

SPRING 2019

NSF EPSCoR

FAREWELL TO GAYLE DANA



The Nevada EPSCoR community said a fond farewell to Dr. Gayle Dana in December 2018 upon her retirement from Desert Research Institute (DRI). Gayle started working on EPSCoR projects at DRI in her field of expertise in water hydrology and energy balance of desert, seasonally snow-covered and polar regions. Her innate leadership skills led to the position of NSF EPSCoR Associate Project Director, and then to NSF EPSCoR Project Director in 2005. She also represented the state as the State EPSCoR Director from 2012-2018.

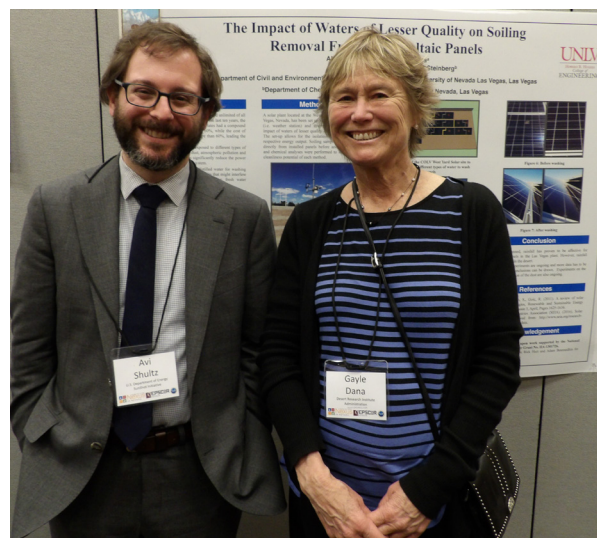
Under Gayle's direction, the Nevada NSF EPSCoR program received multiple large awards including three NSF EPSCoR Track-1 awards, two Track-2 awards, and a Track-3 award. The Track-2 awards were collaborative projects with New

Mexico and Idaho, and Gayle ably led the three-state project working in close collaboration with the other state Project Directors.

Gayle was also a leader at the national level. She was a member and then Chair of the NSF EPSCoR Project Director's Council. She also served as a board member on the EPSCoR Foundation Board. She met annually with the Nevada congressional delegation to highlight the importance of EPSCoR projects in our state.

Gayle was fully dedicated to the success of the EPSCoR projects and building the research infrastructure in Nevada. Nothing thrilled her more than to watch a graduate student present results at a conference or a poster session. Her memory and attention to detail were astounding.

We wish Gayle all the best on her retirement which will surely be filled with wonderful outdoor adventures. We will miss her greatly.



-- Dr. Gayle Dana and Dr. Avi Shultz, Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), at the 2017 NEXUS Annual Meeting. (Photo credit: Mayara Cueto-Diaz)

NASA EPSCoR

NEW RRR CAN AWARD



Congratulations Dr. Elisabeth Hausrath!

A Rapid Research Response (RRR) Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN) has been awarded to Nevada NASA EPSCoR for \$100k federal for one year. PI Dr. Elisabeth Hausrath, UNLV, in collaboration with NASA scientist Dr. Elizabeth Rampe (JSC) will address high priority NASA research to examine the interaction of minerals found in Mars, and the resources available during these reactions. "Rock, H₂O, and H₂: Energy from water-rock interactions on Mars" (2019).

[READ MORE](#)

NASA AND NSF EPSCoR

CAPITOL HILL VISIT

Representatives from Nevada's NASA and NSF EPSCoR recently went to Washington D.C to meet with members of Congress and personally thank them for their support. During this visit, each team highlighted the impact of their programs on our state research infrastructure and students.



In attendance were Marcie Jackson, Director, System Sponsored Programs and EPSCoR Office; Fred Harris, State EPSCoR Director; Sage Hiibel, Assistant Professor, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR); Matthew Ruehl, Graduate Student, UNR; Josh Baker, Project Director, INBRE; Julie Ellsworth, Dean of Sciences, Truckee Meadows Community College; Lynn Fenstermaker (pictured bottom left), Project Director, Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium (NVSGC) and NASA EPSCoR; Gibran Chavez-Gudino (pictured top right), Research Administrator, NVSGC and NASA EPSCoR; and Harry Glenn, Vice President, Van Scoyoc Associates. (Photo credit: Lynn Fenstermaker)



NEVADA STEM
MENTOR
NETWORK

Welcome to the Spring 2019 Semester! Now is the time that recruitment is happening for summer and academic year research funding and opportunities. We have just the resource for you!

The [Nevada STEM Mentor Network](#) is a one-stop online resource that provides access to Nevada's finest mentors and premier research projects in the STEM fields. We are committed to helping connect students and faculty to research opportunities statewide.

To foster successful research training and collaboration, the Nevada STEM Mentor Network offers:

- An extensive searchable database of STEM mentors;
- Valuable resources and tools for mentors and mentees;
- Access to research opportunities and partnerships (past, present and future) in STEM; and
- Profiles of THE BEST and BRIGHTEST in Nevada STEM research.

[Sign up today](#) to gain access to NSHE research mentors, opportunities, resources, trailblazers and more. Simply click on this link <https://stemmentor.epscorspo.nevada.edu> to be listed in the mentor database, find opportunities and resources, and subscribe to weekly, monthly or quarterly email updates (subscribe to updates in footer). We will never sell, lease or use your email for spam.

WELCOME

SZILVIA RIDEG, GEAR UP RESEARCH ADMINISTRATOR



Szilvia is a nonprofit management professional, with extensive experience in securing and managing complex government grant programs, and a degree in business management. Her professional experience ranges from supporting environmental projects, such as water conservation in the West and renewable energy economies; to securing shelter for homeless populations; and leading scientific research initiatives for veterans health issues. She is excited to support the educational powerhouse of the Nevada GEAR UP program in her new role at NSHE, and she is enjoying encouraging youth (including her own) to go on to college. After many cold winters, Szilvia is also happy to have relocated back to Las Vegas to enjoy the sunshine, and take advantage of the warm-weather recreation opportunities of the Southwest for many years to come. Welcome Szilvia!

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