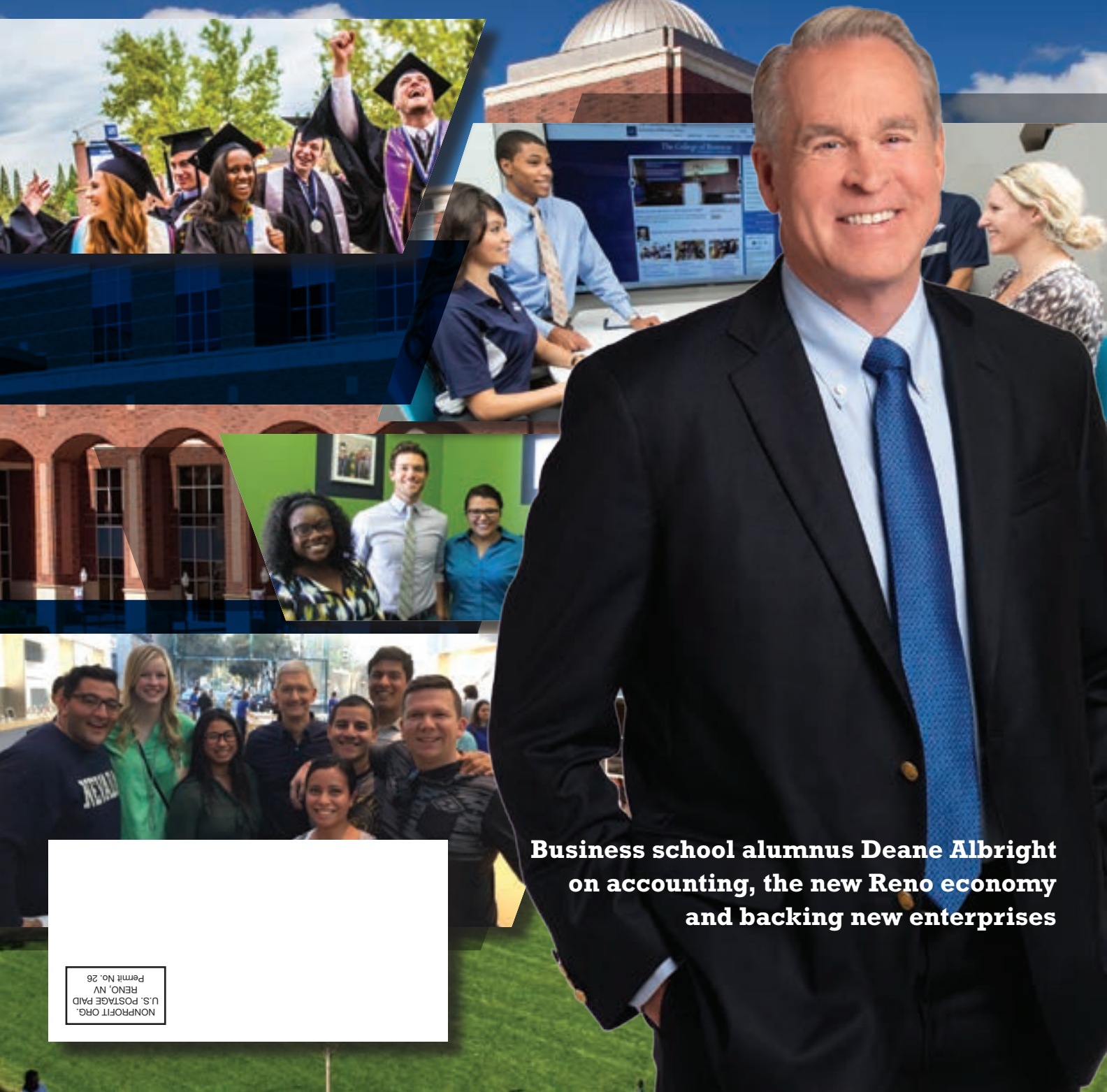


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VENTURE

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ALUMNI MAGAZINE



**Business school alumnus Deane Albright
on accounting, the new Reno economy
and backing new enterprises**

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WELCOME



During the last year the reputation of University of Nevada, Reno College of Business has continued its phenomenal growth.

The flagship MBA and EMBA programs continued to garner international recognition with rankings in

US News and World Report, BusinessWeek and the Princeton Review.

The PhD in Economics continued its success by placing students in professorial roles around the country. Finally, the specialized Master of Science programs and our core undergraduate program continued to place highly educated students with the best employers in the state, region and world.

This academic year enrollment surpassed 3,000 students majoring in business, making a major contribution to the estimated 21,000 university students now enrolled at the University.

This enrollment growth is fueled by new incoming freshman students and by high retention rates among students who are already here. Enrollment increases and retention rates reflect our success in the 21st century higher education market place.

The quality of our academic programs and the faculty who deliver them is becoming increasingly well known as you'll see in the pages that follow.

Another factor that contributes to our growth is the breadth of new programming that provides the activities and support services that students expect.

Programs such as The College of Business Corporate Partners; Nevada Global Business for student international study; the Student Outreach Center and Career Services; The Online Executive MBA; the Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship as well as activities such as Business Week; TEDxUniversityofNevada and the Honors and Awards Banquet all provide a community of scholarship that students seek when considering their higher education choices.

Finally, none of this success would be possible without the contributions and outstanding accomplishments of our alumni. Let us know how we can further engage with you.

Sincerely,

Gregory C. Mosier
Dean, College of Business



Greetings Fellow Alumni and Friends!

To say that I am passionate about the University of Nevada, Reno and more specifically, the College of Business (the College), would be an understatement. Shortly after completing my graduate studies in 2011, I began looking for ways

to give back to the University that had given so much to me. Luckily for me, Past-President Nicole Vance sensed my passion and recruited me to the College of Business Alumni Association board of directors. Having completed both my undergraduate (finance '05) and graduate (Masters in finance '11) studies here, I have been able to build relationships with alumnus and faculty that I still lean on today. As incoming President of the College of Business Alumni Association (COBAA), I am extremely excited that one of my first official Presidential duties is to present you with the fourth annual issue of the College of Business Alumni Association magazine, N Venture.

The mission of COBAA has always been to support the College of Business and enrich the lives of alumni and friends of the College by helping establish lifelong relationships between the College, its alumni and friends, and our community. This magazine, along with the numerous events COBAA is involved with throughout the year, are just a few of the tools COBAA uses to support its mission and help build those lifelong relationships.

The purpose of the magazine is to open the doors of the College and share the stories and current activities happening within its walls and to give an opportunity for our alumni and friends to share their stories, job promotions, and other significant life accomplishments. With that said, I encourage you to share your stories by emailing us at cobaa@unr.edu. These stories help build the foundation of the magazine and is the reason we've been able to successfully continue to publish great magazines with great stories and content.

I encourage all of you to get more involved with the College and COBAA, whether through participation in our activities and events or financial support or both! The best way to stay connected is through membership in COBAA. If you would like to consider membership or other involvement, please visit www.unr.edu/business/alumni-and-giving for more information regarding such opportunities.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for the continued support and involvement with COBAA and the College. The College continues to excel in all measurable metrics and a lot of that comes from the support of our alumni, friends of the College, and the community in general so THANK YOU!


Here's to another great year and the continued success of our legacy!


Best Regards,

Kyle McCann



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Standup guy: Accountant gets in on the innovation

Deane Albright's business sense leads to backing unique enterprises in Reno

Deane Albright closely studies a visitor to his CPA office as he would the balance sheet of a company in which he might be auditing. He carefully considers each question. As soon as he speaks, however, you realize Albright is not your typical accountant.

Working from a standup desk at his office on Ridgeview Drive, Albright's 40 years as the senior partner in one of northern Nevada's preeminent certified public accounting firms has given him a unique vantage point to not only build his own book of business, but to back several startup enterprises in what many are calling the "New Reno" economy.

"You could say we are the Biggest Little CPA firm," smiled Albright, referring to the high level of service he provides clients — "generally mid-sized" employers in the Truckee Meadows — such as Dolan Auto Group, Reno Orthopedic Clinic and Dickson Realty.

"We have a diversified practice," said Albright, who graduated from the UNR College of Business in 1971 with a degree in accounting. His UNR connections remain strong to this day and he enjoys "giving back" to his alma mater as a UNR Foundation trustee in addition to numerous other civic affiliations.

The foundation team is leading an aggressive capital fundraising campaign with the goal of reaching \$500 million by 2020; they have currently raised \$113 million.

While the region's fortunes continue to improve, the worst years of the recession saw Albright and company dealing first-hand with the challenges faced by many clients, mostly construction firms and developers.

Albright (standing) with his CPA firm people, Travis Clark, partner, and Danette Hessler, manager. Photo by Jeff Ross.



Laid low by the economic downturn, for many, the numbers weren't good as they experienced the angst of finding business, making payroll and staying current on their debt.

"Some of them pared down and soldiered through," said Albright, not wanting to name names. "Sadly, others went under."

"Now that things are better, companies that survived are way more conservative in the ways they conduct business," said Albright of the lessons learned from the economic downturn, which hit Nevada particularly hard.

With his own business doing well — the company serves over 1,000 clients and has annual billings in the \$3 million range — Albright, after starting his own firm and building it from scratch, is personally expanding into other business directions.

While the bulk of his work week is spent managing his firm, Albright & Associates, which he founded in 1976, he's a private investor and key advisor for a number of early stage ventures, which he calls "quality projects."

"I am the financial guy on the team," Albright explained. Clearly, he can read a bottom line like nobody's business — setting up the books and accounting systems and helping the day-to-day partners manage the risk.

"As a CPA, I have developed objective critical thinking skills given the unique advantage of being an inside observer to all these different businesses over the past 40 years," said Albright, whose UNR training formed a solid professional foundation.

In this past five years, he played an integral role in bringing the Apple Data Center to Washoe County, personally providing critical financing to his client, Unique Infrastructure, the developer behind the transaction.

As one of three owners of the Brassiere St. James, Albright invested 1/3 of the capital to redevelop the abandoned Crystal Springs Water Company building.

With Art Farley as managing member, Albright and another investor, Joel Rasmus, invested over 1 million to renovate a blighted property at 901 S. Center St. into a highly successful local brewery/restaurant. This popular enterprise, part of Midtown's revival currently offers employment to 60 people, a lot of them UNR students.

Speaking of UNR, Albright lauds the work of the College of Business' Nevada Small Business Development Center. "They conducted a market study on the potential of the craft beer industry nationally and in Reno," he said, which helped the Brasserie in developing their business plan.

Indeed, Albright talks up the College of Business whenever he can. "They are responding to the new economy in Reno. They are interfacing more with business and being a key partner" in helping grow the region's economy.

He said UNR remains a stalwart contributor to the local economy — in good times and bad.

Other future ventures in the works for Albright is an enterprise called The Saint, which will be a craft distillery and live music venue opening later this year at 761 S. Virginia. He's also an investor in Midtown Community Yoga and the soon-to-open Sierra Wellness Connection.

The latter is unique to northern Nevada: the area's first approved certified medical marijuana facility. "The enterprise

entails four licenses: two for growing and two for dispensing," said Albright of the business, which is for medical, not recreational use, and will have sites in both Reno and Carson City.

"We did all the analytics to make sure there is a market and a need in the area," said Albright, who is partnering in the business with Steve Nightingale (Nightingale Concert Hall-UNR) and Morgan Carr. Joe Crowley, the former president of UNR is on the Board of Directors of the company

"I don't know much about marijuana, yoga and breweries, but when you need a financial guy on the team, I fit in well" with the business plan, Albright shrugged good-naturedly.

He said his recent investments are born out of a philosophical bent to be a catalyst for something positive. "I use the term 'being a cause in the matter,'" said Albright, 65, part of the idealistic Baby Boom generation. "The best social program is a good job. That requires a healthy vibrant entrepreneurial local economy to provide those opportunities."

But the accountant still comes through. "I'm not a Mother Teresa here," he said. "I still want to make a buck." ■



Deane Albright (center) in front of Sierra Wellness Center (first medical marijuana dispensary to open in state) with VP of Operations, Steve Rausch, and Dispensary Manager, Eva Grossman. Photo by Jeff Ross.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ALUMS

Bringing different skills to the Depot Craft Brewery Distillery

Opening a brewery, distillery or restaurant with health codes, complex liquor laws and expensive capital is hard enough for one entrepreneur. So when Chris Shanks and Brandon Wright decided to open all three in one business, they knew they shouldn't do it alone.

"Surrounding yourself with good people to make a strong team is a smart way to do business," said Chris Shanks, co-owner of The Depot Craft Brewery Distillery, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a minor in Economics from UNR where he also achieved the dean's list. Shanks was also named outstanding young alumnus of 2008 by the university's alumni association.

"We knew that involving multiple people would result in a better project. It'd be that much more difficult if one person tried to man the helm alone." Justin Stafford is the third member of the team who was a childhood friend of Shanks and University of Nevada friend of Wright's.

All three owners are UNR graduates and were involved with the College of Business, attributing some of their analytical skills to the affiliation. They continue to support the university by hosting numerous gatherings and events.

Currently, Mr. Shanks balances his time among Louis' Basque Corner, The Depot, which is located on Fourth Street and Evans Avenue, and Dickson Commercial Group, where he still practices commercial real estate.

The three owners bring a unique and different set of skills to the venture. Stafford previously consulted casino restaurants in Las Vegas on equipment, sales, setup and operation. Now he manages the food service of The Depot. Wright worked in the brewing industry since age 16. Now as brewmaster and head distiller at The Depot, he focuses exclusively on producing beer and spirits. Shanks' background in real estate led him to purchase Louis' Basque Corner — next door to The Depot — in 2011. This gave him the experience needed to manage The Depot's business side.

Every day for two years, Shanks said he looked at the 105-year-old train depot next to Louis' Basque Corner and knew it needed a new life. In 2013, a separate third party bought the building and was responsible for the \$2M renovation and utilities updates while the tenant, The Depot — a combination of the three of them and three investors — owns the food and beverage equipment inside. The Depot opened New Year's Eve 2014 and has been busy non-stop since their opening. Two beers already sold out, due in part by constant customers and also because one brite tank arrived broken, slowing down beer production until a replacement came in May. They already ordered new equipment to expand, which is something most breweries don't need for the first year or more.



From left, Brandon Wright, brewmaster and distiller, Chris Shanks, business manager and Justin Stafford, restaurant manager, pose for a photo re-enacting a photo taken in April 2014 when The Depot Craft Brewery Distillery was still just concrete and wood bones. Photo by Michael Higdon.

Because of this high demand for beer, The Depot began distributing beer in July in addition to the award winning Silver Corn Whiskey. The business owners signed on with locally-owned distributor, Wirtz Beverage Group, an important fact underscored by Shanks. Being the company's first northern Nevada brand was important to the Depot because they felt they could establish a long lasting relationship with Wirtz.

Their Silver Corn Whiskey, a 100-percent corn whiskey, is packaged in 500-milliliter bottles, which as it turns out, have been illegal for alcohol use since 1989. The U.S. Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau approved The Depot's labels and bottles by accident. Luckily, the agency gave The Depot a one-time only approval to sell 7,000 bottles instead of forcing the business to trash all the bottles. Later, Shanks said they will probably switch to standard 750-milliliter bottles for all their spirits. They originally choose 500-milliliters to lower the price of the craft spirit and to allow customers to take home three bottles, instead of two per month. This limit comes from the original Nevada's Craft Distiller Bill, which dictates that distillers can only sell two, 750-milliliter bottles, or 1,500 milliliters, to each customer per month at the distillery. The law has recently been changed to now allow consumers to buy 12 bottles a month not to exceed more than six cases per year.

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Grads in job market should evaluate company culture by Jim McClenhan

Some students go to the beach for spring break, some head to ski, but a small group of University of Nevada, Reno business students went to Silicon Valley. The Business Student Council, which hosts events such as Business Week each September, asked me to take them to visit key companies in Silicon Valley that would have some relevance to their future careers.

Thanks to the generosity of the College of Business Alumni Association, students received enough funding to create an amazing and educational experience.

After using tools like LinkedIn Alumni to track down College of Business alumni in key positions, the agenda was set: LinkedIn, Tesla, HP, Grand Rounds Health and Coupa. Using LinkedIn, I was able to find alums at many of these companies that were willing to spend about an hour talking to the students about what it's like to work in their organizations, some of the challenges they face and what their future goals are.

From the students' perspective, the mission was clear. Culture is extremely important. How you fit into a corporate culture is just as important as the skills you have. They need to assess what the cultures are like at these companies and internally assess how they will fit in. In today's world collaboration is a big part of culture. At nearly every company, particularly the newer ones, collaboration is critical. At Tesla for example, there are no cubicles. Desks are organized to allow employees to sit or stand and positioned in groups with a table in the middle to allow for collaboration. Walking across the floor, employees were seen gathered together looking at laptops, scouring documents and brainstorming. Even CEO Elon Musk has a desk out in the open. There are no offices. If

you do not enjoy collaborating, working in an open environment, or feel like you need an office to be important, Tesla is not the company for you!

It's not just Tesla with the open culture. Every place we visited displayed this culture in some way. Grand Rounds Health and Coupa are relatively new companies, rapidly expanding, with operations in Reno as well as the Bay Area. They are rapidly hiring and are counting on a collaborative culture to help build their companies while minimizing headcount.

The culture of openness and collaboration also extend to big companies. At a random meeting at the Apple Store in Palo Alto, the students bumped into Apple CEO Tim Cook. He was very kind, answered questions and gladly took pictures with the students. For business students, this is like running into Tom Brady, Michael Jordan, and Mick Jagger combined. The fact that the leader of the world's most valuable brand walks around the Apple store and talks to students signals to them exactly the type of culture he'll create at his company.

The world of the startup technology company is different, but it's rapidly expanding to Reno. As suburban Silicon Valley, expect to see cultures change as these operations expand. The students at the University of Nevada, Reno are ready for the challenge. ■

— Jim McClenahan is the director of corporate relations and outreach for the College of Business.

University of Nevada, Reno College of Business students met Apple CEO Tim Cook while on an alternative spring break.



Donald W. Reynolds Foundation names professorship in honor of Barbara Smith Campbell '78

by Roseann Keegan



The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation has made a \$1 million gift to the University of Nevada, Reno to establish a professorship in honor of Barbara Smith Campbell '78 (economics) and her many years of dedication and service to the Reynolds Foundation, the University and the state of Nevada.

The Barbara Smith Campbell

Distinguished Professor of Nevada Tax Policy at the College of Business will support a tenure track position for a scholar in the discipline of economics and expertise that includes tax policy.

"We are pleased to announce this permanently endowed professorship at the College of Business in honor of Reynolds Foundation trustee Barbara Smith Campbell," says Reynolds Foundation Chairman Fred W. Smith. "Not only has she provided the Reynolds Foundation with 16 years of service as a trustee, she has worked tirelessly with other organizations for the betterment of the state of Nevada."

The Las Vegas-based Reynolds Foundation has been a longtime supporter of the University. In 2009, the foundation gave \$8.3 million to the University to transform the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism building into one of the most advanced schools of communication in the country. The upgrades were completed in 2012. Additionally, the foundation has generously endowed faculty positions within the Reynolds School of Journalism.

The Barbara Smith Campbell Distinguished Professor will focus research efforts and classroom implementation of special topics related to Nevada tax policy and will organize a local/state industry advisory board comprised of members who are active in their current field. The board will meet periodically as a source of information and up-to-date practices for the chosen professor. The professor will be named to a four-year term and may be reappointed at the end of the fourth year.

"The University's College of Business is committed to

becoming an increasingly influential driver of economic development for the state and region. We continue to enhance our role as a resource for attracting new businesses, helping existing businesses grow, and preparing the students we educate to be competitive for the jobs we help create," says College of Business Dean Greg Mosier. "We appreciate the assistance that individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations, such as the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation, provide us in support of our mission."

Campbell, who was named the 2014 Alumnus of the Year by the Nevada Alumni Association, is principal of Consensus LLC, a consulting firm that provides strategic tax planning for businesses located or planning to locate in the state of Nevada. She has a total of 28 years of state and local government tax expertise. She was a University of Nevada, Reno Foundation board trustee for three terms, 2000-01, 2005-06 and 2007-08, and was the board's vice chair for finance.

"It is an honor to be recognized by the Reynolds Foundation at my alma mater," Campbell says. "Tax policy is an important issue for our state. It is my hope that this professorship will be viewed as the 'go to' research arm for the executive and legislative branches of the state of Nevada.

"Developing sound tax policy requires the consideration of many components and should be a thoughtful, deliberative process," Campbell adds. "You cannot commence such a process during a 120-day legislative session. It needs to begin long before."

Prior to starting Consensus LLC, Campbell served as board chair of the Nevada Tax Commission. She was first appointed by Gov. Richard Bryan and subsequently by Gov. Bob Miller and Gov. Kenny Guinn. During her tenure on the commission, she was also director of finance for Mandalay Development, a subsidiary of Mandalay Resort Group. After the company's merger with MGM Mirage, she became vice president of finance for MGM Grand Resorts Development.

Campbell is a gubernatorial appointee and chair of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange, which will implement the Affordable Care Act in Nevada. She also serves as a community board member for St. Mary's Regional Medical Center. ■

Stan Goodin:

New York Life agent finds himself at UNR

Stan Goodin, a New York Life Agent who has helped countless northern Nevadans protect and build their assets, credits some of his current success to the days when he attended the UNR College of Business.

At the time he entered UNR, Goodin was a recently discharged Navy Radarman, had a less-than-stellar academic career, and was also older - at 24 - than most of his fellow students.

He grew up in Colusa, California, a small farming community where his dad was a Shell Oil Jobber, delivering gas to the farmers.

Before his military hitch, Goodin had attended two community colleges before deciding he wasn't cut out for higher education. "Let's just say my social success far exceeded my academic prowess," said Goodin, a classic underachiever who was later able to turn his scholastic life around.

For many in his generation, the war in Vietnam was a huge driver for his next step: Goodin joined the Navy, serving his nation on a destroyer in the South China Sea where he served two tours of duty.

During those four years, a more mature Goodin recognized the value of a college degree. His brother Greg was a student at UNR. Stan enrolled too.

"My transcripts however were less than ideal," confided Goodin who said UNR accepted him and he returned to school on academic probation.

He ended up taking business classes. "And for the first time in my life I got A's in something other than P.E.," he said. He was so excited that he called his mom Virginia long distance from a phone booth near the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house to share the good news.

"The College of Business really helped me decide that I wanted to go into business for myself," said Goodin who graduated with honors in Marketing in 1971.

"Dr. (Ed) Zane helped turn me around," said Goodin. "He encouraged me because I was pretty new back in the school scene, "He was great!" said Goodin, grateful for the guidance and support and a life lesson he carries to this day: if you aren't disciplined, you aren't going to succeed.

With a bachelor's degree in hand, Goodin followed in a proud family tradition as the owner-operator of five Shell service stations in Northern Nevada where he drew heavily on his college degree. He distinguished himself as one of the top six Shell dealers in the U.S. One of the accolades mentioned that Goodin placed "fresh cut flowers in the ladies' restrooms." "That's the way it went: flowers, cleanliness, friendliness and expert service," he said of his days as the owner of service stations.

Shell had limited the number of stations a dealer could own, so in 1982 he decided to give the insurance industry a try. He ultimately was a Shell dealer for over 23 years, owning stations even after he started his career with New York Life.

Clearly it's been a good fit going on 33 years. "I have 15 letters after my name," said Goodin, referring to skill sets that include financial planning, chartered life underwriter, chartered financial consultant, accredited estate planner and more. This has all helped him become the top New York Life Agent in Nevada. He is clearly a trusted advisor.

"I don't want to be the same as everybody that has an insurance or securities license," said Goodin. I handle estate planning, business succession planning, exit strategies, investments and retirement planning.

"I also belong to the Nautilus Group -New York Life has over 11,000 agents and only 240 are members of the Nautilus Group. I am the only one in Northern Nevada."

He describes the group as his "backroom" of 40 professionals experienced in law, taxation, business, insurance and finance. His clientele isn't just in the local region said Goodin, who preaches the virtues of diversification, a philosophy his business professors would no doubt admire.

"A lot of my bread and butter is outside of Reno," said Goodin. "That saved my bacon when the recession hit," he added, referring to his extensive farm-related clientele in the Sacramento Valley of California.

"I want to be the best I can be," said Goodin of the resources he taps into on behalf of his clients, who he said become his friends. ■



Stan Goodin shares a relaxing moment away from work with his wife Heidi. Courtesy photo

Ted talk a hit with UNR crowd by Nicole Shearer

In its third year, the event brought the crowd to its feet with multiple engaging speakers, performances and thought-provoking topics

Twenty passionate speakers took the stage in January as part of this year's TEDxUniversityofNevada event. With talks widely ranging in topic, speakers gave it their all as they presented their "ideas worth spreading." The result was a sold-out audience going through a range of emotions as they laughed, cried and stepped back from the experience aware of the limitless possibilities and potential implications for what they heard.

"TEDx events have become a coveted, deeply personal and transformative experience for all involved, especially when attending in person," Tiffany Brown, TEDxUniversityofNevada event team member, said. "And not just because of the content of the talks or the quality of the speakers, but because of the shared learning experience, the range of emotions felt, and the insights collected along the way."

TEDxUniversityofNevada boasted six published authors and two recording artists. In its third year, the event, put on by the University of Nevada, Reno's College of Business Online Executive MBA, met increasingly high expectations.

"Each person who took the stage offered incredibly personal insight creating a definitive mood and sentiment with our audience," Bret Simmons, associate professor in the College of Business and TEDxUniversityofNevada event organizer, said. "That's one of the elements that's so great about this type of event. A speaker's passion is transparent and passionate speakers, regardless of the topic, not only resonate with the event-day audience but are also the ones who also resonate with online viewers once the videos are posted."

While the event sold out in presale this year, nearly 200 people viewed the livestream that was also available.



Scenes from the 2014 TEDx event.
Photos by Bret Simmons.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Business students embody entrepreneurial spirit

by Nicole Shearer

Nevada Dynamics, a hardware and software safety solution for unmanned autonomous systems, was the winner of the \$50,000 award given each year to the student team which presents the best business plan.

"The Sontag is one of the largest awards for a student business competition that exists at a single American university," College of Business Dean Greg Mosier said.

University alumnus Rick Sontag, '66, made the competition possible through a \$1 million gift in 2011. The competition was established by the College of Business to develop the entrepreneurial capacities of university students and facilitate the creation of new businesses in Nevada. Sontag's hope for the award was that it would be less of a business plan competition and more of a business competition.

"I have carefully read all the programs presented and it seems that as years go by the proposals become more practical and ready to implement into businesses," Sontag said. "I am truly impressed."

Student competition team Navatar won \$5,000 and second place for its business plan, a free indoor navigation system application for blind students. Two other finalist teams were also recognized for their participation: Burn Ready, a web-based event supply company and Adaption, a Bluetooth low-energy technology to make it easier to monitor activity in and outside of the home.

The Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition is one of many ventures by the University's College of Business to become a community resource and focal point for entrepreneurship. ■

Nevada Dynamics, a student business competition team, received \$50,000 for winning the Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition. From left to right: Dave Croasdell, Charles and Ruth Hopping professor of entrepreneurship and Sontag Entrepreneurship competition director; University President Marc Johnson; Nevada Dynamics team members Zachary Carlson, Erik Edgington, MacCallister Higgins and Nolan Young; College of Engineering Dean Manos Maragakis; College of Business Dean Greg Mosier. Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas.



Guiding College of Business students

The College of Business works to provide their students with classes that will help them become the next business leaders, entrepreneurs and professionals. To help students navigate their academic careers, students can turn to the team of academic advisors at the College of Business Student Success Center.

The most rewarding aspect to being an academic advisor is “seeing the students grow,” Yuliana Chavez Camarena, one of the academic advisors for the College of Business and a UNR alumna who has worked here for a year and a half. She said, “For many of them, we are their first point of contact. Seeing them develop new personal and professional goals and seeing them graduate is always very rewarding.”

The COB offers a dual advising system for undergraduates. This system is comprised of input from both faculty advisors and the team in the College of Business Student Success Center. The office currently has three academic advisors and a graduate assistant who help students choose their classes and help guide their success at UNR.

Jeremy Tiedt is the newest addition to the advising team. Originally from Milwaukee, Wis., he holds a bachelor’s degree in mass communications and a master’s in administrative leadership. He took on the role as director of advising, recruitment and retention in the summer of 2015.

“I really enjoy it so far,” Tiedt said. “I enjoy working with one select group of students...where in the past it has always been advising students with broad range of different majors. I feel like I can focus in on one set of students.”

Prior to coming to UNR, he held positions as a student athletic advisor and a career counselor at several other universities around the country.

“Our new director is very energetic and has a lot of knowledge,” Chavez Camarena said. “We are very much looking forward to his experience and how he can make the advising process better and more efficient for our students.”

One way they are making advising more efficient is through their new online scheduling tool, which will allow students to make academic advising appointments through the COB website.

“We are moving in a direction which will allow students to take more ownership over their own ability to get in and see us,” Tiedt said. “Students will be able to schedule appointments from their phones and online. This will be a change that will make us more accessible.”

There are currently more than 3,000 students enrolled in the COB, making it the second-largest college at the University of Nevada, Reno. The college offers ten majors and seven minors.

“When the students come in, most of the time as freshmen, they are really kind of unsure of exactly what they want to do,” Gregrette Perry, an academic advisor for the College of Business and a UNR alumna, said.

Perry has worked at the COB as an academic advisor for a year and a half. Previously, she worked as a graduate assistant at the university in the Upward Bound, a program which aids first-generation college students.

When she advises students, she has them write down three goals to help them focus their academic and personal ambitions.

“Seeing (the students) excited about hitting the goals is one of the most rewarding things about being an advisor,” Perry said.

The advisors also work to direct students to services and opportunities that are available, such as internship opportunities, BizFit, The Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship and other campus resources to help students succeed academically.

Tiedt hopes that the Student Success Center will become a model for other universities around the country.

“I want us to be an office that goes and gives presentations at national conferences,” Tiedt said. “I am pretty competitive and I would like us to be the best and have the best staff, and I think that we do have the best staff.”

The COB Student Success Center will be adding to the staff by hiring two new advisors in September to better serve the growing business student population. ■



College of Business Academic Advisors Gregrette Perry, Jeremy Tiedt and Yuliana Chavez Camarena at the COB Student Success Center.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Mari Kay Bickett:

Business school alum finds her calling at UNR by Chrisie Yabu



Mari Kay Bickett, J.D., grew up in Reno and graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno and the Nevada School of Law at Old College. She is the CEO of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), leading the oldest and largest judicial membership organization in the nation.

Mari Kay started her sophomore year at the University of Nevada, Reno transferring from Baylor University, mainly to come back to hit the slopes. She took an accounting course, found it to be a natural fit and decided to pursue a BBA in finance and accounting. She worked with various banking institutions post-college. "At the time, there were few women in my field," she said. "Back then, it was different being a woman working in business."

Mari Kay was dubbed the "Million Dollar Baby" by the Reno media after being held up at gunpoint while working at a bank. It was the largest all-cash robbery at the time. "I realized a career in banking might not be the safest choice," she said. She met the president of Nevada Bell, and he recruited her for

a telecommunications engineer position. She worked in that capacity for Nevada Bell, Western Electric and Exxon.

Reno was calling her name again, and she and her husband, Joe Bickett, moved back to the Biggest Little City. Joe was a local news anchor. Mari Kay pursued a law degree, attending the new law school, Nevada School of Law.

"It was exciting attending law school with people that made a difference," she said. After graduation, she practiced law for and then worked as the academic director for The National Judicial College as the first female academic dean. Then, it was back to Austin leading the Texas Center for the Judiciary for 16 years. Mari Kay became the CEO of NCJFCJ in 2011. The NCJFCJ supports judges in their critical work to improve outcomes for children and families. They provide training, technical assistance and research to courts nationwide.

"I must be drawn to our campus," she said. "I love the size of our school. When I was a student, I enjoyed being in Kappa Alpha Theta and studying in the Noble H. Getchell Library. Even walking around campus was a treat." Mari Kay still gets to do that today, making a considerable difference with judges, courts and related agencies involved with juvenile, family and domestic violence cases. ■

Ansari renovations continue

Plans are underway to make a great facility a better place for COB students, faculty and staff members.

Renovations of the Ansari Building are currently underway or in the early stages of planning.

College of Business officials said the capital improvements are intended to modernize and renew the infrastructure of the existing building, which was built in 1981.

Total project costs are approximately \$1.8 million.

The COB will renovate the first and second floor of Ansari to complement major renovations to the third and fourth floor classrooms and public spaces, which were funded by the Nell Redfield Foundation and other sources.

Construction on the third and fourth floors began in July and will be completed by fall semester.

The second phase of the renovation is proposed to take place between May and August 2016 when fewer students are on campus.

The College of Business received a \$1 million gift from the William N. Pennington Foundation to complete the capital projects on the first and second floors.

The scope of the work includes lobby/entry and atrium improvements; corridor, lighting and flooring finishes; and stairwell, signage and vending area improvements.

Many of the improvements needed are designed to create a professional atmosphere where students, student groups and faculty can interact in a setting similar to what they will experience in the business world.

With these capital improvements, students of the COB will be educated in nationally recognized programs, with modern technology, in a professional setting and a positive learning environment tailored to their academic and professional needs. ■



Above: An artist's rendering of the completed project.

Below, left: Improvements underway in front of College of Business computer lab AB 301.

Below: The Nell J. Redfield Foundation funded remodeling such as new lighting and floors on the third and fourth floors of the Ansari Business Building.



FACULTY



Professor Mark Nichols, director of graduate programs in economics, is a prominent national and international scholar on the social and economic impact of the spread of casino gambling. His research focuses on the social, fiscal and economic impacts associated with the spread of casino gambling over the last 25 years.

"The main interesting question is, 'What is the social and economic impact of casinos?'" Nichols says. "It's been a wealth of questions to explore—topics not previously explored. Really, up until the early '90s, casinos were only legal here in Nevada and in Atlantic City.

"The truth of the social, fiscal and economic impacts of casino

gambling, positive or negative, is in the middle," Nichols says. "One thing that surprised me is that there's not as big of an impact as people fear. There's lots of opinions, though, especially on the negative side."

Nichols is a distinguished scholar in economics and has created a significant record of academic and professional accomplishments since joining the University as an assistant professor in 1996. He was promoted to associate professor in 2001 and full professor in 2009.

"Dr. Nichols has consistently demonstrated his ability to successfully and effectively teach undergraduate and graduate classes in econometrics and industrial organization," says Greg Mosier, dean of The College of Business. "His student evaluations are among the best in the college." ■

University's Global Engagement Award



Yvonne Stedham is a professor of management and a 2010 University Foundation Professor in The College of Business. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in international management and management, including a course on mindful leadership, at the University of Nevada and the School of

Management in Ingolstadt, Germany. Stedham is also a faculty member of the interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in social psychology at the University. She served on the State Council for the Society for Human Resource Management and is the past president of the Nevada World Trade Council. She has provided management training locally and nationally for state agencies, the Reno Police Department, REMSA and other organizations. ■

Charles N. Mathewson Professorship in Entrepreneurship

Established: 2012 Holder: Mark Pringle

Charles Mathewson, former president, CEO and board chairman of IGT, established this professorship in an effort to expand the curriculum and provide long-term resources to facilitate student engagement in entrepreneurial and start-up ventures.

Philip G. Satre Chair in Gaming Studies

Established: 2005 Holder: Under recruitment

Philip G. Satre '15 (honorary degree), a former executive for Harrah's, was honored by the Harrah's Foundation at his retirement by establishing this endowed chair in his name.

Hopping Professorship in Entrepreneurship

Established: 2012 Holder: David Croasdell

Established by the Charles and Ruth Hopping Foundation, this endowed professorship will have the primary role of enhancing the entrepreneurship program, including the Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition.

Barbara Smith Campbell Distinguished Professor of Nevada Tax Policy

Established: 2014 Holder: Mehmet Tosun

The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation established this endowed position to support a professor in economics with expertise in tax policy. The endowment honors Barbara Smith Campbell '78 (economics) and her many years of dedication and service to the Reynolds Foundation, the University and the state of Nevada.

Success with the Online Executive MBA

The University of Nevada, Reno's College of Business Online Executive Masters of Business Administration (EMBA) is ranked among the top online MBA programs in the country. Over the past year, the EMBA has received national recognition and has been featured in several mainstream publications. Kambiz Raffiee, associate dean of the UNR College of Business and director of UNR Online Executive MBA, says "The Online Executive MBA is a signature program of the College of Business at UNR. The high visibility and solid reputation that the program has is because of its quality students and faculty along with the superb work of the staff. It makes me proud of the continued success of the program."

The EMBA was named one of the "Top 25 Online MBA Programs for 2015" by the *Princeton Review*. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the EMBA No. 29 of 195 schools in the "Best Online MBA Programs" category, and most recently, the program was ranked #35 by *Online Course Report* in their "50 Best Online MBA Programs in America." Rankings are based on many factors including affordability, structure of curriculum, student feedback, and the prestige of the university offering the master's degree.

Accreditation is one of the most important factors for prospective students when searching for online degree programs. The University of Nevada, Reno is regionally accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). The University's College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), which is the highest level of accreditation attainable in business education.

The EMBA's flexible yet rigorous curriculum is taught by experienced and esteemed faculty from the College of Business. It is competitively priced at \$30,000 for the entire program, which makes it an excellent value in graduate education. The 100 percent online, 12-course curriculum is offered as a two-year cohort program beginning in the fall. Students take two courses each term (Fall, Spring, Summer); this allows students in each cohort to begin the program at the same point, move through the curriculum together, and build supportive working relationships in a stimulating online environment. "We develop our courses with students' future success as our ultimate goal, making sure they are both challenged and supported as they develop advanced business skills," says Raffiee.

In order to maintain integrity, the program limits the cohort size, making it incredibly competitive. To be accepted into the program, applicants must have at least five years of professional work experience. The EMBA attracts experienced professionals from many different professions, including healthcare, finance, engineering, education, mining, and many more. The visibility



Sonal Chablani, Class of 2014; Kambiz Raffiee, Associate Dean, College of Business (left); Gregory Mosier, Dean, College of Business (right)

from the rankings are attracting diverse and talented applicants to the program from across the country and world, many of whom have over 15 years of work experience. The program has grown significantly since its first cohort in 2011, which was made up of 11 students.

The EMBA will begin its fifth year in fall 2015. As the fifth cohort of 44 members commences, the third cohort of 27 students will graduate from the program, increasing the total number of graduates to 64. Graduates of the EMBA exit the program equipped with valuable skills and training to succeed in today's ever-changing business environment. Sonal Chablani, class of 2014, is one of many graduates who has been successful in her career after graduating from the EMBA. "I chose the EMBA program at UNR because I wanted an MBA to get to the next stage in my career. I wanted to ensure I got my degree from a quality institute that was recognized and accredited," Sonal says. Her success is attributed to the skills she learned in the program: "The skill that I benefited from most is the ability to market my personal brand. I also feel more confident in speaking with people from diverse backgrounds and understand different viewpoints better. Most of all I learned that I can take on a lot of responsibilities and deliver on time" says Sonal.

The strong reputation of the College of Business, paired with a flexible and refined curriculum, makes the EMBA an appealing choice for business professionals who can obtain an MBA from a top-tier school while continuing to work full-time. The rankings achieved by the College of Business Executive MBA are "major milestone(s) for the program" said Raffiee. "The hard work of faculty, students and administration of the program have made this possible."

For more information about the Executive MBA, visit www.emba.unr.edu. ■

— Caitlin Rock, EMBA Program Coordinator

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For more information about joining the COBAA or becoming a board member, contact Chapter President Kyle R. McCann (kyle@krmwealth.com)

If you would like more information about the Corporate Partners Program, please contact Mitch Klaich, Director of Development (mklaich@unr.edu) or Jim McClenahan, Director of Corporate Outreach (jmcclenahan@unr.edu)

Sierra Nevada Corporation's Ozmens pledge \$5 million for new Center for Entrepreneurship

University of Nevada, Reno alumni Fatih Ozmen '81 M.S. (electrical engineering) and Eren Ozmen '85 MBA have pledged \$5 million to create a new entrepreneurship center in conjunction with the University's College of Business. To date, this is the largest gift the College of Business has received.

The Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship, which opened Sept., 2014, will permanently support and significantly enhance programs at the University that develop student entrepreneurial capacities and stimulate the creation of new business ventures. This endeavor will serve as an economic development engine for northern Nevada and will garner national recognition for the state.

"Our goal is that the Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship expand and nurture an entrepreneurial culture and provide resources for the same both on campus and throughout the community," said Eren Ozmen, president and CFO of Sierra Nevada Corporation and the 2013 College of Business alumnus of the year. "We see the center providing an entrepreneurial 'hub' that increases business opportunities and creates a robust exchange of ideas that stimulates job growth and benefits our society."

The Ozmen Center, located on the fourth floor of the Ansari Business Building, will also augment the educational offerings from other colleges and schools on campus by coordinating with them on new programs that require entrepreneurial training in areas such as science, engineering and journalism. University faculty member Chris Howard is the director for the Ozmen Center.

The university expects to see a striking increase in entrepreneurial pursuits generated on campus as a result of the Ozmen Center. The College of Business now offers six entrepreneurship classes as part of its undergraduate program and two classes as part of the MBA program. The college also hosts the annual Sontag Entrepreneurship Competition, which awards \$50,000 to the team with the most innovative idea.

"As an institution, the University of Nevada, Reno embraces entrepreneurship, technology transfer and commercialization," said University President Marc Johnson. "Through the new Ozmen Center, we will continue to leverage the knowledge, resources and talent of the University for the advancement of business in Nevada."

The Ozmens joined SNC shortly after receiving their master's degrees from Nevada. The couple then acquired the company in 1994, eventually expanding SNC into six business areas in 33 locations in 18 states, with a workforce of more than 3,000 personnel.

SNC has been an avid supporter of the University. It was one of the initiating members of the Corporate Partners Programs for the College of Business and College of Engineering, including sponsoring an annual engineering scholarship. The company has a long history of offering paid business and engineering internships. SNC also provides three separate rotational career professional development programs that target University students in the areas of business, information technology and program management, as well as sponsoring various other student programs. SNC also provided a major gift to the Summer Study Tour to Turkey program through the College of Liberal Arts.

Headquartered in Sparks, Nevada, SNC has received numerous awards for innovation, growth and employee satisfaction, including World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Space by *Fast Company* magazine, ranking among the U.S. Top 10 Fastest-growing Companies by *Inc.* magazine for revenue growth for billion dollar companies and one of the Greater Reno-Tahoe Best Places to Work in 2009, 2011 and 2012.

"We are extremely proud and fortunate to count the Ozmens among the University's distinguished alumni," said Greg Mosier, dean of the College of Business. "It has been an inspiration to follow their success story and watch them return to campus countless times to generously pay it forward." ■

Fatih '81 M.S. and Eren Ozmen '85 MBA, owners of Sierra Nevada Corporation, pledged \$5 million to create the University of Nevada, Reno Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship.



Return of the Tax Season by Abhay Sharma

Every year the labor force across the United States has to go through a complicated and, in some cases, hectic process of filing for federal income tax. Many times this process can be unpleasant for low-income families, and families with insufficient knowledge of the federal taxation code.

There are several organizations that assist these families in filing for taxes; one of these organizations is the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. For more than 40 years, the program has offered free tax assistance to taxpayers who earn less than \$53,000 annually, are disabled, are elderly, and/or have limited English speaking ability.

Seven years ago, Garry Jenson, who wanted to open a VITA site in Reno in the Community Services Agency office, reached out to Dr. Richard Mason, an accounting faculty member at the University of Nevada, to discuss a service-learning program for the UNR Accounting students.

Every spring semester, this program would provide the students with an opportunity to volunteer at a local VITA location and gain hands-on experience with the federal income tax code. The students who chose to volunteer in this program would go through rigorous trainings and have to pass two learning

assessments before they could start helping others with their tax returns.

Over the years the VITA program in Reno has made a lasting impact on the Reno community. The Spring 2015 semester was a record-breaking semester for the VITA program in Reno. With 93 students signed up, the local VITA site was able to file 1,060 returns for the local taxpayers. The total tax returns from the site were \$1.8 million, and the total savings of tax preparation fees were \$180,000.

Collectively, the students and community volunteers, like Dr. Mason, Mr. Jenson, Dawn Fidaleo, and John Fidaleo, were able to record 2,267 hours of service between January and April. The students focused on developing themselves, and also the taxpayers by sharing information and explaining the income tax code to the taxpayers.

The impact that this program has made on the Reno community is not just measured by the dollar amount of tax returns and preparation savings. It is also measured by the knowledge that is gained by the students and the local taxpayers each spring semester. Each year, this program empowers the Reno community by providing valuable insight on how to tackle the return of the tax season. ■

Nevada Small Business Development Center celebrates 30th anniversary as leading resource

by Nicole Shearer

Small businesses in Nevada were a big deal in 2014. The Nevada Small Business Development Center, a statewide resource for business assistance and headquartered in the University of Nevada, Reno's College of Business, helped open 136 new small businesses in the state last year.

"It's easy to forget the impact small businesses can have, especially with the growing focus on many big-named businesses in the state," Sam Males, director of the Nevada SBDC, said. "These smaller businesses created 470 jobs and \$18 million in new financing, clearly making a marked impact."

According to Males, 62 percent of new jobs are created by small businesses nationally. In Nevada, 98 percent of businesses are considered small businesses, with less than 100 employees, and further, 70 percent of Nevada's businesses employ under 10 employees.

The Nevada SBDC, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this month, has become the state's go-to resource for small business owners, with 13 locations statewide. From those just starting out to those looking to grow and develop their business, it provides a wide-range of services, expertise and training in all areas of business. Additionally, partnerships throughout the state allow the Nevada SBDC to serve a diverse group of individuals and offer outreach programs in several communities.

"Our mission is to promote and facilitate sustainable economic prosperity across Nevada through business and community development," Males, who has been with the Nevada SBDC since its inception 30 years ago, said. "The programs we offer not only continue to evolve with the changing economic landscape of the state, but they also continue to cater to Nevada's changing demographic population."

The Nevada SBDC works to utilize the unique resources of the University including students, faculty and information sources to better educate both small businesses and students.

"Our business model differentiates the Nevada SBDC from the private sector and from the other 'foot-in-the-door' organizations like chambers of commerce, economic development authorities and community colleges," Winnie Dowling, Nevada SBDC deputy director, said. "Our goal has never been to compete with these organizations but rather to partner with them and act as a resource and referral network."

At the center of the Nevada SBDC's model are the university's students. Graduate and undergraduate students provide co-counseling, market research and help develop marketing and business plans for clients. They also act as an additional sounding board for clients.



The Nevada SBDC offers Nevada small businesses sources to better evaluate and plan entrepreneurship endeavors. The program includes graduate students who offer business owners valuable knowledge and information.

"The internships here allow students to see firsthand what it means to operate a successful business," Dowling said. "It's a really different experience. These aren't case studies, they are actual businesses willing to implement their ideas and suggestions. In turn, students provide businesses with valuable knowledge and education. They offer insight into how best to reach younger demographics and they teach businesses about how to reach people via technology."

Melissa Molyneaux, managing director and vice president of Colliers International was a student intern at the Nevada SBDC during her final years at the University.

"Looking back, as a business major, it was an outstanding opportunity that prepared me for the 'real' business world and my current career as a commercial real estate broker with Colliers," Molyneaux said.

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Mike Lemich:

Supporting Nevada small business by Winnie Dowling



Country Construction is the Nevada Small Business Development Center's (Nevada SBDC) newest host partner, which has a location in Ely to provide small business counseling and training to entrepreneurs in White Pine, Lincoln, and Eureka counties. Mike Lemich, the owner of the company is a strong supporter of small businesses. He is donating office

space and equipment for the area's business counselor, Tamera Brown.

Mike, the son of Yugoslavian immigrants, was raised in the melting pot of Tonapah Canyon, in the old town of old Ruth. His father died when he was 5 years old and his mother worked hard providing room and board to young men who worked at the local Kennecott mine. Mike graduated high school right after the end of the Korean War and joined the National Guard.

In 1962 Mike purchased a local sporting goods business called The Family Store, and for 17 years the store prospered and thrived. In 1979, in response to the increase in gold prices, he sold the store and decided to start his own construction business, Mike Lemich-Country Construction.

He recently weighed in on the following subjects:

Regarding small business counseling as a local service in White Pine County, Mike says, "As a community, our goal should be

to enhance any kind of economic development regardless of the magnitude, whether it is a small or large business." He believes that business counseling helps educate people to do better in business.

Mike's greatest challenge in business has been competing against the big stores. To maintain a competitive edge, businesses need to sell themselves, along with their products. "It is important to become involved in the community, to promote community activities, and do what one can to enhance the community's reputation.

Regarding the Ely Rotary Club, Mike remembers, "My business partner in The Family Store was a gentleman named Burt Cooper. Burt was a graduate of UNR and was very involved with the Ely Rotary Club, along with many of my friends. I've been a member since 1979. The Rotary Club is about being truthful, promoting goodwill, and being beneficial to everyone in the community."

The Ely Rotary Club has two major fund raising events each year, The Fishing Derby in January and the Golf Tournament in June. This past year the rotary club provided \$30,000 worth of scholarship money to students graduating from White Pine County High School. Students may use this money to attend a university, college, or vocational school of their choice.

Mike has a family of UNR alumni. His daughter, Boja, graduated from UNR's nursing school and his son-in-law, John Almborg, graduated from the Mackay School of Mines. Mike's grandchild, Ragina, is a freshman this year.

Mike and his family support the Wolf Pack as often as possible. Tailgating at UNR is a family event. ■

Career Fair gives business students real job leads by Stallar Lufrano-Jardine

Each semester, the College of Business Student Outreach Center hosts the University of Nevada's All Majors Career and Internship Fair.

The Career Fair allows employers to connect with hundreds of students, from every major and work background by promoting their company and its available internships, part-time and full-time positions.

Over the years, this event has joined hundreds of students and employers. Every year we see an increase in students and employer attendance, and participation at the Spring 2015 Career Fair led to a record-breaking 90 employers and over 650 students in attendance!

Due to the growth of the event, it was moved from the Joe Crowley Student Union Ballrooms to the Lawlor Events Center for the Spring 2015 event. This growth reflects the growth of Reno and its demand for qualified student and graduate professionals. The change to Lawlor was a huge undertaking but the Student Outreach Center was met with overwhelming success and positive feedback from both employers and students.

One employer said that the new venue "made having

conversations much more conductive" and that they "enjoyed the change of venue." A student said that "the Lawlor location was ideal. It was bright and open with lots of room to walk around the booths."

This event is open not only to current students of all majors and class standings, but to alumni as well and is a great opportunity to use the networking and professional skills that the students have acquired through classes and other events such as Prepare for the Fair.

The All Majors Career & Internship Fair showcases how the Reno business community and the University of Nevada are coming together to not only match employers with the qualified students that they want, but to get the students the experience and jobs they need to have successful careers in the Reno area.

The next All Majors Career & Internship Fair will take place on October 14, 2015 in the Joe Crowley Student Union Ballrooms. If you are interested in attending the career fair to find a job or if your company is interested in attending to hire students for any open positions or merely build your brand at the university, please contact businesscareers@unr.edu. ■

Wolf Pack Shadow:

A first-hand look at the future by Mahsa Ahmadi-Zadeh

Each semester, the College of Business leads an event called Wolf Pack Shadow. Students are selected based on an application process and are awarded an opportunity to visit a local business.

They learn about the company, meet key executives such as the president/CEO, tour the premises and shadow professionals in their field of interest.

This past spring semester, two companies opened their doors to our students: Haws Corporation and Server Technology.

Students experienced the different types of working environments and corporate cultures, that we are fortunate enough to have in Reno. They also get a first-hand look at their future after graduation based on their fields of interest. This opportunity also allows students to make genuine connections with professionals and establish lasting relationships, leading to mentorship even after the students graduate and become professionals.

Companies use this as an opportunity to connect with the university, engage with the students and share their business operations with the future workforce. These great companies have showed just how important community outreach is to our region. The companies we select are very successful and active all over the world but many students are not aware that we have such companies headquartered in Reno, Nevada.

The most important aspect of Wolf Pack Shadow is to connect students with employers, for mentorship, internships, and future career opportunities. As the College of Business continues to be the bridge between students and employers and grow mentorships, opportunities such as Wolf Pack Shadow will continue to connect employers to our future workforce. ■

Business students tour Server Technologies with Brandon Ewing, President.



ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The College of Business Alumni Association (COBAA) held their 24th annual golf tournament this past spring. They raised over \$10,000, and the proceeds will be used by COBAA to support their mission of developing relationships with The College of Business and their students.

The tournament drew in more than 100 participants. Everyone in attendance enjoyed a barbecue lunch, followed by an afternoon "scramble" on the links at the Wolf Run Golf Club in Reno.

Gaming Capital Corporation sponsored the first-place prize winner. The winning team members included College of Business Alumni Rick Angold, Matt Grimes, Joe Brady, and Steven Anderson.

Kyle McCann, president of COBAA, noted that the funds raised by the golf tournament help the association with their support of The College of Business. COBAA funds student organizations, networking events and the college's All Majors Career & Internship Fair. COBAA also collaborate with the college on special projects, by creating unique opportunities for students, to help with their future success. Highlights from last year include COBAA providing the funds for a College of Business student to attend a class in London, for the Nevada Global Business program. COBAA also sponsored The Business Student Council's Silicon Valley trip, where they had the rare opportunity to meet Apple Inc. CEO Tim Cook.

McCann stated that the value of the tournament extends beyond the money raised since participants come from a wide swath of the Northern Nevada business community. College of Business Alumni and other members of the community are

provided with an excellent opportunity for networking in a relaxed and informal setting.

The success of the golf tournament hinges on the support from the participants and corporate sponsors. COBAA would like to give a big thank you to all the participants and attendants. A very special thank you goes to Wells Fargo, Eide Bailly, Dunham Trust Company, The Bosma Group, United Federal Credit Union, New West Distribution, Port of Subs, and Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association. The continued support of the corporate partners and Alumni is highly appreciated.

COBAA hopes to continue to have successful tournaments in the coming years. A continued effort will be made to increase the positive impact on The College of Business, the students, as well as the community.

For more information about participation or sponsorship opportunities, please contact the association at cobaa@unr.edu or visit www.cobaa.org. ■

Opposite: The winning team of Rick Angold, Steve Anderson, Joe Brady and Matt Grimes.

Below: Josh Bratzler, Kyle Ryckebosh, Justin Ryckebosh, Chris Shanks

Bottom: Johnny Olivas, Tim Clausen, Kyle McCann, Dan Clausen

Photos by Lightray Studios





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University of Nevada, great pipeline for Server Technology

Server Technology, Inc. is a growing technology company based in Reno, Nevada. The Company has been in Reno for the past 15 years. Currently, Server Technology has 175 employees, 16 offices worldwide and over 5,000 affiliated resellers offering power distribution unit (PDU) solutions. Our customers range from leading Fortune 500 companies to numerous government, scientific and business organizations.

You may have heard the phrase Internet of Things (“IoT”). It’s a term coined to describe all the physical objects that interact via a connection to the Internet each day. By the year 2020 it is estimated that the Internet of Things will consist of almost 50 billion objects. As these objects grow in numbers so will the need for data centers to store and manage the data. Server Technology is on the forefront of this growth since our products are an integral piece of the data center power chain. We offer the best power management solutions at the server cabinet level by virtue of our patented technology and engineering expertise. Server Technology has 54 issued US patents with another 83 patents pending. Through engineering talent, imagination, and a commitment to quality, we design, develop, and provide the world’s best power management products and systems.

Today, Server Technology employs numerous University of Nevada graduates across multiple departments and at various

leadership levels. Some of our notable grads include our Vice President of Engineering, Jim Maskaly, who received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the university with an emphasis on microprocessor systems in 1987. Jim also taught a 400-level microprocessor course at the University of Nevada in 1998 and participated in an industry outreach program to facilitate the use of the University of Nevada’s Electromagnetic Compliance laboratory in 2001. Additionally, Dr. Bill Avery, the Chief Engineer at Server Technology, teaches at University of Nevada, and five of his previous students now work at Server Technology. Also Assistant Controller Steve Malay is a University of Nevada undergraduate in accounting and recently obtained his MBA in business from University of Nevada.

“Doing business in Nevada has been invaluable for Server Technology. Nevada offers us a very favorable tax and business environment with close proximity to our largest market in the Bay Area. At the University we have found superb students in engineering, marketing, operations, and accounting,” said George Homan, senior vice president of Server Technology.

By recruiting the best talent for the job, Server Technology has been able to grow both its sales and employment in a consistent, deliberate fashion. Good management practices have led to great employee retention, and recently Server Technology was awarded the 2015 Best Places to Work Award.

“The future plan for Server Technology is to stay focused on power solutions and to continue to deliver the highest quality and most innovative PDU’s in the industry, with the best customer support. Server Technology does all of this by giving credit where credit is due; to our employees who make it happen every day. Additionally our association with the university is highly valued and considered a part of our success.” said George.

Server Technology strives to have one shared vision and one common goal. Only with Server Technology will customers: *Stay Powered. Be Supported. Get Ahead.* ■



Server Technology’s team of 175 employees includes many University of Nevada, Reno graduates.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Entrepreneur and national sales expert, Alice Heiman, plays huge role in the continued success of the university Entrepreneurship Program

Northern Nevada is rapidly becoming a hub for entrepreneurs and innovators. For college students detouring from the traditional career path and going into business for themselves, this means having accessibility to programs and opportunities. They are finding the support they need at the University of Nevada, Reno and in the community. Alice Heiman is one of those resources.

So what does having a nationally renowned sales leader right here in Reno mean to these entrepreneurs?

Alice Heiman, corporate partner of the College of Business is helping pave the way for entrepreneurs to learn sales. With its newly created Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship and the now four-year-old entrepreneurship minor, students are given the opportunity to expand their knowledge in entrepreneurship and sales, an essential skill needed for success. Alice has been actively involved with the College of Business for 15 years. She has taught undergraduates and graduates leadership, business communication and, most recently, sales. For the last three years Alice has taught in the entrepreneurship minor which she supported since its inception. Alice has helped mentor and aid students in starting businesses and finding jobs around the country.

"With over 14 million jobs in sales and so many starting their own business, education in sales is fundamental," Heiman said. "It's an imperative that we start to teach our students, especially our business students, the importance of sales and how to do it well. A large percent of the graduates of the College of Business will work in sales and they have never taken a course on it."

For over 20 years Alice has been a leader in her field. She has trained and coached hundreds of people. She believes that sales should be integrated into all aspects of a business. Alice developed her sales expertise while at Miller Heiman, Inc. before striking out on her own and establishing Alice Heiman, LLC in 1997. In her years at Miller Heiman she sold to and trained some of the company's largest and most complex accounts, including Coca Cola, Dow Chemical, Fidelity Investments and Hewlett Packard. Currently, Alice works with startups and innovators, owner operated businesses who want to exponentially increase their sales. She is a sales expert providing consulting, coaching, training and keynote presentations, getting sales teams motivated to exceed their goals. You can find her teachings on her blog at aliceheiman.com and on blogs like HubSpot, Selling Power and Nimble. She has earned a host of awards including Saleswoman of the Year and Marketer of the Year.

Last year, Dean Mosier, Chris Howard, Director of the Ozmen Center and Mark Pingle, Professor of Entrepreneurship approached Alice and asked her to come up with a sales course specifically for entrepreneurs. Alice designed the Entrepreneurial Sales Overview for upper division and graduate students with limited exposure to the profession. The program contains sales strategies entrepreneurs need to prepare for running a successful business. This includes the sales process, building relationships that lead to sales, and pitching to buyers and funders. Students receive practical experience in areas such as, using LinkedIn and other social media to network and generate leads, sales management, sales technology, and business negotiations.

The future of the entrepreneurship program at the university has much in store. There are boundless opportunity for students who want to start a business. Alice, in collaboration with UNR College of Business, looks forward to expanding the sales program for entrepreneurs and business majors in the coming years. Alice adds, "Students who want to become the next business owner need to find their passion and go for it but they also need to learn how to sell if they want to insure their success. With the support from the UNR College of Business we can make that happen." ■



Alice Heiman with Matt Sikora, UNR graduate and founder of Candel, who she mentors.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Reno growth spurred by innovation

Innovators. Risktakers. Trailblazers. These words are commonplace at the University of Nevada, Reno, but are not usually associated with the hospitality industry. Yet, they fit the Whitney Peak Hotel to a “t.” In June of 2014, the hotel opened its doors, staking its claim as Reno’s first luxury, non-smoking and non-gaming property.

Just looking at Whitney Peak from the corner of Virginia Street and Commercial Row downtown, you can see it is different: the world’s tallest artificial climbing wall – rising 164 feet in the air above the historic Reno Arch – adorns the side of the 16-story hotel. The climbing wall and the 7,000-square-foot indoor bouldering gym, known as BaseCamp, are one of the many distinguishing factors that further separate this indie hotel from status quo in Reno.

A few steps inside the front door, guests will find acclaimed chef Mark Estee at the helm of its restaurant, Heritage, which sources seasonally fresh produce, along with proteins and baked goods, from the local and regional food community.

Supporting the arts is also a priority that has found its home at Whitney Peak and, specifically Cargo Concert Hall, the hotel’s state-of-the-art, live music venue. A new series, Cargos Local, spotlights local up-and-coming musicians, giving them the stage to share their talents. The Live From the Arch outdoor concert series strives to bring international and national touring musicians to Reno to expose the local community to the best artists within their genres. UNR students and graduates are frequent patrons, particularly of some of the blues/soul and indie acts that the hotel has hosted.

A recent supporter of the inaugural Reno Sculpture Fest, Whitney Peak Hotel commissioned, as a gift to the city, two murals on the side of its downtown parking garage, envisioning that the artwork would serve as unique landmarks as well as contribute to the thriving arts community in Reno.

“In everything we do, we want to break the mold of ‘this is the way things are always done,’” said Niki Gross, managing director for the property, which has undergone \$10 million in renovations since taking over the former Fitzgerald’s Hotel & Casino space. “We are fiercely committed to playing an active role in the economic revitalization of Reno and supporting the explosion of culture – whether in the arts, music, food, craft beers, you name it.”

That highly engaged, entrepreneurial spirit is visible throughout the hotel and with its staff, many of whom are current students or graduates of UNR, including Vick Wowo, the hotel’s regional sales manager who serves on the board of UNR’s Young Alumni Chapter and the College of Business Alumni Association. Whitney Peak has hosted several UNR events – both group

meetings and networking events – and enjoys its partnership with the university.

“There is incredible energy in Reno, due in large part to the university,” said Gross. “We benefit greatly from this academic and economic engine and hope that, in turn, we contribute equally to the city we now call home.”

Team-building and – let’s face it, having fun – are key components to success in any business, especially in the highly competitive hospitality industry. The hotel takes every opportunity to engage its whole staff in health and wellness initiatives, philanthropy-based activities supporting local charities, and even trying out new hotel partners (think Reno Brew Bike, an afternoon Reno Aces game or outdoor adventure package providers). Having a strong team in place means better service for guests, which, in turn, drives the bottom line as first-time guests become long-term patrons.

Looking ahead, the Whitney Peak team is focused on growth. The hotel recently doubled its hotel room inventory to 310 rooms, largely in response to increasing demand. To continue to support and serve as host hotel for corporate groups, major community events and athletic teams, there needed to be more beds for more heads. Concurrently, the hotel is advancing plans to nearly double its group space, adding in new multi-functional meeting rooms, pre-function areas and a 5,400-square-foot ballroom, which will be ideal for weddings, receptions, corporate dinners and community events.

“Much like UNR, our trajectory is limited only by our imagination,” said Gross, who values UNR as a partner and kindred spirit when it comes to innovation inspiration. ■



The Whitney Peak Hotel is a boutique-style, non-smoking and non-gaming hotel located in the heart of downtown next to the Reno Arch.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa guides up and coming hospitality leaders

The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa is a AAA Four Diamond property that employs 1,800 team members.

The hospitality industry, by definition, is very broad, spanning a variety of sects and subjects, but one pillar remains the same across the board: a hospitality professional's main objective is to provide a memorable experience for guests. In order for that to be done, those in the industry need to understand the ins and outs of the property as a whole, and by building solid working relationships within the entire organization, can achieve great success.

This concept of synergy is not a new one, but is one that is practiced daily at Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno. This AAA Four Diamond property encourages inner-department team-building, resulting in a group of motivated, dynamic professionals all working for the same goal – to provide an exceptional, memorable guest experience coupled with unparalleled service that ultimately leads to increased revenue.

And it's working.

In early 2015, Atlantis was named the #1 Casino Outside of Las Vegas by USA Today Travel. Its food and beverage department is consistently recognized as the best in northern Nevada, and its Spa Atlantis has been named a Top 10 Spa in the World by SpaFinder Wellness. In 2010, the company was recognized by Forbes as being in the top 2 percent of Most Trustworthy Companies, and in 2013, its CEO, John Farahi, was awarded the Most Respected CEO by Nevada Business Magazine.

While the accolades provide a great sense of pride to the team, they are not the driver for success. Of its 1,800 Team Members, 20% have been with the company for 10 or more years, which is quite impressive when considering Bureau of Labor Statistics' Job Opening and Labor Turnover program reported an industry-wide average turnover of 66.3 percent in hospitality in 2014. The very strong retention rate at Atlantis is a testament to the overarching theme of teamwork, and dedication to fostering a culture of respect.

Among the 1,800 Team Members, many attended the University of Nevada – Reno, and have found their home at Atlantis. One Team Member is Kimberlee Tolkien, BS '86 who has been with the company for 20 years. Tolkien joined Atlantis as the marketing research manager and in less than a year was promoted to assistant director of Sales and Marketing, then executive director of Marketing before her promotion to assistant general manager in 2013. "After 20 years, I'm still learning and am now fortunate to help mentor up-and-coming professionals," she said.

Brandon McNeely, MBA'14 is another Team Member who has risen through the ranks at Atlantis. McNeely started at Atlantis in



2004 as a database coordinator. He was then promoted to database analyst, then data integration manager, before his most recent promotion in 2014 to director of casino marketing. McNeely saw Atlantis as a place of professional growth and development, and wanted to be involved with a company who values its employees, and empowers them to use their knowledge, skills, and abilities on a daily basis.

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa is proud to be a new UNR Corporate Partner. With many professional growth opportunities in the gaming/hospitality industry Atlantis looks forward to welcoming UNR graduates who demonstrate the drive and desire to be part of an incredible team offering a variety of career paths in Gaming, Hotel Operations, Food & Beverage, Sales & Marketing, Technical and/or Guest Services.

"I am excited we are part of UNR Corporate Partnership," said Lisa Trujillo, talent & recruitment manager. "This partnership gives us further reach to connect with students, faculty and alumni and hire for tomorrow's future. As we look for top talent, we will debut our new management /director Rotational leadership Program. This program will quickly advance young professionals in our organization giving them the ability to grow into leadership roles. We are eager to partner with UNR to select outstanding candidates for this program." ■

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Peppermill's tradition of hiring UNR alumni

Locally owned and operated, the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino has been recognized year-after-year on a national level for hospitality excellence. The Peppermill team is dedicated to the Reno community and in addition to local involvement in the form of volunteer hours and monetary donations, works in parity with the University of Nevada to find local graduates lifelong careers.

The Peppermill opened in 1971 as a simple coffee shop and lounge. Forty years later, it has become a Reno landmark, sprawling more than two million square feet, featuring 1,623 luxurious rooms and suites, two resort pools, 10 award-winning restaurants, 15 themed bars and lounges, headliner entertainment, and also boasts the 33,000-square-foot Spa & Salon Toscana and fitness center featuring Northern Nevada's only Caldarium with indoor pool, sun deck and secret garden. The property remains family owned and operated and employs over 2,400 Nevada residents.

Throughout the years, the Peppermill has maintained a tradition of hiring graduates of the University of Nevada, Reno Business School. Within Peppermill's departments ranging from sales to food and beverage, you're sure to find a UNR graduate.

Corporate Executive Director of Marketing Aaron Robyns, graduated from the University of Reno, Nevada Business School and has been a Peppermill employee for 4 years. He credits a significant amount of his passion for business to the UNR Business School.

"The Business school provided me with a great foundation for my career," Robyns said. "We have such varied industries in Nevada; the business school gives students the ability to understand and excel at any number of them. I think that's why companies are eager to hire Nevada graduates: they understand the unique business opportunities here."

Executive Director of Hotel, Sales, and Catering Pat Flynn, earned his B.A. in Business Administration at the University of Nevada, Reno Business School. Flynn has been a Peppermill employee for almost 30 years – starting in the Coffee Shop and gradually working his way into upper management. A 1991 graduate, he is an avid Wolf Pack enthusiast and UNR supporter and has hired many additional UNR graduates in the departments he manages.

"Passion for our region is crucial to our success in bringing in groups to Northern Nevada. We are selling groups on our city just as much as we are on our hotel property," said Flynn.

"We are excited about the momentum the university has in terms of recruiting quality candidates. It's been incredibly positive to see more and more young people being attracted to the Great Basin. That's great for everyone – from the university to local businesses. We are anxious to see this trend continue as Reno continues its growth and revitalization."

Chris Lombardo is currently pursuing his degree in Marketing while working for the Peppermill. Since joining the Peppermill, Chris has received numerous promotions and is currently in a leadership role with the company. "My learning and lessons in class has allowed me to apply my knowledge to my job which has helped me advance through the organization."

The Peppermill also believes in supporting the Business school from an academic standpoint as well. Scott Evans, executive director of Service Excellence for the Peppermill and UNR Business School graduate will be teaching the "Economic and Social Aspects of Gaming" in the fall semester as part of the Business School curriculum. "It is great that the Peppermill not only supports the students from the College of Business but also supports and allows their leaders to spend time in the classroom teaching the students about the gaming industry." ■



The Peppermill Resort Spa Casino features 1,623 rooms and suites, award-winning restaurants and two resort pools.

Distillery continued from p7

In the brewery-distillery, visible from the first-floor bar, Wright toils with heads, hearts and tails. These three parts make up some of the spirits' flavor profile before aging or adding botanicals. Wright tastes the break point between the nasty, dangerous heads and hearts by repeatedly pouring clear spirits onto his hand and putting his fingers in his mouth. Once the heads are gone, he can start collecting the hearts, which make up the majority of a spirit. Later, he will do the same for the tails. The tails add complex flavors and oils. Including the right volume of each determines the final flavor of the spirit.

Sourcing grain for spirits continues to become easier in northern Nevada as Wright plans to take full advantage of G3 Farms in Smith Valley and Frey Ranch in Fallon, two farms that provide some or all grain for four of Nevada's distilleries. Another option is

to approach The Depot's investors about growing grains on their property, which would allow the depot to claim estate distillery status if Wright uses 100 percent of the grain from these ranches.

"Colby Frey (owner of Frey Ranch Estate) is a great guy to work with," Shanks said. "It's nice when you can have people with arguably the same business sell you their corn. That's the nice thing about the brewing and distilling community: everyone will help you in a pinch and offer advice. It's a nice community to be in."

In the coming weeks and months, Reno can also look forward to a new local gin that will start as experimental cocktails at The Depot bar. The High Country Gin will begin distribution in August while the Biggest Little Bourbon is still only available on site.

"That's the great thing about having a bar, craft distillery and brewery," Chris said. "We have so many avenues to explore and get customer feedback. Our cocktail menu will be a revolving door based on the creative house spirits we feel like making." ■

NSBDC continued from p22

The Nevada SBDC offers a wide-variety of resources which include education and training through one-on-one consulting in addition to programs like NxLevel Entrepreneur Training, an intensive multi-session program delivering the knowledge needed to launch a new business or expand an existing one. The NxLevel program was established in 2000 and has seen more than 4,000 businesses go through the program. Sandra Rentas, a business development advisor at the Nevada SBDC, was the first to offer the NxLevel course taught entirely in Spanish – a first of any SBDC in the country.

Jesus Anguiano, owner of Westside Café & Coffee Company in northwest Reno, took one of Rentas's NxLevel training courses.

"Being from another country, I didn't even know the resources I learned about in this course exist, even after being in business for 16 years," Anguiano said. "Interns came to look at the restaurant and suggested changes to signage, our menu board, promotion through social media and even offered ideas for interior design. Social media really helped to increase the traffic to the restaurant. I'm also in the process of changing the legal structure of the business and greatly benefited from learning about the importance of having a will, trust and exit plan as a business owner." ■



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BOARD BIOS



Stephanie Berggren

Stephanie Berggren ('06, Accounting) is a manager at Eide Bailly LLP (formerly Muckel Anderson CPAs) in Reno, where she has worked for nine years. She provides accounting services, tax and audit and specializes in account and auditing services for government and not-for-profit organizations. Stephanie has served on the College of Business Alumni Association Board for over two years and is currently the vice president for membership. She was born and raised

in Douglas County, Nevada and is a volunteer of the Reno Rodeo, working on the ticket committee. In her spare time, she enjoys wine and long walks on the beach.



Gary Brooks

Gary Brooks ('14, MBA) is director of pharmacy and dietary services at Tahoe Pacific Hospitals since 2012, where he is part of a team that specializes in the treatment of medically complex patients who require extended hospitalization. He earned his doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Pacific in Stockton in 2004 and holds advanced board certifications in pharmacotherapy and nutrition support. He comes to the board after serving as president of

the Nevada Society of Health Systems Pharmacist. He is married to Julie (Kealy) Brooks and has two sons Henry (3) and Parker (6 months). Gary has a passion for leadership, problem solving, and entrepreneurship.



Eric A. Hollen

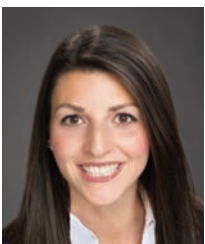
Eric A. Hollen ('09, Finance and Economics) is an Associate Advisor at Open Window Financial Solutions, Ltd., the Reno area alternative to big brokerage, commission-based financial services. Eric, and the advisory team at Open Window, empower people to make good financial decisions, and specialize in expert and honest financial planning and investment advice.



Trevor Howell, CPA

Trevor Howell ('11, Accounting) is a manager at KBCA, LLC in Carson City. His main focus is on taxation, including all types of business, individual, and estate and trust returns. He also works with clients on tax planning to ensure that they have the best possible overall outcome. Trevor joined the College of Business Alumni Association Board this year, and is currently the treasurer. He is also part of the Leadership Reno Sparks Class of 2015. Trevor is a native of Las Vegas, and in his

free time he enjoys fly fishing and tennis.



Erika Ibaibarriaga

Erika Ibaibarriaga ('09, Management, '14, Masters Business Administration) is a pharmaceutical sales representative for GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). She was previously the business administrator for Silver State Plastering & Stone, LLC, where she worked for ten years. Additionally, she is the co-owner of a manufacturing company, Silver State Design, which manufactures custom architectural foam shapes.

Erika joined the College of Business Alumni Association board in 2014 in order to give back to her alma mater. She serves as the VP of Membership on the Board of Directors. Erika was born and raised in Reno, NV. In her free time she enjoys traveling with her fiance Neil Saiz and enjoying the outdoors with her dogs.



Kyle R. McCann, CFP®

Kyle R. McCann ('05, Finance, '11 Masters in Finance) is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and founder of KRM Wealth Management, LLC (KRM). KRM is an independent, fee-only advisory firm specializing in comprehensive wealth management for families, high-net-worth individuals, small businesses and non-profit organizations. When not in the office, Kyle can be found on his bike, on the golf course, or spending time with his wife, Nicole, and their two children, Elle and Miles.



Laura Nelson

Laura Nelson ('12, Accounting) is a senior associate at Eide Bailly LLP. She has worked in public accounting for three years. She provides audit services to a variety of industries, including non-profit organizations, government entities and gaming.

The University of Nevada, Reno is the reason Laura moved to Nevada and she has taken advantage of the many opportunities provided by the state in her six years of living here. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband at Lake Tahoe.



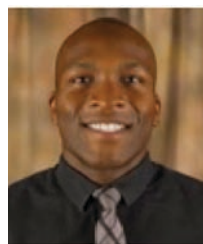
Dave Thomas

Since graduating from UNR College of Business Dave Thomas' background has been centered in Accounting, Finance and Banking. Currently, he is employed with Mutual of Omaha Bank in Reno in its commercial loan department managing and assisting with a portfolio that includes overseeing new and existing business clients in all phases of commercial loans, needs and products.



Nicole Vance

Nicole (Moschetti) Vance (1996, Finance) is an attorney and works in Reno at Dunham Trust Company. She advises clients regarding trust, estate and family business planning matters, including advanced wealth transfer strategies, asset protection planning, business planning and charitable giving. Nicole earned her J.D. in 1999 from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Prior to law school, she spent four years at UNR, graduating in 1996 with a B.S. in Finance with high distinction. Nicole is involved with various local boards and organizations. She was born and raised in Reno and is proud to be a fourth generation Nevadan. Nicole enjoys spending free time with her husband and two young sons.



Victor Wowo Jr.

Victor Wowo Jr. ('11, Business Management) is a hospitality professional and regional sales manager with Whitney Peak Hotel here in Reno. Serving as a first year board member for COBAA, Victor also serves as a board member for the Reno-Tahoe Young Professionals Network, Young Alumni Chapter and various committees within The Chamber. His drive and focus is to continue bringing visibility to the Reno-Tahoe area. In his free time, Vick enjoys spending time with his longtime girlfriend Rebecca Moser, family and his close friends and fellow alumni Sigma Nu brothers.



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VICK "AWESOME SAUCE" WOWO



POSITION	Lineman (specifically, the chow line)
SKILL	Out-howling the competition
RECRUITED	Annual Member Since 2014

When "Awesome Sauce" Wowo isn't wolfing down tailgate grub, he's warming up his pipes for another howl-arrific outing of game day revelry. Sure, he might spill some barbecue sauce along the way, but sometimes the road to victory is messy business.

HOME FOOTBALL TAILGATES

- Thur., Sept. 3 Nevada vs. UC Davis
- Sat., Sept. 12 Nevada vs. Arizona
- Sat., Oct. 3 Nevada vs. UNLV
- Sat., Oct. 10 Nevada vs. New Mexico
- Sat., Oct. 24 Nevada vs. Hawai'i
- Sat., Nov. 14 Nevada vs. San Jose State

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For more information, visit www.unr.edu/alumni or call 775.784.6620 or 888.NV ALUMS. Special thanks to Battle Born Beer, Camelot Party Rentals, GEICO, Sierra Pacific Federal Credit Union and Whispering Vine.



Vanessa Araujo, chemical engineer and 2015 MBA graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno

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