Dorothy Lemelson supports second master’s STEM cohort for area teachers

A few hours following commencement in May, longtime friend of the University Dorothy Lemelson sent an email congratulating the 24 members of the first Lemelson Elementary STEM Master’s Cohort program.

"A dream has been made reality, and each of you has fulfilled the dream," Lemelson writes. "You have worked very earnestly and many long hours. You merit praise and admiration. I wish each of you success and happiness today and always."

Through Lemelson’s continued generosity, the College of Education is again offering the opportunity for 24 K-8 teachers in the Washoe County and Lyon County School districts to complete a master’s degree in elementary education with an emphasis in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, known as STEM. Her gift will cover the cost of tuition for the duration of the two-year program.

"The Lemelson STEM program gives teachers the opportunity to take 21st century skills to the classroom, which results in not only teachers, but many, many students being introduced to the skills they will need when they enter a workforce with a high demand for STEM skills," says Becki Schwindt ’14M.S. (elementary education), cohort graduate and sixth grade teacher at Silver Stage Elementary School.

Through the Lemelson Education and Assistance Program, LEAP, Lemelson has supported 11 additional master’s cohorts in literacy, math and science at the College of Education. Through LEAP, 220 area teachers have earned their advanced degrees at Nevada since 2000.

"I wanted to provide teachers with the opportunity to think and instruct in new ways first through literacy, and now STEM," Lemelson says. "As a result, 220 local teachers continue to positively influence the lives of thousands of children. It is definitely a win-win, and I am proud to be associated with these outstanding educators."

To learn more about supporting the College of Education, please contact Veronica Haskins, director of development, (775) 784-6914 or vhaskins@unr.edu.
Newmont Mining continues strong support of Nevada

Newmont Mining Corporation continued its long-term support of the University of Nevada, Reno through a $250,000 gift to support scholarships, programs and funds at the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering and the College of Science.

Newmont’s gift provides support for the Newmont Mining Corporation-John S. Livermore Scholarship, the College of Science No-Boundaries Fund, the Newmont Minerals Engineering Research Fund, the Rock Mechanics/Fluid Flow Laboratory Fund, the geology and geography departments, the Arentz Student Center, the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering, the Girls Math and Technology Camp, the Mackay School of Mines Annual Banquet and the Elko County 4-H.

“Newmont recognizes that the Mackay School of Mines has a long and illustrious history as an institution that provides top quality training for mining professionals,” says Mark Evatz ’88 (mining engineering), ’99MBA, Newmont’s Twin Creeks Mine general manager.

Founded in 1921 and publicly traded on the NYSE since 1925, Newmont Mining Corporation is one of the world’s leading gold companies.

College of Science Dean Jeff Thompson says the college is fortunate to have Newmont’s ongoing support. “Newmont’s staunch support has positioned Mackay’s mining related programs to grow and develop, which in turn helps support the needs, both human resource and research, of the mining industry.”

To learn more about supporting the College of Science and the Mackay School, please contact Char Hagemann, director of development, (775) 682-8791 or chagemann@unr.edu.

Larues establish endowment for mathematics and statistics

University of Nevada, Reno alumnus John Larue ’65 (mathematics) and his wife, Ann, have established the Ann and John Larue Mathematics Scholarship Endowment to promote the study of mathematics and statistics at the University. The Maryland couple is also including a bequest gift in their trust to establish an endowed chair in the Mathematics and Statistics Department.

After graduating from the University, John was offered a job with IBM in Bethesda, Md. He spent 30 years at IBM, until his division was acquired by Lockheed Martin. John continued working for Lockheed Martin for 10 years before retiring.

“Degrees in mathematics can form the foundation for many different career paths,” John says. “We are grateful to be in a position to support the department and its students.”

John and Ann met working at IBM. She was hired as a computer programmer and eventually moved into management. The couple is now retired and enjoys traveling in both the United States and Western Europe.

The endowment will award an annual scholarship to a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. The first scholarship will be awarded in the 2015-16 school year. The bequest gift will create the Ann and John Larue Chair in Mathematics and Statistics Endowment to provide needed funding for a faculty position within the department.

To learn more about planned giving opportunities, please contact Lisa M. Riley, Esq., director of the Office of Planned Giving, (775) 682-6017 or lriley@unr.edu.