

NEVADA REGENTS' CREATIVE ACTIVITIES AWARD NOMINEE
Community College

Candace Nicol Garlock
Truckee Meadows Community College

Candace Nicol Garlock is an artist, educator and galleries curator at Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, Nevada. She also sits on the board at Doral Academy of Northern Nevada and Rocky Mountain Print Alliance. Candace's work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally and occupies such prestigious permanent collections as the Boise Art Museum, Corcoran College of Art and Design, Rutgers Center for Innovative Print and Paper at Rutgers University, Southern Graphics Council Archives, The Kinsey Institute, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, and Painting and Sculpture Museum Association, Istanbul, Turkey. She has been awarded the distinguished Nevada Arts Council Artist Fellowship in 2009 and recently been awarded an honorable mention in Printmaking Today, a review of fine art printmaking at the Dedalo Center for Contemporary Art, and the Castle of Castiglione Museum, Abruzzo, Italy. Nicol's work can also be seen in 100 Artists of the Male Figure by E.Gibbons.

A Native Nevadan, Candace uses the male figure as a means of formulating a response to her experiences in Nevada's often contradictory landscapes of desire. Her work has been described as a fusion between printmaking, painting, and digital photography. As a result, Candace's multilayered compositions posit engaging questions to viewers regarding relationships, social identities, and societal issues surrounding the female gaze.

NEVADA REGENTS' CREATIVE ACTIVITIES AWARD NOMINEE
University, State College

Francisco Menendez
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Francisco Menendez is an American filmmaker who holds several prestigious teaching awards from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and two Charles Vanda awards for excellence in the arts. He has won first place for two juried screening awards from the University Film and Video Association, and as Department Chair received over a million dollars in production grants for the film program. Aside from filmmaking, his areas of research are: virtual reality, stereoscopy, and emerging technologies.

He began making movies at the age of nine in his native country of El Salvador. In the spring of 1984, he took a break from his undergraduate career to return to El Salvador during its civil war to work as a stringer for Time Magazine, and liaison to Jane Wallace for CBS News. In 1985, Menendez won a Dore Schary Award for his documentary *Los Niños: Thinking About Others*, about the challenging lives of Mexican children along the U.S. border.

Academy Award honoree and legendary producer Roger Corman asked Menendez to direct *Stealing Las Vegas* starring Eric Roberts, Antonio Fargas, and Michael Tylo. Menendez brought the project to UNLV, to the benefit of the students, the program and the community. The film screened at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood in 2012 under LALIFF's filmmaker showcase, and had its international premiere at Palais de Festivals at the Marché du Film at Cannes in 2013. *Stealing Las Vegas* is currently in national and international distribution.

NEVADA REGENTS' TEACHING AWARD NOMINEE
Community College

Thomas Herring
Western Nevada College

Thomas Herring received his PhD in physics from the University of Utah in 2008. While there he studied amorphous semiconductors, particularly hydrogenated amorphous silicon a material used for inexpensive solar cells. After graduate school he taught as a lecturer in physics at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, NY where he became interested in active learning in the physics classroom. He joined the faculty at Western Nevada College in January 2010 where he now teaches physics and astronomy while studying science education and engaging in a variety of public outreach activities. In August 2014 he became the director of the Jack C. Davis Observatory at WNC where he continues to engage the public and to help students and members of the community to explore the cosmos.

NEVADA REGENTS' TEACHING AWARD NOMINEE
University, State College and DRI

Sarah Cummings
University of Nevada, Reno

Sarah Cummings received a B.S. in Chemistry from Haverford College in 2001 and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Columbia University in 2006. She joined the University of Nevada, Reno in 2007 and is now a Lecturer III and Organic Chemistry Coordinator in the Department of Chemistry. During her time at UNR, Dr. Cummings has been deeply involved with the department's undergraduate and graduate educational missions, teaching numerous chemistry and science courses, many of them large enrollment lecture courses. Her teaching has been recognized with several awards including the F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award (2016), the Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award (2012), and the Gene LeMay Outstanding Teaching Award (2010).

Dr. Cummings' ability to communicate, teach, and inspire students make her a favorite in her college and department. She is student oriented, with well-organized, engaging and informative lectures. She is also committed to innovation in her teaching.

Beyond her commitment to teaching, Dr. Cummings serves on three policy-level instructional committees: UNR's Core Curriculum Board, UNR's Silver Core Curriculum Committee, and the College of Science Advising Assessment Committee. She also acts as the major advisor for the department, typically advising 40-60 majors each semester, as well as being heavily involved in undergraduate recruitment and outreach activities. She is an outstanding and dedicated teacher with a passion and enthusiasm for her work, a strong supporter and mentor of students in science, and an exceptional professional colleague.

NEVADA REGENTS' ACADEMIC ADVISOR AWARD NOMINEE
Community College

Christine Marshall
Great Basin College

Chris Marshall grew up in Iowa and Nebraska, and graduated from the University of Nebraska/Omaha with a BS in Education. While attending college, she worked summers in Yellowstone National Park. Upon graduation she started working full time in Yellowstone and stayed there for the next 25 years working her way through sales in Old Faithful Inn, area Controller for Bridge Bay Marina, Assistant to the Vice President of Operations, and for the last 10 years, Manager of the Group Tour Office. Chris's husband, Ron, worked for a gold mine outside of Yellowstone which shut down overnight due to low gold prices and high production costs. This incident resulted in the move to Elko, NV. Her first two jobs in Elko were at area greenhouses/nurseries. She was fortunate to start her career at Great Basin College in ABE/ESL Department in 2000 and shortly after that a position opened in the Career and Technical Education Department where she has remained for the last 16 years. This was the perfect fit as she loved working with the young men and women in the Career and Technical areas which she fully supported.

Chris has one son, Taylor, who graduated from the welding department at GBC. She currently resides in Elko with her husband Ron.

NEVADA REGENTS' ACADEMIC ADVISOR AWARD NOMINEE
Undergraduate – Universities, State College

Pamela Sandstrom
University of Nevada, Reno

Pamela Ann Sandstrom received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physiology from the University of California, Davis and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Nevada, Reno. She joined the Biology Department as an instructor in 2008, and has served as an academic advisor since 2011.

Dr. Sandstrom is not only a dedicated and effective teacher, but is also an excellent advisor to undergraduate students in the Biology Department, the UNR department with the largest number of majors. Dr. Sandstrom is seen as exceptionally student centric, with excellent rapport with students and a thorough knowledge of the major and issues of importance to undergraduates. She is known for her availability and responsiveness to students and has been an asset to the department and college not only as an instructor but also as a dedicated and hardworking advisor for biology and neuroscience students.

NEVADA REGENTS' ACADEMIC ADVISOR AWARD NOMINEE
Graduate - Universities, State College

James Sedinger
University of Nevada, Reno

James Sedinger received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of California, Davis. His research interests are the study of life-histories, population biology and nutritional ecology of avian species, particularly waterfowl. He joined the University of Nevada, Reno in 2001 and is widely recognized as one of the department's most highly productive graduate student advisors.

Dr. Sedinger has advised a total of 33 graduate students over the course of his career, supporting a majority of them on research assistantships funded through extramural grants, and has also served as a committee member for an additional 54 students. His students complete their degrees well within or below departmental norms, even as they conduct multiple seasons of field work in remote areas. His dedication to graduate education was recognized in 2014 when he received the Barrett A. Garrison Outstanding Mentor award of the Western Section of the Wildlife Society.

Dr. Sedinger emphasizes scholarly activity in his lab and has co-authored 86 peer-reviewed papers with his students and an additional eight papers with students on whose committees he has served. In addition, he mentors students to participate in professional conferences and meetings to foster professional networking skills, over the past two years, his students have given 27 conference presentations.

NEVADA REGENTS' RESEARCHER AWARD NOMINEE

John Cushman
University of Nevada Reno

Foundation Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Dr. John Cushman is one of the world's leading researchers on the molecular genetics of crassulacean acid metabolism (CAM), a specialized mode of photosynthesis that improves the water-use efficiency of plants, around which he has developed a nationally and internationally recognized research program at the University of Nevada, Reno. Dr. Cushman has published more than 130 peer reviewed papers, served as PI or co-PI on over \$14 million dollars of grants and served on numerous grant panels. Currently, Dr. Cushman is PI on a \$7.6 million grant from the Department of Energy with an additional \$7 million going to collaborators on the project. Dr. Cushman has made significant contributions to graduate education. He has not only mentored an impressive number of doctoral and postdoctoral students over his career, many of whom have gone on to realize successful careers as independent scientists, but also he has been integral to maintaining the high quality of the biochemistry graduate program throughout his tenure as Graduate Program Director for the past dozen years.

NEVADA REGENTS' RISING RESEARCHER AWARD NOMINEE
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Alyssa N. Crittenden
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

I am currently the Lincy Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. I am a behavioral ecologist and nutritional anthropologist and I work among the Hadza foragers of Tanzania, one of the few remaining hunter-gatherer populations in the world. My research explores the intersection of diet, life history, and sociality during human evolution. I am particularly interested in the ways in which ecology influences social behavior and reproduction among human populations - particularly small-scale societies like hunter-gatherers. The majority of my work falls under two main research foci- the evolution of the human diet and the evolution of childhood, with particular emphasis on economic contributions of children in the context of cooperative breeding.

Significant outcomes of my research since becoming a tenure-track assistant professor at UNLV include publications in top tier science journals such as *Nature*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Current Biology*, and *The American Journal of Human Biology*, and top tier journals in my field of Anthropology, such as *Current Anthropology*, *Journal of Human Evolution*, *Evolution and Human Behavior*, and *The American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Since 2012, I have published 22 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes, 8 invited commentaries and/or encyclopedia entries, and co-edited one volume. In addition, I currently have 3 manuscripts in press and 3 under review. Since 2012, I have given 16 invited lectures or plenary talks, authored or co-authored 17 talks at national conferences, and organized three symposia (including an advanced seminar with the School of Advanced Research and an invited executive session for the American Anthropological Association). My long-term research collaborations include the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (Leipzig, Germany), the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council funded project "Culture and Mind", the Center for Academic Research and Training in Anthropogeny (CARTA) at the University of California, San Diego, and the Ungar Dental Anthropology Laboratory at the University of Arkansas. I have received six grants in the past four years - four from external funding sources (National Science Foundation, Leakey Foundation, and School of Advanced Research) and two from internal funding sources (UNLV Faculty Opportunity Awards and the National Institutes of Health (NIH)/Nevada IDEa Network of Biomedical Research). Widespread media coverage of my research includes outlets such as *National Geographic*, *Science*, *New York Times*, *Wired*, National Public Radio, *Inside Higher Education*, and the *Smithsonian*.

NEVADA RISING RESEARCHER AWARD NOMINEE
University of Nevada, Reno

Sarah Jane Blithe
University of Nevada, Reno

Professional Preparation

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Major Area</u>	<u>Degree & Year</u>
University of Colorado Boulder	Communication	B.A. 1999
University of Denver	Intercultural Communication	M.A. 2001
University of Colorado Boulder	Communication	Ph.D. 2012

Appointments

University of Nevada, Reno	Assistant Professor	2012
University of Colorado Boulder	Research and Teaching Assistant	2008-2012

Dr. Sarah Blithe is an Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno. Recent research projects include her book, *Gender Equality and Work Life Balance: Gloss Handcuffs and Working Men in the U.S.* in which she argues that women will never get equal wages if men don't take time off from work by using work-life policies; and a two-year study of occupational identity and discrimination in Nevada's legal brothels. In addition to her book, Dr. Blithe has published eight articles in top-tier academic journals, book chapters, book reviews, and encyclopedia entries, and over 25 management training courses. Dr. Blithe has won several research awards, including the 2016 Mousel-Feltner Award for Outstanding Research from the University of Nevada, Reno; the 2015 Outstanding Book award from the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender; the 2014 Outstanding Conference Paper Award from the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender; and the 2013 Top Paper in the National Communication Association's Feminist and Women's Studies Division.

She teaches a variety of communication courses, including intercultural, gender, and organizational communication. Her research focuses on gender inequality in work.

In addition to her role as a university professor, Dr. Blithe owns Equilibrium Consulting, Inc., a corporate training and management consulting firm helping organizations create equitable and knowledgeable work places.

NEVADA REGENTS' RISING RESEARCHER AWARD NOMINEE
Desert Research Institute

Casey Schmidt
Desert Research Institute

Dr. Casey Schmidt received his BS in biology and fisheries and aquatic sciences from the University of Washington and MS, and PhD degrees in soil and water sciences from the University of Florida. He joined DRI in 2013 as an Assistant Research Professor. Since joining DRI three years ago, Dr. Schmidt has been awarded over \$1 million in research funds from the US Forest Service, Nevada Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, US EPA, Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection and the Florida State Legislature. He is chair of two graduate student committees in the UNR Graduate Program of Hydrologic Sciences, and serves on two more committees; has published five peer reviewed journal articles and three project reports; has chaired a session at the American Geophysical Union conference; serves as a faculty senator and co-teaches the hydrologic field methods course at UNR.

Dr. Schmidt's interdisciplinary research program is focused primarily in theoretical and applied soil science and developing methods for water quality remediation using soils or other media. He has published a model on fire ecophysiology in subtropical humid peat wetlands, and worked with Nevada foresters to couple fuels reduction projects in southwestern forests with the development of biochar (charcoal) as a marketable soil amendment and water quality filtration media within the Lake Tahoe basin. Through other water quality remediation projects, he is developing groundwater bioremediation methods to ameliorate excess fertilizer runoff from farms, and improving on the design of urban stormwater treatment systems to prevent eutrophication.

Most recently Dr. Schmidt completed a project in Florida that was funded by the state legislature to help improve water quality in North America's most diverse estuary, the Indian River Lagoon. Sea turtle and manatee mortality, and massive super blooms of algae were reported in the NY times, CNN and elsewhere that caught the attention of the politicians and general public. Through this project, Dr. Schmidt evaluated the water quality benefits of a decades-long oyster bed restoration project that has restored over 60% of the oyster's lost habitat. In evaluating the role of oysters as ecosystem engineers, he collaborated with the county commission, a local zoo, local academics and natural resources managers to establish a laboratory and develop a successful seasonal field sampling campaign.