

Rebirth - by Nathan Smith - ©2015

IN THIS ISSUE...

UCET Conference News

January is always a crazy month. School starts up again. We hit the ground running with new students and employees. I haven't had much time to work on a newsletter this month, but needed to get some information to you about the upcoming UCET conference to be held April 2-3, 2015, at Herriman High School.

I've been attending the conference as an attendee, presenter, and board member for over a couple of decades now. I am always impressed with the range of conference sessions I can attend. I come away energized after having opportunities to be exposed to new ideas, learn new skills, and network with my fellow educators.

I hope you'll take the time to come and attend. We have tried to keep the costs low, and the benefits high. Feel free to share this newsletter with other educators who may not be familiar with the Utah Coalition for Educational Technology. The new technologies that are emerging have the potential to change how we teach and learn.

Sincerely,
Nathan Smith, UCET Board
Director of Technology, Emma Eccles Jones
College of Education & Human Services, USU.



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UCET 2015 CONFERENCE - TECH ELEVATED - APRIL 2-3, 2015

Mark your calendars! UCET 2015 is coming on April 2-3! It will be held at Herriman High School, 11917 South 600 West, in Herriman, Utah. UCET is the Utah Coalition for Educational Technology.

THE THEME - The UCET board is excited to announce the theme of the 2015 UCET Conference: UCET Tech Elevated

THE CHALLENGE - Will you be attending the UCET conference this year? Let the world know! Take a photo of yourself in well-known Utah locations showing off your "elevated" tech, then post your photo on your favorite social media sites with the hashtag: #techelevated.

In your photos, be sure to hold your technology (your phone, your tablet, whatever!) with both hands above your head. Take your photos in places like Utah national parks, monuments, and any other places in the state that represent Utah to you. Post your photos on social media sites like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest.

THE PRIZE - The people who post the best and most popular photos will win complimentary UCET registration! One winner will be selected each month from now until UCET. So start posting!

TECH TIPS - Twitter – Want your post to win? Be sure to include #techelevated in your tweet. Then get as many people as possible to retweet and favorite your post.

Facebook – Want your post to win? Like the UCET Facebook page, and post your photo to our wall. Include #techelevated in your post. Then get as many people as possible to like your post.

Instagram - Want your post to win? Be sure to include #techelevated in your post. Be sure your Instagram account is not set to private. If it's private, your pictures won't come up in our search. Then get as many people as possible to like your post.

Pinterest - Want your photo to win? Be sure to include #techelevated in your pin. Then get as many people as possible to repin your photo.



UCET CONFERENCE KEYNOTE

We are excited to announce Vicki Davis (**FB, @coolcatteacher**) will be joining us as a keynote speaker for UCET 2015 (#ucet15), held April 2 and 3 at Herriman High School (@OfficialMustang).

"Vicki Davis will help you teach with better results, lead with a positive impact and live with greater purpose. If you want to know what 21st century teaching looks like, many including Thomas Friedman in the World is Flat and Don Tapscott in Grown Up Digital mention Vicki as an example. The ISTE Online Learning Award, **pioneer in Open Source Virtual World Technology**, and Edublog Award for the Best Teacher Blog are three of the many honors she has earned."

"Vicki's two books: **Reinventing Writing** and **Flattening Classrooms, Engaging Minds**, empower teachers to connect their students to technology and the world. The Cool Cat Teacher Blog, is consistently among the **top 50 blogs in education worldwide**. In 2013, Mashable named her one of "**Twitter's Top 10 Rockstar teachers**." She has created more than 20 global collaborative projects connecting students from more than 20 countries."

"Vicki hosts the popular Internet radio show of best practices for busy teachers "**Every Classroom Matters**" on the BAM Radio network. She has shared her exciting story at more than 30 conference **keynotes** around the world and through webinars. **The Ignite Show** named Vicki a "thought leader in residence." Her articles appear in Edutopia, the Washington Post, the Atlantic and more."

"Vicki is a Google Certified Teacher and Discovery S.T.A.R. Educator. She lives in Camilla, Georgia, teaches full time at Westwood Schools and is a wife and mother of three." – <http://www.coolcatteacher.com/bio>



UCET BOARD ELECTIONS 2015

MEET THE UCET BOARD - WANT TO JOIN?

Our board consists of passionate and experienced people who love technology and sharing their knowledge to help educators achieve their highest potential.

Every year we hold elections for positions for the board. If you are inclined we would love to have you run for election. It is a great opportunity to help your own school, district and networking.

We have four elected board member positions and the UCET President Elect position that will need to be filled due to term limitations. Note: To be eligible to run for President Elect, you must have served at least one year on the UCET board.

To find out more about what the UCET board does visit <http://www.ucet.org/inUCETnew/about/> and <http://www.ucet.org/board/>.

All candidates will need to submit a short bio and answer the question, "I would like to serve on the UCET board because..." A headshot of passport-approved size and style will need to be sent to **katie.blunt@ucet.org** by Friday, February 13, 2015.

Please go to <http://www.ucet.org/conference/elections-ballot/> if you'd like to apply!

REGISTRATION FOR UCET 2015

ATTENDEES: Want to attend UCET 2015? Here is the link to register for the conference.

https://merchant.washk12.org/blackplum_live/attendee.php?eventid=75

VENDORS: https://merchant.washk12.org/blackplum_live/vendor.php?eventid=75

PRESENTERS: UCET Presentation Proposal 2015

<http://www.ucet.org/presenters/call-for-presenters/>

Please review the UCET 2015 Call for Presenters Guide found at <http://tinyurl.com/ucet2015pg> before submitting your presentation proposal for the UCET 2015 conference at the link above. The UCET 2015 Conference will be held at Herriman High School in Herriman, UT on Thursday April 2nd and Friday April 3rd, 2015.

This presenters form is to be used with vendors and other late entries.

PRESENTER HELP - I can help you with questions about presenters. Nancy Lagerberg - nancy.lagerberg@ucet.org



HOW DO YOU BECOME A UCET BOARD MEMBER?

The UCET Board is an elected volunteer position. It involves a lot of work, but also a lot of fun.

It is important to know that running for the board involves a time commitment. Board members must attend a yearly 2 1/2 day conference planning retreat. The Board also holds a 2-hour monthly board meeting. Board members are expected to attend in person or via Skype.

Each Board member organizes a certain aspect of the conference, (i.e. volunteers, registration, conference program, tech strands, web page, newsletter, Web 2.0, communication, conference give-aways,

presenters, signs, vendors, videotaping, and much more). Board members must complete their part so that the conference runs smoothly. Sometimes that involves many extra hours, especially in the weeks and days prior to the UCET Conference.

The UCET Board is made up of members with rich experiences from all areas of educational technology. Board members have lots of laughs and rewarding experiences together and often form lifelong friendships. We would love to have you run for the UCET board and join a dedicated group of teachers, network specialists, and educational technology professionals who put on the yearly UCET conference.

The 2014-2015 UCET Board of Directors is shown above.



UCET 2015 POSTERS

We received permission to use the UTAH - LIFE ELEVATED road signs as the basis for our TECH ELEVATED conference theme. Nathan Smith recreated the popular road signs as UCET - Tech Elevated posters. Would you help us get the word out about the UCET 2015 conference? **You can click on any of the poster thumbnails to download a JPG file of that poster - 11x17 inches at 300 dpi.** Print one or more of them out and place them in your school or educational institution. We're looking forward to a great conference! Thanks for your help!

FOLLOW THE UCET BLOG!

<http://www.ucet.org/blog/>

Are you looking for some great educational resources, opportunities, grants, apps, websites, and more? The UCET blog is one place you can check on a daily basis. Nathan Smith, a UCET Board member, often posts multiple resources daily. Some of the most recent blog posts focus on NASA scholarships, internships, and competitions. Also many free iOS apps that go free for a day or two are posted there. The site offers an RSS feed that will automatically deliver the latest posts to your device. Members of UCET are encouraged to share resources that can be posted to the blog. All you need do is email your post to Nathan.Smith@ucet.org and put "UCET Blog Post" in the Subject. Thanks!