

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – April 2008

I started my Inauguration Speech with a bit of Snow College history. I recounted the lack of funding overlooked by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and how the Founding Fathers took up the slack with donations of eggs and nickels as well as voluntary staff pay cuts (and sometimes no pay at all). The school even sold the piano that had taken it eight years to purchase. By any standards, the college was in peril. To our ancestors and founders, we dedicate our gratitude and our time. From them we will derive our strength to overcome present challenges and serve the students who come here.

Accordingly, at the top of our "to-do" list is 1) a capital campaign for students to fill our beautiful new buildings and a commitment to raise \$10 million dollars in scholarship funding; and 2) the construction of a Founder's Mall, complete with monuments and/or statues reminding us of our great history and the legacy we must preserve.

Building character in students, faculty and staff is a high priority. Martin Luther King Jr. was known to have said, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education."

Incidentally, you thought finding President Benson in a photo with students was hard, check me out! I'm the one next to Buster the Badger! This photo was in the middle of a huge snow storm during the Snow Alumni Tailgate Party prior to our National Championship game at Rice Eccles Stadium.



Faculty

Right now, we have 117 full-time faculty members and 127 part-time adjuncts. We also have 42 staff members who teach at least one class.

Facilities

The program phase of the new Snow College Library has been completed and design phase has begun. We have chosen C.R.S.A from Salt Lake City as the architects. We are proud to announce that the façade will mimick the Snow College Noyes Building. The overall structure will be a three-story 45,000 square-foot structure. As more details are finalized, we estimate going to bid this month.

Phase Three of the Activity Center was complete on January 8, 2008. This project includes a dance studio and storage area. Previously, all the dance classes were dispersed in various classrooms including Founders Hall in the Noyes Building, West Campus Gym and Greenwood Student Center. This new studio is a welcome addition to our facilities. The West Campus Gym has also received a nice "floor-lift." A thick padded floor has been installed on the exposed concrete that now supports a class or activity every day of the week except Sunday.

Programs

It's no secret among Utah higher education professionals that Snow's science, music and art departments are among the best in the West – whether you're comparing them to a two-year college or a four-year university. Although it would be easy to brag on any one department or division on campus, here is a short summary of those afore mentioned:

Science

Over the past nine years, 46 students from Snow have taken the Pharmacy College Admissions Test. Twenty-seven of them have scored in the 95 percentile or higher (eight scored 99 percent). Thirty-eight have been accepted into pharmacy schools.

Since 2000, 51 students have graduated from Snow College with an Associate of Pre-Engineering degree. All 51 students have transferred to a four-year institution. Of those students, 21 (41%) completed a 4-year degree with an average grade point average (GPA) of 3.42 and eight students continued to achieve a Master's degree in Engineering with an average GPA of 3.59.





Music

This is the third year the Juilliard School and Snow College presented a jazz workshop for high school and college students. Faculty from both schools conducted the workshops and offered performances to packed audiences.

Speaking of Jazz, six Snow College jazz musicians were selected from a national search to play for the International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE) All Star Community College Jazz Band! Snow College has more musicians in the band than any other junior college. This is the highest jazz music honor at the junior college level.

The Snow College Wind Ensemble is one of six college bands invited to perform at the College Band Directors National Association regional conference in Reno, Nevada in May of 2008, and Cadence, Snow's top auditioned choir will perform with the Utah Symphony in Ogden and Salt Lake City as part of the USO's "Video Games Live" concerts.

Art

The Snow College Department of Visual Art is experiencing a period of unprecedented growth and success. The number of students seeking visual art degrees has quadrupled in the past five years. The studios available to our students have expanded significantly and are state of the art. We have recently added a sculpture studio, photo lab, digital media center, and a student gallery. Our main gallery was renovated last spring, and hosts six major shows annually. In addition to the facilities our students have access to a highly qualified faculty of practicing artists. Our faculty routinely participate in regional, national, and international shows. New course offerings such as Visiting Artist Seminar, which hosts 24 artists each year, and Travel Seminar where students travel to major art destinations in the country, give students personal contact with the larger art dialogue. We are continually working to build a world-class art program at Snow College. As a result our students are transferring to some of the most reputable programs in the country, often with scholarships in hand. In the state of Utah we are rapidly gaining a reputation of having the best first two years of visual art training available.

Fine Arts Division

The Juilliard School of New York has signed partnerships with Snow College Theatre, Music and Dance. This is a collaboration of the two schools to provide enhanced education camps, visiting instruction, joint recruiting, joined resources for faculty representation and a unique opportunity for students at both campuses to visit.

Athletics

We have hired former 1985 National Championship quarterback, Kevin White as the new Athletic Director. His primary responsibility will be to assist with the fundraising efforts for athletics. We have already identified some big changes such as lights on the football field and the beginning of a new stadium project. The lights should be installed by the end of July. Most of you know that the stadium was named the Robert L. Stoddard Stadium. Some other changes will be Tailgate Parties, Reunions and coming on **April 19**, our first ever [State of the Badger Nation luncheon](#). To obtain an invitation, please call (435) 283-7026 or see the web site link.

Coach Michael Ostlund has taken the helm of the men's basketball team. His season included a hot streak winning six of seven games, including five in a row. The men finished with a 14-16 season but with seven returning players next season the future seems bright. The Lady Badgers are just getting on their feet with Coach Cindy Lindsey (formerly Lawrence) ending the season with a similar record to the men's team.

Our football team coached by Steve Coburn had a phenomenal regular season finishing undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the nation with a record of 11-0. The Top of the Mountain Zions Bank Bowl was for the National Championship against No. 2 Butler College of Kansas. I was so impressed by the Badger "true and faithful" students, alumni, and friends who turned out in force despite the bleak weather and 56-27 loss to Butler. Our 2008 season has already been posted on the internet at www.snowbadgers.com Our **Homecoming** will be held on **October 11** against New Mexico.

Scholarships and Student Success

We have 3,411 students registered for Ephraim campus and 334 (post-secondary) registered for Richfield campus. Last year's enrollment was 4,179 students. We feel that our affordable tuition and our high quality education attribute a lot to the recruitment of new students. Tuition is only \$1,884 per year for an in-state student at Snow.

Fundraising has been going gangbusters! Total grants and donations have gone from a three-year average of \$280,238 during 1998, 1999 and 2000 to \$884,925 for the last six years, a 316 percent increase. Our main objective is to raise money for scholarships. Last year, we created a strict scholarship budget of \$1.6 million for scholarships. Although we remain the best educational value in Utah, the average un-met financial need for each student after financial aid was awarded was \$6,794! Your collective donations accounted for over \$421,411 compared to \$176,000 last year in privately funded scholarships. We encourage you to continue your support of our scholarship fund-raising efforts. This is the most important - and impactful - money we raise at Snow College.

