

Regents' Creative Activities Award

David Loeb

David Loeb, Director of Jazz Studies and Associate Professor of Music, conducts jazz ensembles and is instructor of jazz piano and jazz composition. As a jazz pianist, David performed with renowned jazz artists including Freddie Hubbard, Tom Scott, Bobby Shew, Bill Watrous, Tom Harrell, Nancy Wilson, Joe Williams and Anita O' Day.

David is a successful studio keyboardist and has played for many television shows in Los Angeles including The Emmy Awards, Hill Street Blues, Quantum Leap, and Family Guy and for feature films including The Birdcage and Pocahontas. He orchestrated for George Benson and Doc Severinsen and arranged music for the Academy Awards and American Music Awards. David composed music for notable PBS television documentaries and for Dolly Parton's album, "Rainbow".

David performed as principal keyboardist with The Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and accompanied several musical artists including Andrea Bocelli, Garth Brooks, Celine Dion, Bette Midler, Quincy Jones, Jewell, Herbie Hancock, Placido Domingo, David Foster, Diana Ross and Jessye Norman. He was guest conductor with The Philadelphia Orchestra for Dee Dee Bridgewater and the National Symphony Orchestra as Musical Director for Ben Vereen.

UNLV Jazz Studies, under David's direction, received numerous distinguished honors and achieved national recognition. David is in demand as a jazz adjudicator, served as a clinician in The International Association of Jazz Educators International Conference in New York City and performed at The Mid West Band Conference in Chicago.

Eastman School of Music (MM in Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media) West
Chester University (BS in Music Education)

Regents' Teaching Award Dennis Soukup, CSN

For Dennis Soukup, education has been a lifelong passion. He is an avid student as well as a committed instructor and mentor. An unwavering proponent of continuing education, his own allows him to guarantee that his students receive the best, most relevant and environmentally conscious training available in today's difficult economy. His achievement is reflected in the numerous students who have gone on to their own successful careers in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration, as well as in the many industry and teaching honors he has received. He is the sole recipient of all three top honors from the Southern Nevada Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Service Contractors' Association: President's Award of Excellence in Education (2009), Industry Person of the Year (2007), and Contractor of the Year (2004). In 2006, he was runner-up for the ACHR News National Instructor of the Year, and in 2005 he received a NISOD Teaching Excellence Award.

His history at the College of Southern Nevada dates back to its days as Clark County Community College, where he began his training in Air Conditioning Technology while stationed at Nellis Air Force Base after completing his final tour of duty in Vietnam. Although born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Dennis chose to remain in Southern Nevada, earning his Nevada C-21 Contractor's License and founding his own company, Sunrise Refrigeration. His own skills and the need of his new community for well-trained technicians led to his decision to teach, beginning a long period as a part-time instructor with the College.

In January of 2004, Dennis was hired full-time as Program Director of Air Conditioning Technology, and has served as Department Chair of Applied Technologies since 2005. Under his guidance, the program has changed dramatically—its students score significantly above the national average on the Industry Competency Exams, the program is accredited by PAHRA, and the influx of state-of-the-art equipment from industry donations, Perkins Grants, and a \$250,000 Congressionally Directed Project for a new and advanced gas-fired heat pump program allows students access to the best technology in the field. Additional donations by industry have endowed new scholarship programs. These equipment and scholarship resources, backed by the expertise and commitment to excellence in education of Dennis and his staff, will ensure that the next generation can successfully take stewardship of a program that is vital to Southern Nevada's desert community.

Regents' Teaching Award Eric Rasmussen

Eric Rasmussen joined the University of Nevada, Reno in 1993. He received his Ph.D. and Master of Arts degrees in English from the University of Chicago. He received his B.A. with Honors in English from Grinnell College.

Dr. Rasmussen is a distinguished and internationally-recognized scholar of Shakespeare and the Renaissance. He is known by both graduate and undergraduate students as a knowledgeable, accessible, and challenging instructor of classes in the English Department as well as in Core Humanities. Students routinely indicate he is the best instructor they have had at the University, calling his teaching cutting-edge, brilliant, and flawless. In 2010, he received the University's highest award for excellence in teaching, the F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award.

In addition to his teaching activities, Dr. Rasmussen has also accumulated a substantial scholarly record on Shakespeare, Medieval drama, Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, Renaissance literature, and scholarly editing. He has been successful in attracting grant monies from NEH and from the Royal Shakespeare Company, which has given numerous graduate students, as well as a few promising undergraduates, the unparalleled opportunity to work on significant academic projects in the British Library in London and in other venues.

Regents' Academic Advisor Award Deborah Case, WNC

Deborah Case is a respected leader at Western Nevada College. She serves as the Director of Counseling. Faculty and students hold her in high regard, not only for her knowledge, but also for her student advocacy and her integrity.

Since Deborah came to WNC she has developed and implemented several college success programs, including the Early Alert and the Peer mentoring programs. Her efforts have resulted in the retention and the graduation of many WNC students. She also serves as the faculty advisor for Campus Connect, a student organization that supports new and returning adult learners.

Deborah received her Bachelor's in Comparative Literature from San Diego State University and her Master's in Education and Counseling from Northern Arizona University. Her previous experience includes teaching English and ESL at Coconino Community College and Navajo Community College. While working at Sacramento State University she directed a large high school career exploration program.

It is appropriate that WNC honors Ms. Deborah Case as the institution's recipient of the prestigious 2011 Regents' Academic Advisor Award. This honor is well deserved.

Regents' Academic Advisor Award
Undergraduate
Jennifer O'Neil

Jennifer O'Neil began her career at the University of Nevada, Reno in 1989 and has been serving as an academic advisor in the College of Engineering since 2006. Jennifer herself is an UNR alumna, receiving a Bachelor of General Studies degree in 2002.

In her role, Jennifer advises over 500 students, including freshmen and sophomore engineering students, as well as transfer students in their first semester. She enjoys getting to know students and following their progress. As the many student support letters attest, Jennifer reaches out time and again to all engineering students, offering her assistance throughout their first few years at the university. Jennifer then re-connects with engineering students as they plan to graduate. She encourages all engineering students to seek advisement each semester. "Early and often" is her motto.

Numerous students who benefitted from Ms. O'Neil's counsel and advice attest to her being there for them every step of the way. They are all appreciative of her hands-on approach and recognize how she worked tirelessly to provide solutions that benefitted them. She is also highly praised by the College of Engineering faculty, who commend her for her dedication to students. They state that as a result of the advising she provides, the student experience has been greatly enhanced and has resulted in high levels of student retention for the college.

**Regents' Academic Advisor Award,
Graduate
Andrew J.E. Bell**

Dr. Andrew Bell is a professor in the Department of History at UNLV where he has taught since 1994. Dr. Bell earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Oxford University and a Ph.D. in Classics from Stanford University. In addition to his teaching, scholarship, and service responsibilities as a faculty member, he has been continuously at work in crucial student advising positions over the past thirteen years; most recently assuming the post of M.A. Program Coordinator for the History Department in 2009. Exceedingly accessible to History graduate students throughout the regular school year and the summers, he directly advised nearly 40 M.A. and Ph.D. students during his first assignment and currently advises approximately 70 M.A. students. He has advised all incoming students and continued to advise all others until they have decided upon an area of concentration and selected a permanent advisor. The willingness to take all the time necessary to help students understand their programmatic options, to devise a viable and intellectually fulfilling array of courses, and to comprehend professional prospects constitutes the defining characteristic of Bell's approach to advising. Dr. Bell truly cares about students and their welfare, and this concern is evident in his advising. He instituted an orientation for new graduate students, providing students with highly useful information, as well as furthering community and mutually supportive interaction among them. This has evolved into HIST 710, our team-taught introduction to the profession course. He also introduced the use of programmatic worksheets to track student progress, an innovation that has proved of great utility for both students and their advisors. And, Dr. Bell initiated the Department's first systematic effort to recruit new graduate students nationally. It should come as no surprise, therefore, that the University-wide committee of faculty, professional staff, and students were unanimous in their selection of Dr. Andrew Bell for this very prestigious and very well-deserved reward.

Regents' Researcher Award
Dr. Iain Buxton

Dr. Iain Buxton, Professor of Pharmacology, has had a long and distinguished career that began with his undergraduate studies at University of California San Diego in 1973. He continued on to obtain his masters degree in Enzymology at North Carolina State and his Ph.D. at the University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Dr. Buxton joined the University of Nevada, Reno in 1985. During his 25 years here he has served many roles and is currently a professor in the departments of Pharmacology, and Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Buxton's research has lead to discoveries that were breakthroughs against the prevailing scientific thought in his field and have far reaching applications. Such discoveries related the behavior of uterine smooth muscle and pre-term labor. His research has garnered national attention and given rise to some 85 peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Buxton is a noted author in the most widely used pharmacology textbook in the United States and the gold-standard in pharmacology internationally, *Goodman and Gilman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics* 11th and 12th editions. In addition to this, Dr. Buxton has been the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator on 43 major grants totaling over 6.5 million dollars in direct costs. Dr. Buxton has graduated 10 Ph.D. students with another 3 currently conducting their dissertation research in his laboratory, as well as having mentored a dozen postdoctoral fellows. As an administrator, faculty member and fund raiser, Dr. Buxton has been a driving force to help build the research enterprise at the University since 1985.

Regents' Rising Researcher Award
Dr. Rina Schumer

Dr. Rina Schumer received her BA in Earth and Environmental Sciences from Wesleyan University in 1992. After being introduced to hydrogeology while working for an environmental consulting firm she decided to pursue a Master's degree in the Graduate Program of Hydrologic Sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Although she assumed she would return to the east coast after two years, Rina stayed in Nevada, also earning a Master's degree in Applied Math and a PhD in hydrogeology at UNR. While Rina has a wide range of research interests, her primary focus has been on heavy-tailed stochastic modeling of environmental systems. Rina has been on the faculty of the UNR/DRI Graduate Program of Hydrologic Sciences where she teaches courses and advises graduate students. She is also an active participant in the national hydrology and Earth Surface processes communities, and co-leads a working group on "Stochastic transport and emergent scaling at the Earth Surface" funded by the NSF funded National Center for Earth Surface Dynamics, where she is an Affiliate scientist. She has been invited to teach short courses on stochastic modeling at NSF sponsored graduate student summer institutes and at workshops around the country.

Regents' Rising Researcher Award

Dr. Monica Miller

Monica Miller received her M.A. in Social Psychology for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her J.D. from the University Of Nebraska College Of Law in 2002. She received her Ph.D. in Social Psychology (Law-Psychology Program) and a certificate in Public Policy and Program Evaluation from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2004.

Monica came to UNR in 2004 and has a dual appointment in Criminal Justice and Social Psychology. She is also an adjunct faculty for the Grant Sawyer cent and a faculty associate for Women's Studies and the Gender, Race and Identity program. Her research interests include jury decision-making, judicial stress, and justice in family issues. Her main focus is using psychology theories to evaluate laws and policies, in order to develop more effective strategies that protect individuals' well-being. She has 61 articles and 11 book chapters published or in press and 24 under review. She published four books, including one published and one under contract with Oxford for the American Psychology-Law Society. She has 29 'other' publications (e.g., encyclopedia articles). Of all publications, 74% include at least one student author. She has co-authored 127 conference presentations (87% with students). She has received several small grants and fellowships (some with students), totaling over \$81,000. She was awarded the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award, Graduate Student Association Veda Trimble Outstanding Mentor Award, and College of Liberal Arts Dean's Award for Research/Creative Activity. She was awarded the Early Career Award by the American Psychology-Law Society and American Academy of Forensic Psychology. She has been nominated for several other research and teaching awards. She receives quality teaching evaluations and has participated in several teaching seminars. She serves her university, department/program, and the professional community well by serving on committees such as the Network of Faculty for Undergraduate Research and the Committee for the Status of Women; she reviews for numerous conferences and serves on the editorial board of the journal *Psychology, Crime and Law*.

Regents' Rising Researcher Award
Dr. Liam Frink

His research focuses on processes of colonialism and issues of production and technology among Native Alaskan Yup'iks. He is an active scholar and has individually and collaboratively published 2 edited books (another currently in review) and 19 peer-reviewed book chapters and articles (several in flagship journals). He has applied for sabbatical (2011-2012) and expects to finish his book manuscript *The Hard and Soft of Storage Technology*. He is actively pursuing competitive external grants and has received over \$210,000 in funding (and \$160,000 pending). He is a practicing member of our international and national academic community. He has organized 7 symposia and has presented 20 papers (most have been published) at meetings including the American Anthropological Society and Society for American Archaeology. He is also the lead editor and creator of the Journal *Ethnoarchaeology* (Leftcoast Press, Housed her at UNLV) and lead series editor and creator of the *Archaeology of Colonialism in Native North America* series (University of Arizona Press). He is a participating professional association member and an elected member of the AAA Ethics Committee and contributing editor to the *Anthropology News* Ethical Currents column. He has served on 2 National Science Foundation Office of Polar Programs Funding Panels and serves as a reviewer on the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ACLS Dissertation Fellowships. He also serves on several UNLV, COLA, and Department committees including Faculty Senate and is appointed to the committee for the College of Liberal Arts Dean search.