

# STUDENT INNOVATION

at the 



**THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH**

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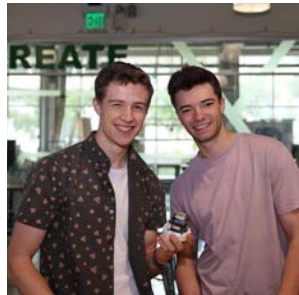
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# ABOUT THE REPORT

“Student Innovation at the U” is an annual publication celebrating student innovation and impact at the University of Utah. A digital version is available at [lassonde.utah.edu/studentinnovation2026](https://lassonde.utah.edu/studentinnovation2026). This publication is produced by the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute, an interdisciplinary division of the David Eccles School of Business and the hub for student entrepreneurs and innovators at the U. Learn about the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute at [lassonde.utah.edu](https://lassonde.utah.edu).

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## STUDENT CONTRIBUTORS



**Tom Glasmann** — Tom is a theater, games, and English student at the University of Utah. Passionate about telling stories and performing, Tom is an entertainer at heart. In addition to this, he is known around campus for his fun, eccentric personality, and his surplus of business cards.



**Zita Luloff** — Zita Luloff is originally from Wisconsin and moved to Utah to study business. In her free time, she loves photography, running, and skiing.



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**Jillian Hall** — Jillian is an entrepreneurship major with a passion for creativity. Specializing in photography and graphic design, she brings a unique blend of business acumen and artistic talent to every project. Whether capturing moments through her lens or crafting compelling visual stories, Jillian is dedicated to turning visions into reality.



**Mila Pimentel** — Mila is a photography and digital imaging major at the University of Utah. She loves anything creative, and she loves getting involved and meeting new people in many different clubs and events at the U!



**Sarah Hoare** — Coming from North Idaho, Sarah is happy to be here at the U studying product design and environmental science. Outside of her involvement with Lassonde, she also works with the Union Programming Council and is active in various clubs around campus. When not in class or meetings, you can find her baking, dancing, and starting various side quests.



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**McCall Welling** — McCall Welling is a dedicated University of Utah MBA and MSF student, and an active associate at the MBC Marketing Agency. She has a strong passion for continuous learning, exploring new destinations through travel, enjoying diverse cuisines, and connecting with others.



**Grace Liou** — Grace is a business student at the University of Utah. She is also working towards minors in games and anthropology. She is passionate about game design and learning about other cultures. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and reading.

## CONTACT US

Have a question? Want copies? Want to nominate a student to be featured in the next edition? Or want to be a contributor? We want to hear from you!

Contact the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute at [lassonde@utah.edu](mailto:lassonde@utah.edu) or [801-587-3836](tel:801-587-3836).

# WELCOME



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2026 edition of “Student Innovation at the U.” The students featured on these pages are proof that curiosity, courage, and a drive to make the world better are alive and thriving on our campus.

At the University of Utah, we believe that a great education is just the beginning. Students here don't simply study ideas — they act on them. Through our growing network of institutes, programs, and partnerships, students step outside the classroom and into the real world, where they test their knowledge, build new skills, and discover what they're truly capable of.

In the pages that follow, you'll encounter an extraordinary range of student innovators. You'll meet entrepreneurs who are building companies from the ground up, researchers pushing the boundaries of medicine and technology, and community

leaders finding creative solutions to the challenges facing our state and our world. Their backgrounds differ, their disciplines differ, and their ideas differ, but they are united by a willingness to take initiative and turn vision into reality.

I hope these stories inspire you as much as they inspire me. To our students: keep building, keep creating, and keep pushing forward. To our faculty, staff, alumni, and community supporters: thank you for fueling students' ambitions and helping make these achievements possible. Together, there is no limit to what we can accomplish.

— Taylor Randall, HBA '90, president, University of Utah

# 1. PERSONAL CARE



Zita Lulloff

## REIMAGINING CAMPUS WELLNESS THROUGH DESIGN

How can students help create “College Town Magic” at the University of Utah? For Rosie Coleman and Rachel Clark, third-year multi-disciplinary design students, the answer lies in reimagining student wellness through design.

“College Town Magic” is a term coined to describe the University of Utah’s long-term vision to create a more welcoming and engaging college experience not only inside but also outside the classroom. Coleman and Clark are contributing to this goal through the Hospitality + Design Studio, a course sponsored by the J.W. Marriott Jr. Institute, where they are conceptualizing a campus wellness facility tailored specifically to student life.

What makes their collaboration unique is how their perspectives and backgrounds intersect. Coleman focuses on “designing for the senses,” noting how textures, materials, lighting, and space affect the senses and emotional well-being. Clark draws on her most recent project, which focused on “recognizing how polycrisis impacts mental health and how our home environments can either intensify stress or become places

of refuge.” She specifically notes how physical spaces affect your well-being through neuroaesthetics and trauma-informed design. Together, they have collaborated to find the intersection between hospitality and wellness.

Their concept responds directly to student needs. Through interviews and research, they found that most students value wellness but face barriers such as stress and accessibility. With Utah’s strong outdoor culture, Coleman and Clark aim to design a facility that complements active student lifestyles while encouraging rest, recovery, and self-care.

In fall 2025, they had the opportunity to travel to New York City to study at hotels and wellness centers. What they noticed about these facilities were the small, intentional design choices, which they felt would be easy to implement here at the University of Utah. Meaningful wellness design doesn’t have to be complicated; when done correctly, it has the ability to completely transform experiences.

— by Zita Lulloff



Jillian Hall

## ALL-NATURAL FRAGRANCES

What began as a high school hobby is shaping up to be one of the freshest fragrance startups to emerge from the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute at the University of Utah. Malabar, founded by Calder Stratford, Marshall Moorehead, and Tenney Palmer, is redefining what it means to wear scent in a conscious, modern way.

The three co-founders, all originally from New York, came together over a shared interest in fragrance and concern over what goes into it. Traditional perfumes, they noticed, were often packed with synthetic chemicals, many of them unregulated and potentially harmful. That insight led them to start experimenting with natural alternatives, eventually developing their first scent using only organic essential oils and sugar cane alcohol as a clean, skin-safe base.

"We wanted to create something that not only smelled great but that we actually felt good putting on our skin," said Stratford.

From launching with a single scent, Malabar has grown into a multi-product line that now includes three signature fragrances, hand-poured candles, and

a wax-based perfume. Each item reflects the founders' commitment to simplicity, transparency, and elevated design.

"We're not trying to reinvent fragrance, we're just doing it better," said Palmer. "We have cleaner formulas, more intentional design, and no unnecessary extras."

Malabar is also building a community alongside their product line. Their Instagram showcases their sleek aesthetic and behind-the-scenes process while giving voice to a growing base of clean fragrance lovers. They've also launched an affiliate program and are collaborating with influencers to grow their reach organically.

As they work to break into boutiques in both Salt Lake City and New York, the team sees this next chapter as the beginning of something bigger: a movement toward fragrance that's not only better for you but designed to feel as good as it smells. "This is just the beginning," said Moorehead. "We are building more than a product; we are building trust."

— by Jillian Hall



## SKINCARE WITH A SALTY TWIST

In a world flooded with synthetic and harmful products, Salt City Soapworks is building a skincare company rooted in science, sustainability, and a whole lot of Utah salt and beeswax.

Founded by former geophysicist Lauren Tyson, the Salt Lake City-based brand blends her scientific insight with a deep appreciation for natural ingredients. "I want our ingredients to be local and recognizable so people know exactly what they're putting on their skin," Tyson said. She grew her business through the Master of Business Creation program at the University of Utah's David Eccles School of Business.

At the core of each soap and scrub is unrefined Redmond salt, a mineral-rich powerhouse with over 60 naturally occurring elements. "That salt was deposited during the time of the dinosaurs," Tyson said. "It's protected under layers of bentonite clay, which means the salt hasn't been exposed to modern pollution. It's pure enough to eat and acts as both a

preservative and a detoxifier in our products."

But salt isn't the only Utah-grown hero in Tyson's formulations. Another ingredient used is local beeswax. As a beekeeper, she's equally intentional about sourcing beeswax for her lip balms and lotion bars.

"Beeswax absorbs and retains fat-soluble chemicals like pesticides, and there's very little regulation around that in the skincare industry today," she said. "So, I want to know exactly where the bees are foraging." Often, that means rendering wax herself, sometimes late at night in her kitchen.

Salt City Soapworks offers a curated line of salt soaps, shampoo bars, salt scrubs, beeswax lip balms, and lotion bars, each thoughtfully packaged in compostable muslin, reusable glass jars, or metal tins. Beloved by everyday customers and businesses alike, the brand is gaining traction for both its core product line and its custom corporate gift sets, event swag, and client appreciation bundles, all available with personalized packaging.

— by Grace Liou

## 2. FASHION & DESIGN



Jillian Hall

### REDEFINING SWIMWEAR, ONE STITCH AT A TIME

For Mila Pimentel, founder of SWYM and an art student at the University of Utah, the ocean has always been home. Growing up in Hawai'i, swimwear wasn't just a wardrobe essential, it was part of her identity. But as she got older, she noticed something that didn't sit right: high-quality swimsuits were priced like luxury items, often starting around \$200.

"It didn't make sense to me," Pimentel said. "In a place where people live in their swimsuits, most of us couldn't afford the ones that actually lasted."

That realization planted the seed for SWYM, a brand built on the belief that durable swimwear shouldn't be out of reach. The idea began to take shape during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, when Pimentel suddenly had time to slow down and think creatively.

"Like a lot of people, I needed something productive to focus on," she said. "I started sketching designs and experimenting with fabric samples. I wanted to see if I could create something that felt just as good as the expensive brands, without the insane price tag."

A student entrepreneur working with the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute at the University of Utah, Pimentel turned

curiosity into craftsmanship. Without a formal background in fashion design, she taught herself from scratch, watching YouTube tutorials, studying existing patterns, and then tearing them apart to learn how they worked.

"I would make a version, try it on, see what didn't feel right, then start over," she said. "It was trial and error for months, but every design got me closer to what I wanted to create."

What sets SWYM apart isn't just its mission of affordability, but the story behind it. Each piece reflects Pimentel's personal journey, from self-taught designer to emerging founder. Looking ahead, Pimentel hopes to build SWYM into a brand recognized not only for its design but also for the values it embodies: creativity, inclusivity, and confidence.

"I want people to feel amazing in their own skin," she said. "SWYM isn't about keeping up with trends, it's about making something that is affordable, and attractive without losing quality."

— by Jillian Hall



## LUXURY GOODS MADE FROM ALPACA WOOL

Kusi is a luxury brand with a heartfelt mission that extends far beyond profit margins. The company, with a name meaning “happiness” in Quechua, specializes in handcrafted products made from alpaca wool and has established itself in multiple markets across the United States during its five years of operation.

The founder, Diana Siemens, who grew the company in the Master of Business Creation program, was raised in Peru before moving abroad and facing the challenge of learning a new language. She created Kusi with a clear purpose: to help children in Peru receive an education. What began as assistance with books has evolved into ambitions of building schools, while simultaneously introducing authentic Peruvian culture to American consumers.

“It is so rewarding to give back,” said Siemens.

Kusi’s products stand out in the marketplace due to their unique qualities and traditional craftsmanship. The alpaca wool used in their creations is eight times warmer than conventional sheep wool, providing

exceptional comfort and quality. Their product line includes ties, socks, and notably soft stuffed animals made with baby alpaca wool. Each item is painstakingly handmade on traditional looms, preserving authentic Peruvian crafting techniques.

The company has achieved significant milestones, including university licensing partnerships and expansion to eleven locations across Idaho, Utah, and New York through both retail and wholesale channels.

Despite success, the path hasn’t been without obstacles. Siemens faced challenges as a female entrepreneur with high standards for her business. When the COVID-19 pandemic threatened operations, creative thinking and persistence helped the company weather the storm.

These experiences have shaped her business philosophy. “It’s not just about making money; it’s more about treating people with respect and loving what you do,” Siemens said.

— by *McCall Welling*



## STICKERS, APPAREL & GOODS

If you need a way to commemorate your most recent outdoor adventure, Roaming Heart is doing just that.

Founded in 2018 by Audrey Tran, the Utah-based company sells vibrant stickers, apparel, and goods inspired by the outdoors. She enrolled in the Master of Business Creation program to grow and scale the company.

“Our mission is to connect people to the outdoor places and memories that they love most and then inspire the next adventure,” she said. “I like to think of our products and designs as a very unique and vibrant time capsule that you get to carry with you every day.”

Tran founded the company while pursuing her undergraduate degree at Southern Utah University. She frequently took weekend road trips and would collect stickers, pins, souvenirs, or other products to bring memories of the trip home.

Early on, she noticed that many of the designs were low quality or did not accurately capture the place and landmarks she was visiting. Tran decided

to try her own hand at making these products. A friend organized an event on campus and encouraged Tran to design a few stickers to sell. She invested \$100 into the products and almost quadrupled that initial investment on her first day.

Tran realized that she could differentiate herself by doing things in a new, creative, and inspiring way. With high-quality designs and a full line of products, her work strikes a unique chord with customers.

Because the designs serve the purpose of connecting people to the memories of the experiences they have outside, she travels to every landmark that she draws inspiration from. Designing based on the experiences and feelings she has when visiting each landmark is how she connects most with her customers. People are able to resonate with Roaming Heart’s products because of the emotion and passion that Tran pours into her designs.

“Inside all of us is a roaming heart,” Tran said.

— by *Juliet Smock*

# 3. OUTDOOR GEAR



## FUN, AFFORDABLE PICKLEBALL GEAR

Tyler Cichelli, founder of Voodoo Pickleball and a business student at the University of Utah, is making the game more fun and affordable for all players.

Cichelli's vision took off when he and his buddies got into pickleball and couldn't find any fun paddles. Everything they found for sale was expensive, and all the options looked very similar. Cichelli likes to stand out on the court, so making his own unique paddles just made sense.

Voodoo Pickleball focuses on recreational players rather than just competitive players. Voodoo stands out by creating paddles with exceptional design and performance, all while maintaining an affordable price point.

Cichelli is most proud of Voodoo's launch. "Launching was huge," he said. "We did a lot of social media promotion and giveaways, and our website is up and running."

He has big plans for the future. "I want to get out products into big retail stores like Dicks Sporting Goods and Scheels," he

said. "I also want to partner with other brands and create collab paddles. There are some things in the works that customers should be excited for."

Cichelli grew his business through the Lassonde Founders program at the University of Utah's Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute. The residential-entrepreneur program is open to all undergraduate students at the University of Utah. Those admitted receive a scholarship to launch businesses and live together at Lassonde Studios.

What Cichelli found to be the most beneficial part of the Lassonde Founders program was the mentorship and role models provided to him. Receiving support in areas such as marketing strategies, scaling, product development, and every stage of brand building has been incredibly valuable, he said. Moving forward, Cichelli is eager to grow in size of his business.



Jillian Hall

## THE FUTURE OF BACKCOUNTRY SKI BINDINGS

The future of backcountry snowboarding may hinge on a breakthrough binding system developed by University of Utah mechanical engineering seniors and their startup, Queen SNOWWORKS.

“Experienced backcountry snowboarders know the unique challenges we face compared to skiers,” said founder Logan Queen. “The gear often holds us back. That’s why we set out to change the experience.”

At the center of Queen SNOWWORKS innovation is the first hardboot-specific binding for splitboards that allows riders to transition from climbing mode to downhill mode in just 25 seconds, and at nearly half the weight of existing setups.

The system is designed specifically for splitboards, the go-to tool for snowboarders exploring beyond resort boundaries. With the Queen SNOWWORKS binding, riders ascend efficiently in uphill mode, then switch to downhill-snowboard mode without fumbling through time-consuming gear adjustments. “With our binding, you no longer have to compromise,” said founding partner Zack Lemieux. “It’s built to perform equally going up and

going down.” This is the first time a splitboard binding has been optimized for uphill travel, where you spend most of your time in the backcountry.

The startup, founded by Queen and Lemieux with teammates Will Crump, Jesse Kennedy, and Will Connors, began as their senior capstone project but has quickly grown into something bigger. Their motto, “backcountry gear, zero compromise,” reflects a mission to open new possibilities for snowboarders who have long felt limited by equipment.

Looking ahead, the founders believe their technology can spark a broader cultural shift. “We want to remove barriers,” Queen said. “Snowboarders deserve gear that supports their adventures instead of limiting them. That’s what we are building.”

— by Jillian Hall



Sarah Hoare

## SELF-EXPRESSION THROUGH SKI GEAR

Canyon Sargent, a senior multi-disciplinary design student at the University of Utah, is creating a new niche in the ski equipment industry. He is the founder of Shifties, a startup that is opening the door to greater self-expression on the slopes.

Growing up around the Cottonwood Canyons, skiing has always been a big part of Sargent's life. The idea for Shifties was sparked while he was teaching kids lessons at Snowbird. When one of his students started bringing a shark helmet, which then became his identifying feature, Sargent noticed the underdeveloped area of self-expression in ski gear.

Shifties allows skiers to modify the look of their goggles with numerous different designs, using durable vinyl stickers that retain visibility and enhance expression.

Sargent attributes his success largely to the Doman Innovation Studio, which has helped him build the skills and network that have been crucial to his success. The Doman Innovation Studio is a business incubator on campus that

provides mentorship and community to aid students in bringing their startups to a higher level, helping them tackle their most prominent challenges. Sargent's participation in this program also contributes credits toward his degree.

Recently having started this endeavor, Sargent says his biggest accomplishment so far has been getting the opportunity to go to China and work with manufacturers to develop the first sample of his goggles. Currently, Shifties is selling original goggles and two types of designs — one cut to fit the Shifties goggles, and one that can be cut to fit any brand.

Looking towards the future, Sargent has already started working on his next version to get into the market. His biggest goals are to work with the University of Utah ski team and maybe even someday with the U.S. Olympic team to brand the athletes' goggles.

— by Sarah Hoare



## RAISING A GENERATION OF CURIOUS EATERS

“We believe that every child is born with the ability to love food,” said Dr. Bonnie Feola. A pediatrician and certified chef, she recognized a gap in how we talk about feeding children. She is the founder of Nibbles and Sprouts, a pediatric culinary medicine practice that she grew in the Master of Business Creation program.

“After selling my pediatric practice, I had time to reflect on what I had to offer families,” she said. “I kept coming back to the kitchen table. Parents are frustrated, overwhelmed, or feeling judged when it comes to feeding their children. Food is so important, food is fuel, but it’s so much more — it’s connection, joy, love, and confidence.”

She earned her undergraduate degree from Brown University, attended medical school at Baylor College of Medicine, and completed her pediatric internship and residency at Texas Children’s Hospital. Later, Dr. Bonnie earned certification in culinary medicine coaching and trained to become a chef.

With her rare combination of medical and culinary expertise, Dr. Bonnie created Nibbles and Sprouts.

“We guide food-curious parents who want more than a quick fix for picky eating,” said Dr. Bonnie. At the heart of Nibbles and

Sprouts is “taste literacy,” the foundational skillset that helps children grow into confident, curious eaters.

“If you think about how you teach a child to read, you start with the ABCs, the letters get put into words, the words get put into sentences, the sentences get put into stories, and then you have comprehension. Teaching a child to appreciate, enjoy, and feel confident around food is how we build the foundation of food literacy,” Dr. Bonnie said.

These insights are already shifting the conversation around feeding. Dr. Bonnie said that the most meaningful part of starting this company has been when a parent tells her, “You made me feel like I wasn’t doing it all wrong.” That, she explained, is what this work is truly about: helping parents feel seen, capable, and hopeful again. Through Nibbles and Sprouts, Dr. Bonnie is changing how families approach feeding, one curious eater at a time.

— by Sara Hakes



## A SOCIAL AND INCLUSIVE GYM EXPERIENCE

Denisse Martinez, a biology student at the University of Utah, has a vision for making the average gym experience more social and inclusive, and she is pursuing it with her startup, Alchemist.

Martinez found that in a typical gym experience there can be a lack of member engagement, feelings of intimidation, low motivation, and limited access to healthy food options. Alchemist will help break the cycle of a transactional gym experience by focusing on building community, reaching health goals, and conquering fears around the gym experience.

“Some people need a side space in the gym where there are fewer people to be able to build confidence to be in the bigger spaces,” Martinez said. “I found that a lot of older people feel intimidated in big spaces with lots of young people; they feel

like they don’t belong. I want to create a welcoming and diverse space for all.”

Alchemist will also focus on creating a place where people can hang out and spend time when they are not working out. Martinez envisions a place where instead of talking over machines and taking up space, friends can go to an area created for homework, lunch, and conversation. She also hopes to include immersive experiences, like screens simulating exercise between red rocks and a body-positive photo room, to motivate people to come back.

“In most gyms, there’s no encouragement to take photos; people film their progress in the mirrors but are quick to turn off the camera when someone walks by,” Martinez said, “I don’t want that. I want people to be proud — take that picture! Post it, be motivated, and see how far you have come.”



Tom Glasmann

## A DRINK SUPPLEMENT FOR ATHLETES

Meet Christian Holmes and Hayden Earl, the founders of 3rd Life Health, a company developing a convenient drink supplement for athletes.

They describe their products as an Alka-Seltzer-style pre-workout tablet you can throw into a drink, and it mixes itself up. It comes in a compact sleeve and makes the whole process convenient and easy.

Both Holmes and Earl are athletes, with Holmes being a former Division 1 athlete, and Earl having played competitive soccer. They understand and value athletics and the drive that many feel when chasing their goals and pushing their limits.

Holmes is a finance major at the University of Utah. Earl studied entrepreneurship and marketing at Utah State University.

Their business is centered around performance-boosting in a healthy and safe way. Both Holmes and Earl recognize the demand and public interest in energy drinks and energy-boosting supplements like pre-workout.

Pre-workout supplements most commonly come in large jugs filled with powder that you mix and then drink. Holmes and Earl disliked this option and found the large powder jugs to be a hassle and an obstacle. Above all, they want to achieve convenience without losing the effectiveness present in the usual “scoop and stir” method.

Additionally, they want their product to stand out by being healthier than the alternatives, focusing on the nutrients that push you to improvement and recovery. They have worked extensively to learn about what specific ingredients do and how they interact in order to cut out the “fluff” and deliver a product that isn’t full of unnecessary chemicals.

In their efforts, the duo are self-starters. They are researching, learning, making mistakes, noticing the bogus, and figuring out what works and is scientifically backed. If something goes wrong, they pivot and try again.

— by Tom Glasmann



## SAFE & EFFECTIVE HORMONE SUPPORT

As the founder of Theramone Health™, Dr. Lawry Han, known as Dr. H, is leveraging his decades of scientific research, dating back to his Ph.D. work at the University of Utah, to pioneer a new era in the important area of personal hormone balance. He uses safe, natural, effective products that work in harmony with the body’s own processes.

“Modern lifestyles have disrupted this human hormone balance, leading to challenges like weight gain, poor sleep, and over-reliance on medications with serious side effects,” Dr. H said. “At Theramone, the goal is to provide safe, natural, and effective solutions that work with the body, not against it.”

He is on a mission with Theramone to improve health and happiness through innovative, natural solutions. He grew the business in the Master of Business Creation program at the University of Utah’s David Eccles School of Business.

Theramone’s flagship product, MonaLean™, takes on the company’s mission to restore natural hormone balance. Derived from Dr.

H’s knowledge of traditional Chinese medicines and their holistic approach to health, MonaLean™ is a plant-based, clinically studied product that uses patent-pending GLP-1 signaling technology.

“Most weight-loss solutions rely on synthetic interventions, which can come with severe side effects,” Dr. H said. “MonaLean™ is different. It mimics the body’s natural hormone signaling to achieve sustainable, side-effect-free results.”

Specifically, it naturally stimulates the body’s GLP-1 hormone signaling, which is well-known for glucose control, cravings control, and body fat loss. Study results of MonaLean™ have been encouraging, too: in one 12-week human study, participants saw an average of 8 pounds of weight loss and 19% body fat reduction, all while keeping muscle mass intact.

With his vision, expertise, and commitment, Dr. H aims to take his company to the forefront of the growing market for safe and natural health solutions.

— by Topher Lloyd

# 5. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



## AI TOOL FOR INJURY PREVENTION

Spencer Marx, a math student at the University of Utah, and partner Nathaniel Fargo, an electrical engineering and physics student, are the founders of Aloe, and they are currently focused on building a device to prevent rotator cuff injuries.

“We built a compact handheld ultrasound device and then incorporated AI to interpret images that would allow people with rotator cuff injuries to monitor the process of their rehabilitation,” Marx said. “Automating the process allows people to use it at home, increasing the amount of ultrasound data they have access to.”

The technology uses advanced ultrasound solutions to create full resolution images of what’s on the inside, with algorithms developed to guide and monitor the scanning process over the

body. This procedure is non-invasive, can be done anywhere, and uses novel hydrogels to replace the use of traditional slimy ultrasound gels. Once images are acquired, they are securely transferred to Aloe’s cloud, where they will undergo AI analysis using one of the largest AI ultrasound models in the world. This process will return key results, and privately share trends, warnings, and other key health and statistical data to the user.

Due to the severity of rotator cuff and shoulder injuries the Aloe team hopes the device can be used in sports medicine and prescribed at a low cost to prevent further injuries. The Aloe device’s at-home portability will increase accessibility for people.



Jillian Hall

# AI STRATEGIES FOR HYDROPOWER

Maryam Baghkarvasef’s research lies at the intersection of artificial intelligence, energy systems, and climate resilience. As a Ph.D. candidate in electrical and computer engineering, her recent work focuses on applying AI and optimization techniques to hydropower modeling and scheduling, an area that is becoming increasingly critical as extreme weather events grow more frequent and severe.

Hydropower is a clean and renewable energy source, yet its operation is inherently dependent on water availability. During prolonged heatwaves, rising temperatures increase evaporation in reservoirs, alter precipitation patterns, and disrupt inflows. At the same time, electricity demand surges as air conditioning use spikes, often driving sharp increases in market prices. Together, these pressures can strain hydropower systems and limit water availability when it is needed most.

To address this challenge, Baghkarvasef has developed advanced machine learning and deep learning models that forecast key variables such as precipitation, evaporation, reservoir inflows, power demand, and market prices. These tools allow hydropower operators to anticipate extreme events,

store water more strategically, and better prepare to meet peak electricity demand while maintaining system reliability.

Her work has already moved beyond theory into practice. As an intern at Grid Elevated, a startup affiliated with the University of Utah, she collaborates directly with utility partners in Utah, an effort that enriches her research by grounding it in operational realities. Baghkarvasef has published three papers on this research, two journal articles and one conference paper, in highly reputable venues, and her work has received significant international attention within the energy systems and AI research communities.

Looking ahead, Baghkarvasef’s goal is clear: she wants the AI-driven models she builds to be actively used by hydropower operators and energy utilities to prepare for tomorrow’s challenges, whether driven by climate extremes or evolving energy demands. Her research offers a powerful example of how artificial intelligence can strengthen the resilience of critical infrastructure in a changing world.

— by Jillian Hall

## 6. FOOD



### A JOURNEY FROM PASSION TO PURPOSE

Emily Nichols, an entrepreneur and founder who enrolled in the Master of Business Creation program at the University of Utah, is on a mission to transform how Americans experience chocolate. Her company, Deep Dark Drinking Chocolate, brings the indulgent richness of European style drinking chocolate to a market more familiar with traditional hot cocoa.

Nichols' love for chocolate began during her childhood on a family sabbatical to Switzerland. "I discovered that not all chocolate is created equal," she said. That formative experience inspired her to develop a product that combines her passion for high-quality chocolate with a commitment to creating joy and connection.

Observing that the U.S. market for drinking chocolate was either too like hot cocoa or exclusively for niche chocolate connoisseurs, Nichols created a unique recipe. "I started experimenting with my own recipes and realized the drinking chocolate I

dreamed of didn't exist in the U.S., so I decided to make it myself," she said. "I wanted it to appeal to casual chocolate lovers while satisfying the serious enthusiasts."

Unlike hot cocoa, which is often made from cocoa powder and sugar, Nichols' drinking chocolate features premium dark chocolate as its main ingredient. "It's a thick, velvety brew, like what you'd find in Italian cafes or with churros in Spain," she said.

For Nichols, Deep Dark Drinking Chocolate is more than a product — it's a way to create connections. "It's amazing to hear customers share memories my product brings back," she said. "One person said it reminded them of their childhood in Bolivia. It's those moments that make this worthwhile."

Beyond creating joy, Nichols is dedicated to making a positive impact. For every bag sold, her company supports a charity in Ghana that provides food and education for at-risk children.

— by Jillian Hall



Mila Pimentel

### ZERO-SUGAR, LOW-CALORIE ENERGY DRINK

When most people think of energy drinks, they picture a jittery caffeine overload in a neon can. But one University of Utah student is flipping the script with a product designed for the everyday person — not just the extreme sports crowd.

Meet No Consequence, a zero-sugar, low-calorie, and moderately caffeinated energy drink founded by student entrepreneur Braeden Riley, who launched the company as a spinoff of his original business, Homebrew. What began as a brainstorm on a long drive home has turned into a growing campus favorite.

"I wanted to create a better zero-sugar energy drink," Riley said. "The ones out there either taste bad or have so much caffeine that it hits you like a freight train."

No Consequence aims to change that. With just 116 milligrams of caffeine (less than most energy drinks but more than a cup of coffee) and a blend of B vitamins and taurine to ease the

crash, it offers a smoother, more accessible experience.

That accessibility is by design. "Big energy drink brands focus on extreme lifestyles — boxing matches, racing, skydiving," Riley explained. "We're trying to focus on the people who just need a little boost to get through the day. That's why our tagline is 'Energy for Everyone.'"

When asked about his long-term vision, he stays grounded. "Sure, it'd be great to scale — to be in 7-Eleven, to have a warehouse, to roll out new flavors. But what really drives me is when someone tells me, 'Hey, this product helped me get through my day.' That's what keeps me going."

Next on the horizon? New retail locations, new flavors, and continued growth both on and off campus. And while caffeine might not be for everyone, this startup's philosophy definitely is.

— by Mila Pimentel

# 7. COMMUNITY



Jillian Hall

## COMMUNITY CARE THROUGH ART EDUCATION

Matthew Brasher is an art educator whose work sits at the intersection of creativity, community, and care. A December 2025 graduate of the University of Utah with a BFA in art teaching, Brasher distinguished himself early through both academic excellence and meaningful public engagement. His work reflects a deep commitment to making art accessible, purposeful, and responsive to the needs of diverse communities.

Brasher's practice is rooted in the belief that art is not only expressive, but restorative. As an intern with the Community Arts Research and Education (CARE) Program, he developed and led arts programming across a wide range of settings, with a particular focus on the aging population.

"For me, teaching art is about meeting people where they are, honoring what they bring into the room, and helping them explore accessible means of self-expression through the process of artmaking," he said.

His work has included facilitating creative workshops for adults with Parkinson's disease at the University of Utah's

Parkinson's Center for Excellence, unsheltered adults receiving hospice care at The INN Between, and individuals recovering from stroke, traumatic brain injury, and other physical injuries at the Craig H. Nielsen Rehabilitation Hospital. In each environment, Brasher approaches teaching with empathy and flexibility, adapting art practices to meet participants where they are physically and emotionally.

Now serving as the Artist in Residence at the Craig H. Nielsen Rehabilitation Hospital, Brasher continues to expand the role of art in clinical and community settings. His innovative approach demonstrates how art education can meaningfully support healing, quality of life, and human connection across populations often underserved by traditional creative spaces.

— by Jillian Hall



## A JOURNEY FROM FAN TO FOUNDER

When it comes to Skyler Sorenson, college football has always been so much more than just a sport. It has been a source of hope, energy and purpose. He took that passion and created Field Rush, a college football media brand built around news, updates and personal takes on games, all delivered in an upbeat and energetic style.

Sorenson graduated in fall 2025 with a degree in entrepreneurship. He started Field Rush in his freshman year after going through a very difficult time. "I had this insatiable desire for something fulfilling in my life" he said. What he didn't know was that what he was searching for would be something he would create.

Sports have always felt like therapy to Sorenson, a

place where his problems would fade away. He wanted to create something that would give others that same feeling.

"Rush That Damn Field" is the brand's slogan. For Sorenson, it is about chasing your goals, taking risks and going after what you want with everything you have in you.

Field Rush has grown consistently over the past three years due to the work Sorenson and his four teammates — Ajay, Alex, Brennan, and Kyle — have put in. This year, they began generating income and are expanding with a new college basketball branch called Court Rush, with many big goals ahead.

— by Mya Oetinger



## BUILDING WITH PURPOSE

For Steward Land Company, development is more than building houses, it's about shaping the lives within them. Mormon Redd joined real estate developers Sky Hazlehurst and Brad Brown to build Steward Land Company after discovering their shared passion for elevating people's lives through what they created.

"Steward Land Company is on a mission to set a new standard — what we call conscientious development," Redd said. "We want to build communities with character by understanding the people who will live there, the city officials who guide policy, and the culture of each neighborhood."

Redd enrolled in the Master of Business Creation program at the University of Utah to sharpen his skills and enable the company to achieve their vision and address Utah's housing challenges.

Developers usually push cities to allow the highest possible building density, while cities push back because they're trying to protect their limited resources, such as available land, water supply, school capacity, and utility

infrastructure. The result is rows of homes that all look the same.

"I think those kinds of developments lack humanity," Redd said. "They take away from the character of the community, and they still lock out the 40,000 home buyers in Utah who can't afford a home right now."

Steward Land Company takes a different approach. They start by researching the character of the community and really understanding the city's priorities and concerns. Next, they get creative with innovative solutions, many of which have been tested and proven in different parts of the country but are not yet widely adopted, and try to work hand-in-hand with city officials to create the ideal "win-win-win" solution.

This gives the city a development they can be proud of, and one that reflects their community values. It also ideally allows for more efficient land-use.

Their goal isn't just to make development a more honest and collaborative process, but to shape the lives of future homeowners.

— by Sara Hakes



Zita Lulloff

## FUELING CAMPUS WITH LOCAL OPTIONS

What started with a simple game of pool has now become a company focused on connecting local businesses with the University of Utah community.

Students Kaleb Begg and Aiden Alringer met during the first week of school while playing pool at Lassonde Studios, a student innovation space and residence. With both students having a yearning to make campus life better, they had the idea for Campus Connect.

Campus Connect is a student-run company that finds the gaps in the university's dining experience and fills them with local solutions. Alringer and Begg do the behind-the-scenes work to bring new vendors to campus. "It supports local students and the surrounding community," Begg said.

Their inspiration was born from their own struggles as students. Unable to find healthy and sustainable food options on campus, they were determined to make a change.

When starting this company, they had to become familiar with the Utah dining scene. They contacted Chartwells, the

university's dining company. "We navigated the entire process from scratch — including learning how Chartwells functions and finding a way to collaborate rather than compete," Begg said.

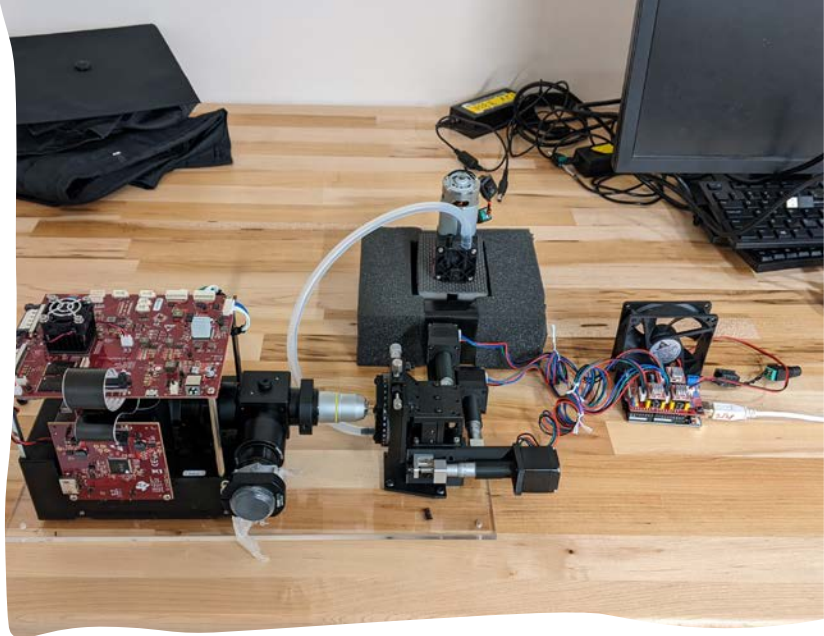
Their first product and collaboration launched fall 2025 with Mamachari Kombucha, a local Kombucha brand.

One of their most significant values as a company is their collaboration. "It's unbelievably helpful to find a business partner through Lassonde," Alringer said. "They can fill in the skills you don't have, and when you find the right person, you can endure the hard times and find success."

Balancing academics, a social life, and a startup isn't easy, but both agree that it is worth it. Their advice for others looking to start a business is simple: Go to networking meetings. Go to Lassonde events. Talk to people.

— by Zita Lulloff

# 8. TECHNOLOGY



## STREAMLINING RENTER COMMUNICATIONS

University of Utah computer science students Rishen Cao, Quinn Pritchett, Mel Umble, and Eric Zhuo are streamlining renter communications with their app, Roof. The app connects landlords and renters to streamline payments, maintenance requests, and other communications.

The idea came from Umble's frustrations with her own landlord.

"I would have super long text message threads, and I wasn't able to communicate effectively with him," Umble said.

Roof solves that problem by consolidating all communications in one place. The app allows renters to submit maintenance requests, view their rental documents, and talk to their landlord. There are also community features to enhance roommate relations, allowing roommates to post chore charts and other similar items.

The app started as a capstone project, but the

team has seen the potential to take Roof even further. They have a fully developed app, and they are putting the final touches on it before its official launch.

"Getting the app on the app store would be a great achievement for a team coming out of a capstone project," Pritchett said. "It shows that we can do more than the 80% required for the course — the last 20% is the majority of the work."

Their ultimate goal is to get the app onto the app store and start generating revenue.

"We're looking into putting together a business-model," Zhuo said. "It's a challenge, because none of our background are too business-centered, but that's one of the next steps."

Looking forward, the team is thinking of new ideas and features to add to the app, including the possibility of a subscription model with premium features.

## CHANGING FUTURE CHIP FABRICATION

While finishing a degree in chemical engineering with a minor in math at the University of Utah, John Peterson pursued a fascination with photolithography and launched the Quasi Stepper, a project that aims to make possible the creation of micro- and nanometer-scale patterns essential for fabricating components used in chips and other advanced devices.

With a personal fascination for photolithography, Peterson started the Quasi Stepper as a personal project and turned it into a reality with help from the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute, senior capstone project funding, and the group Hacker Fab.

"In the advanced manufacturing world, there is a need for the ability to manufacture really small scales," Peterson said. "We see this in how they make the chips inside our phones. The technique used to do that is photolithography. In traditional machining you're down in millimeter, sometimes micrometer range, but with

photolithography, you're in the single digit micrometer, sometimes nanometer range."

Photolithography is something that has interested Peterson since he watched a video about it on YouTube. He wanted to try and make a device that would not be as expensive as lab photolithography devices, which can start around \$150,000.

"My device is called the Quasi Stepper, and it's based on an open-source project by a group called Hacker Fab," he said. "The device is an affordable photolithography device targeted towards startups, small-scale research teams, and individual researchers who can't afford traditional photolithography tools. The Quasi Stepper uses light and a light-sensitive chemical to create patterns and shrink them. Using that, people are able to machine at a scale far smaller than you can otherwise."

Peterson has worked on his device for more than 600 hours, and he hopes it will help people who could use it.

# 9. ENTERTAINMENT



Mila Pimentel

## ‘BETWEEN THE LINES OF VILLAINY’: A NEW NOVEL

When Lórien Briscoe started writing stories at just four years old, she never imagined that her childhood hobby would turn into a business. Now a film and media arts student at the University of Utah (plus five minors and a certificate in criminology and sociology) Briscoe has built a creative enterprise around her love of writing and storytelling.

“I’ve always loved to write,” she said. “When I was 4, I found an old Lego Ninjago fan fiction I had written. That’s how far back it goes.”

That early spark of creativity has grown into something much bigger. By the time Briscoe was twelve, she was attending Teen Author Bootcamp (now called StoryCon), a Utah-based writing conference. She attended the event for seven years, learning skills in writing, worldbuilding, and publishing processes — skills that quickly came in handy in her life.

At 15, Briscoe self-published her first novel, an urban fantasy titled “Magic’s Escape: Wingless.” The story follows twin siblings who are kidnapped by their abusive mother, only for one of them to be drawn into a world of magic, clans, and survival. Briscoe describes the plot as “a dual-arc fantasy that is focused on family.”

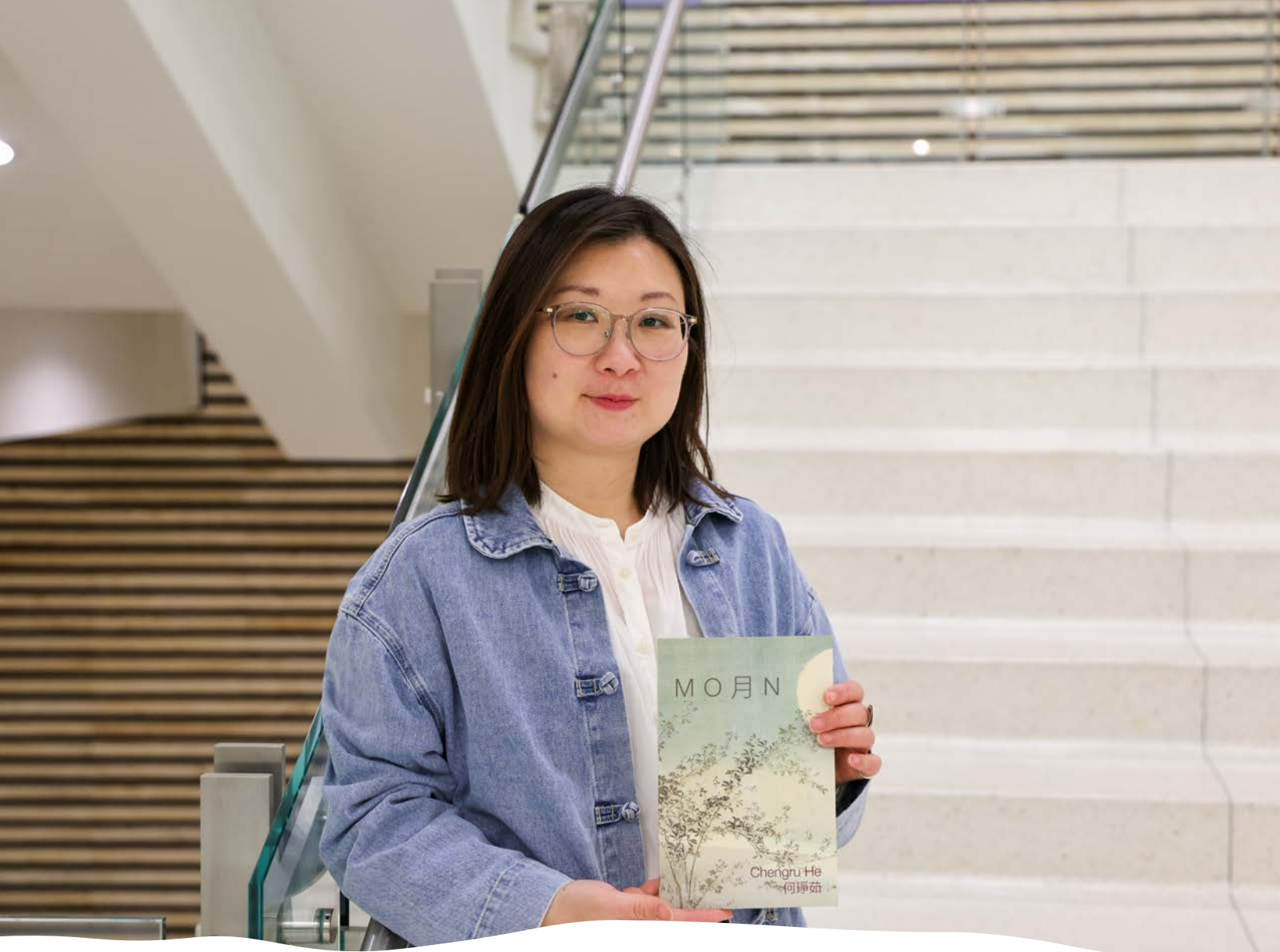
Unlike many young adult fantasy novels, “Magic’s Escape” stands out for what it does not include: romance. “I’ve read hundreds of fantasy books, and every single one had romance,” Briscoe explained. “There’s nothing wrong with that, but I wanted to explore stories that focused on survival, family, and resilience.”

Briscoe’s current project is a standalone fantasy novel originally titled “Between the Lines of Villainy.”

“It’s a villain origin story,” she said. “A dystopia disguised as a utopia, where a hero has to become a villain to save her stagnant society. It asks the question, is conflict necessary for advancement?”

Briscoe’s experience shows more than just creativity; it also shows entrepreneurship. From learning how to self-publish at a young age to leveraging her internship with ABC4’s “Good Things Utah” for media exposure, she has built her brand from the ground up.

— by Mila Pimentel



Jillian Hall

## THE POETICS OF TRANSLATION

Chengru He is developing a poetry project that reframes translation not as a secondary or derivative act, but as a central creative and feminist practice. She describes the work as “a book-length creative translation project that rethinks literary canons in a multilingual context from a feministic perspective,” grounded in lived, transcultural experience rather than allegiance to a single literary tradition. Working bilingually and multilingually, He approaches poetry as a site where language, history, and power converge, and where those forces can be actively reimagined.

At the heart of the project are questions that are both literary and political: how might Li Bai and Wang Wei exist in a contemporary multilingual world? Where does Su Hui stand if her woven texts are allowed to speak beyond conventional language? By posing these questions, He challenges fixed notions of canon, authorship, and fidelity, instead treating

translation as an expansive space of interpretation, variation, and agency.

Her work situates poetry firmly within present-day conditions shaped by financial instability and environmental crisis, refusing to isolate art from the realities that surround it. At the same time, the project plans to push the poetic form outward using found texts, documentary poetics, experimental structures, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Poetry becomes not only literary, but also visual, historical, typographic, and linguistic.

Built over several years, the project is deeply personal and unmistakably He’s own. Notably, she has already begun bringing its questions and methods into the creative writing classroom, inviting students to engage directly with translation as a living, generative, and critical practice.

—by Jillian Hall



## UDON UNCAGED

Inside a giant rolling ball, a hamster is making a break for freedom.

That's the premise behind Udon Uncaged, a larger-than-life alternative control game created by a team of students from the Division of Games at the University of Utah. Instead of using a joystick, players power the action themselves by climbing inside a human-sized hamster ball mounted on a custom treadmill.

The goal is to escape a child's bedroom. Players roll, sprint and dodge obstacles as their on-screen hamster barrels out of its cage, across the room and toward an open window. What started as a straightforward homage to a childhood favorite grew into something far more ambitious — and considerably more physical.

The team's biggest challenge wasn't game design. It was hardware.

Building a system durable, portable, and affordable enough to withstand kids, college students and full-grown adults running at full speed required serious

trial and error. The Zorb ball wasn't built to spin in place; its natural instinct was to roll downhill. Restricting it to roll in only one direction forced the team to rethink how players would start, stop and navigate obstacles.

Through all of it, one rule held firm: the gameplay could never ruin the joy of being in the ball.

With 13 people splitting attention between hardware and digital development, the project became a constant negotiation between physical engineering and gameplay design. The result is an accessible, crowd-drawing experience that's just as entertaining to watch as it is to play.

The team is taking their game to the Game Developers Conference in San Francisco, where Udon Uncaged will put its rolling controller in front of the industry's biggest names.

Sometimes innovation means thinking outside the box. Sometimes it means climbing inside one.



Zita Lulloff

## KINETIC DESKTOP STRUCTURES

Do you ever spend your day sitting at a desk and fidgeting with every possible thing? Daniel Hallman, a mathematics Ph.D. student at the University of Utah, has a solution. Utilizing his background in electrical engineering, he created Strobilos, a line of mesmerizing, kinetic desktop sculptures that give your brain something better to focus on.

Strobilos, a Greek word meaning a "twisted or spiraling object," is the perfect name for Hallman's company. These desktop sculptures rotate in such a way that they create smooth, hypnotic illusions, like springs within springs or curves that seem to fold into themselves.

Since he was young, Hallman has always been into mechanical things, whether it be watches, fidget spinners, or desk toys. But the idea for Strobilos really took off when he was deep into his Ph.D. program and realized he needed something else to focus on.

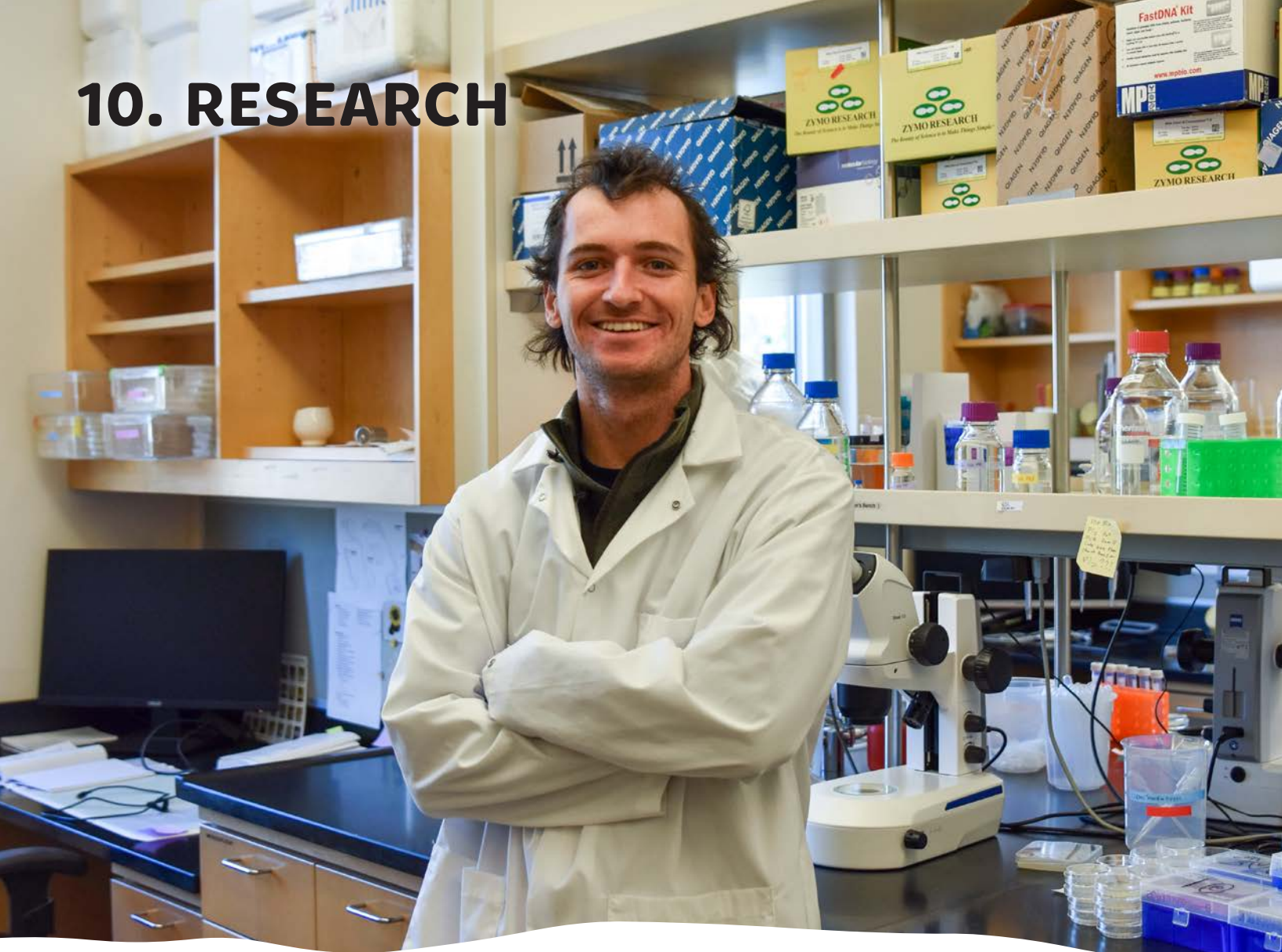
"I thought that I should try and figure out something other than math stuff," he said.

That moment of burnout led to exploration. A YouTube short about a drill cutting triangular holes (instead of round ones) sent him down a rabbit hole of geometry and rotational motion. The design concepts came first, and then the prototyping began, with heavy use of Desmos, the graphing software he uses to play with curves. "I'm going to work with AI to design my own software to design them in more crazy ways," he said.

When asked who Strobilos is for, Hallman kept it simple: "People like myself. A lot of white-collar workers who sit at a desk all day. It's something fun to look at." He sees it as more than just a toy — it's an escape from digital overload. "It's not a screen. You can stare at something that's not a screen for once."

— by Zita Lulloff

# 10. RESEARCH



Zita Lulloff

## MICROSCOPIC LIFE IN THE GREAT SALT LAKE

Many would guess that the Great Salt Lake is too salty to support life, but Thomas Murray, a senior biology major at the University of Utah, is studying microscopic worms known as nematodes, one of only three known lineages of animals that inhabit the Great Salt Lake.

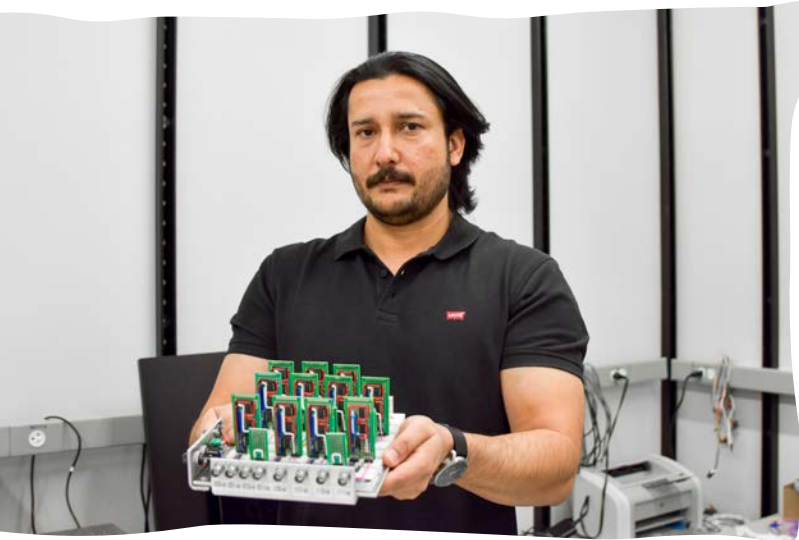
Nematodes are a phylum of animals that are usually about a millimeter in length and only a few micrometers in diameter. They can be found all over the world, from Antarctica to vents in the deep sea. Finding them in the South Arm of the Great Salt Lake was unexpected, however, due to its high salinity of up to 19% in some parts, compared to 3% salinity in the ocean. Murray and his lab have documented that nematodes survive at 14% salinity, which is higher than previously expected.

In 2022, Murray joined a lab that investigated these worms. He co-authored a species description paper that was published in 2025 identifying a specific nematode endemic to the lake. After collecting the nematodes, they sequenced a singular

gene to discover its genus. In order to confirm their hypothesis, Murray photographed the specimen while noting its physical traits and measurements. Then, utilizing data from past nematode taxonomists, they compiled similar measurement averages and compared them. They confirmed their genus based on the gene sequence analysis and characteristics key. Finally, they looked at the genus and found all of the described species and compared the measurements.

The lab is currently culturing the worms and sequencing their full genomes to understand how they survive in extreme salt conditions and how they interact with and affect the lake's ecosystem. As conversation efforts surrounding the Great Salt Lake grow, Murray's research reveals that even microscopic life plays an important role in understanding and protecting this unique environment.

— by Zita Lulloff



Zita Luloff

## HANDS-ON QUANTUM COMPUTING RESEARCH

Hassam Ghazali's passion for quantum computer emulators began at a young age, when he would get a new toy, not play with it, but "take it apart and try to put it back together." He learned to use pliers and screwdrivers at a young age and was constantly surrounded by them. By sixth grade, he had built his first remote-controlled boat, and by ninth grade, his first remote-controlled aircraft. If anything at home broke, such as appliances or bikes, Ghazali was eager to fix or modify it, a process that felt more like a hobby than work.

Recognizing this passion, he earned a degree in engineering physics in Pakistan before pursuing a Ph.D. in physics at the University of Utah. When deciding which lab to join, it was important that his lab had a strong hands-on culture. Ghazali joined the Rogachev Lab and found that students were "designing and machining their own parts for their experiments," something that felt very applicable to him.

When funding was cut, they were forced to transition to other research.

They turned to Quantum Computer Emulators, analog hardware systems that represent quantum bits with analog signals and use conventional electronics and lower-cost materials to mimic real quantum computers. What began as a "rainy day" side project soon became their central focus.

During his time in the lab, Ghazali developed the Quantum Circuit Emulator (QCE) Educational Kit. A personal battle with the abstract nature of quantum computing forced Ghazali to create a solution. The kit serves as a "breadboard for quantum circuits," an intuitive, hands-on platform for exploring quantum circuits, much like a traditional breadboard does for teaching electronic circuits. The kit allows users to emulate quantum circuits in a classical, expanded form, making them easier to explore and understand. As Ghazali explains, it "engages your intuition," helping learners develop a deeper grasp of quantum computing concepts through direct experimentation.

— by Zita Luloff



Sarah Hoare

## FIGHTING DISEASE WITH FLIES

Mimi Aziz is a fifth-year graduate student doing research in a genetics lab. Originally from northwest Chicago, she chose to come to the University of Utah because of the incredible genetics department. Her current research involves using fruit flies to understand rare diseases and find treatment options.

Flies share 75% of the same disease-causing genes as humans. This makes them great for studying rare diseases, because it is more likely than not that the disease can be modeled in the flies.

Aziz's work utilizes drug repurposing to treat rare diseases in flies. Drug repurposing is the process of using drugs that have already been approved by the FDA or EMA for a different use than originally intended. One of the many benefits of drug repurposing is that FDA-approved drugs have documented molecular targets. This means that when a drug is found to produce a desired effect, Aziz can then study

the pathway that was manipulated to achieve it.

She is specifically studying a rare neurodevelopmental disorder called PIGA-CDG (Congenital Disorder of Glycosylation). Her research allows her to work within a community of families, clinicians, and other researchers dedicated to understanding and finding solutions for rare diseases. She said that one of the most amazing parts of her work is getting to have this connection that many areas of research don't get, and to witness the impacts of her work.

Aziz performed a drug repurposing screen on a model of PIGA-CDG and has identified some promising therapeutic targets. She is currently preparing a manuscript describing these findings.

She said that this is the best lab possible for her, as it allows her to pursue her passion of studying rare disease genetics.

— by Sarah Hoare



## TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT BLACK HOLE FLARES

When a star drifts too close to a black hole, it can be torn apart in a giant flare called a tidal disruption event, also known as a TDE. University of Utah physics students Coleman Rohde and Gavin Farley have spent the past year teaming up to figure out how powerful these events actually are.

Rohde, a senior double majoring in physics and math, has been improving how scientists estimate the energy released during these flares. Researchers usually use a general method to get a minimum amount of the energy, but some parts had only been looked at separately. Rohde found a way to bring those pieces together into a more concise and clean calculation. He also built an open-source code so other scientists can input their own data and use the updated method. Rohde explained, “I was able to derive corrections which considered all of these extensions to equipartition analysis simultaneously. I then developed an open-source code for this equipartition calculation in hopes that scientists anywhere working on the

energy estimation of transients can download my code from GitHub and use it.”

Farley, who studies physics with a focus on astronomy and astrophysics, focused on a specific TDE called AT 2022wtn that occurred more than 700 million light years away.

Using radio observations from the Very Large Array and the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope, along with Rohde’s code, Farley was able to analyze the outflow produced by AT 2022wtn. Their team was able to estimate various physical properties of the expanding shock wave by modeling the radio emission and applying Rohde’s updated equipartition analysis. The results showed them that the event had produced an unusually powerful outflow compared with many other non-relativistic TDEs, which suggests that some black hole flares may release more energy than earlier estimates had indicated.

— by Mya Oetinger

# RESOURCE DIRECTORY

**ArtsBridge:** An interdisciplinary arts education outreach program. [finearts.utah.edu/arts-ed-interdisciplinary/arts-bridge](https://finearts.utah.edu/arts-ed-interdisciplinary/arts-bridge)

**ArtsForce:** A two-day conference for art students to learn about how to share their creative work. [artsforceutah.com](https://artsforceutah.com)

**Associated Student of the University of Utah (ASUU):** A student-led organization that provides resources and services to students, hosts events and programs, and advocates for students with university administrators. [asuu.utah.edu](https://asuu.utah.edu)

**Bench to Bedside:** A competition for medical, engineering, and business students to collaborate to develop or improve a medical device. [lassonde.utah.edu/b2b](https://lassonde.utah.edu/b2b)

**Bennion Center:** Program with a mission to mobilize people to strengthen communities through learning, scholarship, and advocacy. [bennioncenter.utah.edu](https://bennioncenter.utah.edu)

**Center for Business, Health, and Prosperity:** A platform where faculty, staff, students, and partners advance and engage prosperity science to create capacity for improving life quality around the world. [eccles.utah.edu/center-for-business-health-and-prosperity](https://eccles.utah.edu/center-for-business-health-and-prosperity)

**Center for Community and Cultural Engagement:** Supporting student well-being and success by providing pathways to vibrant community and culture through education and celebration of unique heritage, experiences, and practices. [culture.utah.edu](https://culture.utah.edu)

**Company Launch:** Apply for dedicated office space and customized support at Lassonde Studios through this program. [lassonde.utah.edu/launch](https://lassonde.utah.edu/launch)

**Division of Games:** Interdisciplinary program where students design and develop video games. [games.utah.edu](https://games.utah.edu)

**Eccles Global:** Students engage in worldwide business education that instills the skill set students need to compete internationally with classes taught by Eccles School faculty in classes around the globe. [eccles.link/eccles-global](https://eccles.link/eccles-global)

**Elevate U Program:** Student athletes learn brand management, creative marketing, leadership, and character development. [utahutes.com/elevate](https://utahutes.com/elevate)

**Fintech Center:** Brings together education and industry to accelerate financial and technological innovation that supports students, research, and industry to expand and strengthen the fintech ecosystem. [fintech.utah.edu](https://fintech.utah.edu)

**The Gapp Lab:** A student game-development center for health and education-related video games and apps. [library.med.utah.edu/synapse/gapp](https://library.med.utah.edu/synapse/gapp)

**Get Seeded:** Pitch your business idea to your peers to receive seed funding for your venture. [lassonde.utah.edu/getseeded](https://lassonde.utah.edu/getseeded)

**Global Entrepreneurship Program:** Travel the world while taking classes in entrepreneurship and completing internships in this program from the David Eccles School of Business. [eccles.utah.edu/entp](https://eccles.utah.edu/entp)

**Global Public Health:** Promotes health and medical development, leading to measurable improvements. [globalhealth.utah.edu](https://globalhealth.utah.edu)

**Goff Strategic Leadership Institute:** Committed to developing strategic leaders by engaging with students across campus and the business community to share insights and build practical skills. [goff.utah.edu](https://goff.utah.edu)

**Hinckley Internship Programs:** Internship opportunities are available to students interested in politics. [hinckley.utah.edu](https://hinckley.utah.edu)

**Honors Praxis Labs:** Students work together to find original solutions to problems our society faces, while a faculty mentor guides the work of each group. [honors.utah.edu/praxis-labs](https://honors.utah.edu/praxis-labs)

**Hours with Experts:** Sign up to meet with an expert in fields including law, business, design, and engineering. [lassonde.utah.edu/experts](https://lassonde.utah.edu/experts)

**Impact & Prosperity Epicenter:** The home to a diverse group of students and professionals driven by a shared vision and mission for the betterment of people and the planet. [epicenter.utah.edu](https://epicenter.utah.edu)

**J.W. Marriott, Jr. Institute:** Inspiring students to develop a mindset rooted in hospitality for an experience-driven world. [marriott.utah.edu](https://marriott.utah.edu)

**Kahlert Initiative on Technology:** Prepares students to be digitally literate regardless of degree. [eccles.utah.edu/kahlert](https://eccles.utah.edu/kahlert)

**Lassonde DevLab:** A software incubator and community for University of Utah students building real software and digital product companies. [lassonde.utah.edu/devlab](https://lassonde.utah.edu/devlab)

**Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute:** The hub for student entrepreneurs and innovators at the University of Utah. Its many programs and opportunities are open to all students. [lassonde.utah.edu](https://lassonde.utah.edu)

**Lassonde Founders:** A select community of active undergraduate entrepreneurs who live, create, and launch together while receiving generous support, mentorship, and scholarships. [lassonde.utah.edu/founders](https://lassonde.utah.edu/founders)

**Lassonde New Venture Development Center:** Graduate students are paired with inventors and entrepreneurs for fall and spring semester preparing a business plan. [lassonde.utah.edu/venture](https://lassonde.utah.edu/venture)

**Lassonde Studios:** The home for student entrepreneurs and innovators. All students welcome to live, create, and launch here. [lassonde.utah.edu/studios](https://lassonde.utah.edu/studios)

# RESOURCE DIRECTORY (CONT.)

**Lassonde+X:** An experiential program for all undergraduate students from all backgrounds and majors (the X) to explore and practice entrepreneurship. [lassonde.utah.edu/x](https://lassonde.utah.edu/x)

**Learning Abroad/Global Engagement:** Students participate in hundreds of programs all over the world based on their interests and career goals. [learningabroad.utah.edu](https://learningabroad.utah.edu)

**Make Program:** Learn how to use prototyping tools and see your idea come to life at Lassonde Studios. [lassonde.utah.edu/make](https://lassonde.utah.edu/make)

**Meetups:** Join the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute at a meetup event or host one to meet people and learn about the community. [lassonde.utah.edu/meetups](https://lassonde.utah.edu/meetups)

**New Leadership Academy Fellows Program:** Students receive leadership coaching and learn how to overcome barriers and enact equitable practices within complex institutions. [nla.utah.edu](https://nla.utah.edu)

**Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR):** Students are paired with faculty members and work closely with them in research experiences. [our.utah.edu](https://our.utah.edu)

**Sorenson Impact Institute:** Marshals capital for social good, empowers data-driven programs, breaks down silos across sectors, and equips the next generation of leaders with social purpose. [sorensonimpactinstitute.com](https://sorensonimpactinstitute.com)

**Student Affairs:** Encourages U students to participate in the creation of their own campus culture. [studentaffairs.utah.edu](https://studentaffairs.utah.edu)

**Student Investment Fund:** Get hands-on investment experience in this unique program from the David Eccles School of Business. [advancedinvesting.org/usif](https://advancedinvesting.org/usif)

**Student Leadership and Involvement:** Providing leadership and involvement opportunities. [leadership.utah.edu](https://leadership.utah.edu)

**Sustainable Campus Initiative Fund Program (SCIF):** Innovative and motivated students are awarded grants to team up with a faculty or staff member to bring about sustainable changes for the campus. [sustainability.utah.edu/scif](https://sustainability.utah.edu/scif)

**Tim Draper High School Utah Entrepreneur Challenge:** A statewide business idea competition for all students ages 14-18. Cash and scholarships are available. [lassonde.utah.edu/hsuec](https://lassonde.utah.edu/hsuec)

**Tim Draper Utah Entrepreneur Challenge:** One of the largest business-model competitions in the nation. Students across Utah develop full, comprehensive business models. [lassonde.utah.edu/uec](https://lassonde.utah.edu/uec)

**University Venture Fund:** Students work with entrepreneurs and investors to learn about investments and see how successful companies are managed. [uventurefund.com](https://uventurefund.com)

**Utah Real Estate Challenge:** Real-estate development competition for undergraduate and graduate students throughout Utah. [eccles.utah.edu/ivory-boyer-real-estate-center/utah-real-estate-challenge](https://eccles.utah.edu/ivory-boyer-real-estate-center/utah-real-estate-challenge)

**Utah Summer Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR):** Provides undergrad students with an intensive 10-week research experience under the mentorship of a faculty member. [our.utah.edu/spur](https://our.utah.edu/spur)

**Wilkes Center for Climate Change:** Provides students with transformative, integrative, and cutting-edge science, education, entrepreneurship, and practical solutions to tackle climate change in Utah, the United States, and the globe. [wilkescenter.utah.edu](https://wilkescenter.utah.edu)

**Workshops:** Attend regular workshops at the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute to learn new skills. [lassonde.utah.edu/workshops](https://lassonde.utah.edu/workshops)

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**Submit a Listing:** Do you want to add a listing to this resource directory? We want to hear from you. Email us at [lassonde@utah.edu](mailto:lassonde@utah.edu).

