Another year comes to an end – and I cannot help but reflect on the state of our dramatically unsettled world. I don't need to enumerate the areas of the globe in which this nation – this world – faces enormous challenges, each with enormous consequences for the future of humanity. To overcome the challenge of living in an increasingly complex and interconnected world, we need leaders who can inspire and bring people together.

We are excited about the eighth annual LABOR CODES GLOBAL: WORKERS AROUND THE WORLD Lecture on November 18, 2004, at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts, by Dr. Richard B. Freeman, Ascherman Professor of Economics at George Washington University. This year’s lecture will focus on the theme of “Labor and Social Security Policies.”

On May 6th, family and friends of three outstanding College of Social and Behavioral Science alumni gathered at the American West Center to honor this year’s recipients of the college’s Distinguished Alumni Awards, Edward R. Christensen, Shauna Graves-Robertson, and Leonidas Ralph Mecham.

Edward R. Christensen has achieved wide intellectual accomplishments in a variety of academic and professional fields and is devoted to civic and social service. He graduated from the University of Utah in 1948 with a B.S. in Chemistry and an M.S. in Chemistry in 1949. During his career as a research chemist with Texaco, Inc., Mr. Christensen earned an M.S. in Industrial Administration from Union College. After retiring in 1985, Mr. Christensen worked several years with Texaco, Inc., and led to 23 U.S. and numerous foreign patents.

Shauna Graves-Robertson has served as a Salt Lake County Justice Court Judge since 1999. She earned her J.D. and a Masters of Public Administration degree at the University of Utah. Prior to her appointment to the bench she served as an attorney with the Salt Lake Legal Defender Association. She also worked with the Division of Youth Corrections and in 1984 was appointed by Governor Scott M. Matheson to head the State Office of Black Affairs.

Leonidas Ralph Mecham is devoted to serving his family, country, church, and the University of Utah. He has served as the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for the past 19 years and is a member, with seven leading federal judges, of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference of the U.S. Mr. Mecham's career has included service in the corporate world, with the Four Corners Regional Economic Development Commission of the U.S. Department of Commerce, as Chief of Staff to a United States Senator, as Vice President of the University of Utah, and in service to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He graduated from the University of Utah with highest honors, receiving a B.S. in Political Science in 1951, a J.D. from George Washington University in 1952, and a Masters of Public Administration from Harvard University in 1961.
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Maria Martin (Psychology)

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When planning your estate, please consider making a gift to the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. We thank the following individuals who have made generous planned gifts to the college and its departments:

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