**2013 Nevada Alumni Association Award Recipients**

**Professional Achievement**

**Kris P. Hackbusch ’98 (history) ’00M.Ed. (educational leadership)**

Kris Hackbusch graduated from Reed High School in 1993. He was a first team all-state basketball player in high school and a walk-on for the University of Nevada men’s basketball team from 1994-98. Following graduation, he was hired as a graduate assistant coach for Pat Foster and Trent Johnson. While helping coach the Wolf Pack on the court, he earned a master’s degree in educational leadership. Kris worked at Reed High School for 10 years as a teacher, basketball coach, dean of students and assistant principal. During that time, he developed a youth basketball program, “Hoops with Hack,” where he taught fundamental basketball skills to young children. In 2009, he transferred to Reno High School as an assistant principal. He was promoted to principal of Reno High School in 2012.

**Lauralyn L. McCarthy ’92 (journalism)**

At age 11, Lauralyn McCarthy was introduced to tennis and won the first tournament she entered. Inspired, she paid for her own lessons and clinics by cleaning tennis courts and doing accounting work for the tennis clinic.

Attending the University on a tennis scholarship, Lauralyn participated in Pi Beta Phi sorority, the Student Ambassadors, SAGENS service organization and held the ASUN arts chairman office. She was named one of the University’s Top 10 Senior Women.

After graduating, Lauralyn worked for five years at Reno-based gaming equipment manufacturer IGT. With investment partners’ funds and an IGT distributorship, she founded NMG, LLC at age 28. Lauralyn also provided outside gaming consulting services and later founded Gaming Solutions. In early 2012, she joined Scientific Games, a global lottery and gaming company, as vice president of strategic projects. That same year, Casino Enterprise Management magazine named Lauralyn one of its Great Women of Gaming.

Lauralyn is involved in the American Cancer Society and Home of Guiding Hands, among other organizations. She credits her successes to the love and support of her family and friends.

**James E. Murphy ’87 (premedical), ’91M.D.**

James E. Murphy, M.D., is board certified in plastic and reconstructive surgery. He has more than 14 years of experience practicing in the Reno-Tahoe area. After graduating from Reno High School, James chose University of Nevada, Reno for his undergraduate education and continued at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. He served as a U.S. Naval Reservist and spent two years as a medical corpsman during Operation Desert Storm.

He completed five years of general surgery residency at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, followed by two years of plastic surgery residency at Wake Forest University School of Medicine/Bowman Gray in North Carolina. He studied under Louis Argenta, M.D., a specialist in craniofacial deformity microsurgery. Following his extensive training, James returned to Reno to build a plastic surgery practice as well as starting a family of his own. James strives to give back to the community he was raised in by giving his time, training and expertise to the Northern Nevada Cleft Palate Clinic and repairing the cranial facial abnormalities of infants. He says the time and attention he pays to these tiny patients is one of the biggest joys of his practice.

**George S. Ross ’46 (journalism)**

Born and raised in Oakland, Calif., George took journalism courses in high school and worked on school newspapers, so it was a homecoming for him to join the Oakland Tribune staff early in the 1950s. This position came after he had worked five years editing the Placerville Moun-

**University Service**

**Marvin “Dick” Gilbert ’49 (economics)**

Dick Gilbert attended the University and graduated in 1949 with a degree in economics, which served him well in his career as an accountant. After college, Dick served in the Korean War,
and upon his return he married Kathleen McCormack. He graduated from Stanford University with an MBA in 1955 and went on to establish his own accounting firm. The firm was later bought by Ernst & Young, where he remained as managing partner.

Dick is now retired and serves on the board of the Bretzflaff Foundation. Dick has established five University endowments honoring his family, including the Dick and Hank Gilbert Memorial Scholarship, the Vivian L. Gilbert Memorial Scholarship in Nursing, the Kathleen M. Gilbert Accounting Scholarship, the Karen Jane Gilbert Memorial Scholarship and the Jim Gilbert Memorial Scholarship.

Warren L. Lerude ‘61 (journalism)

Warren Lerude served as Sagebrush editor in 1960. After college, Warren worked for The Associated Press in San Diego, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Reno bureaus. He joined the staff of Reno Newspapers in 1963, where he worked as reporter, editor, publisher and president over the span of 20 years. At 43, Warren joined the faculty at the University, where he helped develop the Reynolds School of Journalism into a nationally recognized school.

Warren led a team of three journalists at Reno Newspapers to win the Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Writing and served on seven Pulitzer Prize juries at Columbia University, where he appeared many times as a discussion leader on writing, editing and ethics at the American Press Institute. He was a consultant for newspapers in Europe and Latin America and was on the launch team in the development of USA TODAY and the Newsseum in Washington, D.C.

Warren co-authored American Commander in Spain, a best seller about 1932 Nevada graduate Robert Hale Merriman, a prototype for Ernest Hemingway’s Robert Jordan in For Whom The Bell Tolls; the text for another best seller, acclaimed photographer Robert Cameron’s Above Tahoe and Reno, and the biography of iconic Nevada writer Robert Laxalt: The Story of a Storyteller.

Ron R. Zideck ‘59 (accounting)

Ronald R. Zideck is a third-generation Nevada dan who proudly attended local schools, including the University of Nevada, Reno. He had a 35-year career in public accounting, retiring as the managing partner from Reno’s Grant Thornton LLP in 1997. Following his retirement from accounting, he served as director of planned giving for the University. Since 2006, Ron has been the vice president of business development for the Whittier Trust Company.

Throughout his career, Ron has remained committed to community involvement and economic diversification in northern Nevada. His belief in strong relationships between Nevada business, education and government leads his active involvement and support of the University and many other community organizations and businesses, including the arts, banking, college preparatory education, economic development, gaming and health care.

Ron served on the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Board of Trustees and its executive committee. He was also a member of the Foundation’s Planned Giving Advisory Council and the President’s Strategic Advisory Committee.

Outstanding Young Alumnus

Brita Muller ’09 (journalism)

Brita was born and raised in Southern California and made her way up north to attend the University of Nevada, Reno in 2005. She studied public relations and was actively involved in student government, serving on the ASUN events and programming board and as the director of Homecoming.

Brita graduated from the Reynolds School of Journalism in 2009 and has continued to be involved in University events and extracurricular activities, including terms as president and vice president of membership for the Young Alumni Chapter. Currently, she works in San Francisco as the senior social media manager at TOBI.

Claire Vaye Watkins ’07 (English)

Claire Vaye Watkins was born in Bishop, Calif. A graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, Claire earned her MFA from The Ohio State University, where she was a Presidential Fellow. Her stories and essays have appeared in Granta, One Story, The Paris Review, Ploughshares, Glimmer Train, Best of the West 2011, New Stories from the Southwest 2013, the New York Times and elsewhere. Claire has received fellowships from the Writers’ Conferences at Sewanee and Bread Loaf.

Claire’s collection of short stories, Battleborn, won the Story Prize, the New York Public Library Young Lions Fiction Award, the Rosenthal Family Foundation Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a Silver Pen Award from the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame. Battleborn was named a best book of 2012 by the San Francisco Chronicle, Boston Globe, Time Out New York, Flavorwire, and NPR.org. In 2012, Claire was selected as one of the National Book Foundation’s “5 Under 35.”

Currently a visiting assistant professor at Princeton University, Claire, along with Derek Palacio, is co-director of the Mojave School, a free creative writing workshop for teenagers in rural Nevada.

Matthew R. Wolden ’03 (health ecology), ’05 M.P.H. (public health)

Matthew Wolden is the administrative director for the Center for Quality and Clinical Effectiveness at Stanford University’s Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital. Matthew is responsible for overseeing the divisions of quality improvement, patient safety, infection prevention and control, analytics and clinical effectiveness, accreditation and regulatory compliance, physician peer review, research and trauma. Prior to joining Stanford, Matthew was the administrative director for the women’s health service line at New York-Presbyterian, the University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell.
At the University of Nevada, Reno, Matthew was active in student politics, serving as senator, justice and eventually, president of ASUN. Matthew is also a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Alumni Association Service

Tracey L. Delaplain ’83 (premedical), ’87M.D.

Tracey Lane Delaplain, M.D., is a fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a practicing gynecologist. She is a first-generation college graduate from the University, where she was a member of Tri Delta Sorority, an ASUN Senator, and an officer in the American Medical Women’s Association. She married Tom Delaplain ’85 (geophysics) in 1982. Tracey graduated in 1983 with a bachelor’s degree in health sciences.

She attended the University of Nevada School of Medicine from 1983-87. Tracey continued her residency education in obstetrics and gynecology at Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. She returned to practice in Reno, where she owns the Center for Women’s Health. Tracey has published essays addressing teaching humanized healthcare to medical students and advocating for compassionate care for the elderly. She has written about her experience practicing medicine in rural Nevada in Doctoring in Nevada. Tracey is on the clinical faculty of the University of Nevada School of Medicine and is currently serving as president of the UNSOM Alumni Chapter.

Julie K. Rowe ’94 (journalism)

Julie Rowe is a principal at The Impetus Agency, an award-winning marketing firm specializing in public relations and social media. Under her direction, clients have been featured in media in northern Nevada and around the globe including USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, US News & World Report, The Today Show, Good Morning America, HGTV and Entrepreneur Magazine.

Prior to joining the agency, Julie served as public relations manager for the Eldorado Hotel/Casino and as a PR specialist at a local advertising agency.

While a student at Nevada, Julie was a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority and served as vice president. She earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism with a minor in French. Since graduating, she has kept her ties to the institution strong, attending sporting and alumni events, and serving on the Nevada Alumni Council for the past six years. Julie served as president of the Alumni Council in 2011 and also served as vice president of marketing and membership.

Julie is a board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, where she chairs the marketing committee. She also serves on the board of the Aaron E. Arnoldsen Memorial Golf Tournament, which has raised more than $200,000 in scholarships for students at Nevada and is a board member of the Missy Eason Memorial Scholarship, established to assist students from Tonopah High School wishing to attend Nevada. In 2009, she was named among the “Top 20 under 40” by the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Derek S. Zielinski ’05 (mechanical engineering)

Derek Zielinski is a native Nevadan who was raised in Gardnerville and graduated from Douglas High School. He received a bachelor’s in mechanical engineering from the University with a minor in business administration in 2005. Derek has been employed at International Gaming Technology for the past nine years as a mechanical engineer.

He joined the Nevada Young Alumni Chapter in 2009 and has been involved ever since. He has been president of the chapter for the past two years, helping the chapter achieve three of its most successful fundraisers in chapter history.

Chapter of the Year

Nevada Football Alumni

The Nevada Football Alumni Association chapter serves alumni of the Nevada Wolf Pack football team. The chapter was proud to honor the legacy of Chris Ault 69, 73M.Ed. April 7 at the Eldorado Hotel Casino. More than 500 alumni and community members joined us to celebrate the career of the man who made remarkable contributions to the University and had such an impact on us all. Guest speakers recalled memorable moments and paid tribute to the inventor of the Pistol Offense.

College and Unit Distinguished Alumni

Business

Eren F. Ozmen ’85MBA

Eren Ozmen is chairman and president of Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC), the No. 1 Top Women-Owned Federal Government Contractors in the U.S. Eren joined SNC in 1988, shortly after receiving her MBA from the University of Nevada, Reno. Eren and her husband, Fatih Ozmen ’81M.S. (electrical engineering) acquired SNC in 1994. As a direct result of their strategic planning efforts, including the successful acquisition of 10 electronics firms and their strong financial and technical management, SNC has expanded to six business areas in 30 locations in 16 states employing more than 2,500 people.

Eren is actively involved in all aspects of SNC’s business management. SNC and the Ozmens have received numerous major awards, including the No. 2 Fastest Growing Women-Owned Company in North America by the International Women Presidents’ Organization, and U.S. Top 10 among the nation’s Fastest Growing Private Companies by Inc. Magazine for Gross Dollars in Growth (2010) and No. 6
Alumni

As an English teacher at Wooster High School teacher. After graduating in 1964, she was hired in English and social studies with the goal of becoming a secondary school teacher. After graduating in 1964, she was hired as an English teacher at Wooster High School. Jaculine taught for four years before becoming the first dean of students in Washoe County. Following a master's in counseling and guidance, Jaculine became the first woman in Washoe County to lead a secondary school. She was principal at Wooster and Sparks high schools, and she opened Galena High School before retiring in 1994. During her 30-year career, she was president or chair of many school and community boards. After she retired, Jaculine was appointed to the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners for eight years. She also conducted special education mediations for the state and supervised student teachers for the University of Nevada, Reno and Sierra Nevada College. Jaculine now volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room.

Engineering

Joyce Holtzclaw ’87 (mechanical engineering), ’90MBA

Joyce Holtzclaw started her education in Colorado while working as an engineering technician in Denver. She transferred to the University of Nevada, Reno, graduating with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering in 1987 and an MBA in 1990. She worked for a year at Sierra Pacific Resources before moving to Bakersfield, Calif., returning to the oil and gas industry. For more than 30 years, she has worked for large and small companies including Chevron, Vintage, Berry and Nations Petroleum. Joyce is currently the western division vice president of E&B Natural Resources.

Her experience at the different companies includes positions in drilling, production and reservoir engineering, operations, and management. Joyce is a distinguished member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, a past SPE board member and has been recipient of several international SPE awards. She is active in the community and is currently president of the Kern Adult Literacy Council. She and her husband, Mark, live in the Hart Flat Mountain area east of Bakersfield.

Liberal Arts

Lois M. Mikawa ’80M.Ed. (education), ’87 Ed.D. (counseling and guidance)

Lois Merritt Mikawa earned her master’s degree in counseling, an educational specialist certificate in school psychology, and in 1987, a doctorate in counseling and school psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno.

In 1987, Lois married Jim Mikawa, a clinical psychologist and University professor. Following his death in 1993, Lois established the Jim Mikawa Graduate Assistantship in Psychology to provide financial assistance to ethnic minority doctoral students in the University’s clinical psychology program.

Lois has been well recognized in the counseling field, including Nevada’s School Psychologist of the Year and the Paul McReynolds Psychological Services Award. She has taught and mentored both students and colleagues for more than 20 years.

Since retirement, Lois has engaged in volunteer work, including singing in many local groups and doing pet therapy with her standard poodles, Lilly and Soda. She has been involved with cancer patients at Renown for 12 years, and recently received President Barack Obama’s Volunteer Service Award for her work. Her most recent challenge is dealing with cancer herself. As part of her estate plan, Lois has established the James K. and Lois Merritt Mikawa Distinguished Professorship.

Revenue Growth for Billion Dollar Companies (2011).

SNC was recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in Northern Nevada in 2009, 2011 and 2012.

Division of Health Sciences

Mary Ann Lambert ’71, ’82M.S. (nursing)

Following graduation, Mary Ann Lambert worked at Washoe Medical Center and taught at Truckee Meadows Community College for five years. After stops at the University of Utah Hospital and the University of Minnesota Hospital as a neuro-clinical nurse specialist, she returned to Orvis School of Nursing and spent 18 years teaching nursing until she retired in June. She also worked part-time at Renown Regional Medical Center as a house supervisor. Mary Ann was on the founding committee of the Orvis School of Nursing Alumni Association and has contributed for the last 25 years to a scholarship for registered nurses to return to school to receive their nursing degrees while working full time.

At Orvis, Mary Ann and a colleague transformed the RN/BSN program to an all-online program, enabling more nurses to return to school. Mary Ann was appointed by governors Bob Miller and Kenny Guinn to the Nevada State Board of Nursing. Nevada’s nursing regulatory board for licensure. She served as vice president for four years. She also served seven years on the National Council for State Boards of Nursing Item Review Committee.

Education

Jaculine Chiatovich Jones ’64 (education), ’70M.Ed. (counseling and guidance)

At the University of Nevada, Reno, Jaculine Chiatovich Jones majored in English and social studies with the goal of becoming a secondary teacher. After graduating in 1964, she was hired as an English teacher at Wooster High School. Jaculine taught for four years before coming the first dean of students in Washoe County. Following a master’s in counseling and guidance, Jaculine became the first woman in Washoe County to lead a secondary school. She was principal at Wooster and Sparks high schools, and she opened Galena High School before retiring in 1994. During her 30-year career, she was president or chair of many school and community boards. After she retired, Jaculine was appointed to the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners for eight years. She also conducted special education mediations for the state and supervised student teachers for the University of Nevada, Reno and Sierra Nevada College. Jaculine now volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room.

Liberal Arts

Lois M. Mikawa ’80M.Ed. (education), ’87 Ed.D. (counseling and guidance)
Ryan Dotson’s early interests ranged from chemistry to electronics and finally computer programming. He spent many hours after school tinkering with various projects such as a home-built Tesla coil (which never worked) and a home-built laser (which did). While in high school, Ryan discovered a passion and a talent for computer programming, and at the age of 17, he started his own software development company to serve small businesses in Reno.

He studied applied mathematics at the University, graduating with his master’s in 2005. During this time, Ryan co-founded Fireball Information Technologies, a small company dedicated to providing real-time fire mapping services to the US Forest Service. Most recently, Fireball has been involved in data processing and engineering services for several NASA programs.

School of Medicine

Paul B. Roth ’74  
A.A.M.D. (medicine)

Paul Roth arrived in Reno in 1972 as a member of the University of Nevada School of Medicine’s second class. At the time, the University offered a two-year program, at the end of which the students transferred to four-year medical schools.

Paul grew up on the East Coast and attended college in New Jersey. After attending the University, he transferred to the George Washington University School of Medicine. He now lives in New Mexico and works at the UNM Health Sciences Center at the University of New Mexico.

Science

Gary R. Clemons ’81  
(earth science)

Gary Clemons is a general partner and one of only seven portfolio managers and analysts at Mercator Asset Management, L.P. Gary is responsible for Hong Kong, Russia and Eastern Europe.

Prior to joining Mercator in 2003, he served as deputy director of research and executive vice president at Templeton Investment Counsel. From 1990 to 1993 he served as a research analyst and portfolio manager at Templeton Quantitative Advisors. Gary holds an MBA from the University of Wisconsin and a bachelors degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. In addition, he served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps from 1981 to 1985. He is a member of the CFA Society of South Florida.

Gary is married to Susan Magee Clemons, a Reno native with several family ties to the University. Gary and Susan recently created two endowed professorships at Nevada with the vision of recognizing professors who spark students’ curiosity and creativity, demonstrate a love of learning and a passion for sharing their knowledge with students, and who motivate students to pursue careers in the fields of chemistry and physics.

The Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism and Center for Advanced Media Studies

Karole R. Morgan-Prager ’84 (journalism)

Karole Morgan-Prager is the vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary of the McClatchy Company.

In May 2012, Karole was given responsibility for McClatchy’s corporate development efforts as well as oversight of the company’s internal audit department and real estate assets.

Karole sits on the board of directors of CareerBuilder, Classified Ventures (which operates cars.com and apartments.com) and The Seattle Times Company. She is also a member of the national advisory council of the National Center for Courts and Media and a member of the board of directors of the Media Law Resource Center.

Prior to joining McClatchy in 1995, she was associate general counsel at The Times Mirror Company, publisher of the Los Angeles Times, from 1993 to 1995. While at Times Mirror, she represented the company on a variety of corporate transactions and advised The Times on its advertising policies. From 1987 to 1993 she was an associate at the Morrison & Foerster law firm in Los Angeles. Karole attended law school at UCLA, graduating in 1987. She attended the University of Nevada, Reno and received her bachelor’s, with high honor, in journalism and political science in 1984.