For the past 140 years, the University’s faculty has been the architects of the Nevada experience. They are not only engaged and accomplished educators, they are mentors who inspire and lead our students as they turn their dreams into reality. To honor and acknowledge Nevada’s top faculty, the Board of Regents, the University and local and national organizations present prestigious honors each year. This year’s slate of award winners share a commitment to the academic excellence that is the hallmark of a University of Nevada, Reno education.

Cheryll Glotfelty
Regents’ Academic Advisor Award, Graduate

Cheryll Glotfelty joined the University’s English department in 1990 and has won University, state and national teaching awards. Her research focuses on the role that literature can play in helping people value and take care of the places where they live. She edited Literary Nevada: Writings from the Silver State (2008) and co-edited the forthcoming book, The Biosphere and the Bioregion. Glotfelty has served on the advisory committees of more than 60 graduate students. She is director of graduate studies in English, overseeing a graduate program of approximately seventy master’s and doctorate students, one of the largest graduate programs at Nevada.

Kam Leang
Regents’ Rising Researcher Award

Kam Leang is an associate professor in mechanical engineering whose research in nanotechnology attracted the attention of the National Science Foundation and NBC News. His work in designing a better-performing snow ski by using nanotechnology to reduce the vibration was featured in an NBC/NSF collaboration “Science and Engineering of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games.” His focus on nanotechnology expands into developing systems that help unmanned autonomous systems, or UAS. He is also active in community outreach and received a $1.2 million National Science Foundation award in 2011 to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics awareness in K-12 schools.

David Leitner
Outstanding Researcher of the Year

David Leitner, professor of chemistry and director of the chemical physics program, has written widely on energy flow in proteins, protein-water dynamics and spectroscopy, and chemical reaction rate theory since arriving at Nevada in 2000. He has been board member and is a regular workshop organizer at the Telluride Science Research Center in Telluride, Colo. Leitner is currently a fellow of the international faculty of the Solvation Science Cluster of Excellence at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum in Bochum, Germany, and an external senior fellow at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies in Freiburg, Germany. Leitner was the winner of the Mousel-Feltner Award for Excellence in Research and/or Creative Activity in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Science in 2004, and received the Hyung K. Shin Outstanding Research Award from the College of Science in 2011. Leitner was elected fellow of the American Physical Society in 2012.
Lee Dyer  
Foundation Professor  
Department of Biology professor Lee Dyer joined the University faculty in 2008 and studies the interactions between plants, herbivores, and their predators and has developed new concepts in conservation, evolutionary biology and chemical ecology. His research has resulted in 43 papers in top-flight journals since 2009, and he has given 17 invited talks in the last six years at universities and international meetings. Dyer has supported his research activities with significant funding from multiple federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Defense. Dyer also conducts annual citizen science events, funded by Earthwatch Institute.

David Sanders  
Foundation Professor  
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering David Sanders joined the University in 1990. His research focuses on reducing the damage and impact caused by earthquakes on bridges through the use of complex computer analysis and large-scale experiments. Sanders has been selected by students six times as a College of Engineering Senior Scholar Mentor. He has been a principal or co-principal investigator on more than $12 million of research projects. Sanders is the faculty adviser for the American Society of Civil Engineering Student Chapter and the champion Nevada Concrete Canoe Team (see story on page 28).

James Sedinger  
Foundation Professor  
James Sedinger, professor in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, joined the University in 2001. He was named Researcher of the Year in 2012 by the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources and has produced 108 peer-reviewed publications since 1984. He plays a central role in understanding the habitat, population biology and ecology of the greater sage-grouse, whose listing as an endangered species is an important issue for the state of Nevada. He also maintains a long-term project focused on the black brant sea goose in Alaska, funded by the National Science Foundation.

Marsha Read ‘68, ’69M.S.  
Distinguished Faculty  
Throughout her 45-year career at the University, Marsha Read ’68 (home economics), ’69M.S. (home economics) has been one of the University’s true pillars. Appointed dean of the Graduate School in 2008, Read identifies strategic issues affecting graduate education at the University and has oversight of graduate student progress and the rules and regulations governing education at Nevada. From 2008-13, Read served as the interim vice president for research. From 2005-08, she served as associate vice president for research and associate dean of the Graduate School. Read was chair of the Department of Nutrition from 1996-2000. As an academic faculty member, she has played an integral role in shared governance at the University, chairing her home department as well as the Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council.

Marsha Dupree ’94M.A.  
Distinguished Service  
Marsha Dupree ’94M.A. (counseling and educational psychology) is a student services professional and has held a number of influential positions at the University and in the local community during her tenure. She serves as assistant director of the University’s McNair Scholars Program, created by Congress to increase the number of first-generation students with financial needs and groups that are traditionally underrepresented in graduate school and encourage them to pursue teaching, research and administrative careers in higher education.

Brad Schultz, ’87M.S.  
University’s Global Engagement Award  
Brad Schultz ’87M.S., Cooperative Extension’s Humboldt County Extension educator, has expanded his natural resources Extention work from Nevada to Morocco. In 2005, Schultz helped Extension natural resources specialist Kent McAdoo develop the Nevada
Range Management School, a science-based grazing management program focused on both livestock producers and natural resource specialists with land-management agencies. The U.S. Forest Service International Program exposed Morocco’s High Commission for Forests, Water and Desertification to the Nevada Range Management School, and in 2011, both organizations invited Schultz and Forest Service collaborators to Morocco to develop a Moroccan Range School. Since 2011, Schultz has educated several dozen agency specialists and livestock owners in Rabat and Azrou, Morocco, about plant physiology, vegetation management and other issues that influence rangeland livestock production. The Moroccan students trained by Schultz and his collaborators have used their knowledge to help local sheep herders change grazing management in Morocco’s Middle Atlas Mountains and implement the region’s first managed grazing system.

**Candice Bauer**

*F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award*

Candice Bauer, lecturer and director of assessment and students affairs for the College of Engineering, teaches engineering communications and manufacturing processes. She has taught courses in statics, aerodynamics, mechanical design and capstone design. Bauer utilizes service-learning methods to develop K-12 STEM outreach relationships. Bauer’s innovative teaching techniques have led to the publication of several papers, international recognition and implementation of her courses at other universities. Of her award, Bauer acknowledges all of her students and thanks them for allowing her to share a few moments of their lives with her.

**Dana Edberg ’80, ’89MBA**

*D. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award*

Dana Edberg ’80 (accounting), ’89MBA is an associate professor of information systems. She joined the University as a lecturer and computer lab manager in 1983, intending to finish a graduate degree and rejoin the business world. After discovering how much she enjoyed academic life, she took a break from the University in 1994, completed her doctorate at Claremont Graduate University and returned to Nevada as a tenure-track faculty member. Since that time, she has served as department chair of the accounting/information systems department and interim dean of the College of Business. Over the last 30 years, she has taught many different courses in information systems, but really enjoys helping students learn technical concepts and skills. She has won numerous teaching awards in the College of Business. She recently completed an interdisciplinary grant project to evaluate the implementation of the health information exchange within Nevada.

**Larry Engstrom**

*Distinguished Outreach Faculty Award*

Larry Engstrom, professor of music and director of the School of the Arts, came to the University in 1987 after completing his doctoral studies at the University of North Texas. His musical credits include service as principal trumpet of the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra (1988-2001), trumpet with the Great Basin Brass (1991-2013), lead trumpet with Harrah’s John Carlton Orchestra (1988-2000), jazz trumpet with the Collective (five CD recordings: *Once and Again*, *Balance*, *Boats*, *North*, and *Contemplation*), and numerous guest performances at regional orchestras.
Robin Freestone

Distinguished Classified Employee Award

Robin Freestone has worked in the University's Office of Human Resources and Business Center North since 1983, progressing to her current position as manager of classification and job development, where she determines the relative value of thousands of positions at the University, Truckee Meadows Community College, Western Nevada College, Great Basin College and the state's college system administration. She was also a fitness instructor at the University for more than 20 years, and now teaches yoga and wellness in the community. She also volunteers at the Washoe County Detention Center, providing yoga instruction to female inmates.

Janet Usinger

Faculty Senate Award for Outstanding Service

Janet Usinger has had three distinct careers since joining the University's faculty in 1981. Her first career was nutrition specialist for Co- operative Extension. After a second career as an administrator, she returned to an academic faculty position in the College of Education in 2000. In both academic and administrative roles, her work has centered on understanding and building bridges between the University and community through outreach and engagement. Although Janet has served on numerous committees at the national, state, university and college levels, she is most proud of chairing the Social Behavioral Institutional Review Board since 2003.

Anna Panorska

Faculty Senate Award for Outstanding Service

Originally from Warsaw, Poland, Anna Panorska is a professor and graduate program director in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the College of Science. Panorska joined the University in 2002. She has a master's in statistics from the University of Texas and Ph.D. in mathematics from UC Santa Barbara. Her research is in stochastic models for climate, hydrology and biology, with particular interest in the extreme events. Panorska published more than 50 research papers and gave numerous invited talks all over the world. Over the past few years, she has been an undergraduate advisor and taught numerous undergraduate and graduate courses in statistics and mathematics to students from several colleges. For last two years, she was College of Science representative to the Faculty Senate, and chaired the Academic Standards Committee from 2013-14.

David Ryfe

Faculty Senate Award for Outstanding Service

David Ryfe earned his Ph.D. in communication from UC San Diego in 1997. Since then, he has published two books and nearly 50 articles and book chapters on American political communication, the practice of deliberation and the sociology and history of news. His last book, *Can Journalism Survive?* was one of three finalists for the Tankard Best Book Award of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Since joining the faculty at the University in 2006, Ryfe has served as a faculty senator, chair-elect of the Faculty Senate and chair of the senate. In 2012, he helped to form, and co-chaired, the Commission on the Future of the University, a group whose recommendations are now mentioned in the University’s strategic plan.

Kathleen Leonard

Undergraduate Academic Advisor Award

Kathleen Leonard ’87 (psychology, Spanish), ’90 M.A. (Spanish) is a Spanish lecturer in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature. She teaches first through third-year language and culture courses, and has served as the coordinator of the Basic Spanish Language Program, which serves more than 1,100 students from beginning through intermediate Spanish. She participated in two University Studies Abroad Consortium programs in San Sebastián, Spain, and Santiago, Chile. As an undergraduate academic advisor, she helps students with course schedules related to their major and minor in Spanish and serves as an important resource for University students who study abroad. In May, Kathleen was inducted as an honorary member of the University’s chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, which recognizes individuals who are especially supportive of Hispanic language and culture.

—Roseann Keegan

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—Roseann Keegan
Faculty Awards and Accomplishments

In addition to the faculty featured elsewhere in this issue, outstanding faculty across campus and the state have distinguished themselves with notable accomplishments.

Caesar Andrews, Reynolds School of Journalism: Nevada Semenza Christian Teaching Award

Christine Aramburu Alegria, Orvis School of Nursing: Named to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s Leadership for Academic Nursing Program.

Dawn Arnold, College of Engineering: Faculty and Staff Career Enhancement Plan.

Tim Baker ’04 M.D., School of Medicine: Selected for the 2014 Association of American Medical Colleges’ Leadership Education and Development fellowship program.

Kari Barber, Reynolds School of Journalism: Best of Competition, short form, Baking Alaska, 2014 BEA Festival of Media Arts.

Diane Barone, College of Education: Inducted into the Reading Hall of Fame, an international literary research community.

Zoe Bray, Center for Basque Studies: Lady Davis Visiting Professors Award, Hebrew University.

Melissa Burnham, College of Education: College of Education Outstanding Community Outreach Award.

Sally Casas, College of Engineering: Faculty and Staff Career Enhancement Plan.

Indira Chatterjee, College of Engineering: John Howard Memorial University Grant.

Sergiu Dascalu, College of Engineering: Faculty and Staff Career Enhancement Plan.


Stephanie DeBoor, Orvis School of Nursing: Named to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s Leadership for Academic Nursing Program.

Andrei Derevianko, College of Science: Simons Foundation Fellowship for Theoretical Physics.

Cahit Evrensel, College of Engineering: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship.

Jim Faulds, College of Science: Fellow of the Geological Society of America.

Todd Felts, Reynolds School of Journalism: Distinguished Faculty Award, University Honors Program.

Margaret Ferrara, College of Education: Outstanding Faculty Mentor, National Society for Leadership and Success; College of Education Excellence in Education Service Award.

John Fildes, School of Medicine: 2014 Preston A. Wade Visiting Professor at Weill Cornell Medical College’s Department of Surgery.
Eelke Folmer, College of Engineering: Google Researcher Award.

Ronald Gibson, College of Engineering: Named SAMPE Fellow; College Faculty and Staff Career Enhancement Plan.

Howard Goldbaum, Reynolds School of Journalism: Award of Excellence, Voices from the Dawn, 2014 BEA Festival of Media Arts.

Stacia Gordon, Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering: 2014 Young Scientist Award from the European Geosciences Union.

Donald Hardy, College of Liberal Arts: Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award.

Tom Hunt, M.D., School of Medicine: Selected for the 2014 Association of American Medical Colleges’ Leadership Education and Development fellowship program.


Derek Kauneckis, College of Liberal Arts: Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award, runner-up.

David Leitner, College of Science: Paper selected by The Journal of Chemical Physics for a collection of 80 articles published by the journal over its 80 year history.

Leping Liu, College of Education: Excellent Services and Enduring Commitment Award, Society of International Chinese in Educational Technology.

Elissa Palmer, School of Medicine: 2014 Woman to Watch by Vegas, Inc.

Chanwoo Park, College of Engineering: National Science Foundation CAREER awards

Birant Ramazan, College of Science: Gene LeMay Outstanding Teacher Award in the College of Science

Banmali Rawat, College of Engineering: IEEE regional 2014 Outstanding Leadership and Professional Service Award; 2013 Aditya Vikram Birla Chair of the Aditya Birla Training and Research Center, India.

Javier Rojo, College of Science: Appointed to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Mathematical Biosciences Institute at The Ohio State University; Programs that Make a Difference Award, American Mathematical Society.

Mehdi Saiidi, College of Engineering: College Faculty and Staff Career Enhancement Plan.

Yantao Shen, College of Engineering: National Science Foundation CAREER Award

Madeline Sigman-Grant, College of Cooperative Extension: Nevada Women’s Fund 2014 Nevada Women of Achievement Award.

Shanon Taylor, College of Education: College of Education Outstanding Graduate Advisor.

Scott Tyler, College of Science: John Hurn Award for Excellence in Science and Engineering, National Groundwater Expo.

Bridget Walsh, College of Education: Judith S. Bible Excellence in Teaching Award.