Inside UNLV

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Part-Time Job Leads to Golden Career

Engineering Prof Marks 50-Year Anniversary Along with UNLV

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

It started out as something of a short-term lark and ended up lasting more than 50 years. It was 1957 when Herb Wells agreed to teach a surveying course to some engineering students at what was then the Southern Regional Division of the University of Nevada. The commitment would be temporary and part-time.

After all, the mining engineer had a full-time job at Timet and ideas on how his career would proceed — based in part on advice from a former U.S. president (but more about that later).

Wells remembers well his own student days.

“Teaching just wasn’t part of the game plan. By 1961 he had joined the faculty full-time. And in 2008 here he still is, teaching engineering students each semester as he has for the past half-century.”

Wells sits near the footprints that lead the way to the engineering complex. They are green in honor of St. Patrick, who was an engineer.

USI Draws Researchers Together

Education and Research Support Sustainability

By Shane Bevill | Marketing & PR

You probably know that energy-conscious habits like switching off lights are part of sustainability practices, but did you know the cologne you wear and your coworkers’ healthy habits play into it, too?

UNLV’s office of urban sustainability initiatives (USI) is drawing together the many research projects on progressive communities to give us a better picture of the region’s sustainability issues.

“It (the USI office) provides leadership and a central location that allows us to focus on real sustainability issues for the community and surrounding region both now and as we look to the future,” said Ron Smith, founding director of the USI office and vice president for research and graduate studies and dean of the Graduate College.

The goal of the USI office is to help build a sustainable Las Vegas, surrounding region, and state. The office draws on faculty and professional staff with sustainability expertise, existing UNLV research and service centers and institutes, and academic colleges that focus on various aspects of sustainability.

It includes areas of the campus not often thought of as being associated with sustainability, such as nursing.

Healthy Community

Barbara St. Pierre Schneider, associate dean for research in the School of Nursing, and faculty colleagues are writing a concept paper about why health care should be at the forefront of sustainability.

“To achieve sustainability comprehensively, green buildings need to have healthy people inhabiting them. You need healthy people to sustain a community,” Schneider said.

So research to promote healthy lifestyles and to anticipate the health issues of future generations falls under the sustainability umbrella, she said.

Health also plays into economic

Deserved Recognition

The 2008 academic recognition ceremony and reception is set for 3:30-5 p.m. April 24 at Ham Hall. The award presentations begin at 4 p.m. Contact Kristene Fisher at ext. 5-5182 for more information.
5 Minutes With President Ashley

New Advisory Council Fosters Communication

On a campus with such a large and diverse population, communication is a constant challenge. Inside UNLV talked to President David Ashley about two initiatives he hopes will promote a more effective flow of information.

At a recent Faculty Senate meeting, you discussed initial plans to replace the senior advisor to the president with an advisory council. Why are you making this change?

The senior advisor fulfilled two very important functions. First it ensured that there was a faculty voice in the office of the president and at cabinet meetings. Second, it provided a conduit for people to communicate their concerns to the administration. Other campus groups, however, did not have this same opportunity.

The most important role for the new President’s Advisory Council will be to facilitate discussion of issues that cut across divisions and may impact different constituencies in varying degrees.

I expect to meet with its members monthly so important issues can come forward in a timely manner. I also think this group will be helpful in communicating information back to the campus at large. The Focus: 50 to 100 planning process, for example, brought much greater transparency to the budget process. This council is a great opportunity to expand upon that. It will be a more frequent and inclusive channel for communication than what is available today.

How will you compose the group?

The group will include representatives from every major group on campus: faculty, classified staff, professional staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students. I will work with the campus leadership groups — the Faculty Senate, staff councils, and student government groups — to recommend members. The immediate past chair or current presidents of these groups would be appropriate choices because they already have strong understanding of the university’s issues as well as the trust of their colleagues.

In addition, the group will include the chief of staff for my office, once one is appointed, as well as a faculty member at large. This person will facilitate the advisory council meetings as well as attend cabinet meetings. I will be looking for someone with a fair amount of experience on campus and who can help anticipate and interpret the issues that come up. It will be important for this person to bring objectivity to the position. I would want the campus to trust in his or her ability to be a critical friend to the university above any personal agenda.

The advisory council is focused on internal communication. How is UNLV improving external communication?

Until recently, UNLV’s communications functions were housed in several different units. I believe that led to both duplication of efforts and to mixed messages about the university. In the fall, we reorganized several external relations offices under the vice president for advancement. The goal is to build a truly integrated and collaborative unit for communicating with alumni, community members, government officials, donors, and the media.

The next step is the hiring of an associate vice president for communications. This person should be on board before summer and will be responsible for educating the various audiences about our mission and challenges. In addition, the AVP will work to formally reach out to the communications specialists in the individual colleges.

Picture This: Test Your UNLV Knowledge

You’re almost out of time. If you’ve been meaning to enter Inside UNLV’s Picture This: 50th Anniversary Trivia Contest, you’d better not put it off any longer. Just for submitting answers to last month’s questions, Mora Snyder of the curriculum & instruction department received a gift bag filled with fun 50th anniversary items.

1 This member of the rat pack received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from UNLV in 1976 and organized two benefit shows for the university in the late 1970s.

a. Frank Sinatra
b. Dean Martin
c. Joey Bishop

2 Scenes from which movie were filmed in the university’s gym in 1964?

a. Ocean’s Eleven (original version)
b. Diamond’s Are Forever
c. Viva Las Vegas

3 What future U.S. Senator spoke at an antiwar rally at UNLV in 1971?

a. Ted Kennedy
b. John Kerry
c. Al Gore

How to Enter

By E-mail — Send your answers to inside@unlv.edu by April 15. To be eligible for the prize you must:

• Include the word “trivia” in the subject line of your e-mail.
• Include your name, title, department, and telephone extension.

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

Name: __________________________
Title: __________________________
Department: ____________________
Phone: __________________________
E-mail: _________________________

The answers to last month’s questions:

1. a. "Viva Las Vegas"
2. a. "Ocean’s Eleven"
3. a. John Kennedy

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

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Inside UNLV is a monthly publication by the office of Marketing & Public Relations.

UNLV is an AA/EEO Institution.
What You Said: E-Mail, Security Top Concerns

Subject: Steps OIT is taking to improve services

E-mail

• Survey the campus about Lotus Notes to determine likes and dislikes and then address those issues.
• Study help desk calls to address requests for improvement.
• Address the syncing of web and client passwords.
• Upgrade to Lotus Notes 8, which includes an improved interface and features similar to Microsoft Outlook.
• Provide online tutorials and additional educational resources, especially for advanced features and mail management.
• Investigate student perceptions of Rebellmail.

Communications

• Host second security campaign this fall focusing on specific security tips, such as how to respond to a security breach, increase password security, and lock a desktop computer.
• Gather feedback about file storage systems, address specific needs, and communicate about how groups can share and exchange documents more effectively.
• Increase communications about software purchasing.
• Launch Lotus Notes education campaign.

Student Information Systems

• Continue work with the NSHE iNtegrate project to select new student information system. The new system should help automate processes related to student information and improve data tracking.
• Reorganize OIT to meet the support demands of the new system when it arrives.

Continuing dialogue with campus

• Convert annual survey to electronic format.
• Create more opportunities for campus to provide input into the design and implementation of new products — OIT will ask the campus to participate in beta-testing and usability studies.
• Conduct follow-up surveys on every third help request to improve services.
• Launch Lotus Notes education campaign.
• Gather feedback about file storage systems, address specific needs, and communicate about how groups can share and exchange documents more effectively.
• Increase communications about software purchasing.
• Launch Lotus Notes education campaign.

Continuing the dialogue — Administrators encourage all employees to provide feedback this year through its periodic surveys. Additionally, you can volunteer to beta-test programs and participate in usability studies. “We value the feedback of the 192 individuals who responded last fall,” said Lori Temple, vice provost for information technology, “but are revising our survey format next year to increase response rates.”

More info: To read more details about the survey data, go to oit.unlv.edu and click on “About OIT.”

OIT Improves Services in Response to Campus Survey

By Mamie Peers | OIT

The office of information technology (OIT) placed impetus on e-mail and increasing awareness about security among its top priorities after a survey revealed your top needs.

Respondents to the campuswide survey also asked for more information about software licensing and file storage as well as more support for new administrative systems. The survey, which was conducted in the early fall, had 192 responses.

While OIT administrators noted that resources make it difficult to add new services or increase response times, they have pledged to address many of the concerns during the next 18 months.

E-mail — E-mail was identified as one of the most valued services offered by OIT, which will increase instructional resources for Lotus Notes users. “Like all units, we’re dealing with limited resources. Server space is a critical issue and our initial training materials will offer tips on managing mail,” said Mike Marchand, systems manager leading OIT’s e-mail improvement group.

Communications — Communications this fall will focus on specific security tips as well as software purchasing and file storage (two areas respondents say they know the least about). OIT manages many types of software licenses including several at no cost to the campus community. In the months ahead watch for more information about software services. “We are trying to make obtaining needed technology easier for faculty and staff and students,” said Dave Schoenendorf, manager of client services. “Our goal is to create multiple resources for information.”

Student Information Systems — Respondents requested more automated processes and fewer logins for the system. Several OIT representatives work closely with NSHE’s team on the iNtegrate project, which is very close to selecting a new product for the university. OIT plans to realign software engineers and system administrator positions to better support the new system when the time comes.

Educating Students

The USI office also focuses on:

• Outreach. Providing urban-focused conferences, forums, speakers, and publications. The inaugural UNLV Urban Sustainability Conference held on campus last fall drew more than 450 attendees. The university is hosting another conference this fall to discuss the future of Las Vegas.

• Applied Research. Faculty members are studying water use, water quality, climate change, indoor environmental quality, and sustainable architecture.

Linda Stetzenbach, for example, studied indoor air quality and its link to energy usage in 10 office buildings, 10 schools, and 10 high-performance (green) buildings across the United States. The research looked at air usage as it relates to lighting, acoustics, and building characteristics such as south-facing windows and thermal comfort, which includes indicators that limited resources make it difficult to add new services or increase response times, they have pledged to address many of the concerns during the next 18 months.

occupants’ acceptability of distracting noises and odors. “We found that people don’t like to smell odors in their office or in their classroom — odors from the kitchen area, colleges, or potpourris,” she said. “These odors lead building managers to use more energy by increasing the air velocity to get rid of those fragrances.”

• Education. Developing academic programs to educate students about urban sustainability challenges and solutions. Among the sustainability courses UNLV currently offers are land use management and global environmental policies.

The College of Sciences is looking at an interdisciplinary sustainability research course for freshmen, while UNLV’s MBA program is considering a three-course option dealing with sustainable business.

The USI office will be offering inaugural graduate assistantships to qualified master’s and doctoral students starting in the fall. Students will work closely with faculty in their majors as well as with the USI office to research and promote sustainability topics.

More info: A lister of faculty and campus experts specializing in urban sustainability issues is available at urban21.unlv.edu.

Faculty Research

Here is a sample of some of the sustainability research being conducted by UNLV faculty.

■ Dale Devitt, a professor of soil and water science in the School of Life Sciences, studied golf courses and other high-grass areas to determine how high or low to cut the grass, what fertilizer to use, and how much money can be saved. His water research is being used at golf courses.

■ Cynthia Carnuthers, professor in the recreation and sport management department, studied two after-school youth development programs in an effort to enhance social sustainability in Southern Nevada. Her work recognizes that social sustainability requires community members to work together to advance the social good.

■ Keith Schwer of the Center for Business and Economic Research is researching economic issues associated with sustainability. The topics range from the economic implications of developing renewable energy technology to the costs of improving the high school dropout rate in Nevada.

More info: To see more about UNLV’s research efforts, go to urban21.unlv.edu. Inside UNLV | Page 3
Across Campus

Business

New Program Helps Managers Take That Next Step

A new program to help business managers and professionals move into upper management now is being offered by the college.

The Business Essentials: Executive Certificate in Business Administration program introduced practicing managers, business owners, and professionals to increasingly pertinent concepts, tools, and techniques taught in today’s business schools.

This program is ideal for experienced or high-potential managers and professionals who may not have received formal business education, but who wish to move up the salary bracket by seeking a stronger foundation in current business theory and practice. A high school diploma or college degree is not required for the open-enrollment program.

The program will be taught by professors who have years of experience making business concepts and skills readily understandable and immediately useful. Topics range from leadership and management styles, to business law, to corporate finance education.

Sessions are organized into four, two-day modules focused on people, processes, the environment of business, and money. A new module is offered every month, so students can complete the program in as little as four months or can take up to two years.

More info: Go to bizoutreach.unlv.edu or call ext. 5-3394.

Engineering

O’Toole Named Robotics Competition Volunteer of the Year

Mechanical engineering professor Brendan O’Toole recently was named the 2008 FIRST Las Vegas Volunteer of the Year. O’Toole is involved in the regional Robotics Competition, which takes place at UNLV each year.

FIRST engages nearly 30,000 students on more than 1,300 teams in 41 regional competitions for a chance to compete in the national championship in Atlanta. When UNLV was initially awarded a regional competition in 2005, only three local high school teams competed. Last year, 12 local teams competed, and this year there were 15 local teams.

O’Toole’s efforts were instrumental in UNLV’s success. He conducts an engineering course that requires students to mentor one of the local FIRST Robotic teams. That experience allows the university’s students to apply their engineering knowledge to a real-world situation while encouraging high school students to pursue engineering degrees. O’Toole spends hours promoting the profession, mentoring students, and volunteering at several FIRST events. Several of the students he has mentored are now part of the college in professional capacities.

Hosting a regional FIRST competition is part of the college’s strategy to recruit students who will be the next generation of scientists and engineers. Despite the high demand for engineers nationwide, American universities struggle to attract enough engineering students to keep pace with other industrialized nations.

More info: Call ext. 5-2787.

Graduate Student Not Moot

Students from the Boyd School of Law ask questions of members of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after the panel heard arguments at the Thomas & Mack Court facility. They are, from left, Circuit Judge Marsha Berzon, Circuit Chief Judge Alex Kozinski, and Circuit Judge Jay Bybee. Bybee is a former member of the Boyd faculty.

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Across Campus

Education
Two Prestigious Journals Raise College Profile

Two highly respected education journals, both with a history of more than 50 years of continuous publication, soon will be housed in the college. The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education recently announced that an editorial team of UNLV researchers will guide the Journal of Teacher Education, the premiere journal in the field. The team will be led by editors-in-chief Sandra Odell, chair of the department of curriculum & instruction, and M. Christopher Brown, dean of the college. The editorial team includes curriculum & instruction faculty members Elizabeth Spalding, Jian Wang, Cari Kleeca, and Emily Lin. Additionally, curriculum & instruction professors Thomas Bean and Helen Harper were selected as the next editors of the Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy. This premiere peer-reviewed journal is a publication of the International Reading Association, which has more than 17,000 members. These additions will contribute to the rising visibility of a department that has a history of faculty serving as editors of respected journals. Other journals housed in the department or edited by its faculty include the Journal of Children’s Literature (co-editor Randall Boone), the Journal of Science Education and Technology (associate editor Kent Crüppen), and Intervention in School and Clinic (co-editor Randall Boone).

Liberal Arts
New Program Helps Teachers Master History

A master of arts degree (MAT) in teaching history is in the development structure in Nevada.
• Januy, a lecture on the state of legal education and the law in Nevada.
• February, a lecture on the state of the legal profession.
• April 2009, a gala black-tie cocktail reception and dinner.

Law
Celebrating 10 Successful Years

The Boyd School of Law kicks off its 10-year anniversary celebration 6 p.m. April 11 in the Thomas & Mack Court facility. Other major anniversary events include an alumni and student event in the fall, a gala event during spring 2009, and an ongoing lecture series on an array of issues relevant to Nevada. The history of the law school, faculty accomplishments, and the clinical program will be highlighted throughout the year. Upcoming events include:
• 3-6 p.m. April 11, a forum on the new advertising rules for lawyers. The kick-off celebration will follow at 6 p.m.
• June, a lecture on the state of immigration in Nevada.
• September, a lecture on the state of gaming in Nevada.
• October, a lecture on the state of social services in Nevada.
• November, a lecture on the future of the economy and tax stages and may be offered as soon as fall 2009. Being developed collaboratively by the history department and the College of Education, the program is designed primarily for high school and middle school history and social science teachers in the Clark County School District (CCSD). The program is intended to enhance students’ content knowledge and further develop their historical research skills for use in the classroom. The idea is to help local teachers become master teachers who recognize history’s relevance to contemporary issues and problems. Students will take some of their history courses within an “examination field” and others within a “teaching field.” The teaching field includes an original research project that will serve as the basis for the creation or redesign of classroom units. In addition, students will be able to choose from a range of education courses to enhance teaching effectiveness. Courses will be offered in American, European, and world history.

This new program will not provide teacher certification; that is done through bachelor’s and master’s programs in the College of Education. Rather, it will offer certified teachers a graduate option that is directly relevant to their work as teachers of history. In helping CCSD teachers of social studies and history gain mastery of their course content and enhance their pedagogical skills, this interdisciplinary, cross-college initiative will facilitate the process by which future UNLV students in Clark County become prepared for university-level history coursework.

Cleaning Under Pressure

Leslie Matys, left, zone supervisor for the north side of campus, uses a high-pressure washer, while grounds worker Gilda Holliday assists with the cleaning of a sidewalk.
**Spotlight On Accomplishments**

**Cheryl Tillotsen** (University College) recently was notified that she is the next UNLV undergradu- ate advisor of the year. She is the seventh of 2008 Board of Regents undergraduate advisor of the year award, which will be announced within the next several months. She will receive her UNLV award at the campus- wide academic recognition ceremony on April 24. She is known as an advisor in University College for the past seven years. Before that she was an advisor in the psychology department.

**Lisa Davis** (Business) and Peggy Marlow (CAEO) participated in the February meeting of the Las Vegas chapter of the American Marketing Association. Davis spoke about the mis- sion and highlights of the UNLV MBA program. Marlow shared information on the services provided through the fed- erally funded TRIO and GEAR UP pro- grams housed in the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (CAEO). She also talked briefly about the partnership CAEO has with the Clark County School District and the tutoring services provided to all the programs’ participants.

**Suzanne LaVolpa** (Physical Therapy) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for February. A nine-year UNLV employee, she began her campus career in physi- cal therapy, returning there in November after two years in the office of the dean of the School of Allied Health. An adminis- trative assistant III, she manages the budget, oversees custodial data input, and handles purchasing.

**Bernard Cole** (Police Services) has been promoted to the rank of police detective. Before coming to UNLV, he spent 20 years with the New York City police department where he reached the position of detective second-grade. His career in New York included an assignment as an undercover officer with the narcotics unit, an assign- ment in the intelligence unit, and, ulti- mately, an assignment on Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s personal security detail. In addition, he is a U.S. Air Force veteran with four years of service to his country.

**Molly Michelman** (Nutrition Sciences) was recognized by the National Institutes of Health/National Heart, Blood, Lung, and Blood Institute for her work with the We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children’s Activity and Nutrition) program. This program is a national effort to prevent obesity in children and families. Thanks to her efforts, Las Vegas is now a We Can! city.

**Mary Palevsky** (Liberal Arts and Libraries) recently launched an oral his- tory interviewing project with the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Japan) and the Kohala Center on the island of Hawaii. The research explores the perceptions of culture, sci- ence, and community, focusing on the 13,800-foot Mauna Kea, a sacred moun- tain to the Hawaiian people and one of 13 international observatories, includ- ing Japan’s Subaru telescope. With co- principal investigators, Kenji Ito (Japan) and Yvonnie Carter (Hawaii), she is doc- umenting and archiving the voices of Subaru scientists, practitioners of indig- enous science and traditional knowledge, Japanese-Americans, and local residents.

**Joe McCullough** (English) recently learned that his new book, The Cosmopolitan Twin, edited with Professor Ann Ryan (LeMoyne College), will be pub- lished this year by the University of Missouri Press. Also, he has been re- elected to the executive board of the Mark Twain Circle of America, as well as appointed to the editorial board of The Mark Twain Annual, the society’s flagship journal.

**Alan Simmons** (Anthropology and Ethnic Studies) was presented the P.E. MacAllister field archaeology award at the 2007 annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research. This is a career award for archaeologists who have made substantial contributions to Near Eastern and Mediterranean archaeology.

**Carol Kimball** (Music) was recently appointed to the board of advisors of the Lois Lehman Foundation. Conceived in 1997, the foundation seeks to perpetu- ate the legacy of distinguished soprano and teacher Lois Lehman. Kimball hopes to honor her dream of bringing art song into the lives of as many people as pos- sible. Kimball joins a distinguished list of specialists in the field of classical song — composers, singers, pianists, and edu- cators — among them: Marilyn Horne, Frederica Von Stade, Thomas Hampson, Graham Johnson, Huguès Cuénot, Warren Jones, Jennifer Larmore, Barbara Bonney, Grace Bumbry, Kiri Te Kanawa, Lukas Foss, and Lotfi Mansouri.

**Cherisha Gaitor** (Student Life) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for February. A services specialist for student life, focusing on admission and, fa- cilities, she processes timesheets for student workers, oversees P-card pur- chases, orders supplies, and performs general office duties. She is working toward a UNLV degree with a major in broadcasting. She will celebrate her two- year anniversary at UNLV in July.

**Ann McDonough** (University College) presented a workshop on Doug Hill (Theatre) on Applications of the Ten-Minute Play for Senior Adult Theatre at the American College Theatre Festival in February.

**Stephen M. Miller** (Economics) and Worsho Feng (Feng Chia University, Taiwan) published “The Effects of Market Moderation and the Relationship between Output Growth and Its Volatility” in the Southern Economic Journal in January. He, along with Injil Yi (Yonang University, Korea), and Woril Jeong and Yongil Jeon (both Sungkyunkwan University, Korea) also presented “The Effects of Foreign Ownership on Korean Domestic Banking Industry” at the Southern Economic Association meetings in November.

**Karl Kingsley, Susan O’Malley, Tanis Stewart, and Katherine Howard** (Dental Medicine) were authors of the article “Research Enrollment: Evaluation of Structured Research in the Curriculum for Dental Medicine Students as Part of the Vertical and Horizontal Integration of Biomedical Training and Discovery,” which was published in the peer-reviewed journal, BMC Medical Education in February.

**Jay Shon, Chris Cochran, and Chuck Moseley** (Health Care Administration and Policy) won the award for the best paper in their track at the annual meeting of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences, which took place in Las Vegas in February. They presented the paper, “Hospital and Market Factors and the Admission of the Seriously Mentally Ill to General Hospitals from the Emergency Department.”

**Robert Raschke** (Accounting) recently presented “Development of a Business Process Automation (BPA) and An Examination of BPA and Process Outcome” to the 2nd Enterprise Systems workshop in Montreal, Canada. In addi- tion, she is the senior author of the arti- cle “Mitigating the Effects of Misleading Graphs on Decisions by Educating Users about the Principles of Graph Design,” which was accepted for publication in the Journal of Information Systems.

**Helen Tartaglia** (CAEO) is the new program coordinator in the TRIO adult educational services office. Her area of responsibility will be data management and collection. Before receiving her bach- elor’s degree in management information systems from UNLV in December, she was a student worker for CAEO. At win- ter commencement she was recognized as the oldest graduate at that ceremony.

**Karl Kingsley** (Student Life) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for February. A services specialist for student life, focusing on admission and, fa-

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**University College**

**UNLV Student-Athletes**

**Score in Final Senior Honor Society**

The office of student-athlete academic services had a record-setting fall semester for its student-athletes. Among stories:

- The number of student-athletes set to receive All-Mountain West Conference honors was an all-time high.
- The number of football players to be honored was 16.
- The number of football players to earn a semester grade-point average of 3.0 or better: 16.
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Another Take

By Michelle Mouton | UNU Foundation

College of Fine Arts faculty and students brought a little Las Vegas to Australia in March when they participated in the Adelaide Fringe Festival. Seven faculty members and 28 students participated in the world’s second-largest fringe festival, presenting pieces ranging from dance, to percussion, to short films. This is the second year the college has participated.

The highlight piece, “Sin City, the Golden Years,” was written by film professor Sean Clark. Set in the Moonlight Lounge in Las Vegas on New Year’s Eve 1963, this original take on a group of Las Vegas entertainers featured students sharing their talents through song, dance, and comedy. Clark enjoyed collaborating with the students and faculty from other departments. “(Dance professor) Richard Havery did a great job as choreographer,” he said. “All of the students performed incredibly well, which was very rewarding.”

Visiting lecturer Tim Jones, a graduate of the University of Adelaide, said of UNLV’s presentations at the festival, “The students are integrally involved with the production from the initial ideas for the show, through costuming, stage design, adjustments in direction, and the rehearsal process, which gives them an appreciation of every aspect of mounting, advertising, and producing a show. The cultural experience and being immersed in an environment rich in the arts gives them perspective of what is going on in the world today.” Faculty members like Jones also had an opportunity to perform. Jones and Alex Stopa, an Adelaide native and UNLV doctoral candidate, presented a percussion concert for those who could follow their musical journey from Adelaide to Las Vegas. They also interacted with local percussion students at a master class.

The college is able to provide the Adelaide experience for its students in part because of a donation from Las Vegas resident Mary Healey Hayes. Her career spanned six decades in vaudeville, radio, television, and film.

Invent the Future

The highlight piece, “Sin City,” the Seven faculty members and 28 students participated in the Adelaide Fringe Festival. They also interacted with local percussion students at a master class.

In a couple of weeks, we will start to mow the lawns and edge the grass.

Tips for staying fit: Get active. The more you do, the better. To burn calories, engage in some kind of physical activity every day. Of course, it also helps to maintain a healthy diet — avoid fast food and fried foods.

Why you do what you do: I love athletics and helping our kids improve. I get excited when an athlete’s vertical jump goes up.

Biggest challenge: It’s hard to individualize workouts for the amount of athletes we have. For example, the soccer team has about 25 athletes. There is a general workout for the entire team. But, I also work with each player to help each one meet individual goals.

Can’t work without: An open mind, cooperation, and my stopwatch.

A mei Amei
Professor of Statistics, Mathematics Department
Rebel since: 2007
Typical day: My class is in the evening, so I use the day to prepare for it. This semester, I’m teaching biostatistics. After my class, I usually conduct research.

You why do what you do: I want to show students the beauty of math—mathe-matics and statistics and how both can relate to their lives. By using statistics and applying it to biology, I hope one day I’ll be able to detect cancer genes within humans.

Can’t work without: A pencil, paper, and green tea.

Tips for getting over math phobia: One of my favorite movies is A Beautiful Mind. It shows that if you really want something, you have to be persistent. So, if you are determined to get over your fear, at least try it first.

Why the same first and last name?: I am from Inner Mongolia, China. As a Mongolian, your first name is your full name — it’s a tradition. When I arrived in the U.S., one of the first things I did was open a bank account. But to do that, I had to give the bank a first and last name. I tried to use “A” as my first name and “Mei” as my last, but I couldn’t use just an initial. So, I double my first name.

Any luck gambling?: I once played the slots while at McCarran Airport. I put in a quarter and won $10. But as a probabilist, I don’t gamble because I know the odds for winning aren’t high.

David Veith
Turf Supervisor, Facilities Management Department
Rebel since: 1985
Typical day: My day starts at 6 a.m. and wraps up at around 2:30 p.m. to avoid the extremes of the day. Right now, we are fertilizing and aerating, which basically means punching holes in the ground to give it air, water, and nutrients. In a couple of weeks, we will start to mow the lawns and edge the grass.

Perfect day: A perfect day is when the grass is green.

Why you do what you do: I care how this university looks. It’s a great source of pride for our students, faculty, and staff. So, I want to make sure the campus looks nice for them.

Fall or spring?: Spring. There is a newness of life that the season brings. Everything turns from brown to green, and you can see the flowers and trees start to bloom.

People would be surprised to know: I enjoy playing video games. Right now I am really into Guitar Hero — I’m an old rocker at heart. I’ve been playing a lot of Deep Purple lately.
Focused on Fitness

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

Being fit is an important part of a well-balanced life. But getting a workout in during the hectic workweek can be tough. Some of your colleagues make it part of their daily, on-campus routine. John Hobbes, a graphic artist in the office of reprographics/design services, joined the Student Recreation and Wellness Center for cardio exercise and weight lifting. His workouts will pay off when he goes on a 12-day, 57-mile hiking and camping trip with his 14-year-old son’s Boy Scout troop this summer.

Other employees take advantage of the swimming pool, group fitness classes, and racquetball and basketball courts. The Division of Educational Outreach offers employees a chance to take sports and fitness classes at a 50 percent discount. For the past five years, Jennifer McCarthy, director of academic and research space, has taught two yoga classes a week.

“Yoga helps people stay fit not only in our bodies, but also in the mind and spirit,” said McCarthy, a registered yoga teacher. “People gain strength and flexibility from the practice, but yoga also teaches us to be present, in the moment, and increase our focus and concentration. These are tools that can be taken off the mat and into our daily lives.”

The “sneaker patrol,” a lunchtime group of faculty and staff, will reassemble in the fall to walk a two-mile route at lunch every day. “We take different directions around the campus and wear pedometers so we know how far we’ve walked on the various treks,” said member Susan Summers, budget technician in the English department.

(Right) English instructor Suzanne Bergfalk participates in “Yoga for Every Body,” a class offered by the Division of Educational Outreach and taught by Jennifer McCarthy of the provost’s office. (Below) Georgina Corbalan of the UNLV Foundation concentrates during the class.