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Inside UNLV

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President David Ashley addresses the campus community at his first academic convocation Sept. 12.

The Next Great Era

Ashley Urges Campus to Set Even Higher Standards

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

Telling the campus community that "now is the time to claim our rightful place in UNLV's history," President David Ashley used his first convocation speech to outline a number of changes to come as the university begins its second half-century. Among those are:
- the creation of an ombuds office to give faculty, staff, and students a place to air concerns or resolve conflicts.
- the creation of an executive policy committee to give faculty, staff, and administrators a say in policy formation and changes.
- a new planning process that promises full transparency on budget issues. (For more on the planning process see “Taking a Strategic Look at UNLV’s Future” on page 3.)

Ashley also reiterated his commitment to the core values he has established for UNLV — equity, ecology, economy, and excellence.

More Research Money

In his convocation address, President David Ashley announced the funding of the President’s Research Awards, which are:
- The Institutional Development Grant — based on the strong, timely proposals that were submitted in the spring for this grant focusing on diversity and inclusion, Ashley doubled the amount of available funding to $300,000.
- The President’s Research Award — supports research teams in their pursuit of competitive grant funding. Available funding totals $400,000 with up to $50,000 available for each successful proposal.

Harrah’s Foundation Funds INNovation

$30 Million Gift to Benefit College of Hotel Administration

By Erin O’Donnell

By the time this year’s incoming freshmen are ready to graduate, faculty and students in the William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration should be experimenting in new labs, testing products for major corporations, and getting real-world experience right here on campus.

Last month, the Harrah’s Foundation announced a gift of $30 million to launch INNovation Village, the college’s proposed new academic hub with an adjoining hotel and convention center.

Dean Stuart Mann said the project will guarantee UNLV remains a leader in hospitality education and research. “We’ve always had a vision of creating a hospitality campus within a campus,” Mann said. “Many things will be created with this gift that don’t exist today. Both the university and Harrah’s are really excited about this opportunity for a continuing partnership.”

Mann hopes UNLV will break ground on INNovation Village by 2009 or 2010. When completed, the academic hub will have traditional classrooms, faculty offices, computer facilities, food and nutrition science labs, teaching kitchens, and a gaming lab.

“It’s still conceptual, but Harrah Hotel College faculty can already envision the possibilities. We asked some of them what INNovation Village could mean to their research capabilities, their students, and to the hotel-casino industry at large.”

Christine Bergman

Food and beverage professor

Food scientists such as Christine Bergman help manage the process of getting food from farm to market. Her research takes place largely in the lab — but she doesn’t have one of her own at UNLV.

“I spent the summer at a lab in Texas, away from the classroom. I was lucky to have a lab at the college, but I had to travel to do research. With a lab on campus, I could work on projects with students and get their insight.”

The Research Development Award — supports individuals pursuing a variety of creative and scholarly activities. A total of $100,000 has been allocated.

The Research Infrastructure Awards Program — a one-time allotment of $1 million for college/school-level research infrastructure.

The University Faculty Travel Committee — $100,000 to support faculty as they travel to conferences to conduct research or pursue creative activities. This program is being augmented with an additional $100,000 for graduate students’ research and scholarship.

The Institutional Development Grant supports new faculty and staff.

The President’s Research Awards supports research teams in their pursuit of competitive grant funding. Available funding totals $400,000 with up to $50,000 available for each successful proposal.

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This month President David Ashley addresses the importance of retention and graduation.

In the last column you mentioned that student retention is a key element in planning and budgeting. Can you expand on that?

With state funding based on our enrollment numbers, it can be easy to focus on our volume of students. However, it is critical that the campus community understands that retaining our students and improving our graduation rate should be at the forefront. From a practical standpoint, it costs less to have a student continue toward graduation than it does to recruit new ones. More importantly, I believe that it is our responsibility to ensure that, once students are here, we do everything we can to help them attain their degrees. I hope every person on campus sees his or her role in this charge.

We will improve our graduation rates only through campuswide efforts—not just initiatives in admissions and student life, or in the classroom and advising centers.

What are our retention numbers?

Our freshman-to-sophomore retention rate is 70 percent—the lowest among our peers in the Carnegie Comprehensive Doctoral classification. We are also near the bottom in terms of degree completion, with a range of 39-42 percent, while our peers average 55 percent. Frankly, these numbers are unacceptable.

So, why is our retention rate low?

There are many factors that play into retention. A key one for UNLV is the balance between full-time and part-time students. When we compare ourselves to other universities with a high number of part-time students, we are on par with our peers in retention and persistence rates; but average among this group is not what we aspire to be.

We have seen a slight increase in part-time students each year since 2004, and last year a full 30 percent of our undergraduates attended part-time. It’s an uncomfortable trend, one that is unhealthy for a university with our ambitions. Does it serve our students well? Studies show that students with a full course load are much more likely to complete their degrees.

Although the strong, local job market may be driving this part-time trend, we need to focus on the things we can control and take appropriate action. Is our environment welcoming to students from all backgrounds? Are the schedules serving the students’ needs? Can we improve financial aid and enrollment processes? Do students have enough access to advisors?

What is UNLV currently doing to improve its retention?

I have mentioned before that UNLV now has first-rate facilities that will go a long way toward promoting a culture of full-time enrollment. The Student Union, Student Recreation and Wellness Center, and library are helping make the campus both an academic and social home for our students. Our next development is the planned First-Year Center, which will be housed in University College. This redirects current resources to give students a defined place for successfully making the transition to university studies. Here they will learn about the many opportunities and resources our university offers them.

Another important step relates to our more stringent GPA requirements. GPA is one predictor of student success. So, I was pleased when the regents recently gave us greater flexibility to consider other predictors of success, such as a student’s demonstrated leadership in a community setting. So far, this has been a positive change in our admissions. However, we do not want it to come at the expense of accessibility. Diversity feeds excellence at a university. So, I was pleased when the regents recently gave us greater flexibility to consider other predictors of success, such as a student’s demonstrated leadership in a community setting. So far, this has been a positive change in our admissions. However, we do not want it to come at the expense of accessibility. Diversity feeds excellence at a university. So, I was pleased when the regents recently gave us greater flexibility to consider other predictors of success, such as a student’s demonstrated leadership in a community setting. So far, this has been a positive change in our admissions. However, we do not want it to come at the expense of accessibility.

Convolvulation

Continued from Page 1

The answers to last month’s questions: The date plaque is on Maude Frazier Hall, the first building on campus. Classes were first held there in 1957. Today, this building houses the office of student enrollment and financial services.

By Campus Mail—Cut out this box, circle the answers, and fill out the information below. Then send your entry to InsideUNLV at mailstop 1024.

Name: ____________________________
Title: ____________________________
Department: ______________________
Phone: ________ E-mail: __________

Isn’t it time to participate in UNLV’s Picture This: 50th Anniversary Trivia Contest? Just for participating last month, Lisa Fujinaga of the anthropology department won a 50th anniversary gift bag filled with a variety of fun items.

1. The curved glass windows of which building represent the mathematical sine wave?
   a. Thomas T. Beam Engineering Complex
   b. Robert L. Bigelow Physics Building
   c. Chemistry Building

2. This building was completed and opened in what year?
   a. 1994
   b. 1995
   c. 1996

3. Which of the following is not true of the symbolism of the building?
   a. The red rings on which all of the palm tree plants are located around the building represent the big bang theory
   b. Green rings coming out of the apple tree planter represent the ripple effect
   c. The color fabrics hanging throughout the building represent the diversity of UNLV

More info: Find a complete version of the convocation speech at president.unlv.edu/speeches.html.

5 Minutes With President Ashley

Focusing on Retention, Graduation

Picture This: Test Your UNLV Knowledge
Taking a Strategic Look at UNLV’s Future

Let Your Voice Be Heard at Meetings

By Cate Weeks | Marketing & PR

Neal Smatresk knows the word “planning” might make a few of you sigh. You may even be wondering if the Focus: 50 to 100 planning exercise — the first such initiative under President David Ashley’s administration — will be, well, just an exercise.

But the executive vice president and provost figures you’ll be won over by the time UNLV’s strategic plan is finalized next spring — just in time for the next budget cycle.

“That’s when the rubber will hit the road for this plan,” he said. “We will preferentially fund the priorities that emerge from this. So, it is vital that we get a large slice of the campus population to participate and help us determine what the core of this university is.”

Smatresk kicked off the planning process last month at a campuswide presentation that laid out the challenges UNLV is facing. The process continues with a series of open town hall meetings throughout November. Past planning efforts came when UNLV was facing explosive growth. “During such growth, institutions are busy spreading out and finding the general direction they are going,” Smatresk said. “A lot of work was done to get us where we are today.

A Tightly Focused Plan

With enrollment growth and budgets leveling, the time is right for a more tightly focused plan, Smatresk said. “During a budget-cutting cycle, you must know what your core activities are so you can protect them. It is very hard and expensive to build those areas, so we don’t want random, across-the-board budget cuts to undo all that previous work.”

So what are those areas? That’s for the planning process to sort out. It’s time for every unit to do some bragging and make some choices. “The conclusions have not already been cooked,” Smatresk said.

Rebecca Mills, vice president for student life, encourages employees in her division to discuss their successes and challenges. “Staff in the Division of Student Life have much to contribute to creating excellent experiences for UNLV’s students,” she said. “I want them to share their expertise and learn more about the priorities and goals of other units at the university.”

Once the town hall meetings wrap up, the planning steering committee will forward the feedback to the president’s cabinet at the start of the spring semester. After a review period, the final plan will be accepted by the president before the semester ends.

But this won’t mark the end of planning, said Gerry Bomotti, senior vice president for finance and business. His unit will develop its activities to be consistent with the vision that emerges from the planning process. “Planning is critical, but it is no substitute for an action plan that follows it.”

“INnovation Village offers a real hope for connection,” Bergman said. “We have all of these incredibly innovative food operations in town, and we need to be involved with them. We’re teaching the people who are going to work for these places.”

Cheri Young
Hotel management professor

Building a hotel right on campus seems a natural way for students to learn the how-to of hospitality. Cheri Young says it can also help them learn about human nature in the work environment.

Young studies organizational behavior — how individuals think, feel, and act — within the hospitality industry. INNovation Village’s labs could help her students understand why change is never always well received. “It is very difficult for young students to understand why employees might resist a supposed improvement,” Young said. “Having students involved in the testing of these new technologies, products, and processes, the intersection between man and machine becomes very real to them.”

Having a hotel and lab space in the same complex would be a real plus, Young said, especially to attract companies that want to float some trial balloons. “An interesting partnership that we may want to think about is with the labor unions,” Young said. “So often managers generate what they think are great ideas, and they do so without considering the impact on — or reaction of — the employees.

My hope is that we would take a holistic approach to any kind of laboratory testing.”

Curis Love
Tourism and convention professor

INNovation Village is envisioned as a state-of-the-art academic campus, but Love sees benefits that reach beyond the lab and classroom.

Hotel college faculty and students now are split between Beam Hall and the Stan Fulton Building. Love looks forward to having a unified campus for the next generation of hospitality professionals. “Having a complex like that will give students a place to network,” said Love, who is also interim head of the tourism and convention department. “It will be like getting the family back together.”

Love experienced the benefits of having a hotel on campus when he taught at the University of Alabama. INNovation Village’s proposed hotel and convention center would provide much-needed space for campus meetings and events, said Love, as well as a new revenue stream for the university.

“INnovation Village would attract corporate attention, too. “The humans become the instrument,” she said. “I also show a lot of pictures.”

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Across Campus

Allied Health

One of UNLV’s Oldest Programs Receives Reaccreditation

The radiography program in the department of health physics recently concluded its reaccreditation process with very positive reviews from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. Director George Pales said the committee “found the program to be of the highest standard of accreditation and identified numerous strengths. A formal award of accreditation will be conferred later this year.

The program, which has been in existence more than 40 years, is one of the oldest at UNLV. It trains entry-level radiologic technologists to serve the Southern Nevada community. Three full-time and five part-time faculty and one administrative assistant staff the program. It is one of the nation’s larger radiography programs, accepting 50 students each year into the two-year certificate of completion program. Many graduates of this program continue their UNLV imaging education by entering the baccalaureate imaging imaging bachelor of science program to gain added education and credentialing in CT, MRI, or ultrasonound.

Business

Donation Helps Expand MIS Courses

IBM pledged $160,000 to the college during the next three years as part of the recently established IBM Systems iProgram Fund in the department of management and information systems.

The fund is allowing the department to create two new courses targeted toward students in management information systems. MIS professor Jerry Chang developed the undergraduate course and is teaching it this semester. Marcus Roghenberger is developing the graduate version for next semester.

The courses feature the use of IBM Systems iServer and middleware hardware and software to deliver large-scale distributed applications. They will equip the students to understand how to address business and IT management problems in this area. At the same time, the students will learn enough technical skills to be able to get jobs in the IBM Systems i environment.

Education

New Happenings in the Center Largest Department

A number of personnel and program changes are taking place in the department of curriculum & instruction under the leadership of Dean M. Christopher Brown II.

Sandra Odell is the department’s new chair, replacing Greg Levitt, who now is an assistant dean. New associate professors in the department include Meehye Shim, who specializes in social studies education; Shuang Zhang, whose expertise is in teacher education; and Hasan Deniz, who specializes in science education.

Contributing to the college’s focus on maintaining national prominence, Thomas Bean and Helen Harper have been appointed editors for the International Reading Association’s Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy. Other leading journals housed in the department, the National Council of Teachers of English Journal of Children’s Literature, co-edited by the college’s Cynthia Giorgis and Patti Travis, and UNLV Libraries; the journal of the National Association of Multicultural Education, co-edited by Porter Troutman, Maria Ramirez, and sports education leadership faculty member R.R. Apache; and the Intervention in School and Clinic, edited by Randall Boone and special education professor Kyle Hoon.

The department now has Project PASS (Proficiency and Success in Science), a collaborative professional development project for teachers supported by the Nevada Mathematics and Science Partnership program.

Principal investigator is longtime professor Loretta Asay from the Clark County School District, the department’s Kent Crippen, and John Farley from the College of Science. It is a three-year, $750,000 project focused on integrated scientific inquiry. It provides a two-week summer institute for 50 high school science teachers. Goals include the development of reformer teacher practice and improved content knowledge for both science teachers and their students.

Engineering

Mentoring Helps Students With Ideas Break into Marketing

A new minor in technology commercialization is now being offered. The minor focuses on the process of product conception and development and offers all engineering majors the opportunity to learn the skills of product commercialization from faculty and practitioners. Motivated students can collaborate with peers to develop and present a potentially winning idea in the Governor’s Cup Business Plan Competition.

Nick Fore, director of the Monroe Ingram Innovation Center, and professor Rama Venkat played key roles in creating the minor.

Liberal Arts

Writing Graduate Programs Hit ‘Top 5’ Lists

Doug Unger | interim chair of the department of English

This season is rich with good news for graduate programs in the department of English. Amid the heady accolades, there is a familiar name — that venerable, Boston-based arbiter of literary taste — that is developing the graduate version for its when their graveyard shifts ended.”

The Atlantic

Jonathan Bausch, Lynn Drebes, Stacy Abbott, and Megan Merchant are out there writing, teaching, and making news. Their words have carried the UNLV name to many venues in their fields. A number of people deserve credit for our success, including creative writing professors Claudia Keenan and Pablo Medina, MacArthur Fellow Dave Hickey, and our prize-winning academic faculty who have two Guggenheim Fellows and three distinguished professors among them. We also should credit our talented students. Students shape our reputations. We’re blessed with excellent students. MFA and MA alumni John Ziebell, Andrew Kiraly, Keith Menter, Forrest Cole, Jennie Hahn, Jonathan Bausch, Lynn Drebes, Stacy Abbott, and Megan Merchant are out there writing, teaching, and making names for themselves. Most recently, Schaeffer fellow Chris Arigo published a new book of poems, In the Antichamber, with Omnidawn Press. Schaeffer Ph.D. Joshua Kryah brought out Glenn with Nightboat Books. Vu Tran won an O. Henry Award for his story, “The Gift of Years.” MFA graduate Sasha Steenstrom won the "Fence" prize for poetry with her collection, A Magic Book, and Susan Andrews Grace published Love and Tribal Baseball — her refined thesis — last year in Canada. Excellent academic scholars Heather Lusty, Juan Martinez, Conner Walsh, Homer Winterer, Quimby Melton, and Adam Foster are making news.

There’s little space here to count the dozens of essays, stories, poems, and reviews our students produce for publication in journals. Their words have carried the UNLV banner to such far-flung outposts as Utah Bator, the capital of Mongolia; Beijing, St. Petersburg; Madrid; Paris; Berlin; and even Costa Rica.

Thanks to the students’ efforts, imaginations, and camaraderie, we’ve put together a winning team.

Fine Arts

The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie Starts Off October Events

Second Season will stage The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie Oct. 5-14 in the Black Box Theatre. An actor known and spoken of by Miss Jean Brodie is who is so interesting that the girls admired her above all others; but when rumors fly regarding the manly qualities of make and man, one of her pupils no longer feels that Miss Brodie is in her prime.

“The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie” welcomes Xueliang Yang, the first guitarist in China to graduate from music school and a Royal Academy of Music graduate; and the first Chinese guitarist to release her most recent album, Romance de Amor, “superb,” and Classical Guitar labels her “one of the greatest classical guitarists of the day.”

The UNLV dance department celebrates its 30th anniversary with a concert, “Pioneers to the Future: Enjoy an eclectic collection of dance choreographed by UNLV dance professors honoring long-time professor and program co-founder Doug Unger” Oct. 20. For tickets, call ext. 5-2797.

Graduate Evaluators Reorganized by College

The college reorganized the duties of its admission and records assistants to better serve the campus community. The admission and records assistants also known as “evaluators” because they assess the admissions packets of graduate students — will now be assigned to review student records that are grouped largely by college rather than by department.

Because of the department’s size, Education will still be handled by several staff members. Also, all international students seeking graduate admission will have a single point of contact at the Graduate College.

“The reorganization of evaluators will allow us to offer more personalized services to meet the unique needs of individual colleges as well as the students,” said Rob Steinkopf, director of graduate admissions.

The admission and records assistants are listed below with their areas of responsibility:

• Nora Langendorf — colleges of Business, Fine Arts, and Hotel Administration
• Kara Takekawa — College of Urban Affairs
• Gina Rodriguez — colleges of Liberal Arts and Engineering
• Carrena Pablo — School of Health Sciences and all UNLV undergraduate alumni
• Liz Cal — School of Life Sciences, departments of educational leadership, educational psychology, and counselor education

“The new system aligns the special education and teacher education programs in the department of curriculum & instruction and the departments of special education.

Jovita Bayag — the departments of curriculum & instruction and special education; and

Cathy Dyer — all international students

Administrative Assistant Kandy Maldonado also offers advising guidance to all nondegree-seeking graduate students and answer questions regarding the graduate college.
Honors College Welcomes New Students

A total of 108 new students join the college this fall. At a welcoming ceremony, students and family members heard from honors faculty member Maria Jerinic-Pavica and Daniel Villanueva of foreign languages, who described the high academic standards expected in honors courses. They also heard the “other side of the story” from upper-division honors students Sean Akari, Michael Amato-Von Hemert, Elizabeth Ashbaugh, and David Cotter.

Lisa Chastain, director of advising, provided perspective on the need for new students to work with academic advisors from both the Honors College and their respective discipline colleges to ensure they are making sufficient academic progress.

Finally, parents got interesting news from Interim Dean Peter Starkweather as he outlined the rules associated with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, which mandates that grade reports be provided only to the student in question. The orientation concluded with a luncheon and comments from President David Ashley and Executive Vice President and Provost Neal Smatresk.

In other news, Honors student Shripa De is the first UNLV student to be honored by Flap Jack Camp IPO as a recipient of their new “Emerging Scholar Award.” Shripa is one of only 60 rising sophomores nationwide to receive this recognition.

Hotel College Career Center Opens

The Bob Boughner Career Services Center, created with a $1.2 million gift from local gaming executive Robert Boughner, is up and running.

Housed on the first floor of Beam Hall, the center encourages students to explore career opportunities during their freshman and sophomore years and then continue the process throughout college. It provides information on large international companies as well as local and national hotels, restaurants, gaming venues, and other hospitality venues.

Bobbi Boughner, college alumna with nearly two decades of experience in the hospitality industry, serves as director. She credits the college for her experiences and now wants to use her knowledge to offer students similar opportunities. In addition, she hopes to provide a positive experience for hospitality businesses so they are eager to help students with jobs.

Comparing her duties to those at previous jobs, she said that much like making sure guests have an enjoyable experience, she will ensure employers provide perspective on the need for hospitality businesses so they are receiving this recognition.

Libraries Special Collections Offers Treasures from UNLV’s Past

University Libraries makes preparations for UNLV’s 50th anniversary a lot easier by providing greater access to the unique materials in the archives. UNLV’s special collections department was established in July 1967 as the first repository for historical documents in Southern Nevada, including important materials on the early history of UNLV — the university archives. In summer 2006, Tom Sommer became the newest archivist within special collections and was given the assignment to refine and expand the archives. He focused on organization, classification, and an increased web presence.

He extensively updated the university archives webpages to add photographs and descriptions of the various record series, including university publications. They now include FAQs, a bibliography of published works on UNLV, and timelines on the university’s history, buildings, and presidents. Sommer will continue to add more content and links to the university archives webpages over time. In the meantime, the newly revised webpages, www.library.unlv.edu/unlv/special/university_archives/index should be useful during the 50th anniversary year.

Law School Events Promote Exchange of Ideas

As the new semester starts, faculty, staff, and students are looking forward to the dedication of the recently completed Thomas & Mack Court facility. Housing a state-of-the-art courtroom, it is another manifestation of the tremendous generosity the Thomas and Mack families have shown the law school and UNLV.

Water Issues Conference: The conference collaboration and the Colorado River in the new facility Oct. 12. The conference will bring water and environmental experts together with specialists in dispute resolution to examine water and land-use issues relevant to the region. The school’s Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution is sponsoring the event.

Lecture: On Dec. 6, the Saltman Center will continue its Peace in the Desert lecture series with Dennis Ross, former director of policy planning under President George H.W. Bush and special Middle East envoy for President Bill Clinton.

These events, along with speakers and other guests at the school, represent the continued commitment to making the school a center for the exchange of ideas within the legal academy and here on campus. Look for new programs, additional speakers, and increased opportunities for the campus community and the school to share our work over the next year.

More info: Come to the annual open house for prospective applicants and the general public at 10 a.m. Oct. 13.
Spotlight On Accomplishments

Liisa Howard (Thomas & Mack) was named classified employee of the month in the technical/service category for July. As the head of the Technical Services Department, she provides support for special events, staff, and students at UNLV. She also maintains the computer services department, which oversees the day-to-day operations of the computer literacy program.

Lisa Davis (Business) was chosen as the 2006 conference director for the National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals annual conference in Denver.

Anthony J. Ferril (Journalism) wrote a book, Willing Suspension of Disbelief: Poetic Faith in Film, which was published by Lexington Books.

Kyle Ethelbah (CAEO) recently was named a “diversity hero” in the “Celebrating Diversity” Las Vegas multicultural visitors guide 2006-07, a publication of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. He received the award for his collaborative effort of the year award from the Division of Student Life for the development of the computer literacy initiative for college success, a collaborative partnership between the adult educational services programs within the Center for Academic Enrichment & Outreach and Nevada Job Connect.

Molly Falconer (Facilities) was named an employee of the month in the custodial category for July. A custodial worker II, she has worked at UNLV since April 2001.

Tara M. Emmer-Sommer (Communication Studies) is second-author, along with Mike Allen, Dave D’Alessio, Lindsay Timmerman, Alesia Hanaz, and Jamie Korus of the upcoming Communication Monographs article, “The Communication Between the Physiological and Psychological Reactions to Sexually Explicit Materials: A Literature Summary Using Meta-Analysis.” She is also third-author, along with Danielle Jackson and Erika Engstrom (Communication Studies), of the upcoming Sex Roles article, “Think Leader, Think Male and Think Female: Sex vs. Seating Arrangement as Leadership Cues.” She is also first-author on two papers that were presented at the recent International Communication Association conference, “Being a Woman in Academia: Women’s Shared Experiences,” with co-authors Martha Watson (Urban Affairs), Ardyth Sohn (Informatics), and Frantzen (Journalism); and, “Students’ Relationship and Sexual Health Status, Sexual Knowledge, Attitudes, Behaviors, and Responses to STD Disclosure” with co-authors Stacey Passalaquca, Kathleen Warner, and Angela Luciano.

Angeline Close (Business), Mehmet Erdem (Hotel Administration), Karen Groen (Culinary & Instructional, Management), Jairiara Lara (Spanish), Je-Yoon Go (Informatics), Taras Krysa (Music), Fatma Nasoz (Informatics), Jennifer Rennels (Psychology), Julian Smit (University College), Shannon Smith (Counselor Education), Wang, Monica Shumaker (Management), and James Woodbridge (Philosophy) participated in the second annual Regents’ Academy at Mt. Charleston. They were joined by junior faculty from all NSHE institutions for three days of intensive examination of teaching practices, course development methodologies, and discipline-specific applications. The goal of the program is to advance faculty members’ teaching skills at an early stage of their professional lives so that time and energy can be directed at productive scholarly/research activities.

Also was invited a speaker at the 2006 Annual Welfare Research Evaluation Conference to present her research on “Welfare Returns and Temporary Time Limits” presented findings from a longitudinal study on welfare recidivism in Nevada. She was invited to make the presentation by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, office of planning and evaluation.

Jerry Koloskie (Athletics) received the Far West Region of the Athletic Trainers’ Association District 8 Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer award for exemplary achievement that has brought distinction and honor to the profession of athletic training. He served as the head athletic trainer at UNLV for 16 years and was named the first president of the Nevada State Athletic Trainer’s Association. He also was named as the committee chair for the Nevada State Athletic Trainers’ Licensing Committee, which passed legislation requiring licensure of athletic trainers in Nevada. For the past nine years, he has held the position of senior associate athletic director for the intercollegiate athletic department.

Kathy Amoregili (Business) was selected as a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for July. An administrative assistant III, she supports prospective and current MBA students from the time of admission to the time of graduation. She also provides administrative support to a number of administrators and super-vises a classified staff person. She has worked at UNLV since 2004.

James Pollard and James Czitrom (Harry Reid Center), and Krystyna Slave and Michelle Reid (Environmental Studies) published a paper in the Journal of Environmental Monitoring and Assessment titled, “Selenium Concentrations in Water and Plant Tissues of a Newly Formed Arid Wetland in Las Vegas, Nevada.”

Lori Candela (Nursing) received a grant totaling more than $870,000 from the Health Resources and Services Administration to develop a first-of-its-kind partnership between schools of nursing at UNLV and UNR. The project will address the shortage of nursing educators in Nevada by accelerating the progression of master’s program students at the two universities into UNLV’s Ph.D. program.

John Bowers (English) is the Conference Chair for the 2006 Nevada Antiquarian Tradition, which...
was recently published by Notre Dame Press. Bruce Holsinger of the University of Virginia said of the book, “This consolidation of decades of scholarship on medieval England’s two central poets will provide a constant point of reference both for students and advanced scholars working in Middle English.”

Jill Theroux (Human Resources) was selected as a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for June. As the employment services coordinator she handles the classified recruitment program, serves as the primary contact for hiring officials on classified recruitment, oversees applicant screening processes, and handles employment webpage maintenance. She has worked at UNLV for two years.

Erika Engstrom (Communication Studies) presented her refereed paper, “Measuring a Woman’s Worth: Femininity and the Disciplined Body in FitT’s ‘Buff Brides’,” at the annual convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Washington, D.C.


Enrico Elisi (Music) helped former graduate student Carolyn Grossman, ’07 Master of Music, successfully prepare for the 2007 Liberace Piano Competition. She took first prize in the classical adult division. He worked with her on the details of her Debussy performance.

Amy Johnson (Librarians) was selected as a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for June. A library technician II, she was serving as intern head of the Curriculum Libraries Material when she won the award. She works with students and faculty to keep a record of the library and oversees library operations in the director’s absence. She also supervises student employees. She has worked at UNLV since January 2005. She earned her Master of Education degree in curriculum & instruction from UNLV in May.

Enrico Elisi (Music) helped former graduate student Carolyn Grossman, ’07 Master of Music, successfully prepare for the 2007 Liberace Piano Competition. She took first prize in the classical adult division. He worked with her on the details of her Debussy performance.

Judy Ries (Facilities Management) manages the Materials Library when she won the award. She assists with the general function of the library and oversees library operations in the director’s absence. She also supervises student employees. She has worked at UNLV since January 2005. She earned her Master of Education degree in curriculum & instruction from UNLV in May.

Don’t Leave a Paper Trail: Go Electronic

By Shave Bevill | Marketing & PR

Do you have a stack of old payroll stubs at your desk? If so, you are probably not alone. However, the university wants to help you change that.

UNLV is ramping up efforts to reduce the use of paper on campus, said Controller Brent Morgan. Going paperless will reduce costs, improve efficiency and service, and support sustainability initiatives.

Here are some ways that employees can help the university minimize paper.

Get Your Payroll Advice Online

One of the easiest ways to make a difference is to sign up for direct pay-roll deposit. Another is to use EQUUS, the Employee Query and Update System. Through EQUUS, you can sign up for direct deposit and get your paystub-emailed to you. You can also use this system to update your personal data forms.

Using EQUUS allows employees to bypass creating a document that gets put in the mail and ends up on someone’s desk, said Chris Viton, deputy controller. The online system improves the efficiency and the quality of data because each individual directly inputs his or her information, he said.

“Employees get their deposit information quicker, and it is accessible anytime,” Viton said. “You don’t have to wait for it to be available in your department on payday.”

Viton said that approximately 85 percent of campus has direct deposit, but only about 10 percent of those employees receive a paperless advice. “If you need the actual piece of paper, you can print it off yourself,” he said.

“From a security standpoint, employees should be careful about where they are leaving their pay stubs.”

All employees can access their pay stubs online, whether they receive the paperless advice or not. This feature comes in handy when employees need copies for loan applications.

Follow these steps to begin receiving a paperless payroll advice:

1. Login to EQUUS at hr.unlv.edu/equus_external.html
2. Click on the payroll tab at the top of the page
3. Click on the direct deposit link at the top left
4. Change from printed to web advice on the drop down menu
5. Once your paperless pay advice is ready, you will receive an e-mail with a link to your advice on the EQUUS site. For security reasons, the advice doesn’t come directly to your e-mail.
6. Call human resources at ext. 5-3504 if you don’t know your employee ID number or password.

Place and Track a Work Order

Siervice Desk is a way for customers to submit maintenance, repair, and chargeable requests using the web. The release of Siervice Desk II in August has several benefits over phone or mail-in requests, such as the ability to submit and query work requests in real time and to check status and view accumulated costs.

Get Your Travel Reimbursement Faster

Later this fall, employees will be able to receive travel reimburse-ment claims through direct deposit. Employees who use this will generally receive their reimbursement faster than those who receive paper checks. To qualify, you must be on payroll direct deposit.

Paperless Signature Authority on Department Accounts

The controller’s office simplified the process for updating signature authority for Advantage accounts. Individuals with signature author-ity only have to sign one master card.

Changes in signature authority are noticed by employees’ supervisors and then routed by e-mail to the appropriate card managers, vice president, or designee for approval with a copy simultaneously sent to the central authority.

Previously, a paper document had to be routed from desk to desk to gather all the signatures. “Departments used to avoid making changes because the process was so cumbersome,” Morgan said.
Homecoming festivities will kick off Oct. 16 with the grand opening of the 50th Anniversary Memorabilia Exhibition at the Barrick Museum of Natural History. The week's activities also include a parade, a golf tournament, and a pep rally. They will culminate Oct. 20 with a football game against Colorado State. Members of the campus community can show their support of the university and the football team by wearing red for Rebel Red Day on Oct. 19.

More info: For a complete list of homecoming 2007 activities, log onto celebrating50.unlv.edu.