

5-2007

## Inside UNLV

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## New Ed Dean Says Listening is Key

M. Christopher Brown II says listening to his new colleagues will be his first priority.

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New law dean marvels at school's accomplishments. **Page 3**

# Inside UNLV

News & Information for UNLV Insiders

MAY 2007

## News You Can Use

### Take a Vacation, Save Money

Your kids will be out of school for at least part of the summer, and you probably could use a vacation yourself. The human resources office now has coupons available to popular family attractions including Six Flags, Legoland, the Aquarium of the Pacific, and Hurricane Harbor.

**More info:** Call Pat La Putt at ext. 5-3958 or stop by the human resources office.

### Open Enrollment Reminder

Employees have until the end of May to change health insurance plans, add dependants, or decline benefits.

An open enrollment meeting will be held 9 a.m. May 17 in the Student Union theatre.

**More info:** If you haven't received an open enrollment packet, contact the Public Employees' Benefits Program at 1-800-326-5496.

### Want to Block More Spam?

In order to reduce the amount of spam sent to employee inboxes, OIT has changed the anti-spam (ProofPoint) server to hold all messages with a score of 90 percent or higher.

**More info:** Visit [oit.unlv.edu/emailcollaboration/proofpoint.html](http://oit.unlv.edu/emailcollaboration/proofpoint.html) or contact the IT help desk at ext. 5-0777.

# President Sets the Pace

## UNLV to Adopt Culture of Thoughtful Investment

By **Diane Russell** | Marketing & PR

The UNLV we see around us today isn't the same UNLV we will see in the next decade — or even in the next year, President David Ashley said at his inauguration last month.

Ashley told the audience of more than 900 people gathered in Ham Concert Hall that "now is the time for UNLV to stop *keeping* the pace and to start *defining* the pace" and that UNLV must banish the word 'expansion' from its lexicon. "That word no longer describes what we do. We must adopt a culture of thoughtful and deliberate investment," the president said.

### More Inside:

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- > Inauguration week activities, page 8

Ashley, who became UNLV's top executive on July 1, said he had spent the past months talking with faculty, administrators, staff, students, alumni, and community and business leaders to determine their expectations for the university. While those vary, he said, "They all have something in common: a genuine desire for UNLV to accomplish great things. Nobody wants half-measures. Everyone expects results."

> See **INAUGURATION**, Page 2



**David Ashley is sworn in as UNLV's eighth president during a ceremony at Ham Concert Hall on April 27.**

# Mark Your Calendars: 50th Is on the Horizon

By **Shane Bevell** | Marketing & PR

1957. Newswoman Katie Couric is born; Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat* is published; and UNLV opens its first building — Maude Frazier Hall — on its present campus site.

2007. UNLV begins its 50th anniversary celebration with the inauguration of President David Ashley. The celebration continues Sept. 12-15 with University Days, which will include an academic convocation, the season opener of the Performing Arts Center, and a football game against the University of Hawaii. The celebration concludes in June 2008 with a free outdoor Picnic Pops Concert featuring the Las Vegas Philharmonic. Visit [celebrating50.unlv.edu](http://celebrating50.unlv.edu) for a calendar of events.

Employees can do more than just attend events, said Schyler Richards, associate vice president for university and community relations.

"There are many things that we already do so well within the various units and colleges," she said. "I encourage organizers to be creative and think about how those events and activities can be tied into the 50th."

**More info:** Contact Richards at ext. 5-5946 or Amy Brooks at ext. 5-5587 about specific events or getting involved. Contact reprographics at ext. 5-3213 for questions about printed pieces.

## Primary Logo

This logo should be used during the anniversary year in place of the regular UNLV logo on:

- stationery
- e-mail signature fields
- brochures
- newsletters



Letterhead and envelopes with the logo can be ordered through reprographics at [rebelcopy.unlv.edu](http://rebelcopy.unlv.edu). Download the logo at [web.unlv.edu/images/Logos](http://web.unlv.edu/images/Logos). The logo should be used appropriately, not altered or diminished.

## Special Use Logo

You'll see this logo hanging around campus in the next year. It is reserved for:

- signature events
- campus banners
- special publications



Call Schyler Richards at ext. 5-5946 to obtain permission to use this logo.

## Memorabilia Exhibit

You can still donate pieces of memorabilia for the 50th anniversary exhibit at the Barrick Museum. The exhibit will chronicle the evolution of UNLV since the 1957 opening of its first building, Frazier Hall. Combining photos and memorabilia, the exhibit will focus on campus life and the changing makeup of the student body, academic development, and architectural changes. Find out more and share your memories of UNLV by visiting [celebrating50.unlv.edu](http://celebrating50.unlv.edu) or by calling Schyler Richards at ext. 5-5946.



# Getting to the Core of Education

Before President David Ashley delivered his inaugural speech, he sat down with *Inside UNLV* to discuss undergraduate academics.

## What is your philosophy toward undergraduate education?

There is a perception that when you focus on the research, you do so at the expense of teaching. I believe that the best kind of undergraduate experience comes when professors bring their research into their classrooms and their students into their labs. Some research universities do lose sight of the fact that they exist for the student. Fortunately, that's not the case for UNLV. Growth here has taxed our ability to serve with absolute excellence, but the faculty continues to show a true allegiance to the undergraduate student.

## How will the increasing GPA requirements change undergraduate education?

UNLV's increasing selectivity will change the character of our student body. It is not an overstatement to say our top students are on par with those at any institution in the country. However, it is also true that we have been serving students not as well-prepared for rigorous, university-level studies. Now, with greater capacity in the NSHE system, UNLV will be able to focus its efforts on full-time students while elevating our expectations for them. The next step will be to reshape our core curriculum to reflect this evolving student body in tandem with our research goals.



David Ashley | UNLV President

## How do you believe the curriculum should change?

It begins with defining *what* we teach. We must identify the fundamental knowledge and skills we want *our* graduates to acquire — from proficiency with statistical information and technology to an ability to work in teams and communicate persuasively with diverse groups.

We must also look at *how* we teach. Unfortunately, we often put our faculty, and then our students, in silos based on disciplines. Post-university life, however, is not reflective of these silos. So, the core curriculum must reach across disciplines to ensure that the graduates who come out of UNLV can go well beyond the basics found in textbooks to bring creative problem-solving and leadership to their professions.

Beyond that, I believe the core must also excite students about their education. It is not

something to just get through, but something that should inspire students to persevere and achieve.

## What challenges do you foresee?

It is very difficult on any campus to change general education because resources are at stake. Often the debate is about ensuring that departments keep the positions and the particular courses they have always taught. It's natural for people to protect the status quo. There is also a natural competition to have your own field prominently visible in the core so that it can serve as an attraction to your major. Because the faculty clearly and rightfully has the primary role in defining curriculum, faculty will need to take the lead in reshaping it.

## The state is facing some significant budget issues. How will funding cuts affect a revamping of the undergraduate programs?

Our ability to move quickly with needed changes will be impacted by the budget results. Serving our current students, matching instructional delivery to actual enrollments, and assuring offerings that allow full-time students to graduate without delay must be our priority if resources become severely limited. Regardless of the legislative funding outcome, however, we should start the discussion and planning now for these curricular changes and be ready to implement them as our next admissions changes go into effect. After all, it is this new UNLV student who provides our primary motivation.

## > INAUGURATION

Continued from Page 1

### The Four E's

Ashley said it is important that UNLV's constituents share new core values as the university moves forward. He dubbed those values the four E's:

- **Equity** — Equity involves diversity, equality, and fairness, he said. "Most of all, I am talking about a richer academic environment."
- **Ecology** — "Ecology is sustainability in all its dimensions, and this philosophy will distinguish our future campus — both physically and culturally. It also includes human ecology. We will seek a campus culture that values and engages

all its members, including its neighbors. We will build facilities and assemble our faculty so that we will be a model for sustainability."

- **Economy** — Focused and thoughtful investment with academics as a priority is essential, Ashley said. "We will be efficient stewards of all our resources — whether they be environmental, human, political, or financial."

- **Excellence** — "It will be the driving force behind everything we do, every decision we make. We will be relentless in our pursuit."

### A Vision for the Future

The president said his vision for UNLV is that it will become an institution fully committed to research and

one that is a national and world leader.

"Let us remember that our purpose is a shared purpose, and that a university is not a place where we work, it is a place we serve," he said.

### Non-negotiable

Ashley described several actions as "non-negotiable," including:

- planning in the interest of action
- funding the university's priorities
- enhancing graduate studies
- a more rigorous course of study for undergraduates.

Among the actions he said the university will take to launch a new era at UNLV is changing the planning process. "This process will now be linked directly to budgeting and will define how we invest our resources."

He also pledged that UNLV will "create a model for true faculty-administration shared governance. We will significantly enhance opportunities for input and joint policymaking. We will

value our faculty's primary role in setting high academic standards.

"Together, we will create an extraordinary public university," Ashley said at the end of his speech. "This is our destiny. And this, above all else, is non-negotiable."

*"We will be the school of choice for Nevada's top students. It will be a rich academic learning environment that continually attracts and challenges the best."*

— President David Ashley

### The Ceremony

The inauguration ceremony marked the beginning of UNLV's 50th anniversary celebration.

Gov. Jim Gibbons and members of the NSHE Board of Regents were among the dignitaries who attended the event. Bret Whipple, chair of the Board of Regents, conducted the investiture portion of the ceremony. Chemistry professor Bryan Spangelo, who chairs the Faculty Senate, offered welcoming remarks.

**More info:** To read the full version of President David Ashley's speech, visit [president.unlv.edu](http://president.unlv.edu).

## Tips for Adapting to Change

Change is a scary world for many — perhaps even most — people. Accustomed to our routines, whether at work or at home, we're often hesitant about altering them in any significant way.

But change is a constant that just can't be avoided, said management professor Alan Miller.

Sometimes it's a matter of organizational change, say the kind that inevitably accompanies a new president's plans for a university's development.

A key component in making sure such change is successful, Miller said, is how managers help their employees adapt. Managers need to:

- communicate, in very clear terms, why there is a need for change and how the change will help the organization achieve its mission.
- make sure employees are — or become — proficient in whatever skills are necessary for them to successfully perform new tasks required by change.
- have employees participate in the change process. Their input should be sought so that they feel they are part of the decision-making that ultimately leads to change.

The last item is particularly important, Miller said, because unless employees feel their ideas or concerns are truly heard, they won't fully buy into the change. That doesn't mean, however, that an individual's ideas must be part of the final plan. Buy-in comes from a sense that decision-makers sincerely listened to what employees had to say and actively considered their comments.

Inside UNLV

## Got An Idea?

*Inside UNLV* welcomes comments and suggestions. Please e-mail [inside.unlv.edu](mailto:inside.unlv.edu) or drop a note to **Inside UNLV** at mail code 1024.

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# Dean Ready to Run the Distance

## White Says Job Requires Perseverance

By **Shane Bevell** | Marketing & PR

John Valery White, the new Boyd School of Law dean, grew up in rural Louisiana as the son of a small-town lawyer. He expected to follow in his father's footsteps until he discovered that a career in academia would meld "my interest in the practice of law with my attraction to the world of ideas."

White's research has focused on the emergence of civil rights law and its role in addressing the social legacy of the Jim Crow period, as well as how globalization and migration complicate civil rights protection.

He won't have much down time before he assumes the deanship July 1. He is finishing the semester at Louisiana State University (LSU), where he has taught law for the last 15 years, and will then spend six weeks as a distinguished visiting professor at the University of Insubria in Como, Italy.

His impressions of the law school, following its founding dean, and running, are among the subjects White discussed with *Inside UNLV*.

**First Impressions:** It is a wonder to behold everything the law school has accomplished in just 10 years. A fantastic faculty has been assembled and the community supports the school. Those two things mean that the school has a lot of potential for growth, both in terms of reputation and in terms of providing better services to students, and in turn to the community.

**Going the Distance:** Running track and cross country in college was a welcome escape from the rigors of study. However, I had to practice a lot more than I enjoyed and had to push myself to ever-increasing heights. I didn't enjoy running as much as I liked racing.

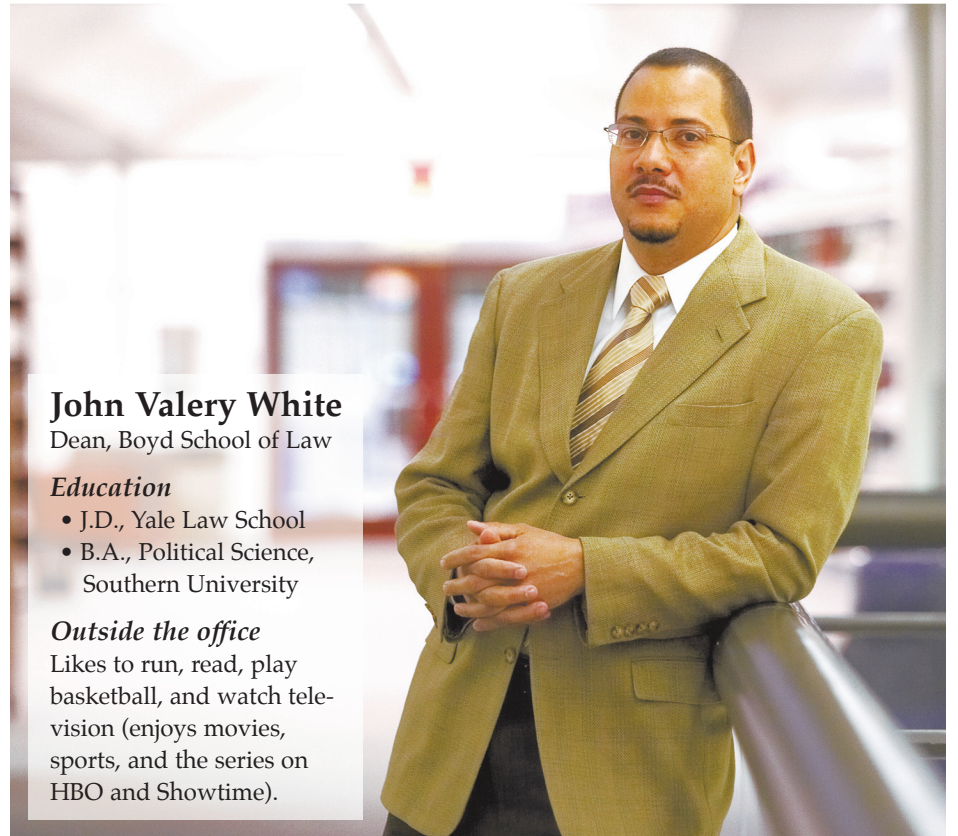
I relate this because there are aspects of being a dean that I believe will be enjoyable and others that will be less enjoyable but just as important to achieving success for the school. Running distance also requires perseverance and endurance, which will most certainly be needed to be a dean.

### Following Dean Richard Morgan:

It's difficult to follow someone who has been so successful, but it's even more difficult to follow someone who has been a failure. Dean Morgan created a great foundation to build on and so it creates opportunities that otherwise wouldn't exist. The faculty and administration can now plot a path for the school without having to spend the next three to four years fixing problems.

**Epiphany in Time of Crisis:** For two summers I was director of LSU's summer in France program. I was in charge of 75 students and eight faculty members and had to ensure the program operated smoothly.

During that time we had a couple crisis situations that revealed I might enjoy administrative work. You never know exactly how you might respond to a crisis until it happens. When the crises in our summer program did arise, I didn't feel overwhelmed by



### John Valery White

Dean, Boyd School of Law

#### Education

- J.D., Yale Law School
- B.A., Political Science, Southern University

#### Outside the office

Likes to run, read, play basketball, and watch television (enjoys movies, sports, and the series on HBO and Showtime).

the situation. That confirmed to me that the things that appeared foreign and unknown about administrative work were not so strange.

**Professor vs. Dean:** The biggest difference has to do with the increasing obligation on deans to do fundraising and community relations. It will be a transformation from one style of interaction, which is largely introspective, to another style, which is largely about engaging outside constituents.

**Freeing Up the Faculty:** The law school has been building itself up over the years and that has put a lot

of pressure on the faculty. One of my primary goals will be to free the faculty so they can be more productive with their own work, which in turn will help improve the quality and perception of the school.

Expanding the knowledge of the school's accomplishments will be done in part through continued faculty success in publishing and in scholarly work. Until now, the faculty has had to build institutions that allow the school to function, but now we are a more mature institution. We want to continue to grow and be on the cutting edge of legal education and provide quality services to the community.

# Brown: Listening the Key to Education

## New Dean Intends to Learn from Education College Colleagues

By **Grace Russell** | Marketing & PR

M. Christopher Brown II was literally catching his breath after a morning flight to Chicago when we caught up with him for a telephone interview for *Inside UNLV*. No worry. The new College of Education dean is used to juggling several things at one time.

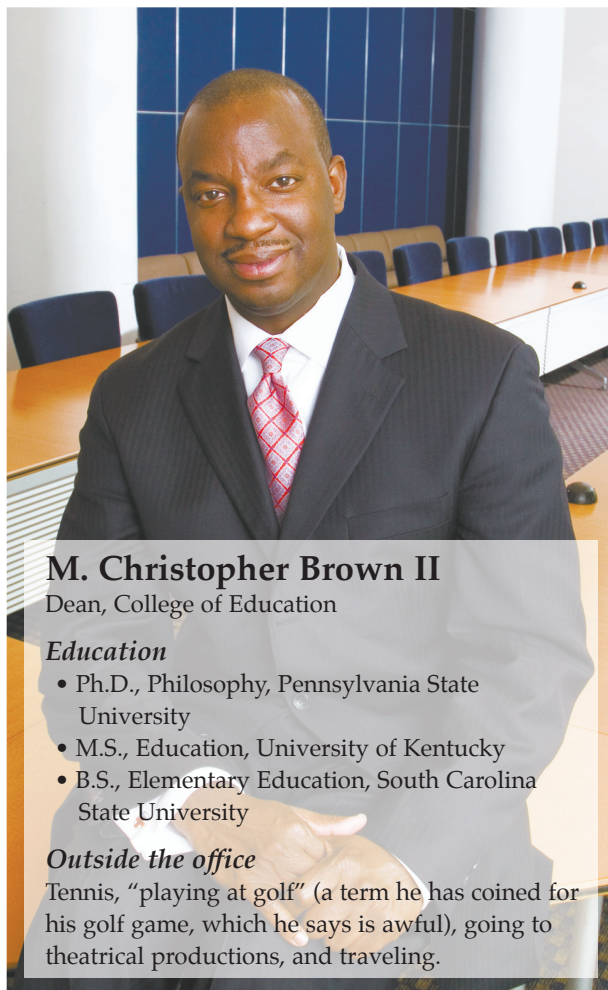
He is a tenured professor at Pennsylvania State University and senior research associate at its Center for the Study of Higher Education. On a leave of absence from Penn State, he currently serves as vice president for programs and administration for the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in Washington D.C. There, he is the "dean of deans," providing professional development for the nation's deans — all while finding time to pen articles, lecture, and chair numerous committees.

Set to begin his new job July 1, Brown talked with us about his impressions of UNLV and his plans for the college.

**The Perfect Storm:** UNLV is a positive version of a perfect storm. The city in which it is situated is the fastest growing in the nation. The Clark County School District is the fastest growing school district in the country, and it is the fifth largest in the nation.

The more I engaged with the campus community, it was very clear that everyone had marshaled their attention toward research-based approaches to pedagogy, improving service to students, and advancing a national model of education.

**Faculty Governance:** I am a faculty person at heart and a former elementary school teacher. I believe in faculty rights, responsibility, and autonomy. UNLV has extremely strong faculty



### M. Christopher Brown II

Dean, College of Education

#### Education

- Ph.D., Philosophy, Pennsylvania State University
- M.S., Education, University of Kentucky
- B.S., Elementary Education, South Carolina State University

#### Outside the office

Tennis, "playing at golf" (a term he has coined for his golf game, which he says is awful), going to theatrical productions, and traveling.

who are exceptionally good at what they do. Recognizing that, my job is to help them to work efficiently and not intrude in the natural manner in which faculty decisions are made.

**The Myth:** The challenges presented by the college not having a permanent dean for the past three years might be a myth. The good thing is that the

college has had strong, capable interim deans. The current interim dean, Jane McCarthy, a nationally recognized educator, did a strong job at maintaining programmatic services while growing initiatives in certain areas.

Additionally, the faculty made it clear that they wanted a new outside dean to provide stable, continued leadership with long-term planning. They welcome change and growth and want to be a part of building a new team.

**Homework:** During my interview I was asked, "How many more teachers can you produce a year?" I said, "Well, I don't know the answer to that question." I know we need more teachers and that UNLV has a responsibility to help produce more teachers. But how do we do that?

We will have to do some homework to get a strong answer to that question. I will have to engage the faculty and look to them to help me understand the best way to do this while maintaining and improving the quality of candidates that we are producing.

We must first celebrate what UNLV has already done. In the past half-decade, UNLV has doubled the number of teachers that it produces from 300 to 623 candidates a year.

In the future, I would like the College of Education to be regarded as a premier provider in university-based preparation of professional educators.

**Priorities:** I have three priorities: to listen, listen, and listen.

I really have to be a student of my colleagues so that I can learn the priorities of the college. I plan to listen before I speak for the next several months. So give me a moment to catch my breath, learn the culture of the college, and learn what all those (building abbreviation) signs mean.

## Business Students Win Award with Community Service Project

Seven students from UNLV's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Club won the regional first runner-up award at the Los Angeles SIFE USA Regional Competition in March.

Among the community service projects included in the team's presentation were:

- training a local retailer how to plan and organize in order to increase sales and profits.
- instructing high school students how to build a computer in an hour.
- preparing UNLV students for graduate school programs.
- coaching high school students on the value of ethical behavior.
- teaching elementary school children how to use economics with lemonade stands.

UNLV's team is composed of 32 students. Most members are juniors and seniors in the College of Business. However, the team is open to all students, and there are non-business majors on the team. Management professor Dan McAllister serves as team advisor.

A global non-profit organization, SIFE is active in more than 40 countries. It is funded by financial contributions from corporations, entrepreneurs, foundations, government agencies, and individuals. Working in partnership with business and higher education, SIFE establishes student teams on university campuses, led by faculty advisors.

The teams are challenged to develop community outreach projects addressing SIFE's five educational topics:

- market economics
- success skills
- entrepreneurship
- financial literacy
- business ethics.

## Engineering McGaugh Honored for Dedication to Minority Students

Numerous graduates and current students participating in the college's Minority Engineering Program (MEP) gathered at the Tam Alumni Center last month to honor Eugene McGaugh, director of the program for more than 16 years. He is returning to the classroom full-time July 1.

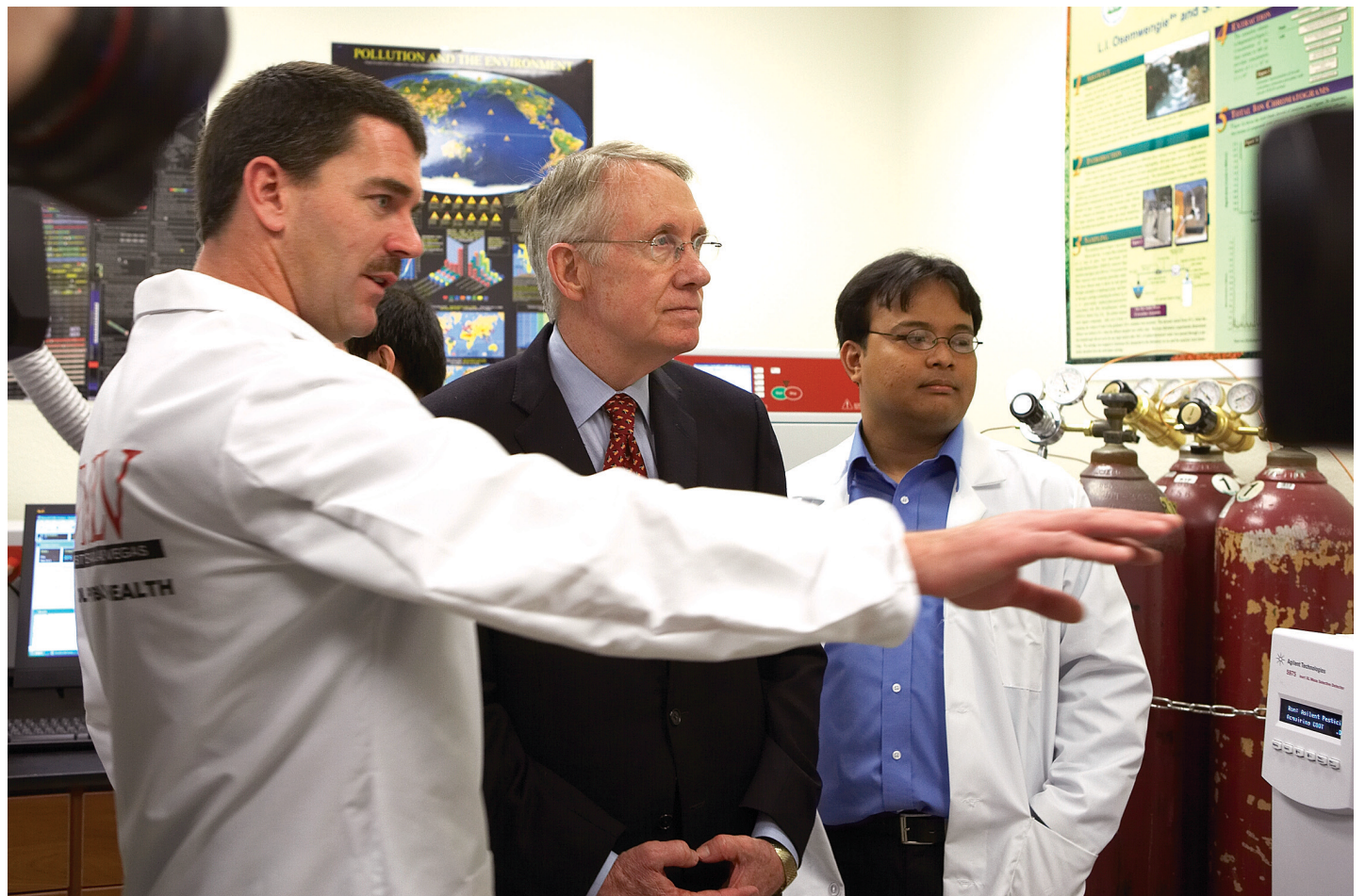
McGaugh has guided several hundred students through graduation as part of the program.

His students took turns stepping to the podium to talk about McGaugh, who was described by many as a role model. For some, he was the first black engineer they had met.

Ivory Blue of Nevada Power spoke of the community network 'Doc' created and how that inspired students to achieve their goals to become part of the next generation of engineers.

The MEP mission is to recruit, retain, and graduate underrepresented minority students majoring in the disciplines of engineering and computer science at UNLV. The program actively recruits underrepresented students from local high schools. It provides members:

- tutoring
- scholarships
- academic advising
- career counseling and mentoring
- seminars on academic and professional development.



## Environmentally Sound

From left to right, Shawn Gerstenberger, chair of the Environmental and Occupational Health Laboratory, U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, and Emmanuel Gorospe, a public health graduate student, tour the laboratory during its April grand opening. The laboratory was funded through a \$500,000 appropriation from the U.S. Department of Energy and will improve the ability of local researchers to partner with regional and national entities to track contaminant exposures, build registries, conduct surveys, and develop long-term studies on humans and wildlife.

McGaugh established three student organizations to serve the underrepresented students: American Indian Science and Engineering Society, the National Society of Black Engineers, and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers.

## Fine Arts The Blind Boys of Alabama Bring Southern Harmony to UNLV

The Performing Arts Center season finale features the incomparable gospel group The Blind Boys of Alabama on May 19. Joey Williams, Ricky McKinnie, Bobby Butler, and Tracy Pierce join founding members Clarence Fountain and Jimmy Carter to spread the spirit and energy of pure soul gospel. Formed in 1939 at the Alabama Institute for the Negro Blind, the group starred in the Obie-winning musical *The Gospel at Colonus*.

For tickets, contact the Performing Arts Center box office at ext. 5-2787.

## Percussion Ensemble

UNLV Percussion presents a Percussion Ensemble Concert at 6 p.m. May 23 in the Doc Rando Recital Hall. The concert is free and open to the public.

## Graduate Grad and Professional Research Excellence Showcased at Forum

More than 100 students participated in this year's Graduate and Professional Student Research Forum, an annual event that showcases excellence in research conducted at the graduate level.

First-place honors went to students in the schools of Life Sciences and Public Affairs and the departments of educational psychology, geoscience, physical therapy, psychology, and curriculum and instruction. UNLV

faculty served as judges.

This year, the departments of theatre arts and film also participated, bringing greater attention to graduate students' creative scholarly pursuits. Several one-act plays were presented, and film graduate students discussed the research they conducted at the Sundance Film Festival.

The forum, which was sponsored by the Graduate College and the Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA), was open to all graduate and professional students.

"The research forum is a wonderful showcase for the impressive work of UNLV graduate and professional students," said Kate Hausbeck, senior associate dean of the college. "The event inspires all of those involved — student participants, judges, and observers. It's a great opportunity to see many of UNLV's top graduate and professional student scholars creating new knowledge and sharing it with the community."

Each year, the GPSA awards grants for research and conference travel to support projects that directly affect a student's degree program and make a contribution to that discipline. In 2006-07, \$85,000 was awarded. Participation in the forum was required for students who received GPSA funding.

To obtain a booklet containing abstracts of the research projects, call the GPSA office at ext. 5-5261.

## Honors Students Wrap Up Honors Studies

A total of 17 students completed their honors theses and defended them in front of their committees this spring.

- A few of their topics were:
- "The ID's Playground: A Collection of Short Stories"
  - "The Synthesis and

Characterization of a New Asymmetric Bisphenazine Compound"

- "Evaluation of the NASA Microbiological Surface Sampling Method"
- "Xenoscapes: Urbanism and the Fear of the Other."

The college held its medallion ceremony this month to honor the students graduating this spring. Forty students, their families, friends, and representatives from the campus community celebrated as each student was presented with a medallion.

## Hotel Three Professors Win College Recognition

Professors Bo Bernhard, Billy Bai, and Curtis Love recently were selected as the 2006-07 recipients of the Sam and Mary Boyd Distinguished Professor Awards.

Bernhard of the department of hotel management was recognized for his teaching. Although the award was for his work in the Hotel College, he also is a professor in the department of sociology.

The department of tourism and convention administration's Bai was selected for his research. Love, also of the tourism and convention administration department, received the award for his service.

In 1985, Sam and Mary Boyd donated a million dollars in stock options to the Harrah Hotel College to support several funding needs and initiatives, including the awards program. Awarded annually since 1987, the awards include a plaque and an honorarium.

Faculty members from each department in the college make up the selection committee. They choose the winners based on their willingness to go above and beyond the call to serve the students in the college.

## Liberal Arts Small Department Reaches Across Campus

Women's studies broadened its elective offerings this spring to include Black Feminist Thought; Body, Sex, and Health; and Chicana Feminism and Experience.

The expansion of courses was made possible in part by the presence of two visiting assistant professors, Erica Lawson (Ph.D., Toronto) and Danielle Roth-Johnson (Ph.D., Stanford).

S. Charusheela, currently of the University of Hawaii, will join the department in the fall as an associate professor. She previously spoke at UNLV on Gender, Work, and the Politics of Globalization as part of the University Forum lecture series.

The department's popular How I Became a Feminist series included talks by Carol Harter (Black Mountain Institute), Erica Lawson, and Felicia Campbell (English). For Women's History Month, the department collaborated with Liz Baldizan (Jean Nidetch Women's Center), Caryll Dziedzack (Women's Research Institute), and Odalys Carmona (office of diversity) on events.

Gay Sessums (Women's Studies) posted thought-provoking quotations by women on UNLV Info and organized the annual Women's History Month yard sale. Anita Revilla (Women's Studies), Raquel Aldana (Law), and student Evelyn Flores presented "Women and Immigration." Part-time instructors Janis Duncan and Titine Lawlis worked with the women in leadership and learning program and played leading roles in *Vagina Monologues*.

Interdisciplinary and small, the department relies on faculty across campus to serve on its committees: Annette Appell (Law), Barb Brents (Sociology), Cheryl Bowles (Nursing), Evelyn Gajowski (English), Helen Harper (Curriculum and Instruction), Joan Howarth (Law), Martha Watson (Urban Affairs), and Elspeth Whitney (History).

## Libraries Stardust Memories Live on in Special Collections

The Stardust Hotel and Casino may have disappeared in a cloud of dust and debris in March, but its memory lives on in a large collection of historical documents, photographs, and videos recently donated to the special collections division.

Materials including correspondence, memos, brochures, newsletters, news clippings, and ephemera provide extensive documentation on the hotel's activities as a major force in Las Vegas gaming and entertainment in its almost 50 years on the Las Vegas Strip.

Photographs in the collection document the hotel from its opening in 1958 until its closure in 2006. They depict interior and exterior views of the hotel, publicity stunts, famous visitors, restaurants, entertainers, and production shows such as the world-famous Lido de Paris. Other visual materials include video and film footage of the hotel in its heyday in the 1960s, as well as various entertainers and shows that were featured at the hotel.

Other interesting artifacts include original hotel bills from the 1960s, postcards, show programs, and menus from a number of the hotel's

famed restaurants, including the Polynesian-themed Aku Aku.

**i More info:** Contact Su Kim Chung at [sukim.chung@unlv.edu](mailto:sukim.chung@unlv.edu). View a variety of digital collections and exhibits at [www.library.unlv.edu/speccol](http://www.library.unlv.edu/speccol).

## Sciences 'Squirrely' Research Pays Off for Life Sciences Student

Life sciences doctoral candidate Jenifer Utz will be receiving a stipend of \$30,000 per year and an education allowance of \$10,500 annually for the next three years as the recipient of a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship.

"Jenifer's contributions to our university and school set a new standard for our graduate students," said Carl Reiber, director of the School of Life Sciences. "We are proud and privileged to work with students of this caliber."

Utz currently works in the laboratory of assistant professor Frank van Breukelen where she studies the control of protein synthesis during mammalian hibernation.

Hibernation in mammals presents extreme physiological challenges at both the subcellular and whole organismal levels. The principal focus of her research is the hibernation of golden-mantled ground squirrels (*Spermophilus lateralis*). She will

investigate how these animals survive severe physiological shifts — hibernating mammals experience metabolic rates that may be as low as 1 percent of active rates and core body temperatures as low as -2° C.

Utz's research opens many possibilities for improving the human condition. Understanding the mechanisms of hibernation could impact human medical practices regarding pathologies such as disuse atrophy (muscle wasting caused by immobilization), hypothermia, ischemia, obesity, and diabetes.

The NSF program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in the relevant science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees.

"With an NSF Graduate Fellowship I will be able to focus on my research yet also integrate important teaching and outreach activities. I am honored by the professional recognition that this fellowship represents, and I am excited about the new opportunities it provides," Utz said.

## Urban Affairs Journalism Faculty Trade Research on Trade Shows

Faculty members from the Hank Greenspun School of Journalism and Media Studies have partnered with researchers at George Mason

University's Center for History and New Media to study technology trade shows.

Faculty and graduate students from several universities met and conducted research at the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) held in Las Vegas in January.

Co-organized by emerging technologies professor Julian Kilker, the research involves using the "swarm approach," a term used in military intelligence circles to describe rapid collection of data using multiple sources. CES serves as a venue for researching contemporary consumer culture both in and as popular culture. The swarm project aims to create an effective "middle ground" between rapid journalistic and long-term historical research methodologies such as archiving.

"The specific techniques used during a swarm depend on the participating researchers and the research site," Kilker said. "Similar to an archeological dig, the researchers can seek out images (photographs), recorded interviews and recordings of other types, actual artifacts (such as advertising swag), media stories and so forth about the particular event — in this case the CES."

The research project's goal is to disseminate results as individual and group conference papers, articles, and journal special issues. A book proposal is under way as well.



UNLV graduate student Amy Morris works with pupils and teachers on a Navajo Reservation in Arizona.

## Education Arduous Trek, Challenging Conditions Don't Deter Faculty from Educational Mission

In a place where schools have "mud days" for those occasions when students can't reach school because the dirt roads have turned into quagmires, UNLV's College of Education is making a difference.

The Navajo Reservation high school where UNLV faculty and students have worked to improve education for the past eight years had the highest percentage of academic gain of any reservation school in 2006.

More than a dozen professors and students have made the 7.5-hour drive to help teachers, students, and administrators improve the quality of education available to those living on the Arizona reservation.

These efforts are part of the Accelerated School Plus Project, part of the national school reform effort. Interim Dean Jane McCarthy serves as regional director.

Piñon Unified School District #4 is in a remote location near the Canyon de Chelly that can be reached only by a dirt road. Professors travel there to offer graduate and undergraduate courses to the district's teachers. They also conduct lessons in classrooms to demonstrate how to teach in ways that complement the culture of the Navajo students.

Currently, a doctoral student from the department of educational psychology, Amy Morris, is in residence in Piñon and is implementing a tutoring program for vocabulary acquisition for students classified as ELL (English language learners).

Involvement with the Accelerated Schools Plus Project has enabled the district to make strides in overcoming the serious challenges of poverty, language, harsh living conditions (many students have no electricity or running water), and isolation.

**i More info:** Call the Accelerated Schools office at ext. 5-4866.

> **Mykola Suk** (Music) received a favorable review in the *American Record Guide* for his recording *Liszt: Piano Sonata; Hungarian Rhapsody*. "Judging by the present recording, Suk is a powerhouse of a pianist who sets his own individual stamp on the *Liszt Sonata*," the reviewer said.



> **Jean Cline** (Geoscience) received a \$295,868 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the project "Collaborative Research on Fluid Pathways, and Metal Transport and Deposition in Carlin-Type Gold Deposits: Insights From the Getchell System." This study involves researchers from UNR who also received NSF funding. It aims to develop a time-space geological and geochemical framework of the classic Carlin-type gold deposits of the Getchell district in Northern Nevada by using data from more than 12,000 holes drilled by mining companies and sophisticated modeling software.

> **Cindy Thomas** (Dental Medicine) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for April. An administrative assistant II, she supervises the front desk at the Enterprise Community Practice site. She helps train new employees and handles difficult customer service questions. She has been a permanent employee for four years and before that worked on campus as a temporary employee.

> **David M. Hassenzahl** (Environmental Studies) delivered an invited presentation, "Risk Education Trends," at the International Symposium on Risk Management Education, which took place in February at the University of Osaka in Japan. He and doctoral candidate Ilene Ruhoy also attended the National Council on Science, Policy and the Environment. They ran a half-day breakout session on Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment.

> **Patrick W. Carlton** (Educational Leadership) contributed the book chapter "Preparing the Next Generation of Educational Administrators: An Application of Theory, Philosophy and Pedagogy in 'Real-World Settings'" to Barry Lanman and Laura Wendling's *Preparing the Next Generation of Oral Historians*, Alta Mira Press, 2006. He also published the article "Using Oral History Interviews in Graduate-Level Instruction: Student Perceptions" in *The School Leadership Review*. And, he served as chair and commentator on a panel at the national Oral History Association

Conference held in Little Rock, Ark., last fall. The panel was From Place to Place: Redefining Community, Culture and Career.

> **Carol Kimball** (Music) received the Charles Vanda Award for Excellence in the Arts for 2006 from the College of Fine Arts.

> **Vince Pangallo** (T&M) was named classified employee of the month in the technical/service category for March. An HVAC technician II, he has worked at UNLV four years. He handles heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and plumbing needs at the Thomas & Mack Center, the Cox Pavilion, and the athletic fields.

> **Anita Revilla** (Women's Studies) recently received the inaugural Excellence in Mentoring Award from the Honors College.

> **Kathy Nelson** (Tourism and Convention Administration) served on the planning and presentation committee for the inaugural Academic Event Professional Conference, which took place in January at the University of Southern California in conjunction with the Special Event Conference and Tradeshow. **Robyn Hadden** (UNLV Foundation and Tourism and Convention Administration) was also a presenter at the conference. Other planners represented universities including Duke, Cornell, and Michigan.



> **Thomas Leslie** (Music) was named the Outstanding Teacher of the Year for 2006 by the College of Fine Arts. He is director of bands and professor of conducting.

> **Virko Baley** (Music) received a favorable review in the *American Record Guide* for *Xtreme Violin*, a recording of his works. The reviewer described the music as lively and well written for the violin.

> **Bill Holcomb, Mack Rubley, and Mark Guadagnoli** (Kinesiology), and UNLV graduate Heather Lee recently coauthored "Effect of Hamstring-Emphasized Resistance Training on Hamstring: Quadriceps Strength Ratios." Holcomb, Guadagnoli, and former students Brach Poston and Lucas Linn also wrote "The Acute Effects of Mechanical Vibration on Power Output in the Bench Press." Both articles appeared in the *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*.

> **Jie Shen** (Health Care Administration and Policy) was the lead author of two

recent publications targeting health care of uninsured populations, one of the top health policy issues in the United States. "Disparities in Outcomes of Acute Myocardial Infarction across Health Insurance Statuses" was published in *Research in the Sociology of Health Care*. "Disparities in Outcomes among Stroke Patients Associated with Insurance Status" was published in *Stroke*, the official publication of the American Stroke Association and the American Heart Association. Acute myocardial infarction (heart attack) is the leading cause of deaths in the nation; stroke is third behind cancer.



> **Sandra O'Brien** (Dance) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for March. An administrative assistant III, she is a four-year employee. She worked for planning and construction and in the advising center for the College of Fine Arts before moving last year to the dance department. She now is a one-person office and handles all of the department's administrative needs.

> **Joanna Kepka** (Honors College) received the college's award for Outstanding Teaching by a Part-Time Instructor. She was recognized at the Academic Recognition Ceremony last month.

> **Su Kim Chung** (Libraries) received the 2007 McPhee Librarian of the Year Award. A manuscripts librarian in the special collections division, she collects and preserves many important archival materials that document the history of Las Vegas. Her most recent accomplishment was the acquisition of a collection containing the promotional archives of the recently closed Stardust Hotel and Casino. The award is given to UNLV library faculty members who have made a major contribution to the library, the university, the community, or the profession during the previous year. Their cumulative record for the past five years is also considered.



> **Tina Burnam** (Campus Housing) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for April. An administrative assistant III, she serves as accounts manager for campus housing, handling the residential accounts for students living on campus. A four-year employee, she worked in the financial aid office before moving to campus housing three years ago.

> **Adam Foster** (Music) received the Outstanding Part-Time Teacher of the Year Award for 2006 from the College of Fine Arts.

> **Jonnie Kennedy** (Libraries) was named classified employee of the month in the technical service category for April. She retired that same month, moving to Springfield, Mo., to help her children in their bookstore. A library technician I, she worked nearly 12 years with University Libraries. Her duties included processing all university theses and dissertations for the library, providing reference service, supervising student workers, checking in all special collections serials, and maintaining a number of collection databases.

> **Mehmet Erdem** (Hotel Management) has been reappointed to the Hospitality Technology and Finance Professionals Communications Editorial Advisory Council. He also was appointed to the review board for the *Cypriot Journal of Educational Sciences*.

> **Leroy H. Pelton** (Social Work) had an article, "Nondiscrimination in the Taxation and Distribution of the Common Wealth of a National Community," published in the December issue of the journal, *Widersprüche*. The article is a German translation of an excerpt from his recent book, *Frames of Justice: Implications for Social Policy* (2005).



> **Jose Soto-Falcon** (Campus Housing) was named classified employee of the month in the custodial category for March. A custodial supervisor I, he has worked at UNLV for eight years.

> **Stephen Caplan** (Music) and the UNLV-based group Sierra Winds were favorably reviewed recently in the *New York Times* for work they did on a CD by composer Phillip Bimstein entitled *Larkin Gifford's Harmonica*. On a song off of the CD, "Half Moon at Checkerboard Mesa," Caplan, an oboist, engages in intricate call-and-response with a chorus of chirping frogs.

> **Rachelle Hanson** (Dental Medicine) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for March. She works in the dental school's business office, where she enters insurance and patient checks into the system and reviews student accounts prior to commencement. She has worked at UNLV four years.

## Hold Yourself Accountable to These Deadlines

By **Shane Bevell** | Marketing & PR

Year-end paperwork make you groan? Heed these dates to make the closing process go smoother.

### Payment Vouchers (ext. 5-1157)

Payment vouchers (PVs) must be for goods and services received by June 29. If you miss the deadline, the expense will be posted to the new fiscal year.

### Travel (ext. 5-1156)

Any trip beginning in June and ending in July will be charged in its entirety to the fiscal year into which the majority of the expense falls. Travel claims are to be submitted to accounts payable within 14 days of the trip end date. Timely filed claims ensure that the

expenses are charged to the proper fiscal year.

### Procurement Card (P-Card) Transactions (ext. 4-2273)

To ensure transactions are captured in the correct fiscal year, make your purchases by June 15. The year's final billing period ends June 25. Departments must complete their reconciliation by June 29.

### Interdepartmental Requisition (IDR)

Remember to reserve funds for June operating expenses not covered by purchase requisitions. Large campus service centers have specific work order cutoff dates to ensure expenses are processed before the end of June (telecommunications by May 18, facilities by May 25, and reprographics by June 22).

### Financial Training Sessions

The controller's office will host two financial transactions training sessions for account managers. The training sessions will be 2-3:30 p.m. May 16 and 9-10:30 a.m. May 22 in CSB, Room 212-G.

To register, go to [hr.unlv.edu](http://hr.unlv.edu) and click on the "Forms" link on the left side of the page and print out a "Training Registration Form." Send the form back to the office of staff development and employee relations, mail stop 1026 or fax to ext. 5-5818.

**More info:** Visit [controller.unlv.edu](http://controller.unlv.edu) or [purchasing.unlv.edu](http://purchasing.unlv.edu).



# Tribute Giving Honors Accomplishments

By Lisa Shawcroft | UNLV Foundation

As the child of Hungarian immigrants, Edward Lovinger learned to speak English only after he started school. He was the first person in his family to go to college, which would have been accomplishment enough for many people.

But he didn't stop there. Lovinger went on to become a respected psychology professor at UNLV, where he taught from 1968 until 1993.

After his death in 2001, his wife, Carole, establishing a scholarship fund in his memory.

## A Way to Honor

"The university was very important, and the psychology department was very important to both of our lives," she said. "We watched it grow, and we felt like a part of its growth. It seemed a good thing to give the scholarship to a master's student in psychology as a tribute to my husband and a way to pay back the university for all the good years."

The first recipient of her tribute gift, the Edward Lovinger Psychology Scholarship Endowment Fund, will receive the scholarship in the fall.

"My husband felt being a professor was a very important, gratifying job," she said. "He enjoyed every year, and he developed a class, Psychology of the Stock Market, that he was very proud of."

## Tribute Gifts Fund Variety of Programs

The Lovinger Scholarship Endowment Fund is just one example of a tribute gift.

The College of Liberal Arts established a fund to honor Hal Rothman, the Distinguished Professor of History who died in February. The college hopes to raise \$100,000 to provide a yearly scholarship of \$4,000 to a history student.

Tribute gifts are a way to celebrate people's accomplishments. They can be directed to any existing UNLV program fund, to the UNLV Foundation Scholarship Endowment Fund, or to the annual fund,

which supports the greatest needs of the university, said Deborah Young, director of scholarship and tribute giving.

And tribute gifts do not always go to scholarships, nor do they have to be in memory of someone who died. Sometimes they are created to mark a special occasion such as a retirement, Young said.

Honor with Books is a program through which bookplates bearing the name of the person being honored or remembered are placed inside books in the UNLV Libraries. Books can be chosen from a number of subject areas. Bookplates are available for gifts of \$100 or more.

Another option is the tribute bench program. For a gift of \$2,000, a cement bench with a commemorative plaque will be placed on campus.

**More info:** Contact Deborah Young at ext. 5-2818 or at [deborah.young@unlv.edu](mailto:deborah.young@unlv.edu). You can also go to [foundation.unlv.edu/tribute](http://foundation.unlv.edu/tribute).



## Got Wheels?

Campus police officers Brett Gott, left, and James Rudnik stop near the inauguration luncheon on the academic mall April 27. To qualify for bicycle patrol, officers must complete a 40-hour class. Among the benefits of having officers on bikes are increased approachability, higher visibility, quicker response times, and lower fuel costs.

# To Update or Not to Update?

## Know the Difference Between Critical and Recommended

By Mamie Peers | OIT

That restart you have to do to update your computer can be annoying. But software bugs are even worse.

To avoid problems, the office of information technology (OIT) recommends installing critical software and operating system updates.

There's a catch, though: Not all updates are the same. Some are deemed "critical" while others are termed "recommended."

## Snazzy Add-on or Necessary Update?

A critical update might fix a security hole in your operating system, just like a wheel alignment can repair a dangerous pull to the right on your vehicle. Operating system updates can protect you from viruses or malicious software attacks. Critical updates also prepare your machine for important changes. The daylight savings time update applied earlier this year was needed to address changes the federal government made to the time system. Without it, all of our calendar entries and records would be one hour off.

On the other hand, Internet Explorer 7 (IE 7) is not a critical update. It's

optional, because it enhances the features of your browser. IE 7 allows "tabbed" browsing, which could be fun, but is not a necessary addition to the program. Upgrading to IE 7 is like installing a new set of stylish rims to your car — it adds good looks, and maybe a little bit of speed, but isn't as necessary as an alignment.

But how do you know which updates are critical?

Microsoft's Windows categorizes as high priority, optional hardware, and optional software. High priority updates are always critical and should be installed right away. The others can wait until you have time to read the description of the software and decide if you want them.

Apple's software updates don't distinguish between non-critical and critical. Instead, you need to read the descriptions of each update and decide whether to install them.

## Keeping Current

Most software updates prompt you to accept installation. For example, programs like Firefox and Adobe Acrobat ask, "Do you want to download or install the latest version?" There is no standard answer, but the general rule is that if it is a critical update, you usually want to accept it. If it's recommended, use your best

judgment or ask an expert.

New campus computers automatically download Microsoft updates. Both PCs and Macs might ask you if you are ready to install these updates, and OIT recommends installing the critical updates as soon as possible.

Before installing updates, be sure to close all programs, especially the ones you are updating.

To check for updates: Macs running OSX 3.0 or higher click on:

1. Your desktop
2. The Apple logo in the upper left corner of your screen
3. Software Update
4. Check Now. Select the updates you want and click "install."

PCs running Windows XP:

1. Go to [windowsupdate.microsoft.com](http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com)
2. Click "Express"
3. Click "Install Updates."



## Great Deals on New Software

Microsoft Office products are free for all barcoded campus computers because UNLV purchased an agreement with Microsoft. The agreement also allows each full-time employee who is assigned a UNLV computer as part of his job to install a copy of the software on his home computer.

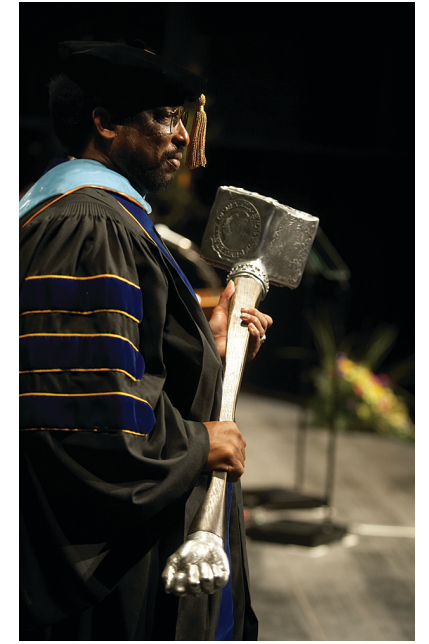
Programs like Adobe Creative Suite cost more than \$800 in retail stores, but employees can get it for about \$130 for use on UNLV computers. Check out [oit.unlv.edu](http://oit.unlv.edu) and click on the software link to search our database for more deals like this.

## Software Training

OIT offers training for UNLV employees. Courses are only two hours in length and session topics range from PowerPoint to Lotus Notes. Also, DeAnna Schoendienst, trainer for OIT, can offer custom courses for departments that have special needs. Visit [oit.unlv.edu](http://oit.unlv.edu) for more details about training.



(Left) Dwanna Wedlow, left, tutoring manager at the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (CAEO), and Tomirra Larkin, assistant director for GEAR UP at CAEO, don their regalia for the inauguration. (Below) Serving as grand marshal, education professor Porter Troutman carries the university mace.



(Above) President David Ashley talks to the media following his inauguration.

# All Dressed Up for Inauguration Week



(Top) From left to right, Betsy Billingham, wife of Edward J. Billingham Jr., chemistry professor from 1965-88; Malcolm Graham, mathematics professor from 1956-85; and Alice Mason, physical education professor from 1957-1991, talk at the 16th annual emeritus breakfast. (Above) Faculty, staff, and students help themselves to some lunch at a barbecue picnic April 25. (Left) Tara Mullin, an administrative assistant in the Graduate College, enjoys a piece of watermelon at the inauguration picnic.