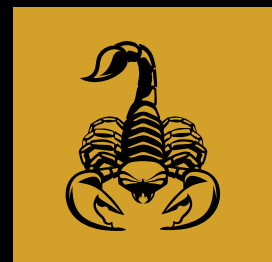
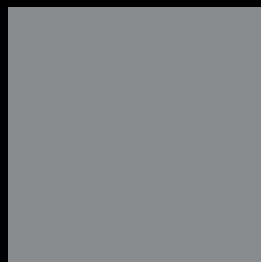
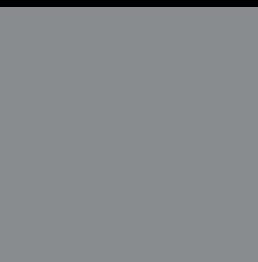


black [+] gold

[2023–2024]

A NEVADA STATE UNIVERSITY
PUBLICATION



Fall 2024 AT A GLANCE

7,533
TOTAL STUDENT BODY

21
MEDIAN CLASS SIZE

45%
FACULTY & STAFF OF COLOR

80%
OF APPLICANTS RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

\$27 MILLION
WAS PROCESSED IN 2023

42% PART-TIME STUDENTS

63% FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

GENDER
71% FEMALE
28% MALE
1% NONBINARY

AGE
60% 24 & UNDER
40% OVER 24

75%
OF STUDENTS FROM CULTURALLY DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS

American Indian or Alaska Native 1%
Asian 10%
Black or African-American 10%
Hispanic of Any Race 47%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 1%
Race and Ethnicity Unknown 3.5%
Two or More Races 6%
White 22%

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

1,488
TOTAL GRADUATES FROM 2004-2024

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS, SCIENCES, & BUSINESS

3,947
TOTAL GRADUATES FROM 2004-2024

SCHOOL OF NURSING

3,683
TOTAL GRADUATES FROM 2004-2024

MAJORS

Biology (BS)
General pathway, PharmD track with Roseman University, or concentrations in Cell and Molecular, Ecology and Evolution, & Physiology
Business (BA/BS)
Concentrations in Diversity and Human Resource Management, Sport Business, Management Studies, Marketing, & Financial Services
Chemistry (BS)
General pathway or concentrations in Biochemistry or Professional Chemistry
Communication (BA)
Criminal Justice (BA) (Online pathway available)
Data Science (BA/BS)
Deaf Studies (BA)
Early Childhood and Early Childhood
Special Education (BA)
Elementary Education (BA)
General pathway or concentrations in Bilingual Education or Special Education
English (BA)
Environmental and Resource Science (BS)
History (BA)
General pathway (online pathway available) or concentration in Pre-Law
Human Health Sciences (BS)
General pathway or concentrations in Business, Data Science, Environmental Health and Sustainability, Professional Writing, School-Based Mental Health, & Speech Pathology
Interdisciplinary Studies (BA/BS)
(Online pathway available for BA)
Law Enforcement (BPA)
Mathematics (BS)
Nursing (BSN)
Psychology (BA)
General pathway or specializations in Clinical and Mental Health, Intergroup Dynamics and Social Equity, & Developmental Secondary Education (BA/BS)
Concentrations in Biology, English, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, & Social Studies
Speech Pathology (BA)
Visual Media (BA)
Concentrations in 3D Animation, Animation, Digital Cinema, & Photography/Documentary

MINORS

Animation
Art
Bilingual Education
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Communication
Counseling
Emphasis in Addiction Treatment and Prevention
Creative Writing
Criminal Justice
Data Science
Deaf Studies
Digital Cinema
Education/Instruction
English
Environmental Health & Sustainability
Environmental & Resource Science
Film Studies
Gender and Sexuality
Human Health Sciences
History
Interpreting
(American Sign Language)
Latin American Heritage and Diaspora
Law Enforcement
Leadership
Mathematics
Photography
Pre-Law
Promotion
Psychology
School-Based Mental Health
Social Justice
Sociology
Spanish
Spanish Heritage
Writing Studies

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

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Speech-Language Pathology (MEd)

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BLACK & GOLD MAGAZINE


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NEVADA STATE UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

At Nevada State University, excellence fosters opportunity. Excellence in teaching leads to innovative, technology-rich learning opportunities that promote the acquisition of interdisciplinary knowledge and skills. Quality, affordable four-year degree programs open the door to career success and enhanced quality of life for a diverse population of students. Our graduates, in turn, foster the greatest opportunity — the promise of a stronger community and a better future for all of Nevada.

Letter from the **PRESIDENT**



DeRionne **Pollard**

Welcome to the 2024 edition of Black & Gold in which we are reflecting on Becoming a University. In July, we commemorated the one-year anniversary of the change from Nevada State College to Nevada State University. I remain so proud we made that dream a reality, truly believing that it is a more accurate reflection of the mission and achievements of this institution.

But just because we hold the designation of “university” does not mean the work is done. Who we are as a university continues to be in a state of becoming.

I love the idea that “becoming” is not something we will achieve. But rather, “becoming” is the ways in which we are constantly changing, adapting, and evolving. In fact, it is a challenge to evaluate what is and what has been and seek the ways we can make it better.

In the following pages you will learn more about the future iterations of what our university will become.

We are becoming a university that will continue to address the changing needs of our community with new bachelor and advanced degree offerings.

We are becoming a university that will boast a proud and winning athletics program.

We are becoming a university ready to meet our ongoing growth through efforts to thoughtfully develop our land.

And maybe most importantly, we are becoming a university that is the future of higher education in Nevada.

Be bold. Be great. Be State!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "DeRionne P. Pollard".

Dr. DeRionne Pollard
President

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Leaders of the Nevada State Student Association (NSSA) gather for a group photo.

BECOMING NEVADA STATE UNIVERSITY: A JOURNEY OF SELF-VALIDATION

As a leader in higher education, Nevada State will serve, innovate, and adapt

As the journey to becoming a full-fledged university continues, Nevada State University stands as a testament to the power of community support, resilience, and the commitment to meet the needs of a diverse student body. This journey has been marked by significant challenges but also immense pride and growth.

The evolution from Nevada State College to Nevada State University was not merely a rebranding; it was a validation of the institution's mission and outcomes. The name change is a reflection of the institution's identity rather than a transformation of its core values. It represents a deep-rooted dedication to student success, community engagement,

and workforce readiness — principles that have guided Nevada State since its inception. By adopting “university,” Nevada State has positioned itself as a leader in higher education within Nevada, signaling its intention to not only serve but also to innovate and adapt to the evolving educational landscape.

As the Nevada State community reflects on the long journey toward becoming a fully recognized university, it realizes that public support has been instrumental in shaping its identity and achievements. Early in the transition, the university sought feedback from community members, which highlighted the university's need to clarify its mission. President DeRionne

Pollard noted, “As people learned about our role and purpose, they became strong advocates,” a collaborative approach that raised a sense of ownership and pride within the community, which is crucial for the university’s progress.

While there has been considerable public support, challenges are an unavoidable aspect of any transformative journey, making the emotional process of becoming a university both rewarding and difficult. Although many community members and alumni were supportive, there were surprising voices of dissent. Dr. Pollard stated, “Navigating these challenges helped strengthen the institution and its leadership, fostering a deeper understanding of the community’s needs and expectations,” which is a process that not only intensified the university’s commitment but also encouraged open dialogue, ensuring that all stakeholders’ voices are heard and integrated into future decision-making.

Amidst these challenges, the university recognized the importance of strategic outreach and collaboration. Wide-ranging efforts, often unseen, were vital in building

support and collaboration during the university’s transition. “Becoming” involved extensive behind-the-scenes work, including countless individual conversations between Nevada State leadership and other community influencers. While these conversations often went unnoticed, they were essential in building support and furthering understanding of Nevada State’s vision. The backing from neighboring institutions like the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the College of Southern Nevada exemplified a collaborative spirit that benefits the entire Southern Nevada region.

These efforts not only grew community support but also laid the groundwork for impactful initiatives that directly benefit students, such as the No-Cost Textbook program, which is aimed at alleviating financial burdens for learners. Dr. Pollard emphasized, “This initiative reflects our commitment to student success and retention, acknowledging that poverty, not potential, is the primary barrier to college completion.” Additionally, recent accreditation achievements in programs like speech-language pathology signal the university’s dedication to academic rigor and industry standards.

Faculty members are recognized for their contributions to students by participating in the No-Cost Textbook program.





Alesha Allen, director of orientation and student transition, recognizes students during the First Year Achievement Ceremony on April 3, 2024.

Alumni Advocacy: Championing a New Identity

Alumni's impact has been particularly significant throughout the “becoming” process, because many in Nevada State’s alumni network had a strong desire for a degree that carried the same weight as those from other established universities. Dr. Pollard noted, “Their passionate advocacy for university status underscored the value of a Nevada State University degree, leading to a renewed sense of pride among graduates,” and today, members of Nevada State’s alumni community proudly embrace this new identity, reflecting the growth and evolution of their alma mater.

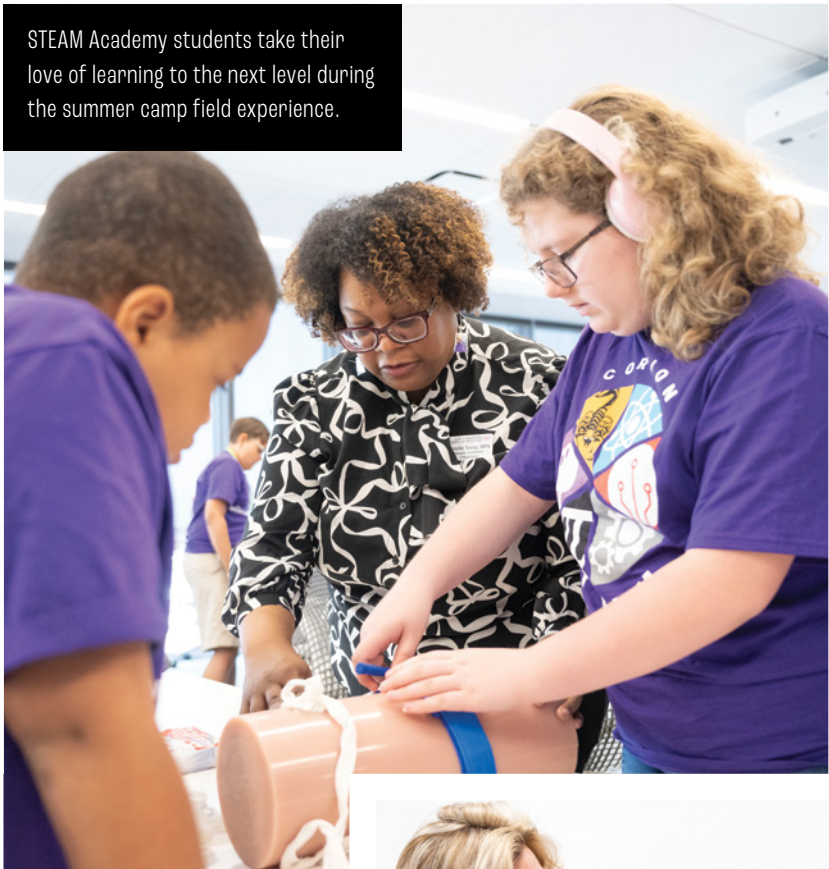
Forward Focus: The Ongoing Journey of Becoming

Nevada State is wholeheartedly committed to preparing students for the workforce, particularly in high-demand fields. Initiatives supporting economic mobility for historically marginalized backgrounds — such as synchronized enrollment programs, scholarships, and financial literacy resources — further enhance students’ opportunities for advancement. With an eye toward the future, Nevada State University is well-positioned to expand its academic programs and strengthen its community involvement, guaranteeing its role as a crucial resource for students. This ongoing journey has instilled a deep sense of pride in the Southern Nevada community and the Nevada State family as they collectively celebrate the university’s transformation and its dedication to delivering quality education. ■



2024 Commencement was held on May 4th so Sting came to do battle with their lightsaber!

STEAM Academy students take their love of learning to the next level during the summer camp field experience.



Nursing students prepare for hands-on learning at the Nevada State Simulation Center.



Raising the flag and celebrating Juneteenth.



SCENES OF THE FIRST UNIVERSITY YEAR



Vice President of Culture, Planning, & Policy Edith Fernandez views the solar eclipse on April 8.





A LEAP INTO COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Women's flag football and men's track and field will soon be the first sports teams at Nevada State

Since the shift from college to university, the strategic initiative that President DeRionne Pollard coined as “Becoming” a university has been a focal point in building Nevada State’s future and legacy. Naturally, one question that leadership and the campus community have regarding actualizing the university’s mission is: What is next for our story? That next chapter is athletics.



Stefanie Coleman, Ed.D.

As vice president of student affairs, Dr. Stefanie Coleman is spearheading this monumental project to bring collegiate athletic programs to Nevada State. Since her initial introduction to the

institution in 2019, she has been passionate about elevating the student experience — always keeping athletics in mind.

“During my initial interview for my former role as the dean of students, I inquired about the start of an athletics department. At that time, it was viewed as a wishful idea for the future, and it wasn’t until Dr.

Flag football players attend the university’s flag football camp.

Pollard was appointed president in late 2021 that a true plan was put into action,” said Dr. Coleman.

The unveiling of the official spirit mark in 2021 was one of the first pilot incentives to introduce a form of institutionalized Scorpion Pride to the campus community. This well-received milestone strengthened the already positive excitement among students and proved a want and desire for an athletics program on campus.

Furthering the excitement and promotion of building a school spirit culture, Nevada State University introduced a new mascot, Sting the Fighting Scorpion. And the first Nevada State dance squad, Scorpion Spirit, was founded in 2022.

The 2024-2025 Nevada State Student Alliance executive vice president and Scorpion Spirit dance squad member, Lahana Pearce, has been a vocal key

supporter of bringing a sports program to Nevada State. During the initial athletics presentation to the Board of Regents in June 2024, Pearce expressed her enthusiasm to represent Nevada State in a student-athlete capacity.

“If athletics were brought to Nevada State, it would create a sense of community and school spirit for all Scorpions no matter if they are a graduate or a current student. Additionally, it will help students like me develop important teamwork and leadership skills, needed once [we are] in the Southern Nevada workforce.”

Dr. Coleman has advised that expanding student involvement opportunities is essential as the university grows. “Athletics is a chance to offer students a more comprehensive college experience — one that not only aligns with Nevada State’s mission but also meets the evolving needs of both the university and its student body.

Sting the Fighting
Scorpion strikes
a pose!



We looked at potential sports programs that would encourage students to stay in Nevada, keeping our talent and future leaders here to build a stronger Southern Nevada community,” Dr. Coleman said.

The research and development centered around athletics has involved collaboration with other institutions in Southern Nevada at the collegiate, club, and high school levels, ensuring that the athletics program complements the regional landscape. This has included conversations with Western Nevada College; Truckee Meadows Community College; the College of Southern Nevada; and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Nevada State’s vision extends beyond athletics and provides an opportunity to introduce a new course curriculum. Provost Dr. Sarah Frey and her team are exploring ways to align athletics with Nevada State’s current and future

academic programs. Although these ideas are still in the beginning stages, athletics pose strong academic value for new majors and specialized programs.

Currently, the university is prioritizing women’s flag football and men’s track and field as the first official sports teams at Nevada State. “In the valley, women’s flag football has evolved into a popular sport, and many athletes are being recruited to play out of state because there is no collegiate flag football team in Nevada,” said Dr. Coleman. She also added that a collegiate men’s track and field program is absent in Nevada’s current higher education landscape.

To pique interest and study participation, the Division of Student Affairs has also hosted several women’s flag football clinics for current high school students to learn more firsthand about future athletes’ needs. ■



Social media specialist Brittany Barksdale founded the Scorpion Spirit dance squad in 2022, with students Gianna Labate, Zoe St. Clair, Serenity Acosta, and Lia Martinez as the first official team members. Names of those pictured listed from left to right.

Dean Elizabeth
Gunn speaks at the
university town hall
on Feb. 28, 2024.



ADVANCING THE FUTURE

Nevada State University
is preparing students
for high-demand careers

At Nevada State University, students are at the heart of an educational journey that prepares them for meaningful careers across various fields. The School of Nursing (SON); the School of Education (SOE); and the School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Business (LASB) all offer degree programs and advanced degree programs designed to meet the workforce's evolving needs for in-demand careers.

Shaping the Future of Nursing



June Eastridge, Ed.D.

Nevada State's SON is leading the way in a constantly developing field and will empower the next generation of nursing leaders through Master of Nursing Leadership degree, which will launch fall 2025. Dean June Eastridge, Ed.D., highlighted the transformative advantages of obtaining advanced nursing degrees, stating, "An advanced degree helps nurses grow their practice, take on more responsibilities, and work more independently, ultimately enhancing the quality of care they provide to their patients."

Students can personalize their paths to become Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in specialties like nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, and nurse midwives, allowing them to align their

career goals with their interests.

Dr. Eastridge emphasized that the SON faculty stay closely connected to their fields, noting, "We have faculty who work part time in clinical settings, which helps keep our curriculum fresh and practical," ensuring learning remains relevant and real-world centered.

Looking ahead, Dr. Eastridge anticipates that advanced nursing degrees will continue to evolve in response to technological advancements and global health trends, predicting, "Healthcare providers will need to become more technologically savvy as new tools emerge, to meet the increasingly complex needs of the healthcare landscape."

The focus on global health equips students to provide patient care with empathy and compassion, treating patients as individuals rather than mere diagnoses.



Dean June Eastridge congratulates new nurses at the School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony on Aug. 20, 2024.

Dean Peltier-Glaze
speaks at the grand
opening of the
Psychoeducational
Mental Health Clinic
on Oct. 31, 2024.



Meeting Community Needs in Nevada



Bernnell Peltier-Glaze, Ed.D.

Nevada State's SOE prepares students to address Nevada's critical shortages in speech-language pathology and school psychology through graduate degree programs, including the Master in Speech-Language Pathology and the newly launched Education Specialist in School Psychology.

Dean Bernnell Peltier-Glaze, Ed.D., highlighted the importance of advanced training in today's diverse classrooms,

stating, "With an advanced degree, you gain more skills and knowledge that make you a well-rounded expert," which enhances educators' ability to adapt, innovate, and effectively support students from various backgrounds.

The SOE upholds a supportive environment through small class sizes and personalized attention for each student. Dr. Peltier-Glaze highlighted this commitment, stating, "We treat our students like family — we care deeply about their success and well-being, both academically and personally," ensuring that every student receives the guidance and encouragement needed to reach their full potential.

Equipping Students for In-Demand Fields

LASB is Nevada State's largest academic unit, offering diverse programs across six dynamic departments. Each department provides students with a comprehensive education that supports critical thinking, creativity, and social responsibility — key skills for success in today's high-demand careers.



Elizabeth Gunn, Ph.D.

A standout benefit for LASB students is learning from faculty dedicated to their success, as Dean Elizabeth Gunn, Ph.D., noted: "Our faculty understand the mission of Nevada State and are here because they genuinely care about students," while the curriculum's focus on real-life

experiences prepares graduates to be academically proficient and socially responsible citizens.

LASB alumni consistently report feeling overprepared for their careers compared to peers from other institutions, attributing this to the hands-on learning and supportive faculty at Nevada State. Dr. Gunn noted that employers increasingly seek candidates with strong liberal arts foundations, even in technical fields. "Employers are looking for independent thinkers who can communicate effectively and work collaboratively, underscoring the importance of these skills in today's in-demand fields," said Gunn.



Speech Language Pathologist graduate being hooded during the Spring 2024 Pinning and Hooding ceremony.

What is LASB?

School of Liberal Arts, Sciences,

All NS students beg

To take their Core Curriculum genera

& most remain here



Addressing the Demand for Advanced Degrees in Essential Fields

As students begin their educational journeys at Nevada State, they are not merely earning degrees; they are becoming the next generation of leaders, educators, and health care professionals ready to excel in a rapidly evolving world. Nevada State is addressing the demand for degrees and advanced degrees in essential fields, ensuring a strong pipeline of skilled graduates.

Pictured left to right: School of Education Dean Bernnell Peltier-Glaze, Congresswoman Susie Lee, Lead Supervising Psychologist Dorothy Parriott, Assistant Professor of School Psychology Katie Dockweiler, U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, and Nevada State President DeRionne Pollard participate in the ceremonial ribbon cutting for the university's first mental health clinic.



SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH IN SOUTHERN NEVADA

Nevada State celebrates the grand opening of the Psychoeducational Mental Health Clinic

Nevada State University celebrated the opening of its first mental health clinic on Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024. The Psychoeducational Mental Health Clinic offers health evaluation services for students pre-K through 12th grade or youth ages 3 to 21, helping to fill the need for mental health evaluation services across Southern Nevada. Nevada State faculty and staff and community partners attended the grand opening event. U.S. Senators Catherine Cortez Masto and Jacky Rosen and Congresswoman Susie Lee (NV-03) secured funding for this clinic.

Nevada State University has a history of receiving grant funding to have an impact on mental health. In 2020, Nevada State's School of Education received a subgrant from the Nevada Department of Education to establish career pathways for school-based mental health providers. In 2022, Nevada State School of Education received a five-year, \$1,219,626 federal Mental Health Services Professional Demonstration Grant to fund the Ed.S. school psychology graduate program. And in 2023, Nevada State University received an additional \$1,337,000 funding from

the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to start the Psychoeducational Mental Health Clinic. The purpose of the clinic is to serve as an educational training site for the Ed.S. school of psychology graduate program and as a community resource for families seeking mental health services across Clark County.

Since officially opening its doors on June 24, 2024, the clinic has already begun the intake process for 60 K-12 students and aims to complete 150 evaluations by September 2025. Through the collaborative efforts of the Nevada State school psychology graduate training program and community professionals, the clinic will provide evaluations of mental health needs as well as supportive services to help clients identify and access local educational and therapeutic resources.

“Offering these evaluation services helps address a critical need in Southern Nevada and ensures that students in our community can access the supports and services they need to be successful at home, at school, and in the community,” said Nevada State President Dr. DeRionne Pollard. “Having a psychoeducational mental health clinic at Nevada State provides our students with real, clinical experience on campus while providing a much-needed community resource.”

“I’m pleased to join Nevada State University leadership, faculty, and staff today to celebrate Nevada State’s first mental health clinic, and I want to thank them for all they’re doing to provide young Nevadans the support they need,” said Cortez Masto. “Mental health is just as important as physical health—that’s why I secured federal resources to help this clinic recruit and retain mental health professionals and get our communities quality services. I’ll keep fighting to make it as easy as possible for Nevadans to access affordable mental health care.”

Lee shared, “I spent two decades working with students to help them succeed in and out of the classroom. I’ve seen firsthand how providing a holistic approach to their mental health is one of the most important investments we can make in students’ success.” She continued, “Now that I’m in Congress, I’m continuing that work by bringing back the federal dollars our educators and mental health care providers need. I look forward to seeing [Nevada State] put these funds to good use by caring for their students, families, and the surrounding community.”

The clinic offers psychoeducational evaluations to provide recommendations relative to special education eligibility and medically necessary diagnoses, such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, developmental disabilities, emotional disorders, intellectual disabilities, and learning disabilities. ■

To learn more about the Psychoeducational Mental Health Clinic at Nevada State University and the services that the clinic offers, visit nevadastate.edu/academics/soe/psychoeducational-mental-health-clinic.



Congresswoman Susie Lee and Lead Supervising Psychologist Dorothy Parriott visit one of the clinic rooms.

Along with leadership from Nevada State University, representatives from WT Partnership, Nevada State Campus Lands Corporation, City of Henderson, and TSK Architects provided insights on the future development of Nevada State's campus as well as the surrounding community.



SMART GROWTH INITIATIVE KICKS OFF

Nevada State is growing our vibrant, sustainable campus

More than two decades ago, government, business, and community leaders in Nevada came together to develop the bold vision for forming the foundation for today's Nevada State University. The City of Henderson was an early advocate of the university's focus on filling critical workforce needs with affordable and flexible pathways to higher education, and, as such, was granted over 500 acres of land from the federal government to build out the future campus.

Fast-forward to the present, and, today, thanks to these early visionaries and other supportive partners, Nevada State serves more than 7,000 students. However, only 60 acres of the land allotment have been developed. With an ambitious plan to serve 20,000 students by 2047, the time has

arrived for intentional planning to grow the campus in collaboration with the private sector, regional stakeholders, and the surrounding community.

President DeRionne Pollard's recent formation of the Nevada State Campus Lands Corporation (NSCLC) has been a key part of this concerted effort. By convening an NSCLC board of trustees that includes representation from finance, law, development, government, and nonprofit administration, the future growth of Nevada State's campus and its surrounding area will be in alignment with the university's academic mission and Nevada's workforce development goals.

On Oct. 24, the public was invited to learn about the university's goal to build a more



vibrant, sustainable campus through innovative partnerships and thoughtful development. To effectively bridge the gap between higher education and the private sector, NSCLC works to help Nevada State leverage mutually beneficial public-private collaborations as well as pioneer advancements in procurement, design, and financing to fully realize its vision. Members of the NSCLC board were part of the kickoff event's panel discussion, where they shared what they hope the power of collaboration will accomplish.

"We're excited to partner with our community," said Dr. Pollard. "It's only natural that we would continue our treasured partnerships with local citizens, entities, and businesses and consider their ideas for the best ways to grow our campus. The future of Nevada State is great, and we want our neighbors to be involved."

Keep your eyes open for more opportunities to participate as conversations and efforts for the work of NSCLC continues. It's important to include the community when advancing Nevada State's bold vision for an affordable institution providing a wide range of educational pathways for traditional and nontraditional students. Join Nevada State in creating the ultimate university of the future! ■

Nevada State Campus Lands Corporation Board of Trustees

Scott Muelrath
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State University

**Dr. Amber Lopez
Lasater**
Chief of staff and
strategy, Nevada
State University

A ROUND OF **APPLAUSE**

Nevada State annual awards showcase alumni's and community partners' contributions

On Oct. 3, representatives of Nevada State University, community partners, and alumni gathered to celebrate a variety of awards and achievements at The Doyle in historic downtown Las Vegas. Hosted by Nevada State University President DeRionne Pollard, the evening featured individuals and organizations that have impacted the university's work within the Southern Nevada community. Pollard provided a welcome message and acknowledgements to everyone who helped and/or sponsored the celebration.



Young Alumni Award Winners **Estefania Sanchez Vega '18** and **Efren Vega '17** found both a school and each other at Nevada State. An undocumented student, Estefania had planned to return to her home country of Mexico when she learned of Nevada State. She was amazed when she was welcomed as a full-ride scholarship student! She met Efren in a class, and

the rest is history! Today, Estefania works in immigration at a law firm and uses what she learned to take care of her clients. Her degree gave her confidence and opened doors for her life and career.

Efren had already been dismissed from another institution, but upon hearing about Nevada State, he hoped for one more

chance. "It was like an angel answered me." He learned that he could get back on his feet at Nevada State, and stepping onto campus made Efren feel like he had gained another family. "People said good morning; the events were very welcoming; and it felt like home." Because of what he learned at Nevada State, he tries to be a role model for other people and credits Nevada State with making him a better person, husband, and father. "I want to tell my kids that Mom and Dad are scorpions, and I want them to be scorpions, too!"



Next up was recognition of 2024 Nevada State Alumnus of the Year **Brian Hansen '12**.

The epitome of a nontraditional student, Brian already had a college degree and

a career when he went back to school to change careers. He now serves the community as a registered nurse anesthetist.

For Hansen, the accelerated program was the perfect solution — he had already met many of the prerequisites and could jump right in! He was pleased that the program would allow him to reenter the workforce quickly, and he soon found that the passionate instructors taught and led by example.

His advice to those considering Nevada State? Just do it! "It's a great school with perfect class sizes and where I learned

to work as part of a team, skills I put to use today. I feel blessed to be able to play a part in a health care team that is able to potentially restore patients back to full health. I'm honored by the fact that they put their care and trust in me, and, because of that, I am always striving to further my education. Being acknowledged with this award is humbling and amazing, just like my career."

Another highlight of the evening was the recognition of the new inductees into the Gibson Society, a giving society at Nevada State University for the school's most generous donors who have provided \$750,000 or more to the institution. As the first giving society that the university has established, its mission is to promote the university's growth and improvement. The Nevada State Foundation oversees the Gibson Society and receives/administers private gifts to the institution, the faculty, and students in a variety of ways, including scholarships, construction projects, and daily operations.



The 2024 inductees include **John and Joy Gombeda**, who established The

Gombeda Family Nursing Endowed Scholarship funds. These two nurses have lived a life of service caring for others, and Joy has even served as a clinical instructor at Nevada State's School of Nursing, helping students prepare for their careers.



The NV Energy Foundation was also inducted into the Gibson Society. Its relationship with Nevada State began in 2012 with a \$500,000 gift of support for the capital campaign

and has continued to grow through the years. NV Energy supports the university's expanding community outreach through workforce development and learning opportunities for students.

Nevada State established the President's Medal to recognize community members who have significantly contributed to both the development of Nevada State University and Nevada. The 2024 honorees were MGM Resorts International and Communities in Schools of Nevada.



MGM Resorts International has worked diligently to continue its charge to affect positive change in the Southern Nevada community. By not wavering in its commitment to diversity, the company is proud to support efforts that reflect all parts of the region as well as amplify a variety of voices.



Communities in Schools of Nevada received a President's Medal for its continuing dedication to achieving transformative outcomes in the community's schools.

By focusing in on high-needs schools and investing the necessary resources, Communities in Schools of Nevada ensures students are getting the support they need to thrive and unlock their full potential.

During the festivities, Dallas Outlaw '24 and students Sol Rodriguez and Viviana Partida also shared remarks. ■

Leadership Academy
participants celebrate
the completion of
their transformative
journey.



THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF EDUCATION

Equipping individuals with education, training, and skills

Nevada State University believes in the transformative power of education and prides itself on being an accessible educational resource in Southern Nevada. The phrase coined by President Dr. DeRionne Pollard, “Workforce development is economic development,” emphasizes Nevada State’s dedication to develop, educate, and empower Southern Nevada’s workforce in benefit of our entire community.

The workforce development program at Nevada State University is a comprehensive learning experience designed to provide education, training, and skills development to members of the Southern Nevada community. Its range of programs includes leadership development through the Nevada State Leadership Academy (NSLA), the Scorpion STEAM Academy (SSA) for middle-school students, and the Nevada State Cybersecurity program.

Tom Nicholas, director of workforce development, has seen firsthand how our programs provide participants with a well-rounded approach to advance in the workplace. He believes the effectiveness of each program highlights Nevada State’s commitment to serve and educate the community by providing multiple educational avenues to learn and grow.

“The workforce development program is more than another education course; it is a holistic approach to career development. Our role is to provide students with the tools they need to succeed in today’s dynamic job market, both during and after they complete the program.”

Nevada State Leadership Academy: Supervisor Bootcamp and the Leadership Academy

NSLA is composed of two micro-credential programs: The Supervisor Bootcamp and the Leadership Academy. Both programs utilize an employer-driven model of curriculum development and allow participants to add several specialty leadership areas to tailor the experience to their needs and interests, especially for those without higher education degrees. According to the US Census, only 26.1% of Nevada's population ages 25 and older have earned a bachelor's degree or higher.

For many seeking to advance their skill set, different obstacles can contribute for those unable to commit the time to earning an advanced degree. Nicholas highlighted the importance of continuous learning for career advancement and sees his program as an alternative for those seeking to advance. "Not everyone can commit to several years of traditional education, but by participating in these workforce development programs, individuals can build their current skills and make themselves a more competitive candidate for advancing in their company." This fall, the program will welcome its third student cohort, and enrollment is ongoing for individual courses.

Scorpion STEAM Academy: A Summer Exploration

Scorpion STEAM Academy is not another summer camp; it is an immersive experience that takes place on Nevada State's campus. Students explore the world of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) in a university setting with hands-on activities that expose students to different career opportunities in STEAM. During the SSA's week-long programs, students interact with leading industry professionals in STEAM fields, who bring their knowledge and career experience to different in-class projects

and lessons. The summer of 2023 marked the start of the first summer program and has since served over 600 student participants.

Nevada State Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity professionals are needed in today's ever-evolving tech world. Nevada State's multi-course, stackable certification program prioritizes hands-on skills and real-world learning, preparing students for career success. The program has been administered at no cost to eligible participants thanks to a partnership with Nevada Partners and the Supporting and Advancing Nevada's Dislocated Individuals grant from the Governor's Office of Economic Development between 2023-2025; tuition has been fully covered for at least 20 participants to date. "Our industry partnerships and grants provide valuable insights, resources, and connections that enhance the quality of our programs and increase the likelihood of job placement for graduates," Nicholas said.

Dr. Pollard believes that Nevada State has redefined what it means to be part of the higher education space. "Our investment in our community through this work is part of our continued effort to promote economic mobility for the diverse Southern Nevada community. Designed with our students in mind, this program hopes to empower community members in knowing that it is never too late to continue learning." Nevada State University's workforce development programs are more than educational experiences; they open doors to new opportunities for people seeking to advance in their respective careers. "By participating in our programs, you're not only gaining knowledge; you're investing in your future and the future of our community," Nicholas said. ■

To apply or learn more about workforce development programs, contact workforce@nevadastate.edu | 702.992.2491 | nevadastate.edu/workforcedevelopment

A DECADE EMBRACING THE ARTS

In addition to hosting exhibitions, events, and performances, Nevada State's Office for the Arts is working on an arts assignment repository

This year commemorates the 10th anniversary for Nevada State's Office for the Arts! Headed by Senior Advisor and Executive Director for the Arts Angela Brommel, the office hosts university-wide events, performances, and programs as well as houses the Marydean Martin Writers' Project, the Thalia Dondero Gallery, The Artist at Work series, and the NS Collections & Galleries. In celebration of this milestone, the office is surveying faculty to learn how they have incorporated the NS Collections & Galleries into their student assignments. When complete, this information will reside as an arts assignment repository open to all faculty.

The office's first year focused on building arts partnerships, setting up galleries, and curating the NS Collections & Galleries, which includes the permanent art collection and the Scorpion Authors. The next year, during the opening celebration for the James and Beverly Rogers Student Center and what is now known as the Bob and Alison Kasner Academic Building, new galleries were unveiled as well as The Campus as Museum, a vision that sought to provide greater access to the permanent collections for our students and the community by placing artwork on each floor of every building. Since then, the galleries have hosted over 40 exhibitions, and the collections now include 126 permanent works of art and six outdoor public art murals.

Another notable first event that week was a reading by Juan Felipe Herrera, the 21st poet laureate of the United States. The office has presented and cohosted literary events on campus, online, and in the community. In addition, each April during National Poetry Month, the Marydean Martin Writers' Project cohosts with the City of Henderson Poets on the Plaza, an annual event on Water Street.

The office also presents musical performances and provides two available pianos: one in the Rogers Student Center and the other in the Kasner Academic Building. This spring, co-hosted with the Department of Data, Media, and Design, the Shapiro Project will feature the music of jazz guitarist Wes Montgomery. The Shapiro Project consists of musicians Brian Triola, Boris Shapiro, Marc Solis, and Eugene Shapiro, who serves as part-time music faculty within the Department of Data, Media & Design within the School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Business. ■

To keep up with the latest events or to learn more about supporting the arts at Nevada State, visit nevadastate.edu/calendar or contact the Office for the Arts at TheArts@nevadastate.edu or 702.992.2380. You can follow the office on Facebook, Instagram, and X @NevadaStateArts.

Select Artist & Author Talks and Musical Performances:

Artists

Robert Beckmann
Sapira Cheuk
Gig Depio
Jean Earl
Hermon Farahi
Ed Fuentes

Left of Center Gallery Artists

Jeff Scheid
Laurens Tan
Claire Wentzel
Craig Winslow
Victor Ehikhamenor

Authors

Carlos Andres Gomez
Juan Felipe Herrera
Jack Hirschman
Erica Vital-Lazare
Bruce Isaacson
David Lehman
Michael McClure
Waddie Mitchell
Sharon Olds
Gailmarie Pahmeier
Vogue Robinson
Patricia Smith
Syd Stewart
Jan Steckel
Willy Vlautin
Saul Williams

Musicians

Foothill High School
Marching Band
Kristy Gene
Las Vegas Arab Ensemble
LVA Jazz
Ann Parenti
The Shapiro Project
Sandip Thanki
Willy Vlautin
Denise Wunderlich



The Office for the Arts managed a new mural on campus at the Multicultural Collective, *Growing Together* by Loisse Ledres, which was commissioned by CEDI with support from the Office of the President.



Who Will Love the Earth: inspired by the words and works of Marydean Martin, featuring the artwork of Myranda Bair.

Bailey Brown,
Associate Director
of First Generation
Enrichment &
Student Transition,
and Alesha Allen,
Director of
Orientation and
Student Transition,
at the First Gen
Fair (Neon Carnival)
on Nov. 8, 2024,
which was also First
Generation College
Celebration Day.



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Nevada State's First and Fierce program fosters a sense of belonging for first-generation students

A university campus can feel like a foreign land to first-generation college students, but at Nevada State, they feel right at home. This sense of belonging is largely due to the university's First & Fierce program, which not only makes college possible for some first-gen students but also creates an environment for them to take pride in who they are and where they've come from while supporting them in every step of getting to where they are going.

Launched in Fall 2023, this initiative is not only a response to the increasing number of first-gen students—currently comprising nearly 60% of the university's population—but a heartfelt commitment to those students' unique journeys through higher education.

First & Fierce continually assesses its effectiveness by analyzing completion rates, engagement metrics, and feedback from students. Early indications suggest that first-gen students are thriving, with performances on par with their continuing-generation peers. This success speaks volumes about the impact of a supportive campus community.

What Inspired First & Fierce?

The program's initiation can be traced back to President DeRionne Pollard, a first-generation graduate herself. She recognized a significant gap in support for these students, who often navigate the complexities of university life without the familial wisdom to guide them. Inspired by "the new majority," Dr. Pollard emphasized the need for tailored resources and support specifically for first-gen students, leading to the inception of First & Fierce.

At Nevada State, the term "first-generation" encompasses a broad range of students. It includes those whose parents or guardians did not attend college as well as those whose parents completed some college coursework but did not earn a bachelor's degree or whose parents received their education outside of the United States.

At the core of First & Fierce are six foundational pillars: outreach, access, support, placemaking, enrichment, and actualization. Each pillar is designed to enhance the student experience, from initial interest in college through graduation and beyond. The program aims not just to enroll first-gen students but to ensure they thrive, offering everything from scholarship opportunities to academic support and a sense of belonging on campus.



It's Stingers Up for these students attending First-Year Fest!

Incoming first-year students transition into college life at First Year Fest, a festive celebration and college transition prep featuring student support workshops and a campus resource fair.



Building Community and Scholarship

The past year has seen a focus on community-building through social events and outreach activities. These gatherings have drawn over 100 students at a time, showcasing a palpable eagerness to connect and engage. The introduction of the First & Fierce scholarship has further provided essential financial support, easing the burden on first-gen students who often face greater financial challenges.

The scholarship provides critical financial assistance, offering \$1,000 for both the fall and spring semesters. This financial boost not only helps cover tuition but also eases the burden of associated costs, allowing students to focus more on their studies and personal development. The First & Fierce Scholarship aims to enhance first-gen students' academic journey, ensuring they have the resources and support needed to succeed at Nevada State. In its first semester, 83 First & Fierce scholarships have been awarded, and more will be distributed during the upcoming Spring semester.

Intersectionality of First-Gen Students' Identities

Inclusivity is a cornerstone of First & Fierce. The program acknowledges the intersectionality of first-gen students' identities, aiming to create events that celebrate their diverse backgrounds. Collaborations with various campus

organizations — such as the Office of Community, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion — enhance this commitment, ensuring that every student feels seen and valued.

A Vision for the Future

Baily Brown, associate director of First Generation Enrichment and Student Transition, sees a bright future for First & Fierce. As the program progresses, Nevada State is working on establishing peer mentorship programs to help students navigate their college experiences. Plans for more structured initiatives — including career readiness workshops, coaching seminars, and alumni engagement — are in the pipeline.

Looking ahead, the aspirations for First & Fierce are ambitious. Plans include establishing a dedicated physical space for first-gen students, further engagement with alumni, and the introduction of formal recognition at graduation. The long-term vision is to create a robust network that not only assists students academically but also supports leadership and community among them. ■

First & Fierce boldly embodies the spirit of resilience, pride, and community that defines the first-gen student experience at Nevada State University. For more information, email firstandfierce@nevadastate.edu or visit nevadastate.edu/first-and-fierce.

FUTURE VISION OF NEVADA STATE

Dr. Sarah Frey is using her position as provost and vice president of academic affairs to meet student needs



For Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Sarah Frey, her journey to Nevada State University from the relatively young University of California (UC),

Merced, which was only 17 years old at the time, has shaped her unique perspective and vision for the distinctive opportunities that emerging universities offer in higher education. As a leader, she aims to empower students by providing them with a platform and a voice while helping Nevada State address students' current needs by offering comprehensive tools and resources to support them throughout their academic journeys.

Dr. Frey's activism for student access to education started early in her career. While a mathematics graduate student at University of Arizona, she began designing a special high school curriculum dedicated to helping Native American students of the Tohono Oodham tribe. Her understanding of diversification in the academic landscape and serving traditionally underrepresented populations was one of the key factors that attracted her to Nevada State University.

During her time as vice provost and dean of undergraduate education at UC, Irvine,

she developed courses in collaboration with AMC's "The Walking Dead" to create an educational experience around Season 4 of the award-winning show. The program peaked massive student interest, and over 80,000 students enrolled in these special classes during the partnership's offering.

At Nevada State, Dr. Frey looks forward to creating optimal educational experiences for students both inside and outside the classroom. Fulfilling that promise, the Provost's Student Advisory Board has launched and includes 17 students. The collaboration was intentionally created to ensure the academic offerings at Nevada State align with the aspirations and needs of its students and the Southern Nevada community.

One of her biggest priorities continues to be advancing strategic enrollment management and mapping out what Nevada State wants to be as a campus, finding different majors the school can offer, and implementing innovative ways that the university can better serve its student population. For example, the Office of Academic Affairs is in the early stages of expanding educational opportunities within allied health spectrums to support various health needs of the community that will potentially align with future athletics programs for students. Dr. Frey encourages students, alumni, and faculty to reach out and share their needs and hopes for Nevada State's future. ■

A SPOTLIGHT ON GLORIA WALKER

Dr. Walker is streamlining operations and helping expand Nevada State's campus



With over 30 years of financial experience in higher education, Dr. Gloria Walker, vice president of finance and business operations, has built an

extensive professional career centered around building a strong financial foundation for colleges and universities. She has solidified her reputation as a trusted leader in higher education finance and as a driving force behind the fiscal success of numerous academic institutions.

Prior to Nevada State, she served as vice president of finance and administration and chief financial officers at the University of New Orleans, providing leadership and oversight to the daily fiscal operations of the college.

Dr. Walker was first introduced to the business side of higher education early in her career at Midland College in the mid-1980s when her husband was appointed as the school's collegiate basketball coach. As her career advanced, Dr. Walker held roles in accounting, finance, business services, and senior/executive leadership at schools including Houston Community College, South Florida Community College,

Cowley College, Texas Southern University, and Florida A&M University. She focused on resolving accreditation and financial stability issues, particularly at minority-serving institutions and historically Black colleges and universities.

She is immensely proud of her collaborative work at Houston Community College and Texas Southern, where she crafted strategic enrollment and management plans for both schools to grow their student populations and implement programs that expanded wrap-around services for traditionally underserved students. These efforts allowed the institutions to focus on increasing accessibility to support services all without directly increasing student fees.

Looking toward the future, Dr. Walker's vision for Nevada State's financial and business operations is to constantly improve and make processes more seamless and efficient for other departments. As Nevada State continues to grow its campus infrastructure, Dr. Walker is striving to find creative and innovative ways to build out the physical landscape of campus.

Dr. Walker's educational background includes a Bachelor of Business Administration with Accounting, a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in finance, and a Doctor of Education in higher ed administration. She holds an active license as a Certified Public Accountant. ■

SETTING STUDENTS UP **FOR SUCCESS**

New Dean of the School of Education Dr. Bernnell Peltier-Glaze is developing new programs and resources to assist students



In mid-2024, Nevada State announced a new dean of the School of Education: Dr. Bernnell Peltier-Glaze. Her background in education expands across a

diverse selection of educational roles, which has helped her to develop a strong understanding of various educational environments. With firsthand experience in the same areas that education students will take courses while pursuing their degrees and experience in their careers, Dr. Peltier-Glaze is well equipped to support students every step of the way.

She holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Counseling from Sam Houston State University, a Master of Arts in History from Texas Southern University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication from Louisiana State University. Those degrees make her well qualified to lead and support the next generation of educators.

She began her career teaching at the elementary and high school levels but later transitioned to leadership as principal. Her background in K-12 set her on the

path to work in education administration and social services, further enhancing her knowledge in the development of student support programming. She then shifted her professional focus to higher education, becoming an assistant professor, and was soon after promoted to associate professor before becoming the interim dean at Texas Southern University, a historically Black college and university in Houston.

As a proud service learner and leader, she looks forward to the future of education and developing new programs and resources to advance student success built on the mission to provide students with holistic opportunities to achieve greater success in education. Taking actionable steps toward this goal, in her role as dean, she has established a fundraising committee to add additional financial support for students to use for licensure exams, tuition support, professional development opportunities, and more.

As she continues to promote the already incredible work of Nevada State's education program, she hopes to create workshops for current students and alumni to ensure they feel more confident and prepared about entering the workforce. These workshops will not only serve as a resource but also as a supportive community within the School of Education, taking a comprehensive approach to both academic and nonacademic student life. ■

Accolades and ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Nevada State University has an impressive community of scholars and innovators. While we are unable to capture all our faculty and staff's accomplishments, we want to acknowledge and celebrate this list of notable achievements.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents approved promotion and tenure for the following faculty:

TENURE AND PROMOTION

Dr. Amber Morczek, associate professor of criminal justice, Department of History, Law, and Society

Dr. Michelle Region-Sebest, associate professor of business, Department of Business

Dr. Lance Hellman, associate professor of human health sciences, Department of Physical and Life Sciences

FULL PROFESSOR

Dr. Adam Davis, Visual and Digital Media

Dr. Jonathan Dunning, associate dean of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Business

Dr. Bryan Siegel, Biology

School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Business Dean **Elizabeth Gunn** is among the 18 emerging leaders in higher education who kicked off their yearlong participation in the 2024 Western Academic Leadership Academy, a professional development program aimed at preparing the next generation of chief academic officers for careers at the region's colleges and universities.

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) has named Chief of Staff and Strategy **Dr. Amber Lopez Lasater** one of the 30 distinguished senior-level higher education professionals to participate in the 2024-2025 Millennium

Leadership Initiative (MLI). This year's MLI participants carry the added distinction of being the initiative's 25th cohort as AASCU celebrates the program's 25th anniversary.

Alena Manjuck, outreach & engagement librarian, received the 2024 SILS Rising Star Alumni Award from the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill. The award recognizes "recently graduated alumni who have demonstrated exceptional growth in their profession or chosen field, early professional library or information science achievements at national, state, or local levels, and/or who have provided outstanding service to SILS or its Alumni Association."

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. June Eastridge, School of Nursing dean, was invited to serve on the Nevada Governor's Select Committee on Healthcare Access, a working group of subject matter experts that will meet over several weeks to vet policy concepts and identify actionable strategies to help Nevada address its health care challenges.

Branden Murphy, School of Nursing lecturer, was appointed by Governor Joe Lombardo last year to the Speech-Language Pathology Board. This year, he completed a bill draft to create speech-language pathology assistants in the state.

Angela Brommel, senior advisor & executive director for the Arts, was elected chair of the Henderson Libraries Board of Trustees. She also has been appointed as

commissioner on the inaugural Henderson Arts Advisory Commission (2024-2029). The Henderson Arts Advisory Commission will advise and make recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Department and City Council for the promotion, creation, and support of City Arts programs, including performing arts, literary arts, and public arts education.

AWARDS

President **Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard** was named a 2024 National TRIO Achiever Award recipient by the Council for Opportunity in Education.

The Board of Regents awarded the following awards to our faculty and graduates:

JASON GEDDES RISING RESEARCHER AWARD

Dr. El Hachemi Bouali, assistant professor of geosciences, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Business

Dr. Jessica Parks, assistant professor of business, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Business

Dr. Katherine Dockweiler, assistant professor of school psychology, School of Education

SAM LIEBERMAN REGENTS' AWARD FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Alexander Rankin, School of Nursing

Watson Caring Science Institute bestowed the Lotus Recognition™ upon Nevada State University's School of Nursing in recognition of their unwavering commitment to fostering a culture of caring within the health care profession. The effort was led by **Dr. Ludy Llasus**, associate professor, and the nursing faculty, who instill the principles of caring science throughout the curriculum.



2024 FACULTY AND STAFF APPRECIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Dr. Kinsey Wright, Education, School of Education

Dr. Sheri Bayley, Speech Language Pathology, School of Education

Dr. Bo Liang, Business, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Dr. Nandita Sahajpa, Data, Media, & Design, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Dr. Amber Morczek, History, Law, & Society, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Brianne Taormina, Humanities, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Dr. Nicholas Arnet, Physical & Life Sciences, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Dr. Pete Martini, Psychology & Counseling, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Dr. Nora Hernandez-Pupo, School of Nursing

Cheryl Perna, School of Nursing

Peggy Heerdt, School of Nursing

PART-TIME FACULTY

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kati Casto, School of Education

Rosa Perez, School of Liberal Arts, Sciences, & Business

Shirley Priestley, School of Nursing

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Shelby Merlino

LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Christine Gonzalez

BE AWARDS

BE BOLD AWARD

Dr. Sarah VanderMeer

BE GREAT AWARD

Dr. Diane Carrasco-Jaquez

BE STATE AWARD

Dr. El Hachemi Bouali

BE THE DIFFERENCE AWARD

Esmeralda Carretero Rodriguez

CORE VALUE AWARDS

2024 EMBRACE THE JOURNEY AWARD
Kevin Osorio Hernández

2024 BLAZE TRAILS AWARD
Dr. Katherine Dockweiler

2024 BUILD BRIDGES AWARD
Anti-Racism Task Force: Berna Rhodes-Ford

2024 BUILD BRIDGES AWARD
Anti-Racism Task Force: Bill Miller

2024 BUILD BRIDGES AWARD
Anti-Racism Task Force: Cristina Caputo

2024 CLIMB MOUNTAINS AWARD
Dr. Kimberly Williams

- Early Childhood Education Innovative Literacy Program grant (\$240,000), PI: Jayia Lewis
- K-12 STEM Skill Development to Prepare Nevada's Students for Critical Materials and Other Technology Industry Careers subaward (\$109,995), PI: Dr. Walter Aminger
- FY25 Incentivizing Pathways to Teaching (\$1,360,385), PI: Dr. Bernnell Peltier-Glaze
- FY25 Teach Nevada Scholarships (\$66,534), PI: Dr. Bernnell Peltier-Glaze
- FY25 Nevada Teacher Advancement Scholarship (\$119,866), PI: Dr. Bernnell Peltier-Glaze

GRANTS AND AWARDS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

School of Liberal Arts & Sciences

- Truth Initiative Breathe with Ease (\$40,000), PI: Dr. Seseer Mou-Danha
- INBRE 2024-2025 (\$589,671), PI: Dr. Amber Howerton
- INBRE Pilot Grant (\$13,000), PI: Dr. Holly Martin
- INBRE Pilot Grant (\$13,000), PI: Dr. Courtney Cooper
- NSF EPSCoR Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP): Harnessing the Data Revolution for Fire Science Project (\$9,500), PI: Dr. El Hachemi Bouali

School of Education

- Special Milk Program, PI: Jayia Lewis
- Clinicians Now Project (\$938,000), PI: Dr. André Lindsey

Office of the Provost

- Full-Service Community Schools (\$112,500), PI: Dr. Tony Scinta
- Mental Health Informed Skills Training (MHIST, \$1,650,000), PI: Tom Nicholas

Finance and Business Operations

- FAFSA Blastoff (\$20,000), PI: Anthony Morrone

Student Affairs

- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP, \$56,000), PI: Dr. Stefanie Coleman
- Summer Food Service Program (\$2,199), PI: Dr. Kimberly Williams
- Progress, Accomplishment, Thriving, Hope Scholarship Program (\$25,000), PI: Cassandra Crevling

Total: \$5.3 million

With more than 450 acres of vacant land in southeast Henderson, Nevada State is poised for transformative development that will enrich our academic program, the university community, and the entire state.



PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Elizabeth Gunn (LASB dean) published the following poems, “Treatise on Solivagant” and “Histology,” and “Q&A with Poet Elizabeth S. Gunn” published in *The Wild Umbrella*, an Irish literary journal; “Cartography,” “Time-Lapse Photography,” and “Tuesday” appeared in *The Brussels Review*, while “Recitation” was published in the *San Antonio Review*; “Blank Verse” and “Epistolary” appeared in *The Rumen*; “Unstill” was published in *The Passionfruit Review*; “City of Pleasant Living” was accepted by *The City Key*; and “How to Avoid a Near Life Experience” was published in *Loud Coffee Press*.

Dr. Hon-Vu Q. Duong (Biology) and **Nina Marcellus** (director of Simulation, School of Nursing) were accepted for publication by NISOD Innovation Abstracts. Their abstract, “A Recipe for a Successful Collaboration: Coming Together, Staying Together, Working Together,” speaks to the effectiveness of a unique approach to interdisciplinary collaboration in the classroom for first-semester BSN students.

Erica Tietjen (Biology) published “Four-Dimensional Ecology Education (4DEE) for Everyone: Teaching Ecology to Non-Majors” in *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

Dr. Chad Curtis (Data Science) co-authored an article, “Fostering Metacognition and Feedback Loops in a Summer Undergraduate Research Program: A Pilot Study,” with a student. It was published in *Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research Journal*.

Dr. Erika Abad (Communication) had their essay “Finding Home in Hurricane Hillary” published by *Acentos Review*. They also wrote the introductory essay, “LatinX Marks the Wound and Space for Collective Healing,” for an interview series they are organizing for *Latinx Pop Magazine*.

Dr. Kayla Bieser (Biology) is co-author of “Genetic Mapping and Phenotypic Analysis of GstE14E.4.1 on Eye and Antennae Development in *Drosophila melanogaster*” and “Genetic Mapping of prodE.3.3, a New Lethal Allele of prod,” both published in *microPublication Biology*.

Dr. Rachel Herzl-Betz (Writing Center Director) and **Brittany Cox** (Writing Center Coordinator) had their article, “A Collective Center for Communal Care,” published by *Another Word*, a publication of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center.

Dr. Sam Jewell (Biology) co-authored the article “The Altered Neonatal CD8+ T cell Immunodominance Hierarchy During Influenza Virus Infection Impacts Peptide Vaccination,” which was accepted for publication in *Viruses*.

Dr. Shantal Marshall (Psychology) and **Dr. Laura Naumann** (Psychology) co-authored the article “‘Is It Worth It?’ Academic-Related Guilt among College Student Caregivers,” published in the *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*.

Dr. Heidi Batiste (Business) and **Dr. Molly Appel** (English) co-authored “Applying Latin American Cultural and Literary Studies to Diversity Management Education,” which was published in *Management Teaching Review*.

Dr. Sherri Coffman (Nursing) and **Anna Taber** (Nursing) co-authored the article “Developing Self-Regulated Learners in Nursing,” published in the *Journal of Nursing Education*.

Dr. Sheri Bayley (Speech-Language Pathology) had an article, “Pilot Comparison of Reading Quiz Formats in a Graduate Speech Sound Disorders Course,” accepted for publication in *Teaching and Learning in Communication Sciences & Disorders*.

Dr. Zarah Borines (Nursing) and **Dr. Sierra Adare-tasiwoopa api** (CTLE) co-authored the article “The Effectiveness of Badging Systems in Engaging, Motivating, and Incentivizing Students in the Mastery of Nursing Licensure Materials,” published in International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship.

Dr. Shartriya Collier (School of Education) published “Black Teacher, Black Mommy: Co-conspirators for Equity in American Public Schools” in Black Educology Mixtape “Journal.”

Nathaniel King and **Alena Manjuck** (University Library) had their article “Textbook Justice League: Creating a Textbook Affordability Institute” published in the Journal of Academic Librarianship.

Heather Lang-Cassera (College Success) had her micropoem collection “Where Hunger Must Be Feral” acquired by rinky dink press. She read at Avantpop Bookstore’s Poetry Arcade showcase; proceeds went to the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center.

Dr. Erin Rider (assistant director of faculty development and diversity) co-authored two chapters, “Breaking Barriers: Women Refugee Entrepreneurship and Integration Frameworks in the U.S.” and “Social Capital, NGOs, and the Resilience of Refugee Women Entrepreneurs,” that will be published in “Refugee Entrepreneurship: A Research Companion,” from Routledge Press.

Dr. Molly Appel (English) has an article, “On Willful Learning: Pedagogies of Testimonio in Alicia Partnoy’s The Little School,” forthcoming in College Literature: A Journal of Critical Literary Studies.

Dr. Neil Longley (Director of Business) learned that his book, “A Whole New Game,” was named one of the 100 Best Books of 2023 by the Ottawa (Canada) media outlet The Hill Times.

Dr. Heidi Batiste (Business) had her article “Management in Times of Crisis: A Qualitative Exploration of the Great Resignation From a Social Exchange Perspective” accepted for publication in Compensation & Benefits Review.

Dr. Jessica Parks (Business) is co-author on the article “Examining College Students’ Attitudes Towards Poverty During the Adult Role of the Community Action Poverty Simulation,” accepted by the Journal of Human Sciences and Extension.

Dr. Katrina Nichols (Speech-Language Pathology) co-authored the article “Varying Syntax to Enhance Verb-Focused Intervention for 30-Month-Olds With Language Delay: A Concurrent Multiple Baseline Design,” which was published in the Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research. She also co-authored “Pedagogical Approaches to Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Communication Sciences and Disorders: A Nationwide Survey,” which is forthcoming in the American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology.

Dr. Katie Dockweiler (School Psychology) and **Dr. Roberta Kaufman** (professor emerita, Education) co-authored the article “School Psychology: Increasing Awareness, Enhancing Policies, and Reducing Shortages,” published in Psychology in the Schools.

Dr. André Lindsey (Speech-Language Pathology) is co-author of the chapter “Assessing Discourse Ability in Adults With Traumatic Brain Injury” in “Spoken Discourse Impairments in the Neurogenic Populations.”

If you have an achievement to share for the next issue, please email marketing@nevadastate.edu.

INSPIRED CONNECTIONS: FROM STUDENTS TO ALUMNI

Remain connected via the Nevada State Alumni Network

Driven by a deep commitment to giving back to an institution that has profoundly impacted the lives of students and become a vital part of the Southern Nevada community, the Nevada State Alumni Network focuses on fostering a strong sense of connection and purpose. This network aims to cultivate and maintain academic and social relationships among current students, alumni, and the broader Nevada State community.

By utilizing diverse communication methods, the network reaches out to alumni to encourage active participation in initiatives and events that celebrate and support the university's mission. Furthermore, the Nevada State Alumni Network provides avenues for alumni and friends to contribute to the institution's well-being, ensuring a sustainable future for Nevada State and its students. The network is also committed to building traditions and creating lifelong connections within specific Nevada State University programs and across the entire university community. By doing so, the network fosters a culture of unity and pride that resonates long after students graduate.

Moreover, the Nevada State Alumni Network serves as a source of inspiration for current students, faculty, staff, and administrators, encouraging them to work collaboratively in developing meaningful opportunities for alumni engagement and participation. As part of this mission, the network's upcoming quarterly newsletter will focus

on honoring and updating the alumni community, highlighting their achievements, and offering opportunities for continued involvement in the life of Nevada State. The newsletter will also serve as a platform to share inspiring stories of alumni success, celebrate milestones, and showcase new developments at Nevada State, reinforcing the shared commitment to excellence.

Through these efforts, the Nevada State Alumni Network plays a crucial role in strengthening the ties between past, present, and future members of the Nevada State community, ensuring that the institution remains a cornerstone in the region for generations to come.



CLASS OF 2024 ALUMNI LISTING

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Miranda Basile
Claudia Yamilet Bonilla
Kelly Veronica Danielson
Alena Diane Dixon
Chris Drelich
Paityn Ashley Floerchinger
June Ann Hamel
Megan N. Hoadley
Mary Hannah Johnson
Spring Lieng
Minh Minh Lopez
Amy Nicole Noe
Marta Ponce Moreno
Rochel Marie Bautista Radovan
Alexandra Rands
Cindy Diana Rivera
Aylin Celeste Villanueva

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD AND EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

Ciara Marie Espinoza**
Arlene Nicole Hill*
Ambreezia G. Leggett
Shinia Nicole Wade

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Leandro James Arias
Marcela Barajas Arrezola
Ariel Shunran Banks-Tamanaha
Heather Batson***
Denali M. Bell*
Esmeralda Benitez Del Real
Zoey Renee Buntjer*
Monica Johany Burgos Rangel
Amie C. Carr
Alondra Evelyn Cruz**
Bernarda Diaz Salgado
Diana Yareli Duran-Gomez*
Alexys Miruslava Fernandez
Elyse M. Fischl***
Bori Soo Fryman

Kaylee Rene Goodwin*
Bryan Horsewood
Katherine Hudak***
Maria Huerta-Chavez***
Lonetta Spring Joy***
Brodi Holland Krantz***
Johanna Lillian Marie Lachner*
Koral J. Lopez**
Estefanny Lopez-Cruz***
Sarah Mychelle Low*
Rachel Nicole Merson***
Brianna Natalie Montanez
Juarez***
Anthony Mickey Oj Nigro**
Helen Andrea Ortega-Arochi**
Nayely L. Perez
Glenda Mayela Perry**
Jessica Pinal*
Sidney Taylor Callejo Sales*
Victoria Lynn Schopf**
Jasmin Rose Senn**
Hannah Autumn Skidmore
Joselin Solorio***
Mary Ann Nicole Mendoza Tanada*
Jaynise Townsel*
Maxwell J. Tury
Shy-Ann Leinani Vaughn***
Danielle Elizabeth Whitehead***
Jacklyn Kelly Wilkey*
Kylee Marie Yarbrough**

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN BILINGUAL EDUCATION

Katia Bejar Calata*
Paula Alexa Curiel**
Odalis Ismara Martinez
Ana Victoria Orozco-Rodriguez
Pamela Vargas**

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Joana Barajas-Garcia***
Sarah Josephine Camino
Yesica Diaz
Jovani Alexander Escobar***

Andrea Michelle Esquivel
Monika Suki Martinez
Taylor Renee Nier
Nalany Alessia Vidrio

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SECONDARY EDUCATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN ENGLISH

Alyssa Marie Chautla
Juan Daniel Diaz Perez***+
Brianna Mariangel Garcia***
Julian Anthony Haywood**+
Matthew Edward Medina-Manning*
Joanne Mincek**
Rhovi Ann Tirasol Naliponguit*
Marysol Sosa **

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SECONDARY EDUCATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Nestor Robles Bermudez

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Janisse Badere***
Kathryn A. Buckels***
Jayleen Celeste Calvo**
Dallante Abner Dunn-Thompson**
Chantell Dinae Freckow*
Roxann Guerrero-Escobedo*
Michelle Lomboy Guinto
Alicia Ann Gutowski***
Ashley Cherise Jenulis**
Shoshanna Clara Lelah*
Leslie F. Loyola
Sarah Se Lucas**
Adrianna Jeañe Villadoz Macapagal*
Taylore Marie Malmgren
Victoria Monterrubio-Duarte*
David Emilio Mulvihill***
Natalie Andrew Nesterova***
John Vincent Ollado**
Aimee N. Douangprachanh
Paulina Marie Quiñonez
Meilyn Rodriguez*
Skylar Kiyomi Smith-Palma**
Aysiah Lauren Taylor**
Valerie Paulina Webb**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN MATHEMATICS

Sarai Cifuentes-Ramirez***+
Madison Ruby Evans***+

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN SOCIAL STUDIES

Alyssa Maleah Bushman**
Gabriel O. Cerrato Fu*
Megan D. DiDonato*
Jacob Ryan Jose Gonzales
Laury Elizabeth Hughes-
Moncada***+
Alicia Maria Ramirez
Araceli Robles-Bermudez ***+
Karen Topete

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS, SCIENCES, AND BUSINESS

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

Melissa Hernandez*
Kelly Leeann Kennedy**
Haley Suzanne Longfield***
Kyli Bri Lopez***
Regina Renee McDade*
Zayra Romero-Mendoza*
Kia Laurell Tapia**
Susan Wilson

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY WITH ELECTRONIC OPTION

Justin Dakota Vallejo

*Cum laude **Magna cum laude ***Summa cum laude +Multiprogram graduate

**BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE
IN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
WITH INFORMATION AND
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY OPTION**

Henry Chaparro Cuevas
Matthew William Hare**
Robert Paul Hurta**
Wesley Nelson***
Matthew Alberto Ruedas Jr.***
Nicholas Marcel Shrubbs**
Trevor Dean Snowden
Mark Lewel Suan
Salvador Villa

**BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE
IN MANAGEMENT**

Ann Michelle Villanueva**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
COMMUNICATION**

Rechelle Sarco Ault***
DeSean Brewer
Tiara Marie Cosentino**
Hurley Ariel Cuaresma
Karen Marlene Gonzalez Arias
Daughn Marie Greening***
Katerin Lisbeth Guardado Menjivar
Alasia Franchesca Hill**
Dylan Michael Hushaw**
Randle Jackson
Daryl Thomas Kirkland**
Rebeca Patricia Lopez
Jeffrey Marks
Ezra Ocampo
Tayna Rayshaw Pimpton*
Niamyah Zanyi Randall**
Gerry L. Roberts**
Azul Alejandra Rodriguez
Espinoza****
Isabel Rueda
Daniel Guillermo Sanchez
Mia Margaret Spencer**
Taylor James Whelchel***

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Nayeli Abrego
Daniela Fernanda Achury Ortega***
Kimberly Andres*

Spashay Danielle Auberry**
Rechelle Sarco Ault**+
Kyvett Rashad Bethea
Quinesha Rochelle Billops***
Vanessa Buenrostro Najera
Piero Alonso Caceres*
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Marcus Anthony Carlisle*
Anahi Monserrat Castaneda
Rodriguez
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Lesli Esperanza De Santiago
Angelica Diaz
Kylee M. DiSalvio
Kindra Dove**
Sean Jakob Dye
Vanessa Yamel Espinosa
Judith Ann Fernandez**
Michelle Columba Flores
Kiley Nicole Fugate
Hancy Alexander Gomez
Mirna Yamileth Gongora**
Kassandra Guillen Gonzalez
Michael Angel Jesus Gonzalez
Jared Gordon Green
Mariela Guerrero-Torres*
Maria Estephania Hernandez
Tristan Parker Hickman
Celia Marie Hilts**
Ariana Janae Jimenez**
Dominic Deshawn Jones
Shonece Nicole Lightner
Alyssa Muro Lindquist
Jocelyn Breanna Reaza Mariscal***
Brianna Medina
Kimberlyn Mejia Aldana
Crystal Monarrez
Kameo Alexis Pscholka*
Bryan Patrick Radecki***
Amber Yukiko Rainey*
Niamyah Zanyi Randall*+
Jose Salazar-Salgado
Kate Alexandra Samano
Brandon Lee Sumulong*
Yazmin Vazquez*
Eva Michelle Vengara
Rocio Villarreal Salazar
Christen Arvis Ward
Tatiana Jeannae Washington

Kenisha Pauline Williams
Dean Thomas Joshua Winters
Cristian Zamora
Maria Zuniga Robles

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
DEAF STUDIES**

Ricardo Anthony Garcia***
Magenta Noel McGroarty
Jessica Marie Patterson
Tamara Brooke Russell
Elianna A. Vega**

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

Sydney Marie Baker*
Ruby Francesca Burch**
Juan Daniel Diaz Perez***+
Monica Margarita Flores***
Thomas-Chad Ryan Gallego**
Julian Anthony Haywood***+
Trinity dary'L Lenaire Kirkland***+
Alejandra Noemi Martinez Gomez
Callie Louise McLean**
Matthew Edward Medina-Manning+
Rhovi Ann Tirasol Naliponguit*
Amber Nekole Outlaw
Devon Oyler**
Jalees Axia Tamayo***
Madeline Leigh Tracy**
Elizabeth Anita Wallace
Gabriela Alma Werner

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY

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Laury Elizabeth Hughes-
Moncada***+
Jorreen Isaacs*
Alejandro Lemus*
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Reba Elaine McDaniel
Carolina Mena
Kayvoughn Moradi*
Steven Lawrence Recek
Araceli Robles-Bermudez***+
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Steven Shea Russell**
Natalie E. Smith

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Lori Renee Trindade**
Christopher Wallace*
Lane M. Worrall*

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY
WITH PRE-LAW CONCENTRATION**

Gabriella Nicole Alvarado*
Mireya Carbajal-Briano
Mariana Colin Carreño***
Kara Marie Holdsambeck**
Sophie Isabelle Juschka+
Jade Munoz Eguiluz***
Caitlin Strong**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

Kristiana Faith Coon*
Shania Domingo**
Erika Tatiana Frett**
Rachel Michal Harrison
April Kimberly Marin**
Mkaela Cosette McLaughlin
Gloria "Gigi" Pontejos-Morris

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
PSYCHOLOGY**

Lyle Anthony Agoncillo Abapo***
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Illan Sergio Aguilera
Jackelin Aguirre**
Osakpolor Ivie Aibangbee
Hyra Monica Godinez Alenton
Carli Ann Armitage
Sonia Atkinson
Vanessa Allison Avila
Emily Layla Ayala**
Kirra Sunshine Bardwell
Christina Marie Benedict
Bria Shanelle Blocker*
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Julie M. Braverman**
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Athena Camberos***
Dalia Lynn Collins
Brittany Robertson Cook
Miguel Angel Cortes Jr.
Todd Anthony Costello*
Danae Nicole Crowder

*Cum laude **Magna cum laude ***Summa cum laude +Multiprogram graduate

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 Joseph Cruz**
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 Emely Garcia
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 Lorena Garcia Gutierrez
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 Charles Edward Lesco
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 Gabriela Lopez Munoz
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 Bridget Osorio Gomez
 Monserrat Pacheco***
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 Debra M. Rango*
 Itzel Rodriguez

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 Kelvin Kyle Lacson Thong***
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 Aaron Esquire Thompson*
 Daniela P. Valadez-Mendoza**
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 Diego Rodrigo Zamora

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 Lizzeth Granata

Travis Jay Huggins*
 Israel Jacobo
 Bryan Alejandro Montanez
 Juarez***
 Hallie Nolan
 Madison Grace Trower**
 Camden Nicole Zahn

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 Kaydie Claude Aquino
 Brian Arreola
 Ixel Amariany Becerra Ledesma
 Damonte Laron Bolden
 Jhamiley Cabral-Chacon
 Maria Paula Cedeño Guzman**
 Kattleya Jean Conroy
 Cassandra Constanza***
 Joie Lynn Davis
 Bailey Kawahinenanioloa Jancy-Lee
 Doctolero
 Rayne I.S. Ecret*
 Vanessa Ineya Feliciano
 Akosua Anima Fosu*
 Karla Akari Garcia*
 Daniela Marie Garcia-Maldonado***
 Rut Ester Germade Romero**
 Danetta Serene Glasper
 Emily Elizabeth Glass***
 Joanna Gomez
 Elaine Hao*
 Yaisa Josephine Juarez
 Gwyniever Marjorie Lonzame
 Ariana Passalacqua*
 Tanya Rene Ricasa
 Adrian Geovanni Rivas*
 Anntoinette Vanessa Rivera+
 Alexia Daniela Rivera Perez**
 Guadalupe Sanchez
 Robert Sean DeChavez Soriano*
 Natalie Anne Sorrentino
 Idalia Alicia Soto***+
 Aubree Cheyenne Tannehill*+
 Devon James Walker*
 Meghan Rebecca Williams
 Paul David Williamson***

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Aileen S. Alvarado*
 Marquisha Andrea Amir
 Hannah Renee Anderson
 Rachel Alexandra Barrera Andaluz
 Brisa Caamano

Jesse Benaiah Cabell**
 Jessica Viviana Camacho
 Yisel Campos
 Jack J. Cassista
 Sarai Cerpa-Bravo
 Kassidy V. Cruz*
 Teagan Linnea Daley***
 Vivian Alejandra DeLeon**
 Laissa Diane Delgado*
 Angelica Lopez Elizalde
 Esmeralda Fernandez
 Paige Erin Fuller
 Jessica Liliana Garay*
 Carlos Arnoldo Garcia Cornejo*
 Patricia Gomez Roque
 Allison Ashanty Guevara
 Bermudez**
 Xiclali Perez Gutierrez
 Elliot John Hill*
 Isabella Horrisland**
 Diana Michelle Ixta Sanchez
 Nathaniel Johnson
 Sophie Isabelle Juschkat
 Ronald Laudencia*
 Cody Lee Little
 Liliana Marisol Madrid
 Lesslie Jacqueline Maldonado
 Arenivas
 Zuguey Alejandra Marmolejo-
 Ceceno
 Dilma Nunez Espinal**
 Zitlally Gonzalez Quintero**
 Juan Jose Quintero Lozano
 Esmeralda Ramon De La Cruz***
 Guadalupe Ramos-Ochoa**
 Azul Alejandra Rodriguez
 Espinoza***+
 Gustavo Adolfo Ruiz
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 Osigbodi O. Soje-Diyan
 Anna Maria Speaks
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 Kosisonna Francis Ugochukwu***
 Reyna L. Valdivias*
 Bradley Viloria
 Monica Viramontes*
 Makiea Ciarra Weathersby**
 Dominique Whitaker
 William Harvey Windes***
 Frida Sofia Zotea-Gil

*Cum laude **Magna cum laude ***Summa cum laude +Multiprogram graduate

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DATA SCIENCE

Amanda Doonan
Carlos Arnoldo Garcia Cornejo*
Amir Elie Hanache
Ethan M. Prine*
Joshua Milton Weeks
Carolyn Mona Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE SCIENCE

Tiffany Elaine Bertrand
Iric Irie Booth
Marlie Kennedy Gagliardo*
Adam Elijah Hackbarth*
Amani Amor Alegria Hoyle**
Alice A. Hulslander
Juan Antonio Paniagua Ibañez
Antoinette Vanessa Rivera+
Kendrick Shaun Seeber*
Idalia Alicia Soto**+
Jaclyn Sandra Sporcic
Niani Torres

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN HEALTH SCIENCES

Jaylee Arden Arthur
Amanda Bateman*
Jennifer Katherine Cloer***
Denzel Chase Aglipay Cubangbang
Kimberly Espindola*
Tyler Douglas Gormley***
Loan T. Le***
Moriah SharonLee Mercadel
Abigail Ortiz Olguin**
Edrisa Suso*
Aubree Cheyenne Tannehill*+
Isabelle Kate Thielman**
Jorge Vizcarra**
Keiona Cruz Weathers**
Natividad G. Zintzun

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Alethea Villegas Lovato
Anthonis Demone Lowrey
Norma Nikole Lozano*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS

Sarai Cifuentes-Ramirez***
Madison Ruby Evans***+
Erick Alexis Hernandez
Miranda Lee Lyons**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY

Noah Reco y Ackerman
Beverly Ruby Aguirre**
Arcelia Jasmin Camacho
Erin Rae Greenawalt
Fernando Hernandez Ayala
Angelica Rubi Lara Robledo
Desireé Maldonado
Julie I. Penalosa Bernal*
Natalia Florencia Rodriguez
Shaun Williams

SCHOOL OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Alondra Jazmin Acevedo
Carranza**
Blanca Carmen Acosta-Sasso*
Coral Eden Adams*
Katrina Lou-Allen Adams***
Shelby Aguilar Morales*
Devany Berenice Alemany*
Savannah Marie Alley**
Loreta Almaguer Rodriguez**
Vanessa Vilma Almazan
Santiago Amaro
Elmira Amjad **
Nyin Htet Aung**
Samantha Andrea Avila Vazquez**
Tammara J. Bahe**
Ronnisha Banks*
Isabella Victoria Barker*
Maritza Janet Barraza
Guadalupe Nereyda Barrientos**
Katrina Viloria Barrow
Laura Ellen Bartley*
Jesus Alejandro Basulto-Rubio**
Eshetu Bazy
Lauren Marie Bechlen***
Sally Jeanne Bellido
Paulina Jessica Benson**
Renee Elizabeth Bergeron*
Kyle Richard Berry
Hiwet Berhanemeskell Beyene**
Clark Thomas Omelde Borces**
Dawn Bork*
Judith Ugale Bottazzi*
Geriele Bulaglag**
Lin Byers*
Brandy Rene Cabrera*

Nancy Cadet**
Steven Haffid Cali Cruz
Stacey Caltzontzin*
Geraldine Anne Campise*
Joshua Michael Carreon**
Wendy Ariana Carrera Garcia**
Sarah Marie Carter***
Perla Rebeca Cedeno
Keila Catherine Cetino*
Qiao Chen
Zahin Chowdhuryk*
Delaney Diane Chowning
Katie Christlieb*
Gabrielle Jeanette Collins
Carly Ann Conrad
Caroline Mary Contin Rivera
Elizabeth Correa-Sanchez*
Maria Beatriz Monica Ronquillo
Cortes
Erin Lynn Crawford Cortese
Gregory Espiritu Cruz*
Abby Gail Dela Cruz Dacanay
Chloe Maureen Dantes*
Katherine Elizabeth Darden
Rosario Davalos-Salazar**
Beyonce Mariah Davis*
Giane Louise Davis***
Renee Davis
Lucero De La Cruz**
Ciara Camille Datu Dela Cruz*
Mervyn Delgadillo
Dara Delgado-Lawrence
Brandi Lorraine Dietrich
Vanessa Ann Dimas*
Bianca Dominguez-Torres
Citlali Guadalupe Escobar Perez
Drew Audrey Farin*
Kaylee Brianna Field***
Daniel Figueroa-Ventura**
Aima Eucille Payocong Flores*
Brooke Shay Follen*
Merika Denay Fowlkes**
Crystal Marie Franklin***
Alura Franklin
Desiree Ann Galera*
Ryann Gallagher
Crystal Christina Gallardo
Christopher Alberto Garcia***
Luisa Fernanda Garcia*
Frehiwot Aklilu Gizaw*
Brianna Gomez***
Myriam Chantall Gonzalez**
Andrea Melissa Gonzalez-Alatorre**
Veronica Michelle Gonzalez-
Johnson**

Juan Carlos Gordillo*
David Warren Grand
Daniela Gurrola Gonzalez
Kateryna Gurska
Angelica Lianne Agustin Guzman**
Tyler Blaze Hamblet***
Marlena Lizette Hammond**
Alex Mitchel Hansen
Jasmine Hare***
Marcia Alexandra Hernandez*
Shawnée Hernandez***
Jeanetta Hill
Tasiona LaTasha Hill
Casey Marie Hirsch**
Bailey Renee Honea
Josselin Huerta-Alvarez*
Ashlee Suzanne Hunter
Lizel Jackson*
Jessica Marie Johnson
Duane Ivan Junio*
Marissa Breann Keeton**
Ryan Jeffrey Knutson**
Samuel J. Koutsulis*
Andre Lacsamana**
Evie May Lajeras
Grace Jane Lamoreaux**
Azalea Lara**
Maria Alferez Larington**
Jose Antonio Larios***
Nicole Lynn Lewis
Amanda Lauretta Libassi
Arianna Mae Libby**
Kaceydee Mae Vistan Lim*
Daisy Elizabeth Lobos*
Justin Johannes Lolong*
Alyssa Naomi Lopez*
Hector Samuel Lopez**
Jesse Lopez*
Monseratt Lopez Cruz*
Esther Sarai Lopez Garcia**
Patrick Lucky Ly
Kaci Mariah Mace**
Linsley Louis Mackey
Aubrey Madrigal
Ernesto Magallanes Gonzalez*
Vanessa Magana-Pedraza*
Shasta K. Magill
Anne Elizabeth Mak***
Christian L. Manglicmot***
Riki N. Martin***
Itzel Martinez Rodriguez
Katelyn Mikelle Matthes****
El Zeus Agapito Mayuga*
Megan Grace Tabaniag McMillin*
Erika Meadows**

*Cum laude **Magna cum laude ***Summa cum laude +Multiprogram graduate

Ginger Meyer***	Arynn Patterson*	Aurora Madison Sandulak*	Carmela Anne Tinoco**
Sabrina Renee Mifflin	Amanda Ekermann Pease**	Briana Santana***	Christopher De Leon Torado*
Hailey Anne Miller*	Marco Trisinio Pelayo**	Czarina Rae Diego Santos**	Madison Paige Torquato***
Vicky Lynn Mitchell	Isaiah Pelkey*	Kristen Carmenita Satcher	Memoree P. Torrison*
Jazmin Guadalupe Molina-Cervantes	Andrea Peralta**	Andrew James Saxton*	Joshua Dalton True*
Kyle Mollers*	Claudia Joseline Perez**	Princess Glean Sayas*	Miguel Trujillo Jr.*
Tonia Michelle Moorman	Kristen Marie Perrault	Casey Ann Schafer*	Michael Anne Real Ugalino*
Josabet Morales*	Devonia Marie Person*	Sydney Noel Schiano**	Helen Rhae Valdez
Tara Leanne Munday***	Lisa Le Phan**	Joel Shaw*	Ailene Valeriano*
Madison Shaye Munns	Vianca Marie Dumlaio Picasion	Madison Kayte Shay**	Alyssa Claire Arcega Victoria*
Marlin X Najera-Gonzalez**	Alyssa Marie Pineda*	Syrus Samuel Shepherd	Alana Leigh Aguada Vieck*
Inna Rizelle Naraval*	Madison Rose Pomerantz*	Jessica Leann Slabaugh*	Samantha N. Villa *
Stephani M. Nava-Rosas**	Elijah Patrick Quiray*	Rutchie Sloniker	Micaylin Flores Villafuerte*
Genices Nerez	Eunice Ramirez Urbina	Elise Renee Smith	Manny S. Villarosa**
Benjamin Thomas Nesci*	Jessica Rayl-Lee***	Lana Jean Smith	Katlyn Hope Wagenhoffer*
Nhu Nguyen*	Brianna Janae Reimer**	Michiko Monique Smith*	Torrent Shay Weiss***
Dulce Maria Nunez***	Lindsay S. Reis**	Elizabeth Vanessa Solis-Villanueva**	Sarah Welker*
Samantha Officer*	Kevin Ismael Remus	Brittany Claire Sonson*	Amy Marie Wheeler*
Veloma Wolfe Offner***	Nakia Jozlene Reyes*	Carolyn Marie Spaeth*	Glenn Dale Wicks*
Fortuna Zerom Okbastion**	Daniel Anthony Reyes-Escobar	Jason Steele	Irina Wilhoite
Jasella Cypress Olivares	Ashlyn Victoria Riggio*	Svetlana Steffier**	Katherine Mary Williams
Alexia Olivas-Lopez**	Jessica M. Rivera	Jessica Rose Stevens	Aimee Danielle Woods
Cynthia Irene Olsen***	Alejandro Rivera Gonzalez*	Jason Tyler Stewart***	Austin C. Woods**
Andrea Dominique Orata*	Britany Rodriguez**	Abigail Stiles**	Isabella Johanna Yotter**
Mia-Angela Gustilo Ortega*	Rachel Rae Rubly**	Simon Suresh**	Nebast Yusuf
Maria Elda Ortega-Polanco	Makayla LeRae Rucks**	Philip Arthur Swirsky*	Adiam G. Zemenfeskudus*
Vanessa Aydee Otero*	Ruby Ruiz*	Gabrielle Zoe Szachara	Elena Yana Zimmermann*
Amanda Joyce Page*	Paranya Jocelynn Sae-Hoon*	Sophie Anne Tetlow***	Elena Melnikova Zorick**
Melody Pakrad	Gordia Salter	Hailey Skyler Thomas	Chynna Fay Zurflueh
Angelica Marie Pangan**	Daniel James Pugh Salzman*	Dustin Lynn Tidwell**	Ryan Nicholas Zwick**
Trevor John Pastones*	Jailene Giselle Sanchez	Vanessa Flora Timbreza***	



Nevada State University celebrated its first graduating class as a University at the spring 2024 commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 4. Over 840 degrees were conferred to the 822 graduates earning degrees in more than 65 majors and minors, including nursing, psychology, business, education, speech-language pathology, and criminal justice.

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