

# Faculty Club News

UNIVERSITY OF  
UTAH

April/May 2025 ♦



## President's Corner

For those who wonder why we have a Faculty Club and/or why they should participate, here is some rationale:

Here are some characteristics of the current climate in academia:

- Increasing Workload and Pressure: Faculty are facing increasing pressure to publish, secure grants, and teach, leading to burnout and mental health challenges.
- Mental Health Crisis: The academic environment can be stressful, with faculty members experiencing high levels of anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues.
- The Role of Higher Education in Societal Transformation: Universities have a responsibility to address societal challenges, and to prepare students for a changing world.

The University of Utah Faculty Club exists to:

- Strengthen Connections and Community: The Faculty Club provides opportunities for informal interaction and networking, which can combat feelings of isolation and build a stronger sense of community within a university.
- Facilitate Collaboration: Our club can serve as platforms for research and grant collaborations, presentations, and teaching discussions, fostering intellectual exchange and joint projects.
- Address Challenges: The Faculty Club can offer a space to discuss challenges and concerns related to workload, tenure, and the changing landscape of academia, providing support and resources.
- Promote Well-being: The informal setting of our Faculty Club can help faculty members relax and recharge, fostering a sense of well-being and preventing burnout.
- Create a sense of "Campus Hygge": Creating a welcoming campus climate is essential for fostering a positive and productive academic environment.

If you feel that the Club is not addressing an area listed above, or if you feel that list is missing something which should be added, please bring it to our attention, or better yet, join the Faculty Club Board of Directors (FCBOD), and let's make it happen! My term as President of the FCBOD is coming to an end this May, but we will have an impactful new leader stepping into this role in Christy Porucznik – I hope you'll join me in thanking her for her willingness to take on this task! Hip hip hooray!

--Shawn Steidinger, President

# Happy End of the Semester!



## Mark Your Calendars!

### Upcoming Events

- April 4, 2025 (Dinner Social- UMFA)
- April 13, 2025 Softball Game **NEW!**
- May 14, 202 (Annual Membership Business Meeting- UMFA) **DATE CHANGE!**
- July TBD Wildflower Festival Hike and BBQ



**SPRING in SLC!**



Go have some fun!

- Salt Lake City Weekly  
<https://events.cityweekly.net/calendars/all-events>
- Take a hike with guides from the Cottonwoods Foundation:  
<https://cottonwoodcanyons.org/events/>
- Check out the Office for Faculty's Heylo! App:  
<https://www.heylo.com/g/7b44e77f-9920-487a-b9e8-395d7764700f> –  
joining is easy, and the more folks on this app, the more events can be coordinated! Give it a try!

## Menu April 4, 2025

### MENU

- Spring apple & snap pea salad with baby greens, radish, asparagus, and pecorino cheese; served with a side of lemon dijon vinaigrette (veg, GF)
  - Sliced strawberry salad with romaine, baby spinach, cucumbers, fresh blackberries, and feta cheese; served with a side of citrus vinaigrette (veg, GF)
  - fresh sourdough & multiseeded baguette slices with butter
  - HOT BUFFET ITEMS-----
  - Roasted rainbow carrots, cut vertically, with a sprinkle of fresh chives (veg, GF)
  - Escalloped potatoes
  - Salmon with a strawberry mango salsa
  - Pork tenderloin with cracked black pepper & a sweet cherry port reduction (GF)
- Desserts include: Carrot cake/ Lemon bars