

STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER

The Word on the Street from the Office of Learning Advancement

What is the Office of Learning Advancement?

Prison Education

Director David Bokovoy

- Curriculum
- Faculty
- Logistics
- Student Support
- Transition

OLA Central

Associate Provost David Hubert
Admin Asst II Amanda Rubino

- Supervision and Coordination
- UP3RC
- Sabbatical Process

Open Education

Director Andrea Scott

- OERs
- Open Educational Practices
- OER Advisory Board
- Open Publishing
- Open Ed Partnerships
- Faculty Development

Learning Outcomes Assessment

Director Chris Blankenship

- Program Learning Outcomes Assessment
- Faculty Development

Faculty Teaching and Learning Center

Director Alia Criddle

- Faculty Development
- Adjunct Faculty Institute
- SOTL
- Faculty Scholarship Week

General Education and Honors

Associate Dean Michael Young

- General Education Committee
- General Education Assessment
- Honors Program
- Herriman Academic Leadership

Libraries

Director Zack Allred

- Public Services
- Academic Services
- Content Services
- Libraries at the following campuses:
 - Taylorsville
 - South City
 - Jordan
 - Miller

Engaged Learning

Director Lucy Smith

- Civically Engaged Scholars
- Community Engaged Learning
- Study Away
- Faculty Development
- Institutional Community Engagement Initiatives
- Faculty and Student Support
- ePortfolio Support

A Message from President Peterson

When I joined Salt Lake Community College in July 2024, what immediately stood out to me was how deeply SLCC is rooted in the community. You see it in how we support our students and in how we open doors of opportunity for people from all backgrounds and at every stage of life.

That sense of purpose — to welcome, serve, and empower — is exactly why I wanted to be here.

Now, a year in, I'm even more convinced that SLCC is built for this moment. We focus on meeting students where they are, helping them complete their education, and helping them thrive — whether that means transferring to a university or launching a meaningful career.

As we look ahead, that student-centered mission will continue to guide everything we do. This work will take all of us — faculty, staff, students, community partners, alumni, and supporters — coming together to remove barriers, expand opportunity, and help define what success can look like for the people we serve. When SLCC students succeed, our state thrives, because they are essential to Utah's high quality of life and long-term prosperity.

I'm grateful to be part of this community and excited for all that lies ahead.



Greg Peterson, EdD
President, Salt Lake Community College

LeGrand Olsen: Public Services Librarian



LeGrand's interest in libraries was sparked at the age of 16, when he began shelving books at his local public library. He enjoyed working alongside fun and interesting mentors who even taught him how to knit during their downtime in the break room. For LeGrand, the field of librarianship offers constant opportunities to learn new things, keeping him engaged as he explores different aspects of the profession. Throughout his career, LeGrand has worked in diverse library environments including public, academic, medical, and research libraries. However, this is his first job working in the same community he was raised in.

LeGrand's favorite aspect of his job is interacting with students. Whether he's working at the public service desk or conducting interviews for new hires, LeGrand enjoys getting to know and understand each new generation of students. His ability to connect with students, combined with his extensive background in libraries, has taught him to truly appreciate the purpose of libraries and those they serve. Outside of work,

LeGrand plays the guitar and has recently resumed piano lessons, drawing on 12 years of prior experience. He also enjoys baking and is always on the lookout for new lemon recipes to try. In addition, LeGrand aims to read at least 1-2 books a month, with his favorite book he read recently being *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver.

Christina Holm: Academic Services Librarian



Christina Holm has been working at SLCC for about one year now. Before joining SLCC, she worked for 10 years at Kennesaw State University as a liaison librarian, instruction coordinator, team leader, and Associate Professor. She often serves on curriculum committees, leads the SoTL fellows, works with others on library curriculum development, represents Academic Services on library leadership, and helps with Collection Development teamwork. She likes that she can solve problems regularly in her role and think about how systems are interconnected with each other. Christina is often thinking about how a student or person with an outside perspective may view something. Since patrons may not have the same level of library knowledge as a trained professional, remembering that information should be accessible is something that she takes very seriously.

Christina says library studies is a field one develops many different skills on the job. A librarian may be teaching themselves coding and programming software for one minute, then working on promotional marketing the next. There have been times when she utilizes her knowledge in Python or HTML coding to get projects done and is also willing to learn more skills. She believes that some knowledge in statistics and teaching can be useful. A recent successful project she participated in at SLCC is the implementation of the library Escape Room. These were run for the STEM Summer Bridge Orientation. It was fun and had the goal to help students get a greater understanding of library services in a positive, memorable way through methodical puzzles and strategic learning – it was a huge success.

Sonny Dulfo: Content Services Librarian



Sonny Dulfo is a dedicated leader and information management professional with a rich cultural heritage rooted in the early Filipino migrants of Hawaii, the Philippines, China, and Spain. Sonny brings a warm, collaborative approach to leadership and student support. Sonny earned his MBA from the University of California, Irvine, specializing in Digital Transformation and Healthcare Management Policy. There, he learned how to harness technology for innovation, guide organizations through change, and turn data into tools for real progress. He also holds a master's in organizational leadership from Argosy University, where he developed practical skills in teamwork, ethical leadership, and emotional intelligence—qualities that help him inspire others and help nurture their potential. His expertise grew further with a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of

North Texas. In this program, Sonny gained knowledge in the study of information, user behavior, information organization, and responsible use of technology, which he applies to create accessible and inclusive information systems.

His career began after college as a library attendant before progressing to increasingly demanding roles. Over the years, he has been in various positions gaining new skills and insights which have led him to where he currently serves at Salt Lake Community College as the Assistant Director of Content Services. Sonny's career is driven by the values of aloha, respect, and service. He is committed to bridging cultures, empowering others, and building learning environments where everyone feels welcomed, supported, and equipped to succeed in our ever-changing world.

Ahmad Kareh is New OER Faculty Fellow

Ahmad Kareh is the new OER Faculty Fellow. Ahmad was born in Amman, Jordan, where his active involvement in team sports and other extracurricular activities enabled him to interact with people from culturally diverse backgrounds. These interactions are where he first developed his interest in human behavior, communications, marketing and advertising.

With an academic scholarship, Ahmad moved to the United States to further his education at BYU. After graduating from BYU with a degree in Advertising and Marketing Communications, Ahmad began his career in marketing. He started by founding Twistlab Marketing, a Utah top 20 Ad Agency,



which he still manages today. He has also played an integral role in founding multiple other start-ups in both the Middle East and North America. In addition to his entrepreneurial pursuits, Ahmad has assisted multi-national companies in developing their businesses by performing in key positions such as Director of International Sales and Marketing for Nutraceutical Corporation.

In alignment with his earlier years, Ahmad continued to actively participate in our community through serving as a board member with the Lupus Foundation and with the Emerald Project, as well as speaking at various panels for local organizations including the Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy, Utah State University, and the World Trade Center. Ahmad is an associate

professor in Marketing who has transformed all his courses to OER. His passion has been recognized nationally after receiving ACBSP's Teaching Excellence Award.

Ahmad's passion for teaching and for marketing, along with the rapidly changing advertising and marketing environment, contributed to his life-long pursuit for continual learning. Since receiving his undergraduate degree from BYU, Ahmad earned a certificate in adult education from UC Berkeley, a certificate in web and print design from the University of Utah, an MBA from Utah State University, and a masters degree in Management from Harvard University.

The OER Faculty Fellow co-chairs the Open SLCC Advisory Committee and provides a faculty perspective on the development and support of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practices (OEP) at the institution .

The 2025 Open SLCC Grant Awardees

Join Open SLCC in congratulating the 2025 grant awardees. The Open SLCC Grants program is designed provide SLCC faculty and practitioners with additional support and guidance in the adoption, development and maintenance of high-quality open educational resources (OER). To learn more about Open SLCC Grants visit <https://www.slcc.edu/open/open-slcc-grants.aspx>. The Spring 2025 awardees are:

Course: MATH 1050 College Algebra & MATH 1060 Trigonometry

Faculty:

- Ruth Trygstad, Associate Professor, Mathematics
- Camille Paxman, Associate Professor, Mathematics

Category: Other — Advanced maintenance

Course: ART 1050 Intro to Photography (FA)

Faculty: Whitney Hyans, Professor Visual Arts and Design

Category: Revise/Remix

Course: ENGR 2550- Probability and Statistics for Engineers

Faculty: Aimee Birdsall

Category: Other — Advanced development of ancillary materials

Course: MATH 1010 Intermediate Algebra

Faculty:

- Becky Connelly, Associate Professor, Mathematics
- Janet Boj, Adjunct Faculty, Mathematics
- Robert Woodward, Associate Professor, Mathematics
- Piotr Runge, Associate Professor, Mathematics

Category: Other — Advanced development of ancillary materials

Course: ENGR 1500 Engineering Ethics

Faculty: Korin Holden, Assistant Professor Engineering

Category: Adoption