More deserving students will have the chance to pursue an education at the University of Nevada, Reno thanks to the generosity of the late V. Rose Lawrence ’61 M.S. (physical education). A gift from Rose’s estate has created the V. Rose Lawrence Scholarship Endowment, which will benefit students studying English, education and physical education. Earnings from the endowment could cover tuition and fees for four undergraduate students per year.

Scholarship support is vital to the University’s diverse and talented student body, with about seven in 10 Nevada students receiving some form of financial aid. While many receive federal or state assistance, more than 3,000 donor-funded scholarships were awarded last year. With the average cost of attendance nearing the $24,000 mark, even after receiving financial aid, 50 percent of Nevada students have an average remaining need of $5,000. This means that donor-funded scholarships often make the difference between a student being able to join the Wolf Pack, or not. By choosing to remember the University in their estate plans, alumni like Rose can create real opportunities for future students while ensuring their own financial stability during their lifetimes.

Rose was a lifelong lover of learning, traveling, reading and being outside, and she devoted her career to passing those passions on to others. She held teaching positions in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alaska and Nevada, where she taught biology and physical education at Northside Junior High School while studying for her master’s degree at the University. Eventually, Rose retired to Mesa, Ariz., where she continued to travel and enjoyed an active lifestyle until her passing in 2014. With her legacy gift to Nevada, Rose continued her lifelong dream of helping others to pursue their education.

“Students continue to need the support of generations that have come before them in order to make a successful start in their careers and lives,” said John Carothers, vice president of development and alumni relations. “Rose had an excellent experience at Nevada and went on to use her skills to teach others throughout her life. Now, the legacy she has left will continue to support students in perpetuity. We are grateful for her foresight and her generosity.”