

NEVADA

Silver & Blue

University of Nevada, Reno • Winter 2021





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The University of Nevada, Reno is a place where everyone, individuals from all walks of life and backgrounds, can realize their dreams.

I know from my own experience that the University has helped make me who I am today.

From the first time I ever set foot on campus, back when I was an elementary school student visiting the Quad with my mother, I remember feeling an instant pull. When I became a graduate, I took with me lifetime friendships, class experiences that strengthened me for what was ahead in my life and the knowledge that it is people, more than anything else, who define a university's lasting narrative. My wife, Lauralyn '92 (journalism), a University graduate herself, followed a similar path as a student on our campus, and has similar feelings about the profound role the University has played in her life.

Since my first day on the job, what I already knew about our institution has been dramatically reaffirmed — our University's people are resilient and caring, and our students, faculty and staff work every day to positively influence lives for the enduring benefit of all.

We are in the midst of a historically challenging time. Yet I believe our University and all the members of what I refer to as the "Wolf Pack Family" will emerge stronger and even more keenly focused on our future.

I have seen this in the faces — wearing facial coverings, of course! — of students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends in our community who I've interacted with over these past few months. To a person, these individuals have shared a collective sense that even if individual lives have been altered, our way back must include a personal stake in our shared community.

The dreams of this University are more alive than ever before. Our potential to enact lasting and fundamental change in all aspects of our lives has never been greater.

I consider it the highest of honors to serve you, our community and our state as the University's 17th president. I look forward to learning more about your hopes and dreams and working with you to help achieve them.

Go Pack!

Brian Sandoval '86, *President*



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The Wolf Pack Family: Photos submitted by colleges and schools, Nevada faculty, students and alumni. Thank you for sharing your experiences across our campus and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit us online at unr.edu/silverandblue



The Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy:

two decades of putting renewable energy research to work for Nevada and the world



GBCGE team members and collaborative partners from Argentina's Servicio Geológico Minero (national geological survey) on a geothermal field trip to the Travertine Hot Springs near Bridgeport, California, May 2019. Photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. © GBCGE

By Caddie Dufurrena '00

Recently, the Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy received a \$10 million Department of Energy grant that will fund a four-and-a-half-year project to develop improved regional scale workflows to discover hidden geothermal systems in the Great Basin. The project, “Innovative Geothermal Exploration through Novel Investigations of Undiscovered Systems,” will be led by the University of Nevada, Reno and involve an interdisciplinary team of more than 30 collaborators at 12 partner institutions. Impressive in its scope, the INGENIOUS project is the most

recent research focus of the GBCGE team, who has been supporting the development of geothermal energy resources in the western United States and capturing worldwide attention for the last 20 years.

Part of the College of Science, the GBCGE was initially established within the Mackay School of Mines in response to congressional initiatives to accelerate development of renewable resources. Now, operating as part of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, the GBCGE is an applied research center that works in partnership with local, national and global stakeholders to identify new geothermal systems, develop new conceptual models of how these systems function, and guide

long-term sustainable management practices of these energy resources.

“We’re working to answer the pressing geoscience questions that relate to reducing the exploration risk for geothermal resources,” said Bridget Ayling, Ph.D., director of the GBCGE. “Finding these resources is incredibly important. Our goal is to support the exploration and development of geothermal energy because it’s a renewable and clean energy source with virtually no CO₂ (carbon dioxide) emissions and it’s always on, 24/7. If the infrastructure and technology can be developed, we have enough geothermal energy resource potential in Nevada to power the whole state.”

The INGENIOUS project will build

Top: GBCGE Director Bridget Ayling measures the temperature of a hot spring in the Black Rock Desert, and samples helium gas that is escaping from the spring. **Below:** The Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy hosts the National Geothermal Academy, a program designed to train the next generation of geothermal scientists through various modules that give students and professionals hands-on experience. The program was last held in 2019. *Photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.* 📷 GBCGE



Drilling a shallow geothermal exploration well during the Nevada Play Fairway project in southeastern Gabbs Valley, Nevada. 📷 GBCGE

on years of previous research conducted by the small but mighty team of scientists at the GBCGE.

The Nevada Play Fairway project conducted from 2015-19, is one example of the GBCGE’s impressive research track record. This project, led by Jim Faulds, Ph.D., director of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, was conducted to find economically viable hidden geothermal systems. Play Fairway analysis is used to identify geologically favorable locations where these systems may exist and also to evaluate their energy resource potential.

With two new hidden systems discovered, the project was very successful, and helped the team develop best practices that benefit other industry professionals.

Currently, the GBCGE is also engaged in the Nevada Machine Learning project. Machine learning is the use and development of computer systems that use algorithms and statistical models to analyze complex patterns in data and can adapt without explicit instructions.

The project seeks to integrate machine learning techniques into the geothermal exploration process while developing open datasets that will be publicly released and available to other users in the geothermal community.

“Most of our funding at present comes from the Department of Energy or the U.S. Department of State, and the research this funding supports doesn’t just impact the success of geothermal in Nevada, but has regional and global implications as well,” said Ayling.

It is funding from the U.S. Department of State that enables the GBCGE to partner with foreign governments in countries such

as Argentina, Peru and Colombia, and train foreign officials in the technical aspects and best practices of geothermal energy exploration and use.

Ayling said, “Engaging with these international partners to share experiences and information has been a rewarding endeavor. The collaboration benefits us too, as we are learning from them — it’s a two-way interaction and it elevates the GBCGE’s international profile and the University as a center of excellence.”

The GBCGE also provides valuable experience for graduate students who participate in the team’s research efforts. Students’ input is important for several reasons, as Ayling points out: “Because we have a small team with only three to four full-time employees, the work our graduate students do is crucial to project success. Our students are essential team members who have a high level of energy and bring creative thinking and fresh ideas for solving problems.”

Kurt Kraal is a Ph.D. candidate in the geology program who has worked with Ayling since 2017. He feels his research experience is critical in preparing him to work as a geologist in the industry or at a research institution.

“I love working for the GBCGE. My work has primarily involved subsurface investigations of geothermal systems in Nevada. It is important for me to engage in hands-on research work because it provides me with valuable experience that I hope to use in my future career,” said Kraal.

The GBCGE is one of the world’s leading centers of geothermal energy and contributes greatly to the University’s prestigious Carnegie R1 research classification, signifying “very high research activity.” As Mridul Gautam, Ph.D., the University’s vice president of research and innovation, described, “The research conducted by Dr. Ayling, Dr. Faulds and their colleagues not only allows breakthroughs in the successful discovery and utilization of geothermal energy in our region and beyond, but because we are sharing this information on an international level, the team’s work has a direct impact on the economy and industry. They are helping to shape Nevada’s worldwide reputation as a leader in the development and use of renewable, clean energy.” 📷

To learn more about the GBCGE, visit [GBCGE.org](https://www.gbcge.org).

GATHERINGS



Nevada Writers Hall of Fame

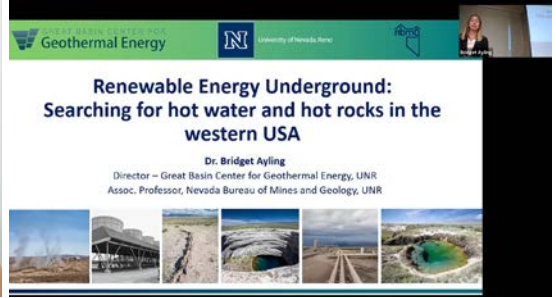
Each fall, the annual Nevada Writers Hall of Fame is presented by the University Libraries and celebrates excellent writing by Nevadans or by those with a connection to the Battle Born state. The 33rd Annual Nevada Writers Hall of Fame took place virtually on Nov. 12, 2020. Although there were no author inductions this year, the evening was filled with entertaining performances by Robert Leonard Reid, Hannah Branch and Mike Branch, as well as a presentation by guest speaker Associate Professor Chris Coake. Courtesy Robin Monteith

1 Kyle Weerheim '14 and Maryan Tooker (foreground) managing the camera and production logistics as featured author Associate Professor Chris Coake and host Mark Maynard (background) rehearse for the event in the Leonard Graduate and Faculty Room.

2 Digital Multimedia Production Specialist Shawn Sariti at the piano, Multimedia Production Specialist Kyle Weerheim '14 to the right of the piano and Media Production Specialist Maryan Tooker behind the camera preparing for the event in the University's Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center Rotunda.

Discover Science at home! Virtual Series

3 Associate Professor Bridget Ayling. **4** Professor Beth Leger.
5 Assistant Professor Neil Lareau.



College of Engineering Distinguished Lecture Series

On Nov. 4, 2020, the College of Engineering hosted its virtual lecture event with Distinguished Speaker Janet Napolitano, professor of public policy at the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, former secretary of the Department of Homeland Security and former two-term governor of Arizona. Napolitano's lecture, "Homeland Security Challenges in the Age of COVID," discussed how defense of the homeland has evolved during the pandemic and what we can expect in the future. College of Engineering Dean Manos Maragakis, University President Brian Sandoval '86 and University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Trustee Sara Lafrance '73 provided remarks during the event. 📷 Courtesy Janet Napolitano



6 College of Engineering Distinguished Speaker Janet Napolitano.

Spring 2020 and Winter 2020 Commencements

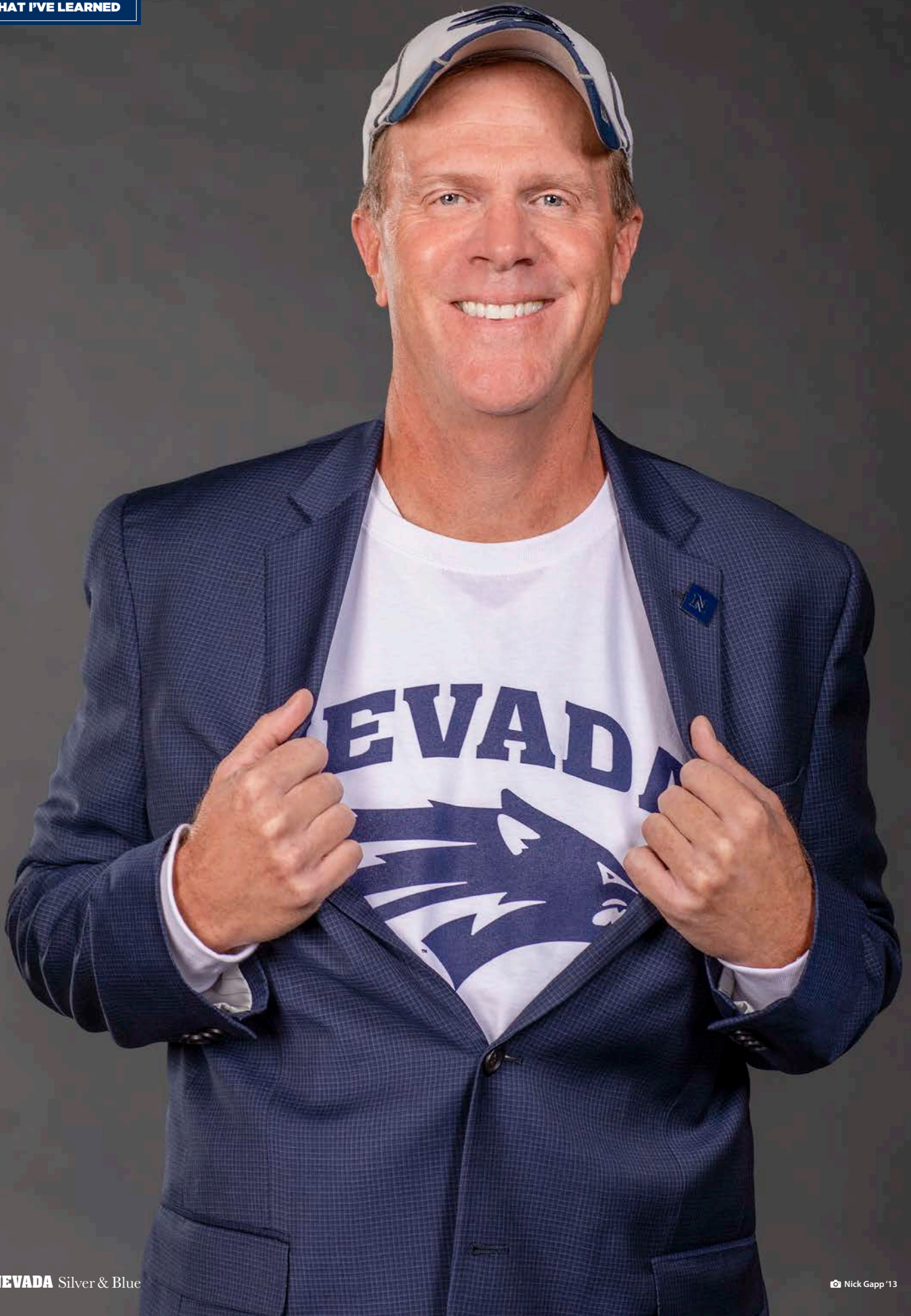
The University hosted two virtual commencement ceremonies on Dec. 5, 2020 — one celebrating Spring 2020 graduates and the other celebrating Winter 2020 graduates. The University conferred 3,143 degrees and certificates last spring and a total of 1,949 degrees and certificates combined from the summer and fall semesters. 📷 Courtesy Maryan Tooker



7 Former Faculty Senate Chair Brian Frost recording his message for the Spring 2020 Commencement ceremony.



8 The Sierra Brass Quintet records the processional and recession for the virtual commencement ceremonies while socially distanced.



Jeffrey R. Rodefer '85

2021 University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Chair
Silver Benefactor supporting The College of Business,
University Libraries, Wolf Pack Athletics and more

By Allison Williams '08

If you ask Jeff Rodefer '85 to think back on his years at the University of Nevada, Reno, his initial answer will be short and sweet, “some of the best years of my life.” But it will also be one of fond memories that transport Nevada alums back to our alma mater — reliving midnight baseball on the Quad and enjoying Awful Awfuls, commiserating over professors he can quote years after graduation and reminiscing about changing majors three times. In the end, he landed on a major in finance and minor in accounting.

In just minutes, Rodefer's passion for the University is clear. Seven years after graduating, he became a donor and has since generously supported the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, an endowment in The College of Business, the E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center, Mackay Stadium's Champions Plaza, the Silver & Blue Society and much more. And his involvement goes well beyond gifts, as a lifetime member of both the Nevada Alumni Association and The College of Business Alumni Association, as well as serving on the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation's Audit & Finance and Governance Committees for eight years and now as the Foundation Board of Trustees' 2021 chair.

Off campus, Rodefer helped resurrect the Gaming Law Section. After being dormant for nearly a decade, this section of the State Bar of Nevada has provided scholarships to Nevadans pursuing law degrees, as well as support for, among other causes, the Las Vegas Victims' Fund helping those in-

jured in the October 1 shooting and United Way's COVID-19 relief efforts — totaling more than \$500,000 over 20 years.

Love of philanthropy is something Rodefer learned from his mother, Joanne. “I can't tell you the number of times people would tell me they wanted my mother to adopt them. I even remember all of my elementary school classmates listing my mom as their choice for ‘Room Mother’ instead of their own,” Rodefer recalled. “She was always concerned with helping others and that's why I try hard to help other people.”

Joanne met Rodefer's dad, Bob, while working for the FBI in Oregon. After stops in Santa Fe and Hobbs, New Mexico, Bob was assigned to a Civil Rights Task Force in North Carolina in 1965. In response to neighborhood cross burnings, Joanne often welcomed displaced FBI agents and families into their home but refused to raise her children in that turbulent environment. In 1967, the family relocated to Nevada — briefly to Las Vegas, then to Reno and in 1969, Bob opened the Carson City FBI office.

“Carson City only had 15,000 residents when we moved there in January 1970. There were cattle drives down our street twice a year,” Rodefer said. “I rode my bike everywhere as a kid. A lot of miles were put on that Schwinn Varsity 10-speed. I still remember telling my mom about a nice older guy joining us for Saturday morning rides at the corner of Ormsby Boulevard and Kings Street. To mom's amazement, that guy was former Gov. Paul Laxalt. Small town life.”

Rodefer always knew he had big shoes to fill professionally. Before being recruited

by the FBI where his mother often assisted then-U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy when he was in Portland, Oregon, Joanne was a faculty member at Multnomah Business College. And during his 25-year FBI career, Bob worked some big-name cases including the 1964 murder of the three civil rights workers that inspired the movie “Mississippi Burning,” the D.B. Cooper hijacking, the Harvey's Casino bombing and the attempted murder of Frank “Lefty” Rosenthal featured in the movie “Casino.”

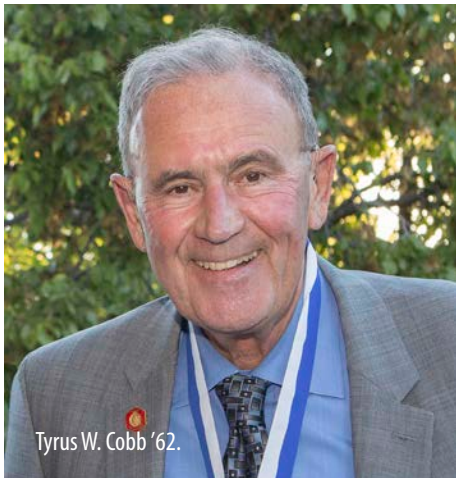
After graduating from Nevada, Rodefer pursued his law degree in Oregon as a Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) recipient. But his time away would be brief, returning to work in the Transportation and Civil-Tax Divisions of the Nevada Attorney General's Office and serving as assistant chief deputy attorney general with the Gaming Division.

“Representing the State of Nevada as its legal counsel was the most enjoyable job I have had,” Rodefer said. “I have been privileged to appear in Nevada and California federal courts, and most of Nevada's state courts, including the Nevada Supreme Court where, among my successful arguments, was the seminal property tax case of *Imperial Palace, Inc. v. Nevada Dept. of Taxation* (1992) which saved the state a special legislative session.”

Rodefer went on to serve as in-house legal counsel for two public gaming companies, including Boyd Gaming Corporation. He then moved into private practice focused on gaming and regulatory matters, state and local taxation, and transactional and general corporate matters.

For future Pack alumni starting their own careers, Rodefer's advice is simple, “It's important to get good grades but you also want to get out and meet people because connections are critical. And keep your options open because you never know what will come from that.” **N**

On Philanthropy



Tyrus W. Cobb International Affairs Scholarship Endowment established

By Caddie Dufurrena '00

Tyrus W. Cobb received his bachelor's in political science from Nevada in 1962, a master's from Indiana University in 1970 and a doctorate from Georgetown University in 1982. He then went on to have a distinguished career serving as a West Point professor and a colonel in the U.S. Army. Cobb was appointed to President Reagan's National Security Council staff, initially as a member of the European and Soviet Affairs Directorate, and later as a special assistant to the president. Upon returning to his hometown of Reno, Cobb founded the National Security Forum, an organization dedicated to serving as a venue for thoughtful consideration of international, politico-military and geo-economic issues of current importance.

"The establishment of this scholarship encourages students to follow in Dr. Cobb's footsteps and explore the wide range of opportunities a degree in international affairs opens up for them," said College of Liberal Arts Dean Debra Modellmog. "Recipients

of the scholarship will be capable of enacting positive change on a global level in their professional careers, and we are deeply grateful to the donors for their generous support."

The Tyrus W. Cobb International Affairs Scholarship Endowment has been established by members of the National Security Forum and others from the community, including the Cobb family, to recognize Cobb's contributions to our country and our community, and as a way to inspire students to get involved in international affairs and national security. Scholarship recipients will be undergraduate students pursuing a degree within the Department of Political Science in international affairs.



For more information on supporting students in the College of Liberal Arts, please contact Julie Mathews '03, director of development, at (775) 784-6873 or juliem@unr.edu; or contact Stephanie Sellers, director of development, at (775) 784-1222 or sesellers@unr.edu.

Nita Reifschneider Spangler Service Award Endowment established

By Allison Williams '08

In memory of their mother, Nita Reifschneider Spangler '44 (journalism), Mary, Jon and Thor Spangler established the Nita Reifschneider Spangler Service Award Endowment to support deserving students in the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism and Center for Advanced Media Studies.

Nita Reifschneider Spangler moved from California to Reno in 1929 and was president of her sorority at the University of Nevada, Reno. During her undergraduate years, she worked for the Nevada State Journal and the Reno Evening Gazette.

In her first job after graduation with the Redwood City Tribune, Nita Spangler covered city hall, the San Mateo County

Courthouse, and the founding of the United Nations in San Francisco. She also wrote a series that led to the Sequoia Hospital District's formation and the building of Sequoia Hospital. In the years that followed, she gave countless hours of her time, energy, hospitality and talent to preserving local history, open space, the environment and social justice.

For the Spangler children, seeing passionate journalism students receive this award and follow Nita Spangler's example to work for a better world is the highest tribute to their mother.

"At the Reynolds School, we are focused on students turning their passion into careers and serving the public good in a complex world," said Reynolds School Dean Al Stavitsky. "Thanks to the generosity of

The late Nita Reifschneider Spangler '44.

 Courtesy Mary Spangler



the Spangler family, Nita's legacy will live on — helping our students continue to do this each and every day."



For more information on supporting students in the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism, please contact Laurice Antoun-Becker, director of development, at (775) 784-4184 or lantounbecker@unr.edu.



Left: The late Linda Charlebois '73.
Right: The late Ray and Pauline Charlebois. Ron Charlebois

Charlebois Endowments in nursing and agriculture established

By Caddie Dufurrena '00

In memory of his wife, Ron Charlebois established the Linda Lee (Digesti) Charlebois Scholarship Endowment in Nursing to support students in the Orvis School of Nursing. Linda '73 (nursing) worked for St. Mary's Regional Medical Center for 41 years, first serving as a staff registered nurse and eventually becoming the director of risk management. She en-

riched the lives of countless people, both at work and in her personal life.

Ron has also established the Leland Ray & Pauline Marie (Menesini) Charlebois Family Scholarship Endowment in Agriculture in memory of his father and mother, Ray and Pauline, two longtime Nevadans who owned and operated ranches in the Yerington and Topaz areas and were both descendants of immigrant families. They were active in their local communities and both served on school boards, while Ray was also a member of the Mono County Board of Supervisors. This scholarship will support students pursuing a degree in agricultural science in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources.

"Linda Charlebois' service to our community through her work at St. Mary's touched many lives, while Ray and Paul-

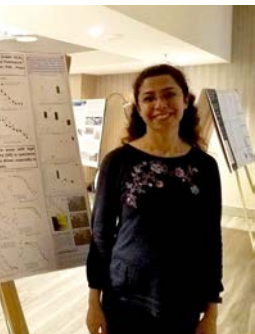
ine Charlebois were committed to bettering their local communities as well. Now, through the establishment of these endowments, Ron Charlebois creates a lasting family legacy on our University campus," said Lynda Buhlig '84 (French), interim vice president of development and alumni relations. "These scholarships will enable deserving nursing and agricultural science students to receive support that will help them reach their academic goals and succeed in their professional aspirations. We are deeply grateful to Ron."



To learn more about supporting students in the Orvis School of Nursing, contact Jillian Szweczak '13, assistant director of development, at (775) 682-7178 or jszweczak@unr.edu.



For more information on supporting students in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources, contact Mitch Klaich '02, director of development, at (775) 682-6490 or mklaich@unr.edu.



In 2019, Hamideh Safa received support for her graduate studies from the John J. Warwick and Laura Helsel Endowment for Hydrologic Sciences, as did Tara McKinnon in 2020.

Courtesy Anne Nolin

The John J. Warwick and Laura Helsel Endowment for Hydrologic Sciences established

By Curtis Vickers '07 M.A.

The Graduate Program of Hydrologic Sciences has played an important role in the lives of John Warwick and his wife Laura Helsel '94 M.S. (hydrology). Currently a professor in the School of Civil, Environmental, and Infrastructure Engineering at Southern Illinois University, Warwick served as GPHS director from 1993-99 and again from 2007-08, while Laura earned her master's in the program. In appreciation for the role GPHS played in their lives and to advance its goal of offering graduate degrees in hydrology and hydrogeology, they have established the John J. Warwick and Laura Helsel Endowment for Hydrologic Sciences to support female students in the program. John and Laura are funding this award annually, and two students have already ben-

efited from their generosity. Additionally, the couple has established a charitable gift annuity, the remainder of which will provide for a gift that will convert the fund to a permanent endowment.

"Through their ongoing support, John and Laura continue to demonstrate their respect for and active commitment to GPHS. Their thoughtful gift is already making a positive difference for women in the hydrologic sciences at the University. I cannot thank them enough," said Anne Nolin, Ph.D., current GPHS director.

"Through their ongoing support, John and Laura continue to demonstrate their respect for and active commitment to GPHS. Their thoughtful gift is already making a positive difference for women in the hydrologic sciences at the University. I cannot thank them enough," said Anne Nolin, Ph.D., current GPHS director.

"A true collaboration with the Desert Research Institute, the Graduate Program of Hydrological Sciences is performing vital research on our most crucial natural resource — water," Acting Executive Vice President and Provost and College of Science Dean Jeffrey Thompson said. "Through their own research and now through this generous gift, John and Laura ensure we are able to continue this essential research. We are grateful for their support of female students in the field."



To learn about supporting the College of Science, 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.



For more information on making a planned gift, contact Lisa Riley, J.D., director of planned giving, at (775) 682-6017 or lriley@unr.edu; or Brian Saeman, J.D. '98, director of development for planned giving, at (775) 682-5938 or bsaeman@unr.edu.

Nevada Small Business Development Center

**lending a helping hand
in times of crisis**

By Caddie Dufurrena '00

One thing becomes strikingly clear when talking to the staff who operate the Nevada Small Business Development Center at the University of Nevada, Reno — they truly care about the success and well-being of small-business owners, and not just because it's their job to do so. It is also clear the ongoing financial crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic has made the services they offer more necessary than ever before.

“People knew they could rely on us. People were very frustrated when the lockdown first started. They just needed to talk to somebody. They'd say, ‘Look my business is going under and I don't know what to do,’” said Sam Males '76 MBA, director of the Nevada SBDC. “From that standpoint, we were very lucky to be here.” Even after the University moved to alternative operations in mid-March, the Nevada SBDC stayed open on campus fielding hundreds of phone calls each day related to the statewide shutdown and available loans.





“We do whatever we can to make sure our community members have the support they need, in whatever form that may take.”

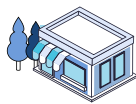
– Winnie Dowling '85, '92 MBA, deputy director of the Nevada SBDC

Some of the most recent interactions the staff has experienced show just how much stress COVID-19 is placing on entrepreneurs across the state, and how much care the Nevada SBDC staff takes in making sure these business owners receive the information they need to access resources. Winnie Dowling '85 (computer information systems), '92 MBA, deputy director of the Nevada SBDC, helped a rural business advisor in the first months of the pandemic.

“The client’s business was failing and she could see no way out. She was really suffering. We realized she was in serious distress and I ended up calling 9-1-1 while our advisor kept the client on the line,” Dowling said, “We do whatever we can to make sure our community members have the support they need, in whatever form that may take.”

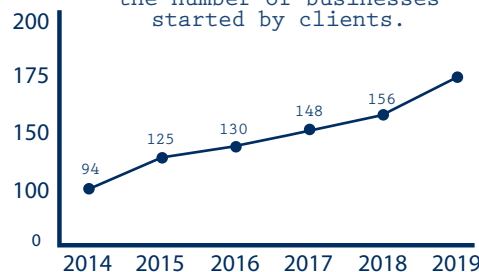
The support services provided by the Nevada SBDC are wide-ranging and they’ve been available to small-business owners across the state for far longer than the span of the pandemic. Founded in 1985, the Nevada SBDC provides small-business owners — a small business is any business that employs 100 people or fewer, and 98% of Nevada businesses fall into this category — with access to resources such as business planning tools, social media marketing advice, employee training and hiring, professional counseling services and more. With 14 offices and more than 40 staff members and students statewide, the technical assistance available from Nevada SBDC’s counselors and mentors is exceptional.

The Nevada SBDC is part of a large, national network of more than 1,000 centers funded by the United States Small Business Administration, and operates in partnership with Nevada’s universities, colleges, and state and local partners. The complete list of services they provide is vast, but 2020 has seen a dramatic uptick in the requests they receive from people trying to figure out how to navigate the application processes for loans offered through the Small Business Administration, like Paycheck Protection Plan loans and state and local grants. In the 2020 federal fiscal year alone, Nevada SBDC assisted 2,855 clients.



172 BUSINESS STARTS

The Nevada SBDC has seen a steady increase in the number of businesses started by clients.





The hardworking group also supported 11,049 small-business jobs statewide and assisted in the establishment of 159 new Nevada small businesses.

As the effects of the pandemic became clearer, the Nevada SBDC moved to remote operations. But that didn't slow them down. The team partnered with University of Nevada Extension to offer a series of virtual townhalls which allowed clients to learn about buying or starting a business, customer service and an introduction to Konfronta, a Spanish language company that assists business owners in increasing their profits. Nevada SBDC's staff continue to provide their clients sessions via Zoom meetings, and they also participated in the America's SBDC Virtual Conference in September.

As they modified their operations and mode of information delivery, one need the team soon realized many small businesses were facing in the first months of the pandemic was how to get enough face masks for their employees. So, in partnership with the Nevada COVID-19 Task Force, they stepped up and distributed over 4,000 just to small businesses with 10 or fewer employees. People have been proudly wearing these masks ever since, which bear the Nevada flag emblem and the words, "Stay safe. Stay open."

Helping small businesses stay open is exactly what Brad Scribner '15 (journalism) is focused on in his role as the associate project coordinator for Made in Nevada, a statewide, collective-marketing organization that connects, promotes and supports Battle Born businesses of all shapes and sizes. Just this year, a Made in Nevada website

The Nevada SBDC in partnership with the Nevada COVID-19 Task Force, distributed over 4,000 masks just to small businesses with 10 or fewer employees. These photos show local business owners and employees proudly wearing their Nevada masks.  Courtesy Nevada SBDC

was created, thanks to funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act. Now, Made in Nevada not only acts as a network connecting Nevada’s business owners, but also provides a marketplace platform where they can sell their products to the public at Shop.MadeInNevada.org.

Scribner also spearheaded the recently launched Nevada Entrepreneurs Network app. Available to the public last November, the creation of the app was funded through a Google Impact Challenge grant the Nevada SBDC received.

Right now, due to COVID-19, Scribner says, “Our coffee shop connections are missing. With the Nevada Entrepreneur Network app, we’re trying to move those connections into a digital space.”

The app is made up of different modules that, based on their profiles, point business owners to various resources across the state. They gain access to an events module, a knowledge center for continuing education, media-based podcasts and stories, and Connect Now, which is a social media function that allows users to interact with other entrepreneurs in their region.

“We’re in a great position to launch this app,” said Males. “Because of our connection with the University and the people in the state, we have unique access to bring people together.”

But Made in Nevada and the Nevada Entrepreneur Network app are just a sampling of the benefits small-business owners receive when working with Nevada SBDC. Several years ago, the team understood small-business owners faced challenges in meeting environmental regulation standards. This was the impetus that spurred the team to create the Business Environmental Program. BEP provides free and confidential environmental management assistance to businesses and government operations in Nevada. These services can include anything from helping businesses determine how to reduce hazardous waste to minimizing air emission to complying with environmental requirements.

“Our experiences in the past make us look at where we can help businesses,” said Males, “This made us realize businesses needed guidance on safety precautions related to the pandemic.”

Dowling shared how many people felt during Nevada’s initial lockdown in March 2020, “We all wanted to reopen after the

shutdown, so our BEP program developed safety sheets that helped all sorts of business owners — dry cleaners, restaurant owners, repair shops — reopen and be COVID-19 compliant.”

One local business professional who knows firsthand just how crucial the work of the Nevada SBDC is in our community is Melissa Molyneaux ’06 (marketing). In her junior year at the University, Molyneaux worked as an intern for Nevada SBDC. She gained experience in marketing through mentorship from Rod Jorgensen, Nevada SBDC’s senior business development manager. Jorgensen would match Molyneaux up with businesses that were struggling with sales and she would get the real-world, hands-on experience of helping these businesses develop a viable marketing plan.

“Rod always treated us interns like we were his equals. He gave me my first real exposure to the business world. I was able to give real advice to business owners even though I was just an undergrad,” said Molyneaux.

Molyneaux credits her time at the Nevada SBDC for teaching her one very critical skill that has impacted her professional success: “There’s this idea in the business world that you should listen more than you talk. Working at the Nevada SBDC and with Rod, I learned to listen to what clients’ needs were and then come back with a plan that would work for them. It was such a unique and valuable experience.”

Molyneaux is now executive vice president with Colliers International in Reno, which provides a full range of brokerage, property management, valuation, and research and marketing services.

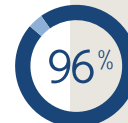
Student success is an important part of the Nevada SBDC’s mission to support the state’s diverse population. As Jorgensen puts it, “We’re here because we can aid Greg Mosier, the dean of The College of Business, with his economic development efforts in the community.”

With economic development at the forefront of many people’s minds amid the pandemic, Dowling had this advice to share, “For small-business owners to stay afloat during the pandemic they must stay flexible. People have to adapt and be willing to change and learn within their businesses. We’re here to help when they need us.” **N**

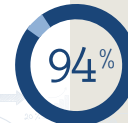
For more information, visit NevadaSBDC.org.



WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY ABOUT US



96% of our clients say they would recommend SBDC services to others.



94% of our clients say SBDC services are beneficial to their business.

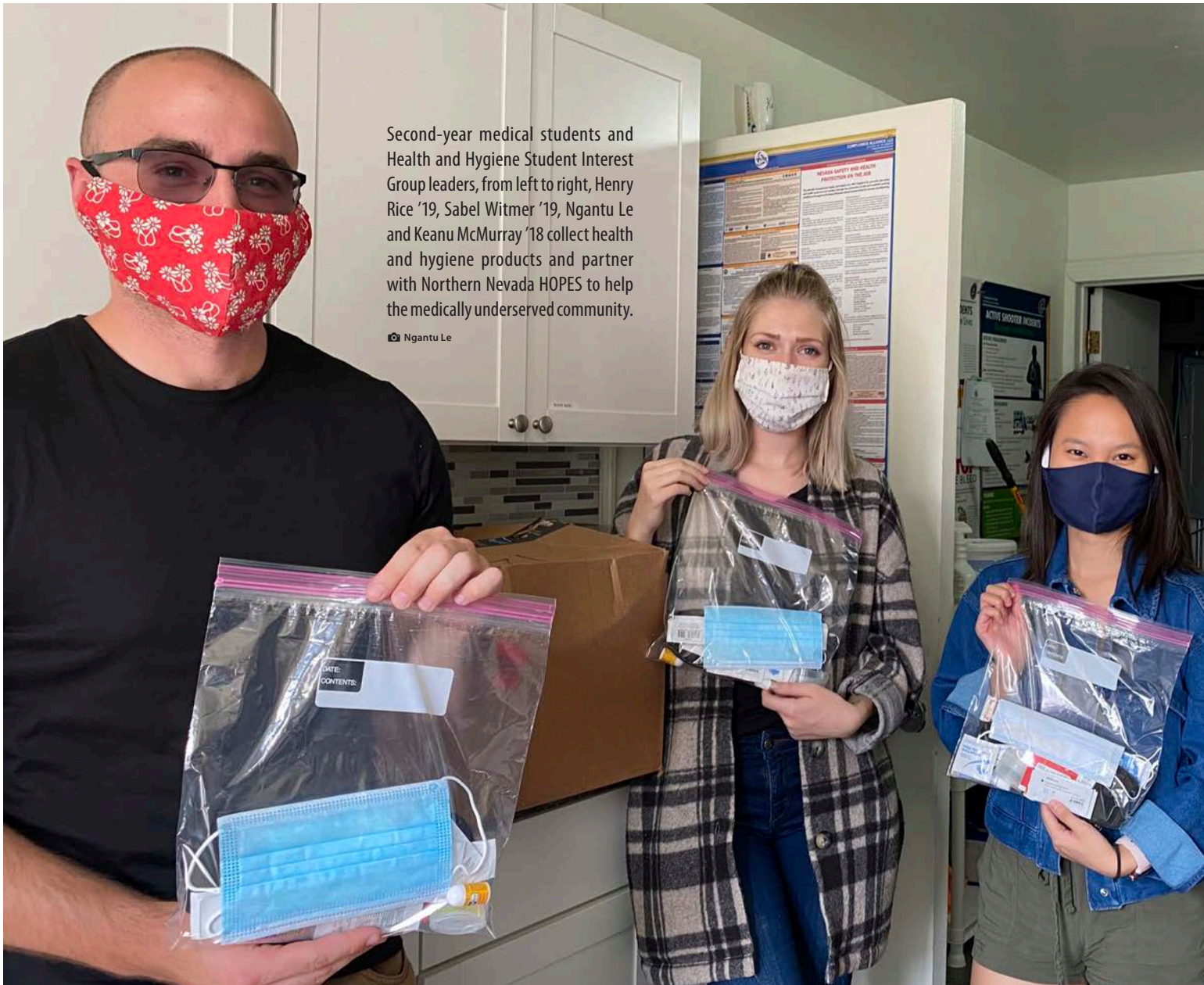
SERVICES PROVIDED

- No-cost, one-on-one business coaching.
- No-cost or low-cost business training.
- Market research strategies.
- Digital marketing assistance.
- Environmental compliance assistance.
- Economic/demographic data analysis.
- International trade assistance.
- Technology development.

Source: Dr. James Chrisman, Mississippi State University

Medical students aid Reno's homeless population during COVID-19 pandemic

By Tessa Bowen



Second-year medical students and Health and Hygiene Student Interest Group leaders, from left to right, Henry Rice '19, Sabel Witmer '19, Ngantu Le and Keanu McMurray '18 collect health and hygiene products and partner with Northern Nevada HOPES to help the medically underserved community.

📷 Ngantu Le

In mid-March 2020, as Gov. Steve Sisolak asked Nevadans to stay home to limit the spread of COVID-19, several University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine medical students were thinking about the people in our community who don't have homes.

Second-year medical students and Health and Hygiene Student Interest Group leaders Ngantu Le, Keanu McMurray '18 (biochemistry & molecular biology), Henry Rice '19 (biology) and Sabel Witmer '19 (neuroscience) wondered if underserved community members were getting the supplies and services they needed to become educated

about COVID-19 and take preventive measures.

UNR Med's Health and Hygiene SIG collects necessities that promote health and hygiene, such as toothpaste, wet wipes and feminine hygiene products. With the rising concern of the pandemic, they knew access to these products would be more important than ever.

"We decided to make it our mission to further the reach of our Health and Hygiene SIG as much as possible, to directly help Reno's transient and low socioeconomic populations gain access to health and hygiene products," said Le.

Through the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the student leaders discovered an opportunity to further their work. Each year, the Gold Summer Service Fellowship program provides medical students "an opportunity to design and implement a service project addressing a public health need in an underserved community or population." The Foundation's goal is "to provide an opportunity for students to work directly with patients and to become more compassionate, relationship-centered physicians."

"Our service project has always addressed the basic hygiene and health needs of our community," said Le. "In our application, we emphasized the importance of our project in this current pandemic and tailored it to address other hygiene essentials to combat the virus."

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation named Le, McMurray, Rice and Witmer as 2020

Gold Student Summer Service Fellows, selected among just 17 medical students in the U.S. and Canada who are directly aiding patient populations who are particularly vulnerable during the COVID-19 crisis.

As part of the fellowship program, the Arnold P. Gold Foundation awarded the four UNR Med students a \$3,600 stipend to procure all the basic supplies needed to assemble 750 hygiene kits, including masks, sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer, elevating their mission to match the new challenges created by the pandemic.

"The work being undertaken by Ngantu Le, Keanu McMurray, Henry Rice and Sabel Witmer exemplifies the spirit of compassionate, collaborative and scientifically excellent care for those at increased risk during the COVID-19 crisis that we intended for recipients of the Gold Student Summer Fellowship," said Ann Bruder, associate vice president of programs at the Gold Foundation. "Being able to care for oneself is a critical component of good health as well as human dignity. This is especially so during the COVID-19 pandemic. For people experiencing homelessness, this can be a great challenge, and the work of the UNR Med summer fellows is both inspiring and a vitally important aspect of care during the pandemic."

"We are truly grateful the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Student Service Fellowship enabled us to sustain our services to our underserved community during this time," said Le. ■



Help is still needed



In response to COVID-19, the UNR Med Health and Hygiene Student Interest Group is running low on the supplies needed to assemble hygiene kits, including gallon bags, socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, band-aids, deodorant, wet wipes, petroleum jelly, sunscreen, lip balm, hand warmers, feminine hygiene products, facial coverings and hand sanitizer.

Through a longstanding partnership with Northern Nevada HOPES, the Health and Hygiene SIG hosts clinics to provide an avenue to better reach the medically underserved community. As a result, the SIG is also in need of personal protective equipment, including N95 masks, gowns, gloves and booties, for their on-site volunteer duties.

To donate hygiene supplies or PPE, please contact **Ngantu Le**, at ngantul@med.unr.edu. To learn how to support the UNR Med Health and Hygiene SIG, please contact **Amelia Lane '15**, assistant director of development, at (775) 682-6455 or at amelial@med.unr.edu.



Hall of Fame

By Chad Hartley '03
and Rhonda Lundin Bennett
Photos courtesy of Nevada Athletics

The 2020 Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame class is arguably the best class since the Hall of Fame began in 1973. Along with former Athletic Trainer Tony Marek, these six student-athletes are etched in the Wolf Pack record books. We are proud to welcome them into the Nevada Athletics Hall of Fame.

Dellena Criner Women's Basketball (2005-09)

Named the WAC Defensive Player of the Year in each of her last two seasons, Criner also earned first-team All-WAC, WAC All-Defensive Team and WAC All-Academic honors three times during her career (2007, 2008, 2009). Regional finalist for the 2009 Women's Basketball Coaches Association All-America team and one of 30 finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, she became the first player in school history to record at least 1,500 career points, 350 career assists and 250 career steals. Criner is Nevada's career steals leader with 271, ranks second in career free throws made (551), fourth in scoring (1,629), fifth in assists (374) and led the team in scoring for each of her last three seasons. She still holds the school record for most steals in a season (87 in 2006-07) and ranks in the single-season records books in assists, free throws made and free throw percentage. Criner is currently working as a firefighter with Las Vegas Fire & Rescue.

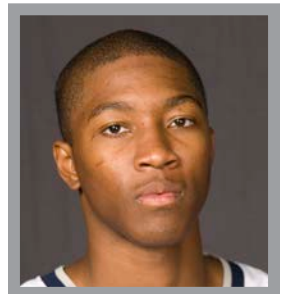


Luke Babbitt Men's Basketball (2008-10)

Named the Western Athletic Conference Player of the Year and an honorable-mention All-American by the Associated Press in 2010, Babbitt became the first Men's Basketball student-athlete in Nevada history to be named an ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American. A two-time, first-team All-WAC selection and all-district honoree by both the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the United States Basketball Writers Association, he led the Wolf Pack in scoring and rebounding in each of his two seasons. In 2009-10, Babbitt ranked second in the WAC and ninth in the NCAA with 21.9 points. He was also second in the league and 51st in the nation with 8.9 rebounds per contest. That same season, Babbitt broke the school single-season scoring record with 743 points, placed third nationally in free throw shooting at 91.7% (199-217) — breaking Nevada's single-season records for free throws made (199) and set the school record for consecutive free throws made. Babbitt still holds Nevada's career record for free throw percentage at 89.3% (351-393) and started all 68 games of his career. Babbitt declared for the NBA Draft after his sophomore season and was selected as the 16th overall pick by the Minnesota Timberwolves before being traded to the Portland Trail Blazers. He has played eight seasons in the NBA and appeared in the 2018 NBA playoffs with Miami.

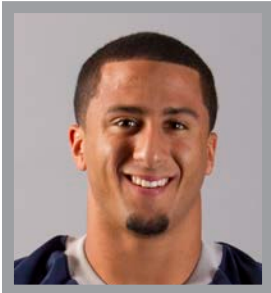
Armon Johnson Men's Basketball (2007-10)

Johnson was named the WAC Freshman of the Year in 2008 and went on to earn first-team All-WAC honors in 2009 and second-team accolades in 2010. He was a two-time, all-district selection by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, led the Wolf Pack in assists in each of his three seasons and finished his career ranked fourth (now fifth) in all-time assists at Nevada with 445. Johnson finished first in the WAC and 22nd in the nation with 5.6 assists per game his junior season and ended his career ranked ninth (now 11th) in all-time scoring at Nevada with 1,441 points. After playing at Hug High School where he set the then-state scoring record, he made 99 starts in 101 games and



helped the Wolf Pack to a shared WAC title in 2007-08. After his junior year, Johnson was taken in the second round of the draft by the Portland Trail Blazers with the 34th overall pick. He played for Portland from 2010-12 and New Jersey in 2012, and then played professionally overseas for several years. Johnson returned to the Wolf Pack as an undergraduate assistant in 2018-19 and was recently named the head coach at Excel Christian School, a private school in Sparks.

after recording 50 total tackles (33 solo), 17.5 tackles for loss, 11.5 sacks (ranked 12th nationally), two broken-up passes and four forced fumbles in 2009. He registered 22 tackles for loss to tie the single-season WAC record and a career total of 63 tackles for loss, the most of any active player in the nation and setting a WAC record in 2010. Moch led the defense for the 2010 “Dream Team” and was drafted in the third round with the 66th overall pick by the Cincinnati Bengals in 2011. He spent two seasons with the Bengals and played professionally in the NFL, the CFL and the Arena League for seven years.



Colin Kaepernick
Football (2006-10)

Kaepernick finished his career as the only player in college football history to pass for 10,000 yards and rush for 4,000 yards, and was the only player to ever pass for rush for 1,000 yards and throw for 2,000 yards in the three consecutive years. He was a three-time WAC all-conference selection,

the WAC Freshman of the Year in 2007 and the WAC Offensive Player of the Year in 2008 and 2010. Kaepernick finished his career with 10,098 passing yards, 82 passing touchdowns, 24 interceptions, 4,112 rushing yards and 59 rushing touchdowns, and led the Wolf Pack to one of the greatest seasons in school history in 2010 with a 13-1 record, a WAC conference championship, a win in the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl and national ranking at No. 11. He finished eighth in the 2010 Heisman Trophy voting, was selected in the second round of the 2011 draft by the San Francisco 49ers where he played for six seasons and led the team to the Super Bowl in 2012. In the 2016 NFL preseason, Kaepernick began sitting and then kneeling during the national anthem to bring attention to racial injustice, police brutality and systematic oppression. He went on to found the “Know Your Rights Camp,” an organization which holds free seminars for disadvantaged youth to teach them about self-empowerment, American history and legal rights. He has been widely recognized for his social activism, winning prestigious awards including the 2017 GQ Citizen of the Year, the 2017 Sports Illustrated Muhammad Ali Legacy Award, the 2017 American Civil Liberties Union Eason Monroe Courageous Advocate Award and the 2018 Harvard University W. E. B. Du Bois Medal. Most recently, Kaepernick was selected along with the nation’s top infectious disease expert, Dr. Anthony Fauci, as the 2020 Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Ripple of Hope honoree.



Dontay Moch
Football (2006-10)

Moch earned first-team All-WAC honors in 2009 and 2010, second-team All-American honors from SI.com in 2010, was named the WAC Defensive Player of the Year in 2009 and ranks among Nevada’s career leaders in tackles, tackles for loss and sacks. He earned second-team All-WAC honors

Vai Taua
Football (2006-10)



Three-time, first-team All-WAC honoree, Taua was a huge part of the 2010 “Dream Team.” He also earned third team All-American honors from the Associated Press in 2010 and was named the WAC’s Most Valuable Offensive Player that year by Sporting News. He ranks second in school history in rushing and first in the Wolf Pack’s FBS era with 4,588 rushing yards — averaging 6.5 yards per carry and scoring 53 touchdowns (45 rushing, 8 receiving) in his career. Taua rushed for at least 1,300 yards in three seasons, including 134 yards and a touchdown in Nevada’s thrilling 34-31 OT win against Boise State in 2010. As Nevada’s starting running back in 2008, Taua rushed for 1,521 yards on 236 carries, including 15 touchdowns, and made 29 receptions for 226 yards (including two touchdowns). Taua signed as a free agent with the Buffalo Bills in 2010 and the Seattle Seahawks in 2011. He is now in his third season as Nevada’s assistant coach/running backs coach.

Tony Marek
Athletic Trainer (1985-98)
2020 Silver & Blue Service Award Winner

Marek served as Nevada’s head athletic trainer for 13 years and developed the academic athletic training program for undergraduate students as well as the implementation of the graduate athletic training program for the Washoe County School District. He served as vice president of National Athletic Trainers’ Association and director of the Far West Athletic Trainers’ Association from 1997-2002. He was inducted into the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame in 2005 and the Far West Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame in 2006. Marek has continued to volunteer with Nevada Athletics, serving as a medical observer on football game days.

“The 2020 Hall of Fame class represents some of the best of the best in Wolf Pack history,” said Athletics Director Doug Knuth. “This is an incredible collection of accomplished student-athletes and we can’t wait for the opportunity to celebrate their careers.”

Due to COVID-19, an official induction is on hold until it is safe to gather for a celebratory ceremony. **■**

Department of Theatre and Dance embraces digital realm

Performing student-artists gain new experiences recording virtual performances



Student-artists performing in the Fall Dance Festival on campus, which took place from Nov. 20-22, 2020.

📷 Caitlin Bell '12

By Lisa McDonald '09, '15 MBA

The Department of Theatre and Dance in the School of the Arts has adapted to this new virtual world. The silver lining for performing artists in the College of Liberal Arts is that they are able to share unnoticed elements, body language and movement with virtual audiences that may have been missed in person. While attention was once focused on the lead in a particular number, footwork from another artist or body language from extra choreographers was usually overlooked. Now, as audiences experience theatre and dance virtually, they can see all the precise elements of a production.

This is exactly what the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Nevada, Reno did when filming and sharing fall performances. The Fall Dance Festival and the musical theatre production of “Bruised and Brave” were showcased at the end of Novem-

ber. Audience members had the opportunity to watch and re-watch the recordings — enabling them to catch the intricacies of the costumes, the details of specific hand gestures and body language of the entire cast.

“Though we didn’t necessarily have the production team that we would have if we were in the theatre, I will say our technical costume design specialist, Kendra Bell, was involved for the entire process and made it possible to have these dances fully costumed,” said Cari Cunningham, associate professor of dance.

The detail in the costumes was extraordinary, from incorporating face masks into the aesthetics, to the flow of materials used in the outdoor elements where the dances took place.

“Masks were made from vintage handkerchiefs,” Cunningham said. “And for another choreographer’s work, she (and student costume shop assistants) hand-embroidered flowers on dresses with ribbons to complete

the vision for the dance that took place among the vines and stunning architecture of the stage area in the University’s Honor Court.”

All students and performance staff involved in the Fall Dance Festival and “Bruised and Brave” performances adhered to strict COVID-19 policies. Face masks were worn at all times, six feet or more of social distancing was maintained and even studio recording time was built-in with buffer periods to sanitize the space.

Most student choreographers had never created site-specific dances and enjoyed working with the environment and elements they used for their dance pieces. In addition, many theatre students had never recorded in a studio or been professionally filmed before. Not only did the students learn what it takes to work with a professional production staff, they also learned how to bring all the various production pieces together for a final performance.



The Department of Gender, Race, and Identity is located in the Thompson Building on campus.

 Caddie Dufurrena '00

The Department of Gender, Race, and Identity introduces three new minors

The newly formed department offers a large variety of minors for students

By Jordan Nicholson (class of 2021)

Gender, Race, and Identity at the University of Nevada, Reno announced its transformation into a new department during the Fall 2020

semester. The department houses several undergraduate programs including a major in gender, race and identity and minors in ethnic studies, religious studies, women's studies and holocaust, genocide and peace studies. The three new minors include Indigenous studies, Latinx studies and social justice. GRI also offers two graduate programs — a Master of Arts and a Graduate Certificate in gender, race and identity.

“The Department of Gender, Race, and Identity is delighted to announce the launch of several new interdisciplinary minors,” Department Chair and Professor Deborah Boehm said. “These programs reflect GRI’s commitment to social justice, innovative curriculum and publicly engaged critical scholarship.”

The Indigenous studies minor focuses on cultures, knowledge, histories and experiences of Indigenous people in the Americas and around the world. Debra Harry is an associate professor in GRI who teaches Indigenous studies and is currently working on developing new courses in the minor. “Students will employ a variety of disciplinary perspectives, including Indigenous methods, to understand the rights of Indigenous peoples, their languages, cultures and socio-political systems,” Harry said.

The Latinx studies minor focuses on the diverse cultural and historical contributions of Latinx communities in the United States and transnationally. Guadalupe Escobar is an assistant professor with a joint appointment in GRI and English who teaches Latinx studies courses along with feminist theory and multiethnic literature.

“I am pleased the University has deepened their commitment to expanding senses of belonging by making structurally legible the value of our interdisciplinary and intersectional pedagogy and research,” Escobar said. “GRI advances historically nuanced, methodologically rigorous and conceptually brave scholarship.” She is optimistic about the new change and the impact it can make on the University and its students, of which nearly 25% are Latinx.

Lydia Huerta Moreno is also an assistant professor in GRI. She has a joint appointment in communication studies and specializes in Latinx studies. “It was important to establish GRI as a department because it adds legitimacy to the studies of race, gender and identity, in the form of structurally acknowledging that these studies matter,” Huerta Moreno said.

Lastly, the social justice minor is offered in collaboration with the School for Social Research and Justice Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. This minor is designed to increase students’ knowledge of social movements, activism and community organizing.

The College of Business launches new undergraduate sports management minor

The new minor will provide students with a keen business perspective of the sports industry

By Reilly Moss (class of 2022)

The College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno is pleased to announce its new undergraduate sports management minor, available to all undergraduate students and as elective courses for graduate students.

The North American sports market topped \$73 billion in 2019 and is growing at

an average of 3% per year. The college's new 18-credit hour minor will provide students with an overview of business behind the sports industry at all levels — from community sports commissions to intercollegiate athletics to professional sports organizations. It's the first program of its kind within the Nevada System of Higher Education.

"We are incredibly pleased to be launching the new sports management minor in The College of Business," said Fran Ryan, associate dean for undergraduate programs and the academic chair of the Sports Management Program. "Both current and prospective students ask about this program every year. It is great to be able to respond to these requests. The sports industry is dynamic and growing, and our Sports Management Program will be as well."

Program Director Cary Groth is a former student-athlete and tennis coach who

has spent four decades in intercollegiate athletics and administration. She served as athletic director at two NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision institutions — the University of Nevada, Reno and Northern Illinois University — and is CEO of the PICTOR Group, an athletics consulting company that has served more than 60 clients.

Groth will be teaching Fundamentals of Sports Management in spring 2021. Sports Ethics along with Sports and Concert Arena Management will be offered in summer 2021.

"We are very excited about adding this important educational opportunity to our academic programs," Greg Mosier, dean of The College of Business said. "The impact of business activity encompassed by activities and events involving sports, recreation and athletics in our community, state and region is significant and growing."

Extension offers weekly online town halls and webinars to help small businesses

Discussions aim to help small businesses connect, pivot and adapt amid COVID-19

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

When COVID-19 hit in March, small-business owners not only needed funding, but also needed information on accessing assistance and how they might alter the way they were doing business to adapt. They also wanted opportunities to stay connected with other small-business owners.

University of Nevada, Reno Extension stepped in to offer free online "Coping With COVID-19" sessions — question-and-answer town halls, as well as webinars on specific topics. Experts from Extension and important partners, including the Small Business Administration, were on hand to provide information to help businesses during Spanish- and English-language sessions offered via Zoom and Facebook.

The sessions were part of Extension's Business Development Program, which had

been offering in-person workshops and seminars for small businesses prior to COVID-19. When the pandemic hit, Extension took the program online and added more sessions.

"Not only were we able to reach more people, but we reached folks statewide where we had not been able to reach them before," said Buddy Borden, Extension economic development specialist.

Borden said in the year prior to COVID-19, the average monthly attendance was 40. From April to October 2020, the average monthly attendance almost quadrupled to 152, with more than a quarter of the participants tuning in to the Spanish-language sessions. In addition, the online sessions reached an average of 6,219 people per month via Facebook.

"We've established relationships with

many more businesses. That should bode really well for the future," Borden said. "Ultimately, when things begin to return to a more normal state, we want our state's small businesses and economy to be stronger than ever."

For more information on Extension's business development programs, email Buddy Borden at bordenb@unr.edu.



The Extension's Virtual Town Hall "Adapting Your Business to New Expectations" was offered on April 15, 2020. The panel of speakers included Reyna Mendez, business development advisor from Extension; Juan Salas, business development advisor from Extension; Mike Bindrup, research associate from Extension; Joe Lednický '10, economist II from Extension; Gabriela Wyett, business development officer from 1st National Bank of Nevada; and Saul Ramos, deputy district director of the Small Business Administration.

Teresa Campbell '17, a biologist and staff researcher in the University's Global Water Center, studies Lahontan Cutthroat Trout at Summit Lake. Photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

 Courtesy of the University's Global Water Center



Lahontan Cutthroat Trout thrive at Paiute's Summit Lake in far northern Nevada

University collaborates with tribe to protect the longest self-sustaining population of trout

By Mike Wolterbeek '02

Summit Lake in remote northwest Nevada is home to the only self-sustaining, robust, lake population of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, North America's largest freshwater native trout species. Research to understand the reasons why this population continues to thrive, where others have not, will be used to protect the fish and its habitat — as well as to apply the knowledge to

help restore other Nevada lakes that once had bountiful numbers of the iconic fish that historically reached 60 pounds.

A team of researchers from the University of Nevada, Reno and the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe has been studying the watershed ecosystem and recently authored two papers published in scientific journals describing their findings about the relatively small desert terminal lake.

This project is part of a nine-year collaboration to conserve habitats and promote a healthy ecosystem for the lake. University researchers Sudeep Chandra and Zeb Hogan — as well as students from their aquatics ecosystems lab and the Global Water Center — work with the tribe's Natural Resources Department, formerly led by fish biologist William Cowan before he retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Monitoring data, including climate, hydrology, fish and wildlife population trends and habitat integrity, are used to develop, revise or validate the tribe's management

plans and regulations. This approach is a stark contrast to when the lake ecosystem and associated resources were at risk of irreversible impacts caused by nonpoint source pollution, irrigation diversions, livestock grazing and the unknown effects caused by exporting trout eggs for establishment or supplementation of other populations.

"Our team at the University wants to support the efforts initiated by the Summit Lake Tribe," Chandra said. "Our goals are to assist them in developing their science-based program to protect Nevada's only strong, self-sustaining lake population of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. We believe that investigations in a robust ecosystem like Summit, where there is little human impact, could improve recovery efforts in other lake systems that are less fortunate and that have lost their trout like Walker and Tahoe. Surprisingly, there are still few comparative investigations of these lake ecosystems and how they could support trout during a time of increasing global changes."

New roadside LiDAR sensors help build a safer transportation infrastructure

University of Nevada, Reno engineering researchers have expanded a network of LiDAR sensors to improve traffic efficiency, reduce accidents and facilitate the use of autonomous vehicles

By Curtis Vickers '07 M.A.

In February 2017, on the corner of Virginia and 15th Streets, Civil & Environmental Engineering Associate Professor Hao Xu installed a roadside LiDAR sensor — and made history. While these devices had been widely used in other applications before — including autonomous and semi-autonomous vehicles — this installation at an entrance to the University of Nevada, Reno is believed to be the first time a LiDAR sensor had been used roadside to

facilitate the development of smarter, safer transportation infrastructure.

The groundbreaking project recently received a boost from the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County and its Virginia Street redevelopment. As the major transportation corridor was updated, eight new sensors were installed, with another dozen soon to follow. Additional sensors were also recently installed in Henderson, a suburb of Las Vegas, in partnership with RTC of Southern Nevada.

“The most exciting thing about this research is the data coming from the LiDAR sensors,” Xu said. “New, revolutionary data change the whole transportation system and prepare our roads for the future. The LiDAR sensors make collecting this data possible.”

The project is part of Intelligent Mobility, a multidisciplinary research initiative coordinated through the University’s Nevada Center for Applied Research and involving a coalition of public and private partners. Guided by the vision of the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development, it establishes Reno as a Nevada Living Lab



Hao Xu (right) works with engineers from RTC of Southern Nevada and the City of Henderson to set up a roadside LiDAR sensor. Photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Courtesy Hao Xu

— a complex and real-world environment where transportation-related data are gathered and concepts can be tested.

Eighteen months after the Argenta Hall explosion, University resilience stronger than ever

Residential Life, Housing and Food Services, along with partners across campus, continue to move forward with grace, flexibility and commitment to offering a quality student experience

By Nicole Shearer '03

July 5, 2019 is a day many who live, work and study at the University of Nevada, Reno will never forget. The date of the Argenta Hall explosion, which severely damaged both Argenta and Nye Halls, is not only significant because of what happened between 12:42 and 1 p.m., but also because of what happened in the days, weeks and months that followed.

According to State Fire Marshal Bart

Chambers’ report on the incident, an initial boiler explosion in Argenta occurred during an inspection around 12:42 p.m. A 3-inch gas feeder was severed, which led to a 1 p.m. explosion that caused “significant” structural damage to Argenta and Nye Halls, injuring eight people. If not for the safety measures that were already in place, praised by Chambers as “some of the best in the country,” and the date of the blast falling right after a major holiday, the Argenta explosion could have been far worse.

After the event, the University quickly pivoted to ensure the 1,300 students displaced by the explosion would receive a quality residential life experience. In August 2019, the University completed an agreement with Eldorado Resorts to secure 1,300 beds in Circus Circus Reno’s West Tower. The newly remodeled West Tower was rebranded “Wolf Pack Tower,” and included a major commitment of resources by the University to ensure the Wolf Pack Tower students received the complete residential life experience they signed up for.

Since the campus’s main dining facility inside Argenta was lost, the University,

along with its dining partner, Chartwells Higher Ed, erected two temporary dining facilities — phase one’s “Howler Village,” which operated during the Fall 2019 semester, and phase two’s “The Den,” which is currently serving the campus community.

“Given the magnitude of such a horrible event, we were extremely fortunate for a multitude of reasons,” former University President Marc Johnson said. “First and foremost, we experienced no human casualties due to the event. More than 21 different emergency and public safety entities arrived on-site, securing the scene and conducting a search of both buildings. Our state and local government all reached out with concern for the well-being of the University community, offering their support for whatever we needed.”

“Within hours, displaced students had a bed and a warm meal and within days the University seamlessly integrated Wolf Pack Tower into the University’s housing experience,” Johnson added. “I’m so thankful that our University has so many capable and caring individuals who jumped in to get us through July 5, 2019 and the many days that followed.”



Northern Nevada International Center, City of Reno awarded grant to improve immigrant inclusion

Reno, Washoe County and 18 additional Gateways for Growth Challenge awardees join a network of others seeking to improve infrastructure for inclusivity in their communities

By Natalie Fry '04

The New American Economy and Welcoming America selected the University of Nevada, Reno's Northern Nevada International Center to receive a Gateways for Growth Research award as part of the fourth cohort of the initiative.

Launched in 2016, G4G is a competitive opportunity for localities to receive research support and/or technical assistance from NAE and Welcoming America to improve immigrant inclusion in their communities.

"Participating in the 2021 G4G challenge is a huge honor for our city — although Reno is known as the Biggest Little City, our community has made huge strides in terms of economic diversification, cultural, ethnic and racial advancements, and integration of newcomers," said Carina Black '90 (journalism), '92 M.A. (political science), '97 Ph.D., executive director of NNIC.

In light of the scale and severity of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gateways for Growth Challenge this year prioritized localities that demonstrated a public-private commitment to better integrating immigrants into recovery efforts and emergency management systems. As the country looks to rebuild and set a more inclusive path forward nationally, Reno and Washoe County,

as part of the G4G 2020 cohort, will lay the groundwork and build the infrastructure for economic, civic and social inclusion at the local level.

"NNIC has been working with a number of community partners in the effort to highlight the contributions of immigrants to our communities," Black said. "Some of the local community partners — in addition to the City of Reno — include the Chamber, the Governor's Office for New Americans, the University's Latino Resource Center and others."

"The Gateways for Growth program helps communities quantify what many people already know — immigrants play a key role in driving growth," Mo Kantner, director of state and local initiatives at New American Economy, said. "We're excited to see how these communities can use data and technical assistance to support their work to ensure all residents are welcome and have pathways to success."





ALUMNI NEWS



NEVADA ALUMNI COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Monica Powers Kales '79
Whitney Seifman '11
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Onome Natasha Wowo '15, '18 MBA

STAFF MEMBERS

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

Moses S. Achoka '07 M.A.
Manager, Publications and Design

Ashley S. Medina
Manager, Alumni Relations

Emily Sharick
Manager, Alumni Relations

Amanda Sharkey '15, '16 M.A.
Manager, Alumni Relations

Colleen M. Dietlein
Administrative Assistant IV

* *ex-officio member*



unr.edu/alumni/forms/class-chat



FROM THE PRESIDENT NEVADA ALUMNI COUNCIL



Dear fellow alumni,
I'm excited to work collaboratively with a talented team in the Alumni Relations office, President Sandoval and the University in getting through this unprecedented time and seeing us thrive as we embark on "life after." The Nevada Alumni Council and the Executive Committee are focused now more than ever on engaging our alumni through technology. A silver lining of the pandemic has been the ability for us to focus on the key digital platforms (social media and video conferencing primarily) to enhance our outreach and communication. In addition to our physical limitations in being able to gather, we have many alumni who are not local and we're grateful for the opportunities provided by technology to keep in touch with our Wolf Pack wherever they reside and help them feel more connected to our great University.

The Alumni Council's goals for this year include helping alumni chapters further engage with their members and deliver innovative programming, increasing membership through alumni engagement and communication and ultimately, resume planning in-person events and programming when it is safe to do so. 2021 holds a lot of promise and we are working diligently to emerge stronger than ever post-pandemic. I encourage you to reach out to me, members of the Alumni Council or the Office of Alumni Relations at nvalumni@unr.edu with any ideas on what you would like to see from your Alumni Association — communication, content, programming, etc. We welcome your feedback and look forward to serving our alumni family in the year ahead.

Happy New Year and Go Pack!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Katie S. Weigel'.

Katie Weigel '96, '98 MBA

1980s



N JANE (BERRY) CAREY '80 (managerial sciences) and **N SHAUN CAREY '81** (civil engineering) celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in 2020. Jane and Shaun continue to live in Sparks and look forward to celebrating their anniversary soon with friends in Jamaica.



JACQUIE (BUFFINGTON) BERNARD '83 (political science) has recently been named senior associate dean of administration and finance at the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. Jacquie will oversee administrative and financial functions of UNR Med, including supporting the school's education, research and community outreach missions, as well as its clinical practice plan, University Health.



CHRISSE MENICUCCI BENNA '86 (criminal justice) was named by Nevada Business magazine as one of "10 Women to Watch in 2020." Women to Watch are leaders, influencers, business

owners, executives and mentors, respected for their history of success and perseverance. The 2020 class of Women to Watch has been through the ups and downs of Nevada's economic landscape, and through it all, these women have shown grace under fire and exemplified female leadership.



N MICHAEL HIX '89 (finance) recently joined Meadows Bank as executive vice president, senior loan officer in northern Nevada with the plan to transition into the regional president role by mid-2021. Michael also serves as a member of the University's Nevada Small Business Development Center Advisory Board and was a former council member of the Nevada Alumni Association.

1990s



NICOLE (ZYBELL) BISHOP '94 (nursing) has been promoted to regional director of the northern Nevada region for Donor Network West, a federally

designated nonprofit organ procurement and tissue recovery organization. She joined Donor Network West in 2015, serving as the first in-house hospital donation coordinator at Renown Regional Medical Center where she provided hospital and family support throughout the donation process from referral through organ recovery.



LAURI (WRIGHT) PERDUE '95 (human development & family studies) was named campus director for the University of Phoenix Las

Vegas campus. She has spent 23 years in higher education in the state of Nevada and served as an executive committee member with three school groups. Lauri spent 11 years with the University of Phoenix after graduating from the University of Nevada, Reno and rejoined the University of Phoenix in March to oversee operations for the state of Nevada, serving both online distance learning students and campus students. Two of Lauri's children are currently attending Nevada.



N JOSH FLATLEY '96 (general studies) now serves as managing member of the investment adviser firm X Vector, Ltd. The firm specializes in financial planning for contract pilots in Generation X. Josh lives in Reno with his wife, Melissa, and two dogs, Luna and BRRRT, and is active in the aviation community.



TONY ILLIA '96 M.A. (English) was recently named as one of Real Vegas magazine's "Top 100 Extraordinary Men in Las Vegas" for 2020. Tony is the public information officer for the Nevada Department of Transportation, serving as primary spokesman for the southern part of the state.



ROBERT PIZORNO '98 (political science) was recently hired as government relations manager for Crown Castle, a telecommunications infrastructure company. He will represent the company in the desert southwest region, covering Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and parts of Texas. Robert lives with his wife and four children in Phoenix.

2000s



LARRY SAGE '06 (trial judges) recently published an article on his IGAD International Observer/Peace Monitor experience in South Sudan in the November 2020 issue of Nevada State Bar's magazine, Nevada Lawyer.



SCOTT CAREY '07 (geography) has recently attained the American Institute of Certified Planners certification by successfully passing the AICP exam and satisfying all requirements. Scott lives in his hometown of Sparks and has served on the City of Sparks Planning Commission since 2016.



ALLAN STOCKINGER '07 M.S. (environmental science & health) will be celebrating his fifth year working with Inotiv, Inc. (formerly BAS, Inc.), a publicly traded company. Inotiv is a dedicated pharmaceutical research organization conducting pharmaceutical development studies for COVID-19 vaccines and other lifesaving medicines.

2010s



MEGAN (STANPHILL) DUGGAN '10 (journalism) has been hired as director of community relations at Community Health Alliance, a federally qualified health

center providing a wide range of health services in northern Nevada. She is responsible for keeping the public informed about the organization, enhancing healthy literacy in the community and helping to build and strengthen community partnerships.



BOB WHITEFIELD '10 (history) has been promoted to vice president of growth marketing at KPS3, a full-service marketing and digital communications firm. Bob will have a continued focus on performance marketing, search and analytics for KPS3's local, regional and national clients.



BRITTANY SILVA '11 (marketing, management), '19 MBA has been elevated to vice president of client strategy at KPS3, a full-service marketing and digital communications firm. Brittany will lead marketing efforts for KPS3's growing team and its expansion of clients regionally and nationally.



DANIELLE EATON '13 (biology), senior director and research manager for the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine Clinical Research Center, has been named executive director of the Sierra Veterans Research and Education Foundation. The SVREF supports Veterans Affairs research and education programs and activities and facilitates collaboration between the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System and other nationwide organizations. Danielle is currently pursuing an MBA from Nevada and serves on the boards of the Reno Orthopedic Clinic Foundation and the Nevada Women's Fund.

STEVEN KISH '16 (international affairs, political science) was recently hired as a general litigation associate at Howard & Howard, a full-service law firm located in Las Vegas. Before joining Howard & Howard, Steven clerked for the Honorable James C. Mahan in the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada.

NOAH BILYEU '18 (political science, criminal justice) completed a successful stint as campaign manager for San Luis Obispo County Commissioner John Pershong. He is now working as a district representative for California State Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham whose district incorporates a large portion of the central California coast, including the cities of Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria. Noah has been handling a large amount of constituent issues focusing heavily on securing unemployment benefits for individuals who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Noah has taken up surfing as a hobby but misses skiing.

2020s

ETHAN BILYEU '20 (marketing) was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps on July 25, 2020. He joins his father and grandfather as the third generation from the Bilyeu family to serve in the Marine Corps and also the third generation to graduate from Nevada. 🇺🇸

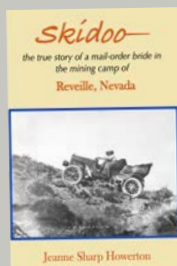


Personal photo submitted by family.



SUSAN MOSS '66 (art) co-authored a new book, COVID-19: A Natural Approach, and it now has a five-star rating. Also, an art show of her paintings and drawings opened Feb. 19, 2020 in Naples, Florida. Susan's art is collected by 540 collectors, including The Lilley

Museum of Art on the University's campus and four other museums.

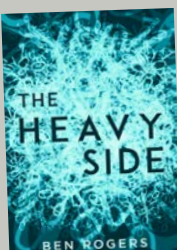


JEANNE (SHARP) HOWERTON '68 (elementary education) published her sixth book on the history of Central Nye County. The title is Skidoo: The true story of a mail-order bride in the mining camp of Reveille, Nevada. Her other books include 1957: The Diary of

a Nevada Ranch Girl, Tybo, Nevada, and three books on the history of Railroad Valley.



NANCY (METZKER) PORTER '74 (food and nutrition), '82 M.S. (home economics) recently published a book about her family's Gold Rush-era history in Northern California. Titled Skeletons in the Closet: Adventures of a Gold Rush Family.



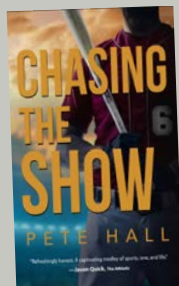
BEN ROGERS '01 (mechanical engineering), '02 M.S. recently published his second novel, The Heavy Side. Called "one of the smartest and best literary works you will read this decade," by Nevada Writers Hall of Fame Silver Pen recipient,

Caleb Cage, and "very highly recommended" by the Midwest Book Review, this thriller follows a hotshot Silicon Valley programmer as he teams up with a Mexican drug cartel.



CANDY (COOK) WELLINS '02 (journalism, speech communications) released her debut picture book Saturdays are for Stella in August 2020. It earned a starred review from Kirkus who called it "a beautiful story of remembering the departed by passing on traditions." It was also named one of Amazon's Best Books for

ages 3-5 in August. In April 2021, her debut picture book biography The Stars Beckoned: Edward White's Amazing Walk in Space is being published.



PETE HALL '03 Ed.S. (educational leadership) published his first novel, Chasing the Show. A former teacher and school principal with 10 education and leadership texts to his credit, Pete wrote this book over a span of 30 years. Telling the tale of a high school student

bent on becoming a professional baseball player, Chasing the Show follows the ups and downs of this pursuit while examining the relationships that support (or fail to support) young people and their goals.



PATRICIA CRANE '06 M.A. (music) discovered how the Reno area attracted such exceptional musicians as she wrote the book, Casino Sidemen: Reno Showroom Musicians of the 1950s-1990s. In the book, Patricia considers aspects of Reno's

history that led to showrooms, describes these casino jobs, stage settings and music played, and explores relationships between casino musicians and people tied to their jobs — casino owners, conductors, the audiences, the musicians' union and entertainers. Interview subjects throughout the book blend misgivings, enthusiasm and humor to describe showroom life and the local musical legacies they left behind.



NIKKI BARTHELMESS '11 (journalism) released her second young adult novel, Quiet No More, on October 13. The book is a follow up to her award-winning debut, The Quiet You Carry, which follows Victoria, who is placed in foster care due

to her father's abuse and has to navigate senior year at a new school. In the empowering sequel Quiet No More, Victoria's fractured past collides with her freshman year of college as she grapples with sharing her truth as a survivor.

Best of the Best

In 2020, Nevada Silver & Blue received several notable industry awards.

We are very proud of these noteworthy nods.



Nevada Press Association Awards

2020, 1st Place In-House Advertising (Magazines): Nevada Silver & Blue *Building What Comes Next: The Campaign for the New Nevada* ads

2020, 2nd Place Local Sports Column: Nevada Silver & Blue Pack Tracks



Graphic Design USA Awards

2020 American Inhouse Design Award: Illustrated campus map poster



MarCom Awards

2020 Platinum Winner for Feature Article: Spring 2019 Nevada Silver & Blue University Arts Building Opening

2020 Gold Winner for Print Media Poster: Illustrated campus map poster

2020 Honorable Mention: Summer/Fall 2020 Nevada Silver & Blue Diversity mural magazine cover



WOLF PUPS



Brooks Michael



STEFFANIE BROCKOVICH '15 (economics, finance), '20 **MBA** and **JEREMY PARENT '13** (political science) would like to announce the birth of their son, Brooks Michael Parent, on Aug. 1, 2020.

Ethan Tyson



N RICHARD VILORIA '08 (sociology) and **SABRINA (KALES) VILORIA '11** (community health sciences) are proud to announce the birth of their son, Ethan Tyson Viloría, in March 2020.

Blake Soon Ying



JENNIFER SIMS '08 (social work), '10 **MSW** welcomed a healthy baby girl, Blake Soon Ying Sims, on May 8, 2020.

Capri Carmin



SHANE ANDERSON '11 (community health sciences) and **ANGELA (GRIECO) ANDERSON '14** (management) welcomed their first wolf pup, Capri Carmin Anderson, on July 14, 2020.

Logan Nicholas



NICHOLAS CLAUS '12 (journalism) and **KELSEY (HAND) CLAUS '12** (journalism) welcomed their first son and newest member of the Pack, Logan Nicholas, on July 22, 2020.

Callum



Shepherd John



Lydia Joy



ERIC TILLY '12 (computer science) and **JULIET (LACHAPPELL) TILLY '14** (economics) welcomed their first wolf pup, Shepherd John Tilly, on June 24, 2020.

JOHN MONSON '04 (biology) and Julia Monson announce the birth of their daughter, Lydia Joy, on July 16, 2020. Lydia joins big brother, Judah.

ELISE DONDERO '14 (psychology) and her college sweetheart, **STUART CONNELLY '14** (English), welcomed their first wolf pup, Callum Connelly, on May 29, 2020.

Abigail Jane



Henley Andrea



LAUREN (ESHENBAUGH) KNIGHT '17 (social work) and Abram Knight are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Henley Andrea, on Aug. 30, 2020. Henley joins her big brother, Benjamin Russell.

CHRISTINE SEIBER '15 M.A. (journalism) and her husband, Zach Swafford, welcomed their daughter, Abigail Jane Swafford, on Sept. 18, 2020.

CHAPTER UPDATES

unr.edu/alumni/chapters



Nevada Latino Alumni Chapter members during the Zoom event.

NEVADA LATINO ALUMNI CHAPTER

[f NVLatinoAlumni](#) [i NevadaLatinoAlumni](#)

Cynthia E. Trigueros '07, '13 M.A.; cynthiam.esparza@gmail.com

The Nevada Latino Alumni Chapter hosted our first virtual event — Painting con el Comalito. Participants painted a hot chocolate with a “concha,” a savory fall combination to share with family. We organized kits and our friends at El Comalito Collective provided virtual instruction. If you are interested in getting involved or have questions, please email nvlatinoalumni@gmail.com.

NEVADA FOOTBALL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

[f NevadaFootballAlumni](#) [i NevadaFootballAlumni](#)

[t NevadaFBAlumni](#)

Matt Airoidi '94; mairoldi@gobluteam.com

COVID-19 can't keep the Pack down! After several scheduling changes, we were able to feed the football team after a scrimmage game. The players are always appreciative of the meal and it's nice for them to meet with alumni! Please be sure to renew your membership on our chapter page. Go to the Nevada Alumni Association's website and select Football Alumni under the chapters section. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter for updates and any happenings.



Left: Richard Crisostomo '13, '17 MSN, '20 DNP.

Right: Finished lap desk designed during the event.



ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER ALUMNI CHAPTER

Kamil Shankar '15, '19 M.S.; kshankar@unr.edu

The Asian and Pacific Islander Alumni Chapter hosted an evening of punny sushi-related art in honor of the in-person Sushi Socials we weren't able to hold. Participants picked up their art kits in advance and met on Zoom for a virtual social gathering and instructions on how to paint their lap desks.

ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Libby Krayk '07, '17 MSN with her Nevada Alumni Association Service Award.

Janice Brady '63, '88 MBA; lvcrsswrds@aol.com

The OSNAA Steering Committee met on November 4 via Zoom. It was wonderful to see each other, even in those little boxes! Co-chair Libby Krayk '07, '17 MSN announced that two of our committee members are retiring from Renown Health this year — Jen Richards '99, '05 MSN and Deena McKenzie '78, '05 MSN. We wish them well and congratulate them on their very successful nursing careers. We also want to congratulate Libby Krayk, who received a well-

deserved Nevada Alumni Association Service Award in October. Finally, we want to congratulate Shelby Pauletto '20, the recipient of our 2020 scholarship. Shelby graduated during the recent December commencement.

OSNAA had a 26% increase in membership this year and added two lifetime members. The Steering Committee will be working to finalize plans for our second annual wine tasting event for OSNAA members and their guests. We will also be looking at options to hold our mock interview program for graduating nursing students. OSNAA continues to volunteer for the John Champion Park clean-up events and participated in the annual Big Reno Coat Drive with the Nevada Alumni Association during the holidays.



NEVADA YOUNG ALUMNI CHAPTER | [f NevadaYoungAlumni](#) [NevadaYoungAlumni](#)

Melissa Ung '17; melissajaneung@gmail.com

The Nevada Young Alumni Chapter had the wonderful opportunity to partner with a local Reno restaurant to have food donated and delivered to the Eddy House. Eddy House focuses on finding solutions to assist underserved homeless and at-risk youth in Reno/Tahoe. If you have graduated within the last 10 years and are interested in joining, the Young Alumni Chapter annual membership is only \$10. Visit NevadaYAC.com and join today! Go Pack!

Nevada YAC Board Members Dennis Green '17; Lindsey Forbes '16, '18 M.A.; Jeff Cloninger '14 and Melissa Ung '17.



Joseph Hollen (two-year UNR Med alumnus '76).

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ALUMNI CHAPTER

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

Joseph Hollen (two-year UNR Med alumnus '76) was honored with the 2020 School of Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Nevada Alumni Association on Friday, Oct. 23. Dr. Hollen attended UNR Med when it was a two-year program and went on to graduate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. After 23 years in emergency medicine, Dr. Hollen retired and became a certified financial planner. Dr. Hollen enjoys being involved in the education and financial counseling of students, residents and fellows, and has served as a community faculty member and UNR Med Alumni Board president. We are grateful to Dr. Hollen for his many contributions over the years!

We are also pleased to announce our leadership team for the 2020–22 term: President Jonathan McCaleb '01, '07 M.D., '11R, '12F, '15F; President-elect Reka Danko '03, '08 M.D., '11R; Vice President of Membership Jerry Jones '77, '81 M.D., '86R; Vice President of PR and Communications Kyle Yamamoto '09 M.D.; Secretary and Treasurer Cathy Endo '93 M.D., '96R; Immediate Past President Joseph Hollen (two-year UNR Med alumnus '76); Member-at-large Tim Dooley '11 M.D.; Member-at-large Kathy Eckert '85, '89 M.D.; Member-at-large Donielle Freedman '83, '90 M.D., '94R; Member-at-large Jill Oswalt '87 M.D. and Student Liaison Amanda Gibbs, second-year medical student.

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES ALUMNI CHAPTER

Kamil Shankar '15, '19 M.S.; kshankar@unr.edu

To help break up the monotony of meetings, the School of Community Health Sciences Alumni Chapter successfully completed our first virtual event on October 29. We gathered current members, alumni, public health professionals in the field and family to have a fun night of Nevada trivia and scavenger hunts to decompress from the long year. There are future events in the works right now, so if you're interested and want to provide any input, be sure to reach out!

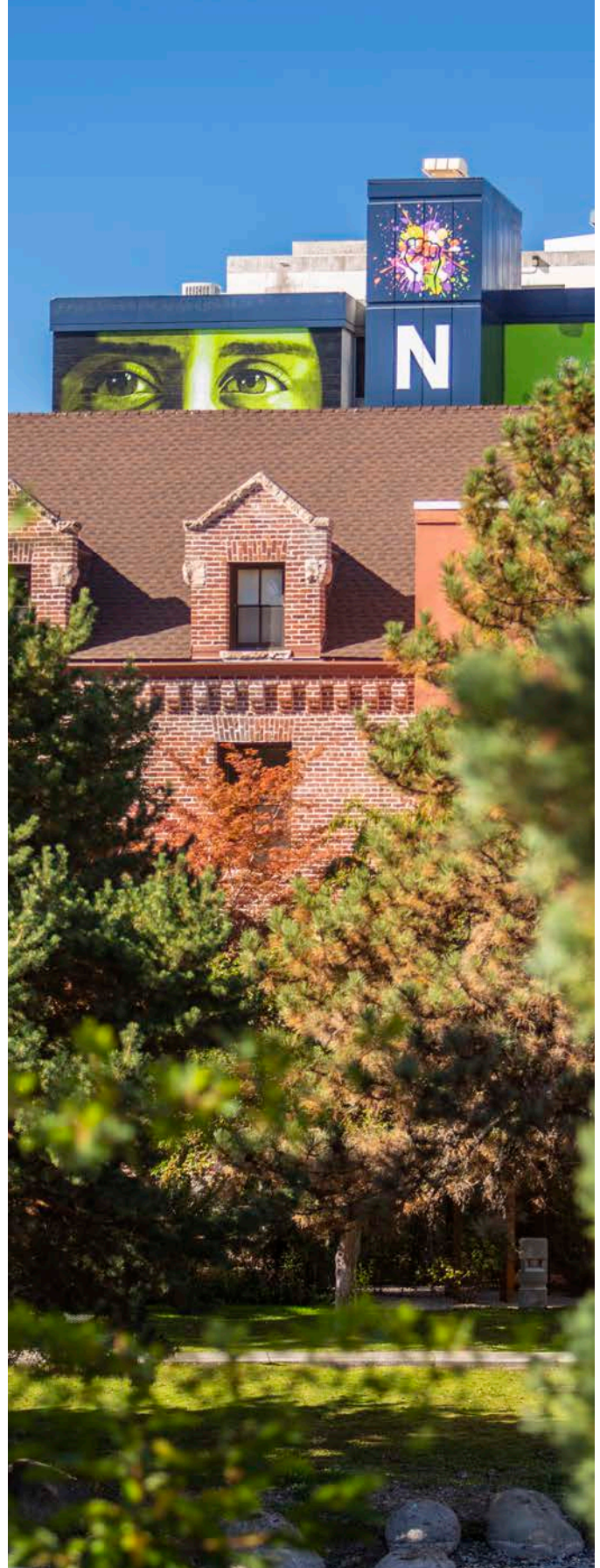
THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Tom Saxton '07, '11 MBA; rtomsaxton@gmail.com

The College of Business Alumni Association has been working to reach out to new and tenured members to provide resources and networking tools during these uncertain times. At the leadership of Bryce Warner '15, COBAA vice president of membership, a membership subcommittee has been established to develop new ways to engage our current and new members. The subcommittee plans to conduct member spotlights on our social media pages as well as outreach with local businesses.

Due to the limitation of in-person networking events, COBAA has started to bring guest speakers to board meetings that are recorded and placed on NVCOBAA.com and all social media channels. These guest speakers will discuss their outreach efforts in the community, COVID-19 challenges and any networking resources they may be able to provide for our members.

COBAA plans to have the 29th annual golf tournament at Lakeridge Golf Course on May 28, 2021 led by Richard Corn '14, COBAA president-elect. You do not need to be a member to participate and can easily sign up a team or pledge a sponsorship at NVCOBAA.com.



SENIOR SCHOLAR

FALL 2020

Each semester, the University of Nevada, Reno and its Alumni Association are proud to recognize graduates with one of the most prestigious awards at the University — the Senior Scholar distinction. This award allows us to honor the top graduate from each school and college along with the faculty mentor who has had the greatest impact on the student's scholastic success at Nevada.



Ensi Bejto

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, BIOTECHNOLOGY
& NATURAL RESOURCES

GPA: 4.0 | Mentor: Hanna Damke

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

Being from Nevada, UNR had a home-like feeling, yet it was also a new city with new opportunities. The University was the perfect blend of everything I was looking for, and so the decision to attend UNR was an easy one.

Plans after graduation

After graduation, I plan on attending medical school. However, graduating in the winter has the benefit of taking the spring semester off so I can have a break before I start my next academic journey.



Allan Joseph Dela Cruz Romero

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

GPA: 4.0 | Mentor: Mohamed Moustafa

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

I chose to attend the University of Nevada, Reno because it was a shared dream of mine and my late mother. I still remember back in October 2017, when I received my admission letter to the University, and it was probably the best moment of my life since I saw how proud she was of my achievement. However, it was also the same month that she passed away and I promised myself I would finish my undergraduate as an honor for my parents' sacrifices.

In addition, I chose to study at the University because I felt at home with the place and the people I have met since the first day. The University helped me grow academically and boosted my confidence in every aspect.

Plans after graduation

My plan after graduation is to continue my graduate studies at Nevada as a Ph.D. student. My goal is to gain more experience in laboratory works and expand on all the courses I have learned in my undergraduate studies. Teaching at a university is also something I have been planning, given the chance.



Laura Anne Saueressig

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
& HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

GPA: 4.0

Mentor: Alicia Shaw '00, '16 M.S.

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

After separating from the U.S. Navy, I was searching for a program to become a teacher. My fiancé had accepted a position at Tesla, so we moved from Virginia to Nevada. It just so happened the University of Nevada, Reno seemed to have an excellent teaching program with specializations to teach English language learners which is an endorsement I wanted to have with my teaching license (which I got). Everything sort of fell into place nicely!

Plans after graduation

After graduation, my fiancé and I are moving to Florida to be closer to family. So, my plan is to start job hunting! I also plan on doing some traveling. I hope to one day teach in another country if the opportunity arises!





Joshua Thomas Bottoms

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS | GPA: 3.994 | Mentor: Catherine Pollard

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

I chose to attend the University of Nevada, Reno because I was first and foremost drawn to the world-class faculty in the music department here. I am incredibly lucky to have had such experienced mentors. So many of them are pushing the standard for music-making here in Reno and I was very interested in creating collaborative relationships with them in a way that is not always possible for undergrads at larger schools.

Plans after graduation

I am currently in the process of applying to several prominent graduate schools to earn a master's degree in clarinet performance. It is my goal to go onto a career teaching clarinet within higher education. I am incredibly grateful to Dr. Joshua Anderson and Dr. Adela Hyeeyeon Park for their help in the path I've chosen.



Julia Christine Jensen

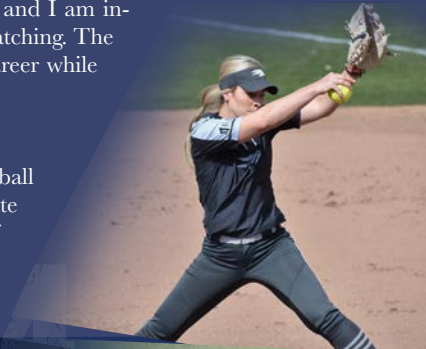
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE | GPA: 4.0 | Mentor: Marian Berryhill

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

I chose to attend the University of Nevada because I grew up in Reno and knew this special community was something I wanted to be part of. I chose Nevada in part because I had the opportunity to represent the University as a member of the softball team, and I am incredibly grateful to have been able to play for the softball team I grew up watching. The University of Nevada was the perfect place for me to finish my softball career while earning a bachelor's degree.

Plans after graduation

After graduation this winter, I plan to play my last season of collegiate softball in the spring. In the fall of 2021, I hope to begin my first year of graduate school in either biodefense or epidemiology, with the eventual goal of working in national security or epidemiological research.



Alexandria Roussel

ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING | GPA: 3.991
Mentor: Shannon Richard '08, '12 MSN

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

I wanted to be close to home and I grew up visiting Reno. I loved that there are thousands of hiking trails around and Lake Tahoe is so close. I also wanted to attend the Orvis School of Nursing.

Plans after graduation

My plans after graduation are to become a pediatric oncology nurse and possibly explore labor and delivery. Then I want to become a nurse educator in the hospital or at a nursing school while still working at the bedside.

Martha Family Foundation
Tutoring Center





Tamara Joy Snight

DONALD W. REYNOLDS
SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

GPA: 3.964

Mentor: Alison Gaulden '92

Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

The University of Nevada, Reno, allowed me to stay close to friends and family as I was born and raised in South Lake Tahoe, California. After touring the campus, I knew the University was where I'd finish my undergraduate degree because I fell in love with its northern Nevada charm.

Plans after graduation

Over the past two years, I've worked tirelessly to make strong connections and as the city of Reno continues to grow, I see enormous potential for a career in strategic communications. With my diverse portfolio, I hope to find a long-term position where I can showcase everything I've learned at the University of Nevada, Reno and more.



Anna Marie Dobbins

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES

GPA: 4.0

Mentor: Gerold Dermid '10 MBA

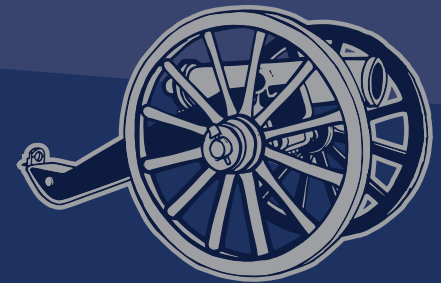
Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

Before attending the University of Nevada, Reno, I completed the first semester of my freshman year at Washington State University. I didn't think WSU was for me, so on a whim I decided to transfer to UNR. Doing so has been one of the best decisions I have ever made. Over the past four years, the University and the city of Reno have truly become my home. Nevada has shaped me into the person I am today.

Plans after graduation

After graduation, I plan to continue on in the Master of Public Health Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. I aspire to pursue a career in global health working specifically in HIV prevention with Indigenous communities.

Personal photo submitted by student.



Why the University of Nevada, Reno?

I chose to attend UNR because my entire immediate family graduated from here. In addition, my parents were employed by the University for decades. The University of Nevada, Reno has always played a role in my life, so I thought it was fitting for me to become a member of the Wolf Pack.

Plans after graduation

I am still uncertain about my future, especially since these are very uncertain times. I will probably continue working for my friend Paul, who runs his own flooring company, but I am always open to new opportunities.



Matthew E. Longland

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

GPA: 4.0

Mentor: Mary Groves '99, '01 MBA



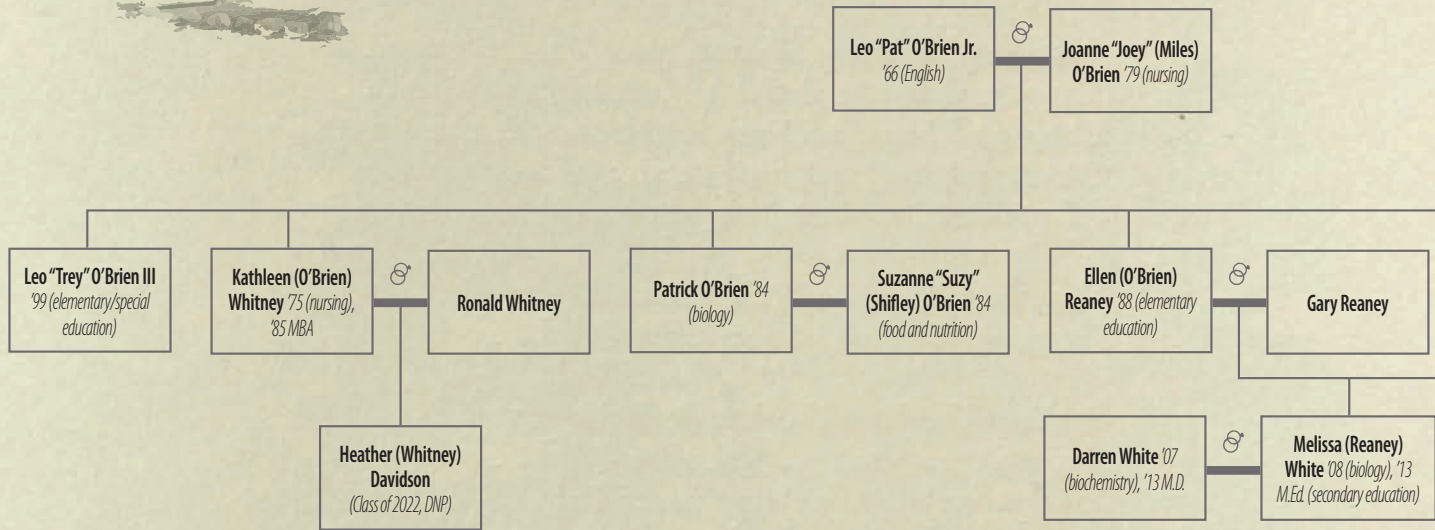
unr.edu/alumni





O'Brien Family Tree

Personal photos submitted by family.

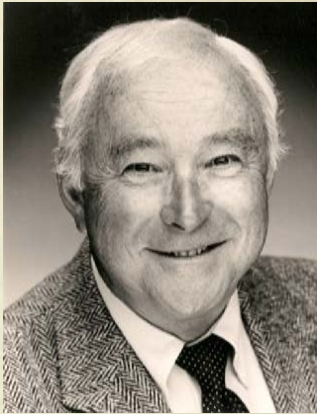


Callie's socially distanced graduation in May 2020 — Back row, left to right: Mark O'Brien '90, '96 M.Ed.; Linda (Crittenden) O'Brien '88; Callie O'Brien '20; Michon O'Brien '19; Erik Edgington '15 and Gary Reaney. Front row, left to right: Suzy (Shifley) O'Brien '84, Patrick O'Brien '84, Laura (Reaney) Weiss '11, Timber Weiss '12, Erin Reaney '13 and Ellen (O'Brien) Reaney '88.

A Nevada Family Tradition

Leo "Pat" O'Brien Jr. and Joanne "Joey" Miles met while attending the University of Nevada, Reno in the late 1940s and were married in 1950. In 1951, Pat returned to active duty in the U.S. Army Airborne Infantry. They both returned to the University in the 1960s and 70s to finish their degrees.

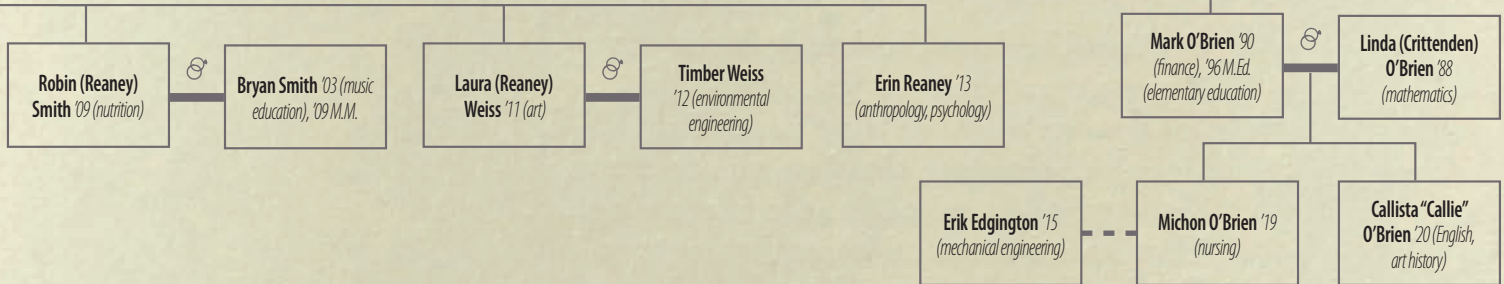
All five of Pat and Joey's children followed in their footsteps and graduated from Nevada. They would be very proud to know seven of their nine grandchildren have graduated or will be graduating soon from their alma mater. And the majority of their children's and grandchildren's spouses have also graduated from Nevada. We are a proud Wolf Pack family!



Leo "Pat" O'Brien Jr. '66



Joanne "Joey" (Miles) O'Brien '79



Laura's graduation in 2011 — Back row, left to right: Kathleen (O'Brien) Whitney '75, '85 MBA; Joey (Miles) O'Brien '79; Ellen (O'Brien) Reaney '88; Laura (Reaney) Weiss '11; Darren White '07, '13 M.D.; Melissa (Reaney) White '08, '13 M.Ed. and Gary Reaney. Front row, left to right: Patrick O'Brien '84; Heather (Whitney) Davidson (class of 2022); Erin Reaney '13; Robin (Reaney) Smith '09; Bryan Smith '03, '09 M.M.; Trey O'Brien III '99; David O'Brien and Kayla O'Brien.



Erin's graduation in 2013 — Left to right: Laura (Reaney) Weiss '11; Joey (Miles) O'Brien '79; Kathleen (O'Brien) Whitney '75, '85 MBA; Gary Reaney; Mark O'Brien '90, '96 M.Ed.; Ellen (O'Brien) Reaney '88; Melissa (Reaney) White '08, '13 M.Ed.; Erin Reaney '13; Darren White '07, '13 M.D.; Robin (Reaney) Smith '09; Bryan Smith '03, '09 M.M.; Suzy (Shifley) O'Brien '84; Patrick O'Brien '84; Linda (Crittenden) O'Brien '88 and Trey O'Brien III '99.

REMEMBERING FRIENDS



Eugene G. Curti



Lucille Lazzari



Patricia Rahbeck



Ron Smith



Paula Yturbide

FRIENDS

William R. Allen
Sept. 11, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Francis Benedickt
Aug. 23, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Fred Bien
Dec. 2, 2019 — Gilbert, Ariz.

Carol Crabb
Oct. 24, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Eugene G. Curti
July 9, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Sharon Gibbons
Sept. 8, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Kathryn Greene
Aug. 3, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Jerry Jones
Aug. 26, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Lucille Lazzari
Nov. 15, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Bonnie Matton
July 28, 2020 — Dayton, Nev.

Richard W. Maycock
June 9, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Roger Mikulecky
Sept. 13, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Gloria E. Miller
2020 — Reno, Nev.

Fred Ottoboni
Aug. 2, 2020 — Zephyr Cove, Nev.

Patricia Rahbeck
Oct. 5, 2020 — Gardnerville, Nev.

Bart M. Schouweiler
Sept. 10, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Paul Sheykhzadeh
Aug. 2, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Kenneth R. Shryock
Sept. 27, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Ron Smith
Aug. 19, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Mary Telford
July 10, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Aldean Tinsley
2020 — Reno, Nev.

Janet J. Warwick
Aug. 12, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Julie Woods
Sept. 12, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Paula Yturbide
June 25, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

FACULTY

Mary B. Ansari '00 (Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters)
Dec. 18, 2020 — Carson City, Nev.

Jerry L. Ballew '76 M.S., '93 Ed.D.
Oct. 27, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.



John A. McDonald
Sept. 15, 2020 — Tucson, Ariz.

Dr. John McDonald passed away on Sept. 15 at the age of 76. As former dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine from 2004-08, Dr. McDonald was instrumental in leading the school through a reorganization of the clinical practice plan, helping design its first new biomedical research building in nearly 30 years, and championing funding for a new health sciences education building to house medicine and nursing and new teaching facilities in Las Vegas. He later served as vice president of the newly developed Division of Health Sciences, which encompassed multiple health care units previously organized under the University's College of Health and Human Sciences. Dr. McDonald's leadership helped further the standard of excellence for Nevada's various medical programs and his contributions will always be cherished.

Shally Baughman
July 5, 2020 — Dayton, Nev.

Thomas F. Bryant
April 11, 2020 — Carson City, Nev.

Harold Crow
2020 — Sun City Center, Fla.

John L. Dobra
Sept. 25, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Bruce M. Douglas
Aug. 4, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Duane L. Garner
July 5, 2020 — Graeagle, Calif.

John E. Genasci '62
Oct. 17, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Joseph P. Johns '77 M.D.
Sept. 1, 2020 — Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

Sandra H. (Gonzalez) Lucash
July 29, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Bruce A. Mack
Sept. 14, 2020 — Louisville, Ky.

Alvin "Bud" E. Miller
2020 — Fallon, Nev.

Ellen F. Pillard
Oct. 8, 2020 — Amherst, Mass.

Richard L. Siegel
Dec. 16, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

B. Grant Stitt
July 30, 2020 — Green Valley, Ariz.

Jill M. Winter '78, '88 M.A.
Oct. 3, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

ALUMNI

Ralph W. Lattin '42
Sept. 29, 2020 — Levan, Utah

Marie E. (Aldrich) Dieringer '45
Feb. 20, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Lavina (Ramelli) Digino '47
Oct. 14, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Moray J. Black '50
July 13, 2020 — Fairfield, Calif.

Nello Gonfiantini '51
Aug. 24, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Verlita L. (Johnson) Conner '52, '70 M.Ed. Oct. 24, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Mona L. (Perry) Sandorf '52
Aug. 6, 2020 — Gilbert, Ariz.

Mary L. (Panicari) Llop '53
March 16, 2020 — Reno, Nev.



Mary B. Ansari '00
(Honorary Doctor of
Humane Letters)



Shally Baughman



Moray J. Black '50



Gordon E.
Churchward '73 MBA



Patricia G. Sakelaris
'75, '77 M.S.



Delbert W. Estey '86

Dat K. Choy '54
June 1, 2020 — Laguna Beach, Calif.

Edward L. Hancock '54
Dec. 6, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

C. Kenneth Bradshaw '55 M.S.
Aug. 11, 2020 — Lone, Calif.

Rochelle M. (MacLean) Brown '56
Oct. 29, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Edward G. Davis '56
Sept. 23, 2020 — Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Gerald A. Zeitler '56
2020 — Bonney Lake, Wash.

Albert L. Cooper '58
Oct. 12, 2020 — Salt Lake City, Utah

Vernon C. Durkee '59
Oct. 16, 2020 — Henderson, Nev.

Frank C. Kendrick '60
July 18, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Larry G. Oxborrow '60, '65 M.Ed.
Aug. 16, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Gen. James M. Jellett '62
Dec. 22, 2020 — Huntsville, Ala.

Wilma F. Birks '61
Sept. 25, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Nancy R. (Rapp) Trabert '62
Sept. 14, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Thomas D. Beatty '63
April 27, 2020 — Las Vegas, Nev.

James G. Calhoun '63
2020 — Carson City, Nev.

Roger D. Hainline '63
Sept. 26, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Lorraine O. (Odell) Leahy '63
2020 — Carson City, Nev.

Dorothee B. Flippo '64
Oct. 11, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Marcel J. Durant '65
Aug. 8, 2020 — Reno, Nev.



Robert M. Olivas
'10, '18 MSW

Louise E. (Buchanan) Handlin '65
Aug. 13, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

James G. Stathos '67
July 15, 2020 — Carmel, Calif.

Roy C. Eriksen '68, '75 M.Ed., '86 M.A.
Aug. 30, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Dail E. Turney '68
Oct. 27, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Donald E. Weyant '68
Aug. 28, 2020 — Belvedere Tiburon, Calif.

Dennis R. Blasey '69 A.A.
July 26, 2020 — Clarkston, Wash.

Marie A. (Abraham) Case '69
Aug. 30, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

William D. Gordon '69
April 20, 2020 — Ely, Nev.

Orrin T. Hunt '69
March 4, 2020 — Branford, Fla.

Roberta J. (Hyde) Aiazzi '70 M.S.
March 3, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Caryl L. Bentley '70
Sept. 10, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Esther E. Early '70
July 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Lawrence A. Wahrenbrock '71
Sept. 5, 2020 — Silver City, Nev.

Paul V. Cirac (attended 1972-77)
Aug. 2, 2020 — Virginia City, Nev.

Gary E. Vielle '72
Oct. 7, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Gayle A. (Griswold) Calhoun '73
Nov. 11, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Gordon E. Churchward '73 MBA
Aug. 18, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Judith J. (Johnson) Cole '73 M.Ed.
Aug. 31, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Eric A. Broten '74 A.A.
July 18, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Donna R. (McGowan) Dericco '74
March 18, 2020 — Fernley, Nev.

Therese Hall-Peltier '74, '84 M.Ed.
July 11, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Patricia G. Sakelaris '75, '77 M.S.
July 25, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Jean E. Sullivan '75
July 10, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Kenneth W. Grein '76, '83 M.Ed.
Nov. 12, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Dorothy E. Craig '77
Oct. 18, 2020 — Silver Springs, Nev.

Patricia F. (Fitzgerald) Winnie '77
2020 — Reno, Nev.

Cheryl L. (May) Beyer '78
June 6, 2020 — Spokane, Wash.

Valerie L. (Brown) Mastelotto '79
Aug. 28, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Paul R. Slansky '80
July 31, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Nicolas A. Furchner '81
Oct. 22, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Russell W. Musselman '81
June 23, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Shirley P. Thomas '81 M.Ed.
Oct. 5, 2020 — Sparks, Nev.

Elyse S. (Roessler) Wagner '81
July 15, 2020 — Wrightwood, Calif.

Cynthia M. Young '81
July 9, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Gary J. Guglielmo '85
July 15, 2020 — Morgan Hill, Calif.

Gary C. Boyle '86
April 2020 — Yuma, Ariz.

Delbert W. Estey '86
Sept. 5, 2020 — Falls Church, Va.

Christine O. (Tieber) O'Gara '91, '00 M.A.
Nov. 12, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Jason M. Glavish '92
Sept. 14, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Daniel T. Nason '92 M.D.
Oct. 8, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Jason C. Thomas '98
July 5, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Laure M. Bardina-Kruger '99
July 23, 2020 — Kamuela, Hawaii

Benjamin J. Parker '01
Aug. 9, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

William L. Edwards '03 Ed.D.
Aug. 27, 2020 — Joplin, Mo.

Melinda A. Stubblefield '09
Aug. 21, 2020 — Nashville, Tenn.

Robert M. Olivas '10, '18 MSW
July 28, 2020 — Reno, Nev.

Elizabeth V. Gurrola '18
Aug. 12, 2020 — Sun Valley, Nev.

N

ALUMNI GATHERINGS

2020 Nevada Alumni Association and College & Unit Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony

Each year, the Nevada Alumni Association honors outstanding alumni and friends who have demonstrated remarkable professional achievement and dedication to their community and the University. Due to the pandemic, we hosted the 2020 ceremony virtually on Oct. 23 via Zoom with remarks from University President Brian Sandoval '86 and former Alumni Council President Scott Walquist '02. We were honored to celebrate our 2020 Alumnus of the Year Justice James Hardesty '70, along with all our inspiring award winners. To view the full list of 2020 award recipients, please visit unr.edu/alumni/events/awards.

📷 Stuart Murtland

- 1 University President Brian Sandoval '86 addressing guests during the virtual awards ceremony.
- 2 Former Nevada Alumni Council President Scott Walquist '02.
- 3 2020 Alumnus of the Year award recipient Justice James Hardesty '70.



Nevada Alumni Council Meeting

On Jan. 15, the Nevada Alumni Council had their first meeting of 2021 via Zoom led by Council President Katie Weigel '96, '98 MBA. The Board holds three meetings annually and serves as the volunteer governing body of the Nevada Alumni Association. During this meeting, Equal Opportunity & Title IX Director Maria Doucettperry gave a presentation on how her office supports the University community and Senior Associate Athletics Director of Development Craig Fink provided an update on the Wolf Pack Athletics teams. 📷 Amanda Sharkey '15, '16 M.A.

- 4 Equal Opportunity & Title IX Director Maria Doucettperry.
- 5 Alumni Council President Katie Weigel '96, '98 MBA.





4th Annual Big Reno Coat Drive with the Nevada Alumni Association

On Nov. 14, 2020, the Nevada Alumni Association partnered with the Junior League of Reno to collect coats for the Big Reno Coat Drive. This was the 4th year the Alumni Association has participated in the BRCO to ensure every student in Washoe County had a warm coat for the winter months ahead. 📷 Emily Sharick

6 Junior League of Reno's Ashley Del Rosario greets a donor dropping off coats. **7** Junior League of Reno's Ashley Del Rosario, Alumni Relations Program Manager Emily Sharick and Miss Nevada Collegiate America K-La Duncan '20 collecting coats in front of Morrill Hall.

Virtual Chapter Workshop

On Sept. 18, 2020, the Nevada Alumni Association and the Membership and Chapters Task Force coordinated a virtual workshop in lieu of the annual chapter leader retreat. The goal of the workshop was to facilitate informative conversations between chapter leaders and provide resources regarding best practices for alumni engagement, social media management and hosting successful virtual events. With more than 20 chapter members attending, there was lively conversation, brainstorming and the opportunity for these groups to connect with one another as well as the Nevada Alumni Association.

📷 Amanda Sharkey '15, '16 M.A.



8 Chapter leaders and Nevada Alumni Association staff participating in the virtual chapter workshop.

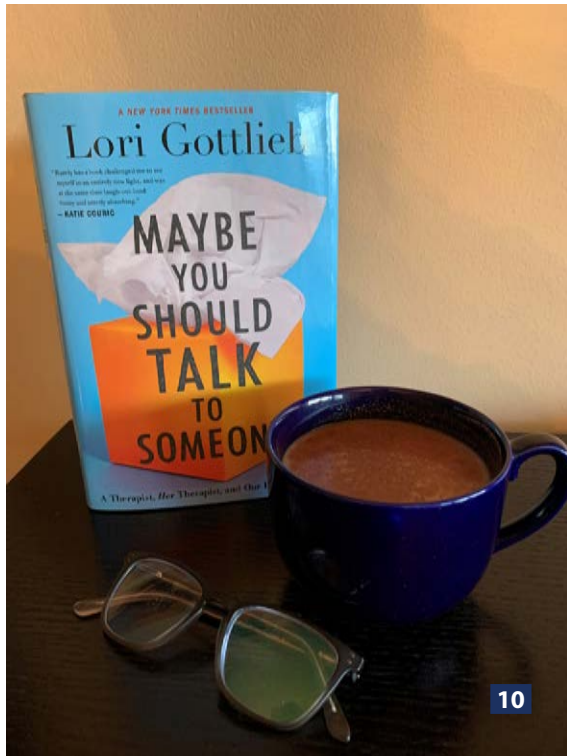
9

Women of Silver & Blue Present: An evening with Mark Estee

On Oct. 15, 2020, the Women of Silver & Blue partnered with award-winning local chef Mark Estee to provide guests with an interactive cooking experience. Mark hosted a virtual cooking lesson for participants to learn how to create an authentic Italian meal including a mushroom risotto for the main course and a delicious sabayon with mixed berries for dessert. He shared some valuable tips and tricks to achieve restaurant-quality meals at home and the group enjoyed his high energy and fun commentary throughout the event.

📷 Amanda Sharkey '15, '16 M.A.

9 Mark Estee and participants during the virtual cooking event.



10

Nevada Alumni Book Club

The Nevada Alumni Association launched our first virtual book club in January. In this online community, alumni can connect with each other and enjoy books from a range of genres. We'll read one book every two months and there is no cost to join — members only need to provide their own copy of each book. The first book reading kicked off on Jan. 7 with nearly 200 participants reading *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone* by Lori Gottlieb. If you didn't join us for the first book and want to get involved later on, visit unr.edu/alumni/events for announcements regarding our future book selections!

📷 Amy Carothers '01 M.A.

10 Participants in the Nevada Alumni Association's first virtual book club enjoyed warm beverages and discussing Lori Gottlieb's book, *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone*.

Longtime supporters, George "Gus" Hill and Ginny Knowles, proudly include the College of Education & Human Development in their estate plan



By Jesse R. Stone

Longtime College of Education & Human Development supporters George "Gus" Hill and Ginny Knowles have made a significant commitment to support the future of education in Nevada. Hill and Knowles have deep connections to COEHD, where Hill was faculty from 1996 to 2015, and Knowles received her Ed.D. in 1992. Every year, the college awards a deserving student in the educational leadership program with the Dr. George Hill and Dr. Ginny Knowles Leadership Award. With their recent inclusion of the college in their estate plan, the couple will now support students in perpetuity thanks to their establishment of an endowment for their existing Leadership Award and a new Dean's Future Scholars Endowed Directorship.

Hill and Knowles' educational backgrounds motivated them to create these endowments.

Ginny Knowles and Professor Emeritus George "Gus" Hill.

Personal photo provided by donors.

"Growing up in rural eastern Oregon on a cattle ranch, without electricity or indoor plumbing until I was in high school, I learned to read on my own," said Hill. He excelled academically and feels the mentorship he received is the real key to his success. He credits the late Professor Emerita Myrna Matranga and the late Professor Jerry Downing as two COEHD faculty members who mentored him during his transition from the College of Agriculture to the College of Education.

Hill thrived in college, receiving a bachelor's in agriculture in 1972, a master's in agricultural education in 1974 from the University of Idaho and a Ph.D. in education from Washington State University in 1982. Support of the Dean's Future Scholars, a program which empowers low-income, first-generation students to achieve higher


education goals, was a natural fit for Hill and Knowles.


Knowles also grew up in Oregon and always knew she would be a teacher. She spent one summer in the Willamette Valley picking beans and strawberries alongside migrant families whose youngest children were also out in the fields all day. This experience had a lasting impact. When she became a principal at Vaughn Middle School in Reno, it was her passion to make sure students of lower socioeconomic status were provided with educational equity.

"Education is a way of improving the lives of those who come from lesser means, and it is a moral responsibility of educators to ensure all students have the necessary resources," said Knowles.

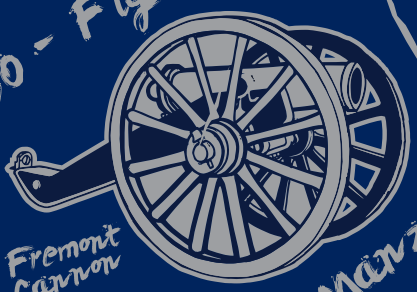
Knowles earned a bachelor's in home economics education from Oregon State University in 1975, a master's in education from Washington State University in 1980 and an Ed.D. from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1992. She joined the Washoe County School District, teaching home economics, math and social studies at Washoe High School and Traner Middle School and later moved into administration as assistant principal at Traner and then principal at Vaughn for 20 years.

Hill and Knowles' loyalty to the local area has allowed them to watch multiple generations of students grow up to become parents themselves, and the progress these families made inspired them to provide more opportunities to many more students in the years ahead. With their planned gifts to create the endowed DFS director position and continue support of the Leadership Award, they ensure these opportunities are available to students for generations to come.

 To learn more about supporting students in the College of Education & Human Development, contact Stefanie Givens, director of development, at (775) 784-6914 or sgivens@unr.edu.

 To learn more about making a planned gift, contact Lisa Riley, J.D., director of planned giving, at (775) 682-6017 or lriley@unr.edu; or Brian Saeman '98 J.D., director of development, at (775) 682-5938 or bsaeman@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



Mountain West

Silver

Morrill Hall



UNR

The Quad

EST. 1874

join today! unr.edu/alumni