Inside UNLV

Lori Bachand
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Mamie Peers
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Carol C. Harter
*Black Mountain Institute*

Tony Allen
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas, tony.allen@unlv.edu*

Holly Ivy De Vore
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv)

Part of the [Business Administration, Management, and Operations Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), [Communication Technology and New Media Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), [Curriculum and Social Inquiry Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), [Mass Communication Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), [Other Business Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), [Other Communication Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), [Other Education Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv), and the [Student Counseling and Personnel Services Commons](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv)

Repository Citation


Available at: [http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv/12](http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv/12)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the UNLV Publications at Digital Scholarship@UNLV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Inside UNLV by an authorized administrator of Digital Scholarship@UNLV. For more information, please contact digitalscholarship@unlv.edu.
**How You Can Invent the Future**

UNLV’s Invent the Future campaign is not just about giving. The campus community has direct opportunities to become involved in UNLV’s first comprehensive campaign. Participate in the following ways to help your university invent the future:

- Reach out to your former students. Invite alumni to campus as guest speakers, mentors, or volunteers. One of the campaign’s goals is to increase and broaden overall alumni participation with the university.

- Be your neighborhood’s UNLV ambassador. As an insider, you can provide positive and accurate information to the community and prospective students about the quality of education and research activities at UNLV. Additionally, your advocacy helps enhance the value of a UNLV degree.

- Learn more. Find out how UNLV plans to invent the future for students, faculty, and staff, and for the community. These aspirations are the cornerstones for why UNLV is working to raise $500 million. Go to campaign.unlv.edu for more information.

- Involve yourself, your students, and your staff with the life of the campus. Programs like the Rebel Connection, family weekend, and homecoming help UNLV raise its public profile and involve more people in the life of the university.

- Contribute to your program of choice. Any program, any amount. UNLV faculty, staff, and emeriti contribute thousands of dollars every year to support programs such as the Holiday Card Tree scholarship fund, memorial and tribute gifts to the UNLV Libraries, and the Annual Fund, which provides campus unrestricted dollars where the need is greatest.

- Contribute to your program of choice. Any program, any amount. UNLV faculty, staff, and emeriti contribute thousands of dollars every year to support programs such as the Holiday Card Tree scholarship fund, memorial and tribute gifts to the UNLV Libraries, and the Annual Fund, which provides campus unrestricted dollars where the need is greatest.

**Fundraising Campaign Aimed at Fueling Progress and Discovery**

By Lori Bachand | UNLV Foundation

Invent the Future — the university’s first comprehensive campaign and the largest fundraising effort in Nevada history — had been moving through its planning and quiet phases since 2002. That silence ended Sept. 15 when President Carol C. Harter launched the public phase of the campaign — along with its $500 million goal — in her annual state of the university address.

Harter’s announcement formalized the seven-year campaign, which seeks to secure unprecedented support for student and faculty opportunities, research, programs, and facilities. Invent the Future also focuses on widening the circle of people involved with the university, which in turn will help strengthen UNLV’s public profile, academic reputation, and ability to impact economic development.

“This campaign will have wide-ranging, long-term impact on our students, faculty, and alumni,” said Harter. “It will bring our university to a new level of academic excellence, and strengthen our role as an engine for economic diversity and innovative research. That translates over time to tremendous opportunities for future members of the campus community, but will also bring added value and prestige to the degrees of today’s graduates.”

**More Than the Money**

Invent the Future will raise sustainable private funds for UNLV — something that has become increasingly important as public universities across the nation find year after year that state monies are making up smaller percentages of their budgets. That is true for UNLV, where direct state support in 2003 was only 32 percent of the university’s overall budget — a reduction from 41 percent in 1994.

The effects of the campaign extend beyond financial impact, according to John Gallagher, vice-president for development and executive director of the UNLV Foundation. “This campaign is all about people,” Gallagher explained. “It is about students, faculty members, alumni, and all of those who support and take pride in UNLV. The campaign will help all of these people be more productive and more involved. A campaign of this magnitude is a sign of UNLV’s growing maturity, and our aspirations are high. This effort will help in many ways as we pursue our common goals.”

**Tech Savvy**

**Rebelmail: It’s the Official Way to Communicate Directly with Students**

By Mamie Peers | OIT

Need to e-mail your students a notice about a canceled class or a last-minute extra-credit opportunity? The old-school way to reach your students could be to post a notice on the bulletin board or write a message on a poster sheet on the first day of class. The official way: use the university-issued e-mail accounts that all students are expected to check frequently. These accounts end with the domain “@unlv.nevada.edu.”

Why You Should Use Rebelmail

This past summer, the UNLV Cabinet approved a policy that states students will be held accountable for messages sent to their Rebelmail accounts. This means students must either regularly check their Rebelmail accounts or set up those accounts to forward the messages to accounts they prefer to use.

It also means that employees should only send e-mail messages to students through the university-issued address, said Cam Johnson, Student Computing Support Center manager.

“You might be thinking, ‘But I don’t think students know they have Rebelmail,’ and you’re right,” Johnson said. “Some students don’t even know UNLV issues them a free e-mail account once they are admitted. That’s why we’re asking faculty and staff to help us promote Rebelmail to students.”

**Reaching All Students**

Need to get a message out to all students? The office of information technology (OIT) and campus groups have developed a new tool for distributing general information to all students.

The weekly e-newsletter, sent out under the RAVE (Rebel Announcements Via E-mail) system, contains current events and general announcements.

For details on how to submit to the system, visit facultystaffinfo.unlv.edu.
We will celebrate UNLV’s 50th anniversary in 2004, and I have recently read a manuscript of professor Gene Moehring’s book, commissioned for the anniversary. The first test I read was struck over and over again with how apt our “rebel” name really is. From its very inception as little more than a collection of courses taught essentially as an extension of UNR — UNLV, its faculty, staff, student leadership, and its enormously supportive community have been fighting to create a first-rate university in Las Vegas. So much of what has been accomplished at UNLV is because of the “pioneering spirit” of those who came before us. What Professor Moehring’s book makes clear is that we have never relied on “the kindness of strangers” and the private sector to develop and advance its agenda. Indeed, looking back to Nevada Southern’s early days — we’re talking the mid-1950s — it had already become clear that given the rapid growth of Las Vegas, its higher education needs could not be accommodated solely by teaching a few courses under the auspices of UNR.

**Porch Light Campaign**

From such inauspicious beginnings came the very first fundraising, drive in 1955. “The Porch Light Campaign,” wherein senior students from local high schools called on community members during the previous year, raised about $35,000. The effort provided the means to acquire land and to leveraging state funds for the first building (which you know as Maude Frazier Hall) along a dusty stretch of dirt road called Maryland Parkway, as our campus opened in 1957.

Less than 10 years later, President Donald Moyser created the Land Foundation, an active group that during the “60s and ’70s acquired more than 164 acres of land for UNLV. During the 1980s, the university launched its first-ever capital fund and created what is now the UNLV Foundation. Several gifts valued at more than a million dollars for scholarships, building funds, and other programs also were raised during this period.

**Record Levels of Support**

The past decade has brought record levels of support from the community and our alumni

> **Campaign**

> From such inauspicious beginnings came the very first fundraising, drive in 1955. “The Porch Light Campaign,” wherein senior students from local high schools called on community members during the previous year, raised about $35,000. The effort provided the means to acquire land and to leverage state funds for the first building (which you know as Maude Frazier Hall) along a dusty stretch of dirt road called Maryland Parkway, as our campus opened in 1957.

Less than 10 years later, President Donald Moyser created the Land Foundation, an active group that during the “60s and ’70s acquired more than 164 acres of land for UNLV. During the 1980s, the university launched its first-ever capital fund and created what is now the UNLV Foundation. Several gifts valued at more than a million dollars for scholarships, building funds, and other programs also were raised during this period.

**Supporting UNLV’s Academic Goals**

In 2002, the university began planning for the campaign, using the Extending the Agenda plan to outline where private funds could help achieve and maintain a margin of excellence in teaching, research, and service to students and community. “The fact that we are embarking upon a comprehensive campaign, and not simply a capital campaign, means that the university is looking at the future at the forefront of our fundraising priorities,” said Kathy Robbins, chair of the UNLV Planning Council and a member of the campus campaign steering committee. Among the fundraising priorities are scholarships and individual donors, as well as endowments that support faculty research and professorships. “Those represent several important examples of academic priorities that have been established by the campus community planning process,” Robbins said.

**Employee Giving Grows**

The end of the campaign is set to coincide with UNLV’s 50th anniversary. All gifts given to the university between Jan. 1, 2002, and Dec. 31, 2004, will be counted toward the campaign’s success. Some gifts will produce immediate results — like the annual Faculty-Staff Endowment award that supports the Classified Staff Development Fund or scholarships funded through the annual Holiday Card Tree campaign.

Other donations, such as bequests, will come years from now, as donors commit to UNLV’s program of choice in their estate plans. The fundraising effort transitioned into its second stage, known as the “quiet” or “nucleus” phase, in 2003. In 2004 as donors, including Jim and Beverly Rogers, the Greenspun family; William S. Boyd, and the Orthodontics Education Co., came forward with significant commitments. By the time the campaign was publicly unveiled, more than $263 million had been raised. At the same time, the university began to see increased giving by alumni and local businesses. Faculty and staff support grew, too; in 2004-05, campus employees gave 68 percent more to their programs of choice than they did the previous year.

“If we believe in the institution we work for, we can’t just rely on our community to help it live up to its full potential,” said Larry Herley, director of artistic programming and production for the Performing Arts Center and member of the campus campaign committee. “We have to give of ourselves, too.”

**History of Generosity**

The university’s rich history is replete with stories of people who have seen the needs and have given unsuitably over the years. And the university’s extended family — including alumni, community members, and faculty and staff — are proving to be increasingly generous in their commitments to the university.

Through an incredibly active, though “quiet” phase over the past two years, the Invent the Future campaign will already raise $263 million, more than $263 million. We are profoundly grateful for this support and are determined to blow through the campaign goal of $500 million, which is necessary. This effort is aimed to advance every facet of academic life, providing funds for scholarships and fellowships, endowed chairs and professorships, academic centers of excellence, student life-enhancing projects, library collections, specialized equipment, research, community engagement, and bricks and mortar. Whatever makes a great university, we are eager to raise the funds that will make our university great in the ways we have defined greatness for UNLV.

Although funding is the means to the end, the beginning and the end are people — people first and last. All of our outstanding faculty and staff are contributors and beneficiaries alike. A great university is a community where people ideally joined together in a labor of love.

There are many ways in which all of you in our university family make contributions to our advancement every day and every way — and we hope you continue to do so as you speak to neighbors, friends, students, and colleagues about UNLV. You are our true ambassadors, and we trust you will become involved in this campaign in any of the multiple ways you are able and willing to do so.

The campus campaign’s magnitude manifests a dream to raise the bar in perpetuity for giving to the university. Future leaders of this university and community will, from this day forward — just as they have before us — struggle to find the path to excellence and pre-eminence. They will only find it if we all commit ourselves to UNLV and continue to invent its future as an ever brighter one.
Employee Development Classes Abound

By Tony Allen | for Marketing & PR

As the UNLV community settles into another academic year, keep in mind that educational opportunities on campus aren’t just limited to students. There are many chances for staff development and training, and for the first time they’ll all be coordinated by the newly formed staff development office within human resources & diversity initiatives.

The consolidation will improve communication of upcoming seminars and make it more convenient to register for training. To show employees the scope of available training, the office distributed its inaugural “Staff Development Opportunities” handbook to employees in August. The book pulls together schedules for training offered by units all across campus.

“We developed the handbook because we noticed that many departments across campus offered training, but there was no single source for employees to see what was offered to them,” said Hilary Bockstanz, director of staff development and employee relations. “The handbook is a one-stop reference that will enable employees to better plan their schedules and take advantage of the many training sessions offered.”

Among the seminars offered this fall are:

Human Resources Survival Series — New this year is the Human Resources Survival Series. These seminars take participants through everything from managing meetings and communication tips to conversational Spanish and workplace etiquette. These seminars also stress the importance of diversity awareness on campus. Seminars will explain how cultural awareness contributes to students’ educational experience as well as to employee morale. It also will provide information on how to detect and prevent sexual harassment in the workplace.

Focus on Your Financial Future — These seminars help you maximize your benefits, including managing your health-care claims and preparing financially for retirement. You can also learn the intricacies of life insurance policies and get help developing investment strategies. There’s even a seminar that can help you protect yourself from identity theft.

Finance and Business — These seminars will help you sort out the myriad forms involved in the day-to-day operations of the university, including understanding accounts payable, processing travel expenses, navigating payroll, and properly using interdepartmental requisitions (IDRs).

Health and Safety — The Health and Safety program offers training on many aspects of campus safety, including asbestos awareness, fire safety, hazardous materials training, and emergency preparation. Much of the information is also useful at home.

Information Technology (IT) — The IT seminars are designed to help you get the most out of Access, Excel, Word, and PowerPoint, whether you’re a beginner or an advanced user. Workshops devoted solely to developing a basic working knowledge of Lotus Notes e-mail also are offered.

State-Mandated Training — Four of the six classes required by the state of Nevada for supervisors of classified staff are currently offered, with plans to include all six by the spring semester. “Having state supervisory training on campus is so much more convenient for employees who would otherwise have to fight traffic at the state building,” said Odalys Carmona, executive assistant for the College of Urban Affairs, who has taken several classes. “The variety of training offered not only helps new employees do their jobs, but also enables experienced staff members to continue to improve and become better leaders.”

>Rebelmail

Rebelmail Education Campaign

University-issued accounts have been available to students since 1984, with about 10,500 students actively using their accounts. With the new policy making the accounts an official means of communication, however, the office of information technology and many campus units worked together to develop an education campaign targeted at nonusers.

They branded the e-mail service as Rebelmail and posted information on Web pages for current and prospective students. Sign up at the office of information technology and many campus units worked together to develop an education campaign targeted at nonusers.

They branded the e-mail service as Rebelmail and posted information on Web pages for current and prospective students. Sign up at the office of information technology and many campus units worked together to develop an education campaign targeted at nonusers.

The easiest way for faculty to access student e-mail addresses is through the class roster feature inside the Web grading system. Another way for groups to access accounts is to request a focus report through the student enrollment and financial services website at financialaid.unlv.edu/FacultyStaff/workorder/focus.asp.

Lotus Notes’ new domain: Is your e-mail address a mouthful? On Oct. 10, the Lotus Notes domain name will change to be shorter, university-affiliated, and much easier to remember and distribute. Campus e-mail addresses will change from the naming convention yourusername@ccmail.unlv.edu to the much simpler firstname.lastname@unlv.edu.

Will I have to order new business cards? Not until the old ones run out. You will receive messages sent to your old address for many years. If you do want to order new cards with your new address note that reprographics is prepared to fill the orders (visit rebelcopy.cash).
Across Campus

By Tony Allen | for Marketing & PR

Getting Your Priorities Straight

Wondering what great things the university’s Invent the Future campaign will bring to units around campus? Here are just a few of the fundraising priorities for the campaign. To learn more about the aspirations of the campaign, visit campaign.unlv.edu.

Athletics

New Facility Will Boost Athletic Recruitment

The proposed Academic Athletic Administration Center will be a tremendous recruiting tool and center for donors and friends of the university. To be located in the existing corner of the Rebel Parking Facility, the center will house administrative offices and the Student-Athlete Support Services Center. The center will offer greater access to academic counseling with ample computer and tutorial labs.

It will also house the Rebel Athletic Fund and the first dedicated facility for the UNLV Athletics Hall of Fame, which consists of 71 individuals and 10 teams.

“This facility will honor our student-athletes from the past, present, and future,” said UNLV Athletic Director Mike Harwick. “It will give UNLV an opportunity to provide our student-athletes the best resources to succeed on and off the field.”

Education

Garden Plants Seeds for Learning

The College of Education Learning Garden, to be constructed on the site of an unused playground at the southeast corner of the Carlson Education Building, will serve as a picturesque example of hands-on learning.

The centerpiece of the garden, the Red Rock Amphitheater, will be an area that celebrates education about the land and peoples of the Mojave Desert. A “hidden canyon” veranda outside the Curriculum Materials Library will act as a transition from the building to the garden and provide an inviting and peaceful atmosphere for students and faculty to interact. And students from the Clark County School District will also be able to learn along the math walk and art garden.

“It is truly an opportunity for many disciplines to come together and engage in a variety of collabora- tory experiences,” said Jane McCarthy, interim dean of the College of Education. “The garden will represent our vision of education as an integrated whole that does not only occur in formal classroom settings, but in natural environments as well.”

Fine Arts

Film Studies Hopes for New Home

UNLV’s burgeoning film studies department has outgrown its home in University Hall and hopes to build a new and fully equipped home. The department currently has more than 400 students spread out over campus. In addition to faculty offices, classrooms, and seminar space, the facility will include commercial-size sound studios, a digitization center, and everything else needed to prepare graduates for the highly competitive field that awaits them.

“Top students want to go where there are great labs,” said College of Fine Arts Dean Jeff Koep. “With a new film studies lab, our students will be even more prepared to compete with graduates from the top film schools in the nation.”

Health Sciences

Researchers Tackle State Environmental Health Issue

The Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Center will provide lead screening and intervention for children with elevated blood lead levels or those children with a high probability of being exposed to environmental sources of lead. The center will also provide valuable hands-on learning for students in the environmental and occupational health program. They will work on real research projects in collaboration with the Clark County Health District.

“It puts the students in a position to be very attractive to employers when they graduate,” said Shawn Gerstenberger, director of the environmental and occupational health program at UNLV. “With the analytical capabilities (they gain from working with) the center, they’ll have the opportunity to discover new things and become a driving force in lead poisoning research.”

The center, which is part of the School of Public Health, plans to take a leading role in educating citizens about the hazards of environmental lead and in implementing educational campaigns directed at high-risk populations. The center will also be able to analyze and identify potential sources of lead in the home such as lead-based paints, soil, dust, or hobbies that may contribute lead to a child’s environment.

Business

Increasing Scholarships Vital to Retaining Best Students

The College of Business has experienced tremendous growth, but student-support funding hasn’t kept pace; less than 2 percent of the students in the college receive business scholarship support.

“The College of Business has a growing need for scholarships that will help us attract and retain the best and brightest students,” said Dean Richard Flaherty.

The college particularly needs undergraduate and graduate student support in the form of annual and endowed scholarships, fellowships, and study-abroad programs, he said. Financial support and internship programs connect community members with students they’ll be working with in the future. Likewise, students will be able to gain real-world experience, beyond the walls of the classroom.

“In today’s changing business environment, our students must be grounded in all functional areas of the industry, and support from the local business community can help us prepare our students for what they’ll face when they graduate,” Flaherty said.

INNovation at the Center of College Development

The Harrah College of Hotel Administration INNovation Village will be the center of research in the student-aspect of the hotel and gaming industry.

“INNovation Village will provide the hospitality and gaming industry with a setting unique in the world,” said Stuart Mane, dean of the William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration. “We will be able to provide a venue for both commercial and noncommercial research and development projects related to this critical global industry. UNLV is excited to be able to provide such a significant impact on the future.”

The plans call for building the proposed village next to the Stan Fulton Building and include a state-of-the-art hotel and conference center, a freestanding restaurant, and the possibility of hotel-condo style residences. Its 100,000-square-foot academic building will serve 4,000 students and 100 faculty members and will contain labs for gaming, food, and nutrition science; teaching kitchens; and a dedicated space for interdisciplinary research.

Support for this venue will ensure that the college continues to attract top-tier undergraduate and graduate students, as well as the finest teaching faculty in the industry.

Law

Students Need Practice Arena

A moot court auditorium will extend the educational offerings of the William S. Boyd School of Law by providing a facility for students to gain practical experience. Through the moot court program, law students have the opportunity to hone their litigation skills through simulated client counseling, advocacy, and appellate writing in a variety of legal settings.

“The moot court auditorium will complete the physical facility of the law school,” said Dean Richard Morgan. “We need excellent facilities to have an excellent law school, and the addition of this facility will provide us that.”

Though moot court programs, students compete nationally against students from other top law schools. Success in the program will provide exposure for the Boyd School of Law and increase the already high reputa- tion of the school.

In addition to housing the moot court program, the auditorium will also serve as a venue for special events, hold classes and to host lectures by distin- guished guests.

Honors

Keeping Top Students in State

As the Honors College expands, undergraduate student support becomes an even greater funding priority. In addition to rewarding students for their exemplary work in the classroom once enrolled, the funds also help recruit talented students.

“Our goal is to attract the top students in Nevada to stay in state and enroll in the Honors College,” said Dean Stephen Rosenbaum. “We must have adequate scholarship support in order to attract them, and we must have sufficient program support to provide the best education for these students. A good foundation of support will enhance our reputation, attract more top students to the Honors College, and help educate Nevada’s best.”

Additional support will increase undergraduate assistantships, provide expenses for students who need to travel for research and presenta- tions, and allow more opportunities for students to participate in study-abroad programs.

Liberal Arts

Assistantships Offer Dual Benefits

Resources for an endowed named fellowship will help UNLV attract top graduate students while helping
a nonprofit organization preserve the state’s cultural resources.
Preserve Nevada, founded in 2002 by history professor Andy Kirk and a statewide board of directors, seeks to identify and preserve the state’s cultural resources while providing hands-on public history experience to UNLV graduate students.

“Although the goal of historic preservation is one common to all states, the diversity of Nevada’s heritage, its historical boom-and-bust cycles, the current dynamism of its economy, and its rapid growth present unique challenges and opportunities,” said Kirk.

“Preserve Nevada was born from the need to bring young people into the mix in a meaningful way and place education on an equal footing with advocacy.”

To date, Preserve Nevada has worked to save cultural resources around the state while drawing national attention to Nevada’s unique cultural environment and history. UNLV’s history department-technology gives students and researchers an edge

Dental Technology Gives Students, Researchers an Edge

One of the blessings of starting a new school is that often it means the students learn with the newest technology. UNLV’s School of Dental Medicine is at the forefront of health-care technology with its paperless environment — patient records, textbooks, and research materials are all stored electronically. But private support is needed to help the school maintain its technological edge with the latest databases and equipment.

Technology is also crucial to the school’s expanding research programs. Funds will be needed to equip labs so that faculty can continue their vital work in such areas as oral cancer treatment and prevention.

“Research is a vital component to dental education and is important for the advancement of knowledge of oral health care,” said Patrick Ferrillo, dean of the School of Dental Medicine. “Using an electronic patient-care record system, the School of Dental Medicine will be able to analyze oral health care needs of the local community and conduct research that will help meet some of these needs.”

Dr. Louisa Sanders works with dental student Lisa Bienstock. The School of Dental Medicine is counting on the comprehensive campaign to provide funds to allow the school to continue providing its students with the latest technology.

Libraries Putting the Rarest Collections in Researchers’ Hands

The proposed Digitization Center will give unprecedented access to documents securely preserved at UNLV Libraries. A digital exhibition of different types of historical materials, manuscripts, and architectural drawings will be easily accessible to educators at all levels and can be used to increase the knowledge and understanding of Nevada’s history.

“Digitization allows libraries to bring their most unique, rare, and specialized collections out of our archives and puts them into the hands of researchers and students all over the world,” said Dean of Libraries Patricia Iannuzzi.

“Through digitization, previously unpublished original letters, photos, maps, and other materials are made available to students to allow them to become researchers.”

Support will also aid UNLV’s participation in The Western Waters Digital Library, a regional project that provides centralized access to digital resources from academic libraries in six Western states.

Sciences Making Sure Research Doesn’t Run Dry

Located on a 10-acre site in North Las Vegas, the Center for Urban Water Conservation is working to help our desert community cope with its limited water resources under extended drought conditions.

Under the direction of biological sciences professor Dale Devitt, undergraduate and graduate students are conducting research throughout the state addressing critical water management issues.

With continued support, Devitt hopes to add 20 acres to the current

Engineering Lighting Up a Black Box

A key element in UNLV’s budding entertainment engineering and design program is a proposed black-box theater, a type of theater ideal for researching innovative techniques in theatrical design, lighting, and sound engineering. The interdisciplinary program is a joint venture between the colleges of Engineering and Fine Arts.

To be located in the new Science, Engineering and Technology Building, the theater will complement UNLV’s existing performance facilities, including the Black Box Theatre in the Ham Fine Arts building. Its computers will control all aspects of a fully functional stage, state-of-the-art lighting, and sound and motion system. The theater would be one of only 40 such centers in the country, and the only one in the world dedicated to testing design and researching creative activities.

“This is a facility where students can experiment with and apply the latest technology to create live performances and test new concepts in entertainment engineering and design,” said Eric Sandgren, dean of the College of Engineering.

Student Lee Terry works with the lights in the Black Box Theatre. The Engineering College would like to build a second black box theater equipped with cutting-edge technology to be used by students in the entertainment engineering program. The program is a joint venture involving the colleges of Engineering and Fine Arts.
Spotlight On Accomplishments

Submit Your News
E-mail entries to inside.unr.edu. Items should be no more than 75 words.

Susan Meacham (Nutrition Sciences), UNLV graduate Kelly Elwell (MS Chem., '11), and the College of Science (Chemistry) presented a poster, “Boric Acid Inhibits Growth of Human Prostate Cancer Cell Line LNCaP,” while attending the International Research Conference on Food, Nutrition and Cancer in Washington, D.C. The meeting is supported by the World Cancer Research Fund International and the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Nancy Torno (Urban Affairs Advising Center) received her graduate certificate in academic advising from Kansas State University.

Gregory Borchard (Journalism and Media Studies) served as a panelist for a session titled “Core Knowledge in Journalism History: Does It Exist? If So, What Is It? What Should It Be?”, at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication’s annual convention in San Antonio. He also co-authored a paper with communication studies graduate student Theodore Ransaw titled “Sisters of the Spirit: Women Journalists of the A.M.E. Church,” which was presented at the convention.

Sandra Owens-Kane (Social Work) received the John A. Hartford Faculty Scholar Award of $500 to conduct research on eldercare in the African-American community. She also was named in Who’s Who Among American Teachers in Journalism History: “Does it Exist? If So, What Is It? What Should It Be?”, and is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

Maxine Franks (Computer Sciences) was named Classyfied Employee of the Month for September in the technical category. An eight-year UNLV employee, she worked in the office of administrative computing before moving in 2002 to campus computing services, where she now supports faculty and staff at the help desk to answer computing questions for faculty and staff. She is close to completing a bachelor’s degree in education.

Gerald R. Weeks (Marriage, Family, & Community Counseling) was named Classified Employee of the Month for September in the service category. An employee since 2002, he is a custodial worker at the Moyer Student Union.


Rich Novinsky (Facilities) was named Classified Employee of the Month for September in the custodial category. An employee since 2003, he is a custodial worker at the Moyer Student Union.

Lery H. Pelton (Social Work) is the author of a new book, Frames of Justice: Implications for Social Policy, which was released this summer by Transaction Publishers.

Patricia Hollis (English) was appointed as a member of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). She also was named with scientists from the U.S. and internationally courts in South Africa, including nine years as a justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, which was entrusted with the task of supervising the country’s transition into democracy. Previously, he served as chairperson of the Standing Commission of Inquiry Regarding Public Violence and Intimidation. Following the main presentation, a panel discussion will be moderated by history professor Tom Wright, an expert on the upcoming book on state terror and human rights violations in Argentina and Chile. Other panelists will include:

• Jeffrey Wedding (Harry Reid Center) presented the results of three years of research on historic Southern Nevada railroad construction camps in a presenta- tion titled “Salt Lake and Carson City: The Indigenous Women and the Conference Site: Taking Back the Railroad,” at the Indigenous Women and the Conference Site: Taking Back the Railroad, presented "Indigenous Feminism and the Conference Site: Taking Back the Power," at the Indigenous Women and Feminism: Culture, Activism, Politics conference at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in August.

• Jean Griffin, Gerald Weeks, and Colleen Peterson (Marriage, Family, & Community Counseling) served as workshop proposer reviewers for the 2005 annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

Eugene Kahaunaena (Energy Management) was appointed as an alternate member to the National Society of Mechanical Engineers, which is a professional engineering program.

Christopher Stream and William Thompson (Public Administration) co-presented “Impacts of Casino Taxation and Technology, the national engineering society's transition into democracy.”

Rachael Carpenter (Public Safety) has been promoted to the position of an administrative assistant III for the Nevada Gaming Institute. She is a student at CCSN and plans to earn a degree in nursing.

Mirmir Lindwall (Student Counseling and Psychological Services) was named Classified Employee of the Month for September in the administrative category. An employee since January, she is an administrative assistant II. Her duties include answering phone calls and scheduling appointments.

Larry Ashley (Marriage, Family, & Community Counseling) coordinated a workshop titled “Sex Workers and Trauma” at the Utah Summer Institute on Addictions hosted by the University of Utah in Salt Lake City in June.

The Rebel Life

UNLV Hosts Academic Freedom Conference

Several high-profile cases regarding academic freedom have surfaced on campuses around the country this past year, including here at UNLV. What’s become clear is that no one agrees on or even understands what this liberty means or what it accomplishes, and protects within academia.

On Oct. 14 a panel of national experts will attempt to debate and clarify the issue during a one-day conference sponsored by the William S. Boyd School of Law and the UNLV Faculty Senate. The event, titled “Academic Freedom in a Time of Crisis,” will be held 1-6 p.m. at the Tam Alumni Center. It is free for faculty, staff, and students. The keynote speaker will be David Rabban, professor of law at the University of Texas and legal counsel to the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). Other panelists will include W. Lee Hansen, professor of economics at Oct. 15 Lecture Explores International Criminal Courts

Former South African Constitutional Court Justice and war crimes prosecutor Richard Goldstone will discuss the prosecution of human rights viola- tions during an Oct. 15 presenta- tion titled “International Criminal Courts: Peace v. Justice.” The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 10 a.m. in the Tam Alumni Center. The event is sponsored by UNLV’s Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution.

Drawing on his experience as the former chief prosecutor for the International Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, Goldstone will focus on the inherent tensions in prosecuting human rights violators and the challenges that come with pursuing more re- conciliatory approaches.

Goldstone served in the most influential courts in South Africa, including nine years as a justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, which was entrusted with the task of supervising the coun- try’s transition into democracy. Previously, he served as chairperson of the Standing Commission of Inquiry Regarding Public Violence and Intimidation. Following the main presenta- tion, a panel discussion will be moderated by history professor Tom Wright, an expert on the upcoming book on state terror and human rights violations in Argentina and Chile. Other panelists will include:

• Jeffrey Wedding (Harry Reid Center) presented the results of three years of research on historic Southern Nevada railroad construction camps in a presenta- tion titled “Salt Lake and Carson City: The Indigenous Women and...
Found in Translation

UNLV Admin Translates Banned Albanian Book

Outside of work, Pirro Dollani translates books from Albanian to English and visa versa.

> Across Campus

Continued from Page 5

site, which would expand research greenhouses and test plots, and allow more students to get involved. The center also educates local residents about the need for water conservation and involves them in water-saving strategies.

“One of the goals of the center is to provide a hands-on experience for undergraduate students,” said Devitt. “We find that students who actually touch science rather than just read about it become more passionate about pursuing careers in the field.”

The center’s research into satellite technology and management techniques will also benefit researchers throughout the Southwest by decreasing irrigation requirements and operational costs.

Student Life

Well-Rounded Rec Center

While student fees will pay for the new Student Recreation Center, private support is needed to enhance the overall opportunities for students. The 184,000-square-foot center, which broke ground this summer just west of the residence halls, will be the hub for all student wellness needs.

“The center will be great for students who want to work out between classes or just have long breaks and need somewhere to go and unwind,” said UNLV freshman Kim Black. “I like how the university is working beyond academics to enhance the total college experience.”

The facility will offer a full-service workout area, including the most advanced weight and cardio equipment; rooms for fitness classes; indoor and outdoor pools; equipment rentals for outdoor recreation; a full-service juice bar and bistro foodservice capabilities; a full-size indoor jogging track; and sport courts that will house intramurals such as racquetball, basketball, and volleyball. Its Rebel Wellness Zone will provide students with a comprehensive approach to physical, mental, and emotional wellness.

University College

‘Know-It-All’ Advisers Needed

Support of advising is among the top priorities for University College. The need for well-trained academic advisers is perhaps most acute in that college, which serves students who have not yet declared a major as well as those whose interests and goals cannot be satisfied with a single program.

Advisers for the college must have knowledge of all the colleges and programs at UNLV in order to serve the varied paths of majors and to help undecided students determine an academic program. Their work is pivotal to the student’s long-term success, said Anne Hein, director of advising for the college.

“The objective for advisers is to help students define their goals, not only academically, but also in terms of their futures,” she said. “The role of advisers is reaching beyond that of class schedulers, as they are increasingly getting students involved in internship and other programs that will make them prepared to enter the job market.”

Urban Affairs

No Debate Over Benefits of Re-establishing Program

Re-establishing UNLV’s award-winning debate program will do more than complement programs in the Greenspun College of Urban Affairs. While the program particularly benefits students taking courses in argument, rhetoric, and interpersonal communication, it also provides excellent pre-professional preparation for students in all fields, said Tom Burkholder, chair of the communications studies department.

“It provides a co-curricular program that can strengthen both student interest and competence in communication and prepare them for a variety of careers in which skills such as clear communication, critical thinking, and persuasion are important,” he said.

The program is also an excellent way to promote competitive debate throughout the Clark County School District and bring top high school students from throughout the nation to campus.

UNLV’s original debate team ranked among the top 20 in America from 1983-1989.

Profiles of the interesting things UNLV employees do off campus

> After Hours

Holly Ivy DeVore

Hobby Becomes Side Job

Dollani, who in 1994 left the poor Eastern European country of Albania (located between Greece, Serbia, and Montenegro) to accept a scholarship to study library sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and then moved to the Las Vegas Valley with his family in 1999, recently translated two other books into Albanian: Reading Turgeniev by William Trevor and Albanian Virgin by Alice Munro.

He describes translating as a hobby that began when he first started learning foreign languages.

“I view my translating as a bridge to bring literature to Albanians, and also as a way of extending UNLV to that country,” Dollani said. For example, his most recent translation project is that of UNLV professor Hart Wegner’s book-length manuscript, Farewell to the Word, an excerpt of which had been published in Philological Papers.

Taking Advantage of Employee Educational Assistance Benefits

In addition to working full time and translating, Dollani has spent hundreds of hours in university classrooms as a student. He took advantage of the employee-education benefits at UNLV to earn a bachelor’s degree in English with honors and a master’s degree in education.

He has passed the high value that he places on education on to his two children, who were his motivation for remaining in the United States after his studies in Illinois.

“When I decided to stay in the United States, which (coincided with) the communist government of Albania collapsing, it wasn’t for me. I decided to stay here for my kids, to give them greater opportunities,” he explained. “My son just earned a master’s degree on the University of Illinois and has been hired in a dream job. My daughter graduated with a bachelor’s degree in communications at UNLV and now works in Los Angeles. Both of my kids are doing excellently, and I am proud of them.

“For me, staying here was a sacrifice because I had several professional opportunities in Europe. But the personal sacrifice has been worth it.”

Educational Assistance Benefit for All Employees

Pirro Dollani took advantage of UNLV’s educational assistance benefits for employees to earn two degrees. Learn more at hr.unlv.edu/Benefits.

> Student Life

Support of advising is among the top priorities for University College. The need for well-trained academic advisers is perhaps most acute in that college, which serves students who have not yet declared a major as well as those whose interests and goals cannot be satisfied with a single program.

Advisers for the college must have knowledge of all the colleges and programs at UNLV in order to serve the varied paths of majors and to help undecided students determine an academic program. Their work is pivotal to the student’s long-term success, said Anne Hein, director of advising for the college.

“The objective for advisers is to help students define their goals, not only academically, but also in terms of their futures,” she said. “The role of advisers is reaching beyond that of class schedulers, as they are increasingly getting students involved in internship and other programs that will make them prepared to enter the job market.”

University College

‘Know-It-All’ Advisers Needed

Support of advising is among the top priorities for University College. The need for well-trained academic advisers is perhaps most acute in that college, which serves students who have not yet declared a major as well as those whose interests and goals cannot be satisfied with a single program.

Advisers for the college must have knowledge of all the colleges and programs at UNLV in order to serve the varied paths of majors and to help undecided students determine an academic program. Their work is pivotal to the student’s long-term success, said Anne Hein, director of advising for the college.

“The objective for advisers is to help students define their goals, not only academically, but also in terms of their futures,” she said. “The role of advisers is reaching beyond that of class schedulers, as they are increasingly getting students involved in internship and other programs that will make them prepared to enter the job market.”

University College

‘Know-It-All’ Advisers Needed

Support of advising is among the top priorities for University College. The need for well-trained academic advisers is perhaps most acute in that college, which serves students who have not yet declared a major as well as those whose interests and goals cannot be satisfied with a single program.

Advisers for the college must have knowledge of all the colleges and programs at UNLV in order to serve the varied paths of majors and to help undecided students determine an academic program. Their work is pivotal to the student’s long-term success, said Anne Hein, director of advising for the college.

“The objective for advisers is to help students define their goals, not only academically, but also in terms of their futures,” she said. “The role of advisers is reaching beyond that of class schedulers, as they are increasingly getting students involved in internship and other programs that will make them prepared to enter the job market.”

University College

‘Know-It-All’ Advisers Needed

Support of advising is among the top priorities for University College. The need for well-trained academic advisers is perhaps most acute in that college, which serves students who have not yet declared a major as well as those whose interests and goals cannot be satisfied with a single program.

Advisers for the college must have knowledge of all the colleges and programs at UNLV in order to serve the varied paths of majors and to help undecided students determine an academic program. Their work is pivotal to the student’s long-term success, said Anne Hein, director of advising for the college.

“The objective for advisers is to help students define their goals, not only academically, but also in terms of their futures,” she said. “The role of advisers is reaching beyond that of class schedulers, as they are increasingly getting students involved in internship and other programs that will make them prepared to enter the job market.”
I Want Your Job!

When we asked Inside UNLV readers a while back whose campus job they would like to have, many of you said you wouldn’t trade your own for any other. Some, however, had a notion that other jobs sounded a little more fun or a tad more interesting.

The Harry Reid Center’s Kathy Lauckner (at right and immediately below) thought the UNLV mascot’s job might be more entertaining. Inside UNLV arranged for her to spend some time with Hey Reb! She accompanied him around campus while he accosted a student wearing a T-shirt from the University of New Mexico (immediately below) and visited with students on the mall (below center). Hey Reb! even temporarily lost his head for Lauckner, letting her try on his duds. Lauckner’s verdict: The outing was fun, but the outfit is too heavy, too hot, and whatever Hey Reb! is paid probably isn’t enough.

(At left and above) Melissa Closek, a budget officer for the Division of Student Life, spent time with Peter Michel, who heads the special collections section of the Lied Library. She said she came away thinking that Michel’s job was even more interesting than she had anticipated. She said the visit, which included viewing the library’s valuable 1 millionth volume, rekindled her interest in obtaining a library science degree. Michel said he benefitted, too, as Closek’s enthusiasm and interest were contagious.