

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

---

Library Faculty & Staff Presentations

Libraries

---

4-2018

## Pizza with a Side of Outreach: Re-Invigorating Library Outreach at Distance Campuses

Teagan Eastman  
*Utah State University*

Erin L. Davis  
*Utah State University*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/lib\\_present](https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/lib_present)

 Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Eastman, Teagan and Davis, Erin L., "Pizza with a Side of Outreach: Re-Invigorating Library Outreach at Distance Campuses" (2018). *Library Faculty & Staff Presentations*. Paper 115.  
[https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/lib\\_present/115](https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/lib_present/115)

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Libraries at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Library Faculty & Staff Presentations by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usu.edu).





# PIZZA WITH A SIDE OF OUTREACH

## Re-Invigorating Library Outreach at Distance Campuses

### USU at a Distance

Utah State University is a large land-grant institution serving over 16,000 students across twenty distance campuses and centers. As the majority of these campuses are without physical libraries, informing students they have access to library services has proven tricky.

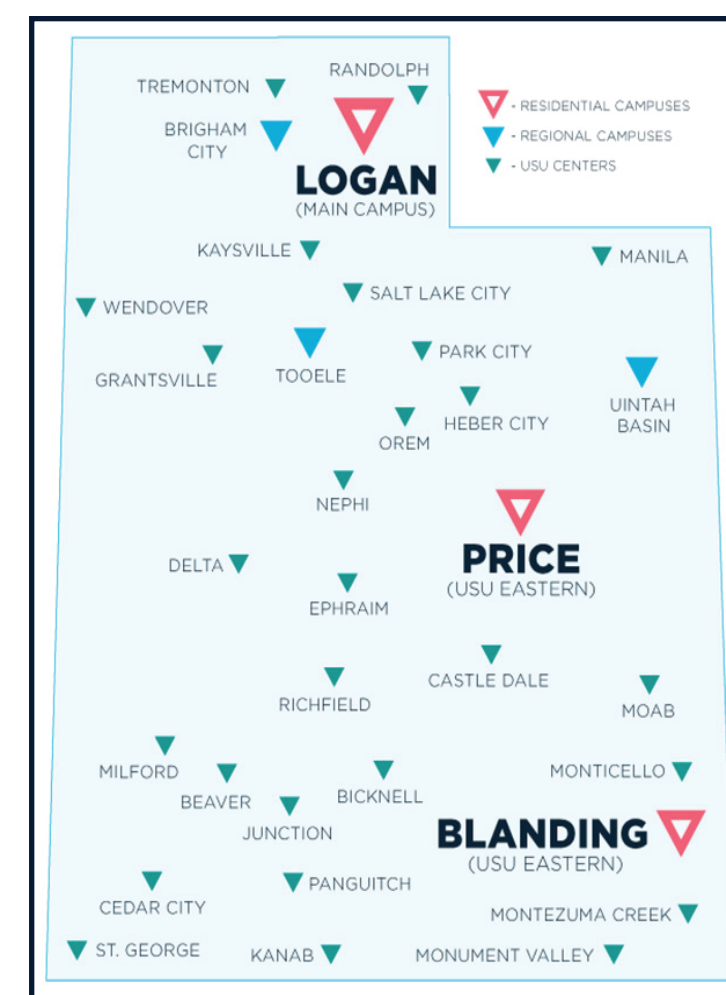


Figure 1: USU Regional Campuses across the State

### Open House Ingredients



In Fall 2016, we began hosting library open houses at our Regional Campuses (RC). In collaboration with our RC administrators and student government, these events serve as an ice-breaker for interactions between librarians and students. They raise awareness of library resources and services and ease anxiety about reaching out to the library for assistance, while providing food as an incentive to meet with us.

### Open House Receipts

Over the last year, the library has hosted 12 open houses at eight USU locations, reaching nearly 1,000 students. These events have led to an increase in the number of distance students approaching subject librarians for assistance and stronger relationships with administrators at distance campuses.



\*The numbers above represent the number of students reached at each campus.

### User Reviews



"The open houses sets a tone and sends a message that our Logan campus cares about our regional campus students."

"The one-on-one introductions to the library were beneficial. I learned about resources actually relevant to me."

"It was cool to meet my subject librarian. I had no idea this existed!"

### Secret Sauce

Planning successful library open houses has been a learning process. Here's what we've found to be key to success:



### Outreach Initiatives



Prior to Fall 2016, despite these efforts, the library failed to reach students. Therefore, the majority of distance students remained unaware that they had access to library resources and failed to receive critical information literacy assistance.