On May 26, family and friends of three outstanding College of Social and Behavioral Science alumni gathered at the Alumni House to honor this year’s recipients of the College’s Distinguished Alumni Awards, Samuel Grover Rich, D. Brent Scott, and Joan Wasson Smith.

The recipients have made significant contributions to the community and the world. Samuel Grover Rich, D. Brent Scott, and Joan Wasson Smith have all been leaders in their respective fields and have made a lasting impact on the University of Utah and beyond.

These three individuals follow in the footsteps of 2004 Distinguished Alumni, Edward R. Christiansen, Shanna Graves-Robertson, and Leonidas Ralph Mecham, and 2003 Distinguished Alumni, Anthon S. Cannon, Jr., Stan Katz, and Dorothy Watkins. Each of these awardees has made a lasting contribution to the advancement of the College of Social and Behavioral Science, The University of Utah, their communities, and their professions. In addition to the luncheon, Distinguished Alumni are honored at Convocation and have permanent plaques on the College of Social and Behavioral Science “Wall of Honor” in Onson Spencer Hall.

Samuel Grover Rich

Sam Rich received his B.A. degree in political science from the University of Utah and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science from Stanford University. A well-beloved teacher and colleague, he served on The University of Utah Political Science Department’s faculty for thirty-one years and has been internationally recognized for his research and teaching in foreign policy and international security. Professor Rich was the founder of the University of Utah’s Institute of International Studies and is a fellow and research associate at the Council on Foreign Relations. His publications have appeared in journals such as Security Studies, International Security, and The Journal of Conflict Resolution. In addition to his academic contributions, he has served as a consultant to the U.S. State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency.

D. Brent Scott

D. Brent Scott has displayed remarkable leadership throughout his life. After a short stint in the U.S. Navy from 1945–46, Mr. Scott earned his B.S. in psychology from The University of Utah. He is founder of Scott Machinery Company where he served as its president for many years. Among his civic contributions are his former positions as chair of the Multiplc Sociology Society of Utah, member of the Board of Governors of the Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, and member of the Utah House of Representatives.

Joan Wasson Smith

Joan Wasson Smith has worked for peace and justice, and against bias, bigotry, and racism in Utah. She received a B.A. in sociology with a concentration in political science from The University of Utah and her M.S.W. and D.S.W. from The University of Utah Graduate School of Social Work. Professionally, she worked in private practice as a licensed psychotherapist until she accepted the position of executive director of the National Conference for Community and Justice, Utah Region, from which she recently retired.

Dr. Smith has tirelessly served on community boards, including the Salt Lake YWCA, Valley Mental Health, Women Concerned About Nuclear War, Utah United Against the Nuclear Arms Race, and many more. She has traveled all over the world promoting peace and non-violence. Dr. Smith has remained active with The University of Utah by working with students in field education and by visiting as guest speaker on issues related to diversity and advocacy.

For information on how to nominate someone else or yourself for a CSBS Distinguished Alumni Award, please call (801) 585-9200.
The Hinckley Institute of Politics is celebrating and Lyn Hinckley, continue to provide vision, political finance for the past three years. Jowers has taught political science and graduated from the U of past visionary leaders of the Institute: John Burton (Family and Consumer Studies), Sonia Salari (Family and Consumer Studies), Donald Currey (Geography), Luke Garrott (Political Science), Terry M. Farnsworth (Social Science), and Laura Chance (Geography). We are pleased and honored to feature Don and Sue Lewon as this issue’s outstanding friends of the College of Social and Behavioral Science. Both are alumni of The University of Utah. Don graduated with a B.S. in geography in 1958 and Sue with a B.S. in elementary education in 1959. The Lewons have been exemplary supporters of The University, The Hinckley Institute of Politics, is committed to serving the public interest regarding the nation’s campaign finance, ethics and related media laws. Jowers is a member of the auxiliary faculty in the U’s Political Science Department where he has taught courses on the U.S. presidency and political finance for the past 34 years. Established in 1965 by a generous bequest from Robert Hinckley and the Noble Foundation, the Hinckley Institute of Politics is committed to engaging students in government, civic, and political processes. Robert’s son, Robert H. Hinckley Jr., and his grandson and great-grandson, Jim and Lyn Hinckley, continue to provide vision, leadership, and financial support to the Institute. The Hinckley Institute of Politics is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

2005 CSBS AWARDS LUNCHEON

Each year, the College of Social and Behavioral Science recognizes the excellence of its students and faculty. On April 13th, approximately 150 friends of the College gathered at the Fort Douglas Officers Club to celebrate the outstanding academic achievements of 50 students and 23 faculty members. This year, thanks to your support, we were able to award 34 Honor Roll Scholarships, 7 other scholarships, and 2 College graduate fellowships. Special thanks to all Alumni & Friends donors who help make the Honor Roll Scholarships possible.

2005-2006 HONOR ROLL SCHOLARSHIPS

Don was a founding member of the CSBS Advisory Board. He served on the Board for 10 years and as the chair from 1998 to 2000. Since 1995, Don and Sue have been highly involved with The University of Utah. They have had a solid point of their giving, both in time and dollars. As Don explains, “Most people recognize in their mature years how the world changes. It is changing faster and faster with the life span of new products and equipment becoming shorter.” The Lewons agree that most of us have a difficult time dealing with all of these changes. They believe that Bill Gates sets a wonderful example in his support of education. They ask, “Can the rest of us do anything? Our input can be small enough to be important as his. Schools need help with our time and our pocketbooks, too. The work is never done. We must keep building and understanding our ever-changing world.”

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2005-2006 OTHER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

Don and Sue support the IPIA Global Affairs program which was established in 2005. As an alumni leader, over the past 10 years, and as the chair from 1998 to 2000. Since 1995, Don and Sue have been highly involved with The University of Utah. They have had a solid point of their giving, both in time and dollars. As Don explains, “Most people recognize in their mature years how the world changes. It is changing faster and faster with the life span of new products and equipment becoming shorter.” The Lewons agree that most of us have a difficult time dealing with all of these changes. They believe that Bill Gates sets a wonderful example in his support of education. They ask, “Can the rest of us do anything? Our input can be small enough to be important as his. Schools need help with our time and our pocketbooks, too. The work is never done. We must keep building and understanding our ever-changing world.”

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

What a year this has been.
The horrific tsunami in South East Asia and bombings in London, and the continuing events in Iraq, Israel, Palestine, Iran, Afghanistan, and North Korea are all clear signs of how complex and unsettling this world of ours is. Our graduates face enormous challenges, each with psychological, political, economic, environmental, and social consequences.

I remain amazed at the accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff. Faculty in CSBS continue to receive national and University honors for excellence. And, this year the College awarded a total of 1,762 bachelor’s degrees and 148 graduate degrees—31% of all bachelor degrees, and 28% of all degrees awarded by the U of U.

I only have space here to mention a few examples of the exciting changes and developments that are underway. The new Institute for Public and International Affairs (IPIA), a universitywide center for research, teaching, public service, and student engagement was approved in June by the Board of Regents. (See related story.) It has caused a flurry of new programs and activities, including a new Master of Public Policy (MPP) program and a new minor in Campaign Management. New research teams are forming across the University to expand knowledge in public policy, international socio-political-economic, and applied politics. Kirk Jowers became the fourth director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics just in time for him to help us celebrate its 40th anniversary. Professor Cheryl Wright is the new chair of the Family and Consumer Studies Department, and Professor Cathleen Zick has taken on major new leadership responsibilities with the MPP program and public policy research in IPIA. The Siciliano Forum on November 10 will feature Howard Rheingold, an author and journalist who has received international attention for his work on “smart mobs” and the social-political implications of cyberspace and digital culture.

As the social and behavioral sciences continue to face challenges with the world around us, we thank you for your support. We are proud to be educating our world’s future leaders. Please stay in touch—we are always glad to hear from our friends.

Sincerely,

J. Steven Ott, Dean