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## Inside UNLV

Grace Russell  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Michelle Mouton  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Shane Bevell  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

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

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## Parking Permit Changes



A parking enforcement employee checks to make sure a car has the proper parking sticker. Rules for handicap parking at UNLV are changing. The hope is that the changes will decrease the number of people who illegally park their cars in those spaces.

### UNLV Community Must Pay for Handicap Permits

By **Shane Bevell** | Marketing & PR

Regulations for parking in handicap stalls are changing.

Beginning this fall, handicapped employees and students must:

- bring their state-issued handicap placards and letters saying they are handicapped to the office of parking and transportation services for verification
  - buy parking permits at the same rate as other faculty and staff
  - display UNLV-issued handicap permits on their vehicles
- Visitors who park in handicap spots now will need to pay adjacent parking meters — even if they have a state-issued handicap permit.

Previously, UNLV did not charge handicapped parkers at all. This contributed to a high level of abuse, said Tad McDowell, parking and transportation services director. “By

### Connect with Campus

The Rebel Connection will take place Aug. 20-29. Volunteers are needed for Ask Me! booths, the pancake breakfast, and Premier UNLV. An online volunteer form will be available in August at [rebelconnection.unlv.edu](http://rebelconnection.unlv.edu).

implementing a fee that is equivalent to what everyone else pays to park, we hope to reduce the amount of abuse. While many people might think this is a negative thing, we are actually protecting the handicap parking for those who really need it.”

### Permit Rate Increases

Annual parking permits expire Aug. 15. The 2008-09 parking permit for faculty and staff is \$230 or \$19.17 per month, a \$1.67 per month increase over last year. Go to the parking and transportation services website at [parking.unlv.edu](http://parking.unlv.edu) to see all types of permits sold.

Permit fees are used for the development and maintenance of parking on campus. Construction is scheduled to begin in late fall on a new parking garage west of the Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

 **More info:** Go to [parking.unlv.edu](http://parking.unlv.edu) to order your permit.

## Time to Take Stock

### Campus Begins Preparing for 2010 Accreditation

By **Diane Russell** | Marketing & PR

Every 10 years, like clockwork, UNLV's accreditation comes up for renewal. And every 10 years, like clockwork, there's a ton of work to be done before the team from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities sets foot on campus.

The team is set to arrive April 19, 2010. Almost two years away — plenty of time, you might think.

Well, there's time, but it's more in the category of sufficient than plenty. That's because the vast majority of UNLV's work toward re-accreditation takes place before the accreditation team touches down at McCarran.

And, as you may have guessed, “before” really translates to “now.”

### Preparation Begun

But never fear; a small group of folks across campus began working on this humongous project some months back. Come the start of fall semester even more of us will be pitching in.

The university must have an official report based on a comprehensive self-study in the hands of accrediting agency personnel some months prior to the April 2010 visit.

Though it is a lot of work, the accreditation process is both necessary and important, said Michael Bowers, who as vice provost of academic affairs heads UNLV's accreditation efforts.

“It is an opportunity to go in and do a comprehensive evaluation of the university from the top

### Accreditation Task Forces & Chairs

Institutional Mission and Goals, Planning and Effectiveness	Juanita Fain, interim vice president for student affairs and vice president for planning
Educational Program and Its Effectiveness	Bea Babbitt, director of academic assessment Francisco Menendez, chair of the film department
Students	Richard Clark, director of student conduct and residential life Jessica Lucero, GPSA president Adam Cronis, CSUN president
Faculty	Marta Meana, psychology professor Caryn Bellomo, math professor
Library and Information Resources	Chris Brown, dean of the College of Education Scott Smith, associate dean of University Libraries
Governance and Administration	Nancy Flagg, special assistant to the vice president for research Nasser Daneshvary, Faculty Senate chair/economics professor
Finance	Brent Morgan, controller
Physical Resources	Dave James, associate vice provost for academic programs Keith Rogers, deputy executive director for operations of the CAEO
Institutional Integrity	Dottie Shank Barnett, chair of the Classified Staff Council and administrative assistant in the department of environmental studies
Data Gathering	Kari Coburn, director of the office of institutional analysis & planning

to the bottom — every department, every activity — and see how we're doing,” Bowers said. While some may harbor concern that their particular area may be found wanting, “at the same time it's a good chance to show off what we are doing and what we are doing well.”

Without accreditation, UNLV students would not be able to transfer credits earned here to other universities and financial aid and faculty research grants would be put in jeopardy, he said.

Also heavily involved in the

assessment process is the university's newest academic affairs fellow, mechanical engineering professor Mohamed Trabia.

### Steering Committee

The accreditation steering committee, which has been meeting for some months, is comprised of a cross-section of the campus community. Steering committee members are heading 10 task forces, each charged with a portion of

> See **ACCREDITATION**, Page 7

### News You Can Use



### And the Winner Is...

Congratulations to Derek Furukawa, the grand prize winner of *Inside UNLV's* Picture This: 50th Anniversary Trivia Contest.

Furukawa is a senior academic advisor at the Wilson Advising Center. Just for entering the contest — and having his name pulled at random — he wins:

- two season football tickets
- a copy of history professor Eugene Moehring's book, *University of Nevada Las Vegas: A History*
- a commemorative bottle of wine
- a white 50th anniversary polo shirt
- a denim 50th anniversary shirt

**The answers to last month's trivia questions:** Felicia Campbell is UNLV's longest-serving full-time faculty member. A professor in the English department, she came to UNLV in 1962.

**Looking for contest ideas:** *Inside UNLV* would like to run another contest in the near future. Send your ideas to [inside@unlv.edu](mailto:inside@unlv.edu). Include the words “contest idea” in the subject line. Or, send your ideas to Diane Russell at mailstop 1024.

**President's Classified Employee of the Year**

## Judi Jones

Program Officer I, Facilities Management

**Rebel Since:** 1985

**What she does:** Our department maintains the entire campus. We have movers, plumbers, electricians, custodians, painters, locksmiths, HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) personnel, welders — you name it. They all need parts to do their jobs. I order the stock for the warehouse, pay the utilities for the entire campus, and call vendors if we need them. I make sure that purchase requests are submitted to purchasing and that all invoices are paid on time.

**What makes her successful in her position:** People can rely on me to find answers to their questions. So in a way, I'm also the investigator for our department.

**What keeps her going:** I have sat at this same desk for 15 years issuing purchase requests and making sure that our lights stay on. It's a challenge — and I do love a challenge.

**Can't work without:** My computer, the support of my co-workers, and a sense of humor.

**Why she was nominated, according to Rick Storlie, facilities management director of administrative services:** "For over 22 years, Judi has been the friendly, professional face of facilities management's customer service. She handles the daily operations of our department with exceptional ease and expertise. Her positive attitude and enthusiasm are infectious. She is a key reason why our department has been successful in meeting the needs of the campus community."

**What she won:** \$1,000 and a plaque

**Reaction to winning:** My jaw dropped. There were so many good people nominated. I am tucked away on the outskirts of the main campus in the Campus Services Building. I just didn't think anyone noticed me.



**Classified Employee of the Year, Second Place**

## Victor Welbourne

Facilities Supervisor, Plumbing Shop

**Rebel Since:** 1993

**What he does:** I've been a plumber for 34 years. Our shop does everything from fixing faucets and water main breaks to changing fire hydrants and inspecting fire sprinklers. Right now we are re-piping the drains and remodeling the bathrooms on the third through seventh floors of FDH.

**What keeps him going:** I like to keep my mind active and doing things people assume I can't. FDH is probably one of the biggest in-house projects we've tackled. We could have passed this project up. But this is a challenge for us, and that's what I like.

**Can't work without:** Good employees — which I have — and supervisors who back me and believe that when I say I can do something, I can.

**Why he was nominated, according to Kevin Raschko, assistant director of facilities management:** "Vic's judgment is beyond par and his leadership is second to none. Five years ago, the drainpipes in FDH began to fail and were in desperate need of repair. Outside vendor quotes deemed the pipes too expensive to replace. Vic developed a way to replace the pipes by partnering with other facilities units, saving the university over a million dollars."

**What he won:** \$750 and a plaque

**Reaction to winning:** In 2003, I won the Classified Employee of the Year Award. I didn't think it could happen again. This lets me know that the plumbing staff and I are doing what's best for the university.



**Classified Employee of the Year, Third Place**

## Del Kolbet

Facilities Supervisor II



**Rebel since:** I've been a rebel all my life and an official UNLV Rebel since 1989.

**What he does:** From 2 p.m. until 11 p.m., I supervise "the night crew." People assume the university shuts down at 5 p.m., but it's a 24-hour-a-day place, and anything can happen. We handle emergencies including fires, broken water mains, power outages, car accidents, and lockouts.

We make sure that problems are contained and resolved before the campus resumes at 8 a.m.

**What keeps him going:** I live, drink, and breathe UNLV. It doesn't matter if a tree blows down across campus at 3 a.m. — I'm like Mach 5 with my hair on fire. People tell me to calm down; I guess I'm a little hyper-active. But I am just "on fire" for my job and my family.

**What makes him successful:** My lack of knowledge. I love learning. Although I think I know where every water valve, light switch, and breaker on this campus is located, I still get excited when I find a new one.

**Couldn't have made it this far without:** The campus community, including Arch Archibald, Karl Reynolds, and Kevin Raschko in facilities. They have supported my growth and have nurtured me through some tough times. Recently, I had a serious health problem. The concern they had for me was phenomenal.

**Why he was nominated, according to Ken Hughes, construction project coordinator of the roof shop:** "Del also works on-call and frequently has to come back to the university on the nights and weekends, often taking time away from his family. There are very few people at the university who are as dedicated as Del or who possess the array of talents he has."

**What he won:** \$500 and a plaque

**Reaction to winning:** I didn't think I deserved it. But after 20 years, I guess the university said, "This guy is really important to us." It makes me want to give another 110 percent.

**President's Professional Staff Member of the Year****Phil Burns**

Assistant Director, Office of Student Conduct

**Rebel since:** 1995

**What he does:** I make sure students know their rights and responsibilities. If a student engages in behavior that is against the student conduct code — alcohol in the residence halls, academic misconduct, fighting, etc. — they are referred to our office, which then works with the student to address the situation.

**Typical day:** There is no typical day, which is why I love my job. During the heart of the school year, I have anywhere between eight and 13 appointments in addition to the outreach efforts we do for the campus community.

**Biggest challenge:** Getting all the cases reported and adjudicated in a timely manner. However, I am never going to rush a meeting with a student.

**Most memorable case:** The "Phone Pin Scandal." A student accessed an employee's long distance personal identification number and shared it with friends (most of whom lived in the residence halls). By the time it was discovered, 650 students had made more than \$63,000 worth of phone calls. Together with other campus departments and organizations, we were able to identify the calls made from each residence hall room. A co-worker and I spent nearly three months meeting with those students to resolve the matter.

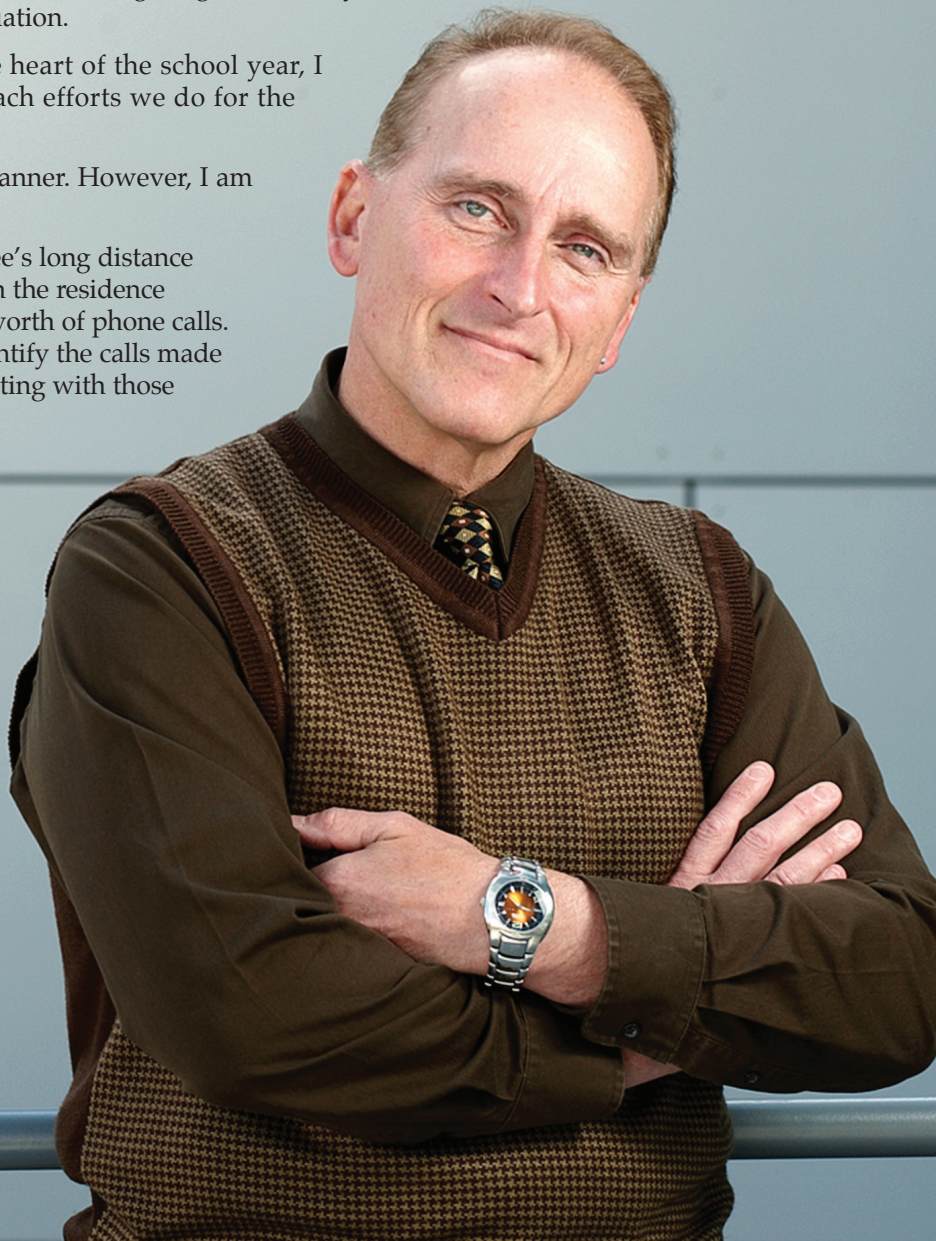
**Why he does what he does:** The opportunity to truly make a difference — not everyone gets to say that, although I think everyone can make a difference. A couple years after a student was permanently kicked out of school, I received a card in the mail. He thanked me for taking the time because if not, he stated, he would have been dead or in jail.

**Can't work without:** Sense of humor. A lot of the cases we deal with can be difficult so you need that healthy mental balance. I do that by spending time at the dog park with my two chocolate labs.

**People would be surprised to know:** In my previous career I toured Europe as the company manager for *Phantom of the Opera*.

**Why he was nominated, according to Paula Castillo, executive assistant to the dean of University College:** "He performs a very difficult job with the utmost professionalism, confidentiality, and justice. Phil has earned the respect and loyalty of everyone he interacts with in the department, division, and across campus — something some administrators never achieve."

**What he won:** \$1,000 and a plaque

**Classified Rookie of the Year****Suna Curry**Administrative Assistant IV /  
Office Manager, Wilson Advising**Rebel Since:** July 2006

**What she does:** This position allows me to use my background in computer programming to take on tasks beyond my job description. Recently, I helped implement an online advising worksheet similar to the one the College of Liberal Arts uses, for two other colleges. This database tracks the classes students need to take throughout their college careers. It's going to save everyone time.

I'm also a student at the university. I am pursuing a bachelor's degree in psychology and hope to graduate in May of 2009.

**Biggest challenge:** Making everyone happy. I have to be strong and sometimes say "no" to requests I'd like to grant. With the present budget crunch, I find myself saying "no" more often than I'd like.

**Can't work without:** Passion for what I do, patience with problems, and a positive environment.

**Why she was nominated, according to Lea Sexton, senior director of advising:** "Suna's work is impeccable. She has been crucial to the success of programs in the Health Sciences and Fine Arts advising centers. Recently she designed and input advising worksheets for those centers and trained the staff in the use of FileMaker Pro, a database used in the College of Liberal Arts. Suna is one of the best hires I have ever made."

**What she won:** \$250 and a plaque

**Reaction to winning:** As they read the nomination I thought, "That sounds like me, but there are plenty of people who do the same thing as me." So when I heard my name I started to cry. I was so embarrassed — there I was, crying in front of President Ashley.



## Business

### Students Capture First Place in MBA Competition

For the first time in nearly a decade, UNLV MBA students claimed first place in the global Best Strategy Invitational (BSI) competition.

MBA students Boris Katava, Blaine Krasky, Brian Levy, and Brett Myer, along with faculty advisor Darryl Seale in the management department, competed against top teams from all over the world.

After winning a preliminary competition at UNLV, the students were invited to participate in the BSI competition, known as the "Top Gun" of business strategy competitions. Hosted and administered by Business Strategy Game Online, the competition is held over a two-week period each April, August, and September. Participants are divided into teams and assigned the task of running athletic footwear companies in head-to-head online competition.

Company operations parallel those of actual athletic footwear companies. Just as in the real world, companies compete in the global market arena, selling branded and private-label athletic footwear in four geographic regions: Europe, North America, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America.

The winning UNLV team competed under the company name It Is Footwear. The next competition will be held in August.

## Engineering

### UNLV Named Leader in Cyber Security Education and Research

UNLV recently received national recognition, affirming that it is one of the leading universities in cyber security education and research.

The National Security Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security designated UNLV as a Center of Academic Excellence in information assurance education in April.

Recognizing the importance of information assurance education and research, a large number of



## Marching On

More than 3,300 students earned their degrees this May. UNLV's largest-ever class included the first graduates of the nursing and physical therapy doctoral programs.

U.S. institutions have been developing curriculum on information security. However, only 93 institutions from 37 states have received the designation so far. UNLV is the only university in Nevada to have received the designation.

The School of Informatics, directed by Hal Berghel in the College of Engineering, provides an academic path for students interested in cybersecurity careers. The university's designation makes students eligible to apply for scholarship funding through the U.S. Department of Defense and through a program that provides scholarships in exchange for service in a federal program after graduation.

**i More info:** E-mail [informatics@unlv.edu](mailto:informatics@unlv.edu) or call ext. 5-5533.

## Graduate

### Send Your New Grad Students to Orientation on Aug. 22

The Graduate College will host the new graduate student orientation 8:30 a.m.-noon Aug. 22 in the Student Union ballroom.

The orientation will provide graduate students with important information to ease the transition into studies at UNLV. College staff will discuss policies and procedures and address issues and concerns that new graduate students face. Topics will include student funding opportunities, graduate assistantship benefits, and graduate student resources. A question-and-answer session also will take place. Graduate students should attend this event in addition to their departmental orientations.

**i More info:** To register, go to [graduatecollege.unlv.edu](http://graduatecollege.unlv.edu).

## Hotel

### College Hosts Hospitality Summit

The college hosted the Harrah's International Hospitality and Convention Summit last month. The annual event, which is planned and executed by students enrolled in a meeting and events capstone class, highlighted academic research in numerous fields, including hospitality, tourism, convention management, food and beverage, human resources, technology, and gaming.

More than 50 faculty, students, and industry professionals from around the country gathered to learn about a variety of topics, including the "greening" of Las Vegas; how to deal with bed bug lawsuits; restaurant selection among mature audiences; and making the best use of interns.

## New Roles for Staff Members

Vince Eade became associate dean, a new position in the administrative structure of the college, July 1. Eade will be charged with providing leadership in strategic planning and in curriculum planning, development, and implementation.

Christian Hardigree has been

selected by the faculty to serve a three-year term as the new chair of the hotel management department. Former chair Gail Sammons has transitioned to the role of graduate coordinator for the executive master's program in hospitality administration.

## Liberal Arts

### Sociologists to Survey Residents on Urban Sustainability

Faculty in the sociology department recently received a President's Research Award to conduct the Las Vegas area metropolitan survey.

The study will assess how Las Vegas residents think about sustainability across three dimensions:

- community and quality of life
- the natural environment
- urban economic development

A team of scholars, including principal investigators Christie Batson, Robert Futrell, and Barb Brents, as well as the urban sociology working group, are partnering with the city of Las Vegas, the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition, and Arizona State University to conduct the survey.

This project is part of the department's larger research efforts in urban sociology. Team member and graduate student Mark Salvaggio received one of three universitywide urban sustainability initiatives graduate assistantships.

### UNLV Profs, British Sociologists to Study Sex Industry

Two sociologists from Great Britain well known for their study of sexual commerce spent the spring semester at UNLV collaborating with sociology faculty and graduate students involved in the sexuality and gender working group.

They also helped develop the interdisciplinary globalization, sexuality and the city project.

Professor Teela Sanders, senior lecturer in the School of Sociology & Social Policy at the University of Leeds, gave several lectures drawing from two recent books on sex work

## Fine Arts

### Shining City to Launch 2008-09 Theater Season

The Tony-nominated play *Shining City*, written by Irish playwright Conor McPherson, will kick off the 2008-09 Nevada Conservatory Theatre (NCT) season.

The play involves a grief-stricken man who turns to an ex-priest for help after repeatedly seeing the ghost of his recently deceased wife. The play will be presented Oct. 3-12.

Other NCT productions set for the main stage are:

- *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, Dec. 5-14. In Wilde's "trivial comedy for serious people," Algernon and Jack are in love with two delectable young women, both of whom have illogically sworn to only marry men named Ernest.

- *The Diary of Anne Frank*, a new adaptation by Wendy Kesselman from the original play by Frances Goodrich and Albert

Hackett, Feb. 13-22. Writings from the diary of Anne Frank create an impassioned story about the lives of people persecuted under Nazi rule. This is an adaptation for a new generation able to confront the true horrors of the Holocaust.

- *The Cradle Will Rock*, book, music, and lyrics by Marc Blitzstein, March 13-29. This 1937 "labor opera" uses hilarious parody and satire to

expose the desperation and discontent of its time. As union organizers gain strength, steel magnate Mr. Mister bribes businessmen, clergy, and the local press to silence the voice of exploited workers.

- *The Music Man*, book, music, and lyrics by Meredith Willson, May 1-10. This is still one of the most joyful musicals of all time. Have you heard the one about the librarian and the traveling salesman?

**i More info:** For individual performance and season ticket information, call ext. 5-2787.



## Law

### Saltman Center Receives Ninth Circuit Conflict Resolution Award

The law school and its Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution recently received the 2008 Ninth Circuit Alternative Dispute Resolution Education Award.

The Ninth Circuit Judicial Council created the award to recognize American Bar Association-accredited law schools in the Ninth Circuit that have demonstrated a commitment to advancing education in the field of alternative dispute resolution. The award will be presented at the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference on July 28.

"It is a tremendous honor to be singled out for this award among all the law schools in the Ninth Circuit (Nevada, California, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Hawaii, and Alaska)," said John Valery White, dean of the Boyd School of Law.

The Saltman Center is accustomed to receiving accolades. In the latest annual rankings of specialty programs by *U.S. News & World Report*, the center ranked ninth in the nation for dispute resolution.

In the American Bar Association client counseling competition this year, the law school's team won first place in the regional competition and second at the national competition.

The Saltman Center hosts numerous conferences and lectures on such dispute resolution topics as water issues, foreign policy, and peacebuilding, as well as collaboration techniques. On Sept. 11 at UNLV, Daniel Schorr, senior news analyst for National Public Radio, will speak on "Forgive Us Our Press Passes" as part of the Peace in the Desert lecture series.

**More info:** Go to [law.unlv.edu/Saltman.html](http://law.unlv.edu/Saltman.html).



and on men who buy sex.

Professor Laura Agustin, author of *Sex at the Margins: Migration, Labour Markets and the Rescue Industry*, presented several lectures on global migration and the sex trade.

Sanders and UNLV faculty member Barb Brents will present work from this project this summer at a conference at the University of Surrey titled "Gender, Sexuality in the Workplace."

## Libraries

### Undergraduates Receive Research Awards

The University Libraries' Lance and Elena Calvert Award for Undergraduate Research was awarded to three College of Liberal Arts students this year. Each won \$1,000 for a research project incorporating University Libraries' collections and demonstrating sophisticated information literacy skills.

The winners of the 2008 award were:

- Loretta Sargeant, "All We Want Is Make Us Free: The Amistad Case" (faculty sponsor, history professor David Tanenhaus)
- Claire White, "Commending Religion to All Around Us: Baptist Church Discipline, 1780-1850" (faculty sponsor, history professor Elizabeth White Nelson)
- Mark Wilson, "Problems with Gauker's Conditional Semantics" (faculty sponsor, philosophy professor Ian Dove)

Faculty members can support the undergraduate research process by endorsing student applications for this annual award. Up to four \$1,000 cash prizes are awarded each year.

The award recognizes undergraduates whose projects exhibit sophistication and originality in incorporating library collections and resources. The award committee considers the product of the research, but focuses more on the research process — the demonstration of information-gathering skills, use of a broad range of library resources, and the strategies used to investigate a research problem. Expectations for achievement are commensurate with the applicant's

class year and the requirements of the discipline.

This year's presentation was made more memorable by the announcement that Libraries Advisory Board member Lance Calvert and his wife, Elena, have generously endowed the award, ensuring it will continue in perpetuity.

**More info:** Go to [library.unlv.edu/award](http://library.unlv.edu/award) or contact JD Kotula at [jd.kotula@unlv.edu](mailto:jd.kotula@unlv.edu).

## Sciences

### Projects Funded by 2008 President's Research Awards

Two college faculty members are receiving substantial research funding from the 2008 President's Research Awards.

Andrew Cornelius of the physics and astronomy department is receiving a \$49,682 award for his project "Investigation of Chalcogenide Thermoelectric Alloys, Thin Films for High Figure of Merit and Devise Applications."

As the finite capacity and environmental pollution from fossil fuels grow more pressing, new sources of sustainable energy are key current research interests. One approach is to generate electric power from thermoelectric conversion.

A large amount of thermal energy is available from waste energy streams associated with many industrial processes, including refining, annealing, forming, and melting. Cost-effective conversion of waste heat to electric power is possible with thermoelectric converters. The project will involve studying bulk and thin film chalcogenide thermoelectric materials with an emphasis on correlating thermoelectric properties to nanoscale structure. These studies could lead to finding clean, reliable alternate sources of electrical power.

Brett Riddle of the School of Life Sciences is receiving an award of \$43,251 for his project "Integrating Comparative Ecological Niche Modeling and Phylogeography: An Emerging Approach to Assessing Responses of Species Assemblages to Historical Climatic Change."

Human impacts on climate change have gained attention at the local, regional, and global levels. A major issue for natural resource managers is predicting how species and entire assemblages of species might respond to future climatic change. This project will focus on understanding how organisms have been affected by past climate oscillations.

GIS-based ecological niche modeling, paleoecological datasets, and landscape genetics are being used to investigate the patterns of assembly and disassembly of warm desert, cold desert, and shrub-steppe small mammal and reptile communities across the Great Basin and Mojave regions during the past 21,000 years. Collectively, the range of responses to these climatic extremes will provide a basis for predicting responses under models of future climate change.

## Urban Affairs

### Environmental Studies Recognizes Award Winners, Thesis Presenters

Ten seniors in environmental studies presented research findings from their yearlong senior thesis course at the department's annual poster and award presentation reception in May.

The reception featured student work supervised by faculty member Timothy Farnham and other campus

and local advisors. Topics included:

- the environmental justice movement in the United States
- the lifecycle of cotton T-shirts in landfills
- surveys of wildlife
- controlling particulate matter in dry lakebeds
- cultural and ecological restoration in Death Valley
- feasibility of aqua farms
- construction and demolition waste
- residential graywater systems
- the economic benefits of solar energy panels
- fluorescent vs. incandescent light bulbs.

Students Kelly Douglas and Michael Matulis received the James E. Deacon Scholarship Award. Environmental studies instructor Patricia Mynster received the Outstanding Alumni Award. Marianne Stewart Carpenter received the Aldo Leopold Award. Also recognized for their contributions to the department were administrative assistant Dottie Shank and student worker Henry Weckesser III.

In February, faculty member Krystyna Stave supervised the current and former environmental studies students who facilitated a planning meeting at the Los Angeles Zero Waste Conference.



### Levers, Pulleys, and Ropes – Oh My!

Jillian Rasmussen, who just finished her freshman year as an entertainment engineering major, assembles her final project at the end of spring semester. Each student built a box containing a mechanism of their design to transport a billiard ball from one side of the box to the other and then deposit the ball into an adjacent box. The individual projects were assembled in a row, allowing the ball to move from the first box through the last.



> **Marilyn Martyn** (Human Resources) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for May. An administrative assistant II, she is the “voice of HR,” answering telephone calls and helping people who stop by the office. She provides support to the entire HR office, including the units of employment and compensation, staff development and employee relations, benefits, and salary administration. She provides employment verification for all classified and professional staff. She also assists employees trying to use the EQUUS system. She has worked at UNLV since June 2004.

> **Liz Baldizan** (Women’s Center) presented “GenDebt: Working with Students in Financial Crisis” along with Darby Dickerson, dean of the Stetson Law School, at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators/ Stetson Student Affairs Law & Policy Conference in San Antonio.

> **Rainer Spencer** (Anthropology & Ethnic Studies) presented his paper, “Militant Multiraciality,” at the annual meeting of the National Association for Ethnic Studies in Atlanta in April.

> **Sandra Serrato** (Student Life Facilities) was named classified employee of the month in the custodial category for May. A custodial worker II, she has worked at UNLV since November 2006.

> **Joe Marghilano** (Music) received the College of Fine Arts’ Outstanding Part-Time Teacher of the Year 2007 Award.

> **Jimmy McIntosh** (Music) teaches History of Rock and also plays guitar in *Mamma Mia*. He recently released a CD titled *Orleans to London* that features Ronnie Wood, Jeff Beck, and the Neville Brothers, among others. It is receiving great reviews from some national magazines including *Guitar Magazine*, *Vintage Guitar*, and *Modern Guitar*.

> **Jill Racicot** (Nursing) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for April. An administrative assistant IV, she provides support for two department chairs and 40 faculty members. Handling scheduling and travel arrangements are among her duties. She has worked at UNLV for 18 months.

> **Glenn Casale** (Theatre) received the College of Fine Arts’ Charles Vanda Award for Excellence in the Arts 2007.

> **David M. Hassenzahl** (Environmental Studies) traveled to Ireland to serve as external search reviewer for the chair in environment and occupational health at the University College of Dublin’s School of Public Health. He also went to Massachusetts to deliver a guest lecture at the Boston University School of Public Health.

> **Jerry Landwer** (Sports Education Leadership) was named a fellow by the North American Society at the 2008 national conference of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance in Fort Worth, Texas, in April. Induction as a fellow into the society recognizes the recipient’s accomplishments as an outstanding professional from within the allied professions of health education, physical education, recreation, sport, and dance in North America.

> **Jocelyn Jensen** (Music) was recognized by the Jean Nidetch Women’s Center at the 32nd annual Victims’ Rights Week awards luncheon as a member of the Community Coalition for Victims’ Rights. She received the Jean Nidetch Women’s Center Exemplary Support Award for the enduring involvement provided by having the UNLV Women’s Choir perform as part of UNLV’s annual Take Back the Night event. She is the choir’s director.

> **Marie Sandoval** (Student Union) was named classified employee of the month in the custodial category for April. A custodial supervisor I in campus life, she has worked at UNLV for four and a half years.



> **Jeffrey Koep** (Fine Arts) was inducted into the College of Fellows of The American Theatre at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in April. The college originated in 1965 within the American Theatre Association.

From the beginning, investiture was one of the highest honors bestowed on educators and professionals of America’s educational and stage community. Its primary purpose is to promote and encourage the highest standards of research and creativity in educational and professional theater

through the recognition and honoring of distinguished service and accomplishment by individuals of acknowledged national stature. Currently, there are 121 fellows.

> **Virko Baley** (Music) was one of 15 composers to receive a 2008 Music Award from The American Academy of Arts and Letters. Candidates were nominated by the 250 members of the academy and selected by a committee of members. The honors, which included monetary awards, were presented at the annual awards ceremony in May.

> **Elizabeth Gardner** (Nursing) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for April. A program officer I, she works with scholarships and provides support for both associate deans. A three-year employee, she worked for ROTC before moving to nursing two years ago. She also worked at UNLV from 1997-99.

> **Dave Loeb** (Music) guided UNLV’s Liberace Jazz Quartet to a first-place finish at the 46th annual Reno Jazz Festival. The group — with Otto Ehling (piano), Julian Tanaka (saxophone), Andy Roberts (bass), and Abe Gumroyan (bass) — competed against 17 top university combos. The quartet earned straight superior ratings, out-performing veteran musicians for the title. The quartet is supported by the Liberace Foundation, whose mission is to help talented students pursue careers in the performing and creative arts through scholarship assistance. UNLV is the top recipient of Liberace Foundation funding, followed by Johns Hopkins University and the University of Rochester.

> **Hart Wegner** (Film) received the College of Fine Arts’ Outstanding Teacher of the Year 2007 Award.

> **Howard Demuyck** (Facilities Maintenance) was named classified employee of the month in the technical/ service category for May. An HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) specialist, he keeps things both cool and warm in several buildings, including the Foundation Building, Ham Fine Arts, and Judy Bayley Theatre. He has worked at UNLV for one year.

> **Richard Lapidus** (Business) recently was selected for a three-year term as Southwest region director of the Marketing Educators’ Association (MEA). He previously served as vice president, president-elect, president, and, most recently, past president. Under

his leadership, MEA has advanced as the leading international organization devoted to the practice and scholarship of marketing education.

> **Megan Gerke** (Accounts Payable) was named classified employee of the month in the technical/ service category for April. An accounting assistant III, she is part of the university’s travel team. She works on travel reimbursement for employees of both UNLV and NSC. She has worked at UNLV more than a year.



> **Ross Bryant** (Institute for Security Studies) recently represented the ISS in Washington, D.C., at the 2008 National Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum

Development annual conference. In coordination with the Southern Nevada Area Health Education Center (SNAHEC), Bryant conducted three presentations regarding the ISS/SNAHEC training partnership. Bryant, ISS director of training, also oversaw the training of 37 people attending the advanced basic disaster life support training course offered by ISS in Salt Lake City and of 45 rural responders who attended the basic disaster life support training and pandemic flu awareness training in Elko. Additionally, he has successfully overseen the filming stage of the ISS DVD production “Seven Signs of Terrorism.”

> **James Cizdziel** (Harry Reid Center), **Shizhi Qian** (Mechanical Engineering), **Yogen Panta** (Mechanical Engineering), and **Chad Cross** (Environmental and Occupational Health) have had a paper accepted for publication in the *Journal of Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis*. It is titled “Mercury Content of Whole Cigarettes, Cigars and Chewing Tobacco Packets Using Pyrolysis Atomic Absorption Spectrometry with Gold Amalgamation.”

> **DeeAnn Savilla** (Dental Medicine) was named a classified employee of the month in the administrative category for May. An administrative assistant IV, she works with Bill Harman, executive associate dean. She spends much of her time working with student admissions and inputting information into the student information system. She also helps with accreditation and acts as a liaison to the registrar. A 17-year UNLV employee, she worked in the Graduate College for 10 years before moving to the School of Dental Medicine.

## Invent the Future

# Legend Lives Through Endowed Scholarship

By **Michelle Mouton** | UNLV Foundation

How often do you get to hear a legend speak? Kelly Douglas, a senior environmental studies major, had that opportunity some months ago when distinguished professor emeritus James Deacon, who has achieved legendary status around the department as well as around campus, spoke to one of her classes about his groundwater project.

Little did she know that shortly afterward she would be awarded one of two scholarships provided this year by the endowed James E. Deacon Scholarship. The scholarship receives continual support from faculty and from Deacon’s many friends and former students.

Douglas recalled hearing Deacon speak to her class. “The greatest thing I admire about him is his involvement and care for what he is doing,” she said.

This kind of passion is what she values about her education in environmental studies, Douglas said.



**Michael Matulis and Kelly Douglas are the latest recipients of the James E. Deacon Scholarship.**

She said she likes that the research she does affects policies and is meaningful, and she enjoys understanding why the research is taking place.

**More info:** To make a donation to the James E. Deacon Scholarship or to ask about establishing another scholarship, contact Deborah Young at the UNLV Foundation at ext. 5-2818 or go to [foundation.unlv.edu](http://foundation.unlv.edu).

She and fellow Deacon scholarship recipient Michael Matulis, also a senior majoring in environmental studies, are interns with the Southern Nevada Water Authority. They conduct field research through their volunteer work with the Public Lands Institute as well as their own academic research projects.

“It’s an honor to get this scholarship,” said Matulis, who added that he feels privileged to receive a scholarship named for the founder of the environmental studies program. “He is an amazing individual who continues to do great work.”

# Travel Rules Changed to Sync with Feds

## Use These Tips to Make Travel Easier

By **Shane Bevell** | Marketing & PR

Are you presenting a paper in New York or attending a professional development workshop in San Diego? Follow these tips as you complete paperwork and make reservations.

Last year, Nevada lawmakers revised the statutes covering travel. The new law generally provides for per diem rates consistent with federal travel guidelines.

"The out-of-state travel rate was often inadequate to cover the actual cost of travel and was less than the rate allowed by the federal government," said Brent Morgan, university controller.

### Getting Your Money Faster

UNLV is changing how it reimburses travel expenses. In the near future, travel reimbursement funds will be directly deposited into the traveler's bank account. As a result, you won't have to wait for a paper check to be printed and delivered. This change is also part of a larger initiative to eliminate paper costs while improving efficiency.

## Travel Reimbursement Rates

	Lodging		Per Diem	
	Old Rate	New Rate	Old Rate	New Rate
<b>New York</b>	\$150	220-\$311	\$26	\$64
<b>Reno</b>	\$58	\$104-\$152	\$26	\$49
<b>San Diego</b>	\$90	\$139-\$146	\$26	\$64

### Travel Tips

Complete the proper forms when travel is being arranged and initially authorized so that you and your department know if the actual rate is fully reimbursable before you make reservations.

To get reimbursed, you must turn in all appropriate forms and receipts to the university's travel department within two weeks of returning.

Before hitting the road:

- Download the travel document form, the travel itinerary worksheet, and, if necessary, the lodging exception approval form at [accountspayable.unlv.edu/forms](http://accountspayable.unlv.edu/forms).
- Go to [gsa.gov](http://gsa.gov) to determine per diem rates for your destination.
- Fill out the travel document and get appropriate signatures.
- If the cost of your lodging

is higher than the allowable amount, complete the lodging exception approval form.

There are two exceptions to the federal travel guidelines:

1. When lodging is booked at a prearranged place such as a hotel where a meeting, conference, or training session is held.

2. When costs have escalated because of special events. As a result, lodging within the pre-determined rates cannot be obtained nearby and the cost to commute to and from the location exceeds the cost savings from occupying less expensive lodging.

FedRooms provides accommodations within per diem allowance for selected high-volume travel destinations. It streamlines the booking process and simplifies your hotel selections. And, its rates are at or

below the allowable amount. Go to [fedrooms.com](http://fedrooms.com) to find and make your reservations.

Taxes and similar charges are not included in the maximum hotel reimbursement rate. These charges are reimbursed on top of the room rate allowed.

### Meal and Incidental Expenses Rates

The meal and incidental expenses rates now depend on your destination. The old rate was \$26 per day, regardless of where you traveled.

The per diem rates will increase automatically each year as the federal rates adjust, and using the federal rates ensures compliance for any grant-funded travel, Morgan said. "Now rates will more likely cover the actual cost of travel and provide more consistency through fewer exceptions."

Examples of non-reimbursable expenses include:

- personal entertainment
- non-meal tips
- mini-bar refreshments
- "no show" charges for hotel or vehicle service
- loss/theft of personal property

**More info:** Contact the travel team at ext. 5-1156 or go to [accountspayable.unlv.edu](http://accountspayable.unlv.edu).

## Employee Benefits

# Your Dental Plan Questions Answered

By **Grace Russell** | Marketing & PR

Shopping for a dentist or not sure if your kid's braces will be covered under your dental insurance? *Inside UNLV* sat down with Pat La Putt, benefits manager, to answer common questions employees have about the dental plan.

### How do I find a dentist?

The dental plan is managed by Diversified Dental Services. To view a list of dentists in the network, visit [www.ddsppo.com](http://www.ddsppo.com). Providers are listed under the State of Nevada Public Employees Benefits Program. You can also call 869-6200 to find a dentist in the network.

### Do I have to use a dentist in the network?

You can choose any dentist you like, but when you go to a provider in the network, you pay less out of your pocket. For example, preventive services are covered at 100 percent if you go to an in-network

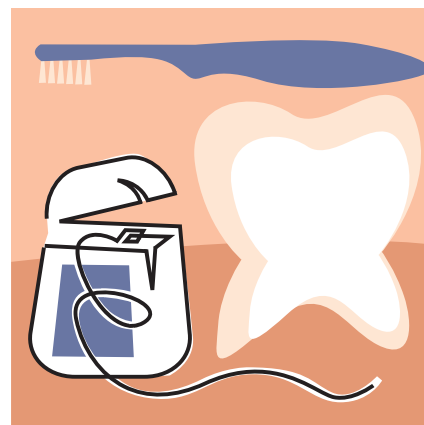
provider. The same services are covered at 80 percent for an out-of-network provider.

### Can I really get my teeth cleaned four times a year?

Yes. Cleanings and oral examinations are covered at 100 percent with an in-network provider up to four times a year. X-rays are limited to two times a year.

### Q. Are braces and orthodontia covered under the dental plan?

No, braces and orthodontia are not covered under the plan. To help cover expenses, you could set up a flexible spending account (FSA). An FSA allows you to set aside money in an account on a pre-tax basis to cover out-of-pocket medical



expenses. In addition, employees can still take advantage of reduced rates by visiting an in-network provider, even though the services are not covered in the plan. For more information, call ext. 5-0924.

### On my dental estimation of benefits, I continually see the phrase "in excess of usual and customary charges." What does that mean?

Usual and customary charges are set fees dental providers in the network have agreed to charge for services. However, some providers charge higher rates. After insurance pays its portion of the claim, you may be responsible for fees that are above the usual charge for that service.

## > ACCREDITATION

Continued from Page 1

the accreditation process (see Task Force chart, page 1).

By early fall, each task force will present a report on its area of responsibility. That information then will be used to create a template that will be used by departments to gather information for the self-study. All departments across campus — not just the academic departments — will be required to complete a self-study.

Deans and vice presidents will then use the departmental self-studies to prepare a self-study for their college or unit. College/unit reports will be due in the spring of 2009.

Bowers and the steering committee will prepare the self-study for the entire university. That means

taking hundreds of pages and condensing the most important points into a report no more than 250 pages long.

Bowers said he plans to deliver that report to the accrediting agency no later than January 2010.

And it is with that university-wide self-study in hand that the accrediting team will visit the university.

"What the accrediting agency looks at is: what is it that you are attempting to do, how are you doing it, and are you doing it well," Bowers said.

Following the campus visit, the accreditation team will make its report, which will point to what UNLV is doing well and to what needs improvement. It will also recommend whether UNLV should be reaccredited.

### Past Accreditation

Ten years ago UNLV was granted reaccreditation but told it needed to improve in two areas — academic assessment and information systems. The accrediting team returned to campus twice: in 2005 to check UNLV's progress in

improving its computer systems and again in 2007 to check progress in academic assessment.

The team was so pleased with the progress made in academic assessment that it said UNLV could be considered a model for other universities, Bowers said.

Inside UNLV

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.

**Editor:** Diane Russell, [diane.russell@unlv.edu](mailto:diane.russell@unlv.edu)  
**Associate Editor:** Shane Bevell  
**Writers:** Michelle Mouton, Grace Russell  
**Photographers:** Geri Kodey, Aaron Mayes, R. Marsh Starks

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(Left) An aerial view shows the Philharmonic performing on a stage set up near Pida Plaza. (Below) A young visitor gets a temporary tattoo touting UNLV's 50th anniversary.



# Snap, Crackle & Pops

UNLV wrapped up its year-long 50th anniversary celebration in style last month with a Picnic Pops concert featuring the Las Vegas Philharmonic and recording star Linda Eder.

Hundreds of people gathered on the academic mall under the stars on a breezy Saturday evening to enjoy the show and the ambiance. Featuring songs with Las Vegas connections, the Philharmonic performed the first half of the program. During the second half they accompanied Eder, who sang a wide selection of songs, including "Man of La Mancha (I, Don Quixote)," "I Am What I Am," and "Vienna."

Before the show began, people attending the event had the chance to visit booths showcasing UNLV programs. Children were entertained with bounce houses, temporary tattoos, and visits with Hey Reb! The evening concluded with a fireworks display.

To see a video celebrating UNLV's 50 years, go to [celebrating50.unlv.edu](http://celebrating50.unlv.edu).



Broadway and recording star Linda Eder sings to the crowd.



(Above) Nancy Cleveland, right, of reprographics/design services hands out commemorative programs. She was one of about 130 UNLV employees, friends, and family members who volunteered their time to make the event a success. (Right) Folks attending the concert enjoyed picnic dinners while seated on blankets or at tables.

