



Provost Perspectives

A newsletter from the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Happy holidays to each of you! As we round out 2023 and head into a new year that is full of possibilities and promise, I've been thinking about the many messages about higher education that have been circulating recently. From opinion columns to news stories, op-eds and everything in between, universities across the country are under frequent scrutiny. One message that filled me with hope and inspiration was written by our own Impact Scholar, Eboo Patel, an author, founder and president of Interfaith America. Patel is an advocate of pluralism and diversity, and he makes a strong case for the role that universities can play in strengthening both of these things. "In every generation, American campuses have stepped up to help address the urgent needs of the nation," Patel wrote in the Deseret News. "Right now, the great problem we face in the United States is high conflict, and the urgent need is more collaboration and cooperation across differences. In this moment of extreme polarization, to serve the nation and improve themselves, campuses need to become laboratories and launching pads for pluralism, because ultimately, 'we are each other's business.'" I'm grateful to be in this cause with each of you. Here's to a 2024 filled with collaboration and cooperation.

- Mitzi M. Montoya



U student is a Top 10 CNN Hero

Osei Boateng, a student in the Master of Business Creation program, was selected as a [Top 10 CNN Hero](#) of 2023. As the founder of the OKB Hope Foundation in Ghana, Boateng delivers innovative healthcare solutions to underserved Ghanaians. While he was not selected as the top winner, Boateng received a \$10,000 prize for his nomination.

[Read more](#)



Housing innovations impact student experience

Housing and Residential Education launched a new sequence model this fall called ResX that focuses on residents' learning by re-envisioning services and supports for students. The model implements tactics to support students through three learning goals: personal development, social development and inclusive excellence.

[Read more](#)

Taking a look at perceptions of higher ed

A recent U Rising podcast features Ken Goldstein, senior vice president for survey research and institutional policy with the Association of American Universities. He joins Chris Nelson to talk about the association's latest findings and takeaways for higher education leaders.

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Major projects update December 2023

With several new buildings underway, a baseball ballpark on the horizon and more student housing soon to come, there's a lot to know about what's going on at the U. To see a recent major projects update, click the link below. An in-person open house update will be scheduled in spring 2024 — more information to come.

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