



Message from the dean...

By Douglas D. Anderson
Dean and Professor, College of Business

A year ago leaders from the College of Business met to set some priorities. I'm not sure anyone realized at the time how important those initial decisions would become to the future of the college.

We decided to focus our efforts on three areas that we think are vital for the success of our students. We are helping our students become adept at navigating the global economy, at developing an entrepreneurial mindset and at becoming strong ethical leaders.

It's rewarding to see that the news we've included in this edition of the *BottomLine* again centers on the results we are seeing as we refine that focus.

As we've progressed in these three areas, we are discovering the educational power that is generated when all three of them come into play at once. We saw that happen in the summer of 2007 when 42 students traveled through Chile, Brazil and Peru as part of our first South American Study Abroad Program. The trip gave the students insight into the international marketplace they could not otherwise have had, but it did much more than that, as you will discover.

In this issue you can read about how their leadership skills were tested in very unfamiliar settings as they helped entrepreneurs seeking micro-loans develop sound business plans. And, you'll read about how our students overcame tough challenges as they staffed several eyeglass clinics in Peru.

There will be more to report in the future about our efforts to "internationalize" the college because this fall we are launch-

ing our "Junior Year Experience." We expect the Junior Year will become our premium academic program. Participating students will embark on an international academic experience in the fall semester and a Washington, D.C., and New York experience in the spring. The summer semester between the junior and senior year will be committed to an international internship. While the Junior Year Experience will recruit our top students, we want all our students to experience the world of business in an international setting. We hope those students who do not participate in the Junior Year Experience will choose among the set of summer offerings that blend a faculty-led academic program of study with international learning opportunities.

We were delighted this year that President Stan Albrecht's efforts helped secure \$7 million in ongoing funding from the legislature to support the expansion of the university's regional campuses. This money will support, among other important initiatives, the hiring of new entrepreneurship faculty in Brigham City, Tooele, the Uintah Basin, Price and Ephraim. We are embedding the "entrepreneurship gene" in our academic DNA. We established an entrepreneurship major in August 2006, and we expanded it to include our five regional campuses in August 2007.

In addition to our new regional faculty members, we have hired seven new professors to work with us in Logan. We cannot remember the last time when we added seven new faculty in a single year! Three of these professors were hired to strengthen our entrepreneurial focus; one will join our Department of Economics; one strengthens our School of Accountancy; and two will join our Department of Management Information Systems. I hope you'll take time to read about them in this edition of the *BottomLine*. Much of our future is riding on their shoulders.

