Inside UNLV

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New Singapore campus opens for classes

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

You’re bound to notice the changes. The new student union — featuring a full-blown Starbucks — is open for business. The new student recreation center, slated for a summer 2007 opening, is taking shape on the eastern edge of the Thomas & Mack parking lot. And the seventh floor has a new resident. President David Ashley arrived in July, becoming UNLV’s eighth president.

The changes don’t end there.

New Campus

One thing you can’t see, but which certainly is of note, is the opening of UNLV’s first international campus last month. UNLV Singapore brings programs from the William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration to Asia. Andy Nazarechuk of the Hotel College is heading the new campus.

Ashley noted that Singapore is an ideal setting for the campus. “Singapore is thriving, and support for tourism there is second to none,” he said. “UNLV students should really blossom in that environment.”

Construction Continues

For something you can see, take a look at progress on the Public Places class designed the piece. Construction was done by the facilities management department. Finishing touches on the project, which received funding from CSUN, will be completed in the next few months.

Changing Faces

Some significant personnel changes have taken place in recent months, too. Among the appointments are:

- Michael Bowers and Dawn Neuman as co-chairs of the office of executive vice president and provost. Both had been serving as vice provosts. They will remain in their new roles until the search for an executive vice president and provost is completed.

- Mark Rudin as interim vice president for research and graduate dean.
- Sociology professor Kate Hausbeck as the Graduate College’s associate dean for academic affairs.
- Engineering professor Robert Abella as associate dean of the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering. He will spend 75 percent of his time on research and the other 25 percent on recruiting.
- Food and beverage professor Andy Feinstein as associate dean of strategic initiatives for the Hotel College.

More Inside:

- President David Ashley’s first Inside UNLV Column, page 2
- Much more on the new student union, pages 7 and 8

Quick Take: Making the Most of Your RebelCard

By Cate Weeks | Marketing & PR

If you’ve been here for more than, oh, a month, you probably already have a RebelCard, the official identification card of the campus community. But do you know all the uses? Inside UNLV sat down with Alex Herzog, director of campus card services, to get the scoop.

Books and Beans: Users swiped their RebelCards more than 2.8 million times during fiscal year 2005-06 to check out library books, make photocopies, and enter the McDermott Physical Education facilities. In addition, the card can be used like a debit card by linking it to a RebelCash account. Campus purchases through RebelCash are tax-free. A dozen vending machines on campus, including those in the residence halls, also accept the cards.

Off-Campus, Too: A number of restaurants, including Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf and Johnny Rockets, accept RebelCash payments, as well as some locations of 7-11 and CVS Pharmacy, Herzog said. The most popular off-campus spot for card users is Chipotle Mexican Grill (see rebelcash.unlv.edu for a full listing).

Department Cards Make Purchases Easy: More than 50 UNLV departments hold cards, primarily to enable faculty and staff to make copies on campus machines.

Caught without Cash for Lunch? Save the ATM fees and deposit money into your RebelCash account from the cool comfort of your office. Using the online RebelCash system, deposits can be from a bank debit or a credit card. Last year, users conducted $774,000 in RebelCash transactions, with the average transaction costing $4.31.

A Model Program: RebelCard services is moving toward being a self-sustaining unit using a business plan approach that’s novel in higher education. Herzog presented the concept at the National Association of Campus Card Users and the International Users of BlackBoard conferences last year.

Lost Card? Deactivate your card by calling ext. 5-2351 or online at rebelcash.unlv.edu. This will protect your RebelCash account from identity theft. If your RebelCash is lost or stolen you will need to come to the RebelCard office in the Ham Fine Arts Building; replacing your RebelCard will cost $12.50.

More Info:

- To learn about new degrees and programs, visit facultystaffinfo.unlv.edu.
- To learn about new campus programs easier. A new online menu makes donating to your favorite projects easier. More Inside, pages 7 and 8

Favorite Projects

A new online menu makes donating to your favorite campus programs easier.
Learning by Walking Around

My first few weeks and days at UNLV have been truly exciting and informative. In an effort to learn as much as possible about this great university, I have attempted to emulate Hewlett-Packard founders Bill Hewlett and David Packard’s “management by walking around” philosophy. My “learning by walking around” has been an excellent way to meet so many of you and engage you in conversations about the institution. Through these interactions, I have had the opportunity to learn about our unique history and to experience firsthand the campus culture. Most importantly, these exchanges have given me the opportunity to listen to your thoughts on where the university has been and what you envision for UNLV’s future.

Meeting the Campus Community

Indeed, it has been a great experience learning about the campus and meeting students, staff, and faculty. The campus community has made me feel welcome and has been extremely supportive. In an attempt to organize some of these campus interactions, during this semester and the next, I plan to visit the various individual schools, colleges, and units.

Recently, I had the opportunity to visit the College of Education, where I was particularly impressed with the energy and enthusiasm expressed by faculty. During this initial meeting, tough questions were asked and many expressed their desire to take the necessary steps to advance UNLV’s research agenda. I appreciated everyone’s honesty and willingness to explore critical issues that are impacting the university.

In my future visits and tours, I would encourage all to ask questions and think deeply and carefully about what you envision for this institution as it embarks on becoming a stronger research university.

So What Have I Learned Thus Far?

UNLV is a remarkable university. The tremendous amount of enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by students, faculty, and staff is inspiring. Not only does UNLV impact the lives of students, but also the lives of citizens in the Las Vegas community and beyond.

Just recently, UNLV launched its first international campus, UNLV Singapore, to create opportunities for global impact. I had the good fortune to attend the grand opening and witness firsthand how UNLV’s reputation for excellence is recognized around the globe.

With that said, I believe that the planning foundation for increasing the university’s academic reputation and research agenda is already in place. UNLV, however, has experienced dramatic growth, and with that growth has come many new challenges on the road to achieving these aspirations. Such expansion has severely stretched the institution’s resources and created strain on the university as a whole.

The Next Step

I believe the next step in our development as a research institution is to strategically identify and develop more focused centers of academic excellence. This will require a commitment on the part of the entire campus community. Of course, I would expect more discussions and more refined planning to take place before any decisions are made.

Filling Critical Positions

During the next few months, a considerable amount of energy will be devoted to filling critical positions, including three vice presidencies: executive vice president and provost, vice president for research and graduate studies, and vice president for diversity. It is essential that these new appointments possess a mix of research, teaching, and administrative experiences from top research-intensive universities to help lead us in our quest for greater academic distinction.

Filling these key positions will require a significant amount of thought and time on the part of many members of the campus community, and I urge you to participate when given the opportunity.

Continued Interaction

I will admit there is a great deal of ground that I have not physically covered and there is much more for me to learn. Yet, it has been a delight to have met with so many of you already. Communication is important to me and I hope to continue to interact with many more of you in order to understand the institutional culture from your perspective. I want to continue to learn, listen, and engage all in the process of further building UNLV’s research agenda and elevating its academic stature.

Tech Savvy

Everywhere a Change, Change

New locations and technologies improve services to campus

By Mamie Poers | OIT

Moving both the faculty/staff and student Help Desks is just one of the service improvements made by the office of information technology over the summer.

The IT Help Desk for employees, designed to be the one-stop-shop for computing help, has moved to the Harter Classroom Building Complex, Room B-123.

“Our new spot is a bit more excluded from foot traffic so that, when we’re on the phone with callers, we can focus on our customers,” said Cathy Stevens, manager of client services.

“Before, our desk was in a hallway near a reception area. At our busiest times of the year, it became quite loud in that location.”

The Help Desk technicians will continue to provide assistance with e-mail accounts, passwords, software, and network access. They also help troubleshoot technical problems.

The Help Desk for students moved to the second floor of the new student union, Room 231. “We have a lot more space to talk with students and help them with their questions,” explained supervisor Cyndi Backstrom.

“At our new location we are much more visible and accessible to students. We want everyone on campus directs students looking for help with computing to our Help Desk.” Students receive assistance with WebCampus, Rebelmail, wireless accounts, and other UNLV technology accounts at the Help Desk.

Next to the new student Help Desk is a student computing lab much larger than the one in the old Moyer Student Union. It includes state-of-the-art computers with flat-panel screens.

Classroom Facelifts

Classroom equipment upgrades have continued this summer.

Technology-enhanced classroom face-lifts have improved facility design and sound while making media control systems easier to use.

To support film studies, CBC Room A-106 will receive the first wide-screen, high-definition video projector in a general-use room. OIT worked with planning and construction to make improvements to sound, lighting, and seating.

New Feedback Opportunity

To continue improving service, a survey will accompany media carts delivered to standard classrooms this fall. The surveys ask faculty to indicate how well the equipment worked and provides room to comment. They also include the name of the technician who delivered the cart and a cell phone number to call for help.

“We deliver between 100 and 200 carts a day,” said Rohan Palmer, supervisor of campus media services, “and we want to know how we’re doing. The feedback should help us provide better service.”

Free Training and Support

• Software Training – Software training through OIT is now free. Lotus Notes, Powerpoint, Excel, Access, and other computer courses are available this fall through the IT Help Desk. For more information, visit ccs.unlv.edu/training.

• WebCampus Training – OIT offers an open lab on Fridays between 9-11 a.m. in the Harter Classroom Building Complex, Room C-307. Professors needing one-on-one technical assistance at a computer can stop by anytime during those hours. The Teaching and Learning Center offers training courses detailed at tlc.unlv.edu.

• Technology-Enhanced Classrooms – If you want training in how to use technology-enhanced classrooms, call ext. 5-0711 to schedule an appointment. Technicians can meet with professors in rooms just before a class begins or are available to work with them in advance.

Inside UNLV

Inside UNLV welcomes comments and suggestions. Please e-mail inside.unlv@cmail.nevada.edu or drop a note to Inside UNLV at mail code 1024.

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• Media Cart Training – For training on media carts delivered to classrooms, just notify the person who schedules your reservation when you call ext. 5-0711.

More Info: Contact the IT Help Desk at ext. 5-0777.

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Let the Arts Begin

By Jennifer Vaughan | Fine Arts

Tired of wading through up to two-dozen UNLV Information e-mails each day to find the news important to you? Wade no more.

By October, after testing has been completed, all those messages will be consolidated into one daily e-newsletter, called UNLV Today. The e-newsletter will have headlines and summaries of the messages; clicking on the headline will take you to the full story, which is posted online.

Survey Leads to Change

The new e-newsletter was developed after a campuswide survey in 2005 about UNLV Information. “Employees indicated that the messages sent through UNLV Information were often important to them, but they also felt overloaded by the number of individual e-mails,” said Shane Bevell, communications specialist in the marketing and public relations department.

With too many messages coming to their inbox during peak times, many respondents believed the messages were not important to them. As one respondent said, “Because much of the campus community regards UNLV Information as spam, the valuable information gets lost and ignored because people delete them, sight unseen. Bring us back to a time when communication was useful instead of an inconvenience and a nuisance.”

The benefits of UNLV Today include:

• Daily delivery — You’ll still receive messages daily, but they will be consolidated into one e-mail.

That also means you’ll have only one e-mail to delete. and murder of 21-year-old univer-

sity student Matthew Shepard in

Wyoming in the late 1990s. The

Playwrights’ Rep follows at the

end of October and into November

with two plays from the master of

fine arts playwriting program. Carissa

Thaik’s The Book of Nights (Oct. 27,

Nov. 4) is about a woman who heals

others in a safe house for abused

and battered women but cannot heal

her own heart.

In addition, throughout the

year the college offers many gal-

ey exhibitions, a lecture series spon-

sored by the art department, and

the School of Architecture’s Kial Juba

Lecture Series.

More info: Visit finearts.unlv.
edu.

UNLV Today: Easy to Digest

• Web version — If employees do not want to receive the digest, they can still read the daily mes-

sages on the UNLV Today webpage.

• A better, more consistent format — With head-

lines organized under categories, you will be able to skim the messages quickly to find the information most important to you. An online submission form also encourages subscribers to use informative head-

lines and enter complete event information.

• Easy to subscribe/unsubscribe — Subscribing to UNLV Today is optional and you can sub-

scribe/unsubscribe at any time through the publication webpage. If you were previously receiving UNLV Information list e-mails, you will not need to re-subscribe to UNLV Today.

Submitting Messages

Submissions will no longer be taken through e-mail, but the process is just as easy with the online form.

Visit the UNLV Today webpage at unlvtoday.

unlv.edu and click on “submit a message.” To login, you will need your Lotus Notes e-mail address and password. The password is the one that is used to access your Lotus Notes account via the web. If you haven’t activated the Lotus Notes e-mail account, visit newuser.unlv.edu. If you forgot or want to change your password, visit fac-
ultystaffinfo.unlv.edu and follow the “changing your web password” instructions.

More info: Look in your inbox for future announcements about UNLV Today.

Employee Benefits

New Service Cuts Down on Unnecessary Paper

By Cate Weeks | Marketing & PR

Not sure what to do with those paper payroll advices you get every month? Now you can elect to receive an e-mail notice, rather than the paper copy. This feature ensures that your payroll advice, the paper that a direct deposit user receives in lieu of a check stub, doesn’t get lost and end up in the wrong hands.

Employees opting for this service receive an e-mail notification when their payroll has been processed. A link in the e-mail takes users directly to the online Employee Self Service database (also known as EQUUS), where they can access all their payroll records, including past W2s.

The online version of the payroll advice looks exactly like the print version. From the Employee Self Service database, employees can also update their home and work addresses, check employ-

ment records, and sign up for direct deposit of their pay.

More info: To start using this feature, go to facultystaffinfo.unlv.edu and click on “EQUUS” in the quicklinks section.
Here, in place of the usual “Across Campus” section, we’re presenting “New Faces,” profiles of a random sampling of some of UNLV’s newest employees. As the new academic year begins, take a minute to learn about some of your new coworkers. “Across Campus” will return next month.

**NEW FACES**

**BUSINESS**

**Matt Thatcher**

Although Matt Thatcher lives in the desert, the natural environment is not what attracted him to UNLV.

Strong leadership in the College of Business, where he is now an associate professor of management information systems (MIS), was the key.

“UNLV has done a wonderful job of developing a strong and impressive MIS department in a short period of time,” he said. “Given the leadership at both the department and college levels and the high-quality faculty within the department, I know the MIS department will continue to grow in stature and national reputation. I am excited about contributing to that continued growth.”

After earning his Ph.D. in information technology from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, Thatcher spent eight years as an assistant professor at the University of Arizona.

Thatcher was drawn to teaching and developed a love for research as an undergraduate research assistant.

“I enjoy interacting with students and contributing to their education while engaging in innovative research that has significant impacts for businesses and for industry regulators,” he said.

His research examines the strategic and economic impacts of information technology, software patent policy design, and the social costs of information privacy.

**EDUCATION**

**Tessie Rose**

UNLV special education professor Tessie Rose knows that teaching our youths, especially those with disabilities, is often a challenging profession.

“Unfortunately, some individuals underestimate the level of expertise and the amount of dedication needed to be a teacher, leading many teachers to feel underappreciated and often underpaid,” Rose said. “Good teachers are artists and have a tremendous impact on the lives of students. With qualified teachers, all kids can really learn.”

Her research interests include identifying and addressing variables that increase the quality of life of individuals with cognitive and low-incidence disabilities.

Rose comes to UNLV from Lehigh University, where she was a post-doctoral research associate. She managed the Lehigh University Pocoono Transition and Assessment Program for students with cognitive disabilities. She also served as the project coordinator for two federally funded projects and taught graduate education classes.

The great faculty and the opportunities for research are what first attracted Rose to UNLV.

“However, I have to be honest,” she says laughing, “the amazing golf and dry weather added to the appeal of the university’s location.”

She hopes to establish partnerships with the local school district. “Approaching research in a way that addresses questions of practitioners benefits the field of special education, not just isolated individuals. My goal for these partnerships, as well as collaboration among existing faculty, is to better prepare teachers and administrators to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse school population.”

**ENGINEERING**

**Ju-Yeon Jo**

Ju-Yeon Jo’s work and research keeps the student and the information safe, although you might not realize it.

Jo joins the college as an assistant professor in its new School of Informatics. One of the program’s focus areas is her specialty, cyber security.

“For example, when you surf the Internet, you will sometimes see a lock icon in a corner of the web browser,” Jo said. “That’s a secure site indicator. Most people wouldn’t care why the icon showed up, what the digital certificate is, or how secure that website is. That’s where my research comes in. I study the things under the hood, like the interaction between the web browser and the server, or checking whether a hacker can see the message content or create a fake message.”

One goal of the new school is producing a workforce that can understand both technology and the business world, and become a bridge between the two. The most popular and newest informatics areas include digital cinematography, design of interactive IT systems for resorts and casinos, and developing anti-spam and anti-phishing tools.

Jo worked three years at California State University, Sacramento. Prior to that she spent several years developing telecommunication software for Lucent Technologies, Bell Labs, and a start-up company.

**FINE ARTS**

**Jonathan Good**

Music is definitely in his genes. Jonathan Good has his grandparents to thank for his musical gifts.

His maternal grandmother played piano in the opera orchestras of Philadelphia, including two performances with John Philip Sousa. His paternal grandfather performed in Pennsylvania’s Allentown Band, America’s oldest community band.

He chaired the music department at Montana State University before taking the same job at Tennessee Tech. But his heart remained in the West. “We longed to return to the excitement and vitality of living west of the Mississippi,” he said. “The unprecedented growth of UNLV and of Las Vegas, combined with the tremendous opportunities for the department of music, made this position very appealing.”

As chair, Good hopes to help the department hit the national level. “The unprecedented growth of UNLV and of Las Vegas, combined with the tremendous opportunities for the department of music, made this position very appealing.”

**FINANCE**

**Chris Viton**

Deputy controller Chris Viton admits that his profile is not likely material for Hollywood. “I’m kind of a stereotypical accountant,” he said.

Glamorous or not, the controller’s office plays a vital role in the success of the university. It provides financial guidance and information, while ensuring efficient accounting for employees, students, and vendors.

Viton returns to Las Vegas after serving as chief financial officer (CFO) for a four-franchise car dealership group in New Jersey. Prior to that, he spent 12 years in health-care administration serving in community nonprofit and government health-care organizations, including three years as controller and interim CFO of University Medical Center.

His family returned to New Jersey in 2004, but recognized that leaving Las Vegas had been a mistake. He was particularly interested in working at UNLV when he returned because of its importance to community development.

“I think it is important to continue to develop our community’s resources to not just the best the state has to offer, but to strive to be the best at a national level,” he said.

Viton is an avid runner with five marathons and six half-marathons under his belt. He started college thinking he would be an engineer, but that quickly changed. He followed in his father’s footsteps as an accounting major and then a controller.

**HOTEL**

**Pat Moreo**

His grandparents operated a small restaurant and his family was in the soda business, making Pat Moreo a natural for a career in the food and beverage industry.

Moreo, who was in the first graduating class of UNLV’s then-hotel department, returns as the chair of the Hotel College’s food & beverage management program. His responsibility is to ensure the curriculum is up-to-date with industry needs.

After working various jobs, Moreo taught for 13 years at his alma mater beginning in 1975. He returns to UNLV once again, this time from Oklahoma State University, where he spent seven years as the director of the School of Hotel & Restaurant Administration.

While there, his department renovated a hotel on campus and operated three restaurants.

In recent years, Moreo has focused his research on operational auditing of such areas as hotel front office audits and housekeeping. “Operational auditing is a systemized way to examine yourself and how your business is doing,” Moreo’s vocation is also his avocation. “I love to cook, especially Italian cuisine.”

His specialty is pasta, using the simplest ingredients like fresh tomato and basil.

Although many students have passed through his classes, his favorite student is at home. “I taught my wife how to make bread, and she was a good student.”

**Shane Bevell**

Senior Editor
“Our work is a key part of what is going on in this world,” said a faculty member at the University of Southern California Law School. “Our research is focused on understanding human behavior through time.”
When he interviewed recently for his job, he noticed that a lot had changed at UNLV since he graduated 12 years ago. “I saw the commitment that UNLV had made to become a diverse campus and I wanted to be a part of it,” he said. “This is a career that will allow me to do a lot of good things for students, the community, and the campus.” Melendez learned the dynamics of partnerships between universities and communities while working on a university research project after receiving his master’s degree from the University of Michigan in 2003. He was recruited and eventually became the project manager of a study that focused on developing educational programs and workable solutions for diabetes in the Latino and African-American communities. Petersburg. He sheepishly admits some surprise that he landed at UNLV. When the chemistry department invited him for an interview, he already had plans far away. “I already had an offer from a university in Philadelphia and had plans to move there,” he said. But still, he thought, it wouldn’t hurt to interview. “When I arrived at UNLV I was extremely surprised at how dynamic the community is. The more I talked to people, the more I liked it. Even though UNLV is facing many growing pains, there is a lot of enthusiasm.”

**New Faces**

**SCIENCE**

**Ernesto Abel-Santos**

Though it got him in trouble, a childhood experiment served as a precursor to a career in science, said Ernesto Abel-Santos. When he was 10, he read an advertisement for a chemistry kit. “I was very excited to receive it and opened it right away,” he said. “I put the compounds together and made a reaction that turned the water blue.” The childlike experiment did have one positive outcome; it fostered Abel-Santos’ lifelong love of learning. “Science is very addictive for curious people,” he said. “Every time you are able to crack open a door, you find yourself with a new hall full of closed doors begging to be opened.”

Abel-Santos joins the chemistry department as an associate professor after spending five years at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. “I talked to people, the more I liked it. Even though I was surprised at how dynamic the community is. The more I talked to people, the more I liked it. Even though UNLV is facing many growing pains, there is a lot of enthusiasm.”

**STUDENT LIFE**

**Jose Melendez**

Jose Melendez was making a good living building pools when his father urged him to go back to college. He decided to do it because of what he learned in his first college graduate would mean to his family, particularly his father. It was a proud day for my family the day I graduated from UNLV,” said Melendez, now the director for student diversity programs and services. When he was an undergraduate more than a decade ago, Melendez said that UNLV had a different campus. “The material applies to everyone,” she said. “In learning more about the research in this area, you also learn a lot about yourself and those around you.” Her research focuses on “outcomes communication”—relational and sexual communication—and sex and gender issues. Those relate to interpersonal communication, health, and media. For example, her interests include areas such as sexual coercion, safer sex, and the effect of sexual violence in the media on attitudes toward women. In addition to teaching, she is the coordinator of the department of communication studies. Her husband, Thomas Sommer, is an archivist in the Libraries’ special collections section.

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**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

**Peter Kim**

Peter Kim has a bit of advice: If you’ve never tried skydiving, try it just once. “It is such an adrenaline rush knowing that you are actually doing something that is death defying,” he said. Back on the ground, his advice for students helps them avoid freefalls through the academic world. He hopes to help shape the students’ UNLV experience in his new position as academic advisor in University College. A classic movie buff, whose favorite film is Ben Hur, Kim always thought that he would go the tenured track route. He also wanted to remain near his family, so he pursued other avenues within higher education. Advising offered a way to remain in the university environment, interacting with students and in some way still teaching. After advising for a year at a small private college in Los Angeles, he came to UNLV because of the growth and expansion the university is experiencing.

**UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

**Pat Mobley**

In 1984, Pat Mobley found herself pouting on the top floor of the Natchez Eola Hotel in Mississippi. She had been organizing political rallies for 10 years and had just watched then-Vice President George Bush and when told it wasn’t going to happen, she fell apart. She had worked five of his events and each time missed out sitting at the lunch table. As she picked at a terrible tuna salad in the restaurant, the elevator doors opened. “All I saw was a man’s legs and then heard, ‘Are you Pat Mobley?’ I grunted something in return and then looked up and there was George Bush Sr. with a rolling table of unbelievable food,” Mobley said. After gathering herself, she enjoyed a private dinner with the vice president and his wife, Barbara.

Despite the high moments, Mobley eventually realized that she just didn’t have the thick skin and the stomach required for the political world. After 10 years organizing political rallies for presidential and congressional campaigns, her career shifted into general events management. Now the special event and affinity partnership manager for the alumni relations office, Mobley said she enjoys working with alumni, students, faculty, and staff.

**URBAN AFFAIRS**

**Tara Emmers-Sommer**

Too often, people who learn Tara Emmers-Sommer earned a Ph.D. in communication comment to her that she has a degree in “talking.” “Communication scholars are strong in theory and in methodology,” she said. “Yes, we do study human communication, but what we do far exceeds talking.”

Emmers-Sommer, who just spent five years working at the University of Arizona, said she was drawn to her profession because she is interested in relationships and the continuous evolution of the “material that applies to everyone.”, she said. “In learning more about the research in this area, you also learn a lot about yourself and those around you.”

Her research focuses on “outcomes communication”—relational and sexual communication—and sex and gender issues. Those relate to interpersonal communication, health, and media. For example, her interests include areas such as sexual coercion, safer sex, and the effect of sexual violence in the media on attitudes toward women. In addition to teaching, she is the graduate coordinator in the department of communication studies. Her husband, Thomas Sommer, is an archivist in the Libraries’ special collections section.

**Spotlight Section**

The “Spotlight on Accomplishments” section will return in the October issue of Inside UNLV.

It’s a way to keep your colleagues abreast of what you are doing. Did you recently receive an award? Have a paper or book published? Serve as a keynote speaker? Or win a new grant? “Spotlight on Accomplishments” is the place to let people know.

To submit your news, e-mail entries to inside.unlv.edu. Items should be no more than 75 words. If you have a recent, professional head-and-shoulders photo of yourself, please submit it for consideration.

By Lori Bachand | UNLV Foundation

Giving to your UNLV program of choice is now easier than ever. This summer, the UNLV Foundation updated its online donor tool to enhance your giving experience. The changes were made in part because of feedback from the campus campaign volunteers, who reported that their colleagues and other donors were often unaware that they could support their favorite UNLV programs.

“Give to your program of choice to support the UNLV community — from faculty and staff, to alumni, community members, and businesses,” says Matt Muldoon, director of annual giving. “Most of these people and organizations have very deep connections to a specific area on campus, either because they are graduates from that discipline, work or volunteer there, or are involved in some way.”

Susan Hobbes, director of planned giving and construction and a member of the Campus Campaign Committee, said, “I choose to give, in particular, to scholarships for women seeking architecture degrees to attract more women into the profession.”

Muldoon also explained that the new web features help promote how donations can contribute to several areas within a program or on campus. “My giving directly benefits students, and particularly student-athletes, as they aspire to excel on the field and in the classroom, for their respective sport and in the academic disciplines of choice,” said Lisa Kelleher, associate athletic director, who contributes to multiple areas in athletics.

The university’s Invent the Future campaign is a comprehensive effort to raise $200 million for students, faculty, support programs, and centers, and facilities. Every gift, regardless of amount or designation, counts toward the campaign’s overall success.

**Invent the Future**

**Support Your Favorite Projects**

More info: To give online to your program of choice go to foundation.unlv.edu/give

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The Inside Guide to the New Union

If you haven’t made it over to the new student union (or the first half of it, anyway) here’s the run-down on its many features.

First Phase Highlights

There’s more...
- Food service choices including Panda Express, Taco Bell Express, Sub Connection, Jamba Juice, Pandinis, and Grill 155
- Meeting and conference rooms
- Social and study lounges
- Student organization (CSUN, GPSA, Rebel Yell) and administrative offices

A brand new...
- 300-seat theater
- Starbucks
- TV lounge

Bigger and better...
- Student organization resource area
- Computer lab and student computer help desk
- Social and study lounges

New offices in the union:
Some folks have moved into the new union from other campus locations. They include:
- The Rebel Yell
- The Graduate and Professional Student Association (new satellite office)
- Student Computing Help Desk
- UNLV Catering

What’s Your Flavor?

Walk into the new union from the Maryland Parkway entrance and it won’t take long before you smell the aroma of fresh Italian stromboli, spicy Mexican tacos, and flavorful orange chicken. Filled with eats suited for anyone’s taste buds, the food court offers plenty of options to calm those hunger pangs.

Starbucks
If your morning Starbucks run is making you five minutes late every day, fret no more. A full-service Starbucks is now here in the northwest corner of the union.
Hours: Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.
      Sunday, noon-11 p.m.

Grill 155
Satisfy your taste for a good, old-fashioned American meal with a cheeseburger, fries, and a soda at Grill 155. They’re open early for breakfast, too.
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
      Friday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
      Saturday-Sunday, closed

Taco Bell Express
Enjoy all of your favorite Taco Bell tacos, burritos, and nachos at this express location.
Hours: Monday-Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m.
      Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

Panda Express
Traditional Chinese food served hot, fresh, and fast.
Hours: Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.
      Sunday, noon-11 p.m.

Sub Connection
Made-to-order sandwiches and wraps are served at the Sub Connection.
Hours: Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m.
      Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.
      Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

Jamba Juice
Jamba Juice once again brings its lighter fare back to campus. Cool off with a fruit smoothie while you get through the last of these hot days.
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
      Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
      Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
      Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

Pandini’s
Pandini’s offers fresh Italian classics. Enjoy wood-fired pizza, specialty salads, and a variety of pastas made to order.
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
      Friday, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
      Saturday-Sunday, closed

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Reserve a Room
Hold your conference or meeting in style. Book space in one of the union’s conference rooms, which feature:
- Wireless Internet access (must have an active UNLV wireless account)
- Built-in screens and white boards
- Multiple room configurations to accommodate different needs
- Rooms with views of campus and surrounding areas

As in the past, university departments won’t be charged for space rental if their planned event is free and the expected non-UNLV attendance doesn’t exceed 20 percent of overall attendance. New this year, conference space holders will be charged for the use of audio/visual and other equipment.

More info: Contact the student life scheduling and conferences office at ext. 5-4449.

Building & Info Desk Hours
Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-midnight
Sundays, noon-midnight
Hours may vary based on holidays and the academic schedule.

Important Phone Numbers
Information Desk: 5-5221
Rebel Card Services: 5-2351
Student Involvement and Activities: 5-5631
Scheduling and Conferences: 5-4449
Student Computing Help Desk: 5-0761
Diversity Programs and Services: 5-6624
Involvement Center: 5-5376
Rebel Yell: 5-3878
Catering: 5-2650
CSUN: 5-3645
(Left) Hundreds of faculty, staff, and students sampled refreshments during the “soft opening” of the new student union Aug. 7.
(Below) Making the student life scheduling and conferences office look a little more like home by showing their Rebel pride are, from left, Lovelace Domingo, Jennifer Oshiro, and Magdalena Ziolkowska.

Scoping Out the New Union

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

As promised, the new student union is bigger and better, offering more space, more food outlets, and more amenities. And that’s just phase one. The second phase, slated for completion in fall 2007, will offer even more features, including a bigger ballroom.

By comparison, the Moyer Student Union totaled 78,000 square feet, while the first phase of the new union is 100,000 square feet. Another 35,318 square feet will come with the second phase.

Most of the moving was completed during the three-day period beginning July 25, with a predetermined number of offices moving each day. The order in which offices moved was coordinated with an eye to minimizing disruption of regular business. Professional movers handled the large items, while staff members carried over some smaller things.

(Far left) James “Mac” Hayes, executive director of student life facilities, who spearheaded construction of the union, descends its main staircase. (Left) Two employees of Pandini’s, one of the union’s new food outlets, practice making pizza before the union’s opening. (Above) Karen Strong, associate vice president for student life, carries a plant to her new digs.