Spring Commencement 2014

Photos by Jeff Dow
Distinguished Nevadan

Nearly 70 guests gathered to celebrate newly honored Distinguished Nevadans Keith L. Lee ’65 (physics), Gregory W. Ferraro ’85 (journalism) and James D. Santini ’59 (education) on Friday, May 16, in the Walter Van Tilburg Clark Room of Morrill Hall.

2. Keith L. Lee ’65

Debate and Oral Communication Awards

Team members, coaches and supporters celebrated an award-winning season at the Nevada Debate and Oral Communication Awards Ceremony May 5. Honors presented at the ceremony included the W. Clark Santini Award, Robert S. Griffin Medal and William J. Cashill Scholarship.

1. Robert Morrill ’59, University President Marc Johnson and James Santini ’59, a past member of the debate team. The W. Clark Santini Award, awarded this year to Christi Cakiroglu, is named for James Santini’s brother, the late W. Clark Santini ’65, a former speech and debate student at the University and community activist involved in the creation of Rancho San Rafael Park and protection of the Truckee River.
2. The University’s debate team won the National Parliamentary Debate Association Season Sweepstakes National Title, ranking first out of 189 schools.
School of Medicine Hooding Ceremony

The University of Nevada School of Medicine honored the school’s 57 newly hooded physicians May 16.

(1) President Marc Johnson addresses the crowd of more than 700 before conferring the doctor of medicine degrees.

(2) Katie B. Lyons, ’09, ’14M.D. was hooded by her husband, Ashish Francis, ’09, ’13M.D. Francis was the 2009 Herz Gold Medalist. Lyons was an accomplished member of the Nevada ski team, earning All-America honors.

William N. Pennington Student Achievement Center Groundbreaking

The groundbreaking event was held June 10 at the former site of the Getchell Library. More than 100 guests, including William N. Pennington Foundation trustees Rick Banis ’67 (accounting), Don Carano, John Mackall and Fred Scarpello, gathered to celebrate the more than 78,000 square-foot facility that will house vital student centers in one convenient location.

(1) Shannon Ellis, Akbar Saba, Steven Lucas, Don Carano, Fred Scarpello, University President Marc Johnson, Jasmine Trinh, John Mackall, Rick Banis ’67, Jeremy Schachter and Darrin McCarthy.

(2) Vice Chair of the Board of Regents Rick Trachok ’74, Chair of the Board of Regents Kevin Page, Chancellor Dan Klaich ’72.

(3) Students showcase different areas that will be housed in the new William N. Pennington Student Achievement Center.

(4) Guests enjoy a brunch in Honor Court after the groundbreaking.
Act One Completion, Church Fine Arts Renovation

Nearly 70 arts enthusiasts gathered to preview the remodeled Church Fine Arts Building April 15. A lead gift from the Nell J. Redfield Foundation transformed the Redfield Proscenium Theatre. Renovations also included remodeling the Front Door Gallery space and creating the Edna B. and Bruno Benna Foundation Atrium entrance on Virginia Street.

(1) Reno Aerial Artistry showcases the updated rigging system in the Redfield Proscenium Theatre.
(3) Jane Beckett ’68, Riley Beckett ’68, Karen Penner-Johnson and Sallie Armstrong.

Reno Jazz Festival

The 52nd annual Reno Jazz Festival April 10-12 featured evening concerts by guest artists, competitions, workshops and clinics by professional jazz artists for thousands of young jazz musicians from throughout the West.

(1) Trumpeter Avishai Cohen performs with The Collective.
(2) Young musicians compete during daytime competitions.
(3) Kneebody performs April 11 at Lawlor Events Center.
Honor the Best
On May 13, more than 300 faculty, staff and students gathered to recognize the outstanding achievements of the University’s best and brightest.

(1) Henry Albert Senior Public Service Award recipient Chai Swadowski Larsen ’14 with her family.

(2) Regents’ Scholar Award, Undergraduate honoree Steven DelaCruz with Regent Kevin Page, Regent Rick Trachok ’74 and President Marc Johnson.

(3) Distinguished Service honoree Marsha Dupree ’94M.A. with Executive Vice President and Provost Kevin Carman.

Pathways to Aviation
The Pathways to Aviation Foundation and the University of Nevada, Reno Raggio Research Center for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education welcomed fellow members of the community to a presentation April 16 featuring Pathways to Aviation, a program connecting community and industry leaders, educational professionals and students with aeronautics and aviation.

(1) George Fleck, Eric Henry ’86, Washoe County Superintendent of Schools Pedro Martinez and Kenneth Witcher.

(2) Greg Stanley, Van Copeland, Logan Copeland and Emeriti Foundation Trustee Tom Hall ’65.

(3) Paul McFarlane ’90.

(4) Members of the Reno Composite Squadron NV-054 of the Civil Air Patrol Nevada Wing.

(5) Nevada State Treasurer Kate Marshall.