



GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEVADA

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

(Spring, 2026)

Greetings and happy springtime to all! In the Winter Newsletter, we reported on our successful fundraising from the holiday party, however thanks to a late donation by Dan Kappes for the Christmas hat, our total fundraising at the Holiday Party has increased to \$31,400! A heartfelt thanks to Dan and once again to all the generous donors for your wonderful support.

Springtime is giving season for the Foundation and we are now receiving applications for field camp grants, earth science education grants, and scholarships. These programs have a 2026 total budget of almost \$80,000 and provide meaningful support to students from K-12 to graduate level earth science research.

On April 10, the second annual Nevada Geosciences Research Symposium was held at UNR. The Foundation has been proudly supporting this event since its inception in 2025 by providing funding for the student poster and presentation awards. It was once again a very successful event and the awards were given out as follows:

Best presentation overall: 3-way tie

Omar Hernández (DGSE, Advisor: Dr. Joel Scheingross)

Topographic and substrate controls on rill erosion in a tephra-mantled landscape following the Cordón Caulle volcano eruption (2011–2012), Chile

Nada Mareechi Jacinto (NBMG, Advisor: Dr. Jim Faulds)

Integrated Study of a Potential Hidden Geothermal System in Northeastern Reese River Valley (Argenta Rise), North-Central Nevada

Jakob Scheel (DGSE, Advisor: Dr. Philipp Ruprecht)

High Performance Numerical Modeling of Crystal Erosion and Entrainment in Magmatic Systems

Geological Society of Nevada Award (For a project that addresses fundamental geologic problems in Nevada and the Great Basin)

Cutter Morebeck (DGSE, Advisor: Dr. Philipp Ruprecht)

Preliminary Mapping of Late Miocene to Early Pliocene Volcanic Rocks in Southern Clayton Valley and Implications for the Lithium Enrichment

Peoples Choice Award (Most engaging talk or poster presentation)

Omar Hernández (DGSE, Advisor: Dr. Joel Scheingross)

Topographic and substrate controls on rill erosion in a tephra-mantled landscape following the Cordón Caulle volcano eruption (2011–2012), Chile

Bridging Science and Society (Most societally relevant science): 2-way tie

Dana Marino (NV Seismological Lab., Advisor: Dr. Christie Rowe)

Earthquake Hazard and Geomorphic Mapping in the Reno Urban Area

Nada Mareechi Jacinto (NBMG, Advisor: Dr. Jim Faulds)

Integrated Study of a Potential Hidden Geothermal System in Northeastern Reese River Valley (Argenta Rise), North-Central Nevada

Eye-Catching Science (Best graphics or figures)

Terry Lee (NBMG, Advisor: Dr Andrew Zuza)

1:24,000-Scale Geologic Map of the Western Half of the Franklin Lake NW 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Ruby Mountains-East Humboldt Range Metamorphic Core Complex, NE Nevada

The Annual Student Poster Competition was held at the regular GSN April monthly meeting in Reno. Twenty students from UNR and Chico State participated and their work was impressive! A hearty congratulations to the best poster awards winners:

1st Place Graduate Student: Terry Lee (UNR, Advisor Dr. Andrew Zuza) *1:24,000-Scale Geologic Map of the Western Half of the Franklin Lake NW 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Ruby Mountains-East Humboldt Range Metamorphic Core Complex, NE Nevada*

2nd Place Graduate Student: Jose Carbajal Ronces (UNR, Advisor Dr. Simon Jowitt) *Critical Metals in Pyrite as an Exploration Vectoring Tool in Porphyry Copper Deposits: A Global Study*

3rd Place Graduate Student: Brock Moody (UNR, Advisor Dr. Simon Jowitt) *The State of Lithium Resources in 2026: A Deposit -Type Analysis for Supply Potential*

1st Place Undergraduate Student: Brady Giles (CSU Chico, Advisor Dr. Rachel Teasdale) *Quantifying Emplacement Rates of AVF Lava Flows Using Groundmass Textures, Cooling Experiments and Flow Models*

Honorable Mention - Graduate Students (in no particular order):

Nada Mareechi Jacinto (UNR, Advisor Dr. James Faulds) *Integrated Study of a Potential Hidden Geothermal System in Northeastern Reese River Valley (Argenta Rise), North Central Nevada*

Cutter Morebeck (UNR, Advisor Dr. Philipp Ruprecht) *Preliminary Mapping of Late Miocene to Early Pliocene Volcanic Rocks in Southern Clayton Valley and Implications for Lithium Enrichment*

Joseph Rosal (UNR, Advisor Dr. Simon Jowitt) *Characterization of Mine Waste in Nevada: Converting Waste into Wealth*

The GSN Foundation thanks the students for their excellent work and participation in the Annual Student Poster Competition

2026 GSN Foundation Field Camp Grants were awarded in April to 4 students: Zac Jimenez, Camdyn Newcomb, Zane Vaughn and Alexander Vizcay. Congratulations to these students and best wishes for an enjoyable, educational and productive field camp experience.

Miscellaneous News and Notes

We would like to ask our membership to spread the word about GSN's giving programs and scholarship opportunities. If you have teacher friends, let them know that we like to support earth science education as early as grades K-12, by funding school field trips and classroom teaching materials. For more information on Earth Science Education Grants, you can contact Ruth Carraher (rcarraher@gmail.com) or visit the GSN website www.gsnv.org/GSN_Foundation. More information on Scholarship Opportunities can also be found on the website or by contacting Bob Felder (bfelder56@sbcglobal.net).

We would like to thank JoAnn Newbury and Mario Desilets for their years of service on the Foundation Board of Directors. Their numerous contributions have been very meaningful to the success and future of the Foundation. They will both be stepping down from their board seats on May 31.

In addition, we would also like to thank Peter Vikre and Rob Selwood for agreeing to join the Foundation Board on June 1. Our 2026-2027 board is composed of nine members.

*Kristen Benchley
Ruth Carraher
Bob Felder, Chair*

*Tony Gesualdo
Bill Howald
Cami Prenn*

*Rob Selwood
Bob Thomas, Treasurer
Peter Vikre*