Joan Zenan, faculty emerita and founding director of the Savitt Medical Library, has provided a gift to the University to support the professional development activities of the University Libraries’ faculty and staff.

Joan believes strongly that the University’s libraries are made great not only by their collections, but also by the many dedicated and highly skilled employees it takes to provide superior levels of service to the students, faculty, and community.

“The skills and services offered to our campus community by library faculty and staff are enhanced when they have the opportunity to attend national and regional workshops and conferences,” Joan says. “Those opportunities broaden their skills and abilities, introduce them to new services and technologies, and widen their professional collegial contacts—professional development is not a nicety, it is a necessity.”

Steven Zink, vice president for information technology and dean of University Libraries, says Joan’s gift is significant: “Shortly after I arrived at Nevada nearly 30 years ago, Joan quickly became a close friend and a trusted colleague. Her gift in support of professional development for library staff was a natural. Throughout her career, Joan had an unswerving devotion to continued professional development, and she encouraged and supported her staff in a similar manner. She understood that the dynamics of the information world, which are so obvious today, would require future information professionals to keep as broad a perspective as possible.”

To learn more and support the work of the University Libraries, contact Millie Mitchell, director of development for University Libraries, (775) 682-5682 or mimitchell@unr.edu.