

Provost Perspectives

A newsletter from the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

It is with deep sadness that I continue to hear and see the toll of violence and hatred persisting around the world, from the crisis in Israel and Palestine to the mass shooting in Maine to the conflict caused by divisive messages on our own campus last week. There are also some moments of gladness, including the good news that one of our alumni families safely escaped into Egypt last week. Amid the turmoil of our world, I encourage each of us to try to be a cause of gladness for someone else. I appreciated the words of Vice Presidents Mary Ann Villarreal and Lori McDonald last week as they shared a letter to campus about the need for dignity in our campus culture. “The University of Utah is, of course, an institution of higher education—and that brings with it a vigorous commitment to free-speech protections,” they wrote. “But we are also a campus and community that works, lives, studies, celebrates, and grieves together. In order for our community to remain healthy and whole, we must treat each other with dignity, respect, and compassion. We may not always agree—but we should always strive to see each other first as peers and co-learners, campus neighbors and friends who deserve to be treated with decency.”

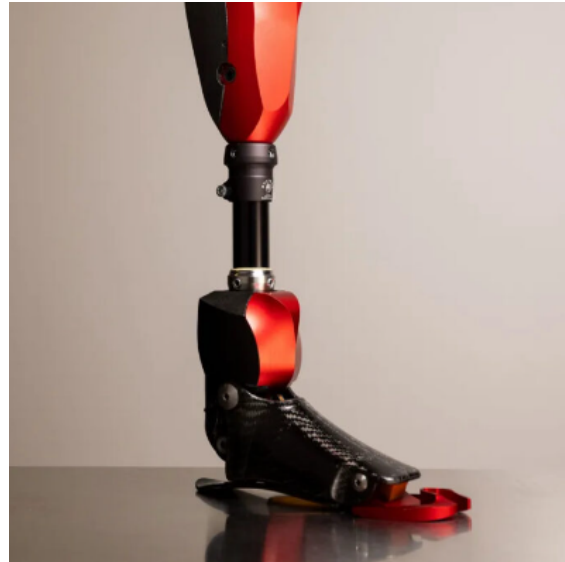
Thank you for all you are doing to lead by example and support each other.



Impact Scholar shares Dignity Index

University of Utah Impact Scholar Timothy Shriver visited campus recently to speak to students about the need for respect and dignity in disagreements. Shriver, chairman of the Special Olympics, co-founded a group called UNITE, which has produced the Dignity Index as a tool to restore civility and calm to the political climate.

[Read more](#)



Bionic leg among best inventions of 2023

TIME has selected the [Utah Bionic Leg](#) as one of the best inventions of 2023, naming it in its "[Experimental](#)" category. The Utah Bionic Leg was developed by [Tommaso Lenzi](#), associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and his students in the [HGN Lab for Bionic Engineering](#).

[Read more](#)

Guaranteed housing announced for fall 2024

Incoming first-year students who apply for housing at the University of Utah by the May 3 deadline will have a bed guaranteed on campus. The U announced the news as part of a plan to address housing demand and increasing enrollment numbers.

[Read more](#)

Utah law ranks No. 10 in PreLaw magazine

PreLaw magazine recently ranked S.J. Quinney College of Law no. 10 on its list of best value law schools. Each law school is ranked based on bar exam performance, overall education cost, and graduate employment rates.

[Read more](#)

November is Native American Heritage Month

This month, the University of Utah is celebrating Native American Heritage Month and the unique relationship the institution shares with the state's eight tribal nations. Several events are scheduled throughout the month, including discussions, a fashion show and the Indigenous Winter Arts Market. Visit the link below for a calendar of events.

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