Message from the President

My husband and I love to travel—taking journeys to visit family, friends and famous places. In addition to our summer vacation, there is another journey I think of this time of year: Commencement. Funny how we call the end of a journey Commencement, but as alumni we know that this marks the beginning of a time when we use all of the knowledge and experience gained at the University to start down our career path. Commencement is also the time when we welcome hundreds into the ranks of University of Nevada, Reno alumni, a group more than 80,000 strong.

Another journey I think of at this time is the one about to begin for hundreds of young people as they make the decision on where to continue their education. Many factors influence this important decision. Think back to what influenced you to choose the University of Nevada, Reno. Was it when you first got a glimpse of the Quad or Manzanita Lake while on a campus tour? Maybe you came to a Wolf Pack game or other campus event as a young person. Or maybe you made the decision when you attended a recruitment event in your home city. The Alumni Council works with other departments to host recruitment events where we meet with prospective students and their families to tell them about our beautiful campus and of our excellent academic programs. We want others to begin the journey that some of us made many years ago because we know that this experience will change their lives forever. The Alumni Council is honored to be there during the recruitment phase and again to welcome graduates as alumni at Commencement.

On a personal note, I have worked at the University of Nevada, Reno for many years, both in administration and now as teaching faculty. It is at Commencement that I see the culmination of all the effort invested by students, as well as faculty and staff, to achieve this goal of graduation. There’s nothing more personally rewarding than being part of this celebration.

Wherever your journeys take you this summer, remember to wear your silver and blue, letting the world know that you’re proud to be a member of the Wolf Pack family. If you have a chance to return to campus, let me know and I’ll give you a tour. Things may have changed a bit since you were a student!

Sincerely,

Rita (Mann) Laden ‘96Ed.D.
President
‘50s
Alfred W. Hansen ’52 (agriculture), ’63 M.Ed. (school administration) is self-employed, helping others with greater needs. He recently attended his family reunion in Hiko, Nev., with 135 other family members. Alfred has 26 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

‘60s
Barbara R. (Marcus) Dahlke ’61 (journalism) has retired from her position as vice president of Corky Hale Productions in Los Angeles. She was the former press secretary to Nevada Sen. Howard W. Cannon (1967-77) and aide to former California Gov. Pat Brown (1986-96). Barbara also worked extensively as a publicist in the entertainment industry. She handled the publicity for the infamous The Mystery of Al Capone’s Vault, hosted by Geraldo Rivera in 1986. Barbara lives in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Ruth Freedman ’61 (nursing) began playing the harp while attending the University of Nevada, Reno. While working as a nurse, Ruth discovered the soothing effects of her harp when she played for the patients. Now retired, Ruth visits the Straub Clinic and Hospital in Oahu once a month to play her harp on every floor from the emergency room to the ICU to the cafeteria.

Mills B. Lane ’63 (business administration) has been selected for induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame. Mills, 75, is part of the 2013 class that includes boxers Arturo Gatti, Virgil Hill and Myung-Woo Yuh, ring announcer Jimmy Lennon, Jr. and journalist Colin Hart. Mills is a former Washoe County District Attorney and judge. He worked more than 100 world championship fights before retiring in 1998.

Gordon L. Nelson ’65 (chemistry) is a chemistry professor at Florida Institute of Technology. He was recently named president of the Council of Scientific Society Presidents. Gordon previously served as vice president of academic affairs and for over two decades was dean of the College of Science at Florida Tech. He was also the 1992 chair of the Council of Scientific Society Presidents and was president of the American Chemical Society in 1988. Gordon is an international expert in polymers, especially in polymer flammability.

Barbara F. (Waidell) Blackwell ’68 (office administration) was recently named the 2012 Realtor of the Year for the Santa Fe Association of Realtors in New Mexico. Barbara is the 2013 first vice president for the association. She is in her 10th year as a realtor, following a 33-year career with IBM.

‘80s
Alan L. Mentzer ’80 (political science, education), ’92MPA has retired as professor emeritus from Truckee Meadows Community College after teaching criminal justice for 20 years. Prior to his academic career, he served in Nevada law enforcement. He and his wife, Tracy, are retiring to Carcassonne, in the Languedoc-Roussillon region of France.

Judy L. Taylor ’80 (political science), ’95M.A. (history) recently published Kill Cinderella, the fourth novel in her Cindy Nesbit Mystery Series.

During 2012, Leonard B. Weinberg, emeritus faculty of political science, participated in a conference on war termination at the Marine Corps University in Quantico, Va., and was a keynote speaker at a conference on right-wing extremism held at the University of Northampton in Great Britain. Leonard’s new book, Democracy and Terrorism: Friend or Foe?, was published in January. Leonard also co-edited a special issue on elections, violence and party politics for the January issue of Terrorism and Political Violence with Susanne Martin, assistant professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Reno and Mary-Beth Altier of Princeton University.
Beth L. (Gillmann) Cooney ’84 (journalism) has been promoted to executive vice president of marketing for John Ascuaga’s Nugget Casino Resort. Beth joined the Nugget in 2000 as the executive director of marketing. She is responsible for the company’s marketing, advertising, public relations, entertainment, social media and special events. Beth is an active member of the community and has served on several area boards. She is currently the marketing chair on both the Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority and the Nevada Women’s Fund.

Donald A. Bernard ’85 (speech communications) is the senior vice president of investments with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc., in Reno. He qualified for the firm’s 2013 Chairman’s Council. Don manages $260 million in assets and produces more than $1.25 million, which ranks him in the top 1 percent of the firm’s 2,000-plus financial advisors. He has been in the investment business for more than 25 years.

Edwin M. Pereyra ’85 (accounting) has been elected to the board of directors of the Reno Aquatic Club, a nonprofit organization that provides training and teaches leadership and accountability life skills to develop national-caliber swimming athletes. As principal of his own CPA firm, Edwin brings more than 25 years of financial and accounting experience to the RAC Board.

Brett R. Pauly ’87 (art) recently accepted a new position at ESPN, where he has worked since 2001. As a member of the local support unit within ESPN’s West Coast Bureau, he now edits and produces index page content for the
ESPN.com city sites of Los Angeles, Dallas and Chicago.

Thomas R. Skancke '87 (finance) is the new president/CEO of the Las Vegas Regional Economic Development Council, formerly the Nevada Development Authority.

Jacqueline (Ruiz) Shelton '87 (journalism) has formed Jax Marketing & Communications, providing marketing, special events management and custom publishing services by working with a cadre of talented and successful independent professionals (many of whom are also University of Nevada, Reno graduates). Jackie is also an occasional adjunct professor in the Reynolds School of Journalism, where she teaches magazine writing.

'90s

Jason R. Buma '91 (political science) has joined Miller Heiman as a sales vice president for enterprise accounts. Jason has more than 20 years of experience in sales leadership. Most recently, he was a regional director for H&R Block, responsible for all operations in Southern California and Nevada. Prior to that role, he was president and chief operating officer for Corporate Visions, a global marketing and sales messaging company.

James N. Huckaby '91 (physical sciences) was named the Elementary Administrator of the Year by the Nevada Association of School Boards in November 2012. James has been the principal at Cottonwood Elementary School in Fernley, Nev., for the past three years. James strives to create community support for the school, and the Fallon Naval Air Station has adopted the Cottonwood Elementary as a partner.

Jacqueline L. (Terry) Turner '91M.A. (counseling and educational psychology) has used her degree to work as a marriage and family therapist, school counselor and campus minister with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Recently, Jacci published The Birthright Series: The Cage, The Bar and The Lamb, a young adult fiction series.

Lesley E. Cohen '93 (political science) was appointed to serve in the Nevada State Assembly representing Assembly District 29.

Cynthia M. (Smitten) Davis '93 (management) has opened Strategic HR Partners, a boutique consulting firm in downtown Reno. Cindy
Alison M. (McKnight) Noon ‘95 (health education) and her husband, Brent Noon, proudly announce the birth of their baby girl, Sydney, born Sept. 9, 2012. Sydney joins her two year old sister, Ellie. The family resides in Carlsbad, Calif.

Amy D. (Jentarra) Waters ‘01 (English) and Chad J. Waters ‘99 (marketing), ‘05MBA proudly introduce their second child, Nolan Jentarra Waters, born June 1, 2011. Nolan joins his older brother Evan.

Cheryl L. (Foster) Roth ‘00 (biology) and Eric Roth would like to announce the birth of their son, Owen Wesley Roth, on Sept. 8, 2012. Owen joins big brother, Aidan (6), and big sister, Emily (4).

Jeannette N. (Goree) Smith ‘04 (journalism), ‘07M.A. (educational leadership) and Matthew J. Smith ‘12Ph.D. (educational leadership) welcome Savannah Joy Smith to their family. Born Oct. 5, 2012, Savvy came in at 19 inches and 6 pounds, 3 ounces. She joins a very excited big sister, Cassidy Grace.

Risha L. (Abele) Simpson ‘05 (history) and Timothy A. Simpson ‘10 (civil engineering) would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Lilybelle Lee Simpson, on Sept. 12, 2012.

Sierra A. (Anderegg) Brewer ‘07 (civil engineering) and husband, Monte L. Brewer ‘08 (mechanical engineering) are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Brooke Haven Brewer, on Dec. 4, 2012.

Misty D. (McKitrick) Wells ‘07 (elementary education) and Shay L. Wells ‘07 (criminal justice), would like to announce the birth of their second son, Parker Ray Wells. Parker was born Oct. 24, 2012.
and works at the Northern Nevada Medical Center Campus.

**Thomas W. Lowder ’97** (physical education) was recently awarded a Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas grant to study T-cell trafficking in a transgenic mouse model of lung cancer. This work is being performed at the University of Houston where Thomas is an assistant professor. He is also a finalist for the University of Houston’s Teaching Excellence Award. Thomas married Tiffany Whitney on March 9.

‘00s

**John R. Zimmerman ’00** (agricultural and applied economics), ’02M.S. (resource and applied economics) has been named a shareholder (applied economics) has been named a shareholder of Parsons Behle & Latimer. John is a member of the environmental, energy and natural resources department in the firm’s Reno office and concentrates his practice on water and mining law.

**Dinah M. (Sullberg) Cisco’02** (electrical engineering) is a principal engineer in transmission and generation operations at the Salt River Project in Phoenix. Dinah has one child, Adriana.

**Elliot E. Sparkman ’04** (general studies) has been promoted to on-premise key account manager with Silver Eagle Distributors in Houston, Texas. In this role, Elliot manages key regional and national accounts. He credits his service industry experience gained while attending the University of Nevada, Reno for his distributor level success. Elliot serves as the president of the Cheer, Stunt, Dance and Mascot Alumni Chapter.

**Melissa A. (Carlisle) Tschanz ’04** (accounting) is the controller of the Community Foundation of Western Nevada. Melissa has eight years of experience auditing and accounting for nonprofits in the Reno-Tahoe area.

**Kelly M. Glenn ’06** (management) will serve as chair of The Chamber’s 2013 Leadership Reno Sparks Class. Kelly is the vice president of account management at The Glenn Group. As a 2009 graduate of Leadership Reno Sparks, Kelly will oversee the Leadership Reno Sparks Class of 2013, acting as the liaison for the committee and The Chamber’s board of director’s executive committee.

**Marcus T. Liem ’06** (speech communications) has joined the New York City Department of Education as a deputy press secretary. As one of the largest public school systems in the country,

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**Kickin’ it with K-von | You wear what you eat**

My proposal: We take from the “I Voted” people and create a year-round movement. Each day when you make a healthy choice and eat a piece of produce, slap that sticker on your lapel and keep it moving.

At first people will undoubtedly look at you funny. Strangers may even offer some help. “Um, sir, I believe you have something stuck to you right there.” This is your chance to make a new friend and enlighten them. “Why, yes I do, thank you for noticing! Each time I eat something healthy I keep the sticker. The more stickers, the better I know I’ve done for the day.”

It’s the adult equivalent to the Boy Scouts. Comparing these mini-merit badges will give you something to do around the water cooler rather than share distasteful jokes. “Bob, this one here is for a banana, and the one below that is for a nectarine... I’m still working on getting a cucumber and a watermelon.”

If enough people do this it will be a visual reminder to the rest of the world to eat healthy daily. The herd mentality of humans and fear of being left behind dictates that others will have to get on board to be part of the “in-crowd.” Undoubtedly, some will take it too far and create their own lingo, saying things like “Come meet up, but wear something different. I’m over here rockin’ a kiwi.” We shall refer to them as “Fruitsters” (which is way more beneficial to society than a “Hipster” ever will be).

And obviously not everyone will want to take part. There are those that stubbornly eat junk food with pride. After all, it is their choice. For them, I suggest they wear the fast-food wrapper. For example, if you went to KFC and got the 20-piece fried chicken bucket, put it on your head for the day. Cut holes in the eyes and wear it like a dunce cap. After dinner, put that Happy Meal box on top of that, stack it up nice and high. Congratulations, you’re a “Burger King.”

K-von ’03 (marketing) is a Nevada alum and comedian. He writes, hosts and performs comedy across the nation. Check out his YouTube channel that now has close to 1.5 million views. YouTube.com/KvonComedy.
Marcus will serve as one of the agency’s spokes-
persons on various department matters.

Melissa J. Molyneaux ’06 (marketing) has been promoted to vice president in the office properties division in the Reno office of Colliers International. Melissa has been with the Colliers International Office Properties Group since December 2005 and specializes in office leasing and sales. She holds the prestigious Certified Commercial Investment Member designation. Melissa was named a University of Nevada, Reno’s Outstanding Young Alumnae in 2009.

Amy E. Rebideaux ’06 (criminal justice) received her juris doctor cum laude in 2011 and now has received her master of laws in Taxation from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She is currently employed by Courtland Consulting where she is contracted into the Michigan Office of Child Support as an enforcement policy analyst.

Scott H. Carey ’07 (geography) was awarded a 2012 Twenty Under 40 Award by the Reno-Tahoe Young Professionals Network. This award is part of an annual program to recognize the young and accomplished leaders under the age of 40 in the Reno-Sparks area. Scott has served as the tribal planner for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe since 2009.

Elisabeth E. Delk ’07 (English) has been working in the legal field since graduation and has recently been accepted to law school for the fall 2013 semester.

Richard R. Delk ’07 (computer science) is a flight officer in the Navy’s new EA18-G (“Growler”) electronic warfare-oriented aircraft, and is presently deployed to Japan after returning from the Gulf last year. He is married to Emily C. Rodil-Delk ’08 (human development & family studies).

Lisa Papa ’09 (nursing) recently became certified as a wound ostomy nurse by the Wound Ostomy and Continence Society. Lisa has provided care at the Northern Nevada Medical Center Wound Care Center for two years.

Mark. G. Wieland ‘09 (accounting), ’10 M.A.C.C. (accounting) has joined Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. as a staff accountant in the firm’s Reno office. Mark is responsible for work on audits of governmental and gaming clients and tax preparation.
Jason S. Entsminger ’10 (agricultural & applied economics, international affairs, French) has been awarded a master of science in food and resource economics from the University of Florida and the international master of science in rural development from Universiteit Gent in Belgium. Jason was the recipient of a FIPSE grant from the U.S. Department of Education under the Atlantis Accord. During his time as an Atlantian, he studied and completed field research in Florida, Italy, France and Berlin. He looks forward to completing volunteer work internationally and beginning a career in rural development.

Jack A. Carrico ’12 (accounting) is a staff accountant in the Reno office of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co., a certified public accounting firm. In this position, Jack performs financial statement and compliance audits in addition to preparing individual income tax returns. Prior to this position, he worked as a volunteer preparing tax returns for low-income families and he worked for Family Visa and Immigration Services, LLC, utilizing his skills in both English and Spanish. While at the University of Nevada, Reno, Jack was on the Dean’s List.

Jaycea M. Jacobsen ’12 (accounting) has been hired by the certified public accounting firm of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. as a staff accountant in the Reno office. In her new role, Jaycea will perform financial statement and compliance audits as well as preparing individual income tax returns. Prior to joining Kafoury, Armstrong & Co., Jaycea worked for Heritage Bank of Nevada.

Courtney R. Jaeger ’12 (accounting) is a staff accountant in the Reno office of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co., a certified public accounting firm. Courtney’s responsibilities include performing financial statement and compliance audits as well as preparing individual income tax returns. While at the University of Nevada, Reno, Courtney was on the Dean’s List.

Submissions are due May 21, 2013 and can be sent to: chatter@unr.edu. We edit all submissions for style, clarity and length.

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