



## **Health Care Professionals and Educators to Collaborate at the 2019 Unitek Conference: Infusing Caring into Teaching and Learning**

*Salt Lake City, Utah – October 18, 2019* – On November 1, 2019, Eagle Gate and Provo College will host their First Annual Unitek Learning Conference at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. The theme of the conference is “**Infusing Caring into Teaching and Learning.**” Under the Unitek Learning umbrella, Utah participants will focus on the impact of caring attributes on student learning experiences. Additionally, world-renowned nursing theorist Jean Watson, **PhD, RN, AHN-BC, FAAN**, will serve as keynote speaker for this prestigious event.

During the conference, Dr. Watson will introduce her theory of caring principles or Caritas™. Throughout her career, Dr. Watson has emphasized the importance of caring and healing for the public. Her ultimate goal is one that Unitek Learning shares: to help transform health care “one caregiver, one educator, one leader, one system at a time.” According to Dr. Watson, nurses and other health care personnel provide the best care possible when they care for themselves first.

The conference will feature attendees and panelists who are experts in their field, including but not limited to: Keynote Speaker **Jean Watson, PhD, RN, AHN-BC, FAAN** – Distinguished Professor and Founder/Director of Watson Caring Science Institute; **Kevin K. McEwan, MSN, RN, NEA-BC** – Chief Nursing Officer, Madison Memorial Hospital; **Maria Black, ANP-BC, DNP, CCRN-K, NEA-BC** – Nurse Administrator at Utah Valley Hospital; **Emily Shumway MSN-ED, RN** – Clinical Education Vice President for the HCA Healthcare; and **Liz Close, PhD, RN** – Executive Director, Utah Nurses Association/Nurse Expert Consultant.

Beginning the day at 8:00 am, conference participants will attend a meet and greet breakfast. The keynote address will kick off at 8:30 am with Dr. Jean Watson, who will introduce the theme of this year’s conference: *Caring Science – Caritas™ Theory Practice*. At 10:30 am, a panel of nurse theorists, Utah health care executives, and esteemed educators will discuss the topic of Caring, which will focus on the importance of a Call-to-Improve caring within health care and technology. Sessions in the afternoon—“Embedding Caritas Processes within a Curriculum to Transform the Learning Experience”—will set the stage for critical discussion and deep introspection aimed at elevating caring behaviors. The conference will conclude at 4:00 pm with closing remarks from Unitek’s leadership team.

“Our conference theme for 2019 brings together educators and lifelong learners to catalyze the concept of caring exchange between teachers and students,” said Dr. Abdel Yosef, Chief Academic Officer at Unitek Learning. “We will discuss strategies in adult education to create a caring environment both inside and outside of the classroom. Additionally, we will focus on principles of effective communication, moral commitment to self and others, and our capacity to improve the learning experience of the student.”

Unitek Learning is the parent company of several distinguished learning institutions: Unitek EMT, Unitek College, Eagle Gate College, and Provo College. Taught by experienced professionals, Unitek programs teach the clinical technique and theory used in the field today. Equipped with a multitude of sought-after skills, graduates from these schools are prepared to excel in many of the fastest-growing careers in health care and nursing.

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