



Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters

Fall Award Night

November 8th, 2019

Brigham Young University

Awards Program

President’s Welcome Rachel Keller
Recognition of Retiring & Incoming Officers

Musical Number Union Universal
Snow College

Presentation of Best Paper Awards Rachel Keller
And Division Chairs

Presentation of Academy Fellow Rachel Keller

Recipient: Doran Baker – Utah State University – Former UASAL board

Presentation of Honorary Member Daniel Poole

Recipient: David L. Buhler – University of Utah - Former Commissioner of Higher Education 2012-2019

Keynote Address David L. Buhler
“The Higher Education Dichotomy”

**Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters
Outstanding Paper Awards 2019**

Art

“Rethinking the Ecology of Islamic Geometric Ornament”

Barry Wood – Dixie State University

Biological Sciences

“Analysis of Four Plant Organellar tRNA genes: Further Evidence of Gene Transfer”

William D. Speer – Salt Lake Community College

Business

“Comparative Job Satisfaction and its Determinants in the U.S. Western Europe, and Nordic Countries”

Jonathan H. Westover – Utah Valley University

Jace Johnson – Utah Valley University

Colton B. Harris – Utah Valley University

Jake Epley – Utah Valley University

Blaine Dudgeon – Utah Valley University

Engineering

“A Simple Approach to Evaluate Thermal Conductivity of Solids”

Lloyd Stephens – Southern Utah University

Reece Alvarado – Southern Utah University

Austin Becker – Southern Utah University

Ali S. Siahpush – Southern Utah University

Kinesiology and Health Science

“The Effects of a University Stress Relief Center on Perceived and Physiological Measures of Stress”

Ryan Davis – Colonial Heights School

Shirley Dawson – Weber State University

Michael Olpin – Weber State University

Alex Jensen – Idaho State University

Social Science

“Survey of First Experience of Sexual Intercourse: Revisited”

Mackenzie Hughes – Salt Lake Community College

CoCo James – University of Utah

Spencer Blake – Salt Lake Community College

Doran Baker

Dr. Doran Baker is Full Professor in the Electrical & Computer Engineering Department at Utah State University of Agriculture & Applied Science. He is Co-Founder & Co-Director of the Rocky Mountain NASA Space Grant Consortium. Dr. Baker is serving as major professor &/or prime sponsor for 17 PhD students & numerous MS or MA students, & has been instrumental in the financial/program support of an additional hundred PhD & MS/MA students. He founded the space research program at Utah State University that has endured for decades & earned both national & international renown. He continues to develop a systems engineering & space instrumentation course sequences to help NASA & her contractors to meet workforce needs in areas that have become critical. He has authored a dozen books & hundreds of professional publications. Finally, Dr. Baker has been an essential part of the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters from 2011 to 2019, serving as the Engineering Division Chair. His years of service and commitment to the Utah Academy are deeply appreciated. He has been a wonderful friend and colleague over the years, and we are excited to honor him tonight.

David L. Buhler

The Utah State Board of Regents named David L. Buhler as the eighth Commissioner of Higher Education in 2012. Commissioner Buhler came to this position with a long history of service in higher education, state and local government, and business. For nearly twelve years prior to his appointment, Commissioner Buhler served as Associate Commissioner for Public Affairs with responsibility for government and media relations and overseeing the system's strategic priority of participation and outreach. He also served as Interim Commissioner for eight months in 2008. Commissioner Buhler taught as an Adjunct Professor of Political Science at the University of Utah from 1990 to 2006, and was a member of the University Of Utah Board Of Trustees from 1999 to 2000. Commissioner Buhler served twelve years as an elected official, including two terms as a member of the Salt Lake City Council (2000-2007), and one term as a Utah State Senator (1995-1999). He served eight years in state government including four years as Executive Director of the Utah

Department of Commerce (1989-1992) and as a member of the staff of Governor Norman H. Bangerter (1984-89). A native of Salt Lake City, Dr. Buhler received Bachelor of Science degrees in History and Political Science from the University of Utah, a Master of Public Administration degree from Brigham Young University, and has earned a PhD in Political Science at the University of Utah. He is currently serving as a visiting professor in the Political Science Department at the University of Utah. He is married to the former Lori Goaslind; they are the parents of five children.