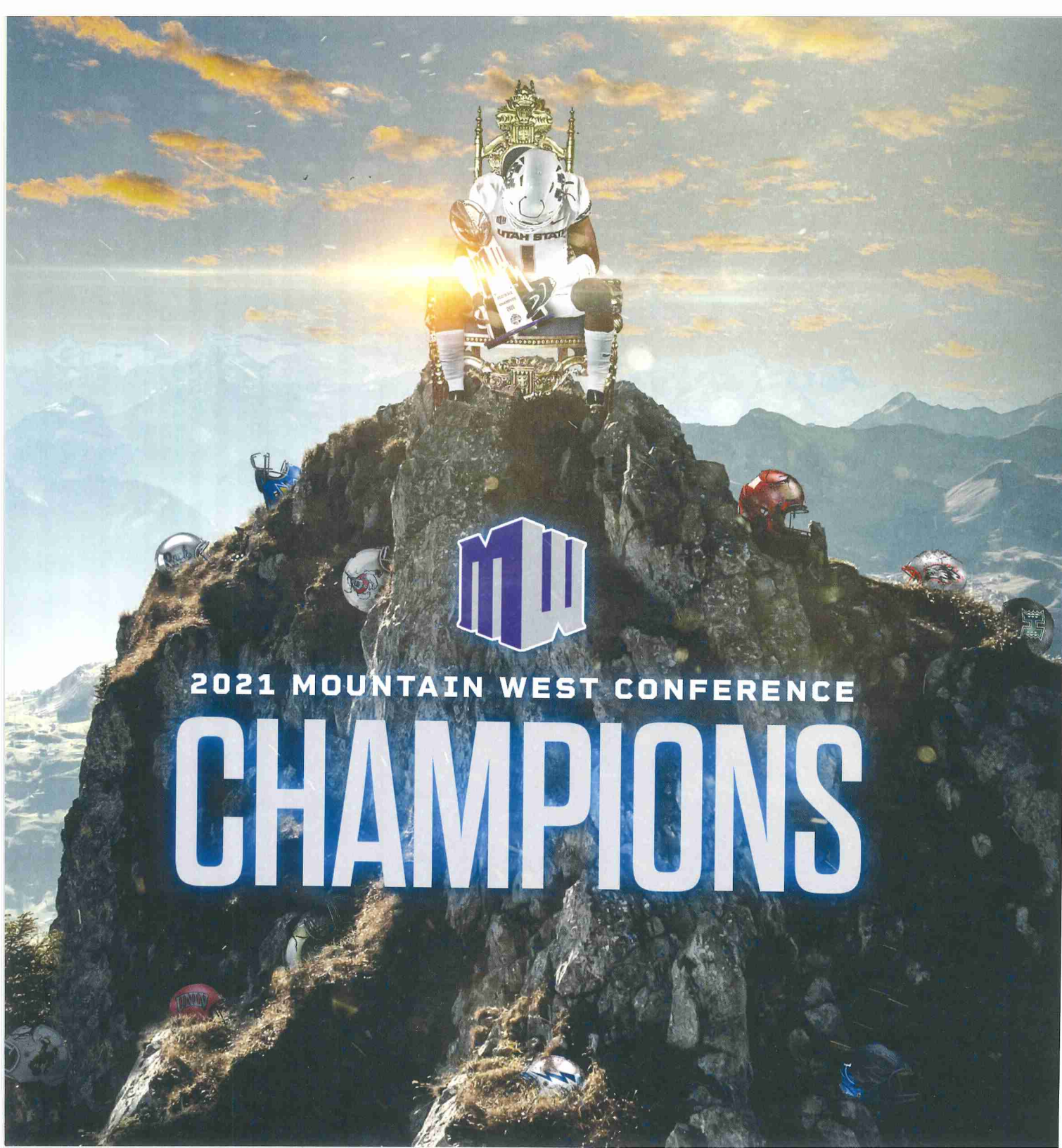


Women Leading the Way

In its second year housed at USU, the **Utah Women & Leadership Project**, helmed by global speaker and scholar **Susan Madsen**, focused on research, resources, and trainings to inform, inspire, and ignite growth and change for Utahns—particularly our girls and women.



Scan to watch video.



2021 MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE

CHAMPIONS

KINGS OF THE
MOUNTAIN

The Aggie football team won its first Mountain West Conference championship followed by vanquishing Oregon State 24-13 in the inaugural Jimmy Kimmel L.A. Bowl.

BEST IN THE WEST



Breaking Records— And the Competition

The Aggie volleyball team broke records for the **most wins in a season since 2010** and second-best hitting percentage in program history. **The women won their seventh regular-season conference title**—the first since joining the Mountain West—and made it to the conference tournament semifinals.

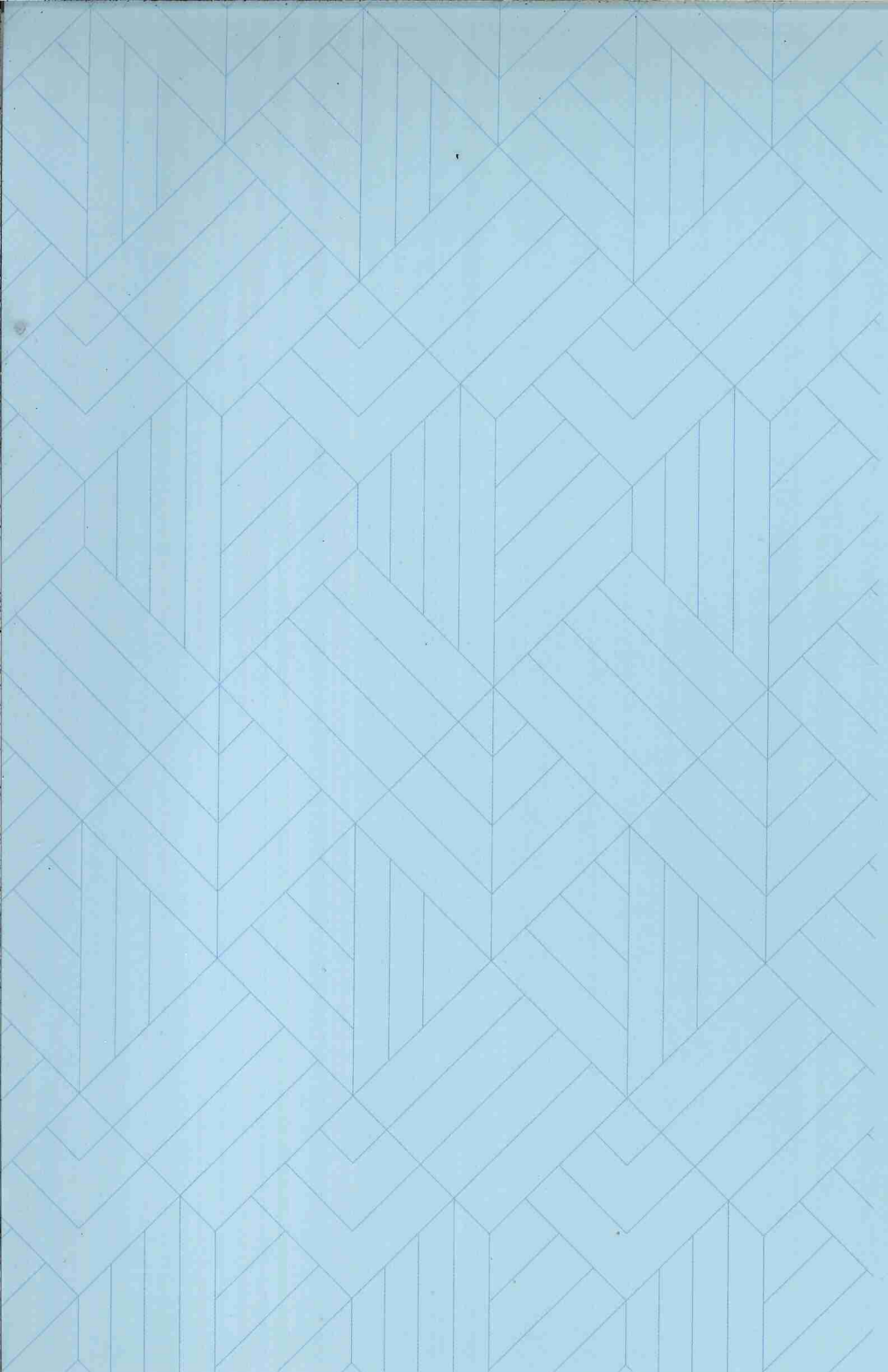


USU Eastern Volleyball Captured First Ever Scenic West Conference Regular-Season Title



Gymnastics Competed in 26th NCAA Regional Championship

The gymnastics team ended the season with their first Top-25 ranking since 1999.



The Utah State University

Greats 2021 is published by University Marketing and Communications, 0500 Old Main Hill, Logan, Utah 84322-0500. Copyright 2022.

USU is committed to a learning and working environment free from discrimination. For USU's non-discrimination notice, see equity.usu.edu/non-discrimination.