Student success: a way of life for our campus

Last fall, I saw an example. Success was apparent in the poised, confident faces of Camille (“Cami”) Bourquin, Brittany McGarr and Zeph Lane as they presented their undergraduate research at a Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents meeting in September here on campus.

During their senior capstone course in computer science and engineering, Cami, Brittany and Zeph developed software used in a highly sophisticated national campaign sponsored by NASA to test an air traffic control system for drones. Their work not only helped further the effort to cultivate the emerging unmanned autonomous systems and advanced manufacturing industries for the state of Nevada, it also vividly illustrated how our students are translating their successes on campus in the realms of business and industry, of tech and innovation.

It’s not only in science, technology, engineering and mathematics that we see our students succeed. We also see it in the interlocking elements of performance, played out by the members of our marching band before an audience of thousands on a fall afternoon at Mackay Stadium.

Andrew Mendizabal of Las Vegas is an example of how devotion to his musical craft is leading to an important career. He is a drum major and plays in the wind ensemble. He also is a student employee in the music department and teaches lessons in local schools. He’s a music education major with a 3.9 GPA. When he graduates, Andrew hopes to become a music teacher.

When one considers, that according to a recent report by Applied Analysis of Las Vegas, approximately 75 percent of our 4,200 yearly graduates are choosing to remain in Nevada, it is clear that our student success focus is building a new generation of leaders for our state in many of our most needed areas. We are seeing upward of 90 percent of our bachelor’s degree recipients gain employment within 12 months of graduation in certain fields (such as nursing and speech pathology and audiology), and we are also noting rising professional licensure pass rates (such as 90 percent for education graduates over all areas).

Success permeates the student experience at our University. It gives us all reason to feel proud of our students’ accomplishments.

Marc A. Johnson
President
UNIVERSITY NEWS
Nevada Mathematics Project impacts thousands of students / Nevada launches new classical and jazz station / A diamond in the rough: The Bonanza Cut / Anthropology professor earns prestigious Kavli Fellowship / Slow snowmelt in the Sierras / Orvis School of Nursing reinstated / Sixteen in 2016 / California butterfly population in decline / Reopening of historic Lincoln Hall

PACK TRACKS
Ramon Sessions makes historic gift / Wolf Pack announcements

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

CLASS CHAT

ALUMNI PROFILE
Mary-Ann Brown ’85, ’96 M.S.

FALL SENIOR SCHOLARS

REMEMBERING FRIENDS

CHAPTER UPDATES

GATHERINGS: March from the Arch / Homecoming Gala / E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center Tour / Homecoming Tailgates

FAMILY TREE CHALLENGE
Harris Family Tree

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION
Lincoln Hall reopens

FOSTERING NEVADA’S FUTURE
Peter Vardy ’55 leaves lasting legacy in the Mackay School

Running of the Wolves: Freshmen rush the field during the annual Running of the Wolves before the Nevada vs. Cal Poly football game at Mackay Stadium Sept. 2. For more on the traditions, events and services that welcome new students to the University, see our feature story on pages 2 – 11. — THERESA DANNA DOUGLAS

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University of Nevada, Reno
WELCOME TO THE PACK

by JOANNA TRIEGER and CURTIS VICKERS '07 M.A.
For freshmen, creating solid connections to campus in their first semester is a strong predictor of success over the next four years. During this critical period, the University’s mission is to help every student find their place in the Pack.

In August 2016, 4,608 members of the Class of 2020 joined the University of Nevada, Reno Wolf Pack. They brought with them their hopes and dreams about what the future might hold and how the University could help them achieve their goals in life. Many also arrived with concerns about whether they would be able to cut it in the classroom, whether they would find like-minded people on campus, whether they would, in short, be able to thrive in an environment that is unlike any they had experienced before.

Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers spoke directly to these concerns and expressed a sentiment common among administrators across campus: “We invest time, money and heart in our students. We are trying to help them gain the confidence and skills necessary to succeed.”

Shannon Ellis, vice president of student services, continued this thread, describing her philosophy on student success. “One of the things we have learned is that student success is inextricably linked to their feeling connected to campus and to their peers,” she said. “The key is engagement. If we can get you engaged, if we can get you connected to campus, your chances of persisting and being successful throughout your time at the University are significantly increased.”

To help students connect to each other and to campus, the University provides a robust array of programs, clubs and initiatives. These programs and clubs run the gamut, providing support for students in every facet of their lives — from health and nutrition to money management to study skills and everything in between.

Ellis said, “Our standards are high. On average, our incoming freshmen hold a 3.6 [core] GPA. By the time students arrive to campus, we know that they’re capable of success. They have the academic chops. We know our students should succeed; our job is to help them persist. How do we keep them from feeling homesick and lonely but rather engaged and supported?”

**Class of 2020**

**Why choose the Pack?**

During NevadaFIT (see page 5), we asked several freshmen why they chose the University of Nevada, Reno and what they were looking forward to in the semester.

“I’ve never lived away from home before, so it’s exciting. I chose Nevada because it’s a great school and really affordable.”

- **Maurice Brewster**

“I hadn’t really been seriously considering Nevada, but then I took a tour of campus and saw everything that’s here for students and I was like, ‘Whoa, this is where I need to be.’”

- **Rachel Ribeiro**

“> To schedule a tour of campus, visit unr.edu/about/visit-campus.

I’m looking forward to checking out the clubs on campus, especially ultimate Frisbee and the math club. I chose Nevada because it’s such a great school and it was a really affordable option. This was the closest Tier 1 school for an unbeatable price.”

- **Jacob Kingsley**

See page 6 for information about the more than 300 clubs on campus.

“I feel like I’ve met a ton of great people already. I can’t wait for classes to start – everything is just going to get bigger.”

- **Lexi Aldrich**

> To learn more about any of the sixteen events, services and programs we discuss in the following pages, visit: www.unr.edu/silverandblue/welcome.
OPENING CEREMONIES  On Aug. 26, Assistant Professor Albert Lee offered a rousing keynote address to incoming students at the Opening Ceremony. Students then lit the candle of knowledge and passed the flame throughout Lawlor Events Center. After the Opening Ceremony, students were invited to a barbecue lunch with their parents before they broke off to meet the deans of their respective colleges and divisions.

DORM STORM  Parents Chris and Beth Burch and a dozen Dorm Storm volunteers help freshman Kyra Burch move into Nye Hall. Every year, hundreds of volunteers from across campus offer their time — and strength — to help new students move into their dorms. Jerome Maese, director of residential life, remembers his own student experience: “I was a clueless first-generation college student. I met amazing people at the University who made me feel welcome — from resident assistants to the residential director. They were all friendly, and they helped me through a new environment, a whole new world. I want to do the same thing for every student on campus,” he said. “There is a reason why wolves form a pack. The more numbers on your side, the better off you’ll be, flat out. The University Resident Hall experience provides that pack for students.”
Kevin Carman, executive vice president and provost, speaks with incoming students at the NevadaFIT barbecue on the historic Quad Aug. 25. NevadaFIT is a five-day residential program for incoming students designed to help them transition from high school to college. Students meet professors, participate in classes, familiarize themselves with campus and earn a full academic credit, even before school has started. Program administrators have found a correlation between NevadaFIT attendance and both classroom performance and persistence from one year to the next. “Students who participate in NevadaFIT are retained at higher rates than those who do not, regardless of their academic credentials. Among the more than 400 students who participated in the fall 2015 version of NevadaFIT, 87 percent returned as sophomores. Students who did not participate were retained at 80 percent,” Carman said.

PAINT THE “N” Freshmen Mackenzie Shevlin and Jacob Niswonger (left) show off their painting skills on Aug. 28, when hundreds of students hiked Peavine Peak to paint the Nevada “N” (above). This annual tradition began in 1915. “I heard it was a great way to meet people,” said freshman Monika Moe (lower left), of her motivation to join the hike.
CLUBS, EVENTS & ORGANIZATIONS  The University is home to more than 300 clubs and organizations designed to bring students and faculty with similar interests together in sustained communities.

JOB AND INTERNSHIP EXPO  On Sept. 1, the University hosted the Part-Time Job and Internship Expo in the Joe Crowley Student Union. More than 1,200 students made connections with 114 on-campus and off-campus employers, ranging from KUNR to Boreal Mountain Resort to the on-campus Writing Center. The Job and Internship Expo is one of a number of programs provided by the Nevada Career Studio, which offers career development support for students, from resume creation to mock interviews.

CLUBS FAIR  Hundreds of students came together Sept. 1 at the Thursday Fest Club Fair on the Quad. This annual event gives students an opportunity to see the breadth and depth of club offerings for every interest, from the Entrepreneurship Club to the Wolf Pack Comedy Club. ASUN President Brandon Boone encourages all new students to dive in: “Clubs can singlehandedly alter the course of your college career. They will introduce you to friends, mentors and mentees. And they will provide you a way to gain experiences outside of your major and outside of your academic experience.”

NEVADA SAGEBRUSH  Freshman Dominique Kent and sophomore Emily Fisher collaborate during a Nov. 7 editorial meeting, preparing for the next morning’s printing of The Nevada Sagebrush. Established in 1893, The Nevada Sagebrush is the student-run University newspaper. Printed every week, The Nevada Sagebrush covers all aspects of campus life and reaches 3,500 readers across the University, supplemented by a vibrant online presence.

ROTC  Ethan Carpenter, Josh Bailey, Jonah Wood, Daneil Correa and Josh Malech represent the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps at the Club Fair Sept. 1. ROTC provides current students with military and officer training and awards merit-based scholarships. “Being involved in ROTC has really helped me to transition to college life in my first semester,” says freshman ROTC cadet Cody Beato. “I have met amazing people, learned how to manage my time when it comes to academics, and created a four-year plan for graduation.”
CAMPUS LIFE  There’s always something happening on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. Whether it’s the annual hot-air balloon launch from the Quad or a late night (free!) movie at the Joe, campus life offers students the opportunity to participate in traditions, meet new friends and get involved in their community.

THE JOE  Named for the University’s 13th president, the four-story Joe Crowley Student Union provides services and events while housing a diverse array of support programs. In it you will find the ASUN Bookstore, a number of eateries, a Wells Fargo banking branch, as well as the Graduate Student Association, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada (ASUN), and The Center, Every Student. Every Story. Blane Harding, director of The Center, offers advice for all students: “Be visible. Go to cultural events, even if they’re not for ‘your’ culture. Travel. Study abroad. Meet people in the residence halls that aren’t necessarily the ones you’d naturally gravitate to, and invite them out for a coffee, have a conversation.”

In speaking about the role the Joe plays in the University, Director Chuck Price says, “Students want to know ‘Do I fit in? Does someone look like me, like what I like?’ I want to assure parents and students that this is a friendly, warm and welcoming environment. The Joe is very diverse, and we are dedicated to making students feel comfortable from the beginning — and sustaining that comfort.”

Reno is home to the largest free hot-air ballooning event in the world. Students Ricardo Aker, McXine Salva, RJ Griffin, Madeline Mitch, Gina Featherstone, James Treischel, Casey Omaye and Yodit Atsbeha participated in the University’s contribution to the festivities on Sept. 8.

Student success is inextricably linked to their feeling connected to campus and to their peers. The key is engagement. If we can get you engaged, if we can get you connected to campus, your chances of persisting and being successful throughout your time at the University are significantly increased.”

— Vice President of Student Services SHANNON ELLIS

Students want to know ‘Do I fit in? Does someone look like me, like what I like?’ I want to assure parents and students that this is a friendly, warm and welcoming environment. The Joe is very diverse, and we are dedicated to making students feel comfortable from the beginning — and sustaining that comfort.”

— JCSU Director CHUCK PRICE

I met amazing people at the University who made me feel welcome — from resident assistants to the residential director. They were all friendly, and they helped me through a new environment, a whole new world. I want to do the same thing for every student on campus.”

— Director of Residential Life JEROME MAESE

Clubs can singlehandedly alter the course of your college career. They will introduce you to friends, mentors and mentees. And they will provide you a way to gain experiences outside of your major and outside of your academic experience.”

— ASUN President BRANDON BOONE
ACADEMIC LIFE Founded in 1874, the University of Nevada, Reno offers 160 degree programs across 10 colleges and schools on the historic campus. In addition to traditional classrooms, the University offers more than 200 online courses and extensive study abroad opportunities. Students also have the opportunity to learn alongside faculty members and researchers in 60 laboratories across campus and in the field.

We encourage a growth mindset in our students. We want them to say, ‘I can develop, learn and build upon my intelligence and talents. I am capable of growing, changing and building on what I have.’

— University Tutoring Director MARSHA URBAN

TUTORING The University Tutoring Center, located in the William N. Pennington Student Achievement Center, offers a wide variety of academic help for students of all levels. The popular Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) were implemented for traditionally difficult classes, like introductory chemistry and sociology. The sessions are led by fellow students who have previously done well in the class and can offer tips and tricks for success with a particular subject. Here, PASS Leader and chemical engineering student Brianna Peacock works with biology student Kyle Tkach on a challenging chemistry problem. “My first test for this class didn’t exactly go as planned,” says Tkach. “I started coming to PASS sessions after that, and I’ve seen a huge amount of improvement.”

PSAC Opened Feb. 2016, The William N. Pennington Student Achievement Center brings together vital student centers formerly scattered throughout campus under one roof. With services like the Nevada Military Support Alliance Veterans’ and Military Center, the University Tutoring, Math and Writing Centers and the Nevada Career Studio, and with extended evening and weekend hours and a central campus location, students can visit the Pennington Student Achievement Center to get the help they need, when they need it.

A HUB OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The William N. Pennington Student Achievement Center is the single, central resource for students looking to improve their academic performance. Here’s what you’ll find at the PSAC:

University Tutoring, Writing and Math Centers
Nevada Career Studio
University Advising Center
Counseling Services
Student Veterans Affairs Office
Disabilities Resource Center
Trio & McNair Scholars Program Offices
Reflection and meditation rooms
Study rooms and collaboration spaces
Hundreds of computer stations
DeliNV
STUDENT SUPPORT Transitioning to the independence of college life can be tough, so the University provides a variety of student support services to help students manage their money, their health and their safety.

NEVADA MONEY MENTORS Transitioning to college comes with new responsibilities, and many freshmen find themselves overwhelmed by managing their money for the first time. Enter Nevada Money Mentors, the University’s free one-on-one financial coaching service that helps students (as well as faculty and staff) work toward their financial goals. The group also holds workshops and presentations about money management at NevadaFIT and throughout the year. “Our goal is to break the taboo surrounding finances. We want students to feel comfortable talking about the financial questions they have and the issues they’re facing, because through these conversations we help empower them to make the most informed and confident decisions about their money,” says Financial Specialist Amy Nelson ’04, who heads the Nevada Money Mentors program. Here, Nelson hosts a tabling event where students can tie-dye t-shirts and ask their financial questions in a casual setting.

We want students to feel comfortable talking about the financial questions they have and the issues they’re facing, because through these conversations we help empower them to make the most informed and confident decisions about their money.” – Financial Specialist AMY NELSON ’04

ASUN The Associated Students of the University of Nevada (ASUN) supports more than 300 clubs, organizations, programs and services. Located on the third floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union, ASUN is funded through a $5 per credit student fee. Its mission is to provide resources and services to ensure Nevada’s students succeed personally, academically and professionally. One of its most important services is Campus Escort. With a fleet of ten minivans, two 12-passenger vans, a 25-passenger shuttle and 50 student employees, Campus Escort offers more than 46,000 free rides every year. Students can request a ride through the Campus Escort app (powered by TapRide) and, on average, will be on the way home or to a volunteering opportunity within thirteen minutes.

In discussing ASUN’s wide range of student services, Sandy Rodriguez ’01 M.Ed., director of the ASUN Center for Student Engagement, says, “We are all about fostering persistence in our students and helping them graduate. Whatever obstacles to connecting to our campus you may face, we can help you overcome them.” She continues, “If students know they matter, their aspirations increase and they are encouraged to achieve more than they thought they could.”

FITNESS Freshmen Fiona Day, Emily Freund and Noah Auyong participate in a fitness class in the Lombardi Recreation Center, where students enjoy a discounted rate. In winter 2017, Lombardi will be redesigned as a team sports facility when the new midcampus E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center opens. Students will have access to a wide range of group exercise classes — from CrossFit to yoga — and state-of-the-art solo equipment so that they can prioritize their physical fitness along with their academic success.
WHERE GREAT MEMORIES COME HOME

Homecoming brings thousands of students, alumni and community members together for three days of memorable events on campus. Every year, the Nevada Alumni Association partners with ASUN on what has become a Homecoming tradition: the March from the Arch parade and pep rally on the Quad. From student clubs and organization floats, to local businesses and law enforcement, March from the Arch connects the City of Reno and its residents with the University, something the Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN take great pride in. And it doesn’t stop there. The week’s events also include honoring our outstanding alumni and friends at the annual Homecoming Gala as well as during halftime of the highly anticipated Homecoming football game in Mackay Stadium. Homecoming demonstrates the deep connections students make at Nevada and the strong partnerships between alumni, the community and the University.
Cairn Lindloff ’91 (interior design), assistant dean of new student initiatives, spends her days thinking about students at the beginning of their college experience. But making connections as a freshman isn’t just about getting through college. It’s about learning how to be successful long beyond your university experience.

“The most successful students are living a full-time life. They have a full course load. Maybe they are balancing a part-time job with commitments to clubs and volunteer organizations they care about. This is great practice for the lives they will lead after graduation: balancing work with friends with volunteer and community projects and family commitments. We are teaching students to be successful for the long-term.”

With this long-term success in mind, the University continues to support its students at graduation and beyond. With the connections they made on campus and through resources like the Nevada Career Studio, graduates are prepared for a strong start in their careers. Through the alumni chapter programs, alumni can connect with groups of likeminded graduates and form professional relationships grounded in a common Nevada history. Alumni continue to enjoy the campus experience when they return for Pack Picnics, Football Tailgates and annual traditions like the balloon launch and March from the Arch. Through the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and other initiatives, Nevada graduates never stop learning from their alma mater. Programs like the Nevada Small Business Development Center (see Page 20) and resources like the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center provide ongoing engagement and support to Nevada alumni for life.

Former ASUN President Casey Stiteler ’12 (political science) was passionate about student engagement during his time at the head of the ASUN. “I came across so much data that demonstrated that students were more likely to persist from year to year and to graduate when they were involved with campus outside the classroom. So by engaging new students, we are killing two birds with one stone: students can enjoy a great experience and also be more likely to stay on track academically and to graduate.”

Stiteler’s own engagement with the University as an undergraduate has served him well:

“I got into ASUN and went down the path of legislative affairs, and that opened me up to the idea of going to law school, because I learned that this was what I was passionate about. I graduated, went to law school, and now I’m starting with a law firm. That path opened up to me from my involvement with ASUN, and I couldn’t be more grateful.”
2016 Winter Commencement

Nearly 1,800 degrees were awarded during Winter Commencement Dec. 10 in Lawlor Events Center. President Marc Johnson, NSHE Regent Kevin Melcher ’79, ’81 M.S. and the morning’s guest speaker, Nevada State Sen. Ben Kieckhefer, imparted words of wisdom to the new alumni. Congratulations!  

**1** NSHE Regent Kevin Melcher ’79, ’81 M.S., 2016 Distinguished Nevadan Mary Korpi and President Marc Johnson.  

**2** Professor Fred Harris, the University Marshal, leads the processional.  

**3** Kiana Moore ’16.  

**4** Brandon Lucia ’16, Claire Pfeiffer ’16 and Claire Smith ’16.  

**5** Front row: Elijah Mitchell ’16, James Davis ’16, Brenton Zuza ’16 and Madison McCarthy ’16.  

**Second row:** James Springgate ’16, Stephen Bloust ’16, Alyssa Zunino ’16 and Gabrielle Palazzolo ’16.  

**6** An impressive 1,404 bachelor’s and 391 advanced degrees were awarded Dec. 10.  

**7** Graduates from the Orvis School of Nursing Kelsy Caldwell ’16, Jordyn Jarrett ’16, Erika Dill ’16, Alicia Haines ’16 and Sara Torgerson ’16.  

**8** Sarah Johnson ’16 and Sonja Marguerite ’16.
Dean Moddelmog Welcome Reception

Debra Moddelmog was welcomed to the University as the new dean of the College of Liberal Arts at a reception Sept. 1 in the Joe Crowley Student Union.

Dean Moddelmog is a scholar and teacher of 20th-century American literature, modernism and sexuality studies, and one of the foremost experts in the world on the writings of Ernest Hemingway.

Healthy Nevada Speaker Series

Renowned forensic pathologist Dr. Bennet Omalu was on campus for a presentation and book signing Oct. 25 in the Joe Crowley Student Union. The event was presented by the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and Division of Health Sciences with support from Aurora Diagnostics and Renown Health. Dr. Omalu studies chronic brain injuries in NFL players.

Dr. Bennet Omalu's work inspired the award-winning film, Concussion, starring Will Smith.

Vice President of the Division of Health Sciences and Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine Tom Schwenk speaking with Dr. Omalu and attendees at a reception following the lecture.

Reno City Councilmember Oscar Delgado speaking with Dean Schwenk.

Renown Vice President of Advocacy and Community Partnerships Wendy Damonte ‘84 speaking with University President Marc Johnson.

More than 850 students, alumni and community members attended the event in the Joe Crowley Student Union.
2016 State of the University Address

University President Marc Johnson discussed the rapidly growing infrastructure for research, plans to make the campus more diverse, and the ways the University serves as a catalyst for economic development during his annual “State of the University” address Tuesday, Sept. 20 in the Joe Crowley Student Union.  Picture 1

1 President Marc Johnson addressed the challenges and opportunities facing the University.
2 Nevada System of Higher Education Regent Jason Geddes ‘90, ’95 Ph.D.; University President Marc Johnson; University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Trustee Emeritus Keith Lee ’65 and Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents Chairman Rick Trachok ’74.  Picture 2
3 President Marc Johnson speaking with ASUN student officers Richard Long, director of clubs and organizations; Veronica Charles, director of legal affairs; and Gabriel Rojas, director of diversity and inclusion.

2016 Nevada Writers Hall of Fame

The 29th annual Nevada Writers Hall of Fame was held Nov. 9 in the Joe Crowley Student Union. The event honored inductees Gailmarie Pahmeier and Willy Vlautin, and Silver Pen Award recipient Tod Goldberg.  Picture 3

4 University President Marc Johnson and Karen Penner-Johnson with Kelly Bland ’91 and his son, Ben.  Picture 4
5 College of Liberal Arts Dean Debra Maddelmog, Professor Emma Sepulvada ’76, ’78 M.A., who was inducted into the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame in 2007; University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Trustee Emerita Babara Feltner ’82 (honorary award) and John Mulligan ’81.  Picture 5
6 University Libraries Dean Kathy Ray, 2016 Nevada Writers
Lincoln Hall Reopening

The renovation and reopening of historic Lincoln Hall was celebrated at a ceremony on campus Oct. 6. The 120-year-old building underwent seismic retrofitting to repair and reinforce the brick structure and will now be used for faculty offices.

THERESA DANNA-DOUGLAS

Nevada System of Higher Education Regent Jason Geddes ’90, ’95 Ph.D.
Former residents of Lincoln Hall: Nevada Alumni Council member Gary Aldax ’92, Assistant Vice President Emeritus for Facilities Management Brian Whalen ’57, Karl Walquist ’75, Professor Emeritus Jim Hulse ’52, ’58 M.A. and Kevin Sinn ’78. Nearly 200 attendees celebrated the reopening of Lincoln Hall.

President Marc Johnson with College of Liberal Arts Dean Debra Maddelmag and Clemencia Glenn.
Chris Clifford goes to Washington: Health policy advocacy with the AMA

by JAMES RUTTER, Class of 2017

At universities across the country, students engage in internships, fellowships and various other career-development programs. But few of them have the opportunity to live in the nation’s capital for a year, fighting to make a positive impact in people’s lives.

That is exactly what University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine student Christopher Clifford ’13 (biochemistry and molecular biology) will do this academic year as the American Medical Association’s (AMA) Government Relations Advocacy Fellow (GRAF).

The Reno native became interested in the GRAF program after attending an AMA medical student conference. “One of the speakers at the conference shared the story of his fellowship: ‘I’m the Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, I’m taking a year off from med school to work in Washington with the lobbyists on health policy,’” Clifford said. “From that opening line alone, I fell in love with the position.”

The goal of the fellowship is to encourage activism and leadership by educating student, resident and young AMA members about issues in public health and health policy.

Clifford believes the experience will be invaluable to him as a future physician because of the changing nature of health care. “I really want to expand my knowledge about the interplay between health care and government, because health care is really kind of turning into a government-controlled entity. Education needs to start at the student level, which it currently doesn’t. It’s up to us to fill that knowledge gap,” he said.

In addition to the career benefits the position offers, Clifford sees a unique opportunity to help others through his work. “It’s really cool to be a part of
It’s really cool to be a part of writing or pushing for a bill or policy that has the potential to help millions of people.

CHRISTOPHER CLIFFORD ’13
(biochemistry and molecular biology)
Growing small business in Nevada

by JOANNA TRIEGER • photos by THERESA DANNA-DOUGLAS

A small business owner has an idea for expansion, but is not sure how to finance it. A mother of three who makes homemade jam would like to sell it commercially, but is intimidated by becoming an entrepreneur. A traveler sees a unique business franchise in another area and would like to replicate it in Nevada. A student’s research has led to the development of a new product, but they don’t know how to turn it into a viable business. Where do they go?

They go to the Nevada Small Business Development Center, headquartered in the University of Nevada, Reno College of Business. SBDCs are primarily funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration and receive matching funds from universities, governments and private businesses, including banks like Bank of Nevada and Wells Fargo in Nevada. They offer a variety of assistance to potential, new and expanding small businesses. In the year ending Sept. 30, 2016, the Nevada SBDC helped start 125 new businesses in the state. Their work helped create more than 475 jobs, and their clients realized more than $56 million in new financing.

Teach a man to fish

The majority of the Nevada SBDC’s services, including one-on-one counseling, business management training and local economic and demographic research, are offered free of charge. The center’s focus is on coaching small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs to be successful for the long-term in Nevada’s business climate.

“It is very important that each client develops their own business plan,” says Nevada SBDC Director Sam Males ’76 MBA, who founded the office in 1985. “We are not creating the plan for them – we’re talking them through it and coaxing out their own ideas. We encourage them to think about what will make their business successful: Are they different than the competition? Are they planning to locate in an area with a lot of potential for growth? We teach them to think like business people, because they need to keep thinking that way and planning that way throughout the life of their business.”

With 14 offices throughout the state, Nevada SBDC counselors guide their clients through the challenges posed by starting a business in a particular geographic area.

“The needs of our rural clients are much different than our clients in Reno and Las Vegas,” says Males. “We talk them through setting up online sales, how to market to people online, because they’re not going to be able to rely on foot traffic like our urban clients can. We also offer financial expertise – which banks tend to finance what types of projects and how to prepare business plans that will increase their chances of being accepted for a loan. These relationships can be difficult to navigate.”
Opposite, left: Nevada SBDC Director Sam Males ’76 MBA and the College of Business Dean Gregory Mosier inside the newly remodeled offices of the Nevada Small Business Development Center, which serves as a resource for Nevada’s small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs. “We teach our clients to think like business people, because they need to keep thinking that way and planning that way throughout the life of their business” says Males. Opposite, right: The Nevada SBDC is headquartered on campus within the College of Business. This central location is ideal for local entrepreneurs, including students who may have business plans they hope to implement after graduation. The University’s annual Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition encourages students in these pursuits. Below: Program Manager Jennifer Ott ’13 MBA works in one of the hoop houses at the University’s Desert Farming Initiative, a working demonstration farm established through a collaboration between the Nevada SBDC, the College of Business, CABNR and the Cooperative Extension. Ott, a former counselor at the Nevada SBDC, now collaborates with the organization to act as a resource and support for agricultural entrepreneurs in Nevada.

From students to success stories

In addition to counselors with professional business experience, the Nevada SBDC’s headquarters on the University of Nevada, Reno campus employs students from the College of Business. Depending on their level of experience, these student workers serve as demographic researchers, data analysts and marketing consultants, and often sit in on client meetings. By the time they graduate, students are able to add several years of business advising experience to their resumes.

One such student is Jennifer Ott ’13 MBA. Ott, who had a background in chemistry and experience in marketing and communications, was hired as a graduate assistant at the Nevada SBDC, where she worked as a counselor and project manager. At the same time, she created a business plan for her biochemical startup, EscaZyme, with one-on-one mentoring from Nevada SBDC Director of Counseling Rod Jorgensen. She entered the plan into the University’s Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition, an annual challenge established by University alumnus Rick Sontag ’66 M.S. (physics) to encourage students to develop business ideas. Ott’s plan garnered the $50,000 grand prize.

“Rod was a grounding influence. He is a finance guy, not a scientist, so he was essential in helping me state my ideas in terms that lay people could understand,” says Ott. “At the Nevada SBDC, I learned that the smartest thing you can do is work with people who can expose your weaknesses. If you just surround yourself with people who think like you and agree with you, you never grow and improve. The Nevada SBDC is great because they offer an informed set of eyes and a fresh perspective.”

In addition to managing EscaZyme, which made its first sales in 2016, Ott now serves as the project manager at the University’s Desert Farming Initiative, a program created through a partnership between the College of Business, Nevada SBDC, the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources and the Cooperative Extension and now managed by CABNR. The DFI uses urban greenhouses and hoop houses to train students and the community in agricultural entrepreneurship. Ott is frequently contacted by community members who are hoping to start farms, create food products or open restaurants in Nevada.

“We are in such a unique growing climate here, so we can’t take growing practices from California or any other state and apply them to Nevada. By having a farm and using a variety of production methods, we can help both local farmers and the industry at large, we can provide education and training and we can talk with producers about marketing and sales.”

And when those entrepreneurs need help developing and planning for their businesses?

Ott refers them straight back to the Nevada SBDC.

To learn more about the Nevada Small Business Development Center, visit www.nsbdc.org or contact the office’s Reno headquarters at (800) 240-7094. To make a donation in support of the Nevada SBDC, please contact Mitch Klaich, director of development, at (775) 682-6490 or mklaich@unr.edu.
On Philanthropy

The annual Wells Fargo First Generation Scholarship Luncheon was held Oct. 20 in the Joe Crowley Student Union to honor 21 scholarship recipients. These students represent the first generation of their families to attend college and are pursuing a variety of majors. Each recipient fulfills a volunteer requirement and receives an annual award of $3,500 during each of their four years of college with satisfactory progress. Since 1988, Wells Fargo Bank has provided more than $1 million in support of Nevada students. **Back row:** Juan Martinez, Heather Killiam, Astrid Perez, Rubi Lopez, Adriana Albarran, Miguel Aguilera and Fabiola Reyes. **Third row:** Jodi Wright of Wells Fargo, Sonia Jacinto-Acosta, Levi Bist of Wells Fargo, Jerson Valdez, Kimberly Rubio, Evelyn Hullin of Wells Fargo, Viviana Vargas, Kelly Goodman of Wells Fargo, Marjie Hapson of Wells Fargo and Vicky Howard-Hollis of Wells Fargo. **Second row:** Jennifer Scriver, Maureen Maffett of Wells Fargo, Patricia Villanueva, Sean French of Wells Fargo, Giselle Ojeda Ramirez, Karina Lopez, Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers, Elvira Rios, Jessica Westin and Lynn Heislein of Wells Fargo. **First row (seated):** Mary Quiroga-Velasquez, Lizeth Acosta, Christy Clark of Wells Fargo and Amy Poggensee of Wells Fargo.

Professor Emerita Bourne Morris and Reynolds School of Journalism Dean Al Stavitsky at the Integrated Marketing Competition reunion and fundraiser Oct. 21, where Bourne was honored with the creation of a scholarship in her name.

**Professor Emerita Bourne Morris honored with creation of scholarship**

by JOANNA TRIEGER

Bourne Morris, professor emerita of journalism, was honored with the creation of a scholarship in her name at the Integrated Marketing Competition reunion and fundraiser Oct. 21. Recipients of the Bourne Morris Endowed Scholarship will be undergraduates in journalism with an emphasis in strategic communications, where Bourne made her career.

Bourne’s career began under legendary ad man David Ogilvy, who hired her as a writer for his agency in New York. She worked her way up to become a creative supervisor and senior vice president, eventually moving west to become president of Ogilvy & Mather Los Angeles in 1977. She became a professor in the University’s Reynolds School of Journalism in 1983. From 2000 until her retirement in 2009, she served as a faculty advisor to the Integrated Marketing Competition class, which prepares students for the American Advertising Federation’s National Student Advertising Competition. She now writes mystery novels.

Initial funds for the scholarship were provided by Richard Stout ’66 (zoology), a trustee emeritus of the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation. Stout and his late wife, Susanne, were neighbors of Bourne and her husband, Bob, for more than 30 years and share a lifelong friendship.

“You can’t tell the story of the Reynolds School without noting the transformative impact of Bourne Morris,” said Reynolds School of Journalism Dean Al Stavitsky. “How wonderful that her career will be acknowledged and celebrated each year when we award this scholarship.”

To learn more about contributing to the Bourne Morris Scholarship Endowment to benefit strategic communications students, please contact Laurie Antoun-Becker, associate director of development, at (775) 784-4184 or lantounbecker@unr.edu.
Contributions soar in memory of Bonnie Bryan ’61
by JOANNA TRIEGER

More than 100 individuals and organizations have donated to the Richard H. and Bonnie B. Bryan Scholarship Endowment in recent months in memory of former first lady of Nevada Bonnie (Fairchild) Bryan ’61 (psychology), who passed away Aug. 30 at the age of 77.

The scholarship was established in 2009 by the Bryans’ children, Richard Bryan Jr. ’90 M.D., Leslie (Bryan) Hart and Blair (Bryan) Butler ’90 (elementary education), ’92 M.Ed. in honor of their parents’ accomplishments and their dedication to public service in the state of Nevada. Recipients of the scholarship are political science students who graduated from a Nevada high school and who have financial need.

“Scholarships offer an incredible financial relief,” says Jose Marroquin, a 20-year-old Las Vegas native who received the scholarship this year. “They minimize the amount in loans I need, which provides a considerable cushion for when I graduate. This gives me the freedom to explore potential goals and opportunities after graduation.”

Marroquin plans to attend law school and aspires to become an environmental lawyer.

Bonnie met her husband, former Nevada Governor and U.S. Senator Richard H. Bryan ’59 (pre-law), when they were both undergraduates at the University of Nevada, Reno. He was ASUN president while she served as a senator. The pair married on Sept. 1, 1962. During Richard’s political career, Bonnie championed her own causes, from children’s literacy to teen DUI prevention to the creation of Great Basin National Park. In 2005, she received the Lifetime Community Achievement Award from the Junior League of Las Vegas. Throughout her professional and personal life, Bonnie was known for her warmth and tireless service to her community.

“The University has lost an exemplary alumna in Bonnie Bryan,” said Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers. “The outpouring of donations we have received in her memory is a testament to her impact on the communities she served. We are grateful that Bonnie’s memory will continue to be honored by the students who earn the scholarship bearing her name.”

To make a contribution to the Richard H. and Bonnie B. Bryan Scholarship Endowment in memory of former first lady of Nevada Bonnie Bryan ’61, please contact Keiko Weil ’87, director of donor relations, (775) 682-5964 or kweil@unr.edu.

Former first lady of Nevada Bonnie Bryan ’61, who passed away Aug. 30 at the age of 77. Hundreds of donors have contributed in her memory to a scholarship established in 2009 in honor of the Bryans.

John ’76 and Deri Bowen support Library student employees
by CURTIS VICKERS ’07 M.A.

Honorary Court Gold Benefactors John ’76 Ph.D. (physics) and Deri Bowen continue to support the University Libraries through the Judge Grant Bowen Distinguished Library Endowment. Established in 1992 by John’s mother, True, to honor John’s father, esteemed Nevada jurist Grant Bowen ’30, the endowment pays homage to Judge Bowen’s lifelong love of reading. Recent gifts from the Bowens have been used to augment funds available to support student employees at the University Libraries.

With more than 1.25 million annual visitors to the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center alone, the 148 students employed by the University Libraries are critical to ensuring all visitors receive the guidance they need in pursuit of their education. Further, by providing financial stability to the student employee program, the Bowens have enabled University students, like Karen Akre, to gain valuable work experience while pursuing their degrees.

Karen, an accounting major who aspires to a career in forensic accounting, works in Special Collections with its exhibit “The Road to Office: Campaigns, Elections and Governance.” John ’76 and Deri Bowen’s gifts to the Judge Grant Bowen Distinguished Library Endowment have been used to augment the funds available to support the student workforce in the University Libraries.

Karen Akre, class of 2019, is one of 148 students working for the University Libraries. Recently, she helped Special Collections with its exhibit “The Road to Office: Campaigns, Elections and Governance.” John ’76 and Deri Bowen’s gifts to the Judge Grant Bowen Distinguished Library Endowment have been used to augment the funds available to support the student workforce in the University Libraries.

I find the Library’s online journals beneficial, as you can read publications on any subject that you find fascinating.”

Kathy Ray, dean of the University Libraries, said, “As Karen notes, every student, on campus and off, benefits from a thriving library system. The Libraries provide students with the resources and help necessary for academic success. Whether they need 24/7 access to literary criticism or a 3-D printer for an innovative product idea, the Libraries are there for them. The Bowens, through their generous support, have had a tremendous impact on the University Libraries’ ability to serve our students.”

In addition to recent support for the student workforce of the Libraries, John and Deri named one of the Knowledge Center’s group study rooms in honor of John’s parents, Grant and True, and have also made gifts to the DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library.

To learn more about supporting the University Libraries, contact Millie Mitchell, director of development, at mimitchell@unr.edu or (775) 682-5682.

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NEVADA SILVER & BLUE • WINTER 2017 • 21

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Nevada Mathematics Project impacts thousands of students

by NICOLE SHEARER ’03

Teruni Lamberg, University of Nevada, Reno associate professor of elementary mathematics education, spends her summers traveling across the Silver State and has logged 20,766 miles in the three years since she launched the Nevada Mathematics Project. Her desire to make a difference not only motivates her extensive travel, but also fuels her passion to continue propelling math education forward.

Since 2014, Lamberg and her team have developed and implemented a research-based, comprehensive professional development program that focuses on supporting teachers in applying the Nevada Academic Content Standards based on the Common Core and the Next Generation Science Standards. The Nevada Mathematics Project supports teachers to improve their teaching of STEM subjects to enhance student learning.

“Our goal with this project isn’t just to offer high-quality professional development for teachers,” Lamberg said. “It’s to impact kids. In over three years, we’ve calculated that more than 12,600 children in Nevada have benefited from this program.”

Lamberg and her team work to improve STEM education on a statewide level. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education and the Nevada Department of Education, the project incorporates the University of Nevada, Reno, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Northeastern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program; Western Regional Professional Development Program; Nevada Department of Education and every school district in Nevada, as well as some charter and private schools.

The Nevada Mathematics Project has received national and international attention. Top researchers from Northwestern University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Central Connecticut State University, Arizona State University, Appalachian State University and various mathematical reviews are collaborating with Lamberg and her team to train teachers and conduct research.
A diamond in the rough: The Bonanza Cut

by MIKE WOLTERBECK '02

Like a diamond in the rough, a small cut of beef that meat cutters typically throw in with ground meat is now being looked at as a high-end delicacy by researchers in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources.

Assistant Professor of Meat Science Amilton de Mello is redeveloping the Bonanza Cut, a small, quarter-moon-shaped slice of beef that has a taste and tenderness outclassing any other cut except filet mignon. It is a petite slice of beef ideal for grilling and practically melts in your mouth.

“Chefs and restaurants will love this cut, it can be portioned for many sizes of servings,” de Mello said. “And for meat producers, it offers a higher price point and more profits by taking this cut in a new direction.”

De Mello started developing this new cut in 2014 while working for the beef industry. With support from JBS, a world leader in processing of beef products, he conducted research on the cut at the University beginning in 2015 and found it compared extremely well against other cuts of beef.

“Meat processors will like this specialty cut for a number of reasons, including the fact that it’s very easy to trim,” de Mello said. “The industry will also like it because instead of selling it for $1 a pound as lower quality meat, they can showcase it for what it is — a premium cut worth more like $5 a pound.”

The small cut yields two pieces per beef carcass that weigh about a half of a pound combined.

“This small volume makes this cut even more special based on its high quality and low availability,” he said. “Due to its eating characteristics and unique texture, the Bonanza Cut is a new alternative to replace traditional beef cuts in many different recipes.”

Consumers won’t find the Bonanza Cut in the meat department or restaurants yet. It will be up to the meat producers, such as JBS, which funded de Mello’s research, to make the cut available.

“The day we unveiled the Bonanza Cut, customers were requesting it from meat producers,” de Mello said. “Who knows? We may see it on the shelves sooner than we think.”

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Amilton de Mello, assistant professor of meat science, shows off the Bonanza Cut, a new specialty cut that is typically used for ground meat and is now being considered one of the best, though comparatively small, high-end delicacies on par with filet mignon. © Mike Wolterbeek
Anthropology professor earns prestigious Kavli Fellowship

by JOHN TRENT ’87

True to the multidisciplinary nature of her work, and true also to a humble personality that often would rather see others praised for their contributions first, Sarah Cowie sees her latest individual honor as a reflection of the help she’s received from colleagues and students, and from the trust she’s earned from the communities and stakeholders she views as partners.

Cowie, an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology, learned earlier this month she has been selected as a Kavli Fellow by the National Academy of Sciences. She participated in the Academy’s fifteenth Japanese-American Kavli Frontiers of Science symposium in December in southern California.

The symposium series is the Academy's premiere activity for distinguished young scientists. Kavli Fellows are selected by a National Academy of Science committee from among young researchers who have already made recognized contributions to science, including recipients of major national fellowships and awards. Since its inception in 1989, more than 175 Kavli Fellows have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences and 10 have been awarded Nobel Prizes.

For Cowie, this latest honor is a continuation of a string of important professional milestones and recognitions she has received in 2016. In February, Cowie was named one of the 105 recipients of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers by President Barack Obama.

“This has certainly been the most exciting year of my career, but to receive individual recognitions for doing collaborative work is very humbling,” said Cowie, who has been at the University since 2011. “In some ways it feels not quite right, because I never would have been recognized without the important work and ideas many people shared with me.”

Cowie's most recent research, which has focused on an archeological study of the historic site of Stewart Indian School in Carson City, Nev., provides a vivid illustration of how Cowie seeks out multidisciplinary approaches to make discoveries, and perhaps even more importantly, in developing productive relationships with key stakeholder groups.

Her work at the site of Stewart Indian School, a 110-acre area with some 50 buildings, has brought welcome resources, research and attention to the old government-supported boarding school which young Native American students from throughout the region and the country were forced to attend.
Dragonfly Energy recently received a $2 million investment from Dynavolt Renewable Power Technology, a publicly traded Chinese company. A finalist in the 2014 Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition, Dragonfly Energy was founded by Denis Phares ’14 MBA, Sean Nichols ’10 (general studies), ’14 MBA, David Gong, Evan Humphreys and Justin Ferranto. It began as a research and development company, and now manufactures and markets a line of 12-volt, deep-cycle lithium-ion batteries. The investment is expected to accelerate expansion of their manufacturing capacity. The founding members will retain their ownership of the company after Dynavolt’s investment. Pictured are Denis Phares and Sean Nichols.

Slow snowmelt in the Sierras

by MIKE WOLTERBEEK ’02

Western communities are facing the effects of a warming climate with slower and earlier snowmelt, which reduces streamflows and possibly the amount of water reaching reservoirs used for drinking water and agriculture, according to a study initiated and co-authored by Adrian Harpold, an ecohydrologist in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources.

“As the climate warms, there is actually a slower snowmelt – both in timing and rates, which makes for a less efficient streamflow,” Harpold said. "I know it’s counterintuitive, but with a warming climate, snowmelt starts sooner in the season, and at a slower rate because the warming occurs earlier when days are shorter and we have less sunlight. What makes runoff less efficient is that slower snowmelt reduces the amount of moisture being pushed deep into the subsurface where it is less likely to evaporate.”

The paper was published in the peer-reviewed, American Geophysical Union publications Geophysical Research Letters.

“The phenomena is ubiquitous in the western U.S. The trends are consistent to all mountain ranges across the West,” Harpold said. “The Sierra is affected and, besides the Truckee River basin, northern California will feel an impact from the reduced and early streamflows. The snowpack in the Sierra is one massive reservoir that our communities, forests and river environments have come to rely on.”

Ecohydrologist Adrian Harpold from the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources takes measurements of the Sierra Nevada snowpack. He studies impacts of the Sierra Nevada snowpack on streams, rivers and reservoirs. Courtesy University of Nevada, Reno.
Orvis School of Nursing reinstated

by KERRI GARCIA ’92

Patsy L. Ruchala has been named dean of the Orvis School of Nursing at the University of Nevada, Reno, following a decision by the Nevada System of Higher Education’s Board of Regents last September. Effective Oct. 1, 2016, the reorganization reinstated, after 24 years, the Orvis School of Nursing as an independent school lead by a dean.

Ruchala said the reinstatement is significant as it elevates the school and gives it “a seat at the table” alongside nursing deans at state schools throughout the nation.

“It increases our ability to recruit research-focused faculty and gives us our own voice in the community,” she said, adding that she expects additional positive impacts from friends and donors of the Orvis School of Nursing.

“The change also will allow us to further build and enhance our programs to meet the nursing needs of Nevada. And it gives us a national presence at a much higher level.”

The change comes as the Orvis School prepares for its 60th anniversary in 2017.

Sixteen in 2016 by HANNAH RICHARDSON, Class of 2017

Sixteen new programs were added to the more than 145 top-tier degrees across the University’s colleges and schools. New programs include the biomedical engineering major, the graduate certificate in cybersecurity and the NevadaTeach minor. The University of Nevada, Reno is proud to continue to add new majors, minors and certificates to its growing list of academic programs.

Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering

“This is a major with a great job outlook that offers our students the opportunity to join a rewarding profession, intellectually and financially,” said M. Sami Fadali, professor and chair of the Electrical and Biomedical Engineering Department.

Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, Business Education

“Teaching is based on the love of learning. The University is a leader in teacher education, and we do all we can to produce well-prepared, skillfully educated teachers who will make a difference in our communities. Graduates with this degree will be a part of the business world, as well as education,” said Diana Lovendino, advisor in the College of Education.

Graduate Certificate in Nuclear Packaging

The new nuclear packaging graduate certificate teaches students how to safely transport, transfer, dispose of and store nuclear and other radioactive materials for later use in electricity, medical treatments, food sterilization and other applications.

For a complete list of the new courses, visit Nevada Today > unr.edu/nevada-today or visit the University’s degrees and programs website > unr.edu/academics
California butterfly population in decline

by MIKE WOLTERBEK '02

In a study of California butterfly populations, Matthew Forister, an associate professor of biology in the College of Science, found butterfly species are in dramatic decline in the lowlands of Northern California – and at least one of the causes could be a group of common insecticides called neonicotinoids.

Neonicotinoids, used in agriculture in the region since the mid-1990s, and also in suburban and urban areas, are similar to nicotine and powerful because of their systemic uptake by plants.

“Our four study sites are in a region that has agriculture, open areas and a large urban center: the city of Sacramento. So the butterflies have to navigate a complex landscape while looking for nectar and host plant resources,” Forister said.

The butterfly fauna has exhibited a marked decline in recent years that previous studies have attributed in part to altered climatic conditions and changes in land use. In this study, a negative relationship between neonicotinoid use and annual variation in butterfly species observations was readily detectable. The study controlled for land use, summer temperature and other factors, and the effect appears to be more severe for smaller-bodied species with fewer generations per year.

The results raise the possibility that butterflies, potentially during their time as caterpillars, are encountering plants along the margins of agriculture that have been indirectly exposed to insecticides.

“It should be remembered that our results are observational, correlative and a crude spatial scale, thus we can only suggest what could be happening,” he said. “Although we cannot establish causation, we hope that these results will inspire future experimental research with butterflies to complement similar research with honey bees.”

Forister worked with colleagues from the University of California, Davis; British Columbia and Toronto on the project. The study was published in the Royal Society Publishing Company’s scientific journal Biology Letters.
On Oct. 6, University, state and city officials celebrated the reopening of Lincoln Hall, one of the oldest buildings on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. Built in 1896, the historic Lincoln Hall underwent seismic retrofitting to repair and reinforce the brick structure. The restoration was done with great care and attention to detail, preserving historical features of the building while gaining space for faculty offices.

“We made a commitment to Lincoln’s preservation two years ago and put a plan into place,” University President Marc Johnson said. “It’s gratifying to see the plan come to fruition. The Lincoln Hall restoration has been remarkable they’ve done such a wonderful job. You may not even notice the exterior upgrades.”

Its dormers and parapets that line the rooftop, arched entryway and ornamental rock corners are all part of the Eclectic style of architecture popular at the time, which combined several styles of earlier architecture to form a new look. The style also reflected the principles of Thomas Jefferson’s plan for the University of Virginia that resulted in the Reno campus’s first quadrangle, flanked by academic and administrative buildings and student starting when the campus moved from Elko in 1885.

“We take sincerely the commitment to preserve the historical nature of our campus,” President Johnson said. “With the Quad, Manzanita Lake and 13 buildings on the National Register of Historical Places, it’s a big responsibility for our institution, one that we take quite seriously.”
The University of Nevada, Reno strives to leverage the knowledge, resources and talent on campus for the advancement of the community. The University hosts or co-sponsors a wide variety of summer youth camp programs and other family-centered activities to promote a culture of cooperation and connection. Here is a list of the top northern Nevada summer camps and activities for children, adults and families.

**ARTOWN**, a month-long celebration of the arts in Reno, including programs on campus. Call (775) 322-1538 or visit www.renosartown.com.

**CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH CENTER DAY CAMP**, for children ages 5-10. Call (775) 784-6762 or visit www.unr.edu/education/centers/cfrc.

**DAVIDSON THINK SUMMER INSTITUTE**, for exceptionally gifted students age 13-16. Call (775) 852-3483 or visit www.davidsongifted.org.

**DEAN’S FUTURE SCHOLARS**, an academic outreach program to encourage low-income, diverse and first-generation students to attend college. Contact Mariluz Garcia, (775) 784-4323 or mcgarcia@washoeschools.net, or visit www.unr.edu/education/centers/dfs.

**ENGINEERING SUMMER CAMPS**, for students age 12-18. Call (775) 784-6925, email ebozsik@unr.edu or visit www.unr.edu/engineering.

**FLEISCHMANN PLANETARIUM AND SCIENCE CENTER**, programs and exhibits for all ages; call (775) 784-4812 or visit www.planetarium.unr.nevada.edu.


**KIDS UNIVERSITY**, an educational day camp for children entering grades 2-8. Call Extended Studies, (775) 784-4062 or visit http://kidsu.unr.edu/.

**MOVIES AT THE JOE**, dates vary. Call the Joe Crowley Student Union, (775) 784-6505, or visit www.unr.edu/studentunion.

**NEVADA BOYS STATE**, a leadership and citizenship training program for qualified high school juniors. Call (888) 646-6594, email info@nevadaboysstate.org or visit www.nevadaboysstate.org.

**OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE (OLLI)**, educational experiences for adults 50 and over. Call (775) 784-8053, email olli@unr.edu or visit www.olli.unr.edu.

**READING AND WRITING TUTORING** at the E.L. Cord Foundation Center for Learning and Literacy for elementary students in first grade and up. Call (775) 784-4951 or visit www.unr.edu/cll/tutoring.

**SMALLWOOD MULTIMEDIA BOOT CAMP**, rigorous instruction by University faculty and staff using multimedia equipment and software in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center @One Department for a select group of northern Nevada high school students entering their senior year. Following the camp, students will continue to have access to the Knowledge Center’s facilities and staff during their senior year of high school. Call Jacqueline Grant, (775) 682-5669 or jackieg@unr.edu, or visit http://media.unr.edu/knowledge_center/Smallwood.

**PACK PICNICS ON THE QUAD**, free and family friendly, co-sponsored by the Nevada Alumni Association and Summer Session. Call (775) 784-4652 or visit www.summersession.unr.edu.

**UPWARD BOUND**, a free college preparatory program for qualified students. Call (775) 784-4978 or visit www.unr.edu/upward-bound.

**WOLF PACK SPORTS CAMPS**, including football, baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, softball and volleyball camps; call (775) 784-4062 or visit www.unr.edu/sportscamps.

**SUMMER CAMPS AT LAKE TAHOE**

**THE NEVADA 4-H CAMP** is owned and operated by the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. The camp sits on 32 shoreline acres on the south shore of Lake Tahoe and is available for rental year round. Contact the Nevada 4-H Camp at (775) 588-6943 or visit www.unce.unr.edu/4H/camp.

**58TH ANNUAL LAKE TAHOE MUSIC CAMP** for musicians entering grades 8-12; dates available at www.unredu/mtc. Contact Chris Money at Extended Studies, (775) 784-4046 or cmoney@unr.edu.

**NEVADA GIRLS STATE**, leadership and citizenship training program for qualified high school seniors. Call (775) 224-0073 or nevadagirlsstate@gmail.com, or visit www.nevadagirlsstate.net.

**4-H YOUTH EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP CAMPS**, various dates in July and August. Call the University of Nevada 4-H Program Office at (775) 784-6206 or visit www.unce.unr.edu/4H.
Former Wolf Pack star and current NBA Charlotte Hornets point guard Ramon Sessions has donated $1 million towards the development of a basketball practice facility on the University of Nevada, Reno campus.

The Ramon Sessions Basketball Performance Center will be housed in what is currently Lombardi Recreation Center, just south of Mackay Stadium. With the E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center set to open early in 2017, Lombardi will be renovated and converted into this new state-of-the-art facility. Construction is expected to begin in late winter and completed by August of 2017.

“For me, giving back to the University means a lot,” said Sessions, who is in his 10th season in the NBA and first year back in Charlotte with the Hornets after a previous stint with the Bobcats. He returns to Reno annually to put on a summer clinic for area children.

“This was always a second home for me, a place that gave me a chance when a lot of schools didn’t. Coming up as a college kid, we didn’t always have access to a gym. For me, with 10 years in the NBA, I’m blessed to give back to my second home. I’m excited about it. I know the coaches are excited about it. And once this gets going, I know the community will be excited about it,” Sessions said.

Sessions played for the Wolf Pack from 2004-07, leading the team to three straight Western Athletic Conference championships and three NCAA Tournament appearances. He was selected in the second round of the 2007 NBA Draft by the Milwaukee Bucks and has played for seven NBA teams over his 10-year career.

In addition to the dedicated space for basketball, the project will service all student-athletes at Nevada when the Wolf Pack’s strength and conditioning program moves to a much larger footprint within the building. Additionally, locker room space will be developed in the building for other Wolf Pack teams. The swimming pool and dive tank will remain in place for the swimming and diving teams, which came off a Mountain West championship this year.

“This project is game-changing for the Wolf Pack and will have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of students for years to come. On behalf of the athletics department and the University, I want to thank Ramon for this historic gift to his alma mater,” said athletics director Doug Knuth. “The University of Nevada provides a tremendous opportunity for achievement in all facets of life. Ramon seized his opportunity at Nevada and we’re incredibly proud of all that he’s achieved, on and off the court.”

The Ramon Sessions Basketball Performance Center is the culmination of a unique collaboration between University administration, intercollegiate athletics and the community. With the arrival of the E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center, University President Marc Johnson, Vice President for Administration and Finance Ron Zurek and Knuth worked closely together on maximizing the use of existing facilities which would have a dramatic impact on our programs’ competitiveness, at a fraction of the cost. Once the Lombardi was identified as a basketball practice facility, athletics was then able to engage the community and share the vision.

“We thank Ramon Sessions for this truly transformative gift,” said University President Marc Johnson. “Never before in the history of the University has a former student-athlete made such a significant and program-chang-
ing commitment. His donation will allow Wolf Pack athletics to better serve all of our student-athletes for generations to come. Since leaving campus in 2007 to pursue his dreams, Ramon has represented the University and the northern Nevada community with great dignity and class. We are so proud of Ramon and grateful for his generosity, and the generosity of the other key donors in our community, that have made the Ramon Sessions Basketball Performance Center a reality.”

The $1 million donation is the largest ever given to the Nevada athletics department by one of its alumni. It is the lead gift on a project that will come in around $2 million, with nearly a dozen donors also supporting it.

“We are extremely humbled and honored by Ramon’s gift,” said men’s coach Eric Musselman. “His generosity will not only serve our current student-athletes as they aspire towards their dreams, but pave the way for years and years of championship sustainability here at Nevada. This gift speaks volumes, not only to Ramon’s commitment to current and future student-athletes, but to his own incredibly positive experience here at Nevada. We wish Ramon the absolute best as he prepares for his upcoming NBA season with the Charlotte Hornets.”

The facility will provide year-round court space for both Wolf Pack teams. The project calls for a new gym, floor, lights and scoreboard, with eight baskets in the court area. The men’s and women’s teams will also have new locker room space in the building.

“I know that Wolf Pack fans are as excited as my team is for this facility and all of the improvements for our basketball programs at Nevada,” said women’s coach Jane Albright. “We saw a significant upgrade to our locker room in the offseason, and Lawlor has a fantastic new floor and a state of the art scoreboard coming in. This is a great time for the basketball programs at Nevada.”

The Ramon Sessions Basketball Performance Center is the latest in a string of facility improvements at Nevada. The Wolf Pack just ushered in an $11.5 million renovation at Mackay Stadium and a separate project brought new video boards to Mackay and Lawlor, and a new sound system at the football stadium.

The Pack also saw new facilities come on board for the tennis and track programs, with six new on-campus tennis courts and a new throws facility on the eastern edge of campus, and a sparkling new silver and blue track circles Chris Ault Field at Mackay Stadium. The projects came on the heels of new FieldTurf installation at Wolf Pack Park, locker room upgrades for women’s soccer, track and field, cross country, football and both basketball programs, as well as an enhanced indoor golf training center.  

To learn more about supporting the Lombardi Recreation Center renovations, contact Assistant Athletic Director, Development, Zack Madonick ’11 at (775) 682-6977 or mmadonick@unr.edu.

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**Blue Tie Ball set for Feb. 10, 2017**

The Blue Tie Ball, one of the premier social events in northern Nevada, will be held on Friday, Feb. 10, 2017.

Now in its eighth year, the scholarship gala supports student-athletes at the University. Black tie attire is required and tickets are on sale now starting at $250. This year’s event will once again be held at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino in Reno. For more information, call (775) 682-6901.

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**Wolf Pack Athletics: a visual history**

University Libraries launched a new digital collection, “Wolf Pack Athletics: A Visual History,” in conjunction with Homecoming activities this fall. The new website, nevadawolfpack.com/digital, is an homage to Nevada athletics, full of photos, videos, sound clips and interactive maps to give viewers a sense of its long and distinguished history. The site covers all University sports, from the first teams that were formed in the late 19th-century to contemporary teams and individual athletes.

The online collection was curated by Special Collections, University Archives and Nevada Wolf Pack Media Services. Viewers get a glimpse of the deep history of the Wolf Pack, including athletes and coaches, teams, rivalries and the fans who all contribute to the complete athletic experience at the University of Nevada, Reno.

“We really wanted to tell a vibrant, visual story of men’s and women’s athletics here at the University,” said Amy Hunsaker, digital initiatives librarian. “The digital images used in the website were entrusted to the library by the University’s athletics department for preservation and safekeeping.”
Thanks to our incredible sponsors for helping rally our community to make March from the Arch a success.

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* ex-officio member
For 2017, the Nevada Alumni Council will be led by Mary-Ann (Merlo) Brown ’85, ’96 M.S. and six executive committee officers. We also welcome four new board members this year.

2017 Nevada Alumni Council

MARY-ANN (MERLO) BROWN ’85, ’96 M.S.
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CHRISTOPHER SMITH ’11

SCOTT WALQUIST ’02
Land a new job? Climb a mountain or sail across the ocean? Get married or have a baby? We want to hear about it! Submit your Class Chat at unr.edu/silverandblue/classchat.

1960s

GARY TACHOIRES ’64 (chemistry) is not at all slowed down by his lower-extremity Parkinson’s. He and his wife, GEORGIA ’62 (elementary education), ‘67 M.Ed., ‘75 Ed.Sc., have traveled eight times recently, three to Alaska, one to the East Coast, one to Panama and three to Europe. They also have one trip scheduled this January to New Zealand. Traveling keeps Gary and Georgia lively and active. They still love their Reno home and have a son and grandson in San Francisco.

1970s

DOUGLAS D. PIIRTO ’70 (renewable natural resources) has received two lifetime career achievement awards. He recently retired as department head and professor from Cal Poly, San Louis Obispo. He is now the owner of Crestline Forestry Consultants and Piirto Farm in Michigan.

RONALD M. JAMES ’78 (history and anthropology), ‘81 M.A. (history) was inducted into the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame in 2014. On Sept. 3, 2016, he was initiated into the Gorsedh Kernow, an organization that maintains the national Celtic spirit of Cornwall, for his writings on Cornish immigration and folklore. Ron is the only bard inducted this year from North America.

1980s

DAN BURNETT ’84 (biology), ’89 M.D. recently retired from the United States Air Force after 26 years as an active duty family physician, flight surgeon, and public health and preventive medicine physician. Dan and his wife, Sara, are making their new home in San Diego, but hope to return to Reno/Sparks more frequently in the coming years.

1990s

WILLIAM “BUZZ” HARRIS ’90 (political science) recently changed careers after 25 years in public affairs. He is now a licensed business broker at The Liberty Group of Nevada. Buzz and his wife of six years, Caroline Crowell Harris, reside in Reno and have two daughters, Ashley and Lindsey.

SCOTT STANTON ’89 MBA is senior director of finance at Salem State University in Salem, Mass., where he oversees all financial and accounting applications and processes. On the weekends he can be found sailing out of Marblehead Harbor and all along the North Shore.

JOELLE JAY ’92 (education) recently co-authored a book with Howard Morgan, “The New Advantage: How Women in Leadership Create Win-Wins for Their Companies and Themselves.” Joelle specializes in the advancement of executive women, and she is proud to have supported the development of top talent into positions of leadership for many successful companies, including MetLife, Adobe and Microsoft.

LESLEY COHEN ’93 (political science) was elected to the Nevada Assembly to represent Assembly District 29, which is mostly in Henderson. Lesley served in the 2013 session and is excited to see the recent changes to the Nevada campus.

RICHARD TOLEDO ’90 (social psychology) is assistant vice president of enrollment management at Dominican University of California, a liberal arts institution in San Rafael. He oversees the offices of undergraduate and graduate admissions and financial aid. Rich enjoys hiking the trails and beaches of Marin County with his family and teaching his daughter how to surf.

WENDY (WYNESS) DAMONTE ’94 (journalism and Spanish) is vice president of advocacy and community partnerships at Renown Health in Reno. Renown is the largest not-for-profit health system in northern Nevada. Wendy is working on programs and initiatives to make all Nevadans healthier. Prior to joining Renown, Wendy spent 21 years as an anchor/reporter at KTVN, the CBS affiliate in Reno.
SEAN M. EVANS ‘94 MPA recently published an article in The Journal of Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism and one in Taylor & Francis Online called “Developing Sustainable Security: Police Intelligence in Post-Conflict Reconstruction.”

JERRY HOGAN ‘94 (civil engineering) is chief estimator and partner at Clark & Sullivan Construction in Sparks, Nev. Jerry is leading the renovation of the Palmer Engineering Building on campus. Nevada’s historic buildings were his favorite part of his time at the University, and he is excited to preserve the history in this renovation project. Jerry also played Wolf Pack basketball from 1990-1994.

NICOLA (NIKI) NEILON ‘95 (general studies) has been nominated mountain region director of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

KIRSTEN MASHINTER ‘98 (English), ‘03 M.A. (teaching English as a second language) has been selected by the United States Department of State to serve as an English language specialist in Tajikistan where she will give workshops on reading and writing strategies to public school teachers and university lecturers.

JENNIFER ANDREWS-LEISE ‘04 (criminal justice) recently won her election to the Mayfield Board of Education. She took office in July 2016. Jennifer works for docSTAR, an ECM solutions company, and lives in Mayfield, N.Y. with her husband, Randy, and daughter, Abbey.

MONICA MYLES ‘04 (journalism) promotes the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation as the partner liaison for Nevada Donor Network. She develops and supports partnerships with hospitals and other organizations that play important roles in the donation process, works to educate the public about the life-changing impact of donation and encourages people to register as donor heroes.

BILL WEST ‘05 (speech communications), ‘07 M.A. (speech communications) is co-owner of Bareknuckle Brand Marketing in Reno, a company that takes the gloves off to help business owners create and grow meaningful brands. Last year, Bill merged his first company, GhostWest, with another Reno-based company to create Bareknuckle. Bill remains connected with the University by hiring interns and employees from the journalism school.

WES CAPPS ‘07 (management) recently joined ITS Logistics’ Brokerage Division, ITS National, as a carrier specialist. Drew is also on the board of the College of Business Alumni Association and is a member of the Young Alumni Chapter.

PETER A. KOPP ’12 Ph.D. (history) is assistant professor and director of public history at New Mexico State University. He published his first book, “Hoptopia: A World of Agriculture and Beer in Oregon’s Willamette Valley,” which delves into the contents of your pint glass to discover a rich history of the environment, culture, economy, labor and science.

BRIAN SANDOVAL ‘86 (politics) was a law clerk to Mark Gibbons at the Nevada Supreme Court, and completed externships with Trustee Emeritus WILLIAM G. COBB ’71 (economics) on the U.S. District Court, District of Nevada and Nevada Gov. BRIAN SANDOVAL ’86 (English).

JENNY PERRY ’10 (marketing) and KRISTAL PYATT ’10 (journalism) have created a local book editing company, Pypeline Editing. The duo started the company in 2013 and uses the lessons they learned at Nevada to help writers take ideas to reality. They both live in Reno.
committee secretary of transportation for the Nevada Legislature in 2013.

BRIEN HAYES ’13 (political science) recently graduated from Grand Canyon University with a master’s of public administration. He is currently pursuing a juris doctor at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego.

PATRICK HARRIS ’14 (marketing), author of the superhero series, The Waterman Chronicles, recently completed the novel “Silver Rain,” which has been nominated for several book awards, including a Pulitzer Prize for Best in Fiction. The story is set in Reno and discusses themes of discrimination vs. acceptance while following everyday Americans after a mad scientist launches a toxin in the rain that turns it silver.

NICK LESTER ’16 (marketing) recently joined ITS Logistics’ Brokerage Division, ITS National, as a carrier specialist. He is responsible for defining business needs, developing procurement strategy, supplier selection and evaluation, as well as contract negotiation.

BRYAN ORELLANA ’16 (international business) recently joined ITS Logistics’ Brokerage Division, ITS National, as the head of the departures division in the transportation management department. He is responsible for scheduling, route planning and high-level client communication.
Katie (Revelino) Rada ’06 (health ecology) and Brandyn Rada ’05 (environmental and natural resource science) announce the birth of Colton James on July 16, 2016. Colton joins big brother, Levi.

Elyse (Smith) Hansen ’03 (elementary education) and Dale “Travis” Hansen announce the birth of Remy Royal on March 25, 2016. Remy joins big sister, Elliott Maeve.

Susan N. Smith ’00 (health science) announces the adoption of Jackson Benet on Nov. 18, 2015. Jackson was born May 13, 2014.

Caleb Jensen ’07 (accounting) and Sarah Painter announce the birth of Miles Robert on Sept. 12, 2015.

Tamara (Guinn) Steinmann ’09 (management), ’15 M.S. (human development and family studies) and Gordon Steinmann ’06 (chemistry) announce the birth of Layla Ann on June 3, 2016.

Jon Salisbury ’08 (criminal justice) and Ashley (Guidry) Salisbury ’07 (journalism), ’13 M.S. (equity & diversity in education settings) announce the birth of Landry Hale on June 13, 2016. Landry joins big brother, Jace.

Sam DiMuzio ’02 (elementary education) ’12 (animal science) and Brian DiMuzio announce the birth of Crystal Rose on Dec. 11, 2015.

Danny Wadhams ’09 (management) and Courtney B. Wadhams announce the birth of Maya James on July 9, 2016.

Jackson Benet

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Maya James

Danny Wadhams ’09 (management) and Courtney B. Wadhams announce the birth of Maya James on July 9, 2016.

Cheyenne Elizabeth

Jon Salisbury ’08 Ph.D. (atmospheric science) and Kelly Lee announce the birth of Cheyenne Elizabeth on Oct. 3, 2016.

Sam DiMuzio ’02 (elementary education) ’12 (animal science) and Brian DiMuzio announce the birth of Crystal Rose on Dec. 11, 2015.

Crystal Rose

Sophia (Raphael) Cardinal ’10 (accounting) and Andrew Cardinal ’09 (criminal justice) are overjoyed to announce the birth of Henry Cole on May 18, 2016. Henry joins big sister, Evaline.

Henry Cole

WOLFPUPS
Mary-Ann Brown ’85, ’96 M.S.
President, Nevada Alumni Council

Like most healthcare professionals, Mary-Ann Brown ’85 (nursing), ’96 M.S. (nursing) has a passion for helping people. But she is also deeply motivated to develop programs and initiatives that impact the whole community, in addition to individual patients. Mary-Ann’s career has taken her from intensive-care nursing in Reno, to travel nursing in Australia, to a stint as executive director of the Children’s Cabinet, to Renown, where she serves as director of palliative care. And it all began right here at the University of Nevada.

Mary-Ann’s specialty is hospice and palliative care. Guiding families through life-altering illnesses and end-of-life issues is a delicate subject, and discussing the complexities of terminal diseases is a conversation many shy away from. Not Mary-Ann. “It’s a privilege to be invited by patients and their families to help when they are at their most vulnerable,” she said.

This passion to help when she’s most needed has been a constant theme throughout her career, a passion she discovered as a student at the Orvis School of Nursing. “The biggest influence on my career, Mary-Ann said, “was my experience at the University. That’s where I discovered my passion for bioethics, and professors like Dr. Barbara Thornton helped me make key introductions in the community that I rely on to this day.”

Mary-Ann is mission driven and constantly seeks opportunities to be a change agent. At Renown, she and Dr. Kelle Brogan developed the new multidisciplinary inpatient palliative care program that she now directs. Mary-Ann spends her days directly helping patients and families deal with the most difficult situations in their lives. She is also committed to moving the state and University forward. She is president of the Nevada Alumni Council and vice president of the Nevada State Board of Nursing, and she sits on numerous other boards and committees devoted to health care and education.

But the highlight of her career traces right back to where it all began. This spring, Mary-Ann will sit on stage representing Nevada alumni during Commencement when her daughter walks across to accept her diploma. “I’m so proud of this University, what it’s given me and my family, and for what my education has allowed me to do,” she said.

So are we, Mary-Ann.
JANELLE (KING) GODOY '15 (integrated elementary teaching) and BRIAN GODOY '15 (criminal justice) were married June 18, 2016 in Graeagle, Calif.

ERIN (CARR) BROOKS '14 M.A. (psychology) and JACK BROOKS '08 (materials science and engineering), '14 MBA were married March 28, 2015 at the Bard Mansion in Port Hueneme, Calif.

LAURA EAST ’09 (nutrition) and Trevor Pease were married April 16, 2016 in Seattle.

NIKI NEILON ’95 (general studies) and PAUL GOSSI ’90 MBA were married June 4, 2016 at the Pink House in Genoa, Nev.

BRADLEY AUSTIN ’10 (biology) and DANIELLE (DAVIS) AUSTIN ’13 (philosophy) were married Sept. 10, 2016 at Red Hawk Golf and Resort.

CASEY STITELER ’12 (political science) and JORDAN (WOLL) STITELER ’12 (community health science) were married Aug. 8, 2015 at Kirkwood Mountain Resort near Lake Tahoe.
Family, friends, college deans and University administrators joined the Nevada Alumni Association to recognize graduates with one of the most prestigious awards at the University — the Senior Scholar distinction. The December 8 event honored the graduating student with the highest grade-point average in their respective school or college. Also recognized were the mentors selected by each scholar as having the greatest impact on their studies.

FRONT ROW (left to right): Scholar Megan Breen (Liberal Arts), Scholar Melissa Mazzuca (CABNR), Scholar Megan Evans (Health Sciences), Scholar Connor Klein (Business), Scholar Sarah Parks (Journalism), Scholar Sarah Dover (Science).

BACK ROW (left to right): Scholar Moryah Hennessy (Education), Mentor Linda VanCitters (Education), Mentor John Petey (Liberal Arts), Mentor Julie Stoughton (CABNR), Mentor Nora Constantino (Health Sciences & Business), Scholar Graham Koenig (Nursing), Mentor Kimberly Baxter (Nursing), Mentor Nicolas Colombant (Journalism), Mentor Anna Kalminskaia (Science), Mentor Eric Marchand (Engineering), Scholar Connor Farrell (Engineering).

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
Scholar: Sarah Dover
Mentor: Anna Kalminskaia
GPA: 3.992

DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Scholar: Megan Evans
Mentor: Dr. Nora Constantino
GPA: 3.924

DONALD W. REYNOLDS SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM
Scholar: Sarah Parks
Mentor: Nicolas Colombant
GPA: 3.895

ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING
Scholar: Graham P. Koenig
Mentor: Dr. Kimberly Baxter
GPA: 3.967

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Scholar: Connor Klein
Mentor: Dr. Nora Constantino
GPA: 3.98
The Nevada Cheer and Spirit Alumni Chapter at the annual field introduction during halftime of the Homecoming football game Oct. 22.

Nevada Cheer and Spirit Alumni Chapter
Elliot E. Sparkman '04
eesparkman@gmail.com

Fall kicked off with our fourth annual Cheers to Happy Hour where we raised $3,400 in scholarships for the current team. Thank you to Greenstreet, Napa Sonoma, Sapphire Wines, Morrey Distributing, our generous sponsors who donated for our silent auction, and all those who purchased tickets to attend.

We celebrated Homecoming 2016 with our largest events yet! Our social took place at Roundabout Grill where we watched the March from the Arch. Our Tailgate included Famous Dave’s BBQ, Tahoe Blue Vodka, Bud Light, chapter merchandise from Silver and Blue Outfitters and a visit from the current team. We then had our annual field introduction and a block of seats to cheer on the Pack together! Thank you to Creative Coverings, Camelot, Action Design and Greenstreet.

College of Business Alumni Association
Vick Wowo ’11
vwowo@whitneypeakhotel.com

COBAA hosted a reception following the Career Fair Networking Event at the Little Waldorf Oct. 18, where the board of directors helped alumni and students get a better understanding of what the chapter does to support alumni, students, the college and the University.

In September we released the fifth annual publication of our magazine, N Venture. If you haven’t had a chance to take a peek, issues of the magazine are available around campus and online at www.cobaa.org.

We’re excited to announce new events for 2017 that will engage and excite College of Business alumni and students. To learn more about COBAA and to find out how to join, please contact VP of Membership Megan Lowe-Lynch ’10 at mlowe@chaseinternational.com.


Asian American Pacific Islander Alumni Chapter
Monika Mala ’08, ’12 M.A.
Nevada.AAPI.Alumni@gmail.com

The AAPI Alumni Chapter raised nearly $2,000 during the annual Mystery Bus Trip fundraiser Oct. 14! A packed bus of 56 alumni and friends discovered new bars and restaurants around Reno. All proceeds from the event go towards scholarships for AAPI undergraduate students.

We will celebrate the fifth year hosting the AAPI graduation celebration this spring. Faculty, staff, alumni and friends will welcome the newest graduates to the ranks of proud Nevada alumni.

Nevada Football Alumni Association
Matt Airoldi ’94
tgratsunami61@yahoo.com

Homecoming 2016 marked the 50th reunion of the 1966 team and anniversary of Mackay Stadium. To celebrate, the Block N Society and the Football Alumni Chapter held a tailgate where alumni and friends gathered before the game.

Our annual Poker Tournament is again planned for spring, so stay tuned and visit us online for updates. You can also follow our Facebook pages, Nevada Football Alumni and Nevada Wolfpack Blackshirts, or on Twitter, @NevadaFBAAlumni.
Nevada Bay Area Alumni Chapter
Jocelyn Weart ’00
nvbaac@gmail.com

The Nevada Bay Area Alumni Chapter was named Chapter of the Year for 2016 and recognized at the Homecoming Gala and football game! We also celebrated this award with fellow alumni in September at Seven Stills Brewery in San Francisco. We can’t thank our members enough for making this possible!

We had incredible turnouts for football this year with a viewing party at Brasserie Saint James in San Francisco for the Notre Dame game and a tailgate for the SJSU game in San Jose. Next year, we’re planning our Warriors’ tailgate for April 8, so stay tuned for more details!

As always, please stay in touch on Facebook and our website, nvbaac.com.

Fallon Alumni Chapter
Cheryl Venturacci
cventuracci@cccomm.net

The Fallon Alumni Chapter was busy this summer and fall raising scholarship money for local Churchill County seniors. We also held our first Italian Dinner Aug. 26 at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Fallon, where more than 100 Wolf Pack fans feasted on spaghetti, salad, Italian green beans and affogato. It was a great night of dancing, a silent auction, a raffle, and great food and drink!

On Oct. 8 the chapter sponsored a rooter bus from Fallon to watch Nevada defeat Fresno State. Forty Wolf Pack fans stopped at Woody’s Bar and Grill for lunch and libations before the game.

Because of the generosity of our boosters, we will be awarding three $1,000 scholarships to seniors this spring.

Native American Alumni Chapter
Stephanie Wyatt ’12
swyatt1031@gmail.com

The Native American Alumni Chapter had a busy fall! We kicked off Homecoming by participating in the March from the Arch with our Pow Wow Royalty and Native American Student group. For Native American Heritage month, we partnered with University Athletics and The Center to bring Bunky Echo-Hawk, Nike's N7 Ambassador, to campus Nov. 11. During select games in November, the basketball teams wore turquoise uniforms, a color that represents harmony, friendship and fellowship in Native American culture. And in September, the NAAC and The Center hosted a welcome back barbecue for new and returning students and their families.

Lifetime chapter memberships are now available at $300 for individuals or $500 per couple. To learn more about the chapter or to become a member, please visit us online or contact Stephanie Wyatt.
Sacramento Alumni Chapter
Steve Park ’99
steve.park@tricommercial.com

The Sacramento Alumni Chapter has been very active lately with luncheons, wine tasting and road tripping to Notre Dame to support the Wolf Pack. We had a full Homecoming schedule, with members attending the Gala, March from the Arch, a social at Whitney Peak, and pre-game parties and tailgates.

Congratulations to Bill Chaffin ’66 for being nominated to the Sigma Nu, Delta Xi Chapter Legion of Honor. Since its inception in 1959, Bill joins only 92 other “Snakes” in recognition of his service to the fraternity and the University.

Please join us for our annual Mystery Dinner Bus Trip Saturday, Feb. 11. For more information, contact Chapter President Steve Park.

Young Alumni Chapter
McKenna Peri ’11, ’12
mckennaperi@gmail.com

The Young Alumni Chapter hosted many lively tailgate parties this season and had a blast backing the Pack! We also congratulated and recruited new graduates with our Mimosa & Membership event at The Lil Wal for winter Commencement. The chapter hosted a festive ugly Christmas sweater mixer in December and looks forward to hosting a bowling mixer in January and a roller skating night in February!

We are excited to announce our 24th annual Beer Fest fundraiser will be held Friday, April 21. Please save the date! Chapter membership is only $10 per year and can be purchased on our website, nevadayac.com. To stay in touch, please like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram at nevadayoungalum.

Student Ambassadors Alumni Chapter
Priscilla Acosta ’10
pnacosta@gmail.com

It was great seeing familiar faces as we said “so long” to summer at our End-of-Summer Bowling Bash. We also hosted our biggest tailgate to date, where we were joined by our two-time tailgate throw down champion as well as the Pride of the Sierra Marching Band.

We had a great time at our annual Home Away From Home Thanksgiving dinner, ugly sweater party, basketball games and more during the fall and winter.

We are also very excited about our new scholarship fund! Thanks to the generosity of a former adviser, Richard Wood ’02, ’05 MBA, ’16 M.A., we will soon award the first scholarship to a deserving undergraduate Student Ambassador. We rely on generous donations to maintain this fund, so please contact Priscilla Acosta to set up your contributions.

Orvis School of Nursing Alumni Association
Jan (Pritchard) Brady ’63, ’88 MBA
lvcrrsswrds@aol.com

We are thrilled to announce that the Nevada System of Higher Education’s Board of Regents voted in September to reinstate the Orvis School of Nursing as an independent school. On Oct. 1, Patsy Ruchala assumed the position of dean of the school. Congratulations to Dean Ruchala and the Orvis School of Nursing!

OSNAA joined the OSNA in the March to the Arch for a fun walk with the students. We will make it a yearly tradition!

The Diamond Jubilee Gala Celebration for the 60th anniversary of the Orvis School of Nursing will be held April 22. Plans are nearly complete and it promises to be a very lovely evening at the Atlantis Casino and Resort. This is going to be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our school and to reminisce with old chums about the days we spent on the Nevada campus in the Orvis School of Nursing. See you there!
The Nevada Alumni Association and ASUN partnered for another memorable event Friday, Oct. 21 to kick off Homecoming weekend. Students, alumni and community members gathered for the ASUN Homecoming parade then marched from the Reno Arch up to the University Quad for the Homecoming pep rally. We are grateful to the numerous sponsors who make this event the success it is each year.

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alumni gatherings
2016 Homecoming Gala

The Nevada Alumni Association honored alumni and friends of the University for their professional achievements and generous support Oct. 20 during the 2016 Homecoming Gala in the Joe Crowley Student Union. 📸 THERESA DANNA-DOUGLAS

1. 2016 College of Business Distinguished Alumnus Butch Anderson ’81 and Susan Anderson ’96 MBA.
5. Former first lady Dawn Gibbons ’02, Alumni Association Service Honoree Dr. Erin Russell ’00, NSHE Regent Jason Geddes and Nevada Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske.

E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center Tour

The Nevada Alumni Council was given a sneak peak at the soon-to-open E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center Dec. 2. The tour was conducted by Jim Fitzsimmons ’91, ’97 M.S., ’12 Ed.D., director of campus recreation and wellness. 📸 COURTNEY B. WADHAMS

6. Standing in the center of the main strength and conditioning area, the Nevada Alumni Council was impressed with the architectural features of the new building.
7. The Nevada Alumni Council looks down onto the 1/8 mile indoor running track. With regular-sized steps on one side and deeper steps on the other, the stadium stairway will allow members the experience of running up the Mackay stadiums right in the middle of the fitness center.
2016 Homecoming Tailgates

Football tailgates are a long-standing Nevada tradition. During this year’s Homecoming celebration they helped welcome alumni and friends to campus as well as provided another opportunity to recognize Nevada Alumni Association award recipients on Oct. 22 prior to the Nevada vs. Wyoming game at Mackay Stadium.

1 2016 Alumnus of the Year, Chuck Jeannes ’80, with President Marc Johnson.
2 Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers with Foundation Trustee Dan Rovig.
3 Members of the 2016 Outstanding Chapter of the Year, the Nevada Bay Area Alumni Chapter, Chris Strader ’05, ’07 MBA, Shenea Strader ’05, ’07 MBA, Jocelyn Weart ’00 and David Farkouh.
4 Alumni Association Service Award recipient Dr. Erin Russell ’00 and NSHE Regent Trevor Hayes with their children, Ellie and Grant.
5 Pat ’72, ’79 Ed.Sc. and Karen Perry ’75; Gene O’Brien ’74, Teresa Mackey ’81, ’83 M.S.; Barbara ’78 and Professor Emeritus Elwood Miller; Joanne Ray ’76; Michelle and Don Reynolds ’73, ’77 M.Ed.

6 2016 Outstanding Young Alumna Abbi Whitaker ’04, Ty Whitaker ’03, Mariel and Tony Sharron, Aylee Sharron, Te’a Heister, Eden Whitaker.
7 The Nevada Alumni Association is proud of this entire lineup of outstanding alumni.
8 Ann Marie Melcher ’80, Press Clewe ’73, Nevada Alumni Council member Delores Clewe ’69 and Regent Kevin Melcher ’79, ’81 M.S.

The Nevada Alumni Association hosts many events year round for alumni, friends and family.

Visit us online to find one near you.
A Nevada Tradition

The Harris Family’s connection to the University of Nevada, Reno began in 1907 and 1911 when siblings Walter and Edith Claire Harris enrolled, and they were both awarded the University’s prestigious Herz Gold Medal for scholarship. In the following decades, many Harris family members would attend and graduate. Their educations provided the foundations for life-long success.

Over the generations, Harris family descendants have embarked on such professions as mining, banking, law, business, engineering, education, medicine, military, philanthropy, local and state elected leadership, and the arts both in and outside of Nevada.

Mapping the Harris family history provides a snapshot of how education serves as a positive force in shaping lives and communities over the course of time. The Harris family is proud of their connections to the University’s growth and development as it continues to contribute to Nevada’s future.
How many University of Nevada alumni make up your family tree? Let us know, and you could all be featured in an upcoming issue of Nevada Silver & Blue. For details, visit unr.edu/alumni/magazine or call 888.NV ALUMS.
Lincoln Hall

by MIKE WOLTERBECK ’02 • photos by THERESA DANNA-DOUGLAS

As the University continues to expand to meet the needs of a growing student body with state-of-the-art facilities, it honors its rich history through many preservation projects across campus. The $8.5 million renovation of Lincoln Hall is part of a campus-wide commitment to historical preservation that totals approximately $26 million invested in renovation of a number of historic structures, including Palmer Engineering and Thompson Hall.

Lincoln Hall, one of the most iconic buildings on the University of Nevada, Reno campus, recently turned 120 years old.

Opened in 1896, Lincoln Hall served as the first men’s dormitory and housed nearly 20,000 students until it was closed as a residence hall in May 2015. Through the years, it went through a series of renovations to ensure the facility met the needs of its residents, including updates to the plumbing and electrical systems. Recently, however, concerns about the integrity of the building in the event of an earthquake, in addition to other safety concerns, necessitated a more radical renovation plan.

The primary safety concern the building faced was the use of unreinforced masonry that was common at the time of its construction. The walls of Lincoln Hall contained no rebar or steel, leaving the building vulnerable to large earthquakes.

“Lincoln Hall was in critical need of a ‘life safety’ retrofit to ensure the safety of its occupants and those who walk near this historic building,” Graham Kent, director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory, said. “During the process of...
retrofit, it became clear that Lincoln Hall had no basic ability to sustain lateral shear or motion from a significant earthquake. That scenario is no longer the case as significant effort has been done to give it lateral strength, the reduction of peeling bricks and other life-saving measures.”

Working with the State Historical Preservation Office, the Nevada Seismological Laboratory and a design agent who specializes in historic structures, the University devised a plan not only to address seismic and safety concerns, but also mechanical, plumbing, phone and data improvements. Further, the renovations incorporate Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant access upgrades.

“Our local architects worked with experts in historical preservation structural engineering and architects who specialize in protecting the historically significant components of the building,” John Walsh, director of Capital Improvement Projects and project manager, said. “We’ve retained the legacy of the building through this process—repairing and reinforcing the brick structure, replacing some of the original components lost over time. We’re matching original colors and other design features.”

After the completion of these extensive renovations, begun in Dec. 2015, Lincoln Hall was reopened as office space for faculty and students in the College of Liberal Arts in Fall 2016, specifically housing members of the sociology, communication studies and history departments.

“By ‘living’ in this newly renovated and celebrated space, I feel connected to the long history of this University, and of my own discipline. This historic setting serves to remind me that my own seemingly ‘cutting edge’ ideas are inextricably linked to centuries of social-scientific theory and research,” Marta Elliott, professor and interim chair of sociology, said about her new office in Lincoln Hall. “I am delighted each time I hear that someone I know actually lived here, like Professor Emeritus Jim Hulse, and sharing our impressions of this marvelous space.”

Former Lincoln Hall resident and History Professor Emeritus Jim Hulse ’52 (journalism), ’58 M.A. (history) toured the new space at the reopening reception Oct. 6. A native Nevadan, former member of the Nevada State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology, and an inductee in the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame, Professor Hulse has been part of the Wolf Pack for nearly 70 years. Of Lincoln Hall’s renovations, he said, “I’m very impressed. They have kept the same structure and layout as was there when I lived in Lincoln in 1948. The new dorms [in Peavine Hall] are so much more upscale, with private bathrooms and showers. They have really made good use of this space.”

To learn more about supporting University buildings and projects, please contact John Carothers, vice president of development and alumni relations, at (775) 784-1352 or jcarothers@unr.edu.
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The Nevada Wolf Shop is one of the last college stores still owned and operated by its students (ASUN). We exist to provide professional development opportunities for students, fund scholarships, and support groups that work for the benefit of our campus community. Thank you for supporting these goals by shopping at our student store.
Thanks to the generosity of the late Peter Vardy ’55 (geological engineering), the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering has established the Peter Vardy Faculty Endowment for Engineering Geology. Founded in 1908, the Mackay School offers ten areas of emphasis to its nearly 500 undergraduate and graduate students. This endowment will bring to the department a faculty member to teach students in the most popular Mackay major: geological engineering.

Peter and Lilian began the process of establishing and funding the Peter Vardy Faculty Endowment for Engineering Geology during his lifetime. By designating the University as a beneficiary in his estate plans, Peter’s dream of creating this named faculty position became a reality.

To learn more about supporting the Mackay School, please contact Donna Knotek ‘12, ‘15 MBA, director of development, at dknotek@unr.edu or (775) 682-5952. To learn more about including the University in your estate plans, please contact Lisa Riley, director of the Office of Planned Giving, at (775) 682-6017 or lriley@unr.edu, or Brian Saeman ’98, director of development for planned giving, at (775) 682-5938 or bsaeman@unr.edu.

Peter Vardy ’55 leaves lasting legacy in the Mackay School
Becoming a member of the Nevada Alumni Association shows you support the great University you attended.
It shows that regardless of how much time has passed, the traditions and values defined by your class are not
forgotten. Be proud to call yourself an alumnus of the University of Nevada, Reno. **Keep the tradition alive.**

Your membership in the Nevada Alumni Association includes discounts at the
Nevada Wolf Shop (ASUN bookstore), reduced tailgate party admission, access to the new
E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center at the faculty rate & access to Nevada Career Studio services.