

NEVADA

Silver & Blue University of Nevada, Reno • Fall 2021/Winter 2022



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The Pack is Back!

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and Regents & University Awards

38 what i've learned
Alumnus of the Year Keith Lee '65





Connecting the dots of an aspiration

Our University was founded in 1874 on the belief that whenever there are challenges, we must not only be concerned with the unsettled times of the moment, but also with the possibility of transformation for the future.

At each historical crossroads when change is sorely needed in our state, we've responded as change-makers always do — with a boldness that stretches our institutional aspiration in achieving our mission for the people of Nevada.

In September, I was honored to deliver my first “State of the University” address. It came more than a year on the job as president and more than a year of bearing witness to the strength, resiliency and care for one another that the people of our University have demonstrated throughout the pandemic, what we like to call “The Wolf Pack Way.”

One goal I shared was one day having our University invited to join the 66-member Association of American Universities. This long-term goal will require us to grow in practically every metric — student enrollment and outcomes, number of faculty and staff, research expenditures and national awareness and renown of this work, and more.

To become a member of the prestigious AAU, an institution must be on the vanguard of scientific inquiry and excellence in education. I believe in many areas our University is already offering the best in research, scholarship and education. In the coming months and years, it is our intention to grow the scope and scale of our institution's excellence.

Additionally, as part of our continued commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, we are also working toward designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution.

Although the destination is important, it is the journey that excites me most. In August, we welcomed our most academically prepared and most diverse group of first-year students ever. Earlier this year, we celebrated that we have some of the nation's most productive research groups for an institution of our size. Every day, we mark outstanding work that advances knowledge, grows our institution's reputation on a national scale and provides the answers our world needs for the most pressing challenges of our time.

For the future, we will need to be innovative and entrepreneurial to find increased revenues and resources. We will need to be creative in how to grow during a time of uncertainty. We will continue to contribute to the workforce needs of our community, state and nation. We will need to share our story far and wide that we are one of the most respected and desirable public universities in the country.

On this journey, as we develop yearly benchmarks for sustained growth, our hallmarks will remain the same. Students who are interested not just in learning but in learning how to think and communicate. Faculty and staff who are incredibly productive in all they do and who are always willing to think big thoughts, for a greater good. A University that drives the newest ideas, tackles the biggest problems and provides the path for a better future for all Nevadans.

This is a journey we must take. This is the University we must aspire to be.

Go Pack! 

Brian Sandoval '86, *President*



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The Pack is Back!

All 21,034 Nevada students returned to campus for the Fall 2021 semester and their return was celebrated in true Wolf Pack style!

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From the Silver & Blue to the Red, White & Blue

Pack alumni bring home the gold and bronze from the Tokyo Olympic Games.

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University Foundation Awards and Regents & University Awards

The Foundation recognized outstanding faculty and staff with more than \$73,000 for the 2021 awardees.

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What I've Learned: Keith Lee '65

2021 Alumnus of the Year, Distinguished Nevadan, generous University philanthropist, esteemed attorney and lobbyist.

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Morrill Hall Alumni Center
University of Nevada, Reno / 0007
Reno, NV 89557-0007
(775) 784-6620

CONTACT US

Class Notes / Mates / Pups:
chatter@unr.edu

Address Changes / Obituaries:
updateus@unr.edu

All Other Inquiries:
silverblue@unr.edu

Executive Editor
Bill Johnson

Managing Editor
Amy (Zurek) Carothers '01 M.A.

Art Director
Moses S. Achoka '07 M.A.

Contributing Editor
Keiko Weil '87, '18 M.A.

Staff Writer
Allison M. Williams '08

Photographer
Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

Contributors
Lois O'Neill
Emily Sharick '21 M.A.

Graduate Assistants
Jordan S. Buxton '21
Mahshid Farzan '21 M.S.

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 University of Nevada, Reno

Brian Sandoval '86
President

Jeff Thompson
Executive Vice President
and Provost

Bill Johnson
Vice President
University Advancement

 "Nevada Silver & Blue"



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On the cover

Hundreds of alumni, friends and students joined the Nevada Alumni Association in the MidTown District for PACK! MidTown during Homecoming 2021. The inaugural event featured a live radio broadcast, giveaways, chapter gatherings and more.

 Isaac Hoops '21



The University follows the guidelines put forth by the CDC, Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak, Washoe County Health District and NSHE Board of Regents.

The Pack is Back!

By Allison M. Williams '08



All 21,034 Nevada students returned to campus for the Fall 2021 semester and their return was celebrated in true Wolf Pack style!



Welcoming future alumni to The Wolf Pack Family



Top: Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA; Bottom: Jeff Dow

For new students, the first official days on campus start with NOW Week and NevadaFIT.

NOW Week welcomes students to the residence halls with move-in days, orientation celebrations, opening ceremonies and more. And NevadaFIT (Freshman Intensive Transition) is the first introduction to college life. This one-credit academic program welcomes freshmen and transfer students to the University one week before the semester starts — introducing them to professors, helping them get to know campus and preparing them for the rigors of higher education. Alongside the fun and camaraderie, this award-winning program is vital to student success helping boost one-year retention rates by 7-10% and four- to five-year graduation rates by 7-8%. This year's festivities were especially exciting with a record 11 discipline-specific bootcamps, more than 3,300 new students and nearly 500 student mentors taking part.

The Class of 2025 was also welcomed with new iPad Airs as part of the Digital Wolf Pack Initiative. This partnership with Apple provides a common learning platform and equal access to technology and digital tools. The Office of the Provost, Office of Information Technology, Office of Digital Learning, University Libraries and others worked together to get thousands of students tech-ready during NevadaFIT.

For more on this year's NevadaFIT and how generous donors ensured more students were able to take part, head to page 18.





Top and mid-left : Jordan S. Buxton '21; bottom-left and right: Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

New VP and Deans take the helm

Along with the Classes of 2024 and 2025 settling in on campus for the first time, the University also welcomed three new leaders at the start of the fall semester — Vice President for Advancement Bill Johnson, School of Public Health Dean Muge Akpinar-Elci and Dean of University Libraries Catherine Cardwell.

Learn more about each of these new leaders and what lies ahead for their school or division in University News on pages 20-36.

Welcome receptions were held to introduce Vice President for Advancement Bill Johnson (left), School of Public Health Dean Muge Akpinar-Elci (middle with her husband, Ronald Paul Dill) and Dean of University Libraries Catherine Cardwell (right) to the northern Nevada community.

Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA



Retired faculty reception



Retired faculty reception held in the University Honor Court on August 10, 2021.

Ushering in a new era for the College of Engineering

A year after completion, the William N. Pennington building officially opened its doors to all students and faculty. Serving as a cornerstone to continue the College of Engineering's growth which has already seen student enrollment double in the last 10 years, this 100,000-square-foot building was the result of \$25.1 million in gifts from more than 100 donors. At the start of the fall semester, these donors were invited back to campus to see all this new building has to offer.



Inside the William N. Pennington building, the research of the Nevada Water Innovation Institute led by 2021 Foundation Professor Krishna Pagilla has been key to understanding the prevalence of COVID-19 cases in Washoe County. By leveraging the University's established expertise and tools in cleaning water, faculty and students quickly pivoted at the start of the pandemic — becoming one of the first in the nation to measure COVID-19 cases through wastewater testing.

To learn more about the Nevada Water Innovation Institute and Pagilla's research, visit unr.edu/giving.

📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA



📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

Painting the town Blue for Homecoming 2021!



Top right: Jordan S. Buxton '21; all other photos on this page: Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

Much of northern Nevada bleeds Silver & Blue all year-round, but we're always especially proud to see the Truckee Meadows' love of the Pack on full display during Homecoming each year — and Homecoming 2021 was no different.

The festivities began with students taking to Chris Ault Field for the annual Running of the Wolves (pictured on page 2) and continued with our newest event, PACK! MidTown. Partnering with local businesses and the Associated Students of the University of Nevada and WolfPack Athletics, the Nevada Alumni Association was joined by hundreds of alumni, friends and students in the MidTown District for a live radio broadcast, giveaways, chapter gatherings and plenty of fun.

And Homecoming week wrapped up in the best way possible with a packed Mackay Stadium cheering Nevada on to a 34-17 victory over Hawaii.



Keeping Fremont Blue

In the first Mackay sellout since 2015, the Wolf Pack celebrated a decisive win over UNLV with a score of 51-20, keeping the Fremont Cannon blue for the second year in a row. Since this storied rivalry began in 1969, the Wolf Pack has won 28 times including an eight-game win streak from 2005 to 2012. **N**



Left: Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA; Top and bottom right: Jordan S. Buxton '21



Left-hand page: As part of Homecoming 2021, the Nevada Alumni Association hosted PACK! MidTown featuring special chapter gatherings, giveaways and more at local businesses. Then during halftime, the Alumni Award winners were honored on the field at Mackay Stadium.

From the Silver & Blue to the Red, White & Blue

Pack alumni bring home the gold and bronze from the Tokyo Olympic Games

By Allison M. Williams '08

After a year-long wait, the summer Olympics returned in 2021. With all eyes on Tokyo, it was a welcome sight to see Team USA, three Pack alumni and one Nevada coach take to the world stage.

Krysta Palmer '16 brings home the bronze

Nevada alumna Krysta Palmer '16 (community health sciences) took home the bronze in the women's 3-meter springboard diving competition — marking the first U.S. women's individual diving medal since 2000 and first U.S. medal in that event since 1988. What's more incredible is Palmer didn't start diving until age 20 after years of competing in gymnastics as well as internationally in trampolining. Injuries shortened her trampolining career and turned her focus to diving. She competed in her first senior nationals in diving in 2015 and quickly climbed the charts — taking bronze in the team events at the 2017 World Championship, joining the World Cup team in 2018 and winning gold in the 3-meter synchronized dive during the 2019 FINA USA Grand Prix.

Born and raised in Carson City and graduating from Douglas High School, Palmer says it was an honor to represent our great state and our alma mater where she now volunteers at the University of Nevada, Reno as assistant diving coach. Though Palmer is now a household name in diving for her bronze medal win at the Olympic





Krysta Palmer '16 with Nevada Diving Coach JianLi You at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Courtesy of Krysta Palmer '16


 javalemcgee
 West Coast - catch me and @pamelamcgee34 on @todayshow today! first mother-son duo ever to win olympic gold! 🏆🏆 @nbc



Krysta Palmer '16 and her parents, Mitch and Vicki, celebrating her return from the Tokyo Games.

Chris Holloman

Games in August, she admits she wouldn't mind being a professional snowboarder and aspires to perform with Cirque du Soleil and become a collegiate diving coach or even own her own business one day.

Palmer was accompanied by 26-year Nevada Diving Coach JianLi You. Coach JianLi is a record setter herself, becoming the first female in history to coach Team USA Diving at the Olympics. She also made the Olympics as an athlete for the People's Republic of China in 1980 but was unable to compete due to the boycott of the Moscow Games. As a diver on the Olympic team, she was ranked first in the world on the 1-meter springboard and was the Chinese National Champion in the 1-meter and 3-meter board as well as the platform from 1976-80. In her time at Nevada, JianLi has established the Pack as one of the premier diving schools in the region. She has coached numerous athletes to NCAA Championships, receiving the College Swimming Coaches Association of America's Coach of the Year honor in 2016, as well as six Mountain West and three Western Athletic Conference Diving Coach of the Year awards. JianLi has been loyal and committed to the University, expressing her love for Reno, support of Swim & Dive Head Coach Brendon Brey, as well as Nevada's Athletics Department.



Aivi Luik '07 represented Team Australia at the Tokyo Games.

Courtesy of Aivi Luik '07

JaVale McGee makes Pack history with gold medal

Former Wolf Pack Basketball player JaVale McGee (attended 2006-08) made history with the Pack as well as Team USA during the Tokyo Olympics. McGee became the first Wolf Pack alumnus to win Olympic Gold as Team USA Basketball topped France 87-82 in the gold medal game. And because McGee's mother is a fellow gold medalist, taking home hardware for Team USA in women's basketball at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, the McGees became the first mother-son duo to win gold medals in Olympic history.

JaVale McGee played starting center for the Wolf Pack from 2006-08 and was selected 18th overall in the 2008 NBA Draft by the Washington Wizards. In the time since, McGee became the first Wizard to ever participate in the NBA Slam Dunk Contest — taking 2nd to Blake Griffin in 2011. He went on to play for the Denver Nuggets, Philadelphia 76ers, Dallas Mavericks, Cleveland Cavaliers and has earned three NBA Championships with the Golden State Warriors and Los Angeles Lakers. Shortly after the Olympic games, McGee signed with the Phoenix Suns.

Aivi Luik represents Team Australia

Australian-born Aivi Luik '07 (geography) also represented the Wolf Pack in Tokyo. Playing for the Australian women's soccer team, Luik made it to the bronze medal match where Australia lost to the United States.

Luik was a two-year starter for the Pack from 2005-06. As a captain her senior year, Luik scored the game-winning penalty kick to win the WAC and was named Nevada's most valuable player — ending her collegiate career with nine goals and seven assists for 25 points.

Since graduation, Luik has played for numerous professional teams, including Sevilla FC in Spain, the Brøndby IF in Denmark, Notts County in England and the last four years as a midfielder for Melbourne City FC. During that time, Melbourne City won four championships and two premierships with Luik named W-League Player of the Year in 2016. Shortly after taking the field in Tokyo, Luik announced her retirement from the Australian national team after more than 30 appearances. **N**

School of Medicine and Renown Health affiliation signing: June 28

“We signed the official University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and Renown Health Affiliation Agreement. The coming together of these medical institutions will provide cutting-edge patient care delivery, greater clinical research opportunities and the promise that the next generation of medical providers in Nevada will receive the highest medical training possible. This agreement will bring Nevada to the next level of health care and medical education. A special thank you to everyone who attended the event signing and to everyone who worked so hard to make this agreement a reality. This is the first of what will be many more successes to come from this historic affiliation. This is what The Wolf Pack Family is about. Go Pack!”

President Sandoval '86 stands with Renown President and CEO, Tony Slonim, during the official affiliation agreement signing between the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and Renown Health.



K-12 Robotics Center opening: Aug. 6



“As we celebrate the grand opening of the K-12 Robotics Center, we are grateful to the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada and Tesla for making this center a reality. This space will encourage young people’s interest in robotics, computer science, engineering and automation. Thank you to everyone in attendance.”

President Sandoval '86 addresses attendees at the grand opening of the K-12 Robotics Center in downtown Reno.

Digital Wolf Pack Initiative: Aug. 12



“It is the first day of the Digital Wolf Pack Initiative iPad distribution at the University! This program provides a common learning platform that delivers digital equity to technology and digital tools.”

President Sandoval '86 stands in front of the John Mackay Statue surrounded by iPads that were distributed to students as part of the Digital Wolf Pack Initiative.

Welcoming the Class of 2025: Aug. 16



“I have so much #PackPride in welcoming every transfer student and member of the #ClassOf2025 to the Wolf Pack! A huge thank you to all who made the Opening Ceremony a success and to Greater Nevada Credit Union for their support! Here’s to a great NevadaFIT week. #GoPack”

Left to right: Michael Thomas, GNCU vice president of marketing; Lauralyn Sandoval '92, University first lady; Brian Sandoval '86, University president; Jeff Thompson, executive vice president and provost; Danny DeLaRosa, GNCU chief development officer and John Ahdunko '06, GNCU vice president of business development. 📷 Dave Siegel

Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration: Oct. 12

“What an absolute honor it was to attend the University of Nevada, Reno’s Multicultural Center’s Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration. Our campus is on traditional homelands and we embrace that it remains a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on this land.”

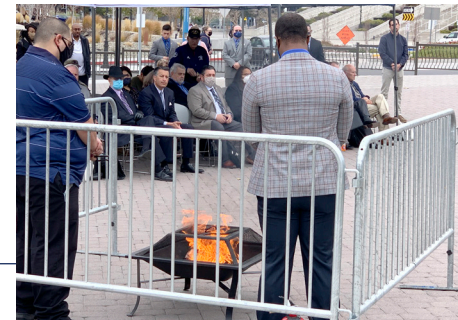


President Sandoval '86 with members of the region's Indigenous community as part of the Multicultural Center's Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration.

American Flag Retirement Ceremony: Nov. 10

“As we approach Veterans Day, it was a true honor and privilege to be a part of the University of Nevada, Reno’s American Flag Retirement Ceremony with many of our student veterans and the University Veteran Services Office. This was a powerful and moving ceremony as we respectfully retired American flags that were no longer serviceable.”

President Sandoval '86 attending the American Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Gateway Plaza in front of the Joe Crowley Student Union.



University Way naming approval: Nov. 10

“Thank you to our Reno City Council members for approving the renaming of Center Street between the Truckee River Bridge near 1st Street and the University gates at 9th Street as ‘University Way.’ This demonstrates our strong connections with Reno, strengthens downtown revitalization efforts and builds momentum for the sesquicentennial celebrations in 2024 that will mark the 150th anniversary of our University’s founding. Collaboration and partnership between the University and the City have never been greater. The renaming provides a powerful testament to how important the University’s position as the doorstep to downtown Reno truly is.”

Image rendering that depicts what “University Way” street sign will look like.

© Courtesy of University of Nevada, Reno



President Johnson’s portrait unveiling: Nov. 17

“We honored the presidency of Dr. Marc Johnson with the unveiling of his presidential portrait. When the history of Dr. Johnson’s presidency is written, it will tell the story of a person who learned the value of diligence, determination and hard work ... a person who was then able to resoundingly answer the call of a university in need of a strong leader. ... Ultimately, his presidency was the presidency that reminded the University of its truest purposes and the enduring tenets it had been founded upon in 1874.”

Left to right: Jerry Smith '03 (honorary degree) of the Nell J. Redfield Foundation, NSHE Board of Regents Chair Pro Tempore Carol Del Carlo '72, Regent Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr., Regent Cathy McAdoo, Dr. Karen Penner-Johnson, 16th President Marc Johnson and President Brian Sandoval '86.



2021 UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO FOUNDATION AWARDS

Incorporated in 1981, the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2021 — and in the 2020-21 academic year, the Foundation provided more than \$40.4 million in support of University programs, capital projects and student scholarships across campus. The following awards are sponsored, in whole or in part, by the University Foundation. Through unrestricted gifts, the Foundation recognized outstanding faculty and staff with more than \$73,000 for the 2021 awardees.



Left to right: 2021 Foundation Professors Krishna Pagilla, Markus Kemmelmeier and Elizabeth Leger.

© Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

2021 Foundation Professors

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ach year, three tenured professors with a record of excellence as teachers and scholars and a demonstrated record of service to the University are named Foundation Professors — an honorific title carried in perpetuity.

In 2021, Markus Kemmelmeier, professor of sociology and director of the Interdisciplinary Social Psychology Ph.D. Program; Elizabeth Leger, professor of biology and director of the University's Museum of Natural History and Krishna Pagilla, professor and chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and director of the Nevada Water Innovation Institute were bestowed the honors of Foundation Professor.



You can learn more about each of these professors and hear how their research is impacting our region with in-depth interviews at unr.edu/giving





UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO FOUNDATION
CELEBRATING

40 YEARS



2021 Foundation Award Winners



*F. Donald Tibbitts
Distinguished Teacher Award*

Bob Ives, Associate Professor of Special Education - College of Education & Human Development



*Foundation Established
Innovator Award*

Manoranjan Misra
Professor of Chemical & Materials Engineering - College of Engineering



*F. Donald Tibbitts
Distinguished Teacher Award*

Matthew C. Leone, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice; Director of Graduate Students, Criminal Justice - College of Liberal Arts



Foundation Innovative Impact Award

John Atkinson '14, Coordinator for Programs and Services - Center for Student Engagement



*Foundation Administrative Faculty of the
Year Award*

Ed Huffman
Executive Director, Office of Digital Learning - Office of the Provost



Foundation Innovative Impact Award

KaPreace Young '16, '20 M.A.
Student Engagement Outreach Coordinator - Center for Student Engagement



*Foundation Early Career
Innovator Award*

Christopher Barile, Assistant Professor of Chemistry - College of Science



*Foundation Outstanding
Supervisor Award*

Jim Fitzsimmons '91, '97 M.S., '12 Ed.D., Director Emeritus of Fitness and Recreational Sports; Interim Director Emeritus of Joe Crowley Student Union

Distinguished Classified Employee Award

Melissa Westphal, Administrative Assistant IV
College of Education & Human Development

UNIVERSITY AND REGENTS AWARD WINNERS

Every University student's success is influenced by our exceptional faculty's teaching and mentorship. Every research breakthrough is achieved through our faculty's dedication and commitment. Every innovative community partnership is strengthened by our faculty's resolve to make the world a better place. Our faculty work tirelessly to prepare our student body for productive and rewarding careers to help ensure the challenges that lie ahead are met with tenacity by these future leaders who will seek solutions that serve us all. Each year, faculty and administrative staff are recognized for their service to the University, its missions and its students. In this issue, we celebrate those individuals who are honored with awards by the Nevada System of Higher Education, Board of Regents and awards bestowed by the University of Nevada, Reno.



Paul and Judy Bible University Teaching Excellence Award

Jennifer Hollander '02 M.S., '07 Ph.D.
Teaching Associate Professor of Biology
College of Science



Distinguished Outreach Faculty

Trudy Larson
Dean Emerita
School of Public Health



Distinguished Faculty

Scott Mensing
2017 Foundation Professor, Fred D. Gibson, Jr. Endowed Professor in Geography - College of Science



Distinguished Service

Raymond Needham '05
Director Emeritus of Scheduling Services
Office of the Provost



Distinguished Faculty

Elizabeth Raymond
Professor Emerita of History
College of Liberal Arts



Graduate Academic Advisor Award

Anna Panorska
Professor of Mathematics and Statistics
College of Science



Distinguished Outreach Faculty

Amy Altick '91, '04 Ph.D.
Teaching Assistant Professor of Biology
College of Science



Inclusion, Equity and Diversity Leadership Award

Lorraine Benuto
Associate Professor of Psychology
College of Science



Outstanding Researcher of the Year

Thomas W. Bell
Professor of Chemistry
College of Science



Regents' Rising Researcher Award

Jennifer Pearson
Associate Professor of Health Policy and
Administration - School of Public Health



*Outstanding Undergraduate Research
Faculty Mentor*

Edward Schoolman
Associate Professor of History
College of Liberal Arts



Regents' Rising Researcher Award

Kyra Stull
Assistant Professor of Anthropology
College of Liberal Arts



Ozmen Global Engagement Award

Christopher Morgan
Associate Professor and Chair, Department
of Anthropology - College of Liberal Arts



Regents' Teaching Award

Pamela Sandstrom '07 Ph.D.
Teaching Associate Professor of Biology
College of Science



*Regents' Academic Advisor Award –
Undergraduate Academic Advisor Award*

Janita Ethridge '03, '10 M.A.
Director of Advising, Recruitment and
Retention - School of Public Health



Regents' Teaching Award

Geoffrey Smith '06 M.A.
Associate Professor of Anthropology
College of Liberal Arts



Regents' Researcher Award – Distinguished

Ian Buckle
Professor of Civil & Environmental
Engineering - College of Engineering



Thornton Peace Prize

Nicole Jacobs '99 M.A., '03 Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion;
Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral
Sciences - University of Nevada, Reno
School of Medicine



Regents' Researcher Award – Mid-Career

Scott Earley
Professor of Pharmacology - University of
Nevada, Reno School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY AND
REGENTS
AWARD
WINNERS



Greater Nevada Credit Union provides substantial support to NevadaFIT

Last fall, Greater Nevada Credit Union continued its 25-year support of the University through its gift of \$150,000 to NevadaFIT (Freshman Intensive Transition), a one-credit academic program that welcomes 3,500 new students to campus one week before the fall semester.

This award-winning program has increased retention and graduation rates by pairing new students with student mentors. The goal is to prepare incoming students for the rigors ahead, ensure a smooth transition from high school and greater success in their higher education journey. Thanks to this gift from GNCU, along with other donor support of this program, NevadaFIT assisted 1,100 low-income students by covering requisite course fees.

A dedicated University partner across numerous programs and colleges, GNCU is recognized as a Gold Benefactor in the University Honor Court for steadfast support of the Wolf Pack Marching and Howlers Pep Bands, Nevada Money Mentors Program, The College of Business, Wolf Pack Athletics, Pack Provisions and more.



Left to right: Michael Thomas, GNCU vice president of marketing; Lauralyn Sandoval '92, University first lady; Brian Sandoval '86, University president; Jeff Thompson, executive vice president and provost; Danny DeLaRosa, GNCU chief development officer and John Ahdunko '06, GNCU vice president of business development. Dave Siegel



To learn more about supporting NevadaFIT or for more information on corporate support of the University, please contact Crystal Parrish, director, corporate and foundation relations, at (775) 682-6023 or cparrish@unr.edu.



Nell J. Redfield Foundation continues decadelong support of National Merit Scholars

Since 2011, the Nell J. Redfield Foundation has supported high-achieving students throughout their academic journeys on campus. Among these 10 cohorts of students, nearly \$3 million has been gifted to support 62 students. In recognition of their academic excellence, the Redfield Foundation also hosts an annual luncheon celebrating these National Merit Scholars.

Recognized in the University Honor Court as a Philanthropist, the Nell J. Redfield Foundation has been a generous supporter campuswide for more than 40 years. In addition to support of the Nell J. Redfield Foundation

Scholarship for University of Nevada, Reno National Merit Scholars Fund, the Redfield Foundation has supported the Dean's Future Scholars program, Wolf Pack Athletics, the Nell J. Redfield UNR Med Chair in Pediatrics/Pediatrician-in-Chief of Renown Children's Hospital, Redfield Student Outreach Clinic, UNR Med Moana Facility, the new Sports Management Program and much more.



For more information on supporting University students, please contact Christina Sarman '00, '11 M.A., executive director of development, at (775) 784-6009 or christinas@unr.edu.

Top row (left to right): Executive Vice President and Provost Jeff Thompson, Nell J. Redfield Foundation Trustee Jerry Smith '03 (honorary degree) and Vice President for Advancement Bill Johnson. **Second row (left to right):** Eric Chio and August Hart. **Third row (left to right):** Gabriel Angres, Daniel Angres and Miriam Yun. **Fourth row (left to right):** Ajith Mathew, Milo Owens and Jaden Tan. **Bottom row (left to right):** Peverel Shipley, Justin Lu and Lexi Kruljack. Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA



Debbie Leonard, president of Leonard Law, PC.

Leonard Law, PC

Upward Bound Scholarship Endowment established by Debbie Leonard

Debbie Leonard, president of Leonard Law, PC, established the Upward Bound Scholarship Endowment to pass on her gratitude for the opportunities she has received, and to help Upward Bound Classic and Math Science students further their educational goals and advance themselves personally and professionally.

Upward Bound was started as the country's first federal program aimed at preparing first-generation, income-qualified students for college. Now heading into its 55th year, the program at Nevada is one of the oldest Upward Bound programs in the country. Each year, the four Upward Bound Classic and Math Science programs at the University serve 246 students at eight target high schools in Washoe and Lyon counties.

"Upward Bound is focused on helping motivated, hardworking students reach their academic goal of pursuing a college education," said Ellen Houston '96, '05 M.A., director of the University's Upward Bound Classic and Math Science Programs. "This is the first endowment created to sup-

port Upward Bound students in perpetuity with the first scholarship being awarded this fall. Thanks to donors like Debbie, we can provide funding support for college to these deserving students for generations to come."

Leonard worked as a biologist and science teacher before becoming a lawyer and founding her own firm in 2019. Committed to enriching opportunities for young people, Leonard has taught in various outdoor education and classroom settings, mentored with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program for more than a decade and provides pro bono legal services to those with limited financial means. Alongside her support of Upward Bound, Leonard's generosity has aided other critical programs at the University including KUNR as well as Pack Provisions and the School of the Arts Excellence Fund.



For more information on supporting University students, please contact Christina Sarman '00, '11 M.A., executive director of development, at (775) 784-6009 or christinas@unr.edu.



Jack Boland '76 in the University Honor Court.

Theresa Danna

Jack Boland provides additional support for endowed scholarship in The College of Business

Silver Benefactor in the University Honor Court, Jack Boland '76 (economics) continued his support of the Jack Boland Scholarship Endowment with multiple gifts made in 2020 and 2021. Boland established this endowment in June 2015 to support undergraduate and graduate students studying economics.

As a student worker in the University's office of business and economic research, faculty in the Department of Economics encouraged Boland to pursue his Ph.D. With all but his dissertation finished at the University of Texas, he began his career as an econometrician for the State of Texas Health and Human Services where he worked for more than 25 years.

"The generous support of alumni like Jack Boland is what makes us a great University and

great college," said Greg Mosier, dean of The College of Business. "Deserving students who are studying economics will be able to follow in Jack's footsteps and reach their full potential in pursuit of their dreams and goals."

Boland has also been a steadfast supporter of the Alice Kellames Memorial Scholarship Endowment which supports undergraduate students majoring in geological sciences and engineering. The scholarship was established in 2005 in honor of Boland's cousin, Alice, who served as assistant to the dean of the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering for 36 years.

Both the Jack Boland Scholarship Endowment and the Alice Kellames Memorial Scholarship Endowment have been continuously awarded, helping numerous students over the last 15 years.



For more information on supporting students in The College of Business, please contact Zack Madonick '11, director of development, at (775) 682-6041 or madonick@unr.edu. And to learn more about supporting College of Science students, please contact Donna Knotek '12, '15 MBA, director of development, at (775) 682-5952 or dknotek@unr.edu; or contact Leigh Fitzpatrick, director of development, at (775) 682-8791 or lfitzpatrick@unr.edu.



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Donor-funded scholarship recipients (from left to right) Vincent Lee (class of 2024), Katie Davidson (class of 2022) and Domminic Mayer (class of 2025) on the Quad with Vice President for Advancement Bill Johnson (third from left).

📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA



University welcomes new Vice President for Advancement Bill Johnson

New advancement VP brings more than three decades of higher education experience

By Allison M. Williams '08

In early September, the University of Nevada, Reno welcomed Bill Johnson as the new vice president for advancement and executive director of the University Foundation. Throughout his 30-year career in higher education, Johnson has worked to make more educational opportunities available to first-generation students.

Most recently, Johnson served as vice president for advancement at California State University, East Bay where he directed fundraising, Alumni Relations, Advancement Services and University Communications. In his time there, the development team led four of the five most productive philanthropic years in the institution's history as well as a comprehensive campaign that surpassed its goals by more than 25%. From 2014-17, he served as associate vice president of development at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, where he led engagement and development initiatives throughout Europe and the Middle East while overseeing all nine colleges/units and the development activities of three campuses. He also served as senior director of development for the School of Management at the

University of San Francisco from 2010-14, and was responsible for leading engagement and development initiatives throughout Asia Pacific.

"Bill has had a notable and distinguished career in advancement, one that has demonstrated highly innovative approaches that have helped build and deepen relationships between the institutions where he has served and the communities of which they are a part," University President Brian Sandoval '86 (English) said. "Bill emerged as the top candidate during our national search due to his excellent communication skills, and the many initiatives he has successfully implemented that have helped his institutions broaden their reach to a regional, national and even international scale, including having a greater impact in providing educational opportunities for members of our underserved populations. Bill articulated a strong passion and a compelling vision for all of the University's efforts in advancement. We are pleased to welcome Bill and his family to our family, The Wolf Pack Family."

"It was clear from my first visit to campus the influence the University has on stu-

Bill Johnson, new vice president for advancement and executive director of the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation, was a visiting administrative fellow at Harvard University's prestigious Native American Program and currently serves as chair of the Global Impact Committee for CASE District VII.

dents, the region and Nevada," Johnson said. "As a land-grant institution, the University of Nevada, Reno creates an important pathway for college, truly changing the lives of its graduates, as I know personally from my family's experience. My father and his brothers are graduates from a land-grant, my grandmother was then inspired to go to the same university to earn her degree in her 50s. And I have two degrees from a land-grant institution. I know the power that philanthropy can have on amplifying that impact, and I am excited to elevate those efforts here at Nevada."

Johnson is also a former student-athlete — playing basketball at Nebraska where he earned his bachelor's in education in 1989, followed by a master's in education administration/athletic administration in 1994. He continued that love of athletics as head basketball coach at Casper College in Wyoming and as assistant coach at the University of San Francisco, Columbia University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

unr.edu/giving



University of Nevada, Reno staff and volunteers plant the new Jessica Younger Dickens Memorial Orchard at the Valley Road Experiment Station. © Robert Moore

Fresh apples for students and research will spring from new memorial orchard

Valley Road Experiment Station is home to new Jessica Younger Dickens Memorial Orchard

By Claudene Wharton '86, '99 M.A.

A half-acre organic apple orchard has been planted at the University's Valley Road Experiment Station, part of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources. The orchard will serve to identify and propagate "antique" cider apples, as well as provide table apples for students. But to those who knew Jessica Younger Dickens '03, who passed away in March 2020, the Jessica Younger Dickens Memorial Orchard will provide a place to gather and reflect on the exceptional person she was, and a way to honor her memory. Shortly after Younger Dickens was diagnosed with brain cancer in 2017, she said she always wanted an edible garden on campus.

Younger Dickens earned her bachelor's degree in business administration in 2003, and began working at the University of Ne-

vada, Reno School of Medicine in 2007. When Thomas Schwenk became Dean of UNR Med in 2011, she started as his executive assistant, but soon became his chief of staff.

"Jessica wasn't really just my chief of staff," Schwenk said. "She was the school's chief of staff. Jessica pushed colleagues when they needed to be pushed, and supported them when they needed support. Every single member of the School of Medicine benefited by her commitment to their successes and the school's success. She was a mentor and a colleague to all."

Yani Dickens '99, '18 MBA, Jessica's widower and associate director of Counseling Services at the University, said that her upbringing in the ranching and farming community of Alturas, California, made Younger Dickens grounded, and that much of her work ethic and desire to help people

came from this upbringing.

"Jessica was a remarkably strong, wise and dedicated person, and she brought this to her work at the University," Yani Dickens said. "Jessica's memorial orchard is intended to commemorate and reflect not only Jessica, but also her values. It was also important to her to make things better through her work, to do meaningful and impactful work, and to help the medical school thrive and become successful, not only its mission, but as a healthy place to work. It would truly delight Jessica to know that the fruit from the garden will feed students in need, while promoting appreciation for where our food comes from."

Students in need will get apples from 31 table apple trees through the University's food pantry, Pack Provisions. The cuttings for these trees were provided by trees from the orchard of Neil Crowley '88, son of Joe Crowley, president of the University from 1978 to 2001. Excess apples will be sold to help fund the orchard's maintenance.

The Experiment Station's Desert Farming Initiative, which conducts research, provides hands-on learning for students and supplies certified organic produce to the community, will maintain the orchard. The Experiment Station and gifts made in memory of Jessica Younger Dickens are funding the orchard.

The other 96 trees in the orchard are 12 "antique" cider apple varieties taken from trees in Washoe Valley, some more than 100 years old. Faculty Emeritus William "Bill" Murphy-Sharp, co-owner of Tea House Gardens, obtained cuttings from various landowners and grafted them onto two different rootstocks. He is serving as a liaison between community apple enthusiasts and Assistant Professor Melinda Yerka, who will use the trees in plant breeding and genetics research to identify the varieties, some of which may have never been identified before, and their unique qualities. The project will also evaluate other factors, such as how flavor is passed down, how the environment influences texture and flavor, and how different rootstocks influence the varieties' performance.

The Felix Gillet Institute in California is a partner in the project, helping to study these antique varieties, and also helping to propagate and preserve them for future generations by growing them and allowing others to take cuttings. It seems a concept that Younger Dickens would also embrace.



The sports management ball is rolling at Nevada

Why now is a great time to get into the business of sports

By Tessa Bowen

As we head toward the finish line of a challenging couple of years for the sports industry, there are several reasons to be optimistic about the global industry's future.

New challenges have brought new opportunities. Employment in sports occupations is projected to grow by 22% from 2020 to 2030, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. And the "Spectator Sports Global Market Report 2020-30: COVID-19 Impact and Recovery" projects a compound annual growth rate of 8% in the global spectator sports market from early 2021 over the next several years.

"Sustained growth after a period of downturn means a growing number of job opportunities, across a more diverse range of roles," said Dean of The College of Business Greg Mosier. "Worldwide, the sports industry is getting back on track. There's an enormous demand for business knowledge within sports organizations, and The College of Business is poised to guide the industry's recovery with a pipeline of sports management professionals."

This is great news for students interested in sports management careers. With all the time and money invested in college education, students can be confident in not only viable — but also lucrative — career opportunities in the multibillion-dollar sports industry after graduation.

"This moment of market disruption

offers a unique opportunity to develop innovative ideas, reshape existing business models and try creative new approaches to sports," said Director of Sports Management Programs Cary Groth. "It's going to be challenging, but it's also an exciting time to begin a sports industry career."

Amid a changing landscape, it will be essential for the next generation of sports industry business leaders to understand the long game. So, The College of Business got the ball rolling. The new executive certificate and minor in sports management are off to the races, with enrollment projected to grow quickly as word gets out about the first program of its kind in the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Executive Certificate in Sports Management

The inaugural Executive Certificate in Sports Management cohort began in Fall 2021 with a diverse group of 14 graduate students from the intercollegiate, professional and private sectors, who are engaged and learning from incredible leaders in the sports profession. Students will receive their certificate in May after completion of their final class as part of the Tahoe Sports Summit in Incline Village happening May 9-11.

Minor in Sports Management

The new sports management minor launched in Spring 2021 and is open to all students at the University. More than 100 students

Sandy Hatfield Clubb speaks to the BUS 450 Sports Management Program class taught by Tina Ruff '16 Ed.D. as part of the sports management minor. With more than 27 years of intercollegiate athletics leadership experience at the NCAA Division I level, Hatfield Clubb has a national reputation as a leading voice for a transformative model of Division I athletics that aligns athletic excellence with the academic missions of their respective universities.

 BizUNR Sports Management Program

enrolled in the three sports management classes offered in Fall 2021, including graduate students taking elective courses.

"Sports management classes are taught by some of the best in the industry, teaching relevant subject matters drawing from their professional experiences," said Groth. "It's important that students learn the issues facing the sports industry while learning from those in it."

Groth is a highly accomplished athletics administrator who has more than 40 years of experience in intercollegiate athletics. Her extraordinarily successful and dynamic career has spanned two NCAA Division I FBS institutions: Northern Illinois University and the University of Nevada, Reno where she served at each institution as athletics director. Groth is credited for leading both institutions into nationally competitive athletics programs, while increasing the graduation rate of student-athletes.

unr.edu/business/sports

Educating and protecting northern Nevada's young children during COVID-19

The University's Child and Family Research Center adapted to educate and protect children and toddlers during a global pandemic



The University's Child and Family Research Center.
© Jeff Dow

By Jesse R. Stone

The Child and Family Research Center is a University of Nevada, Reno institution designed to aid faculty research projects, train the next generation of child care professionals and provide quality care to local families and University employees. When the University had to close at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CFRC had no choice except to follow suit. CFRC Director Sherry Waugh '84 (home economics education), '89 M.S. was forced to navigate how to pay her teachers and staff, and keep the empty building's lights on as the world flipped upside down.

"The CFRC exists for multiple purposes," Waugh said. "It started many years ago, and the primary purpose was the training of students. It was not a full-time child care service. It was a part-day program that had children come in, just so students could get experience working with them. It wasn't until the 1980s that full-time child care was available. The purpose then shifted from just being a training site to providing service for

students, staff and faculty."

Even while the CFRC was closed, the center did its best to continue providing whatever services it could to parents. The CFRC's mental health specialist set up monthly meetings over Zoom, offering advice and support to parents watching their children at home.

"Parents were looking for someone to talk to about behavior challenges, routines, things when children were home all day, every day," CFRC Daily Operations Assistant Director Michelle Saunders '87 (child development), '94 M.S. (human development & family studies) said. "We have wonderful teachers and families, and we all feel like we're here for the good of the families and work hard to make sure they have a good place to attend."

After only eight weeks, the CFRC reopened and now had to figure out how to adapt faculty research projects to an online format, properly communicate with parents and find student employees when a significant number had left the local area. All this ignores the CFRC's most obvious

and important adaptation: keeping their children safe while providing the quality of care necessary for their development.

"Most of us have worked with children for 10, 20, 30 years," Waugh said. "With toddlers and young children, a runny nose and a cough is a continual event. But now, we can't just take that for granted. We have to require quarantine until they have a doctor's note or until they have a negative COVID-19 test. That puts another whole level of stress on families."

The staff worked to combine the guidelines from health and child care agencies to create precautions that were both safe and conducive to the children's education. These guidelines were updated as the pandemic progressed but included taking temperatures outside of the building every morning, trying to keep the same groups of children and caretakers together whenever possible and requiring quarantine from any students who had any COVID-19 symptoms. Parent tours had to be conducted over Zoom, so some parents who enrolled their children with the CFRC during the pandemic had never even stepped into the building they sent their child to for multiple hours every day. Faculty research was now conducted with staff cellphone cameras instead of in-person observations.

Despite all these changes, the CFRC is open and has, except for a few classroom closures, remained open since that eight-week gap in the spring of 2020. For the parents, finding a responsible caretaker for their child for even such a small time was borderline impossible, as child care facilities across the country struggled to stay open and meet demand.

"Seeing the children and the families, you realize how important what you do is," Waugh said. "My office door is right inside the center, and it is right inside where the children enter and exit. I can't tell you how many hugs I get, how many 'Hellos' and 'Byes' I get as they go in and out. It feeds your soul to see them and hear them."

College of Engineering Internship & Career Fair helps students, employers connect on campus



The College of Engineering Internship & Career Fair on September 22. © Isaac Hoops '21

By Curtis Vickers '07 M.A.

On September 22, 61 employers connected with 596 students at the College of Engineering's Internship & Career Fair. Hosted by the College of Engineering's Career Services, the semiannual event is designed to help students transition from the University to fulfilling careers in high-demand industries.

"The fair is an excellent opportunity for students to see the options available to them to pursue satisfying and meaningful work in our community," Engineering Career Services Director Joe Bozsik '15 M.A. (educational leadership) said. "We have a lively engineering and computer science community in northern Nevada, and we're excited to invite so many exceptional companies, organizations and public agencies to campus."

Participating employers offered internship and employment opportunities to engineering students majoring in all engineering disciplines and at all stages of their academic careers — from bachelor's degree seekers to doctoral candidates.

Among the employers was aerospace and national security company Sierra Nevada Corporation. Ben Damonte '06

(computer science), SNC senior engineering manager for software, spoke to students about internships and employment positions on his team.

"I enjoy the opportunity to talk to students and let them know what's available at SNC," Damonte said. "Students are often surprised to learn that they'll be helping with real projects. We don't have side projects for our interns. They are added to a real development team, working on active projects that support and protect our explorers and heroes."

Damonte can attest to the importance of internships. Before graduating from the University in 2006, he held an internship with SNC. The position turned into full-time employment working on a range of projects that span from avionics, radars and intelligence to navigation and surveillance.

"The University and SNC have a very successful relationship," Damonte, who now serves on the advisory board for the Department of Computer Science & Engineering, added. "There are a lot of UNR alumni at SNC — including our CEO, Fatih Ozmen '81 M.S. (electrical engineering), '16 (Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters) — and many who started out as interns before converting to full-time engineers."

While Damonte was specifically looking for computer science and engineering students to join his software development team, other representatives from SNC sought electrical engineers and mechanical engineers. Other local employers also looked to hire students from each of the disciplines offered in the College of Engineering. By connecting students with employers looking for their skill sets, the Internship & Career Fair is key to the college's mission of supporting the economic vitality of the northern Nevada community.

"Our engineering and computer science curricula are designed to provide students with a globally competitive education," College of Engineering Dean Manos Maragakis said. "By connecting our exceptional students with employers at the cutting edge of their fields, we support the drivers of our region's economic future, while helping our students and alumni enjoy a lifetime filled with endless opportunities to make a difference through their ingenuity and innovation."

unr.edu/engineering



The Basque statue at its new location at the University of Nevada, Reno.

© Lisa McDonald '09, '15 MBA

Celebrating the Basque Diaspora with the addition of a statue

The William A. Douglass Center for Basque Studies celebrated the donation and relocation of noted statue to campus on Basque Diaspora Day

By Lisa McDonald '09, '15 MBA

The William A. Douglass Center for Basque Studies in the College of Liberal Arts hosted an outdoor program and reception at the University of Nevada, Reno celebrating the Statue of the Basque Shepherd on the Day of the Basque Diaspora, Wednesday, Sept. 8.

The celebration included traditional Basque music and dance as well as reflections from Michonne and Stephen Ascuaga. A brief program honored the memory of their late parents, Rose and John Ascuaga '76 (honorary degree), and the many Basques who emigrated to the American West whose values, spirit and stories are embodied by the statue of the Basque shepherd.

The Basque Diaspora embodies much of the same through a celebration and acknowledgment of all the Basques who now live outside of the Basque Country. The Day

of the Basque Diaspora occurs each year on September 8.

The statue celebration

The celebratory event was well attended with more than 100 guests from the community. Director Emeritus William A. Douglass '61 (Spanish) was among those in attendance and acknowledged for his dedication and to the Center for Basque Studies and to the Basque community. Stories of love, courage and tears were shared by many recounting their time spent in the Basque Country and the arduous trek westward to find a better life outside of sheepherding.

Guests enjoyed traditional dancing, reciting poems in Basque and a long-awaited opportunity to come together. It is clear the statue's presence on campus is one of great pride to the Basque community and the University.

“The life of a shepherd was tough,” Professor of Basque Studies Sandra Ott said. “They spent months on end alone in the hills with their bands of sheep, often at the expense of their physical and mental health. But the story of the Basque shepherd is incomplete without that of the Basque women who came out here and worked in the sheep camps.”

The Basque statue

As the original owners of the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, the late Rose and John Ascuaga commissioned artist and Reno local Douglas Van Howd to sculpt the Basque statue for the opening of the casino's Basque-themed restaurant, Orozko, in 1998. Van Howd is well known worldwide for his wildlife and western creations. He also sculpted the wolves statue at the entrance of Mackay Stadium. Although he sculpted the Basque statue years ago, he was still very much involved in its relocation and even visited campus once to clean the statue.

For many years the striking bronze figure of the Basque shepherd welcomed visitors to the Nugget. In 2017, it was generously donated to the University and the Center for Basque Studies by the Nugget Casino Resort, now owned by Marnell Gaming, LLC. On May 27, 2020, the statue was relocated to its new home on the University campus, beautifully surrounded by the high desert Nevada landscape, where it now greets students as they walk past. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the statue was not properly celebrated until 2021.


“Robert Laxalt's '47 (English) much beloved memoir, 'Sweet Promised Land,' and our celebration speak not only to all first-generation immigrants who made their way west — they speak broadly to the journeys and experiences of all immigrants from diverse cultures, ethnicities and religions who came to America, who toiled, endured countless hardships and contributed so much to the shaping of our country,” Ott said.

It took a village to move the statue. And now the statue returns the favor by looking over its village. Similar to the Basques who migrated west seeking a better life, the students on campus too are seeking a better future, and the shepherd statue will welcome all who strive.

unr.edu/liberal-arts



Funding in flight

Department of Geography Professor and Chair Douglas Boyle's research team tested flying the new drone LiDAR system in the Wind River Range in Wyoming. **Left to right:** Courtney Meyerholz, Douglas Boyle '96 M.S., Chris Dunbar and Tom Brunner.  [Jasmin Shah](#)



Making climate prediction models more accurate with support from the Global Climate Change Foundation

By Jennifer Kent

Department of Geography Professor and Chair Douglas Boyle '96 M.S. (hydrology/hydrogeology) has been mapping and modeling glacial terrain and terminal lake basins for the past decade in an effort to build an accurate estimation of climatic conditions over the last 20,000-plus years. A new drone-based Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) system funded in large part by the Global Climate Change Foundation will make Boyle's data more accurate. More accurate data means more accurate climate prediction models. And more accurate modeling can help scientists and policymakers target solutions for curbing the warming of our planet.

The Global Climate Change Foundation was formed by one of the most influential Earth and climate scientists of the past century, the late Wallace "Wally" Broecker, along with the Comer Family Foundation. Broecker and Boyle met at a conference of

climate scientists in 2009, before Boyle had joined the University, and Broecker became somewhat of a mentor to Boyle.

"Wally brought me into his dryland hydrology group and convinced me in 2010 to apply for and accept a new position as a paleoclimate modeler in the Department of Geography at the University of Nevada, Reno," Boyle said. "Wally was instrumental in guiding me through a major change in my career path."

The two held a shared mission: to better understand how and why abrupt changes in the Earth's climate occurred in the past and use that knowledge to better understand how the Earth might respond to current and future changes in the climate. Broecker's legacy of support and deep concern for the future of the planet and his advocacy for geoengineering technology is reflected in the projects funded by the Global Climate Change Foundation, including the purchase of the new LiDAR technology Boyle will now be using.

"Funding from private donors like the Global Climate Change Foundation serves as seed funding that allows us to quickly

explore, test and implement a new idea or technology aimed at advancing our mission without having to wait for the right funding cycle to come around through a government-funded program," Boyle said.

Boyle's nationally collaborative research team, now bolstered by the new ultra-accurate LiDAR modeling technology, is in the process of developing an exceptionally accurate chronology of the response of glacial moraines and terminal lakes to climate changes over the last 20,000-plus years. This chronology will be used to improve our understanding of the sensitivity of mountain snow and ice in dryland regions to the effects of atmospheric warming and consequent impacts on regional water availability.

In July 2021, Boyle and his team brought the drone to the Wind River Range in Wyoming to run a test flight. The team will be taking the drone system back to Wyoming, out to dry lakes in the Great Basin and to mountain glacier landforms in Australia.

unr.edu/science

One scholar, one slide, three minutes: The Graduate School's Three-Minute Thesis Competition (3MT) is coming!

By Veronica Zepeda and
Haley Anderton-Folmer '10, '13 M.S.

In celebration of the research and scholarship of graduate students at the University of Nevada, Reno, The Graduate School established the annual 3MT@Nevada competition in 2014. In this exciting, fast-paced event, graduate student-scholars are challenged to present — in just three minutes and using only a single presentation slide — the results of their dissertation or thesis research. In an initial round of competition, University faculty evaluate the presentations to determine who will be chosen for the final competition where students compete for prizes of up to \$1,000.

At the start of each spring semester, the call goes out for brave graduate students to submit their entries. 3MT is the merging of science, art and literary device — the challenge of telling an engaging story without sacrificing one iota of truth. Allegory, irony, humor, onomatopoeia, tongue twisters, it's all fair game in a battle of wits and tongues.

In 2016, 1st place winner and then-doctoral student Robert del Carlo '14 (neuroscience and biochemistry & molecular biology), '20 Ph.D. (cellular molecular pharmacology) hooked his audience with a tale of toxic newts in which he noted that a half gram of tetrodotoxin could take out an entire basketball team, or not to scare anyone, the entire front row of his listening audience. Del Carlo competed and won again in 2018, this time with a flawlessly delivered tongue

twister, “How much sodium could a sodium channel, channel if the sodium channel could channel sodium?”

Of course, del Carlo's presentation wasn't all charm and cleverness, as he had an important message to convey in his talk entitled, “Love | Evol: Charting evolution's wandering walk.” As del Carlo pointed out, “By studying the path that evolution takes and showing that not all paths are possible, we can see that evolution has limitations and is often predictable. This is powerful information because many traits are at their adaptive limits — evolutionary dead ends holding the species back. For our sodium channels, there are only so many ‘spelling errors’ you can make before they are non-functional. If we extend this to all living species, we'll find that many are as adapted as they're ever going to be to their environmental challenges.”

Learning how to communicate in a concise and compelling manner is crucial to the success of all academics who go on to pursue competitive funding and publishing opportunities — skills that have been particularly difficult to practice during a pandemic. The 3MT competition has experienced cancellations and public health restrictions that necessitated alternative formats for the competition, including livestreamed finals and presenters wearing face coverings.

The Graduate School is delighted to again host this live annual event in April and broadcast this outstanding graduate student research with the University community and



Current University postdoctoral fellow Robert del Carlo '14, '20 Ph.D. catching a snake for an experiment.  Courtesy of The Graduate School

beyond. With participation from a diverse group of graduate students and guest judges ranging from University Foundation Professors to distinguished Reno community members, 3MT@Nevada is an event that shouldn't be missed.

unr.edu/3MT

“ Learning how to communicate in a concise and compelling manner is crucial to the success of all academics ... ”



Nevadatude is back!

It was a special moment in a packed Basin Street Club at Mackay Stadium when Ken Wilson was announced as head coach of Nevada Football on December 10. Wilson possesses more than three decades of

coaching experience, including 19 years on the Nevada staff (1989-98, 2004-12), which included five seasons as associate head coach (2008-12) and four as defensive coordinator (1996-98, 2007), as well as more recent stints at Washington State and Oregon.

"I couldn't be happier about becoming the 27th head coach in Nevada Football his-

tory," Wilson said. "It's a dream come true and a job that I have always hoped and worked toward. Becoming a reality like this is fantastic."

Join the Pack today by visiting NevadaWolfPack.com/FBTicketDeposit



Honors for Men's and Women's Basketball | Catch the excitement at Lawlor

Junior guard Grant Sherfield was voted the Mountain West Men's Preseason Player of the Year and to the five-player Preseason All-Mountain West Team, while fifth-year guard Kylie Jimenez was named the Mountain West Women's Preseason Newcomer of the Year. There is still time to catch both teams in action at Lawlor Events Center during the 2021-22 season. For more information on tickets, call the ticket office at 775-348-PACK or visit MyNevadaTickets.com.



Tierney Wolfgram qualifies for Cross Country NCAA Championships

Tierney Wolfgram, competing in her first year with Wolf Pack Cross Country, became the first Wolf Pack member to qualify for NCAA Championships in 40 years after her second-place overall finish in the women's 6K NCAA Mountain Regional in Provo, Utah. Tierney also became the first ever Wolf Pack student-athlete to compete at NCAA Championships, taking 116th in the national competition.



The critical side of in-person learning for nursing students

By Sara East '09

For most nursing students, hands-on learning is crucial. Being able to communicate with your cohort and professors while seeing how procedures and skills are executed in person is essential. In 2020, when COVID-19 necessitated that the University switch to hybrid learning, nursing students were highly impacted.

“The transition to hybrid learning was very difficult for me,” explained level-four BSN student Jezyl Stokes '21. “I learn best when I can interact with my peers, professors, and have lectures face-to-face. It was difficult to manage home life with school because they were merged into one setting.”

For Alex Bohlman '21, another level-four traditional BSN student, the transition to hybrid learning was easier than expected but it was not without struggles. “I believe my learning had a harder time adapting. Although Zoom incorporates a little bit of virtual person-to-person, it doesn't have that real-life aspect to it. Being in person and in the classroom learning, helps me focus

and be more interactive compared to Zoom meetings.”

Limiting in-person learning also impacted students' clinical rotations. Every student must complete a specific amount of clinical hours in local hospitals. However, the pandemic limited placement options. “Some days early on in nursing school, we would need to double up students to one nurse to get placed due to the high COVID-19 ratio on the units. It was scary at first without the vaccine in the first semester of nursing school because we could get COVID-19 at any moment,” said Stokes.

While the Orvis School of Nursing was able to adapt to hybrid learning by offering simulation experiences, nothing compares to in-person learning from Orvis professors and community partners. Nursing students rely on the interactions they receive on campus and in the community. Being back on campus, students can utilize their professors and campus resources.

“I have finally been able to talk and interact with other students in my cohort who I haven't been able to during the program,”

said Stokes. “We also get to hear lectures in person which has helped me retain information and get it clarified instantly from the professors. I can also utilize all the on-campus buildings and services in person.”

Despite challenging times, Orvis nursing students know they have attended college during a historic time.

“I have no idea what it would be like being a nursing student without the pandemic, it seems surreal thinking about it,” said Bohlman. “Before nursing school, I didn't know what to expect, and with COVID-19 added to the mix, it introduced a whole new mindset. Being able to adapt and overcome the challenges this virus has created for the nursing curriculum has shaped me into the student I am and the nurse I will soon be.”

Orvis students and Professor Sheila Story '92, '98, '08 MSNMPH outside of the William N. Pennington Medical Education building.

 Courtesy of Orvis School of Nursing

Sparking innovative K-12 robotics education and outreach

With support from Tesla and EDAWN, unique University facility for robotics-based education and competition teams strengthens the path to degrees, careers and workforce development

By Jane Tors '82

A vision to create a unique space that encourages young people's interest in robotics, computer science, engineering and automation — and strengthens the pathways to degrees and careers — is now reality. The K-12 Robotics Center|University of Nevada, Reno, supported by Tesla and the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada, celebrated its opening in downtown Reno on Aug. 6, 2021.

K-12 robotics competitions stimulate interest and development in these critical fields of study, and competition teams need specialized equipment and large, open areas as they design, build and test their creations. The K-12 Robotics Center provides the necessary tools and space.

“It will be a place where kids and parents, coaches, teachers and University faculty, all come together,” said Mridul Gautam, the University's vice president for Research & Innovation and professor of mechanical engineering. “The kids will learn to design and build, and they will see the opportunities and the support for their future success.”

Mike Kazmierski, EDAWN president and CEO, sees the K-12 Robotics Center helping to answer a big question: “Where are we going to be as a region in 10 years? If we are going to be a tech hub, we need to reinvent how we think about and teach technology.”

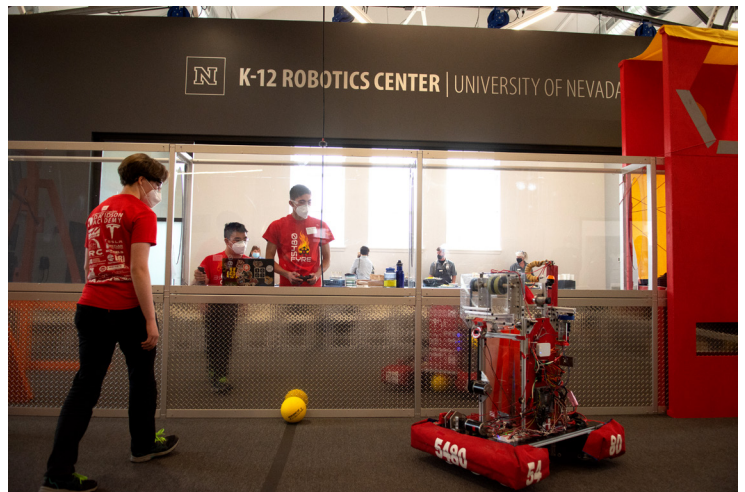
Chris Reilly, Tesla's director of recruiting & workforce development, envisions a day when all high schools in Nevada offer curriculum and programs in robotics, putting a larger number of students on the path toward careers in robotics and automation. “Having dedicated spaces in our community centers and at our schools will help accelerate this,” he said.

The K-12 Robotics Center is in the historic Southside Studio, formerly the Southside School, at the corner of Liberty and Sinclair Streets in downtown Reno, across the street from the University's Innevation Center. Operated by the University since 2019, the Southside Studio is home to Sierra Nevada Journeys, a science-education nonprofit organization serving Nevada and California.

Gautam talks often about the energy of the University's Innevation Center. He sees the Southside Studio, and the K-12 Robotics Center within it, as expanding the Innevation Center's impact and the University's footprint. “It is so exciting to see this project come together,” he said.

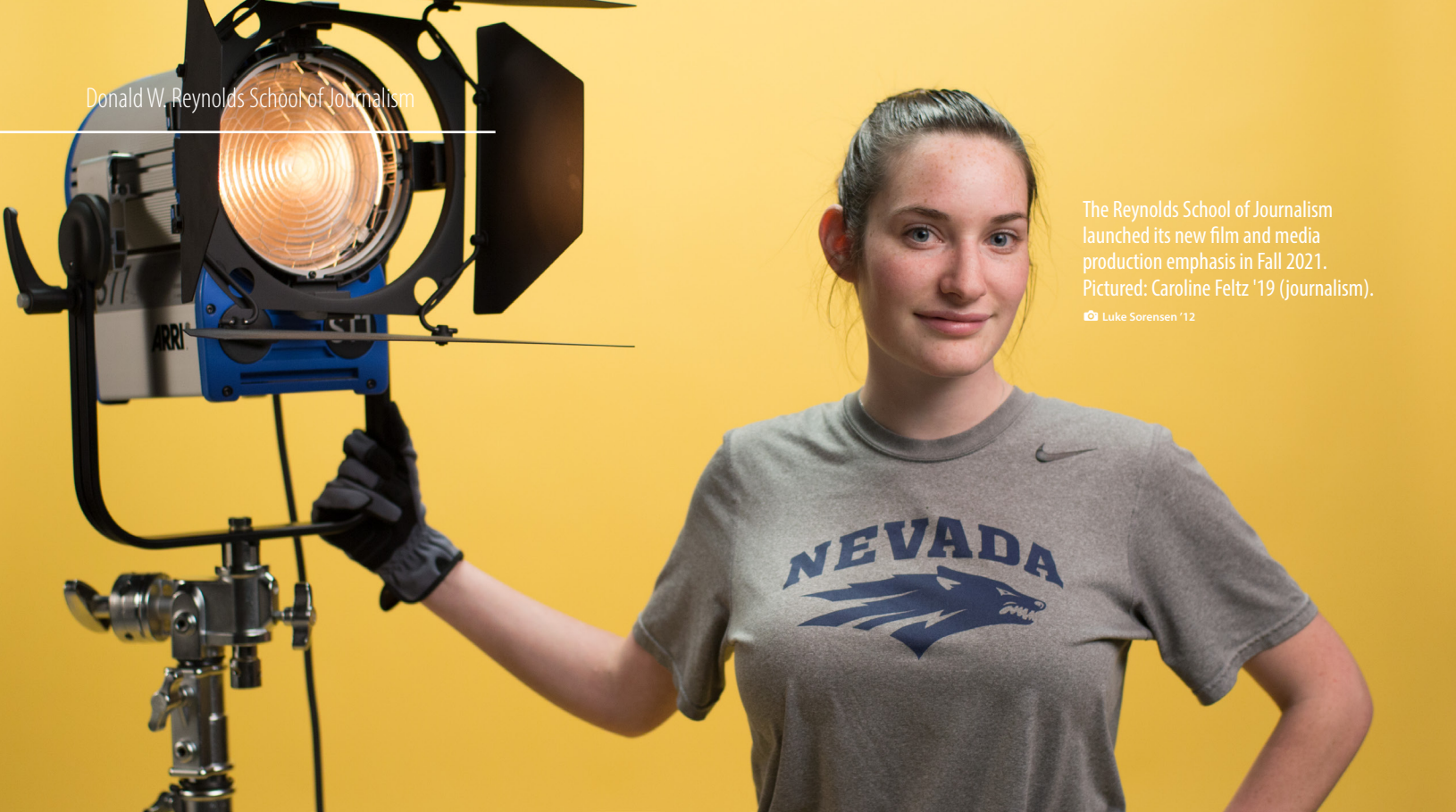


Sixth-grader *Rossie Copado Reyes*, a member of *Wolf Pack Bots*, a Nevada *FIRST*® LEGO® League competition team, discusses the team's small-sized robotic creations with *Scot Duncan*, FLL training coordinator, as *Rachel Salas*, the team's mentor and director of University's Center of Learning and Literacy, looks on. © David Calvert '12



FYRE Robotics demonstrates their robot created for the *FIRST Robotics Competition*.

© David Calvert '12



The Reynolds School of Journalism launched its new film and media production emphasis in Fall 2021. Pictured: Caroline Feltz '19 (journalism).

📷 Luke Sorensen '12

Lights, camera, production — new film emphasis in the Reynolds School of Journalism

By Molly Carnell '21

Students interested in making movies, documentary films and other video productions can now earn their bachelor's degrees in journalism with an emphasis in film and media production at the Reynolds School of Journalism. The new emphasis started in Fall 2021.

"We were always hearing from students interested in film, and now, we're delighted that we're going to be able to meet that demand," Reynolds School Dean Alan Stavitsky said.

Students in this emphasis will take classes in script writing, documentary filmmaking and media production and will have the opportunity to learn from award-winning professors with experience in the film and media fields.

Faculty teaching in the emphasis include Associate Professor of Electronic Media Kari Barber, Assistant Professor of Race and Media Myrton Running Wolf '95 (mathematics), Assistant Professor of

Spanish-Language Media Ezequiel Korin and Assistant Professor of Video Production and Immersive Media Melissa McClinton.

While the emphasis is new, audiovisual content creation has been a core part of the Reynolds School's curriculum for years. The school's history with media production began with broadcast news and multimedia reporting, eventually evolving into the addition of a documentary film class.

Students in this class and other courses have produced award-winning films. Student Crystal Powell '15 (journalism, Spanish) won the 2017 Nevada Women's Film Festival Student Filmmaker of the Year Award for "Life's Just Hard," a documentary following two child abuse survivors' struggle to overcome their pasts. The film "Rainbow Rodeo," which showcased the rise of the Reno Gay Rodeo, was the 2020 People's Voice Winner at the international Webby Awards festival. "Más Que Pan," a bilingual film about a Guatemalan baker living in Reno after fleeing his home country, won Best Student Film at the 2021 International

Film Festival Manhattan.

Beyond documentary films, the new emphasis also includes production of entertainment and marketing content. Students graduating with an emphasis in film and media production have prospects to enter careers as independent filmmakers or documentarians, producers, directors, cinematographers and film editors.

"There's a lot of career opportunity in this sector now," Stavitsky said. "That is, in large part, why we established this emphasis — to provide more opportunities for our students."

Current Reynolds School junior Joffea Burgos (class of 2023) chose the emphasis because of her love for creating films. Her classes include documentary filmmaking and intermediate media production.

"My future career aspirations are to either be a video editor or video producer," Joffea said. "I'd love to work for companies like Vox, A24, Netflix, where I'm able to create and produce incredible content and films [and] potentially create my own films as well."

unr.edu/journalism

Meet the new dean of the School of Public Health: Muge Akpınar-Elci, M.D., MPH



Dean Muge Akpınar-Elci.  Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

By *Melanie Flores '12 M.S.*

Before 2019, you would be hard pressed to find somebody who understood what public health was. After 2019, “flattening the curve,” “disease investigation and surveillance,” and epidemiology became common knowledge. A major pandemic wasn’t necessarily the media attention public health was looking for, but it caused a ripple effect, motivating individuals who were inspired to join the public health workforce as a result of the pandemic. This uptick in public health awareness, which is usually known as a “behind-the-scenes” operation was perfect timing for a newly renamed, recently accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health, School of Public Health.

With a new name, also came a new dean — upon the retirement of founding Dean Emerita Trudy Larson, M.D. Hailing from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, the School of Public Health was fortunate enough to land an impressively

accomplished medical doctor and public health practitioner of more than 25 years, Muge Akpınar-Elci, M.D., MPH.

Akpınar-Elci received her medical degree from Dokuz Eylul University, School of Medicine in Izmir Turkey, pursuing a medical career specializing in pulmonology and occupational health. What prompted her to transition from medicine to public health? A patient, of course. “I remember it very vividly,” Akpınar-Elci says, “a patient presented with asthma and was not responding to treatment despite being medically adherent to all prescribed direction.” Akpınar-Elci suspected the culprit was occupational, but upon finding out the patient was a teacher, she couldn’t make the connection until the patient talked about a new dry erase marker the school was using which happened to coincide with asthmatic episodes. “This moment inspired my career pathway into public health,” Akpınar-Elci explains. Thirteen years after receiving her medical degree, she received her Master of Public Health in environmental health from Tulane University in New Orleans.

“I love research,” Akpınar-Elci says and it was her research in environmental and occupational health that got her noticed. Her CV reads like a public health career pipe dream for many budding students in the field. She was a visiting medical scientist for the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute, a medical epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and a founding director for the World Health Organization’s Collaboration Center on Environmental and Occupational Health in the Caribbean.

When asked about her transition from public health research to academia, Akpınar-Elci says she has always had affiliations with the local universities through inter-professional research projects and adjunct professor positions. Becoming a mentor to up-and-coming public health practitioners became a passion for her as well. She often led didactic efforts on global health, occupational health and interprofessional education, mentoring and teaching under-

graduate and graduate students all over the world. “It is our responsibility as public health professionals to inspire the next generation. Students often do not understand what a public health professional does, unlike a medical doctor or a nurse, but I essentially tell students we are creating heroes here.”

When asked about her vision for the School of Public Health, Akpınar-Elci emphasizes the importance of collaboration, not just with University faculty and students, but also with the community. “That is what we do, and who we serve ultimately is the community. We cannot do our work without collaboration.”

When doing research about interprofessional education, Akpınar-Elci talks about the “One Health Initiative,” which is a global initiative for physicians, veterinarians, dentists, nurses, public health practitioners, even engineers and other nontraditional partners to practice an almost “integrative medicine” approach to public health. Although collaboration is a value of hers, she believes as a unit and a community, we’ll develop our values and vision together as we move forward into the future.

At the start of her new role, Akpınar-Elci completed a listening tour — meeting with faculty, listening to students and reaching out to community members to understand the foundation of public health in the region. When asked what it was like to be the face of public health for the University during a pandemic, she smiled warmly and said she is willing to do what needs to be done. Already putting her value of collaboration and interdisciplinary education to work, she has partnered with Orvis School of Nursing Dean Debera Thomas, writing a blog and producing informational videos addressing misinformation about COVID-19 and getting vaccinated. The School of Public Health is very excited to work with Dean Akpınar-Elci on the school’s next chapter. She invites faculty, staff, students and community members to reach out, her door is always open.

unr.edu/public-health

Dean Catherine Cardwell, identifying opportunities to continue trajectory of excellence, innovation within the University Libraries



By Jill Stockton

With her welcoming spirit and never-ending energy, the University Libraries new Dean Catherine Cardwell hit the ground running in August 2021; just in time for the start of the fall semester. She participated in the Digital Wolf Pack Initiative and NevadaFIT orientation weekend, is on a mission to continue the Libraries' trajectory of excellence and innovation in the context of a Carnegie R1 Institution, and is currently working to replace high-cost textbooks in order to help lower the cost of education for students.

"Dean Cardwell is a transformational addition to the University," University President Brian Sandoval '86 (English) said. "She is one of the unquestioned leaders in the movement to change and make academic libraries more responsive to 21st century needs. She has an established reputation for being incredibly collaborative as well as creative in helping rethink the breadth

of impact our libraries can have."

Dean Cardwell is positioned to assist President Sandoval in working toward achieving the audacious aspirational goal of having the University become a member of the American Association of Universities, a distinguished group of private and public universities recognized for research excellence. Libraries at AAU institutions are leaders in the academic community and policy influencers. These libraries are celebrated for their engagement with the full research lifecycle, contributions to knowledge creation, access to substantive and diverse information sources, and curators of rare and unique collections.

With the energy on campus at an all-time high, given the return to in-person learning, Dean Cardwell is working to position the Libraries as a one of the premier contemporary learning environments on campus. Libraries faculty and staff continue to create a modern learning environment that engages all University students.

"Because student success is one of the Libraries' top priorities, I am committed to working hard to continue to innovate and grow during these challenging times," Cardwell said. "I recognize and value the strong foundation and recent achievements of the Libraries organization."

Currently, Dean Cardwell is working side-by-side with the Office of the Provost to help lower the cost of educational resources for University students.

"Did you know the average cost of a textbook is \$84, with some costing hundreds of dollars?" Cardwell said. "The University Libraries recently received a \$20,000 Library Services and Technology Act/American Rescue Plan grant from the Nevada State Library to make college more accessible for students. Our talented team of librarians will create a workshop series that introduces faculty to open educational resources in their discipline and explores ways to incorporate this content into their curriculum. The ultimate goal is to replace high-cost textbooks and lower the cost of education for students."

"It has been said that leadership is an action, not a position," Executive Vice President and Provost Jeff Thompson said. "Dean Cardwell has shown time and time again throughout her career how her actions have made a difference to those around her. We are delighted to have such an outstanding professional join the ranks of our fine institution."

Prior to joining the University, Dean Cardwell held a dual appointment as the regional associate vice chancellor of academic affairs and campus dean of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg. Dean Cardwell has served as library director at Ohio Wesleyan University and holds the mentorship of early and midcareer librarians close to her heart.

library.unr.edu



Business instructors Juan Salas, Reyna Mendez and Mike Bindrup stop to take a selfie at Latin Chamber event, “Marketing para las fiestas.”

Extension provides free bilingual virtual resources for small-business owners

Small Business Education Program meets the needs of Nevada businesses

By Molly Malloy '05

With a goal of delivering free learning resources to current and future small-business owners in Nevada, the University's Extension unit recently launched a virtual classroom that focuses on providing information on fundamental business concepts. The virtual classroom, which is part of Extension's Small Business Education Program, includes a fully stocked digital library of educational video content available in both English and Spanish.

The concept for the virtual classroom was developed following the popularity of Extension's “Coping With COVID-19: Town Halls for Small Business Owners,” a series of town halls that Extension launched at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. At that time, dozens of small-business owners reached out to Extension's Small Business Education Program with questions about operating during the pandemic, as well as assistance programs being made available to help small businesses during the pandemic.

The program served as a resource for

reliable information about the small business administration loan and grant programs, and offered suggestions on pivoting business operations to survive the pandemic. The town halls also provided an opportunity to ask questions and collaborate with other business owners when everyone was facing uncertainty.

“We saw a need in our small business community, and we responded to that need by providing these virtual town halls to help provide information that was needed by our business owners at that particular time,” Associate Professor Buddy Borden said. “Things were constantly changing, and we provided information from our own experts and brought in others who could help with the challenges of the day.”

Now, Extension's Small Business Education Program has pivoted again to meet the needs of small-business owners throughout the state.

“We want to provide education and access to business topics that strengthen their overall business,” Borden said. “This is where Extension's Small Business Education Program, with its workshops and relationships with Nevada business programs, steps in to act as a guide.”

The virtual classroom library, which is completely video-based, includes more than 100 full-length classes and shorter videos, as well as quick tips and how to guides — all meant to explain particular topics relevant to small businesses — with more planned for the future. The content of each video falls into one of five categories or “pillars,” which include finance, marketing, operations, management and startup.

“We believe that education should be accessible to all small businesses at all times,” Borden said. “And, by teaching in both English and Spanish, small-business owners can benefit from educational opportunities and awareness of all the business network resources at any stage of development.”

extension.unr.edu



UNR Med wants undergraduate students to see who they can be

Visit med.unr.edu/NSB to learn more

By Christy Jerz '97

In recognition of how a diverse and culturally competent health care workforce can improve health outcomes, the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine has launched a new initiative to encourage students from groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine to consider careers in medicine.

Inspired by the film “Black Men in White Coats” — where Black doctors shared the difficulties of pursuing a profession in which they rarely saw physicians who looked like them — the See It To Be It initiative connects aspiring doctors with medical students and physicians from a diversity of backgrounds and experiences.

Supported by generous funding from Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Nevada, See It To Be It is made up of four elements:

1. Annual summit: Undergraduates at the inaugural summit on Oct. 16 — 75% of them first-generation college students — spent the day learning from more than 30 current medical students and physicians.

2. Community network: We’re bringing together a committee of community leaders, health care advocates, physicians and medical students to develop See It To Be It resources and programs.

3. See2B podcast: We’ll be interviewing key stakeholders and influencers to amplify messages about representation and inclusive medicine.

4. Triad mentor program: We invite physicians and community members to join with medical students as part of a three-person team mentoring See It To Be It participants as they prepare to apply to medical school.

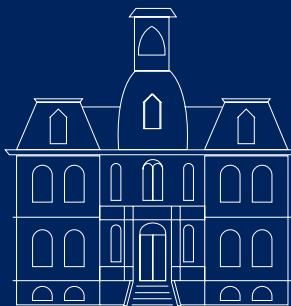
And be sure to visit med.unr.edu/NSB to meet two of our See It To Be It mentors — second-year medical student Sonia Figueroa and first-year medical student Steven Christian. You’ll be amazed by the role mentorship played in their own paths to medicine.

To help build Pathways to Medicine as a community or physician volunteer, or to refer a student who would benefit from See It To Be It, please contact UNR Med Office of Admissions at SeeToBe@med.unr.edu or (775) 784-6063.

To learn more about the School of Medicine’s Pathway to Medicine Fund, please contact Shari Netzel, director of development, at (775) 682-6077 or snetzel@unr.edu.

“... people need to be able to see what other people have done in order to believe they can do it, especially when few people look like them in a certain field.”

— Dale Okorodudu, M.D., pulmonary and critical care physician and founder of Black Men in White Coats



2021

*Nevada Alumni Association Award Winners
College & Unit Distinguished Alumni*



Keith Lee '65

Distinguished Nevadan, generous University philanthropist, esteemed attorney and lobbyist

By Allison M. Williams '08

For Keith Lee '65 (physics), so much of his life — both personally and professionally — is rooted in the University of Nevada, Reno. The Lee family tradition on campus runs nearly as deep as their history in the Silver State, which began when Keith's great-great-grandfather moved to Panaca in Lincoln County in 1864.

Starting with Lee's father, Keith Sr. '33, and uncle, Hudson '39, the Lees now have four generations of Pack alumni. Keith Lee Jr. followed in his father's footsteps in both athletics and student government — serving as student body president 32 years apart. But his memories on campus started long before he was a student. “When I was a kid, I came up to campus all the time. After my dad served in the U.S. Army, he came to work at the Agricultural Extension to help veterans take advantage of the GI Bill,” Lee said. “We would come up and watch football at the old Mackay Stadium, where I would end up playing as a student, and basketball at the old Virginia Street Gym, though it was new at the time.”

Lee admits a lot of other things have changed at the University since he started as a freshman 60 years ago — our student body has grown almost sevenfold, student-athletes now train year-round, campaigning for student body has evolved and everyone is allowed to walk on the Quad grass with-

out being tossed in Manzanita Lake by an upperclassman (which was tradition back in the '60s).

What hasn't changed according to Lee is the impact your time on campus can have on your life, “Whatever success I've achieved I lay at the feet of my time here as an undergraduate. I made so many fast friendships that have lasted decades and those have shaped my personal and professional life. For example, after meeting at the University, I went on to lead Richard Bryan's '59 campaign for governor; and when visiting Washington, D.C., my friend and fellow alumnus, Sig Rogich '76, who was working in the Bush White House invited me to attend a speech on the South Lawn by the president of Poland. I can think of hundreds of stories like these where the relationships I built on campus impacted my life. I would tell students to remember that relationships are key. Build and nurture them and remember it's always more important to give than to receive.”

That motto of giving back extends beyond relationships for Lee. A generous supporter of the University for 40 years, Lee is recognized in the Honor Court as a Silver Benefactor. Alongside gifts benefiting programs campuswide, Lee gave his time and talents as the 2003 University of Nevada, Reno Foundation chair and has served as trustee emeritus and as a member of the College of Science Advisory Board and the Century Campaign fundraising effort to support campus's 100th anniversary.

Now retired after 50 years practicing law and 38 years as a lobbyist, Lee is eager to continue helping the University through three projects close to his heart. As a former student-athlete, Lee was one of the first to support the Athletic Nutrition program which started with Matt's Snack Shack now inside the Ramon Sessions Performance Center. Today, the program includes multiple initiatives committed to providing healthy foods to student-athletes in football, basketball and women's athletics. Lee has also been an ardent supporter of University Special Collections and University Archives, something he hopes will continue to grow, “We at the University are fortunate to have political papers from numerous prominent Nevada politicians. In the years ahead, I want Special Collections to become the go-to for anything political in Nevada.” And Lee has been key in helping to expand the Nevada Seismological Laboratory's ALERTWildfire camera network to nearly 1,000 cameras worldwide since its start at Lake Tahoe in 2013.

Lee is excited to see what the future holds for new Nevada students and alumni, encouraging them to simply “have fun and work hard.” ■

To learn more about supporting Athletic Nutrition, Special Collections and University Archives or ALERTWildfire, visit unr.edu/donate.

This year's Nevada Alumni Association Alumnus of the Year, Keith Lee '65 (physics) practiced law in Reno from 1970-2020, served as a lobbyist for 38 years and was a member of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners for 17 years. In addition to his generous philanthropy and service at the University, Lee has volunteered with the Nevada Wildlife Commission, the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada and The Children's Cabinet. Lee has been recognized as a Distinguished Nevadan and has received the University of Nevada, Reno Silver Award, the University Service Award, Distinguished Alumnus of the College of Science and now the 2021 Alumnus of the Year honor.



**ALUMNUS
OF THE YEAR**

The alumnus or alumna of the year is the Nevada graduate who distinguishes themselves among their peers, gives back to Nevada and supports the University's mission of providing outstanding learning, discovery and engagement opportunities to students to meet the urgent needs of the modern world.





ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SERVICE AWARD

Alumni who receive this award have shown dedication, commitment and service to the Nevada Alumni Association. They volunteer at events, lead alumni chapters, present and execute great ideas and plan chapter programming. They are the first to show up and the last to leave. They are the fabric of the Nevada Alumni Association, and our mission of keeping alumni connected with their alma mater would not be possible without them. Thank you to this year's Alumni Association Service Award winners.



Kris Layman '93 (*marketing*)

Kris Layman is a fourth-generation Nevadan and is currently in her 23rd year as a RE/MAX realtor. After serving as president of the Reno/Sparks Association of REALTORS, she began volunteering at the University, including on the Women of Silver & Blue Committee and Nevada Alumni Council where she held multiple leadership positions including president. Most recently, Kris has been involved with Nevada Women's Basketball and their inaugural golf outing.



Jan Brady '63 (*nursing*), '88 MBA

After retiring from a rewarding career in nursing, Jan Brady returned to the University and graduated with her MBA. She has served on the University Foundation Board of Trustees, is a member of the Foundation Scholarship Committee, and she is a founding and current member of the Orvis School of Nursing Alumni Association. In her free time, Jan plays bad golf, bridge and screeches on the violin!

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER OF THE YEAR



The alumni chapter that receives this award has produced a full calendar of events in the past year, has shown solid membership growth and has a committed core group of leaders. Chapters are the "boots on the ground" in the Alumni Association's mission of representing the University in the community. They are close-knit, nimble and proud. The members and leaders of alumni chapters do so much to keep the Wolf Pack spirit strong.

The College of Business Alumni Association

The College of Business Alumni Association's mission is to provide resources and networking opportunities for new and established members. The association aims to grow its membership with events such as the annual golf tournament, The College of Business career and business week activities, local business tours and monthly discount offerings, membership spotlights, and by providing online content with community-involved guest speakers. Recent funds the association established support student scholarships and awards and have provided financial support to benefit The College of Business. COBAA has a very talented board full of accounting, real estate, mortgage, entrepreneurial, B2B, project management, financial, business development, sales and insurance professionals.





OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

Recipients of this award are within 15 years of graduation and have shown outstanding career accomplishments. These remarkable alumni have not only made a name for themselves in a short amount of time, but in doing so, they bolster the prestige of the University by showing what incredible alumni Nevada has to offer. This award isn't their first accolade — and it certainly won't be their last — but it surely will be their proudest!



Ivón Padilla-Rodríguez '15 (*history*)

Ivón Padilla-Rodríguez, Ph.D., is a legal historian of child migration and a scholar-activist. She earned her bachelor's in history from the University in 2015 and a Ph.D. in history from Columbia University in 2021. Ivón is currently the bridge to the faculty postdoctoral research associate at the University of Illinois Chicago's Department of History. Ivón is working on a book manuscript that uncovers the 20th century origins of undocumented youth labor trafficking, the "school-to-deportation" pipeline and migrant child detention.



Selena Torres '16 (*English*)

Assemblywoman Selena Torres pursued her passion for learning after graduation by earning a master's in education from UNLV in 2019. She serves as vice-chair of NHCSL's Education, Media, and Culture Task Force. She is the youngest woman serving in the Nevada Legislature and is committed to creating policies that meet the needs of Nevada students. During the 80th legislative session, Selena served on the Judiciary, Education, and Legislative Operations and Elections Committee and currently serves as a board member of the Nevada Youth Legislature.



Victor A. Wowo '11 (*management*), '17 **MBA**

Victor "Vick" Wowo Jr. is a first-generation Nigerian American born and raised in Reno. Vick currently leads the global sports & live experiences industry strategy at Microsoft. Before moving to Bellevue, Washington in 2019 to further his career at Microsoft HQ, Vick was deeply involved in the Reno-Tahoe community serving on various local, regional and state boards. Vick also worked in the travel and hospitality industry in his early career.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Recipients of this award have made outstanding contributions to their profession and have a record of distinguished career accomplishments. As students at Nevada, they cut their teeth as leaders in student groups and academic circles, and as alumni, they take the reins, driving their professions forward. Professional Achievement Award recipients continue to exude the Wolf Pack spirit of excellence and hard work in their fields and in their service to the community.



Nicole Cannizzaro '06 (*management*)

State Senator Nicole Cannizzaro graduated from the University in 2006 with a major in business administration and management. At Nevada, she was actively involved in campus activities and

decided to pursue public service after graduating from the William S. Boyd School of Law in 2010. Nicole was first elected to the Nevada State Senate in 2016, and in 2019, she became the first woman elected to the position of Majority Leader of the Nevada Senate in state history.



Diaz Dixon '94 (*social psychology*)

Diaz Dixon is passionate about enhancing the lives of everyone in his community and has worked on everything from children's services to substance abuse. As CEO of Eddy House

in Reno, he facilitated growing the program to 24-hour services for youth experiencing homelessness and it became the first youth program in the country to gain the EnVision Center national designation. Currently, Diaz leads CommonSpirit Health Foundation as system vice president.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD *Continued*



Larry Sage '06 MJS
(*trial judges*)

Larry Sage is currently a senior Nevada municipal judge commissioned by the Nevada Supreme Court. He has a passion for doing post-conflict Rule of Law missions and has served in

roles such as justice advisor to the Afghan attorney general and international peace monitor for the African Nation Intergovernmental Authority on Development in South Sudan. Throughout his career, Larry published numerous articles in Nevada Lawyer Magazine and was awarded the Legion of Merit from the United States Armed Forces.



Tiffany Young '00
(*human development & family studies*)

Tiffany Young currently serves as the director of Equity and Diversity for the Washoe County School District and runs her own consulting business. She is

also a commissioner for the Nevada Equal Rights Commission and a Fulbright Specialist with the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. For many years Tiffany has worked as a community advocate through diversity and equitable practices, student achievement, community and economic development.

SILVER & BLUE APPRECIATION



The Silver & Blue Appreciation Award recognizes the foundations and corporations that support and partner with the University in ways that have significantly enriched Nevada's reputation as a leading institution of higher education. The contributions from these organizations are not only meaningful to the students and faculty they directly support, but to the whole community that benefits from world-changing research and thoughtful citizens.

Edna B. & Bruno Benna Foundation

Bruno and Edna Benna played a significant role in the northern Nevada philanthropic community for most of their lives. They supported education at the University and local parochial schools, the arts and Wolf Pack Athletics. In 1997, they formed the Edna B. & Bruno Benna Foundation as the vehicle for their philanthropy to survive them. Since their passing, the foundation has continued to provide funding through the guidance of Edna and Bruno's children.



Edna and Bruno Benna

Kappes, Cassiday & Associates

Kappes, Cassiday & Associates was founded by Daniel Kappes '72 M.S. (mining engineering). The firm specializes in all aspects of gold and silver recovery from laboratory testing through engineering design, construction and operations management. KCA has been a partner and advocate of the University for nearly 40 years. The company provides support by attending events, opening their facility to faculty and even hiring several students who requested emergency support in a difficult job market in 2020.



Daniel W. Kappes '72 M.S.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD



Alongside alumni, Nevada faculty and friends who support the University are critical to our mission. Recipients of the University Service Award have made a choice to support Nevada, whether they are Nevada alumni or received their degree from another university. Their contributions have significantly enriched the University's research, programs, campus and curriculum. These are the friends who would give you the shirt off their backs. They see a need and meet it; they find a hole and fill it. From the bottom of our hearts — thank you.



Deena & Jim Behnke

Although neither Jim nor Deena Behnke is a Wolf Pack graduate, they strongly believe in land-grant universities and the many benefits of public education. They have been increasingly involved with the University for almost 20 years. The Behnkes recently relocated from Incline Village to Reno. Jim is on the Nevada Research and Innovation Board, while Deena serves on the Foundation Board and advisory boards for the Ozmen Institute for Global Studies, the College of Engineering and KUNR.



Derek Furukawa

Derek Furukawa, Ph.D., was formerly the assistant vice provost for Undergraduate Academic Advising & Student Achievement at the University. He coordinated academic advising on campus and managed the operation of the William N. Pennington Student Achievement Center. Derek earned his Ph.D. from UNLV and now serves as department chair and director for the Advising Center for the College of Arts, Languages & Letters at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.



Michael T. & Barbara C. Heffner

Mike and Barbara Heffner planned a brief post-retirement stop in Reno in 2001 and never left. After 30-plus years in construction and oil exploration took them across the world, the Heffners planned to return to the Bay Area. But they quickly found Reno had everything they loved to do. Although Mike is a Georgia Tech and Rice University alumnus and Barbara a Kansas Jayhawk, they adopted Nevada as their new hometown university and subsequently established bequests for the Colleges of Science and Engineering and KUNR.

COLLEGE AND UNIT DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



At one time, the University of Nevada, Reno fit inside Morrill Hall alone. Today, campus extends for blocks in all directions, growing in both capacity and impact. Alumni who support their college or department and who excel in their field are recognized annually for their remarkable achievements.



Rayona Sharpnack '73
(physical education)

ATHLETICS

For Rayona Sharpnack, sports were always a second language that her body spoke fluently. Rayona played three sports at the University while serving on the Women's Athletic Board, helping pass Title IX. Having spent 11 years at Stanford University and teaching junior high school, she became

a management consultant and remains CEO of the Institute for Gender Partnership and the Institute for Women's Leadership.



Jeremy Drew '04 (civil engineering and environmental & natural resources sciences)

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, BIOTECHNOLOGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

Jeremy Drew wanted to pursue a unique dual degree in conservation biology and civil engineering coming out of high school. Being a founding member of CABNR Student Ambassadors and the Cast and Blast Outdoor Club were particularly memorable for him. Jeremy is now a principal resource specialist with Resource Concepts,

Inc. and you can find him spending time with family and friends in the great outdoors in his free time.



Thomas F. Kerestesi '72
(accounting)

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Thomas F. Kerestesi moved to Las Vegas in 1956 and went on to earn his bachelor's from the University in 1972. He worked as an underwriter for Fireman's Fund and Royal Insurance Companies in Los Angeles after graduation. In 1974, he returned to Las Vegas to join Cragin & Pike, where he worked for 36 years until retiring in 2011. In

1992, he received the University's Alumni Achievement Award. Tom and his wife, Buffie '73, met at the University.

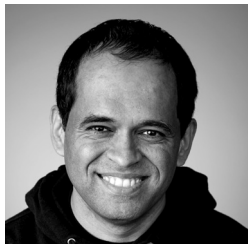


Joe Nannini '00
(human development & family studies), '10 Ed.Sp.
(educational leadership)

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Joe Nannini is director of clinical experiences at the University's College of Education & Human Development. Prior to joining the faculty at Nevada, Joe was a classroom teacher, dean of students and school administrator. He has also represented the University through his work on several community organizations' boards. Joe and

his wife, Katie (Perkins) Nannini '00, met at Nevada and are enjoying raising two true Wolf Pack fans of their own!



Kedar Deshpande '03 M.S.
(computer engineering)

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING'S JAMES G. SCRUGHAM MEDAL RECIPIENT

Kedar Deshpande is the CEO of Groupon. With nearly 20 years of experience spanning engineering, technology and product marketing at diverse companies, Kedar's skill sets and passion for company culture have formed him into a dynamic visible leader. Between his fond memories at the University and his time spent in southern Nevada, Kedar and his family consider the Silver State home. He enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters, (mostly) keeping them out of mischief, and going on adventures together.

nada, Kedar and his family consider the Silver State home. He enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters, (mostly) keeping them out of mischief, and going on adventures together.

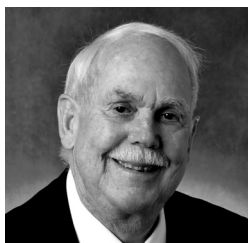


Tierra D. Jones '03
(criminal justice)

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Tierra D. Jones is currently the district court judge in Department X of the Eighth Judicial District Court. In 2017, then-Governor Brian Sandoval '86 appointed Tierra to the District Court Bench, and she became the first African American woman to serve on the District Court in Nevada. Tierra has dedicated her legal career to public service

and has also volunteered several hours of community service within the Las Vegas community.



Rick Michael Gardner '68 M.A. (psychology), '69 Ph.D. (psychology)

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE'S SAMUEL ABRAHAM GOUDSMIT MEDAL RECIPIENT

Rick Michael Gardner received his Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Nevada in 1969. He spent his entire professional career in academia, first as a professor at the University of Southern Colorado and most recently as psychology department chair at the University of Colorado Denver. Rick is a widower and

author of "Journey Through Alzheimer's," which describes the difficulties he and his wife faced during her final years. He has established the Elizabeth Ann and Rick M. Gardner Graduate Psychology Scholarship to support Nevada psychology students.



Chul Yim '04
(computer science)

HONORS COLLEGE

Chul Yim served as president of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon as a student. He is the national director for state and local government, education, and healthcare at Virsec Systems, Inc. He credits much of his success to the academic coursework in the

Honors Program, leadership opportunities and college friendships. Chul enjoys advising and investing in civic-tech startups, golfing, skiing, fishing and globetrotting with his beautiful partner.



Mark Scott Svoboda '88 M.S.
(geology)

MACKAY SCHOOL OF EARTH SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

While attending another university, Mark Scott Svoboda needed field camp to complete his bachelor's degree in geology. He got the last spot in the 1981 Mackay School of Mines Field Camp. He headed to Nevada for a six-week session, and five years later, he decided to go to grad school at the University of

Nevada, Reno. He then returned to the self-employed world of oil and gas with some mining exploration.



Christina Alsop '06 (nursing), '12 MSN, '18 DNP

ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING

Christina Alsop first majored in biology, but after her mother passed away from cancer, she chose to pursue nursing to care for cancer patients. She studied at the Orvis School of Nursing, where she earned her undergraduate degree in 2006, her master's degree in 2012 and her DNP in 2018. Christina recently celebrated 15 years at Renown Health and

has been a member of the Orvis faculty as an LOA since 2015.



Warren Lerude '61
(journalism)

DONALD W. REYNOLDS SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Warren Lerude was named a Distinguished Nevadan by the Board of Regents in 2020 for significant achievements. He served as a reporter for The Associated Press in several cities and rose to the editor, publisher and corporate president positions of Reno's daily newspapers. On campus, he happily

met coed Janet Lagomarsino and married after graduation. Warren and Janet have traveled the world frequently as skiers and are celebrating their 60th anniversary this year.



Jessey Bargmann-Losche '02
(health ecology), '05 MPH

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Jessey Bargmann-Losche is currently the vice president for the Center for Pediatric and Maternal Value at Stanford Children's Health. She started her work in hospital administration, working in patient relations at UCSF Medical Center. Over the past 15 years, Jessey has held several positions in lean transformation, quality

improvement and service excellence. Jessey loves spending time with her husband of 17 years, Andrei, and their two girls and two dogs.



Wendy Charlebois '97 M.S.
(social work)

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Born and raised in Nevada, when Wendy Charlebois moved back to Reno after living overseas for five years, she knew she wanted to get her degree at the University. Now retired, she currently teaches online classes for the University and Great Basin College. To give back to the social work profession, Wendy supervises social work interns. Previously, she worked

for the U.S. Department of the Army and early intervention services for the Nevada Division of Child & Family Services. Wendy likes spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren, traveling, swimming and playing with her dogs.



John C. Rhodes '84
(pre-medical), '88 M.D.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Dr. John C. Rhodes is a local Nevadan and a graduate of the University and the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. He also earned his MBA. He currently serves as senior medical director of primary care for Optum Care Mountain West Region. Together with his wife, Shelley, John has helped envision and

facilitate educational programs that allow students with intellectual disabilities to fully participate in academics and extracurricular activities while completing their academic programs.



Dominique Hall • 2nd
First year Juris Doctoral Candidate and Student Senato...
2mo • [Follow](#)

It is an immense privilege for me to be honored at my Alma mater, the **University of Nevada, Reno**, for my accomplishments for the inaugural "Wolf Pack Way" initiative!

I am a proud Alumna 🐾 [#GoPack](#)

[#WolfPackWay](#)



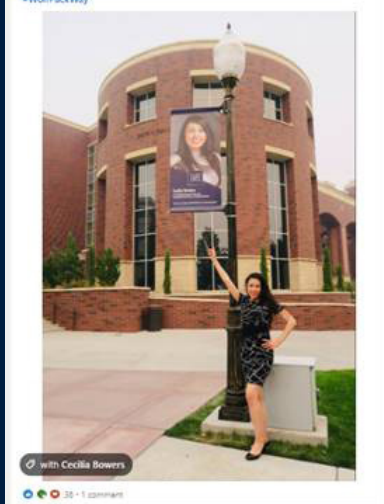
David Branby and 160 others • 5 comments

Community Health Alliance Nevada
720 members

Physician Assistant **Cecilia Bowers** has been included in the inaugural "Wolf Pack Way" initiative across the **University of Nevada, Reno**. Deans from each department were asked to nominate 10 outstanding graduate students who have accomplished incredible things after graduation. From those nominations, 50 alumni members were selected to be featured. Cecilia was one of 50 to be selected. Congratulations, Cecilia! We couldn't be more proud of you and the work you do at Community Health Alliance and in our community.

Learn more about Cecilia on our website: <https://lnkd.in/g/7JaeD22>

[#WolfPackWay](#)

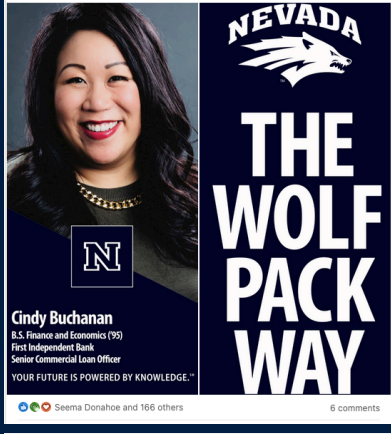


with Cecilia Bowers • 1 comment



Cindy Buchanan • 2nd
Vice President, Commercial Banking at First Independent Bank, A Divisi...
3mo • Edited • [Follow](#)

It's a true honor being a part of the University of Nevada's inaugural "Wolf Pack Way". Thank you to the College of Business for this honor. I can't wait to see it in person. [#thankyou](#)



Seema Donahoe and 166 others • 6 comments

Jordan Berns (He/Him) • 2nd
Freelance Video Producer at JSB Video
2mo • [Follow](#)

It's such an honor to be recognized by my alma mater, the **University of Nevada, Reno**, as a member of the inaugural Wolf Pack Way. I was one of 50 outstanding graduates selected to be featured on these banners as you walk through the main corridor of campus.

The **Reynolds School of Journalism** inspired and shaped me into the man I am today, both personally and professionally. It was here that I found my love for storytelling and developed into a video production professional. I'm thankful for the friends I made and the mentors that guided me and continue to guide me throughout my career. An extra special thank you to **Karl Barber, Nico Colombant, Paul Mitchell, Garrett Hirschberg, and Nick Larson**.



14 comments

Daniel Lindbergh Lang (He/Him) • 2nd
Trusted, Energetic and Adaptable Storyteller | Instructor | Scholar...
1mo • [Follow](#)

An honor to be recognized among friends! ❤️ When classes resumed last week, I had the chance to drop by my alma mater and find a banner commemorating my [#success](#). [#GoPack](#) [#PackPride](#)



with Daniel Lindbergh Lang and 5 others



Jhony Habbouche, Ph.D., P.E. • 3rd+
Research Scientist at Virginia Department of Transportation
3mo • Edited • [Follow](#)

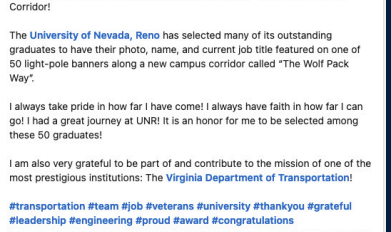
A new initiative by the **University of Nevada, Reno**!! "The Wolf Pack Way" Corridor!

The **University of Nevada, Reno** has selected many of its outstanding graduates to have their photo, name, and current job title featured on one of 50 light-pole banners along a new campus corridor called "The Wolf Pack Way".

I always take pride in how far I have come! I always have faith in how far I can go! I had a great journey at UNRI! It is an honor for me to be selected among these 50 graduates!

I am also very grateful to be part of and contribute to the mission of one of the most prestigious institutions: The **Virginia Department of Transportation**!

[#transportation](#) [#team](#) [#job](#) [#veterans](#) [#university](#) [#thankyou](#) [#grateful](#) [#leadership](#) [#engineering](#) [#proud](#) [#award](#) [#congratulations](#)



57 comments

Kyra Morgan • 2nd
Chief Biostatistician at State of Nevada
2mo • [Follow](#)

Visited the **University of Nevada, Reno** today to take a walk down Wolf Pack Way. Always appreciate the support! [#unr](#) [#packpride](#) [#alumni](#)

...see more



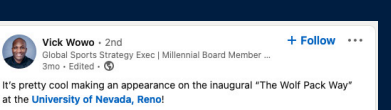
147 • 14 comments

KaPeace Young • 2nd
Coordinator, Student Engagement at University of Nevada, Reno
3w • [Follow](#)

There's a running joke that I'm the "College of Education and Human Development Spokesperson" so they decided to add to Wolf Pack Way! [#UNR](#) [#GoPack](#)



156 • 6 comments



Vick Wovno • 2nd
Global Sports Strategy Exec | Millennial Board Member...
3mo • Edited • [Follow](#)

It's pretty cool making an appearance on the inaugural "The Wolf Pack Way" at the **University of Nevada, Reno**!

Thank you **Zack**, Dean **Gregory Mosier** and the **University of Nevada, Reno College of Business**—being featured on campus is sincerely an honor. [#GoPack](#)



Stacy Simmons, Jr and 734 others • 59 comments

Melissa Perez-Rios, MBA, aPHR • 2nd
Managing Manager | Business Communications Professional
2mo • [Follow](#)

I'm so honored to have been selected as one of the alumni to represent The College of Business in the **University of Nevada, Reno's** "Wolf Pack Way" campaign! The College of Business truly shaped who I am as a profess...see more



289 • 26 comments

Alexis Reel • 2nd
Economist | at State of Nevada
1mo • Edited • [Follow](#)

It is an honor to be featured as a part of the Wolf Pack Way! The College of Business has allowed me to meet so many amazing people and has provided me wonderful opportunities to grow personally and professionally. I'm humbled to be able to represent the College of Business once again.



Seema Donahoe and 197 others • 16 comments





ALUMNI NEWS



📷 Moses S. Achoka '07 M.A.



2021-22 NEVADA ALUMNI COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Shenea (Stephenson) Strader
'05, '07 MBA PRESIDENT



Katie (Seus) Weigel '96, '98 MBA
PAST PRESIDENT



Scott Walquist '02
TREASURER



Ashley Brune '07
VICE PRESIDENT



Bryan McArdle '05, '10 MBA
VICE PRESIDENT



Kalie Work '11
VICE PRESIDENT

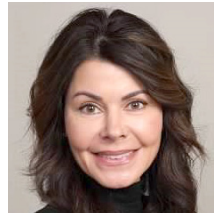
NEW MEMBERS



Bryan Allison '17



Madeline Burak '15



Mariam Chilton '92, '02 MBA



Cher Fesenmaier '94



Jennifer Hill '94



Mike Hix '89



Jerry Jones '77, '81M.D.



Tiffany McMacken '00



Erica Tabano '10



unr.edu/alumni/forms/class-chat



CLASS CHAT



FROM THE PRESIDENT NEVADA ALUMNI COUNCIL

Dear fellow alumni,

The Pack is Back! The start of 2021-22 academic year brought a refreshing return to some semblance of pre-pandemic normalcy, especially with the return of in-person events. The Nevada Alumni Association worked hard to present an action-packed fall lineup, and did not disappoint. Of particular interest was our first PACK! MidTown event, where we partnered with the Midtown Merchants Association to show our Wolf Pack Pride during Homecoming, while supporting local businesses. Fun-filled events for alumni will continue into 2022 — so, if you haven't had a chance to join us yet, or if you're a regular, check out our calendar and come join us!

In the fall, we also recognized some remarkable people for their many contributions to their professions, the University and our community. You can learn more about each of these honorees in pages 38-45.

We also welcomed nine new members to the Alumni Council, an incredible pool of highly qualified applicants and nominees, and we are very optimistic about the upcoming year with the addition of these phenomenal candidates.

Looking ahead, the Nevada Alumni Association is excited to partner with Bill Johnson, the University's new Vice President for Advancement. Together, we plan to further engage with our alumni base, and continue to add enrichment and value to your Nevada experience.

Go Pack!

Shenea (Stephenson) Strader '05, '07 MBA

NEVADA ALUMNI COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Shenea (Stephenson) Strader '05, '07 MBA
President

Katie (Seus) Weigel '96, '98 MBA
Past President

Scott Walquist '02 **Treasurer**
Ashley Brune '07 **Vice President**
Bryan McArdle '05, '10 MBA **Vice President**
Kalie Work '11 **Vice President**

BOARD MEMBERS

Bryan Allison '17
Austin Brown (**ASUN President**)
Madeline Burak '15
Miriam Chilton '92, '02 MBA
Bayo Curry-Winchell '02
Tyson Falk '08, '11 MPA
Cher Fesenmaier '94
Tony Gallian '11
Marissa Hammond '10
Matthew Hawn '15, '19 M.S. (**GSA President**)
Jennifer Hill '94
Mike Hix '89
Bill Johnson (**Vice President, Advancement**)*

Jerry Jones '77, '81 M.D.
Monica Powers Kales '79
Doug Knuth (**Director of Athletics**)*
John Krmpotic '90
Donna Lee-Kistler '77
Fred McElroy '76
Tiffany McMacken '00
Jeffrey R. Rodefer '85 (**2022 Chair
Foundation Board of Trustees**)*
Erica Tabano '10
Andy Volpp '17 MBA
Onome Natasha Wowo '15, '18 MBA

STAFF MEMBERS

Amy J. (Zurek) Carothers '01 M.A.
Director, Alumni Engagement

Emily Sharick '21 M.A.
Manager, Alumni Relations

Johanna Moxley '05, '12 M.A.
Manager, Alumni Relations

Colleen Dietlein
Administrative Assistant IV

Mahshid Farzan '21 M.S.
Graduate Assistant

*ex-officio member

2000s

CHRISTAL ALLEN-HARRAHILL '04 (psychology) has transitioned her focus to life and relationship coaching. As a complement to her psychology degree, Christal completed a six-month life coach certification program. In her online coaching business, Christal now helps frustrated professional women who feel undervalued, unseen, unheard and are just coping in their relationships. She's on a mission to improve the mental and emotional well-being of women across the world.

N SARAH (RAGSDALE) MAHONEY '08 (health ecology) is now the executive vice president of global communications firm, Weber Shandwick, where she leads social and digital communications strategy for leaders in vaccines and therapeutics, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sarah was recently recognized as one of the top 100 most influential people in the health care industry by PM360.

2010s

N TREVOR MACALUSO '11 (economics, political science and international affairs) was recently named CEO at Eddy House, northern Nevada's first shelter and residential housing program for homeless and at-risk youth ages 18 to 24.

BROOKE BERNARD '15 (secondary education), **'18 M.Ed.** (elementary education), a sixth-generation Nevadan and a teacher in Reno, recently published a book called "Fate, Faith & a Feral Feline." This young adult/adult story interlaces the synchronicities of life with an adored kitten. This true story comprised of letters and reflections can translate to anyone going through seasons of transition in life and is a testament of the power of love, separation and unification.

ADAM B. HEINZ '14 (psychology), executive director at REMSA Health, was recently appointed to two national committees that serve to set the standards and advance emergency medical services around the world. In January 2021, Adam began a role as vice-chair — professional standards committee for the American Ambulance Association. In June 2021, he became a member of the Board of Accreditation for the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. Both roles are a testament to Adam's dedication to the industry and REMSA Health as a leader in health care innovations.

SEAN-MIKAEL DODENHOFF '16 (biology) completed medical school at Trinity School of Medicine and has entered residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine — Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas.

JENA ESPOSITO '16 (journalism) started her career at Renown Health, where she raised her hand at every opportunity to learn about strategic communication, employee engagement, social media and media relations. Jena recently joined KPS3 as public relations manager where her sense of storytelling and passion for problem-solving will help clients.

ANNA-LEIGH FIRTH '16 (journalism) gained industry experience as a public relations intern at Foundry, a digital communications intern at the City of Reno and a brand management intern at The Abbi Agency. Anna-Leigh is now an account coordinator at KPS3, a full-service marketing digital communications firm.

NICK LESTER '16 (marketing) joined River City Logistics Inc. in 2020 as director of operations alongside fellow Wolf Pack alumnus, Josh Greenbaum, who serves as director of sales at the 3PL freight logistics firm. Nick brings his excellence in management and customer service to the 50-plus-employee firm with lead offices in Nevada, Iowa and Illinois. Nick is a strong supporter of the Wolf Pack and encourages students and alumni to check out careers and opportunities at River City Logistics Inc.

RACHEL HOADLEY '17 (biology) graduated with her master's of physician assistant studies from Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island in May 2021. Proud dad and Nevada alumnus, **RICHARD HOADLEY '99** (English), **'03 M.A.** (Teaching of English), is happy to report Rachel recently started working in the Neuroscience Department at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland following graduation.

JESSIE SUBLETTE '18 (journalism) has worked for large casino resorts, small startups and everything in between. Now a search & digital media specialist at KPS3, Jessie will be helping her clients succeed in search and performance marketing by pushing new and unique ideas.

BILLY RUECKER '19 (general business) interned at the Nevada Small Business Development Center between classes and attended startup pitching competitions at night, leading him to the semifinals in the Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition. Billy hails from fintech, where he helped a local startup grow an invoicing app and led the charge developing a social media app as a project manager. He also worked at Ruby Seven Studios, taking on the efforts to increase user acquisition of 11 different games. Billy recently joined KPS3 as a search & digital media specialist.

LOGAN SCHAUER '19 (Spanish), **'19** (journalism), **'21 M.A.** (world languages/literatures) completed her master's in world languages and literatures in May 2021 and has since joined KPS3, a full-service marketing and digital communications firm, as social media & PR coordinator.

2020s

ASHRAF ZOHEB '20 (information systems) graduated in Spring 2020 and was lucky to start his career immediately after graduation. Ashraf's parents immigrated from Pakistan so their children could live a better life. 🇵🇰

Remembering Friends

FRIENDS

Patrick Aragon
Michael J. Berry
Curtis Bickford

Janice C. (Falk) Campbell
Gary B. Casteel
Dennis R. Cebe
Douglas E. Coats
John A. Flangas

Gloria O. (Tacchino) Frediani
Holmes G. Hendricksen
Marjorie B. Marlowe
John R. Marquez
Patrick D. Pettinari

Raymond M. Pezonella
William B. Scott
Sally-Ann D. Spinola
Annette Sprecher
Carl R. Webb

FACULTY

Delia F. Bohdan
Raymond Diederichsen
Marilyn D. (Sorenson) Ebner
James B. Ellis
Robert A. Gardner

Mark Gore
John C. Green '93 MPA
Marilyn H. Hadley
Shirley L. Jenkins
Daphne D. Lapointe
Marshellah D. (Allen) Lyons
Robert P. Morin '04 Ph.D.

Michael S. Ramirez
Serena E. (Slepian) Robb '69
Stephen C. St. Jeor
Miles L. Standish
Mary V. (White) Stewart
Gwendolyn A. (Smith) Thacker '71
Bill D. Thy

Randall L. Todd
Evelyn J. Wagner
William H. Welch
Thomas M. Yturbe '96, '00 M.A.

ALUMNI

Margaret L. Hatton (attended 1937-79)
Mary (Boylan) Gray '41
Lucile M. (Brown) Day '45
William W. Eccles '47
Louie S. Joseph '49
Carolyn J. (Pickens) Chimits '50
Marilyn J. (Tavernia) Galli '50
John M. Gomes '50
Elizabeth A. (Rice) Macaulay '50
James H. Miller '50
Gary J. Adams '51
Roger S. Barbash '51
Virginia (Shaw) Henningsen '51
Janice M. (Foster) Loud (attended 1951-53)
Bruce A. Krater '52
Robert H. Moore '52
Donald S. Thompson '53
Richard E. Williamson '53
Sam D. Dibitonto '54
Betty Jo L. (Martin) Baker (attended 1955)
Douglas M. Byington '55, '64 M.Ed.
Harold P. Olsen '55
Theresa J. (Naveran) Cordova '56, '78 M.Ed.
Anthony W. Martin '56
Joanne G. (Hoag) Botsford '57
Margaret C. (Stodieck) Churn '57
Fred R. Horlacher (attended 1957-80)
Lorraine W. (Wright) Kaiser '57
Ronald J. Logar '57
Stanford C. Draper '58
Harold M. Hansen '58
James P. Kiley '58
Josephine (Puccinelli) Smith (attended 1958-76)
Robert G. Ferrari '59
Barbara J. (Ruark) Allison '60
David R. Hoy '60
Mario M. Lommori '60
Patricia K. (Sewell) Sanford '60
Charles H. Walker '60, '64 M.Ed.

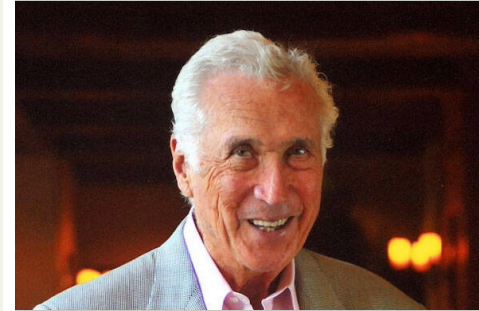
Karen (Abbott) Beyer '61, '04 M.Ed.
Charles E. Clock '61
Fritsi J. (Hancock) Ericson '61
E. Joyce (Stephens) Westover '61
Val D. York '61
Erik Beyer '63
Michael L. Brawley (attended 1963-65)
Toddene (Watkins) Folgate '63
Norma J. (Bass) Washington (attended 1963-93)
Paul W. Freitag '64
James L. Mercer '64, '66 MBA
Thomas H. Atkinson (attended 1966-70)
David A. Palmer (attended 1966-71)
Jerry M. Miller '67
Raymond C. Carter '68, '85 MBA
David M. Middleton '68
David D. Roberts '68
Diana R. (Morgan) Temen '68
Larry E. Clyne '69
Steven E. Katzmann '69
Robert L. Nash '69
Bonnie J. Svare '70 M.Ed.
Robert J. Almo '71, '74 MBA
Cheryl C. (Nichols) Cendagorta '71
John H. Cloepfl '71 M.Ed.
Mark F. Lawson '71
Robert M. Barnum '72
Carla L. (Coykendall) Scheurer '72
Michael J. Wallace '72
Patricia D. (Bonner) White '72
Chris D. Abrahamson (attended 1973-96)
Gregory C. Roush '73
Coni R. (Coleman) Juzek '74, '84
Donald R. McDougall '74
Jennifer J. (Naphan) Salls '74, '85 M.Ed., '06 Ph.D.
Sheila D. (Austin) Pontius '75
John J. Ascuaga '76 (Honorary degree)
Yolanda F. Burress '76, '88 M.S.
Teri Mark (attended 1976-83)
Anthony J. Martinez '76
William D. Nagel (attended 1976-85)

Arthur J. Cimijotti '77
Charles Conelly (attended 1978-90)
Louis F. Granier '78 M.A.
Susan P. (Hensley) Simon '78
Francis W. Nash '79
Sherrill B. Fitzpatrick '80 M.Ed.
Gayle M. Blum '83
Darcy E. Gogert Demas '84 M.D.
Steven D. Pringle '84
Gerald W. Mitchell (attended 1985-89)
Mark S. Arington '86 M.A.
Brian S. Hartman '86
Carl W. Hearn '86
Karl A. Matzoll '87
Frank Terrasas (attended 1987-90)
Alison G. (Kies) Wasielewski '87
Robert D. Braselton (attended 1989-90)
Jean M. (Briel) Neddenriep '89
Katherine (Jackson) Nichols (attended 1989-91)
Isabel A. (Lamal) Plater '89 M.A.
Kimberly R. Carlson '91, '96 MPA
Misha K. Miller-Hornbuckle '91
Nicholas G. Reviglio (attended 1994-95)
Margaret J. Baker '93
Roland P. Kasper '93
Jeffery R. Moon '94
Marla F. (Moore) Plecha '95
Leonard Mackedon '97
Christina M. (Vesely) Turner '97
Gregory M. Clobes '98
Brian L. Rexwinkel '99
Marybeth B. (Rebholtz) Stackhouse '02
David G. Mendershausen '06
Cimeon T. Lupo '07, '10 MSW
Tamara S. Moore-Zuchowski '08
Gareth B. Ferneyhough '10, '13 M.S.
Timothy G. McCarthy '11
Stephen R. Rice '14 M.Ed.
Max F. Vincze (attended 2016-21)
Nicollo T. Murillo '21



David L. Buckman '53

First University Foundation Board Chair, 1981-84



Charles N. Mathewson — A Presidential Medalist and University Foundation Trustee Emeritus, Chuck Mathewson spent 20 years growing International Game Technology as an investor, CEO and board chair. Mathewson is enshrined as a Philanthropist in the University Honor Court for his many gifts supporting endowed positions, athletics and major capital projects including the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center and the Mathewson University Gateway district.



Norman L. Dianda — Distinguished Nevadan Norm Dianda leaves a lasting legacy in northern Nevada — from building our airport to local schools, the E.L. Wiegand Fitness Center, University Arts Building and more. A Trustee Emeritus, Presidential Medalist and Silver Benefactor in Honor Court, Dianda provided generous support to the University for nearly 40 years.

WOLF PUPS

MONROE

MARTIN MARKEE '09 (geography) and **MARRISSA M. MARKEE '09** (political science), '13 M.A. (educational leadership) welcomed their wolf pup, Monroe, on Aug. 6, 2020. She joins her two big sisters, Mila and Madeleine.



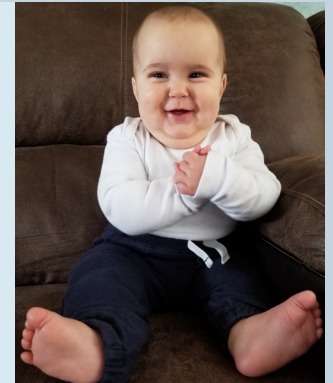
ELLIANA PAIGE

ELISA GERACI '10 (social work) and **DANIEL SCHOENBERG '11** (music) started dating in 2009. They married in 2016 and welcomed their daughter, Elliana Paige, on May 7, 2021.



KORBIN JAMES

KRISTA (MALLERY) ENOS '13 (biochemistry & molecular biology) and Justin Enos would like to announce the birth of their son, Korbin James, on Oct. 20, 2020; he joins big brother Jordan, age 2.



EVERETT

CODY HAENER '11 (marketing) and his wife, Lauren, welcomed their first pup, Everett, on May 1, 2021.



TULA LANE

AUBREE CARLSON '12 (neuroscience), '14 (nursing), '17 MSN and **JESSE CARLSON '09** (civil engineering) welcomed their daughter, Tula Lane, on July 13, 2021.

RIDGE MIGUEL & PAISLEY MAE

JIMMY WADHAMS '07 (political science) played football for Coach Ault. Jimmy and his wife, Brianna Wadhams, welcomed their twin babies, Ridge Miguel and Paisley Mae, on Aug. 23, 2021. Big brother, Jimmy III, has been the best big brother.



unr.edu/alumni/forms/class-chat



Wolf Mates



GARRETT ABE '15 (electrical engineering) and **JANEEN IBARRETA '15** (biology) got married May 22, 2021 in Incline Village.



RACHEL LUCAS '18 (electrical engineering) and her college sweetheart, **SHANE MELTON '17** (computer science and engineering), were married on May 13, 2021 via a zipline on Catalina Island. The two met in the Honors Living Learning Community.



JAVIER HERNANDEZ '17 (marketing) married his high school sweetheart, **SAVANNAH N. NEWMAN '16** (integrated elementary teaching), on July 24, 2020 in Reno. They are excited to keep rooting for the Pack as cheer coaches and give back to the program that gave them so much in their cheer careers from 2012-16.



MARC BROKA '18 (electrical engineering) and his wife, **SARA LYNN HUNT '17** (marketing), were married April 24, 2021 at Red Rock Canyon. They are looking forward to a life of adventures and happiness with their dog, Bell.

CHAPTER UPDATES

unr.edu/alumni/chapters



ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER ALUMNI CHAPTER | *Kamil Shankar '15, '19 M.S. | kshankar@unr.edu*

API Alumni Chapter hit Homecoming week running, starting with the PACK! MidTown extravaganza. Alumni and families who visited Bubble Tea Station Café were treated to free boba tea and bubble wands. Our first Dinner & Drag Scholarship Fundraiser was a hit! This event celebrated and supported local API businesses and honored the rich history of drag in the LGBTQIA+ community. Haus of Does Moore delighted the audience with drag performances, and patrons enjoyed delicious ramen bowls from Ijji Noodle House and Poke Don. This event successfully funded an API Alumni Chapter Scholarship for current University of Nevada, Reno students.



ALUMNI BAND | *Kevin Freels | westies@westies.com*

Members of the Alumni Band, those who participated in the Wolf Pack Marching Band as students, met and rehearsed for a performance at the Homecoming Football game. With 41 participants this year, there were members from the very first year of the Marching Band (1980) up to last year (2021). After Friday night rehearsal and a pizza banquet, the Alumni Band (the original "Pride of the Sierra") performed on the field with the Wolf Pack Marching Band at the Homecoming game and played in the stands to cheer Nevada on to victory.

CHAPTER UPDATES



NEVADA BAY AREA ALUMNI CHAPTER

Brita Muller '09 | brita.muller@gmail.com

Nevada Bay Area Alumni had a busy summer and fall! In September, the chapter hosted a pre-game party for the Nevada football game at Cal Berkeley and in October, we organized a watch party in San Francisco. The chapter is planning events for 2022, including professional networking mixers, Wolf Pack Football and Basketball viewing parties, and volunteer opportunities. Keep up with the chapter on Instagram [@nevadabayareaalumni](https://www.instagram.com/nevadabayareaalumni) and [Facebook.com/nevadabayareaalumni](https://www.facebook.com/nevadabayareaalumni).



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CHAPTER

nvcobaa.com *Chris Boline '15 | bolinechris@gmail.com*

We had a strong showing of support at the 29th edition of the COBAA Annual Golf Tournament and would like to thank Lakeridge Golf Course, well as everyone who attended! In addition, we want to give a shoutout to our corporate sponsors Eide Bailly LLP, Greater Nevada Credit Union, Dolan Auto Group, Bank of the West, The Sandwich Spot, ITS Logistics and our golf hole sponsors The Sandwich Spot, First Centennial, Bank of the West, Tholl Fence, Edward Jones, Dolan, Chase International, The Brewer's Cabinet, New West Distributing, Greater Nevada Credit Union, ITS Logistics, Richard J. Corn CPA, and The Depot. The board is excited

as we prepare for the 30th edition of the COBAA Annual Golf Tournament in 2022! We are also excited to announce that we have two new College of Business Alumni Association Board installations: Steve Scheetz '08 and Stephon Jefferson '14. Finally, we are happy to announce that we were selected as the Nevada Alumni Association 2021 Outstanding Chapter of the Year!



NATIVE AMERICAN ALUMNI CHAPTER

Stephanie Wyatt '12 | swyatt1031@gmail.com

The Native American Alumni Chapter had a great time celebrating Homecoming 2021 and sharing our culture with some round dancing on Indigenous Peoples Day.

HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI CHAPTER

unr.edu/honors/about/alumni

Cassidy D'Amour '16, '18 MSW | cassidy.damour@gmail.com

We are excited to announce that after several years as an informal interest group, several dedicated alumni re-founded the official Honors College Alumni Chapter in June 2021 with the great help of the new Honors College administration. In addition to being part of the larger alumni network, getting recognized as a chapter comes just in time to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Honors at the University of Nevada, Reno in February and the Honors Program becoming the Honors College in summer 2020. We also reached out to several graduates to have them profiled on the new Wolf Pack Way! Upcoming activities include opportunities for connection, mentorship and networking with fellow Honors alumni, current Honors students and other Nevada alumni groups to celebrate Wolf Pack Pride in Reno and throughout the USA.

CHAPTER UPDATES



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ALUMNI CHAPTER

Kyle Yamamoto '09 M.D. | kyamamoto@sierracosmeticsurgery.com

In September, the Class of 2011 held their 10-year reunion. Andrew Tomlinson '11 M.D. and Jyoti Desai '07, '11 M.D. organized the weekend, including a Friday night meet-up and a Saturday afternoon tour of the School of Medicine, followed by a reception that evening at Renaissance Reno Downtown Hotel & Spa.

UNR Med had a great time at the PACK! MidTown event. Several board members, including Jonathan McCaleb '01, '07 M.D.; Reka Danko '03, '08 M.D.; Jerry Jones '77, '81 M.D. and Kyle Yamamoto '09 M.D. greeted students and alumni at Craft Beer and Wine. We handed out UNR Med swag and drink tokens. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with the UNR community after more than a year of virtual interaction. We look forward to getting back to doing more events in person this upcoming year.



NEVADA YOUNG ALUMNI CHAPTER

Melissa Ung '17 | melissa@meljanemedia.com

The Nevada Young Alumni Chapter is excited to get back to in-person events with YAC members!

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK ALUMNI CHAPTER | *Steffini Amezcua '16, '18 MSW | steffini694@yahoo.com*

The School of Social Work Alumni Chapter was busy this summer recruiting new members and holding our first social events. We held an end of summer picnic at Galena Creek Park and celebrated Homecoming by participating in the University's first PACK! MidTown event. Through these events, we really enjoyed meeting other alumni and reconnecting with old classmates. The School of Social Work Alumni Chapter continues to actively recruit new members and is also looking to fill a few board member positions. We are looking to fill the roles of vice president and treasurer. If you are interested in becoming a member or joining the board, please email us at sswac.unr@gmail.com.

ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION | *Jan Brady '63, '88 MBA | lvcrrswrds@aol.com*

OSNAA has had a busy and fun-filled fall! We celebrated Homecoming 2021 at PACK! MidTown on October 15. We served refreshments and drinks at The Z Bar to classmates, friends and students. Then on Saturday, we celebrated the Pack's wonderful win over Hawaii! Our mentorship program has generated much interest — with 26 OSN students interested in having a mentor. The formal program will start in the spring. We look forward to making these fun and helpful connections with the students. We are developing an engaging video about our members, the work we are doing and why Orvis School of Nursing alumni should want to join the association. Go Pack!

ALUMNI GATHERINGS



Homecoming 2021

Alumni and friends were welcomed back to campus in the fall for in-person Homecoming events October 11-16. The Nevada Alumni Association, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada and Nevada Athletics partnered to offer an exciting weeklong celebration with something for everyone to enjoy!

Nevada Alumni Association and College & Unit Distinguished Alumni Awards Reception

📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

1 University President Brian Sandoval '86, College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumna Tierra Jones '03 and 2021 Alumni Council President Katie Weigel '96, '98 MBA.

2 Alumnus of the Year Keith Lee '65.

3 Past Alumni Council President Scott Walquist '02, University Service Award Winners Michael and Barbara Heffner and President Brian Sandoval '86.

4 Nevada Alumni Association Service Award Winner Kris Layman '93 (center) with family and friends.



Tailgate Party, Halftime Recognition and PACK! MidTown

The Homecoming 2021 festivities included celebrating this year's alumni honorees on Chris Ault Field, the first PACK! MidTown event and most importantly, alumni coming together to share their love of the Pack! 📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

5 Award winners were invited onto Chris Ault Field for recognition during halftime at the Homecoming Football game on Saturday, October 16, against Hawaii. **6** Professional Achievement Awardee Nicole Cannizzaro '06. **7** Outstanding Chapter of the Year, the College of Business Alumni Association.

8 Alumnus of the Year Keith Lee '65. **9** School of Social Work Alumni Chapter's PACK! MidTown event. **10** School of Medicine Alumni Association's PACK! MidTown social. **11** Homecoming Tailgate Party in our new location north of Mackay Stadium. **12** Vice President for Advancement Bill Johnson and former Alumni Council member David Pressler '72 MPA, '82 M.A. **13** Asian Pacific Islander Chapter's gathering during PACK! MidTown. **14** Native American Alumni Chapter's PACK! MidTown social.



N'Spire Award Reception

📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

15 The Women of Silver & Blue held their second annual N'Spire Awards Reception in August and selected alumna, past Alumni Council member, donor and current Foundation Trustee, Stephanie Kruse '91 MBA (third from left) as their 2021 recipient.





Golden Reunion

The Classes of 1970 and 1971 celebrated their 51st and 50th Reunions together with two full days of on-campus activities, including a campus tour, cocktail reception, reunion dinner, tailgate party and recognition during the Nevada vs. New Mexico game at Mackay Stadium. 📷 Brin Reynolds '12, '15 MBA

16 Golden Reunion Classes of 1970 and 1971 take their annual "golden grad" photo on the steps of Morrill Hall. **17** The Honorable William Cobb '71, University First Lady Lauralyn Sandoval '92, President Brian Sandoval '86, NSHE Board of Regents Chair Pro Tempore Carol Del Carlo '72, Louis Test '71 and Joni Test '73 enjoying the Golden Reunion tailgate. **18** Former Nevada State Attorney General and 1970 ASUN President, Frankie Sue Del Papa '71. **19** Classmates Robyn Powers '71 and Bill Cobb '71. **20** Reunion Dinner photo with President Brian Sandoval '86.



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Faculty Emerita and alumna Jill Winter's passion for science and engineering lives on through planned gift



The late Jill M. Winter '78, '86 M.A.
 Courtesy of Andrew Clark

By Allison M. Williams '08

Raised in South Africa, the late Jill Winter's first professional path was one committed to science and engineering. It was there that she studied engineering at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and discovered her love of politics and publishing. She would spend the next 10 years as a journalist, technical publications editor and structural designer. It was also there that she met her husband Elmer, an economic geologist, and in 1972, the couple relocated to the United States before marrying in Las Vegas.

Winter continued her education at the University of Nevada, Reno — turning her attention to women's rights. She received her bachelor's in political science in 1978 and went on to teach political science focused on women in politics and female economic

empowerment from 1979-84, before receiving her master's in 1986. Winter continued her career at the University, serving as publication editor at the Center for Applied Research until retirement.

The Winters' generous support of the University began during Jill's time as an instructor and over the next 36 years, their philanthropy ranged from sustaining membership of KUNR and support for Apex Concerts and the University Foundation, to gifts to various colleges and units campuswide as well as numerous scholarships.

In 2002, Elmer established the Ruth M. Winter Memorial Scholarship Endowment to support future nursing students in memory of his sister. Then in 2005, Jill established the Elmer A. Winter Endowment in Economic Geology to continue Elmer's legacy and recognize talented economic geology students working in the mining industry. Jill Winter regularly met with

recipients of Elmer's scholarship to share firsthand his dedication to the geology field in the hopes of fostering that same commitment in Nevada graduate students.

Shortly before her passing, Winter made a planned gift to further support both the endowment in Elmer's name as well as the establishment of the Jill M. Winter Scholarship Endowment for Women in Science which will benefit students pursuing a degree in the College of Science, the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering or the College of Engineering.

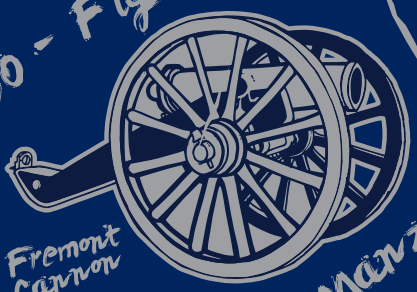
"Jill's legacy on our campus has and will impact generations of students — as an alumna, instructor, faculty emerita and through her decades of generosity," said Jeff Thompson, executive vice president and provost. "During my time as dean of the College of Science, Jill was a constant source of support and wisdom — a Renaissance person with passions in the arts, science, engineering, cultures, history, equity and, of course, education. The scholarship she established in memory of her beloved husband, Elmer, has continuously assisted students reach graduation. Jill's planned gift will ensure countless more students receive their degrees and pursue their professional passions just as she and Elmer did around the globe and in the Truckee Meadows."

In addition to steadfast support of her alma mater for which she is recognized as a Gold Benefactor in the University Honor Court, Winter also served the community by volunteering with a number of local organizations including three years as president of the Reno Chamber Orchestra Board, as a member of the Nevada Women's Fund Board and as an advisory board member for the Northern Nevada International Center.



For more information on making a planned gift, visit unrlegacy.org or contact Brian Saeman, J.D. '98, director of development for planned giving, at (775) 682-5938 or bsaeman@unr.edu. To learn more about supporting students in the College of Science, please contact Donna Knotek '12, '15 MBA, director of development, at (775) 682-5952 or dknotek@unr.edu. And to support Nevada engineering students, contact Flynn Ginty, director of development, at (775) 682-7696 or fginty@unr.edu.

Go - Fight - Win



Fremont Cannon

Go Pack!

Go Pack! Go Pack! Go Pack!
Go Pack! Go Pack! Go Pack!
Go Pack! Go Pack!

The Joe

The War



Getchell Library

Bleed Silver and Blue

Nevada



Sagebrush
Manzanita

Joe Trans



Mackay

Artemesia

Wolf Pack



GO FOR THE
Big Blue

Lake Tahoe



pack-Fetti



Bell Tower

Blue

Luna
Alphie

Alumni

ATHENA
ZEUS



Silver

Morrill Hall



UNR

The Quad

EST. 1874

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