Great faculty lead the campus

By Melanie Robbins ’06M.A. Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas.

2009 Foundation Professor Ian Buckle in the Large-Scale Structures Laboratory with some of the graduate students in the earthquake engineering program who are studying the seismic performance of bridges and other structures under the supervision of various faculty in the civil engineering department. Pictured: Sarira Motaref, Arash Esmailizaghi, Juan Arias, Mohamed Ayoub, Chunli Wei, Austin Brown and Camilo Builes. Buckle is the director of this laboratory. (Read more about Ian Buckle on page 5)
Faculty are central to the University’s mission. That’s obvious. However, according to Provost Marc Johnson, faculty are the real campus leaders, more so even than top administrators.

"Faculty and students produce everything that the University does," Johnson says. "Faculty are the leaders in that production process. If you have really good, talented faculty, you will have really good results."

Johnson adds: "Our faculty at Nevada may seem unassuming, but many have national and international reputations for scholarship, research and service. Our faculty are being invited to concerts in Europe, for example, and are doing research projects in Africa. The faculty here are well connected in their professions, and are held in high regard internationally and nationally."

Faculty at Nevada take on three different responsibilities that match the core mission of the University of Nevada, Reno: teaching, research and outreach. Awards are given every year in each area.

Johnson, an internationally recognized economist who began his post at the University in June 2008, was formerly vice provost for agriculture and dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Colorado State University. He has worked with the governments and citizens of both Sri Lanka and Russia, helping solve food system and economic problems. As he does, so he preaches: "Good teachers typically, but especially at a research university such as Nevada, are actively involved in their professions."

President Milton Glick greatly admires Nevada’s faculty, as well: "If you spend time with our faculty, you will see that they believe that their job is not complete until there has been a meaningful and lasting exchange of wisdom and knowledge in their classrooms, or a new path has been charted in their research labs, or our community’s or our state’s circumstance has been improved through outreach efforts they have helped initiate."

Most faculty members will tell you, he adds, that each of these three areas—teaching,
This year’s slate of faculty award winners exemplifies the down-to-earth, yet engaged, exceptional and passionate professors at Nevada.

Scott Casper

Professors like the multi-talented history professor Scott Casper, who won the Carnegie 2008 U.S. Professors of the Year award, are among those honored recently for teaching excellence.

The Carnegie/CASE award is sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. The award, founded in 1981, is the only national program recognizing excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring.

Casper teaches upper-division courses on Revolutionary and 19th-century America, the history of the book in America, and the Civil War in American culture, as well as the Core Humanities course “American Experiences.” He wrote the 2008 book, Sarah Johnson’s Mount Vernon: The Forgotten History of an American Shrine, as well as Constructing American Lives: Biography and Culture in Nineteenth-Century America, which won the 1999 Book History Prize from the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing.

“My approach is hands-on history, getting students’ hands on primary-source materials, visual material and historical documents so that they can understand what those sources tell us about the past,” Casper says. “Our role as history teachers is to give students a whole idea of what history is: not just learning information, but crafting and expressing their own interpretations of the past based on evidence and analysis,” he added.

Students in Casper’s Civil War class have told those stories by writing papers, creating web sites, analyzing historical re-enactments and making movies.

“Students are a lot more tech-savvy than they used to be,” he adds. “They have a whole set of tools at their disposal that they didn’t have previously, certainly as compared to when I came to the University 16 years ago.”

Casper notes that the entire history department actively engages students in learning and are partners to his award: “This award reflects the work that my colleagues in the Department of History have done collectively to enhance undergraduate education at the University. We have emphasized primary-source analysis in all our courses, as well as requiring a senior thesis for history majors. None of these things is my work alone.”

In 2008-09 Casper served as visiting editor of the William & Mary Quarterly, the leading scholarly journal for the study of early American history and culture.

Casper also won the Regents’ Teaching Award in 2005.

David Ake

David Ake, associate professor of music is this year’s recipient of the F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award.

Ake actively participates in jazz and the history of jazz, and then he carries that recent knowledge into his classroom.

Larry Engstrom, the director of the College of Liberal Arts’ School of the Arts, says that Ake winning the Tibbitts was well-deserved: “David is a great teacher for many reasons. As a scholar, he’s a triple threat. As a musicologist, he’s one of the world’s leading experts on jazz cultures. As a performer, he’s a very creative jazz pianist. As a composer, he writes beautiful and provocative music. It’s unusual for someone to be gifted in all of these areas, and this provides him a unique perspective.”

In the classroom, Engstrom says that Ake has a rare ability to make an early connection with his students, one that carries through an entire semester and often lasts well after the class or the semester has ended.

“David has a great sense of humor,” Engstrom says. “And he uses that effectively to keep his students interested and engaged through an entire class session. He cares deeply about the subject matter and about his students. He is very organized and thorough in his approach to communicating ideas and concepts to his students. He challenges his students to think critically.

“Add to all that David’s warm and pleasant demeanor, and that he’s a really nice guy, and I think you can see why he’s most deserving of this award.”

On his teaching method, Ake says, “I orient all of my courses from the position that music is never just sound; it’s created by people and it always reflects and helps to configure notions of identity. Once students buy into that, and
Distinguished Faculty

Richard Davies, professor of history, joined the University in July 1980 as vice president for academic affairs, before moving to the history department. He is a prolific writer and researcher, amassing a prestigious body of work including five books, three co-edited volumes for the University’s Core Humanities program, as well as numerous articles, focusing on the history of American small towns and American sports. He is currently working on a sixth book about sports rivalry.

Foundation Professors

Ian Buckle, professor of civil and environmental engineering is also director of the Center for Civil Engineering Earthquake Research and the Large-Scale Structures Laboratory. He joined the University in 1999. He is a nationally and internationally recognized and respected leader in earthquake and structural engineering and possesses an outstanding record of accomplishment in research, publication, teaching, and professional and community service. (See photo of Buckle on page 3.)

Kent Ervin, professor of chemistry, has been with the University’s chemistry department for nearly 19 years. Ervin is an internationally recognized leader in the field of physical chemistry and has published more than 80 papers, which have been cited a phenomenal 4,350 times.

Mae Gustin, professor of natural resources and environmental science, joined the University in 1994. Her research interests include study of the fate and transport of environmental contaminants, and she has built a nationally and internationally recognized research program that focuses on questions revolving around the biogeochemical cycle of mercury.
see and hear how it works, then it’s not too difficult to maintain their interest.”

Ake’s record of scholarship further reinforces this position. He has already written a critically praised book, *Jazz Cultures* (University of California Press) on this very subject, with a second book due in 2010. The combination of research, teaching and his own experiences as an accomplished jazz pianist—he has played with such outstanding musicians as Ravi Coltrane, Charlie Haden, James Newton and Bud Shank, and has appeared on a number of recordings and is a regular with the University’s excellent jazz quintet, “The Collective”—has helped make Ake one of the campus’ most well-rounded professors. (See Ake’s photo on the cover.)

**Eric Wang**

Ake has more mountains to climb, however, and one of the trailblazers in front of him is Eric Wang, associate professor of mechanical engineering, who captured the statewide 2009 Regents’ Teaching Award, given to only one university professor each year. Wang won the Tibbitts award in 2003.

“Winning the Tibbitts award was a huge honor,” Wang says. “The Regents’ Award is like Tibbitts times 10.”

Wang has drawn the attention of the regents and others nationally and internationally for his innovative, research-based, hands-on teaching approach, exemplified by his introductory mechanical engineering course in which freshmen buy a LEGO robot kit instead of a textbook. The students then design and build a “battle-bot,” for their class project, which culminates in a competition to see which robot can wreak the most destruction and survive the longest on the “battlefield”—an indoor ring. Involving students in design from the very beginning of their college careers is an approach that is not based on a hunch, he notes. It has been proven to work: Retention rates for these students are high, three years after taking the two-course introductory sequence, 66 percent were still pursuing an engineering degree and more than 80 percent were still at Nevada working on degrees, one follow-up study showed.

Wang is the author of the first and only book on the programming language ROBOLAB, and gives lectures and workshops worldwide to educators, teaching them how to introduce engineering design concepts via the LEGO Mindstorms family of robot-making kits. The book, *Engineering with LEGO Bricks and ROBOLAB*, was first published in 2003 and is now in its third printing. After winning the Regents’ Teaching Award, Wang says he told his mother, “Playing with LEGOs when I was little has finally paid off!”

“I feel very lucky to be at Nevada,” he adds. “Many institutions pay lip service to the scholarship of teaching, but the University of Nevada, Reno has consistently rewarded me for it. That is truly unique and is the primary reason I’m here.”

In addition, Wang has been an integral member of the “E-Team,” Capstone course: a senior-level design course in design and entrepreneurship that requires students to bring a product from concept to prototype and write a business proposal as a member of a faux “company.”

College of Engineering Dean Manos Maragakis says, “Eric is an outstanding, well-rounded faculty member. He has introduced...
several innovative approaches in his classes. He has applied project-based learning into the first year experience with very positive results on student learning and understanding of engineering. He has introduced entrepreneurship into the senior mechanical engineering capstone course and integration with other engineering and business disciplines. The college and the University have benefited from his dedication and innovation. I think this is a well-deserved award and I am very proud that he has won it.”

Wang has also secured more than $1 million in engineering education grants for the College of Engineering. (See Wang’s photo on the cover.)

Without academic advisers, students might easily flounder along without direction to their studies, perhaps achieving their goals, perhaps not. But with great advising, students can reach their highest potential. The College of Business swept the top advising awards this year with economics professor Elliott Parker winning the Regents’ Academic Advisor Award as well as the University’s Undergraduate Academic Advisor award and Associate Dean Kambiz Raffiee winning the University’s Graduate Academic Advisor Award.

Dean of the College of Business Greg Mosier says, “Dr. Raffiee and Dr. Parker dedicate countless hours outside of the classroom to helping students achieve their academic goals. We are extremely proud that both the undergraduate and graduate advising awards have been given to College of Business faculty members and that Dr. Parker was honored with the Regents’ undergraduate advising award. These awards represent the quality of our program and our faculty’s focus on student success.”

In addition, Monica Miller, assistant professor of criminal justice, garnered the 2009 Outstanding Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award, a University-wide award given by the Office of the Vice President for Research recognizing faculty who nurture undergraduate researchers.

Elliott Parker

Parker has had a whirlwind academic year that included being elected chair of the Faculty Senate and named mentor to the College of Business’ Senior Scholar, Janine Stone ’08 (political science/economics) for the fall semester, in addition to winning the top advising awards. “I am flattered by all the attention, very honored, and more than somewhat humbled,” Parker says. “I feel very lucky. It’s nice to know that this University I love thinks well of me, too.”

While he is “first and foremost” an economist, Parker has advised international business students as a service to the College of Business since the major was created more than a decade ago. “I have had many scores of students coming to ask me to help them figure out their courses and their problems, while trying to also find time to write lectures, grade, or do other research,” he says. “While it was hard to find time to do everything, I never felt resentment for the time needed.”

The best reward, he says, is working with students. Students like Britton Griffith ’09 (international business), who wrote to thank Parker: “I know I had some very difficult obstacles … but with your help of substitutions and advice I was able to get everything back in place and graduate on time. I do not think I
could have been successful in this task without you taking over as my advisor. Because of your help, I will be attending law school this fall with a full ride at the Western State University, School of Law, in Fullerton, Calif.

“It’s teachers like you that made me challenge myself and go the extra step in my education that helped me to be accepted to law school and I am appreciative beyond words.”

**Kambiz Raffiee**

Raffiee joined the University in 1983. He is not only associate dean of the College of Business, but also director of the top-ranking MBA Program (master’s in business administration).

The University’s part-time MBA program was ranked number 17 in the United States by *BusinessWeek* in 2007. It is also ranked as one of the best MBA programs in the United States by *Princeton Review* in 2009.

“I’m honored to receive the University’s Graduate Academic Advisor Award. Advising is an integral part of the MBA program and I’m grateful for the support of my students and colleagues in receiving the award,” Raffiee says.

Raffiee’s advising philosophy is that advisors should “show our students that we take accuracy, punctuality, rigor and transparency in advising seriously; treat students with utmost respect; and work with students to grow academically and professionally in their graduate programs.”

For his significant contributions in research, teaching, and service, he received the University’s Foundation Professor Award in 2001.

**Monica Miller**

Miller joined the Department of Criminal Justice in July 2004. She holds a joint appointment as an assistant professor in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in social psychology. Interim Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Marsha Read says, “Since arriving at the University, Miller has mentored 32 undergraduate students and has been an avid supporter of providing research opportunities to undergraduates. Research by Dr. Miller and her students has led to numerous publications and poster presentations at various conferences. I congratulate her for her achievements and extraordinary dedication to undergraduate research.”

She has produced 72 publications co-authored with 41 different graduate or undergraduate students. The University’s Graduate Student Association also awarded Miller the Vada Trimble Outstanding Mentor Award for 2009.

In addition to teaching and outreach, University researchers have two additional roles, according to Provost Marc Johnson: “One role is to be engaged and producing new knowledge to push the bounds of our scientific knowledge out, or to apply that knowledge to solve problems. The second role of research is that we have a responsibility to perform graduate education

Wei Yan and his colleagues have gained insights into the reproductive workings of the male sex chromosome that may have significant implications for male infertility and contraception.
so that we are producing future scientists, engineers, social scientists and musicians.”

Two award-winning professors who exemplify both roles are Wei Yan, associate professor in the Department of Physiology and Cell Biology in the School of Medicine and the winner of the 2009 Regents’ Rising Researcher Award, and Bruce Moran, history professor and winner of the University’s 2009 Outstanding Researcher of the Year Award.

Wei Yan

As the principal investigator in a study, Yan and his colleagues have gained insights into the reproductive workings of the male sex chromosome that may have significant implications for male infertility and contraception.

This important discovery has been published in *Nature Genetics*, one of the highest-ranking journals in the field of biomedical research based upon the impact factor.

The study findings indicate that the X chromosome in developing sperm cells encodes numerous tiny ribonucleic acids called microRNAs despite the fact that most of genes on the X chromosome are suppressed. This unprecedented observation implies that these small RNAs have critical roles in chromosome inactivation and also in sperm formation.

Yan’s research group further investigated all the known X-linked microRNAs. Their data confirm that these X chromosome-derived microRNAs indeed escape the well-known “silencing effects” and manage to be expressed.

“This finding opens a new avenue toward understanding the role of these small RNA species in the control of sperm production,” Yan says, noting that worldwide, one in nine couples in their reproductive age experiences infertility. On the other hand, the number of unintended pregnancies is increasing yearly.

“Since these small RNAs are involved in the control of sperm formation, they can be causative factors in male infertility and also can be used as non-hormonal male contraceptive targets.”

In addition to making scientific breakthroughs, Yan has published 18 additional articles in highly respected journals and has provided research mentorship for numerous graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Bruce Moran

For the past 30 years, Bruce Moran has been spending his summers in the Scientific Revolution of 1400-1700. His painstaking research into the roots of science and medicine spawned six books, scores of articles and acclaim.

His ongoing work and world-renowned research into alchemy as a precursor of modern science and medicine may seem a bit obscure, though also enlightening. It’s a subject that has been disparaged and disowned for centuries, he says, and now it’s being brought out in the daylight, and is planned as the focus of a special section in the authoritative international history of science journal *ISIS* in 2010.

Historical alchemy has received more attention in the past few years as researchers discover more about the evolution of science and medicine. Moran’s latest book on the subject “Distilling Knowledge: Alchemy, Chemistry and the Scientific Revolution” is required reading at several universities, including UCLA and USC.

“It came as a surprise,” Moran says of receiving the outstanding researcher award. “It’s really humbling; I’m thrilled, gratified and
appreciative of the acknowledgement. There are so many people on campus who could, just as easily, receive this award, and when I think of those who have been acknowledged by the award in the past—wow, to be a part of that group is truly overwhelming.”

“Awards like this,” Moran says, “help to reassert a fundamental mission of any university—to create knowledge as well as to communicate it. It’s a privilege to be in a department, a college and a University that promotes and values scholarship.

“I like going to work, it’s invigorating, exciting,” he says. “Research keeps me alive.”

“The thrill of the historian is to be able to huddle over things that only a few people have seen,” Moran says. “There’s an instant connection with a far distant world, with its values and frustrations, and with the ways that it has attempted to explain the operations of nature and the body.”

Moran has been at Nevada since 1976, teaching a variety of history classes centered around his specialty of the history of science, early medicine, European culture and intellectual history.

Moran has been a Humboldt Stipendiat (Kassel), guest professor at the Institut für Geschichte der Pharmazie, Marburg, Germany, and has held fellowships in the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge and at the Wellcome Center for the History of Medicine, London. He is a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge and a 1993 University of Nevada Foundation Professor.

Almost all universities have research and education mission, notes Provost Johnson. But the University of Nevada, Reno, the state’s only land-grant university, has the unique obligation to carry the knowledge of the University to the public—to all 17 counties in Nevada—he says.

“We do that with teaching operations, with Extended Studies, and we have Cooperative Extension offices. The University has Cooperative Extension offices in 15 counties throughout Nevada.”

Ed Smith

“We have professionals out there molding knowledge from their training into answers to local questions,” Johnson says. Ed Smith ’78 (renewable natural resource management), ’84M.S. (renewable natural resource management) natural resources specialist with University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the winner of the 2009 Distinguished Outreach Faculty Award, is known nationally and internationally for his work teaching educators, agency officials and the public who live in fire-prone areas how to save lives and reduce property damage with his Living with Fire program.

“Ed works tirelessly with property owners, fire departments, land management agencies and others throughout the state to educate the public about reducing Nevada’s wildfire threats,” says Johnson. “He knits together a whole crowd of agency folks and teaches them how to educate the general public to prevent fires and respond to them when they do occur. Ed is an excellent example of one of the Uni-
“Faculty members will tell you that each of these three areas—teaching, research and outreach—helps inform and enhance the others . . . As important as these three areas are, it is the passion of a great faculty member that helps bring life to each one.”

President Milton Glick

versity’s top outreach faculty.”

While on the job, Smith recognized that more acres had burned in Nevada in a decade than in the previous 40 years—and that something needed to be done.

“Prior to implementation of the Living with Fire program, there was no organized forum for teaching Nevadans threat-reduction techniques,” Smith says. “Research results indicate that pre-fire activities performed by a homeowner, such as creating defensible space and removing pine needles from rain gutters and screening vents, can significantly improve a home’s survivability during a wildland fire.”

Smith credits the efforts of thousands of constituents for the overall success of his programs. “Getting the word out is critical. I am so honored because homeowners, fire departments and agencies—including the Lake Tahoe Regional Fire Chiefs Association, Nevada Division of Forestry, the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, the Nevada Insurance Council and others—have embraced our outreach and shared the program with their neighbors and communities throughout the country.”

Since 1998, in a state where 68 communities are considered at high or extreme risk of wildfire, Smith’s Living with Fire program and curriculum have won numerous awards, have grown to national prominence and are now taught to fire professionals for use in teaching defensible space to homeowners in dozens of states. A Living with Fire tabloid is also published as an educational tool for the public, with more than 2 million copies distributed throughout the West and used as a model by other communities nationwide.

A natural outgrowth of the Living with Fire program has been the creation of the Nevada Fire Safe Council, a nonprofit partnership established in 1999 as a bridge between fire services and public agencies and their communities threatened by wildfire. Smith was responsible for founding the council, preparing the Articles of Incorporation as a nonprofit agency, and leading the organization as a volunteer executive director during its formative years.

Since 2002, the NFSC has acquired $25 million in federal and private grant funds, has established more than 100 community chapters and has grown to more than 5,000 subscribed members. Fred Holman, vice provost for Extended Studies, who chairs the award committee, says: “Ed’s outreach and the partnership programs he has developed reach every corner of the state and beyond, have grown to become sustainable beyond his own contributions, and have had a substantial impact even at the legislative level. His visionary commitment to outreach, to identifying needs and to bringing diverse groups together for the common good is truly exceptional.”

For more about Living With Fire, call (775) 856-8403 or visit www.livingwithfire.info. For other threat-mitigation programs offered by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, call (775) 784-4848. 

Contributors to this story include Pat McDonnell, Anne McMillin, APR, John Trent ’85/’87, ’00M.A., and Mike Wolterbeck ’02.

What is an Endowed Chair?

The professorial “chair” dates back to Elizabethan times. A chair then was a rare and highly coveted piece of furniture. In the custom of that period, common people sat on wooden stools and benches, the gentry used cushions on the floor, and even the grandest room in a nobleman’s castle rarely held more than a single piece of furniture that could be called a chair.

When a teacher was raised to the position of professor and enjoyed the income from a named fund given by the monarch, generous noble or wealthy benefactor, he was presented with an actual chair as a symbol of his elevated status in the world of learning.

The first endowed chair at the University of Nevada, Reno was established more than 30 years ago. Nevada now boasts 20 endowed chairs and professorships in such diverse disciplines as journalism, nursing, history, medicine, gaming studies, engineering, historic preservation, geophysics, humanities, metallurgy, minerals engineering, and grazing and rangeland management. The permanent endowed fund created by philanthropic gifts provides perpetual annual income in support of the teaching and research activities of the person holding the chair.

Why endowed positions?

Endowed chairs and professorships bring added strength to the faculty. In higher education, they are the highest academic honor bestowed upon a faculty member to recognize academic distinction. Endowed faculty positions enable the University to attract and retain the most talented and sought-after faculty—those who have achieved renown in their professions and are considered leaders in their fields. A first-rate faculty attracts the brightest students, and in turn, students are challenged and guided by exposure to the highest quality academic leadership. The prestige surrounding an endowed chair is shared not only by its holder, but also the donor whose gift made it possible, the person whose name it bears, and the University.

For more information about how you can endow a faculty position at Nevada, please contact Bruce Mack, associate vice president for Development and Alumni Relations at (775) 784-1352 or bmack@unr.edu.
Faculty Awards and Accomplishments

In addition to the faculty featured on the preceding pages, many excellent faculty across campus distinguished themselves recently with notable accomplishments.

V. Dean Adams, civil and environmental engineering: Alumni Merit Citation Award from Utah State University.

Tuncay Alparslan, mathematics and statistics: Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award, Colleges of Science and Liberal Arts.

Theodore Batchman, Renewable Energy Center: Ronald J. Schmitz Award for Outstanding Service to the Frontiers in Education Conference.

Susan Bender, International Students & Scholars, and Carmelo Urza: University Studies Abroad Consortium: Global Citizen awards, University’s Northern Nevada International Center.

Debbie Boehm, anthropology and women’s studies: Fulbright-Garcia Robles Award to conduct research in Zacatecas, Mexico.

Indira Chatterjee, electrical and biomedical engineering: Ralph and Rose Hoeper Excellence in Teaching and Advisement Award.

Craig Carter, managerial sciences: Outstanding Revueven Award, International Journal of Physical Distribution and Logistics Management (Emerald Literati Network Award for Excellence).

Amy Childress, civil and environmental engineering: Nevada Women’s Fund: Women of Achievement Award.

Kristin Clements-Nolle, School of Community Health Sciences, and Ahmad Itani, civil and environmental engineering: Runners up to the F. Donald Tibbitts. Clements-Nolle also won the Division of Health Sciences Teaching Award.

Keith Dennett, civil and environmental engineering, and Luis Loria Salazar, graduate research assistant: Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering’s Outstanding Faculty Award.

Rosemary Dixon, women’s studies: Blackboard Exemplary Course for Gender and Society Online Course.

Bill Eadington, gaming studies: University of Macau Doctor of Business Administration honors award.

Maurice Fuerstenau: chemical and metallurgical engineering: Honorary Member of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers.

Mary Groves, managerial sciences: lecturer: College of Business Outstanding Faculty Member.

Jen Hill, English: American Council of Learned Societies Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowships for Recently Tenured Scholars. She will spend a year doing research at Chicago University’s Newberry Library.

Karen Hinton, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: USDA Secretary’s Honor Award for extension, a Web-based initiative.

Vladimir Ivanov, Nevada Terawatt Facility: College of Science’s Hyung K. Shin Excellence in Research Award.

Stephen Jenkins, professor of biology: College of Science’s LeMay Excellence in Teaching Award.

Karen Kopera-Frye, School of Social Work: National teaching award from the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

Dana Loomis, School of Community Health Sciences: Named editor of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, a journal published by the British Medical Association.

Manoranjan Misra, chemical and metallurgical engineering, and Sergiu Dascalu, computer science and engineering: Nevada’s Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology’s Faculty Advisor Special Recognition Award.

Bourne Morris, journalism: Nevada Semenza Christian Teaching Award.

Kathryn Obenchain, associate professor of social studies and citizenship education in the Department of Educational Specialties: Senior Fulbright Fellowship for both lecturing (teaching) and research at the College of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Universitatia Babes-Bolyai, Romania.

Sandra Ott, associate professor in the Center for Basque Studies: National Endowment for the Humanities summer stipend for research.

John Packham, director of the Nevada Rural Hospital Flexibility Program at the Center for Education and Health Services Outreach at the School of Medicine: won Nevada Public Health Leader of the Year Award, Nevada Public Health Association.

Pamela Powell and Marilyn Smith, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: USDA Extension Family Science Team Award for their work in the disaster preparedness program called Alert, Evacuate, and Shelter Training.

Wilfredo de Rafols, foreign languages and literatures, and Grant Stitt, criminal justice: University President’s Award for Outstanding Committee Service.

Yasuhiko Sentoku, physics: College of Science’s Dr. Donald Mousel & Dr. William Feltner Award for Excellence in Research.

Meri Shadley, Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Treatment: John Chappell Award for Excellence in the Field of Treatment, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services.

Marilyn Smith, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: National Excellence in Extension Award, National Association of State and Land Grant Colleges.

Judy Strauss, managerial sciences: Helen Williams Award for Excellence in Collegiate Independent Study, presented by the American Association for Collegiate Independent Study, Marketing Principles Online Course; Lifetime Achievement in Marketing, awarded by the American Marketing Association, Reno-Tahoe Chapter. “Barbie Buyer,” pictured with Strauss in the photo to the right, was the class mascot.

Jonghwan Suhr, mechanical engineering: National Science Foundation: Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program award.

Patti Swager, Nevada Geriatrics Center, School of Medicine: Fellow of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

Mehmet Tosun, economics: Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor, Bonn, Germany.

Jim Winn, music and dance: Governor’s Arts Award for his outstanding accomplishments as a keyboardist and composer.

Don Winne, managerial sciences: College of Business B.J. Fuller Excellence in Teaching Award.

Liming Zhang, chemistry: Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow.