3-2007

Inside UNLV

Diane Russell
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*, diane.russell@unlv.edu

Shane Bevell
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

David Ashley
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Grace Russell
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Lisa Shawcroft
*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, Communication Technology and New Media Commons, Construction Engineering Commons, Curriculum and Instruction Commons, Curriculum and Social Inquiry Commons, Education Law Commons, Other Business Commons, Other Education Commons, and the Politics Commons

Repository Citation

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.
Political Policies Keep Things Fair

Do’s and Don’ts for the Election Season
By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

As political debate heats up in Nevada, don’t get yourself into hot water on campus. The university must comply with systemwide policies on political activity.

Because UNLV is a public institution, the policies were developed to ensure the university remains neutral toward candidates. “The most important thing to keep in mind is that UNLV does not endorse any candidate or any ballot measure,” said Dave Tonelli, interim director of public affairs. “We have to be careful to treat all candidates in the same manner.”

Using Campus Space
Candidates for public office or campaign organizations must pay the full commercial rate to rent UNLV facilities. The university has set procedures and prices for renting space for such political events.

Kelsey Finn, assistant director of student life scheduling and conferences for the Division of Student Life, handles the rental of a number of prime campus locations, including the student union, Alumni Amphitheater, student union, Alumni Amphitheater, and student union, Alumni Amphitheater.

Campus Happenings

Tunnel of Oppression
The office of student diversity programs and services is hosting the Tunnel of Oppression from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. March 6-8 at the Faiman Residence Hall, Upperclass Complex.

Started in 2002, the Tunnel of Oppression is an interactive exhibit that provides participants with an opportunity to explore multiple dimensions of oppression and its impact on society. This year’s exhibit is divided into five sections exploring the following issues:

- Censorship
- Education
- Abuse of children
- Hate Crimes
- Sweatshops

More Info: Contact Randy McCrillis at ext. 5-5624.

Readers Respond

Articles related to human resources seem to resonate with Inside UNLV readers. Respondents to our monthly readers’ poll rated the story about getting the most out of your health plan and avoiding some common mistakes at the top.

Respondents also gave high marks to the story about overhauling the Carlson Education Building with top-notch network capabilities. In an open-ended question asking about technology-related issues, respondents indicated they would like more information about podcasting and virtual classrooms as well as how to best utilize Lotus Notes.

Please keep responding to our surveys. We’ll use your feedback to generate stories in future issues.

Midtown Momentum
Redevelopment Project Seeks to Create Community Destination

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

Easy access to work, shopping, education, and entertainment — sounds like a master-planned community. Well, it is — only better. Midtown UNLV is envisioned to have these lifestyle conveniences with the added touch of an integrated university.

Midtown UNLV supporters want to create a university district by revitalizing the Maryland Parkway corridor that serves as the “front door” to the university. By collaborating with private developers, the university’s business and residential neighbors, and other public sector groups, including the Clark County Commission, university officials hope to create a vibrant neighborhood with retail, housing, mass transit, and entertainment venues that complement the academic resources on campus.

More Inside:
> President Ashley discusses Midtown project, page 2

Breaking Ground
On the UNLV side of Maryland, some projects that tie in with the Midtown UNLV concept are already under way, including the new student union and Greenspun Hall. The projects bring the campus closer to Maryland and have sidewalk and landscaping features that enhance the pedestrian experience.

The university plans to demolish Frazier Hall to create a gateway to campus, said Gerry Bonotti, vice president for business and finance. The demolition of Frazier was called for in UNLV’s master plan even before the Midtown UNLV concept was developed.

Projects on university property are paid for by UNLV means: capital improvement programs, state funding, donor funding, bonding, or other finance mechanisms. The east side of Maryland will be funded by the private sector. The streetscape and road infrastructure projects likely will be paid with public and private funding because it is a common benefit, said David Frommer, assistant director of planning.

The Vista Group has been the most active private developer involved in the Midtown project, but the plan is to expand those private sector partners, Frommer said. The Vista Group and America Nevada Corporation own the University Park apartments north of Cottage Park.

Making Maryland Parkway more pedestrian-friendly is one facet of the Midtown UNLV project. Supporters want a setting that would encourage people to visit both campus and businesses on the other side of the street.
What Midtown Means to Us

Open houses and media coverage have focused new attention on Midtown UNLV, a project to revitalize Maryland Parkway (see story, Page 1). Inside UNLV sat down with President David Ashley to discuss what this effort means to the university.

Why should the university support this project?
First, this will enhance the student experience outside the classroom. We must offer students an engaging campus culture that encourages them to stay during all those hours they are not in class.

As Midtown UNLV progresses, I have no doubt that more of our students will take advantage of campus life activities and some will choose to live nearby.

Second, I believe Midtown UNLV will help us attract and retain exceptional employees. There are many great reasons why faculty and staff find the university a desirable place to work and teach; creating a lively university district will only add to these reasons.

Finally, by collaborating with local developers, we hope to revitalize the area around the university and create a distinct neighborhood in Las Vegas — a university district. This will further expose the Southern Nevada community to the rich cultural resources we offer.

Grove Avenue, a potential site for a new housing project targeted mainly toward UNLV students. The Vista Group’s Promenade Center, located across from the Tam Alumni Center, is another site likely to be torn down and rebuilt with a mixed retail/residential building.

Projects linked to the Midtown concept in the next five years include Greenspun Hall, the planned demolition of Frazier Hall, and further improvements on the Maryland sidewalks and streetscape. Mid-term (approximately 5-10 years) projects potentially include replacing Grant Hall, while long-term (10-15 years) projects include additional campus building projects.

The newly proposed study will expose the Southern Nevada community to the rich cultural resources we offer.

Potential streetscape — university district at Maryland Parkway.

Why is UNLV working with private developers on this project?
Public-private partnerships are not uncommon on college campuses. Several other universities, including Arizona State, Ohio State, and Georgia Tech, provide examples of this kind of transformation. We are collaborating with the developers on the other side of the street because we have the same goal — to produce a vibrant university district. It simply can’t happen without an intense coordination of efforts.

As a construction engineer, you’ve worked with many large-scale projects. Does this one seem a long way off from reality to you?

Careful planning is key to our success. We are working with neighborhood organizations and have conducted open houses to discuss these issues. This spring we also will invite consultants from the Urban Land Institute to independently evaluate the project. Their experts will take a fresh look at our plans to identify any areas that don’t seem in alignment with our goals.

Here’s What You Said

Q: What should the university do to keep its students informed as Midtown develops?
A: “I like the idea of developing a community-oriented destination affiliated with the school. I grew up going to Westwood (CalIF.) — where UCLA is located. The creation of a space, in partnership with a university, helps “welcome” people into the university community, which is a VERY good thing.”

Stacey Hardy-Desmond
School of Social Work
Karen West Set to Start April 1

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

When it comes to challenges, Dr. Karen P. West says she doesn’t back down — that includes leading a young dental school and braving the Las Vegas heat. The native Kentuckian will leave the dewy South to take the reins as dean of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine beginning April 1.

Currently, West serves as the associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. The strong national reputations of dental school faculty attracted West to UNLV. “The fact that (faculty members) were willing to come to a school as it is building makes them change agents and innovators — just the type of group that I want to work with.”

Opportunities Exist

Here, West doesn’t expect to find the obstacles to growth found at well-established institutions. “The things that are challenges are also opportunities,” she said. “The fact that the dental school is new just means that we have a lot of work to do in the future.”

Established in 2002, the school moved to its current location at Shadow Lane in 2004. In addition to its dental education curriculum, the school provides affordable dental services to Nevada citizens — many of whom live in rural areas and are Medicaid patients. Since opening its clinics to the public in 2004, the school has had more than 150,000 patient visits. Through the Shadow Lane clinic and community outreach programs, such as Crackdown on Cancer, many Nevadans are receiving oral health care that they might not have otherwise received.

“Oral health care is still considered a luxury or optional by a large number of people today,” said West. “As a result, it is still a major health issue in our country. In fact, not a lot has changed since the U.S. Surgeon General’s ‘Report on Oral Health’ in 2000, which stated that ‘If you don’t have good oral health, you aren’t healthy.’ This is true for Nevadans as well.”

Serving the Community

In addition to the lack of access to dental services, there is also a national shortage of dental educators, said West. She hopes to help rectify that problem by encouraging UNLV dental graduates to consider careers in academics as well as private practice. With the school’s second class about to graduate, she is looking forward to building alumni relations and developing research and advanced education programs. A public health dentist by training, she is passionate about serving the community and will explore ways to engage students in more outreach activities.

“One thing that West said she has accomplished to date. “This is some- thing I always wanted to do since she was appointed dean for academic affairs at the college the transition period. West has been with the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry for 17 years and felt that she owed the college the transition period. "I have been at Kentucky so long that a lot of things are in my mem- ory, but not on paper," she said.

West has served as associate dean for academic affairs at the college for the past nine years. However, she said that being appointed dean here has been her biggest accomplish- ment to date. “This is some- thing I always wanted to do since beginning my administrative duties as an associate dean. Hopefully, in the future, I can say that my biggest accomplishment was that I had a successful tenure at UNLV.”

Open Wide: Dental Dean Sees Opportunity

Karen West Set to Start April 1

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

When it comes to challenges, Dr. Karen P. West says she doesn’t back down — that includes lead- ing a young dental school and braving the Las Vegas heat. The native Kentuckian will leave the dewy South to take the reins as dean of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine beginning April 1.

Currently, West serves as the associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. The strong national reputations of dental school faculty attracted West to UNLV. “The fact that (faculty members) were willing to come to a school as it is building makes them change agents and innovators — just the type of group that I want to work with.”

Opportunities Exist

Here, West doesn’t expect to find the obstacles to growth found at well-established institutions. “The things that are challenges are also oppor- tunities,” she said. “The fact that the dental school is new just means that we have a lot of work to do in the future.”

Established in 2002, the school moved to its current location at Shadow Lane in 2004. In addition to its dental education curriculum, the school provides affordable dental services to Nevada citizens — many of whom live in rural areas and are Medicaid patients. Since opening its clinics to the public in 2004, the school has had more than 150,000 patient visits. Through the Shadow Lane clinic and community outreach programs, such as Crackdown on Cancer, many Nevadans are receiving oral health care that they might not have otherwise received.

“Oral health care is still con- sidered a luxury or optional by a large number of people today,” said West. “As a result, it is still a major health issue in our country. In fact, not a lot has changed since the U.S. Surgeon General’s ‘Report on Oral Health’ in 2000, which stated that ‘If you don’t have good oral health, you aren’t healthy.’ This is true for Nevadans as well.”

Serving the Community

In addition to the lack of access to dental services, there is also a national shortage of dental educators, said West. She hopes to help rectify that problem by encouraging UNLV dental graduates to consider careers in academics as well as private practice. With the school’s second class about to graduate, she is looking forward to building alumni relations and developing research and advanced education programs. A public health dentist by training, she is passionate about serving the community and will explore ways to engage students in more outreach activities.

“One thing that West said she has accomplished to date. “This is some- thing I always wanted to do since she was appointed dean for academic affairs at the college the transition period. West has been with the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry for 17 years and felt that she owed the college the transition period. "I have been at Kentucky so long that a lot of things are in my mem- ory, but not on paper," she said.

West has served as associate dean for academic affairs at the college for the past nine years. However, she said that being appointed dean here has been her biggest accomplish- ment to date. “This is some- thing I always wanted to do since beginning my administrative duties as an associate dean. Hopefully, in the future, I can say that my biggest accomplishment was that I had a successful tenure at UNLV.”

Shaping Up

Currently, under construction, the new Student Recreation Center is set to open in August. Faculty and students soon will be able to purchase memberships that will give them full privileges. In addition to state-of-the-art equipment, fun classes such as spinning, Pilates, and yoga will be available. Memberships also will include a free annual wellness assessment. More information, including payroll deduction options, will be available soon. In the meantime, check out the facility’s features and floor plans at studentlife.unlv.edu/facilities.
Business

Student Marketing Group Competes in National Competition

UNLV’s student chapter of the American Marketing Association (AMA) will be one of eight groups competing in the AMA International Case Competition in New Orleans on March 29.

They will compete for prizes totaling $7,000, including a $3,000 grand prize during the AMA’s 29th annual International Collegiate Conference. The AMA challenged the student teams to write marketing plans with the goal of increasing tourism in the New Orleans area.

Student chapters at 55 schools entered the competition. In addition to the UNLV chapter, the other chapters selected as finalists are from:

• UNR
• British Columbia Institute of Technology
• Loyola University-New Orleans
• Texas State University San Marcos
• University of Pennsylvania
• University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
• Western Michigan University.

The team’s trip to New Orleans will be supported through donations made to the College of Business through the Rebel Ring Phoneathon. UNLV’s AMA chapter is open to students of all majors. It gives students the opportunity to network with professionals and provides assistance in professional development. The student chapter works closely with the Las Vegas AMA professional chapter.

Education

Literacy Development Center Receives Donation

An open house celebrating the renaming and renovation of the college’s literacy center is set for 6-8 p.m. April 13 at the center, Carlson Education Building, Room 141.

The center has been renamed the Gayle A. Zeiter Literacy Development Center following a substantial donation from Zeiter’s family trust. The donation was made to honor her contributions to the teaching profession.

The center’s primary initiatives are to:

• develop a more extensive family literacy program
• continue the Distinguished Scholar in Literacy lecture series under Zeiter’s name
• establish the Southern Nevada Literacy Collaborative.

The collaborative began in fall 2006 to help teachers across Nevada become literacy leaders and more effective classroom teachers. Through contributions from the Zeiter Foundation, it offers a series of one-day workshops and other professional development opportunities featuring local, national, and international speakers. With support from the Zeiter Foundation, the Literacy Development Center also:

• expanded tutoring services for elementary students in the Clark County School District.
• established a literacy education mini-grant program to provide instructional support for Nevada teachers and UNLV students.

Fine Arts

March Fine Arts Offerings

The UNLV Performing Arts Center’s Charles Vanda Master Series welcomes violinist Sarah Chang, one of classical music’s most captivating and gifted performers, March 2. Chang appears with the UNLV Symphony Orchestra.

On March 22, violinist and conductor Joshua Bell will perform with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, also as part of the Charles Vanda Master Series. One of People magazine’s 50 Most Beautiful in the year 2000, this virtuoso violinist debuted at a mere 14 years of age with the Philadelphia Orchestra. The program includes Brahms’ String Quartet No. 2 and Vivaldi’s The Four Seasons.

The UNLV Performing Arts Center New York Stage & Beyond Series presents the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet on March 30. These 11 classically trained dancers will perform an eclectic repertoire by some of the world’s foremost choreographers, including Twyla Tharp and David Parsons.

Graduate

GA Policy Changes Offer Flexibility to Departments

To better meet the needs of graduate students, faculty, and staff, the college is making two policy changes regarding graduate assistantships.

First, students who are provisionally admitted to a graduate program are now eligible for assistantships when recommended and appointed by their graduate coordinators. This change will give greater flexibility to graduate programs and departments.

If a provisional graduate student receives assistantship funding, that student must meet the provisional requirements within one academic year to remain eligible for the assistantship and to continue in the academic program.

The second policy change calls for more specific designations of graduate assistant (GA) duties to ensure that graduate assistants are being employed in positions that further their professional development and academic endeavors.

Beginning this summer, all graduate assistants will be categorized in university records as either a “graduate research assistant” (GRA) or “graduate teaching assistant” (GTA) instead of the generic label of “graduate assistant.”

“These changes are part of a broader package of policies and programs that are being established within the Graduate College to better meet the needs of the campus community and promote excellence in graduate education,” said Kate Hausbeck, senior associate dean of the college.

“These specific policies are designed to maximize financial support to graduate students and to mobilize this support to the greatest benefit of our graduate students and graduate programs.”

Law

School Continues to Attract Prominent Speakers

In March, the Boyd School of Law will continue its tradition of bringing nationally known legal scholars to campus to lecture.

Constitutional scholar Michael Gerhardt of the University of North Carolina will speak on “Non-Judicial Precedents” on March 8. Then on March 30, legal ethicist Ted Schneyer of the University of Arizona will deliver a paper on American Bar Association responses to federal efforts to regulate the practice of law.

Across Campus

Brewing Up Business

Business is booming at the new student union. Food court transactions increased by 30,000 during the first three months in the new building. (Above) Starbucks sold 7893 frappacinos and 6,200 lattes during that time.

Hotel

Take a Sip for Scholarship April 14

It’s time once again to taste some of the country’s latest wine releases and “take a sip for scholarship” as the college and Southern Wine and Spirits of Nevada present the 2nd annual UNLVino.

This fundraising event will take place 3-7 p.m. April 14 at the Paris Resort and Casino. Wine lovers and wine makers will have the opportunity to meet and sample hundreds of wines from prestigious wineries around the country, all while supporting the advancement of higher education. The event was created in 1974 by Jerry Vallen, founding dean of the Harrah Hotel College, and Larry Ruvo, senior managing director of Southern Wine and Spirits of Nevada.

UNLVino has become one of the largest single-day wine-tasting events in the country, and over the years has raised millions of dollars for higher education. In 2003, Auss-Some and Then-Some, a tasting of Southern Hemisphere wines, and Bubble-licious, a champagne and sparkling wine tasting were added to the UNLVino experience.

This year, the proceeds from Bubble-licious will benefit a visiting professorship in Vallen’s name. Bubble-licious will be held pool-side at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino on April 12, and Auss-Some and Then-Some will be held April 13 at the District in Henderson.

Fine Arts

March Fine Arts Offerings

The UNLV Performing Arts Center’s Charles Vanda Master Series welcomes violinist Sarah Chang, one of classical music’s most captivating and gifted performers, March 2. Chang appears with the UNLV Symphony Orchestra.

On March 22, violinist and conductor Joshua Bell will perform with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, also as part of the Charles Vanda Master Series. One of People magazine’s 50 Most Beautiful in the year 2000, this virtuoso violinist debuted at a mere 14 years of age with the Philadelphia Orchestra. The program includes Brahms’ String Quartet No. 2 and Vivaldi’s The Four Seasons.

The UNLV Performing Arts Center New York Stage & Beyond Series presents the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet on March 30. These 11 classically trained dancers will perform an eclectic repertoire by some of the world’s foremost choreographers, including Twyla Tharp and David Parsons.

More info: Call ext. 5-2787.

Graduate

GA Policy Changes Offer Flexibility to Departments

To better meet the needs of graduate students, faculty, and staff, the college is making two policy changes regarding graduate assistantships.

First, students who are provisionally admitted to a graduate program are now eligible for assistantships when recommended and appointed by their graduate coordinators. This change will give greater flexibility to graduate programs and departments.

If a provisional graduate student receives assistantship funding, that student must meet the provisional requirements within one academic year to remain eligible for the assistantship and to continue in the academic program.

The second policy change calls for more specific designations of graduate assistant (GA) duties to ensure that graduate assistants are being employed in positions that further their professional development and academic endeavors.

Beginning this summer, all graduate assistants will be categorized in university records as either a “graduate research assistant” (GRA) or “graduate teaching assistant” (GTA) instead of the generic label of “graduate assistant.”

“These changes are part of a broader package of policies and programs that are being established within the Graduate College to better meet the needs of the campus community and promote excellence in graduate education,” said Kate Hausbeck, senior associate dean of the college.

“These specific policies are designed to maximize financial support to graduate students and to mobilize this support to the greatest benefit of our graduate students and graduate programs.”
Prominent employment law scholar Vicki Schultz of Yale University will close out the semester with a presentation April 22. This semester’s lectures started with professor Geoffrey Stone from the University of Chicago delivering the third annual Philip Pro Lecture, “Civil Liberties in Wartime,” to a packed house in February. The Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution recently sponsored visits by professors Robert Rhee of Washburn University and Michael Moffitt of the University of Oregon. Rhee spoke on “The Impact of Risk on the Value of a Case,” while Moffitt spoke on “Customized Litigation: The Case for Making Civil Procedure Negotiable.”

Well-known feminist legal scholar Elizabeth Schneider of Brooklyn Law School spoke in February on “The Dangers of Summatory Judgment: Gender and Federal Civil Litigation.”

More info: Call Judy Canter Meyerson at ext. 5-2486.

Liberal Arts
Poli Sci Lends Resources to School District
The political science department is partnering with the Clark County School District (CCSD) in a variety of scholarly activities. Among those activities are:

• a graduate assistantship in the CCSD’s Research and School Improvement Division, funded by a long-term grant from the district.

• a research project examining the effectiveness of the school improvement plans mandated by the state and by the No Child Left Behind Act. Funded by the district, this project began in 2006 and has been extended for another year. Assistant professor Kenneth Fernandez heads this effort.

Fernandez is also a member of a CCSD research review committee that considers all internal and external applications seeking approval to conduct research within the district.

Fernandez and political science department chair Mehran Tahmodar are members of the Counsel for Accelerating Student Achievement (CASA), a collaborative organization with members from the school district, CCSN, DRI, Nevada Department of Education, NSC, and UNLV. The council discusses research and policies to promote academic achievement in K-12 schools. Tahmodar is working with CASA to incorporate an international component into the district’s social science curriculum.

Science
Undergraduate Research Gets Boost from NSF Grant
A 10-week summer research program in environmental microbiology will be available to undergraduates starting this summer thanks to a $229,657 National Science Foundation grant. A research experience for undergraduates site program will be offered in partnership with DRI for three years. Students from across the country will collaborate with faculty mentors in developing and carrying out hypothesis-based projects on microorganisms from diverse habitats such as hot springs, the deep terrestrial subsurface, hypersaline lakes, arid soils, and ephemeral water sources.

Students also may choose to explore the mechanisms of magnetotaxis, microbial adaptation to stressful and non-host environments, or the dynamics between primary producers and consumers.

All students will receive training in current molecular techniques and the ethics of science, and they will participate in weekly discussions on their projects.

Assistant professors Kurt Regner (principal investigator) and Eduardo Robleto (co-principal investigator) of the School of Life Sciences are leading this effort.

At the conclusion of the program, students will present their research results at a science colloquium. In addition, all students will be encouraged to present their research at a regional or national conference. Students will receive a stipend, housing and meals, and a travel subsidy.

First-generation college students and members of an underrepresented group are strongly encouraged to apply.

Among the goals of the program are:

• providing a capstone experience to highly motivated undergraduates.

• generating data and developing molecular tools that will be available to the broader scientific community.

• advancing graduate student recruitment in the area of microbiology.

• raising awareness of the delicate ecosystems of the Southwest.

Urban Affairs
Emotionally DISTURBED Children Subject of New Study
This spring, the Center for Social Work Research and Public Service in the School of Social Work, along with the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, and the University of Washington School of Medicine, will launch a major study of emotionally disturbed children.

In this pilot study being conducted in Clark County, the researchers examine the short-term outcomes of traditional case management versus the wrap-around model, an approach that combines treatment by both interdisciplinary practitioners who work with a child’s family and by community-based programs.

“Outcomes of the Wraparound Service Model” is the first randomized study of the effectiveness of the wrap-around process for children with serious mental health problems and emotional disturbances.

UNLV social work faculty and research staff, including Ramona Dentsy Brimson, Matt Gyger, and Stacey Shipe, are partnering with a research team led by Eric Bruns at the University of Washington School of Medicine in this study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

The study follows one of the guiding principles of the school and center: to engage in collaborative partnerships with local social and human service agencies, lending faculty expertise to address the needs of the community.
Invent the Future

Longtime Fundraiser Takes Helm at Foundation

By Lisa Shawcroft | UNLV Foundation

Raising $163 million in less than two years might seem like an impossible goal, but not to Nancy Strouse, UNLV’s new chief fundraiser.

Strouse, who joined the UNLV Foundation in 2004, replaces John Gallagher, who retired in December. Strouse also will continue to serve as the senior associate vice president for development.

“I am pleased to accept this opportunity and eager to lead the development efforts,” Strouse said.

Taking the Reins

In her new role, she is in charge of leading 45 professional and support personnel in annual fundraising efforts, as well as heading the Invent the Future campaign. Since the launch of the campaign five years ago, more than $337 million of the $500 million goal has been raised. The campaign closes at the end of next year.

“Our biggest challenge will be the management of the activities we will be undertaking in the coming two years,” Strouse said. “But even with this increased activity, we cannot lose sight of our goal of the successful completion of the campaign.”

Strouse’s background includes more than 20 years of experience in advancement management. Advancement takes a multi-disciplinary approach — combining alumni relations, development, and communications — to how a university reaches out to the community.

Strouse recently was appointed to head the UNLV Foundation. She has worked in the advancement management field for more than 20 years.

At the recent Bronze Quill ceremony hosted by the Southern Nevada chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators, a number of UNLV employees received awards, including the coveted Bronze Quill. They are:

- Geri Kodey (Marketing & Public Relations), two Bronze Quills for photos that appeared in the spring 2006 issue of UNLV Magazine devoted to public land initiatives. They were the cover photo “Wild at Heart” and the photo “Girl Fishing at Sunset.”
- Cate Weeks and Diane Russell (Marketing & Public Relations), two Bronze Quills — one for overall quality in a magazine for the spring 2006 issue of UNLV Magazine and one for writing throughout that same issue. The spring 2006 issue focused on public land initiatives.
- Jennifer Lawson (Foundation) and Gian Galassi (Public Affairs), a Bronze Quill for feature writing for the “Wild at Heart” articles that appeared in the spring 2006 issue of UNLV Magazine devoted to public land initiatives.
- Josh Rankin (Reprographics/Design Services) and Geri Kodey and Aaron Mayes (Marketing & Public Relations), an award of excellence for special purpose communications; exhibits, displays, and outdoor for their entry, “From the Biggest Picture to the Smallest Detail.”
- Judy Nagai (Hotel), John Hobbes (Reprographics/Design Services), Robyn Campbell-Ouchida (Hotel), and Karen Sharp (Public Affairs), an award of excellence in the magazine category for the Hotel College’s Premier magazine.
- Josh Rankin (Reprographics/Design Services), an award of merit in the design: special publications category for “From Backpacks to Briefcases.”

Submit Your News
E-mail entries to inside.unlv.edu. Items should be no more than 100 words.
Employee Benefits

Don’t Put Off Taxing Decisions

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

Thinking about your income tax? Who isn’t? Either you’re still gathering the information you need or you’re one of the super-efficient few who gets the deed done in February. While taxes are on your mind, here are some things you might consider.

Change Your W-4: Would it benefit you to change the number of dependants you declare? If so, you need to fill out a new W-4. Some administrative assistants keep these forms on hand for employees in their units, but if yours doesn’t, you can always find one at the payroll office, CSB, Room 244. More information is available at payroll.unlv.edu/forms.

Retirement Plans: Is it time to start a supplemental retirement plan through UNLV or to increase your contributions to your current plan? UNLV offers both a deferred compensation plan, also known as a 457 plan, and a tax-sheltered annuity plan, also called a 403b plan. You decide how much to contribute; the annual maximum just increased. The necessary forms are available at hr.unlv.edu/forms or call the human resources department at ext. 5-3504 to have them sent to you.

Beneficiary Designation: Is it time to start a new beneficiary or change your existing one? Beneficiaries for life insurance and the 401(k) plan are separate from the beneficiary you name on your W-4. You can name the same or different beneficiaries in each. The maximum just increased to $1.25 million for 2006. If you die, the amount will be paid directly to your beneficiary, without the clawback provisions of a 401(k) plan. A deceased beneficiary complicates things. As for an ex-spouse, they are not considered beneficiaries of your retirement plans.

Distribution of leaflets, brochures and the like must be done by hand for employees in their units, according to the human resources department. This includes placing information you need or you’re one of the super-efficient few who gets the deed done in February. While taxes are on your mind, here are some things you might consider.

Extra Time: We’re getting a small lagniappe from the IRS this year in the form of a two-day extension for filing taxes; they won’t be due until April 17. This year we get extra time because April 15 falls on a Sunday and because April 16, Emancipation Day (thank you, President Lincoln), is a legal holiday in the District of Columbia.

Beneficiary Designation: And, not that this is directly related to taxes, but benefits manager Pat LaPitt says now is a good time to update the beneficiary designation on any forms you have filed with the university. Too often, she said, people fill these out when first arriving at UNLV and never give them a second thought. A deceased beneficiary complicates things. As for an ex-spouse, they are not considered beneficiaries of your retirement plans.

Presidential Pitstops

With the Nevada Democratic caucus now in January, presidential candidates are expected to pay more attention to the Silver State. As an institution of higher learning, and one located only minutes from the airport, UNLV is likely to be a considered a prime location for campaign stops. “We could well have more candidates stopping at UNLV than ever before, given Nevada’s higher profile in the next presidential selection process,” said Dave Tonelli, interim director of public affairs.

Already, two events featuring presidential candidates are scheduled on campus this year:

• New Leadership on Health Care: A Presidential Forum, sponsored by the Center for American Progress Action Fund and the Service Employees International Union. All presidential candidates are being invited to this March 24 event at the Cox Pavilion.
• A debate for the Democratic presidential candidates at the Thomas & Mack Center on Nov. 4.

Tourney Time

The 2007 Mountain West Conference men’s and women’s basketball championships return to the Thomas & Mack Center for five days beginning March 6. The men’s team was nationally ranked earlier this season for the first time since the final rankings of the 1999-2000 season. On Feb. 20, the Runnin’ Rebels beat No. 14 Air Force in front of 15,692 fans. This was the highest-ranked opponent UNLV has defeated since upsetting No. 5 Utah in 1998. Call 739-3267 for tickets or visit unlvrebels.com for more information.

Don’t Put off Taxing Decisions

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

Thinking about your income tax? Who isn’t? Either you’re still gathering the information you need or you’re one of the super-efficient few who gets the deed done in February. While taxes are on your mind, here are some things you might consider.

Change Your W-4: Would it benefit you to change the number of dependants you declare? If so, you need to fill out a new W-4. Some administrative assistants keep these forms on hand for employees in their units, but if yours doesn’t, you can always find one at the payroll office, CSB, Room 244. More information is available at payroll.unlv.edu/forms.

Retirement Plans: Is it time to start a supplemental retirement plan through UNLV or to increase your contributions to your current plan? UNLV offers both a deferred compensation plan, also known as a 457 plan, and a tax-sheltered annuity plan, also called a 403b plan. You decide how much to contribute; the annual maximum just increased. The necessary forms are available at hr.unlv.edu/forms or call the human resources department at ext. 5-3504 to have them sent to you.

Beneficiary Designation: Is it time to start a new beneficiary or change your existing one? Beneficiaries for life insurance and the 401(k) plan are separate from the beneficiary you name on your W-4. You can name the same or different beneficiaries in each. The maximum just increased to $1.25 million for 2006. If you die, the amount will be paid directly to your beneficiary, without the clawback provisions of a 401(k) plan. A deceased beneficiary complicates things. As for an ex-spouse, they are not considered beneficiaries of your retirement plans.

Distribution of leaflets, brochures and the like must be done by hand for employees in their units, according to the human resources department. This includes placing information you need or you’re one of the super-efficient few who gets the deed done in February. While taxes are on your mind, here are some things you might consider.

Extra Time: We’re getting a small lagniappe from the IRS this year in the form of a two-day extension for filing taxes; they won’t be due until April 17. This year we get extra time because April 15 falls on a Sunday and because April 16, Emancipation Day (thank you, President Lincoln), is a legal holiday in the District of Columbia.

Beneficiary Designation: And, not that this is directly related to taxes, but benefits manager Pat LaPitt says now is a good time to update the beneficiary designation on any forms you have filed with the university. Too often, she said, people fill these out when first arriving at UNLV and never give them a second thought. A deceased beneficiary complicates things. As for an ex-spouse, they are not considered beneficiaries of your retirement plans.

Presidential Pitstops

With the Nevada Democratic caucus now in January, presidential candidates are expected to pay more attention to the Silver State. As an institution of higher learning, and one located only minutes from the airport, UNLV is likely to be a considered a prime location for campaign stops. “We could well have more candidates stopping at UNLV than ever before, given Nevada’s higher profile in the next presidential selection process,” said Dave Tonelli, interim director of public affairs.

Already, two events featuring presidential candidates are scheduled on campus this year:

• New Leadership on Health Care: A Presidential Forum, sponsored by the Center for American Progress Action Fund and the Service Employees International Union. All presidential candidates are being invited to this March 24 event at the Cox Pavilion.
• A debate for the Democratic presidential candidates at the Thomas & Mack Center on Nov. 4.

Tourney Time

The 2007 Mountain West Conference men’s and women’s basketball championships return to the Thomas & Mack Center for five days beginning March 6. The men’s team was nationally ranked earlier this season for the first time since the final rankings of the 1999-2000 season. On Feb. 20, the Runnin’ Rebels beat No. 14 Air Force in front of 15,692 fans. This was the highest-ranked opponent UNLV has defeated since upsetting No. 5 Utah in 1998. Call 739-3267 for tickets or visit unlvrebels.com for more information.
Hungry yet? We thought so.

Each day, UNLV’s Hazel M. Wilson Dining Commons (DC) serves fresh food to nearly 2,000 customers, including about 150 faculty and staff, said Kevin Fuchs, resident dining director.

Customers can enjoy as much as they like as often as they want in this buffet-style facility conveniently located on campus. The DC boasts an international and American grill — where chefs cook right before the customers’ eyes — and an extensive salad and soup bar. Additionally, diners can build their own “sandwich artists” and build deli subs and wraps at the sandwich station. Other popular areas include the hand-tossed pizza station and the dessert bar.

Don’t see something you like? The DC staff can also accommodate special requests. Each day the DC serves a vegetarian soup, entrée, and pizza as well as garden burgers, hummus, and tofu.

Many staff and faculty cited quality, convenience, and value as reasons why they choose to dine at the DC. But for some frequent diners, the DC is about more than the food and convenience.

“Where else can you find students, faculty, and staff all in one place? It’s a community,” said psychology professor Terry Knapp. “I am surprised more faculty and staff are not here.”

Dinner is usually the busiest time at the facility, said Fuchs. The DC also serves breakfast, lunch, and weekend brunch.

The DC employs about 75 people, including one chef, two lead cooks, and 15 cooks — many of whom also work in local casino kitchens. Each month, the DC also hosts a chef luncheon to showcase the DC staff’s culinary abilities, while at the same time treating customers to an upscale entrée.

“Here, you just have better food,” said Jimmy Perry, UNLV maintenance repair specialist. “The service is great — and for the price, you can’t beat it.”

**Hours of Operation**

**Monday-Friday**
- Breakfast — 7-10 a.m.
- Lunch — 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Dinner — 5-8 p.m.

**Saturday and Sunday**
- Brunch — 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Dinner — 5-8 p.m.

**Prices**
- Breakfast — $5.50
- Lunch — $6.50
- Brunch — $6.50
- Dinner — $7.50

No debit or credit cards accepted. Cash, Rebel cash, and meal cards only.

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

Many staff and faculty cited quality, convenience, and value as reasons why they choose to dine at the DC. But for some frequent diners, the DC is about more than the food and convenience.

“Where else can you find students, faculty, and staff all in one place? It’s a community,” said psychology professor Terry Knapp. “I am surprised more faculty and staff are not here.”

Dinner is usually the busiest time at the facility, said Fuchs. The DC also serves breakfast, lunch, and weekend brunch.

The DC employs about 75 people, including one chef, two lead cooks, and 15 cooks — many of whom also work in local casino kitchens. Each month, the DC also hosts a chef luncheon to showcase the DC staff’s culinary abilities, while at the same time treating customers to an upscale entrée.

“Here, you just have better food,” said Jimmy Perry, UNLV maintenance repair specialist. “The service is great — and for the price, you can’t beat it.”

**Hours of Operation**

**Monday-Friday**
- Breakfast — 7-10 a.m.
- Lunch — 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Dinner — 5-8 p.m.

**Saturday and Sunday**
- Brunch — 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Dinner — 5-8 p.m.

**Prices**
- Breakfast — $5.50
- Lunch — $6.50
- Brunch — $6.50
- Dinner — $7.50

No debit or credit cards accepted. Cash, Rebel cash, and meal cards only.

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

Many staff and faculty cited quality, convenience, and value as reasons why they choose to dine at the DC. But for some frequent diners, the DC is about more than the food and convenience.

“Where else can you find students, faculty, and staff all in one place? It’s a community,” said psychology professor Terry Knapp. “I am surprised more faculty and staff are not here.”

Dinner is usually the busiest time at the facility, said Fuchs. The DC also serves breakfast, lunch, and weekend brunch.

The DC employs about 75 people, including one chef, two lead cooks, and 15 cooks — many of whom also work in local casino kitchens. Each month, the DC also hosts a chef luncheon to showcase the DC staff’s culinary abilities, while at the same time treating customers to an upscale entrée.

“Here, you just have better food,” said Jimmy Perry, UNLV maintenance repair specialist. “The service is great — and for the price, you can’t beat it.”

**Hours of Operation**

**Monday-Friday**
- Breakfast — 7-10 a.m.
- Lunch — 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Dinner — 5-8 p.m.

**Saturday and Sunday**
- Brunch — 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Dinner — 5-8 p.m.

**Prices**
- Breakfast — $5.50
- Lunch — $6.50
- Brunch — $6.50
- Dinner — $7.50

No debit or credit cards accepted. Cash, Rebel cash, and meal cards only.