

Extending the Conversation: Utah American Graduate Round Table 2016

Participants in Round Table 2016 reflect on past accomplishments and made recommendations for UTAG's future. Visit uen.org/americangraduate to view the full graphic report.



On February 25, thirty-one people gathered at the University of Utah to reflect on collective efforts to improve college and career readiness for Utah learners and to brainstorm possible ways for UEN and other public media stations to support this important work through Utah American Graduate (UTAG). The event also served to connect partners from K12, postsecondary education, community-based nonprofits, and public media.

Event Highlights

Led by Graphic Facilitator Sophia Liang of Graphic Footprints, the event included an interactive Year-In-Review during which participants shared their organizations' key accomplishments in categories developed from the Round Table 2015 Needs Assessment. After reflecting on the past year's accomplishments, participants recommended the top three priority areas Utah American Graduate should target:

- **Awareness Messaging** – helping partners communicate with those they serve about how the education system works and resources to help learners succeed.
- **Motivation** – support connections between groups who are tackling (or could tackle) Utah's education pain points.
- **Collaboration** – continue to foster collaboration and communication between partners.

"I found at least two partners that I can connect with to make exciting collaborative projects."

"I didn't know if this would apply to me but the format and focus really made it relatable. It was great!"

"Great job!"

"American Graduate can act as a convener for the education community."

--Round Table participants

The group then brainstormed further around how public media resources might help their organizations meet the needs of those they serve.

Event Outcomes

Through this event, held with support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, UEN staff received valuable input to assess Utah American Graduate's accomplishments to date and guide future efforts. Through a post-event survey 94% of the participants indicated that the event brought them in contact with new people and ideas that will help their work and that UTAG is providing a valuable service for the education community and learners. Additional partner meetings and planning are underway.