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'I still have my doubts'

What some professors and staff think about returning to campus

By EMMA BENSON

University professors across the country have been expressing their concerns about returning to their respective campuses in the fall.

Some have even said they are unwilling to step foot on campus until there is a vaccine for COVID-19, as reported by The New York Times. But what do BYU professors think?

BYU announced its plan for Fall Semester on June 23. It includes a hybrid mix of in-class and digital learning.

The university has also outlined a set of precautions that will be taken to ensure the safety of the students and faculty, including requiring masks on campus at all times and implementing social distancing measures in classrooms and shifting to fully online learning after Thanksgiving.

Preparing for the unpredictable

Despite the thorough precautions, some professors are still concerned about returning to campus this fall.

"I still have my doubts about how effective the whole experience is going to be, especially if students start getting sick or if I get sick," BYU Spanish professor Dale Pratt said. "If somebody gets sick, then they have to kind of just head home and have to worry about all of that on top of the schooling — so I have trepidation about it."

Due to a health condition, Pratt said he won't be attending campus at all in the fall but will be teaching his classes remotely from his home in Provo.

He typically spends his summers in Europe doing research, but this summer he's instead spent his time reading books and preparing for how to teach his classes in the fall, including learning about online teaching ideas.

"As far as learning, I think that we're going to try hard to do a good job," he said.

Pratt said he still has concerns that



Addie Blacker

BYU broadcast news lab production manager Alan Neves works to prepare the "Newsline" set for Fall Semester. Many professors are doing their part to prepare for what will be a semester full of unknowns.

things will get worse before they get better. But if that happens — forcing students to transition to full-online learning earlier than planned — because of his preparation, he's "going to be ready for that."

BYU public health professor Chantel Sloan expressed her confidence in BYU students, though there are still concerns present.

Sloan said she was pleased that BYU waited to make the announcement about Fall Semester, adding that several thoughtful and careful discussions at the administrative level went into that decision.

"I was involved in some of those discussions because I work in infectious disease prevention, so I was very pleased when they announced mandatory masks in class and social distancing and all of

those protocols that they're going to have in place," she said. "I think those are going to go a long way to keeping faculty and students safe."

Like Pratt, Sloan said she has also been preparing for the fall and exploring ways she can keep her students engaged through different class formats.

"A lot of us have been doing training and online teaching over the summer to understand the differences and how those courses need to be delivered," she said. "It's still going to be a learning curve."

Underlying concerns

Sloan said her biggest concern is that students and faculty in high-risk groups are exposed.

"We want to be able to welcome back everybody to campus who needs to

be here, regardless of any preexisting health conditions they have, which means that everybody needs to buy in and say we're all this together," she said.

Jacob Newman is in that high-risk category and has to worry not only about starting his master's degree in the fall but also teaching an introductory Spanish course.

He's planning on staying at home in Kaysville to teach his online class remotely and commute to campus when necessary — but it's all still up in the air.

"I was pretty frustrated (by BYU's announcement) because of the fact that it's subject to further instruction since it's provisional," he said. "We don't know if in a few weeks BYU's decision will be the same."

With Utah COVID-19 cases still on the rise, there are a number of unknowns regarding Fall Semester. That's why Sloan emphasized the importance of following the rules.

"This is all about protecting other people, protecting our larger Provo community, and maintaining that over the course of the semester where you know, just human nature could be very tempting to want to ease up and not worry about it so much and do things in a more normal way," she said.

Though the university can carefully control what happens on campus, off-campus will be a different story, according to Sloan. She said a key precaution students can take is to essentially use the "bubble method," which has been effective in New Zealand and other areas. The method allows people to form a "bubble" of those whom they can have close physical contact — Sloan suggested roommates and significant others — but then strictly follow the rules like wearing a mask and social distancing wherever else they go.

"If you're going to be relaxed with anybody, it needs to consistently be the same people, and they need to also be in agreement that you're part of their bubble and they're not out interacting with lots of people without a mask on and without taking precautions," Sloan said. "Students might consider, either right before they get here or when they're on campus, that they have some candid conversations with the people that are close to them and try to form those bubbles."

There is still much concern from some professors surrounding BYU's upcoming Fall Semester. However, professors are working to prepare the best they can to adapt to the current situation, and according to Pratt, BYU is better poised to handle this crisis than most.

"I think if any university in the country is going to have a shot at pulling this off," he said, "it's going to be BYU."

See also *How professors chose delivery methods for Fall* on Page 4

Utah tourism adapts to COVID-19



By KARINA ANDREW

Editor's note: This story is a part of a series that explores the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and how things have changed on and off campus.

The tourism industry is one of the most lucrative in Utah, with visitors coming from all over the world to experience the state's natural beauty and outdoor recreation. COVID-19 has hit Utah tourism hard, forcing workers in the industry to find creative ways to adapt.

Vicki Varela, managing director of the Utah Office of Tourism, said Utah tourism — normally a \$10 billion industry — will see a serious dip in revenue this year.

"The tourism industry depends on people going places, and nobody has been going anywhere since March," she said.

International travel bans are a significant contributor to this, Varela said. International visitors make up only around 10% of yearly tourists, but they tend to stay longer and spend more money than American visitors from other states.

Utah residents have been making more day trips to their state's classic tourist locations, Varela said, but they typically don't pay for hotels or souvenirs and therefore don't contribute much to the tourism economy.

Moab Adventure Center CEO Brian Merrill has seen that trend first hand this season. He said Moab is getting more visitors from Utah and other states within driving distance than usual, while tourists from farther away have



Moab Adventure Center
UNIVERSE PLUS

Visitors go on a Moab Adventure Center river rafting tour. Scan the image with the *Universe Plus* app to read more stories in the *Next Normal* series.

had to postpone their trips until 2021 or 2022.

According to Varela, the tourism industry's revenue decrease will be felt across the state. She said the \$10 billion spent annually by tourists translates into about \$1.3 billion in tax revenues. Without visitors, these taxes would have to come from other sources, such as property or sales taxes, meaning the tourism industry saves each Utah household about \$1,300 annually in tax relief.

"By any measure, the tourism industry is the most devastated industry in the state," Varela said.

She added she felt optimistic, however, that the industry would soon make a full recovery, especially as various tourist locations adapt to pandemic circumstances.

"There's lots of reinventing going on, and I think some of these creative ideas will last even after COVID," she said.

"There's a lot of resourcefulness that has to occur in a time of crisis, and you learn things and change the way you approach things."

Varela mentioned the Utah charter bus company Le Bus as an example of creative adaptation. Le Bus usually carts large tour groups around the state; now, the company is using smaller shuttles to take groups of 20 or fewer up Cottonwood Canyon so they can ride their bikes back down.

The Moab Adventure Center has adapted by offering private tours. Where their river rafts, Hummers and aircraft are usually intended for larger groups, the center has advertised their private tours in which small groups can request their vehicle to themselves so as not to be exposed to other tourists, Merrill said.

In cases where it must combine smaller groups, Merrill said the

company has lowered the maximum capacity for its various tour vehicles so that people can stay appropriately spaced apart and are requiring people to wear masks within vehicles.

These virus-safe tour options have received a largely positive response from the community, Merrill said.

"People are very grateful that we're open and that we're providing an opportunity for them to get away from the stress of the regular world, particularly now that they have the added stress of the COVID-19 virus," he said.

Varela said the option to experience nature safely is especially important now that people have been isolated for so long.

"It is so wonderful that Utahns are getting out and savoring outdoor recreation because it's really a lifeline for most of us through this," she said.

BYU report: masks effective

By LISI MERKLEY

A BYU research team found face masks to be an effective tool at limiting the spread of COVID-19.

BYU professor Ben Abbott and three students used data from 130 scientific studies to produce a report explaining the findings. "We found overwhelming evidence that masking could turn the tide on the pandemic," Abbott said. According to their findings, cloth masks can stop 90% or more of droplets carrying the virus spreading from an infected person to a non-infected person.

Researchers were motivated to do the study to respond to questions asked by friends and family.

"We've seen so many claims on social media about how dangerous masking was, that we were sure we'd find studies about suffocation, mildew, and other side-effects. Instead, we found a huge body of literature demonstrating how safe masks were," Abbott said.

They found wearing masks comes with a few mild side effects (skin irritation, headaches and general discomfort) for children and adults.

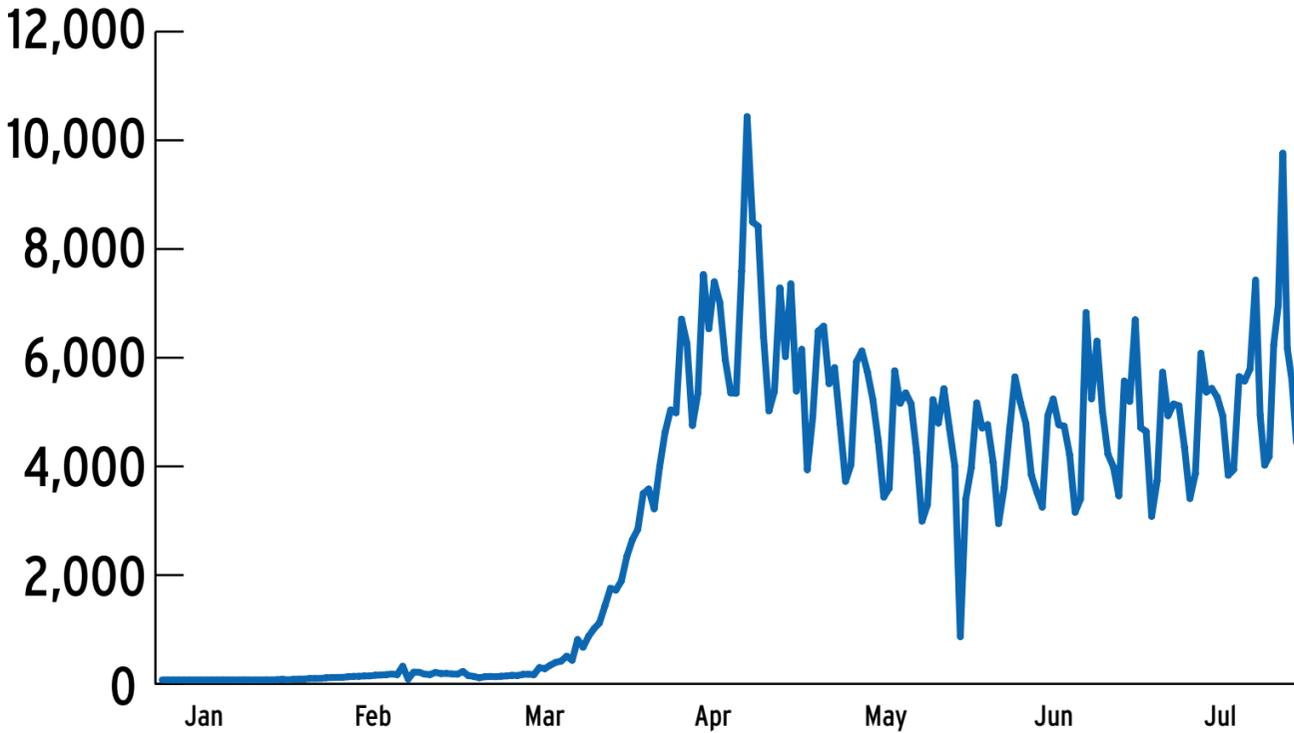
The studies also showed the risk of hypoxia, a decrease in oxygen, and hypercapnia, an increase in carbon dioxide, to be low. Those who disagree or refuse to wear masks often use their concerns about these two conditions as reasons to not wear a mask, but the researchers found that the studies these groups cite "misinterpret the medical evidence about masks."

"To anyone who thinks wearing a mask does more harm than good, I would just say look at the research that is out there," student researcher Jonas Bush said.

COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Worldwide COVID-19 deaths

Cumulative cases: 16,334,573 Cumulative deaths: 650,029 Mortality rate: 3.98%



Ben Daniel

Sources: ECDC, Johns Hopkins University. Current as of 1:15 p.m., MDT July 27. Over half a million people worldwide have died from COVID-19.

Outside the outbreak

From the Associated Press



Police and protestors clash in violent weekend across the US

Protests took a violent turn in several U.S. cities July 24-26 with demonstrators squaring off against federal agents outside a courthouse in Portland, Oregon, forcing police in Seattle to retreat into a station house and setting fire to vehicles in California and Virginia.

A protest against police violence in Austin, Texas, turned deadly when police said a protester was shot and killed by a person who drove through a crowd of marchers. And someone was shot and wounded in Aurora, Colorado, after a car drove through a protest there.



Utah sees high voter turnout amid vote-by-mail mandate

Utah saw one of its best primary election voter turnouts in years despite issues caused by the coronavirus pandemic. This year's primaries were conducted exclusively by mail, though some voters were able to vote at drive-through locations in seven counties.

Research suggests voting by mail likely boosted voter turnout compared to 2016 when eight counties barred mail ballots.

Utah Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox won July's primary in a tight contest with former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman.



House votes to remove Confederate statues

The House approved a bill to remove statues of Gen. Robert E. Lee and other Confederate leaders from the U.S. Capitol on July 22. The vote would also remove a bust of Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, the author of the 1857 Dred Scott decision that declared African Americans couldn't be citizens.

The House approved the bill 305-113, sending it to the Republican-controlled Senate, where prospects are uncertain. Seventy-two Republicans joined with 232 Democrats to support the bill.



Trade, technology and security at risk in US-China feud

The ongoing sharp deterioration in U.S.-China ties poses risks to both countries and the rest of the world. In the latest escalation, a U.S. consulate in Chengdu in southwestern China shuttered Monday, ordered by China to close in retaliation for the U.S. shutting down its consulate in Houston last week.

With the U.S. presidential campaign heating up, all bets are that relations with China will only get worse. Trade is one of the biggest factors at stake.

Virus concerns nudge teachers toward classroom exits

ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — As pressure mounts for teachers to return to their classrooms this fall, concerns about health risks from the coronavirus are pushing many toward alternatives, including career changes and early retirement, as others mobilize to delay school reopenings in hard-hit areas.

Teachers unions have begun pushing back on what they see

as unnecessarily aggressive timetables for reopening. The largest unions say the timing should be guided by whether districts have the ability — and funding — to implement protocols and precautions to protect students and teachers, even if that means balking at calls from President Donald Trump to resume in-person instruction.

Educators in several cities have called for the school year to start with remote instruction.

In struggle against pandemic, populist leaders fare poorly

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The countries that top the rankings of COVID-19 deaths globally are not necessarily the poorest, the richest or even the most densely populated. But they do have one thing in common: They are led by populist, mold-breaking leaders.

Populism in politics means pushing policies that are popular with “the people,” not the elites and the experts. The United States’ Donald Trump, Britain’s Boris

Johnson and Brazil’s Jair Bolsonaro, as well as India’s Narendra Modi and Mexico’s Andrés Manuel López Obrador, have surged to power in democratic countries, challenging the old order by promising social benefits to the masses and rejecting the establishment.

But it turns out that when it comes to battling a new disease like COVID-19, the disruptive policies of populists are faring poorly compared to liberal democratic models in countries like Germany, France and Iceland in Europe, or South Korea and Japan in Asia.

First-year international students can't enter US if classes all online

By LISI MERKLEY

U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement said on Friday, July 24, that first-year international students won't be allowed to enter the U.S. if classes are all online in the fall.

“In accordance with March 2020 guidance, nonimmigrant students in new or initial status after March 9 will not be able to enter the U.S. to enroll in a U.S. school as a nonimmigrant student for the fall term to pursue a full

course of study that is 100 percent online,” says the news release.

New international students must enroll in at least one in-person course to live in the U.S. Previously ICE ruled and later rescinded a rule requiring all international students to enroll in an in-person class to enter the U.S.

International students make up 5% of the BYU student population and come from over 100 countries. BYU is offering in-person classes along with blended, live remote delivery and on-demand remote delivery options.

Utah sees virus surge — but not in county with mask order

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah is among the many U.S. states battling a surge in coronavirus cases, but officials said Wednesday the Salt Lake City area is bucking the trend after the county issued a mandate a month ago for people to wear masks.

There's no statewide mask order in Republican-led Utah, and face coverings remain contentious, as seen at a recent public meeting that was abruptly ended when

dozens of people without masks packed the room.

After GOP Gov. Gary Herbert allowed Democratic leaders in Salt Lake County to impose their own mask rule, the county's share of cases in the state steadily declined despite its denser population.

“Today we're sharing data that indicates that face coverings and other interventions implemented by Salt Lake County are having a positive impact,” county Mayor Jenny Wilson said. “These actions are saving lives, protecting health and stabilizing the spread of COVID-19 cases.”

South Korea to let fans watch sports live again

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL — South Korea says it will allow baseball fans to return to the stands as health authorities outlined a phased process to bring back spectators in professional sports amid the COVID-19 epidemic.

Senior Health Ministry official Yoon Tae-ho during a virus briefing said fans will be allowed at professional soccer games starting on Aug. 1. However, professional golf tournaments will continue without galleries at least until late August, he said.

Both baseball and soccer teams will be initially allowed to sell only 10% of the seats for each game as officials plan to control the level of attendance based on the progress of anti-virus efforts.

Spectators will continue to be banned in the city of Gwangju and nearby South Jeolla Province towns, which have elevated their social distancing measures following a rise in virus transmissions in recent weeks.

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The faith of a modern pioneer: A BYU student's immigration story

By LISI MERKLEY

Noriadnys Gomez Bybee was only 4 years old when her family of five boarded a Venezuelan military plane with hard, seatbelt-less seats and flew to the United States on July 1, 2001.

"My dad is a retired air force officer in Venezuela, and so he had a lot of connections to the military," Bybee said. "That was the fastest and easiest way we could get out."

For the Gomez family, their immigration story parallels many of the experiences early pioneers faced as they traveled to and settled in Utah. "I think God is very mindful of the people that He brings and that He moves," Bybee said.

Leaving Venezuela

Bybee's family left Venezuela as the country was undergoing many political changes. New President Hugo Chavez pushed to change the constitution and institute social reforms. The new laws made many Venezuelan businesses and political leaders worried Chavez was moving to a more authoritarian rule.

Bybee, however, said her family was doing fine in Venezuela, but her parents decided to leave to seek better opportunities for her and her two older brothers. "We definitely left right before things got really nasty, but I like to think that my parents were forewarned in a way that things were going to get worse."

Just under a year after they arrived in Utah, Chavez was removed from power after anti- and pro-Chavez supporters clashed on April 12, 2002. The new government worked quickly to repeal many of Chavez's policies, but its efforts didn't last long. Chavez was

restored to power on April 14, 2002.

In the years since then, Venezuela has experienced multiple economic and political crises. The country ranks 179th on the 2020 Index of Economic Freedom. The only ranked country lower than Venezuela is North Korea. Venezuela's ranking reflects the hyperinflation, government corruption and decimation of the private sector in the country.

Last year Venezuela made international news when opposition leader Juan Guaidó declared himself the legitimate president and was recognized as such by many countries around the world, including the United States.

Bybee and her family arrived safely in the U.S., but some of their relatives were not as lucky. Some have applied for political asylum in the U.S., and others traveled through Central America and Mexico to cross the southern border. "I have cousins who have been kidnapped by the Mexican mafia and held for ransom," she said.

Gathering with the Saints

The family moved to Utah to be around other members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. "(My parents thought) if we're going to be in any state, then we want to be somewhere where the Church is in abundance, where we know that our children can grow up in Zion," Bybee said.

Her parents converted to the Church in Venezuela two years before Bybee was born. Many of their family members didn't approve of their decision and turned their backs on the family. "Coming to Utah where they knew that they would always be welcome was a safe haven for them."

Similarly, early pioneers



Noriadnys Bybee

The Gomez family emigrated from Venezuela to Utah to have better opportunities and gather with other members of the Church. Clockwise from top left: father Antonio Jose Gomez, mother Nilsa Gomez, Antonio Jose Gomez, Jose Antonio Gomez and Noriadnys Gomez.

traveled to Utah to gather with the Saints and escape persecution based on their beliefs. After the martyrdom of Joseph Smith, Church leaders decided to relocate from Nauvoo to Utah — which was then outside of the borders of the U.S. — as mobs moved in on the city.

When the early pioneers and Brigham Young arrived in Salt Lake City after the trek across the country, Young famously declared, "It is enough. This is the right place." They also named a peak in the foothills Ensign Peak because the valley is where "the dispersed

of Judah would assemble," or where Church members would gather.

Bybee's family received help getting established in Utah from Church members when they first arrived, much like the later pioneers did. "(The pioneers) came having just trekked across the country starving and with nothing but the clothes on their backs and being welcomed by other saints who had been there for a while," she said. "My parents can attribute all the help that they received when they arrived here to the Church."

Immigration status

While the family has received help from Church members, their immigration status has often prevented them from fully enjoying the blessings of living in Utah. Bybee's family arrived in Utah with visas, but because they overstayed those visas, her parents and oldest brother are now undocumented. Bybee and her middle brother now qualify for DACA — Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

Being undocumented meant the family didn't have health insurance and jobs were hard to come by. Bybee's oldest brother, Antonio, is now starting a business because no one would hire him. The family also can't leave the country without risking not being able to return.

For a long time, Bybee tried to excel in school because she didn't want to play sports without having health insurance. However, as an undocumented teenager before the creation of DACA, she realized her hard work in school might be for nothing because her immigration status might bar her from going to college.

When DACA was introduced in 2012 by Barack Obama, everything changed for Bybee. The program allowed her and others to remain in the U.S., receive work permits and, in some states, receive financial aid for college. Although BYU doesn't keep track of a student's legal status, DACA opened the door for her to attend college.

Bybee is now studying sociology at BYU with the goal to go to law school and eventually become an immigration attorney.

"Being at BYU for me is a dream come true," she said. "It's a really big blessing for my parents. (It's) a fulfillment of their dreams."

Miracles and hurdles

In addition to dealing with their immigration status, Bybee's family has faced other challenges in Utah. "There tends to be a specific culture in Utah, and although it is very welcoming on the surface, it doesn't always work out that way," she said.

She remembers sometimes feeling like an outsider growing up because her family attended a Spanish ward. "It always felt like we belonged, but there were those few people who still made us feel like it wasn't quite there yet."

Bybee said they didn't experience miracles of manna coming down from heaven, but occasionally some of their trials would end in miracles. She recalls a time in 2009 or 2010 when her family was considering moving back to Venezuela where they could have citizenship, insurance and stable jobs. Her dad even moved to Venezuela to pursue jobs and find a house for the family.

When the time came to decide whether they should leave the U.S., Bybee began reading the scriptures to try and find an answer for herself. She read 2 Nephi 1:6, which says, "There shall none come into this land save they shall be brought by the hand of the Lord," and she felt that was her answer.

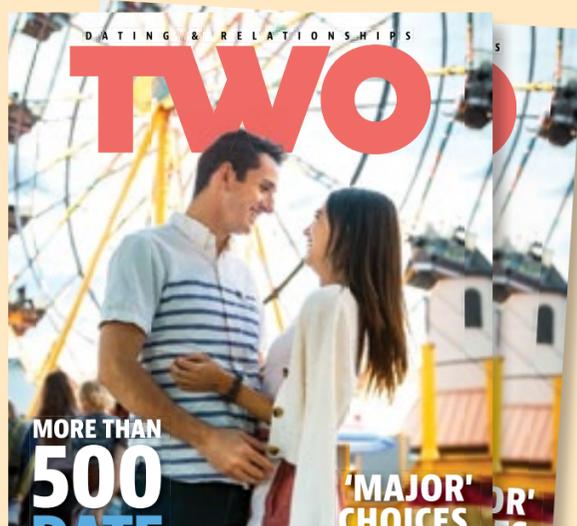
"I remember sharing those verses with my parents and saying 'No, I don't think we should leave,' and so we didn't," she said. "Had we not (stayed) we would have gone back to Venezuela to a quickly deteriorating situation."

Bybee acknowledges that being a modern-day pioneer has its own trials, but those trials have shaped her into who she is now. "It has given me a fire and a passion to help people, to talk to people about how important all of God's children are regardless of where they are from."

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How BYU professors chose delivery methods for Fall classes

By KENZIE HOLBROOK

BYU professors and departments have taken a variety of factors into consideration as they make decisions about which teaching methods — classroom, blended, live remote delivery, or on-demand remote delivery — will best meet student and faculty needs.

These factors include the expected number of students taking the class, the need for laboratory work and personal experience and preference for online classes.

The challenge of lab learning

Neil Hansen, professor of plant and wildlife science and the program's department chair, is teaching two classes in the fall using different delivery methods.

He is teaching a soil science course using the on-demand remote delivery method because it's required for a lot of different majors, and he feels like the on-demand method will be most accommodating for the number of students taking the class.

Professor Bryan Hopkins is going to teach the lab section of soil science in the blended method. Hansen and Hopkins work together on both courses to create a coordinated experience.

"We really can't provide a very good experience to students doing those (the labs) remotely," Hansen said. The lab involves hands-on learning and students need to access equipment in the lab, but there are some activities that they will be able to do online before they come to the lab, Hansen said.

According to Hansen, if a student who is a part of the lab class gets sick, he and Hopkins will be accommodating. "If nothing else, we will find ways to create comparable at-home activities."

Hansen is also teaching a careers in environmental science course, which he chose to teach in the live remote delivery method because he feels the course is a crowdsourced learning course and interactivity is a huge help to accomplish the learning objectives for the course.

School of Family Life professor Dana Adcock is teaching three different courses this fall in a variety of different delivery methods. Adcock said the school reached out to her and asked her which method she would be comfortable using. Because she didn't have any underlying health



Dale Pratt

BYU professor Dale Pratt works from his home office in Provo. Pratt will be teaching all of his classes remotely from his home this Fall Semester.

concerns, she wanted to teach in-person classes when possible.

Adcock will be teaching food preparation in the home and family meal management using the blended method as well as advanced food preparation using the traditional classroom method.

LeeAnn Bitner is also teaching food preparation in the home, but she will be teaching all of her sections using the on-demand remote delivery method. Bitner said there are two other teachers who are both teaching the course in the blended method, which can't accommodate as many students because of social distancing measures. "With me staying online, we felt we could put more students through the class," she said.

Melissa Gibbs, the broadcast news lab manager in the School of Communications, said this semester will be tricky for the broadcast sequence because of all the hands-on things students do in the broadcast lab. There are four courses that are a part of the lab, these courses will have lectures that are mostly live remote delivery and the lab sections will

be partially in-person and partially remote to accommodate social distancing measures.

Instead of having 20 students in the lab at a time, the lab has reduced it by half to only allow 10 students at a time. The other 10 will be doing their lab work remotely from home. Every week the groups will switch so they are getting both in-lab experience and remote lab experience.

"We'll be facing a lot of challenges this semester, but hopefully it will be a plan that will still allow the students to learn the things they need to," Gibbs said.

Campus community

Humanities professor Carl Sederholm teaches an American horror class as well as an American studies class. He was given the option of which delivery method to teach in, and he chose the classroom method for both classes.

He said his classes are fairly small and are able to meet in a big classroom while following social distancing guidelines, and he feels that his classes are highly interactive and doesn't think he could personally provide the

same interactive experience over Zoom. "I also really want to foster that sense of the BYU community," Sederholm said.

Although Sederholm feels more comfortable teaching in the classroom setting, he said if a student in his class were to get sick, he would move to remote class to ensure safety among everyone else.

"I am actively making backup plans," he said. "Everything is changing so fast with this that I may have to do everything over Zoom and I'm willing to do that."

Large classes

American Heritage 100, a popular class that counts for a GE requirement, will get a make-over Fall Semester, according to course coordinator Kristen Betts.

Previously there were six lecture hours taught by two teachers, each of them teaching three lectures. Kelly Patterson and Christopher Karpowitz were assigned to teach the course this fall, and they decided to team-teach for the first time ever. Now, the lecture will be live remote delivery on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11 a.m. (with

another option for seniors who need the course to graduate and cannot make the 11:00 a.m. lecture time work) and there are 101 lab sections with a mix of in-person and remote labs in addition to the lecture.

"Our intent is to have students have as close to a similar experience in both of those kinds of labs," Betts said, "But it's really hard." Betts said the department is working on training the TAs this summer so that the labs will be as similar as possible, whether online or in person.

Betts said the class is set up as live remote delivery instead of on-demand because the faculty are determined to provide an engaging lecture while still having student involvement. The live remote delivery format allows students to send in questions, answer polls and be involved in various ways.

According to STATS 121 course manager and professor Lynne Nielsen, the statistics department was expecting at least 1,600 students to register for the principles of statistics in Fall and decided it was best to offer the class as on-demand remote delivery because

there's already an online section of the course that was developed in 2018.

Nielsen is the only professor teaching the principles of statistics course this fall. She didn't have a choice of what method to teach in, she just got the task of implementing the department's decision.

Nutrition and dietetics professor Stephanie Parker said all sections of the essentials of human nutrition are being taught remotely. Because there are usually 240 students per section and based on the classrooms used for the course, it was determined that six-foot social distancing would be impossible to accommodate all the students, even with a rotating or hybrid model.

The decision was directed by the university, but individual teachers were able to choose whether to teach in live remote delivery or on-demand remote delivery. Seven sections are being offered on campus this fall — two of them being on-demand remote delivery and the other five being live remote delivery.

"I chose live remote as opposed to on-demand because I'm hoping to create as much of a typical classroom feel as possible," Parker said. "I love interacting with the students, hearing their questions and being able to respond to them right away."

Nutrition, dietetics and food science professor Sarah Bellini is teaching one of the on-demand remote delivery sections of essentials of human nutrition. This was not a big change for Bellini because she has been teaching the course online since 2015.

"Some students like the set schedule offered through live remote delivery," Bellini said. "Others like the flexibility of on-demand remote delivery. Certain learning styles thrive in different environments better than others."

Bellini's department chair, Merrill Christensen, is also teaching the class but chose the live remote delivery method. "I had experience with that during the second half of Winter Semester, which gives me something to build on," Christensen said.

He said he chose live remote delivery because he is afraid of students who choose to take the on-demand remote delivery classes will procrastinate watching the lectures and fall behind in the class.



Hannah Miner

Chad Mathes backs his horse into the box at the Spanish Fork Rodeo on July 21. Mathes was one of the only participants to wear a mask, although the rodeo asked people to use face coverings and provided hand sanitation stations. Scan the image with the **Universe Plus** app to read more stories detailing how events around Utah Valley are adapting during the pandemic.

Do social media activism and signing petitions work?

By SPENCER MCWILLIAMS

Petitions have been around for hundreds of years. However, since the dawn of the internet age and social media, petitions have been lumped into what is known as "slacktivism," a combination of the words "slack" and "activism."

According to the website Non-profit Hub, the United Nations has defined slacktivism as people supporting a cause by doing actions but who are not "truly engaged or devoted to making a change."

This begs the question of whether the simple act of typing in a name for an online petition is slacktivism or a step towards true change.

Rosemary Clark-Parsons, the associate director of the University of Pennsylvania's Center on Digital Culture and Society, reported to CNN that research shows people are less likely to participate in activism that requires a high level of commitment.

However, she added that these simple signatures help organizers of petitions better visualize who their passive supporters may be.

This helps organizers and movement leaders encourage passive allies into becoming active allies and to "join the ranks of supporters who are actively fighting alongside you for the cause," Clark-Parsons told CNN.

In a 2019 article in the Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace researchers showed general positive feelings come after signing a petition and those feelings "may propel (petition signers) toward future collective action."



Photo illustration by Ben Daniels

Signing a petition has been associated with what the United Nations has dubbed "slacktivism." But some signers point out the true impact that signing a petition can have. Scan this image with the **Universe Plus** app to read a Spanish translation of the story.

BYU student Stephanie Morales signed a recent petition made by other BYU students asking to make a race and ethnicity class be a GE requirement. She said although not being entirely sure if her signature will help, she recognizes its effect in other positive ways.

"It helps raise awareness by sharing a petition and having friends see that the issue is real and is something people care about," she said.

There has been no announcement about a race and ethnicity class becoming a GE requirement. However, BYU announced shortly after the petition was made that a diverse committee of staff was formed to examine race and inequality.

While there was no direct reference from BYU on the influence of this petition on their announcement, BYU did make a policy change after reviewing information from a petition made in 2016 about sexual

assault on campus.

Statements and thousands of responses from the petition were reviewed by an advisory council created by President Kevin J Worthen that eventually brought forward a report on a new policy change on the campus's response to sexual assault.

Madi Barney, the creator of the petition, said in an interview with The Daily Universe that her petition was "not the only way to raise awareness or help survivors" but also a way to take action when it comes to helping friends who have been sexually assaulted.

Beyond the BYU sphere, a campaign dubbed "Trafficking Hub" has recently sparked the internet's interest as social media has taken the reigns in sharing its informative video about Pornhub and its association with sex trafficking.

BYU Idaho student Faith Bellum signed a Change.org petition that supported Trafficking

Hub after seeing a friend's Instagram post about it, but the petition was taken down after a few weeks.

She said it was scary to see it be taken down despite the latest news on child and sex trafficking. "That just shows me there are some very powerful people doing some very horrible things and these types of movements are needed more than ever."

As of July 16, a new petition from Trafficking Hub on Change.org is live and has already gained over one million signatures.

No changes from Pornhub have been made, but the signature count continues to rise as the campaign becomes more public.

A simple signature for a big issue, such as sex trafficking, may seem like a small means of support, however, research done by professors at the University of Michigan Department of Communication Studies shows that small acts of social media activism "could translate to a large impact on support for social causes at the population level."

"You can know you're doing at least something to stand up for the fights you believe in," Bellum said.

Morales can understand people who fall into slacktivism, but she points out that many people, especially college students, do not have the financial means to donate towards causes and that petitions are just one of many great ways to support.

"There are many other ways to participate that don't require money," she said. "So I do think every person is responsible for identifying their resources and deciding what they can afford to do financially, emotionally and mentally."

President Trump promotes the use of masks.



Bennett/Chattanooga Times Free Press



Gary Ward
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WEEKLY QUESTION

Daily Universe editors post a question on Instagram each week asking readers their view on a specific topic. Here's what they had to say. Responses are unedited.

What are your thoughts about the penny? Is it time to get rid of it?

Ambivalent. There are more important issues to worry about and there always will be.
@MAIKKINOELLE

I don't think we could ever get rid of it cuz you'll have prices that'll be odd like 99 cents and such.
@KUTEKENZZ

Unnecessary to make more, costs more than it's worth.
@ELISABETHCURRIIT

Getting rid of the penny puts us one step closer to cashless currency.
@PADGETTSRESTORATION

Obviously the penny does hold \$ value, but if we stop producing it, we'd be fine and happier!
@LREGEHR

I think as long as cash exists, a penny is important.
@ARDISNH

Get rid of it!
@BEREVENTURA

It does not facilitate commerce or do anything but sit in couch cushions. Time to go!
@EMMAPATRICIAPRICE

Be done with it. Not worth the space.
@CTR_HAHA

The US is losing money every year. ABOLISH THE PENNIES.
@RACHELWINTERS32

Money is so digitized that cutting out some currency could give us more to spend on other things.
@ALEX.MCSHREDDIN

In Singapore/Malaysia (my mission), neither country uses 1 cent coins. It works fine.
@BRTOPHERJOHNSON

Canada got rid of it several years ago. Best decision.
@THECOLINWYLLIE

Save'm for a few hundred years then sell them to collectors to make bank...
@KENZIERAE2020

It's not just the penny, but all physical currency is slowly becoming obsolete.
@KAFKA.ESCOBAR

I don't think it's needed but i also don't see it going anywhere; too much hassle.
@LAUREN_BUSHNELL

STAFF OPINION

Working as a news photographer during COVID-19

One of the best parts of being a news photographer is that I get to cover something different every day. I rarely have to sit in an office, I love covering sports and campus events, and I get to meet new people and tell their stories through photos.

I knew that work would be different as soon as COVID-19 hit and BYU went online. I wasn't sure what to expect while working remotely. Normally my job requires me to be at different events, to talk to people around campus, and to go with reporters to interviews. I wasn't sure what responsibilities I'd have since most in-person interviews were no longer possible and campus had emptied.

I was worried that I wouldn't be needed or that I would get bored sitting at home with my laptop and an empty SD card.

Thankfully, I've had plenty of opportunities over the past few months to contribute to The Daily Universe. My work schedule has been less busy since March, but I definitely have not been bored. I've been able to work with reporters and editors to create

photo illustrations, dig into our archives for old sports photos, and create art comparing campus before and after the semester went online.

While working remotely, I have been able to push myself creatively and collaborate with my coworkers more often than I expected.

I've enjoyed watching our staff come up with new ways to communicate and connect, and I appreciate our team's dedication to quality content even during rough times.

Adjusting to working remotely was easier than expected, and COVID-19 restrictions have helped me look outside of the box even more than usual when coming up with ideas for art.

As restrictions have changed, I have had more opportunities to cover community events.

I've enjoyed every chance to get outside and connect with new people again, while still being cautious.



Hannah Miner

Journalism student Hannah Miner is a photographer for The Daily Universe.

I'm excited to return to campus in the fall and to continue documenting how our campus and community will change during the semester.

— Hannah Miner
Universe Photographer

Tweet Beat

#BYU #BYUprobs

Want to see your tweet in print? Tweet something about life around you with #BYUprobs or #BYU and hopefully it makes the cut.

Leave comments at universe.byu.edu or @UniverseBYU

@Txfmormon
I have a joke about church walls but it's rough.

@tanner_wallace
dating in college is a lot like playing uno in that there is a little bit of strategy involved but really you mostly just end up drawing a lot of cards you don't want and people keep skipping your turn

@bayoulejeune
Utah moms be like "I'm having a beighby"

@rkitchen_
"Hold my Coke" @HeardAtBYU

@qgoodman_
Currently I'm using a Target bag to line my

trash can instead of a Walmart bag so I can feel rich

@ShaylieFawcett
Watching HSM 2 and all I can think about is how Troy being hired at that country club full of boosters is a NCAA violation

@Snake_Bomb
I have a joke about a chiasmus but the chiasmus has a joke about me.

@ldsbishop
Stake Bishops Welfare Council meeting via zoom this evening. One of the bishops joined wearing a shirt, tie and board shorts while on the beach with his kids. I'm now his biggest fan.

@tiarad_j
Imagine oversleeping for a class, then on your way, you forget your mask..... this fall semester gon be vicious

@colindross
Does your family do 'come follow me' at 1:40 am or are you normal?

@ben_asplund
when you snooze you win -sharkboy (2005)

Tweets are unedited.

OPINION OUTPOST

The Opinion Outpost features opinions and commentary on the latest hot topics from state and national news sources.

Home evictions

By failing to contain the coronavirus, the United States is allowing what began as a temporary disruption of economic life to do lasting damage to the nation's prosperity and prospects. With little chance of an imminent economic rebound, millions of Americans who have lost their jobs during the pandemic are now in grave danger of losing their homes, too.

The immediate need is for Congress to impose a nationwide moratorium on evictions and then to give people who have lost their jobs the money required for rent or mortgage payments.

—Editorial Board
The New York Times

Utah public lands

Twice in the last two years Congress has passed sweeping bills to protect public lands in Utah and elsewhere.

Now comes the Great American Outdoors Act.

Awaiting the president's signature, the act will be an immediate shot in the arm for rural Utah.

It provides nearly \$10 billion over the next five years to attack the maintenance backlog across the national park system.

Utahns in Congress should continue to push for more local decision making on land issues that have the largest effect on those who live closest.

But Utah's jewels are not ours alone. They're part of the Great American Outdoors, and the time to worry is if our fellow citizens ever stop wanting to invest.

—Editorial Board
The Salt Lake Tribune

The USPS

As COVID-19 case counts continue to climb, it becomes more and more likely that widespread vote-by-mail will be essential come November.

The problem? The U.S. Postal Service might not last that long.

Though the independent agency celebrated Sunday July 26, 245 years since its creation in 1775, the future is not rosy for USPS.

Without congressional intervention, it could run out of funds as soon as late September.

The U.S. has arguably never needed its Postal Service more. November's election could be a train wreck without a functioning and reliable mail delivery system, especially if three-fourths of American voters or more elect to cast their ballots by mail.

—Editorial Board
Deseret News

Trump's war on cities

President Trump campaigned in 2016 against an imaginary nation of 1970s-era "inner cities" beset by fear and violent crime.

The narrative worked for him then, so he's doing it again — but this time he has the power to make his dark vision real by sending federal agents dressed like military commandos into

those same cities.

Trump's message is that cities led by Democrats are crumbling into chaos, and that demonstrators decrying police brutality and seeking to "defund the police" have decimated local police forces and left innocent people at the mercy of criminals.

Does he have the ability to lead a domestic law enforcement surge?

—Editorial Board
Los Angeles Times

Vaccine nationalism

The United States and China in particular have been playing a coronavirus blame game over the past few months. The reality is that every country will benefit from every other country having access to a vaccine.

They should be figuring out how to share the wealth, not how to steal it.

—Editorial Board
The Washington Post

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Universe encourages students, faculty and BYU staff to add their voice to ours by writing letters to the editor and guest editorials, or by submitting editorial cartoons.

- All letters should be submitted by email to universe.ideas@gmail.com. The topic of the letter should be included in the subject line.
- Letters should also include the author's name, hometown (for students), campus position (for faculty and staff) and phone number. Anonymous letters will

- not be published.
 - Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length, clarity or style.
 - Guest editorials should be 500 to 700 words and are encouraged from individuals with professional or academic expertise on the topic.
 - Original cartoons are also welcome.
- Opinion editor Spencer McWilliams can be reached at universe.ideas@gmail.com.

BYU Basketball alumni in the pros

By CALEB TURNER

Polish professional basketball club Trefl Sopot announced it had signed former BYU guard and recent graduate TJ Haws on July 22, making him the first member of the 2020 class to sign a pro contract.

With the NBA starting back up and basketball back in the spotlight, The Daily Universe is taking a look at Haws and the other BYU alumni playing at the next level around the world.

TJ Haws – Trefl Sopot (Poland)

Haws is the most recent Cougar to join the professional ranks, signing a contract in Poland just four months after his senior season ended early due to COVID-19. Prior to the shutdown, Haws was the starting point guard and an integral part of a BYU team that seemed destined for a deep NCAA tournament run.

Haws holds the record for most consecutive starts at BYU, having started every game in his four-year Cougar career. He averaged 14 points and six assists in his final season, and his crafty playmaking and accurate shooting are sure to be a natural fit for the pass-heavy, 3-point-shooting European style. Haws' brother, Tyler, also played in Poland following his BYU career.

Eric Mika – Stockton Kings (NBA G-League)

Eric Mika, Haws' teammate at Lone Peak High School in Alpine and for a year at BYU, is the most recent Cougar to have played minutes in the NBA. Though officially a member of the G-League's Stockton Kings, Mika was called up to the senior Sacramento Kings squad for a game against the Los Angeles Lakers on Feb. 1. He posted six points and seven rebounds against the Western Conference leaders.

Mika left BYU after his sophomore year in 2017 with hopes of getting drafted into the NBA, but like Haws and other BYU alumni, Mika's journey took him to Europe, initially signing with a club in Pesaro, Italy, out of college. After playing in Italy during 2017-2018, Mika signed with Medi Bayreuth in Germany in January 2019. He then played in the NBA Summer League last summer where he impressed the Kings enough to sign a G-League contract. He also had a brief stint with the Chinese club Xinjiang Flying Tigers in December 2019 before returning to the Kings.

Elijah Bryant – Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel)

Like Mika, Elijah Bryant left BYU early as a junior in 2018 to pursue his professional dreams. Bryant has played both of his post-BYU seasons in Israel,



EuroLeague Basketball
Elijah Bryant, a former guard for the Cougars, dribbles the ball while playing Maccabi Tel Aviv. Bryant has spent his entire pro career playing in Israel. He is one of various BYU basketball alumni to go pro.

first at Hapoel Eilat and then Maccabi Tel Aviv, where he is currently playing in a "bubble" environment similar to the NBA in Orlando. He also played with the Philadelphia 76ers and Milwaukee Bucks Summer League teams between seasons in Israel.

Bryant averaged 9.5 points, 4.4 rebounds, 2.1 assists and 1.5 steals in 23.5 minutes with Maccabi Tel Aviv this season before suffering an injury. He is joined on the roster by former NBA players Amar'e Stoudemire, Omri Casspi and Tyler Dorsey, as well as Israeli-Serbian up-and-comer Deni Avdija, a projected top-five pick in the 2020 NBA Draft.

Kyle Collinworth – Salt Lake City Stars (NBA G-League)

Kyle Collinworth last played for the Cougars in 2016 when he set the record for most triple-doubles by an NCAA player in a season and a career. Unlike the previously mentioned players, Collinworth has remained stateside for the entirety of his professional career.

The majority of his time has been spent in the NBA G-League, with the Texas Legends from 2016-2018, the Raptors 905 last season and the Salt Lake City Stars this season. He did sign a two-way contract with the Dallas Mavericks of the NBA in 2017 and was signed full-time to the squad for the latter half of the 2017-2018 season, playing in 32

games and starting in two.

He has found some success with the Stars recently, including a 16 point, 15 rebound, seven assist performance on January 18.

Brandon Davies – FC Barcelona (Spain)

Brandon Davies found initial success in the NBA before looking internationally for his next opportunities. Davies was signed by the Philadelphia 76ers in 2013 and played a full season with them, including scoring 20 points in one game, before getting traded to the Brooklyn Nets and then waiving.

He bounced around a few European teams before finding a promising role and team at Zalgiris Kaunas in Lithuania. He led the team to deep runs in the EuroLeague, a tournament between the major club teams in Europe in 2018 and 2019. He was named to the All-EuroLeague First Team in 2019.

In July 2019, Davies signed a two-year deal with FC Barcelona in Spain, one of the most successful and high-profile basketball teams outside of the U.S. The roster includes former NBA players Nikola Mirotic and Alex Abrines. In his second game with Barcelona, Davies recorded 24 points and 11 rebounds.

Jimmer Fredette – Panathinaikos (Greece)

Our final player needs little



EuroLeague Basketball
Jimmer Fredette directs the offense on Panathinaikos in Greece. Fredette played in the NBA for four years before moving on to international teams.

introduction. Jimmer Fredette was the consensus National Player of the Year at BYU in 2011 and was taken 10th overall in the NBA draft. He played in the NBA for four years with the Sacramento Kings, Chicago Bulls, New Orleans Pelicans and New York Knicks before moving to China in 2016 to play for the Shanghai Sharks.

Fredette was an All-Star all three years he was in China, lighting up defenses with his shooting and scoring

over 40 points on a regular basis. He was also named the Chinese Basketball Association International MVP in 2017.

After a brief return to the NBA with the Phoenix Suns in 2019, Fredette signed with Panathinaikos in July 2019 and led the team to the Greek Championship in May 2020. It has been reported by EuroHoops.net that Fredette will not return to Greece next season and will instead look for a new team as a free agent.

BYU women's golfers thriving in offseason tournaments

By JOSH CARTER

The BYU women's golf team was on a roll with only one regular-season tournament remaining when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. The Cougars had placed in the top five in six of their eight events and were looking to reclaim the West Coast Conference title they won in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

The chance never came, however, as the pandemic forced most amateur and professional sports leagues throughout the U.S. to shut down.

After four months without a single tournament to participate in, a number of BYU women's golfers have returned to the course to compete with little signs of rust in local and national summer amateur events.

"It's been really great having the girls compete again," BYU women's golf head coach Carrie Roberts said. "There's nothing like these events to get the competitive juices flowing again and our girls have been doing great."

Junior Allysha Mae Mateo returned to action on July 14 in Pinehurst, North Carolina. She competed in one of the more prestigious U.S. amateur golf tournaments: the North & South Amateur. Mateo, who won her first collegiate event last season, qualified for the tournament in part because she ranked 212 in the Women's Amateur Golf Ranking.

Despite a four-month break from competition, Mateo finished the stroke-play portion of the event tied for 13th place out of 123 golfers after carding rounds of 71 (-1) and 73 (+1). The



BYU Photo
BYU women's golfer Kerstin Fotu takes a shot from a bunker at Riverside Country Club on Oct. 3, 2019. Fotu reached the semifinals of the Utah State Women's Amateur at Soldier Hollow Golf Course on July 16.

Honolulu, Hawaii, native made the cut for the tournament's match-play round of 32.

"It was exciting finally being able to compete again," Mateo said. "I was also kind of nervous at first about how I would perform, with it being my first tournament back and it being such a big tournament. But in the end, I was

happy with the way I played."

Mateo, who eventually fell to Duke's Gina Kim in the Round of 32, now faces a quick turnaround before her next event. Mateo is set to compete in the U.S. Women's Amateur Aug. 3-9 in Rockville, Maryland.

Sophomore Kerstin Fotu and senior Naomi Soifua also returned to

competition at the Utah State Women's Amateur at Soldier Hollow Golf Course. Fotu and Soifua reached the quarterfinal round of the event, which, since both were on the same side of the bracket, resulted in them being matched up against each other.

"Both Kerstin and Naomi played really well," Roberts said. "It was

kind of unfortunate they got paired up against each other that early on in the tournament, but that's OK. Both of them were definitely capable of winning the event."

Fotu, the 2019 Utah State Women's Amateur champion, ended up defeating her Cougar teammate Soifua to reach the semifinals.

"Playing against Naomi was a lot of fun," Fotu said. "It just felt like we were back at practice. We're both really competitive so it felt good to come out on top."

Fotu, who was battling a shoulder injury sustained just days prior to the event, then narrowly fell to eventual champion and 16-year-old Grace Summerhays.

Fotu and Soifua now plan on joining their teammate Annick Haczkiwicz at the Utah Women's Open Aug. 3-4 at Thanksgiving Point.

Although much uncertainty remains surrounding the return of college sports this fall, the BYU women's golf team is preparing as if the season will begin as planned in September. The Cougars continue to practice together on a regular basis and remain on the lookout for various competitions to keep their game up to par.

"I think mentally, just being in that competitive headspace again is huge," Mateo said. "When you're in the middle of the season, it's easier to get there since you're competing almost every week. But now, when there aren't as many tournaments going on, it's difficult to get back into that headspace. So being able to get out there again and realizing that I can compete at that level again has been great."

Dilbert®

Panel 1: I'VE BEEN WORKING HERE FOR NINE YEARS, AND YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN ME A SINGLE RAISE!

Panel 2: I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU WORKED FOR ME. OBVIOUSLY, YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING USEFUL, OR I WOULD HAVE NOTICED.

Panel 3: WELL, IN THAT CASE, I'M GLAD I DIDN'T GIVE MY NAME.

Panel 4: WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES?

Panel 5: I HAVE A DEEP DISRESPECT FOR AUTHORITY.

Panel 6: BUT... YOU DON'T ACT ON IT, RIGHT? LET'S NOT TAKE THE SURPRISE OUT OF IT.

Peanuts®

Panel 1: HOW COME YOU'RE LETTING A GIRL PLAY ON OUR TEAM?

Panel 2: WHAT'S IT TO YOU, THIBAUT?

Panel 3: I'M NOT PLAYING ON ANY TEAM WITH A GIRL!

Panel 4: WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM, YOU BLOCKHEAD?

Panel 5: ONE MORE WORD OUT OF YOU, THIBAUT, AND I'LL SHRED YOU!!

Panel 6: THAT'S THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I'VE BEEN THREATENED WITH A SHREDDING!

Panel 7: SIR, IF MR. THIBAUT DOESN'T WANT ME TO PLAY, MAYBE I SHOULDN'T...

Panel 8: I'LL SAY YOU SHOULDN'T! BASEBALL IS A BOY'S GAME! YOU'RE JUST A STUPID GIRL!

Panel 9: WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME?!

Panel 10: I CAN'T GO HOME, MR. THIBAUT, BECAUSE I'D BE ALL ALONE...

Panel 11: MY DAD IS OUT OF TOWN, AND MY MOTHER IS AT HER OFFICE DESIGNING A NEW FREEWAY!

Garfield®

Panel 1: HERE COMES THE ZOMBIE INTO WORK.

Panel 2: SORRY I'M LATE...

Panel 3: BUT I'VE BEEN DEAD.

Panel 4: GOOD EXCUSE.

Panel 5: I ONLY MADE ONE MISTAKE TODAY.

Panel 6: GETTING OUT OF BED.

Panel 7: WHO HASN'T REGRETTED THAT?

Pickles®

Panel 1: ONE THING I REALLY MISS IS MY OLD ROTARY DIAL PHONE.

Panel 2: THERE WAS SOMETHING VERY SATISFYING ABOUT THE RATCHETY SOUND OF THE DIAL GOING AROUND AND AROUND.

Panel 3: YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

Panel 4: YEAH, I MISS THAT TOO.

Panel 5: I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT, BUT I DON'T WANT TO HURT HER FEELINGS.

Panel 6: YOU NEED A HOBBY, EARL.

Panel 7: I'VE ALREADY GOT A HOBBY. I COLLECT CERAMIC MUSK OX FIGURINES.

Panel 8: OH, YEAH? HOW COME I'VE NEVER SEEN YOUR COLLECTION?

Panel 9: I HAVEN'T FOUND ANY YET.

Non Sequitur®

Panel 1: THIS SHOULD BE GOOD... HE'S THE ONE WHO CAME UP WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S "WE NEED TO LIVE WITH IT" VIRUS POLICY.

Panel 2: BOB SUSPECTS THERE MIGHT BE MORE TO THE BOARD'S SOCIAL DISTANCING POLICY THAN HE WAS TOLD.

Zits®

Panel 1: I FOUND A GRAY HAIR!

Panel 2: IS THIS A SCAVENGER HUNT THING?

Panel 3: I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I HAVE A GRAY HAIR!

Panel 4: NO BIGGIE.

Panel 5: I CAN REMEMBER FINDING A COUPLE AT YOUR AGE.

Panel 6: SO I'M BECOMING YOU??

Panel 7: DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP.

Sudoku

Use the numbers 1-9 once in each row, column and marked grid of 9. Puzzles increase in difficulty from left to right. Solutions are at universe.byu.edu/sudoku.

9	8			3	6				1	9	5							4	7	5	2										9	5	3		2			
3								8		3	5	7								3											1				6			
5	7	8		1	9	4			2								3	2	7		5	8				8	2							5	7			
		1	3	7	4					8	1	6					3	3		2		4				2				4								
									4	7							2	1		1	9	6	2				7				3	5				9		
		9	2	5	1					3	4	8					5	4			5									8					4			
6		3	7	9	2	1			5								9	7	2		4	9				8	2								4	5		
8											8	1	5								8									6						1		
	1	2					8	4		4	6	1							1	5	9	3				5										1	2	3

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0622

ACROSS

- Nothin'
- Hula
- [Um ... I'm standing right here]
- Team members that can pull more than their weight on the field?
- Confess (to)
- Volcanic output
- Lines at the office?
- Ran away from
- Sandwich shop
- Willing to accept danger
- Attachment to a fishing rod
- Before, to poets
- Tidbit from Friskies
- Typical physique for a middle-aged guy
- Baseball hitter's stat, for short

DOWN

- Wordlessly express approval
- Removed from the schedule, as a TV show
- Clichéd place to be marooned
- Percussive piece of jewelry for an Indian dancer
- "You wish!"
- Stench
- Hyatt alternative
- Pizzas, e.g.
- Fettuccine sauce
- Angel's wear
- Like 2, 4, 6, 8 ...
- Have it (be assured of success)
- Uttered a noise of disapproval

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BRIT PASS GASPS
OATH RICH RANAT
SCOOBYDOO ASANA
SEOU WREN PEG
GOOGLEDOODLE
CASHBAR SLUR
FACT HALF ARAIL
ORR AUPAIRS GMO
SPAWN HAVE LOAD
PENN ENHANCE
BAMBOOSHOUTS
AGE TRIO TESLA
LOUIS FOOLPROOF
KRAUT THAI ELLA
SALVE SAKE DEAR

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0622

ACROSS

- Set a price of
- Recede
- Arrange in folds
- They may hang out at pubs
- Brendan of "Crash"
- Plain as day
- Way things look to the public, informally
- Buffalo's N.H.L. team
- Puffed snack food
- Give the go-ahead
- Revered Muslim
- Workers in puffy white hats
- Start of many young rappers' names
- Intrinsically
- 2011 U.S. Open champ McIlroy
- Place to insert a stud
- It's bound to be of use to a churchgoer
- Pastures
- Lowbrow
- Head of a monastery
- Some chain theaters
- Parts of udders
- Neutral area between hostile forces
- Japanese beverage often served hot
- Was sure of
- "to elaborate?"
- Send off, as rays
- Goes steady with
- Gymnast Korbut
- Wily
- Flat, rectangular brooch
- Krazy (comics character)
- Comparable (to)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TESLA GPS RONCO
ORKIN ORE ONION
BRINGITON SEINE
YSL RAN HIGHCS
IGUANODON AHI
GOFUR FURL MUSE
ALTOID NADER
DESSERT BEDHEAD
ELEGY MIYAGAI
APPS DEED CDROM
BAH FALSESTEP
SMILEY OFT IMP
ELEDG GRAYAREAS
ILLEG INN ROCKS
LAYON NOG TWEET

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0623

ACROSS

- Hazard for takeoffs and landings
- Astronomical streaker
- Be behind, in a way
- Warrior
- One of two in Princess Leia's hairstyle
- Thornton, "Our Town" playwright
- Tit for
- First lady Truman
- Daniel who wrote "Robinson Crusoe"
- "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- Key worker at a restaurant?
- Sources of saliva and sweat
- Slip up
- Game that requires bending
- Rude rejection
- Duds
- Sticker on green products
- Means of climbing over rural fences
- They can't lose
- One-on-one pupil
- Target of some football passes
- Spike of interest in movies?

DOWN

- Some kindergarten lessons
- Ward of "CSI: NY"
- Mascot on cookie boxes
- Long-legged waders
- Florida gridders, in headlines
- A/C measure, for short
- Forrest Gump's favorite soft drink
- Gradually increase, with "up"
- Source of a big percentage of U.S. auto imports
- Hunt-and- type
- Gaelic tongue
- Make thinner, as rulers, e.g. ... or what the letters in 3-, 7-, 27- and 34-Down all have when written in all caps
- Like some brides or threats
- Bellucose Greek god
- Persist
- Rebuke to Brutus
- Going (bickering)
- Brought into the world
- Ration, with "out"
- Conditional word
- Line that an actor waits to hear

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The New York Times Crossword

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ACROSS

- Points of convergence
- Ailing
- Throng
- Mandel of "America's Got Talent"
- David Bowie hit with the lyric "You've torn your dress, your face is a mess"
- Boozehound
- Physicist Mach of Mach number fame
- Many a Christmas tree
- Convened
- "Be my guest!"
- Blackens
- Group on top of a loose football
- Bill for a 28-Down
- Yoko often seen in sunglasses
- Like some brides or threats
- Bellucose Greek god
- Persist
- Rebuke to Brutus
- Going (bickering)
- Brought into the world
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COVID-19 increases vulnerability to human trafficking

By KARINA ANDREW

COVID-19 has created circumstances in which the health and safety of victims and people vulnerable to human trafficking are at greater risk than usual.

The issue has gained more attention as World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is on July 30.

Polaris reported the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline handled over 40% more cases in the month following the shelter-in-place orders than the previous month.

This spike in trafficking cases is due in part to the fact that the circumstances which facilitate human trafficking, such as poverty and systemic inequality, have been exacerbated by the pandemic, the Polaris report stated.

Brendan Call, section chief of five different units with the Utah Trafficking in Persons Task Force, confirmed trafficking “hasn’t slowed down at all” during the pandemic.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime issued a briefing that described many of the dangers COVID-19 has created for victims and at-risk populations.

For current trafficking victims, the most prominent risks are health-related. The briefing said trafficking victims have fewer means of preventing contracting the virus. They also have less access to healthcare services, meaning those who get it might not



Photo illustration by Hannah Miner

Circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic pose large health and safety threats to victims and potential victims of human trafficking.

receive proper treatment.

The United Nations briefing also noted that lockdowns and shelter-in-place orders also trap victims with their traffickers in many cases.

“Lockdowns and confinement could reinforce the isolation of victims and reduce drastically any chance of them being identified and removed from such exploitative situations,” the briefing said.

Business lockdowns create difficulties for the operatives who perform the rescue operations, Call said. With many small businesses that serve as fronts for the trafficking industry closed, trafficking still happens, but investigations hit a road block.

The United Nations briefing also enumerated some of the risks facing vulnerable populations, not the least of which is economic hardship. Traffickers often seize control over victims by promising money or employment, and many people have lost

their jobs or had their incomes reduced because of COVID-19 economic shutdowns.

“This means a vulnerable population has now become even more exposed to the risk of severe exploitation as they try to identify means to secure their livelihoods,” the briefing said.

The United Nations briefing also identified children as being especially vulnerable to exploitation during the pandemic because of school closures. For many children, school is not only a place of learning but their primary source of food or shelter. Without school, children in impoverished households may be left at the mercy of traffickers who can offer these basic provisions.

Being out of school also leaves children with more time to spend online, where many online sexual predators locate and groom their next victims, the briefing said.

Call said he’s noticed a recent increase in cases for Utah’s Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

“Their tips for people looking at child pornography have skyrocketed during this pandemic,” he said.

The Utah Trafficking in Persons Task Force has implemented new safety precautions to protect against COVID-19, such as masking operatives, rescued victims and arrested traffickers, but Call said their work is still going forward. “It hasn’t slowed us down at all.”



Jessica Smith

Police apprehend a suspect on Monday, March 11, 2019. A large majority of the calls Provo Police receive are non-criminal. Scan this image with the **Universe Plus** app to read a Spanish translation of this story.



How Provo officers spend their time

By EMILY ANDERSEN

Calls to defund the police are ringing across the country, and Provo is no exception.

The city’s 2020-21 fiscal year budget was approved and will provide 1.5% less funds than originally proposed to all departments, except the police and fire departments. The full budget is \$292 million, and a little over \$18 million will go to the police.

According to the Daily Herald, the council received 39 online comments about defunding the police and three people called in to express their thoughts on the matter.

Public information officer Sgt. Nisha King said the police will continue to work as normal.

“Ultimately we’re here to serve our community, and so we’ll continue to do so until any kind of decision is made otherwise,” King said. “The safety of our community is paramount over anything that is being said.”

Many of those calling for defunding are focused on reexamining police responsibilities and reallocating funds. One of the residents who participated in the City Council meeting asked the city to create an exploratory committee to examine what can be

improved in the way the police officers spend their time.

Cities around the country are looking at how to adapt or replace police department responsibilities with other forms of problem-solving, according to an article by NBC News. Alex Vitale, a sociology professor at Brooklyn College who wrote the popular book “The End of Policing,” told NBC News that police reform will be a long process, but that it starts with taking a look at general funding.

“People are trying to figure out what kind of society would be possible that doesn’t rely on police and prisons to solve its problems, and that’s a long-term political vision that is important to this movement,” Vitale told NBC News.

A Provo City Council newsletter sent out on July 14 stated that many people have reached out to talk about potential police reform. The newsletter stated the process for examining reform options is underway but that it shouldn’t be rushed.

“This is a time for restraint and calm. Let us avoid rushing to judgment and allow our police to do their work of investigation and of protecting our safety and liberties,” the newsletter said.

The Daily Universe sent a request to the Provo Police

Department to see a list of what types of calls the department typically responds to as a way of examining how Provo police officers spend their on-duty time. This isn’t a perfect portrayal of time spent, since some calls may take longer to respond to than others, but it can give a general idea.

The department provided a list of all the calls responded to from the beginning of 2015 through the end of June 2020. The calls are organized into seven categories: violent crime, traffic, responding to non-criminal calls, property crimes, proactive, other crime, and medical or other.

The large majority of calls are non-criminal calls. Abandoned calls, or calls where a 911 caller hangs up before any information is given, are included in this category along with other miscellaneous calls, such as those dealing with wild animals, missing persons and impounded vehicles.

The violent crime category consists of all rape, aggravated assault, robbery, and homicide calls and makes up less than 2% of calls responded to each year.

This is consistent with a New York Times article published on June 19, which showed data from several cities around the country, most of which showed that less than 2% of the calls responded to so far this year were for violent crimes.

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