Bibles create College of Education award for outstanding educators

The first college graduate in her family, Judy Bible '65 (elementary education) has been a passionate supporter of education throughout her life. Together with her husband, Paul Bible '62 (economics), she has established the Judith S. Bible Teaching Excellence in Education Award to recognize outstanding faculty members in the College of Education.

This new award, the first of its kind in the College of Education, was awarded this year to Robert Quinn, a professor of secondary mathematics education. Quinn's primary area of interest involves developing and researching creative pedagogical approaches to the teaching of probability and statistics in secondary mathematics.

"Teaching has been my professional passion for 33 years, 13 at the high school level and 20 at the university level," Quinn says. "To have been selected for the Judith S. Bible Teaching Excellence in Education Award from the College of Education, a college known for its outstanding teaching, is an honor that I truly cherish."

The Mallory Foundation and Stuart Feigin support large-scale structures lab

Stuart Feigin and the Mallory Foundation recently made major gifts to support the expansion of the earthquake engineering laboratory in the College of Engineering. These contributions help meet the college's goal to raise $3.6 million from private funds to cost-share with the prestigious, faculty-initiated grant awarded by the National Institute of Standards and Technology Construction Grants Program. To date, the college has raised nearly $540,000 in gifts and pledges.

The University is one of five institutions nationwide to receive this construction support, which is part of a $50 million initiative to strengthen research in science and technology. The expanded facility will house the largest and most versatile earthquake simulation laboratory in the United States.

"These gifts are tremendously important and greatly appreciated as they enable us to take advantage of the NIST grant and build a world-class research facility in earthquake engineering here on campus," says Ian Buckle, director, Center for Civil Engineering Earthquake Research.

Feigin, the fifth employee of computer giant Oracle Corp., is the chairman of NorthStar Investors and a member of the College of Engineering's Advisory Board. He established the Stuart Feigin Annual Engineering Scholarship in 2002. The Mallory Foundation also has a long history of supporting Nevada, including the Jean Mallory Scholarship; the engineering K-12 outreach program; the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement Program (MESA); and the Mallory Foundation Scholar Leader Scholarship Endowment to assist exceptional student leaders in the College of Business. Additional support for the project to date comes from Sara '73 (English/journalism) and Leonard Lafrance, Wayne '62 (civil engineering) and...
NV Energy champions University’s renewable energy program

The College of Engineering strives to become a leader in education and research for new, clean technologies and has received significant support from NV Energy. The company recently donated $250,000 to the University’s renewable energy program, the first of two such gifts over the next two years totaling $500,000, bringing NV Energy’s total support of the program to $1.25 million.

“NV Energy is proud of the ongoing partnership with the University and the opportunity to provide continuing support to the renewable energy program,” says Jeff Ceccarelli ’76 (civil engineering), senior vice president of NV Energy. “This is consistent with our corporate mission to be a leader in the development of renewable energy within our state, and support the university system in providing research and education around these clean energy technologies.”

New knowledge and technology enhance undergraduate and graduate education at Nevada. With this gift, the department will create a faculty position for researching renewable energy and developing new applications for the power grid, along with workforce development efforts, new online courses and support for the University’s Renewable Energy Center.

To learn more about supporting the College of Engineering, please contact Melanie Perish, director of development, (775) 784-6433 or mperish@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan

John Ben Snow trust helps Reynolds School with ongoing tech updates

The John Ben Snow Memorial Trust recently provided a generous gift to support the Fund for the Future of Journalism, established to keep pace with technology advances long after renovations to the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism and Advanced Media Studies building are complete.

To date, the Reynolds School is $250,000 from its fundraising goal of building a $1.6 million endowment to support the school as it continues to evolve.

“The Reynolds School clearly is viewed as a high performer, and the renovated building with its high-tech infrastructure will help it sustain and even expand upon that well-deserved reputation,” says William Winter, Reynolds School dean.

The project began in January with the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation granting almost $8 million in capital support for renovations and technology infrastructure upgrades. The building is scheduled to reopen in January 2012. Funding for both the current renovations and the Fund for the Future of Journalism is entirely through private donations. No state funds will be allocated.

Improvements include plans to rewire and recafe the building, install a robust server system, replace analog TV and radio facilities, and create a multimedia newsroom where students will learn how to write and present information on every platform.

To learn more about supporting the Fund for the Future of Journalism and the Reynolds School of Journalism, contact Kristin Burgarello, director of development, (775) 784-4471 or kburgarello@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan

With the support of community partners like NV Energy, the Renewable Energy Center at the Redfield Campus has become a key player in the state’s renewable energy portfolio.

The updated building will feature high-tech infrastructure that allows students to quickly share, store and distribute media.