Lebanon and Palestine again, just when it seemed as though there might be some respite. Behavioral Science is a key place where we discuss, debate and try to derive meaning from these complex events. For example, the recent study on the economic and social impacts of the recent conflict has been dominating water cooler discussions.

ROCCO C. AND MARION S. MACDONALD

On May 4th, 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 and —for the first year—Exemplary Alumni Awards, Afesa Adams, Don Lewon and Ann P. Maughan.

AFESA ADAMS, Distinguished Alumna

Afesa Adams received a bachelor’s in psychology from Weber State University and a master’s and Ph.D. in psychology from The University of Utah. She has held faculty and administrative positions at the University of Utah and the University of North Florida. Currently, she is senior research associate for the Florida Institute of Education and mentor of psychology at the University of North Florida. Here at the U of U, Afesa is known as an inspirational educator and mentor. She helped pioneer the transition of Home Economics to the contemporary Family and Consumer Studies Department. As associate vice president for academic affairs, she initiated the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Days of Remembrance activities. Afesa was at the forefront in establishing the Math, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) consortium whose purpose is to increase the number of underrepresented women and minorities in those fields. She is active in community affairs and holds leadership positions on the governing boards of many nonprofit organizations.

DON LEWON, Distinguished Alumnus

Don Lewon has been an exemplary leader in and supporter of the University, the College and the community. He received a bachelor’s in geography from The University of Utah. He is president of Utah Metal Works and has served as president of his industry’s national council. Among his civic contributions are his long-term participation on the board of trustees for Watsach Children’s Hospital, and his support of the Ronald McDonald House and the United Way. He has served many terms on the vestry of St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral. In 2002, Don was named “Father of the Year” by the Utah Diabetes Association.

Ann P. Maughan, Exemplary Alumna

Ann P. Maughan has lived in quiet and compassionate service to others throughout her life. In 1928, she graduated from The University of Utah with a bachelor’s in home economics, now family and consumer studies. Following graduation, Ann worked as a demonstrator agent for a public utility company. She married and had a daughter and son. She has been a widow for many years. Her son died at age 26, leaving behind a wife and two children. Ann has played an active role in their lives. She is known by many as a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Ann has always felt drawn to those “who are shy, afraid, discouraged, and in need of a quiet to lift them.” She has assisted in countless fundraising drives for the Cancer Society, Primary Children’s Hospital, and other organizations. A scholarship was established in her name in the Family and Consumer Studies Department in the early nineties. In October she will turn 100 years old.

For information on how to nominate someone else or yourself for a CSBS Distinguished or Exemplary Alumni Award, please call Rich Pikes at (801) 585-9200.

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

ANTHROPOLOGY · ECONOMICS · FAMILY AND CONSUMER STUDIES

American West Center · Behavioral Sciences and Health · Environmental Studies

GEOGRAPHY · POLITICAL SCIENCE · PSYCHOLOGY · SOCIETY · ROTC

Center for Public Policy and Administration · Gender Studies · Huntsman Institute of Public Policy

Fall 2006

FOURTH ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI/AE AWARDS

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Graduated from high school, Jolene first went to Brigham Young University, then transferred to the U. She met her husband Russ at BYU. Between children, family, and life's demands, Jolene would intermittently take one or two college courses. Decades passed during her slow route to a college degree. But as circumstances in her life changed, one desire remained constant: Jolene wanted a college education.

When her daughters entered college a few years ago, they encouraged Jolene to join them. Jolene remembered that her own mother had graduated from the U in 1978—after raising six children—the same year Jolene got her high school diploma. She returned to the U Full time nearly two years ago.

“Education is very important in my family,” Jolene said. “Not so much for a career, but for the sake of being educated. It has given my children a foundation, a way to have my degree. It has helped me in my marriage and as a mother. Every class I took and I worked hard, I earned the degree.”

Although it was difficult to juggle school with family responsibilities and to pay tuition when money was tight, Jolene is convinced she was a better student later in life. The experience taught her that older students get paid a higher grade.

Her environment at the U also motivated Jolene to be her best. “I’ve fallen in love with the energy of the U. The students and their professors are great. I didn’t always agree with people’s opinions, but I loved the dialogue. I loved the diversity. I’m proud of graduating from the U. I didn’t think it would matter, but it did,” Jolene said.

This is a first step for Jolene. She plans to take a year off and then return to the U for another degree, either in family policy law or marriage and family life. “I can remember thinking it would be nice to some day do something a little out of the ordinary for the U,” recollects Andreasen.

Fifty years later Dean Donna Gelland contacted Andreasen regretting a group of donors of the U with planned gifts. Additionally, Andreasen gives generously to nieces and nephews who choose to attend the University of Utah. “The people who are able to do something—to give something—should be there because so many who can’t and who really struggle in the world,” states Andreasen.
Focus on the Human Factor

Eventful doesn't begin to sum up this past year.

We watch and feel the pain of events in Iraq, Iran, North Korea—and Israel, Lebanon and Palestine again, just when it seemed as though there might be cause for restrained optimism. The College of Social and Behavioral Science is a place where we discuss, debate and try to derive meaning from these complex events. For example, the recent study on the economic ties between Utah and Mexico, completed by our Institute of Public and International Affairs, added important content to the immigration reform debate that has dominated water cooler discussions.

When it comes to accomplishments, everything starts with our students. We awarded 1,574 undergraduate degrees and 155 graduate degrees in May—a total of 1,729. Consecration also was a wonderful opportunity to honor two of our most Distinguished Alumni, Alice Adams and Don Lewon, and also Ann Peterman Mclaughlin, our first-ever "Exemplary Alumna," who is 95 years young.

Members of our faculty continue to receive highest recognition for excellence. I only have space for a few examples: Jim O'Connell was inducted into the National Academy of Sciences. Two research teams in our Psychology Department are attracting worldwide attention—Frank Dresen and Dave Stayner, for their findings about cell phones as a distraction when driving; and Tim Smith, Cindy Berg, Burt Uchino and Paul Florsheim for their study that shows how heart disease is impacted by disagreements between couples. Finally, Karin Appel in Family and Consumer Studies, earned the U's Distinguished Scholarship and Creative Research Award.

We are making great progress toward providing exciting international learning and research experiences for our students and faculty. The Hinckley Institute will start providing international internships this year thanks to a major donor agreement signed with the King Pratibophop's Institute in Bangkok, Thailand, and Zayed University in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, will allow selected students and faculty to travel abroad for enriching opportunities starting very soon.

We are proud and excited about the new Barbara L. and Norman C. Tanner Center for Nonviolent Human Rights Advocacy. A most generous donation from the Tanners and support from their daughter, Debi Stayner, will help us teach U students and the community how to advocate for nonviolent solutions to problems. Long-time friend, collaborator and skilled leader, Ted Wilson, is the inaugural Center director.

We mourn the passing of two legends who truly affected lives—especially U students. Robert Hinckley, Jr. and R. J. Snow. Our thoughts, good wishes and gratitude go out to their families. The passing of indispensable individuals reminds me of the great pool of people who support the College of Social and Behavioral Science. If you've connected with us—please remain that way. If you haven't, come to an event this year or dip in for a visit.

Sincerely,

J. Steven Olt, Dean