UNLV Receives $2.6 Million
by Betty Blodgett

UNLV recently received a grant of more than $2.6 million from the U.S. Health and Human Services Administration for the university’s Cancer Institute and new Biotechnology Center to develop state-of-the-art equipment.

UNLV biology professor Penny Amy, principal investigator on the grant proposal, said that the Biotechnology Center will serve as a cutting-edge facility for forensic DNA and other biotechnology training programs, including an environmental testing lab, which can be used to provide water quality testing for microbial contaminants.

“We have formed a partnership with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department’s (Metro) Crime and Forensic DNA labs to create a laboratory that will be specially equipped to train people nationwide in forensic science and human DNA profiling,” Amy said. “In addition, researchers from the UNLV Cancer Institute will have new and modern facilities, both in the form of research laboratories and in specialty analyzers such as tissue culture and flow cytometry, as well as in DNA sequencing capabilities. Undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate, and post-graduate students and workshop participants all will benefit from the research and training climate of the new facilities.”

UNLV President Carol C. Harter acknowledged Nevada’s U.S. Sen. Harry Reid and U.S. Rep. Jim Gibbons for their assistance in acquiring the federal funding and for their support of the university’s research programs.

“We are delighted that this grant will enable experts from UNLV and Metro to play a major role in providing cutting-edge forensic science and DNA-technology training,” Harter said. “It is yet another indication of the level of sophistication of our research here at UNLV, as well as our interest in partnering with government agencies and private industry to serve the community.”

“It also provides a very valuable opportunity for UNLV’s Biotechnology Center and Cancer Institute to collaborate on important biomedical and biotechnology research and development.”

Stephen Carper, director of the UNLV Cancer Institute, said that linking the Cancer Institute researchers to the Biotechnology Center and its teaching/training function has great potential for future basic and applied research developments.

“The UNLV Cancer Institute is interested in partnering with the Biotechnology Program as well as with our friends at the University of Nevada School of Medicine,” Carper said.

“These crucial resources will provide the cornerstone for these long-term interactions.” Berch Henry, manager of the Metropolitan Police Department Forensic DNA Laboratory and a molecular biologist and expert in human DNA profiling, said that he and Linda Errichetto, director of the lab, are excited that the Biotechnology Center will have a DNA profiling facility that simulates a forensic DNA laboratory for training purposes.

“The Biotechnology Center will enable us to offer training programs on the methods and foundations of human DNA technology,” Henry said. “Workshops will be held for those attending UNLV’s cell and molecular biology/biotechnology programs, for employees in current state or private DNA profiling labs across the nation who need academic refresher training, and for people with science backgrounds who want post-graduate, hands-on training in DNA techniques for employment potential.”

The proposed site for the Biotechnology Center is the recently acquired property located at 1700 W. Charleston Blvd. Previously owned by the Employer’s Insurance Company of Nevada, the site is located at the center of the city’s medical district.

Xeriscape Garden to Undergo Changes
by Diane Russell

Changes will be coming soon to UNLV’s Xeriscape Garden. The garden, which doubles as a demonstration garden for plants that thrive in the Las Vegas Valley and as a popular spot for students and staff to seek a few minutes of quiet in the midst of a busy day, will undergo extensive renovation as part of the Wright Hall remodeling project.

The project may begin impacting those attending UNLV’s cell and molecular biology/biotechnology programs, for employees in current state or private DNA profiling labs across the nation who need academic refresher training, and for people with science backgrounds who want post-graduate, hands-on training in DNA techniques for employment potential.”

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Admin Assistants Play Key Role
by Betty Boudget

The level of success of any institution is defined not only by its leadership, but also by the majority of its members who carry out the daily tasks that enable the institution to fulfill its mission.

In a recent Inside UNLV column, President Carol C. Harter noted, “There is a solid foundation of hard-working individuals who keep the university operating on a daily basis so that our principal missions of teaching, research, and service can be accomplished. These individuals are, in large part, the classified staff.”

The single largest employer group within the classified ranks is that of administrative assistants; a total of 245 administrative assistants work at UNLV. This is the group responsible, for among many other things, processing the tremendous amount of paperwork that exists on our university to conduct its business efficiently and effectively.

Inside UNLV recently talked with three of these classified staff members: Lisa Monaco-Adams, Bill Lehmkuhl, and Gloria Zombro, about their duties as administrative assistants.

Lisa Monaco-Adams
Being “student focused” comes naturally to Lisa Monaco-Adams, who works in the office of admissions.

Monaco-Adams, who previously worked for a school district in California, has been at the university about four years. “I moved to Las Vegas to be closer to family, and I was so excited when I was hired to work at UNLV because I enjoy working in an educational environment and helping students,” she said.

In her job, Monaco-Adams works with Kristi Rodriguez, assistant director of admissions. Her duties are varied and include explaining the admissions process to prospective students. Many of the people she helps are transfer students and those who fell into the “non-traditional” student category.

“What I enjoy most about my job is being able to help students,” Monaco-Adams said. “I like people and I want them to succeed and be happy. Often, we in admissions are the first point of contact for someone who is interested in attending UNLV. It is very rewarding to be able to help that person with the admissions process and to install a sense of excitement and energy about attending the university.”

In addition, Monaco-Adams said that she is able to relate to many of the questions and concerns about enrollment that prospective students have because she herself is a non-traditional student pursuing a degree in criminal justice at UNLV while working full-time and being a parent.

“I think being an older student and having gone through the whole enrollment process myself helps because I can be even more effective in helping other non-traditional students,” she said.

Bill Lehmkuhl
For a sports fan like Bill Lehmkuhl, working in the athletics department is a dream job come true.

He provides support to the coaches of the men’s baseball and men and women’s golf and swimming programs.

SHOWING their Rebel spirit are three of the university’s administrative assistants, Lisa Monaco-Adams (left), Bill Lehmkuhl, and Gloria Zombro, who are seen alongside the Fremont Cannon.

His duties include making sure bills are paid, ordering equipment, doing data entry, and mailing letters of intent to new recruits.

“There is a lot that needs to be done, and what I do frees up the coaches to focus on their jobs of recruiting and coaching,” Lehmkuhl said. “One of the great things about working here is being involved with the students. It is uplifting to see young people excited about coming here to UNLV to pursue their educational and sports endeavors and to know that I helped to play a small role in making that happen.”

Gloria Zombro
This month marks Gloria Zombro’s 39th anniversary at UNLV.

She is the office manager for news and public information/photo services—a position that she has held since 1978. When she first arrived at UNLV, she worked for a short time as assistant to the dean of the College of Allied Health and then moved over to continuing education, where she worked for four years.

“To give you an idea of how long I’ve been here, when I started, FDH had just been built,” remembered Zombro, whose office is on the building’s seventh floor.

As part of her duties, Zombo is responsible for keeping the office’s accounting records, maintaining the university’s master calendar of events, posting ads to the electronic classified ad bulletin board, sending out information e-mails to the campus community, supervising student workers, and assisting the public and the media when they call in with requests for information. In 2000, Zombo received the President’s Classified Employee of the Year award.

“I really enjoy my job and the people I work with,” she said. “As the news and public information office, we’re often in the thick of things. When something happens, our phones start ringing, and we become the first point of contact for the outside world.”

Zombo said she particularly remembers the day of the devastating 1980 fire at the MGM Grand Hotel.

“We had media from all over the world calling our office to get information,” she said. “Anytime there is a crisis in the nation, this office is involved in coordinating and providing expert faculty members to talk with the media. How we respond when the public calls reflects on the whole university and so I make it a point to always go the extra mile to be helpful and provide assistance. That’s why I’m here.”
Web Site Features Early Las Vegas Photos

by Betty Blodgett

Historical photographs and documents from the early days of Las Vegas now are available for public viewing on the Internet as a result of a UNLV Libraries project. Titled the “Early Las Vegas Digital Project,” this virtual gallery showcasing high-resolution images of photographs and documents contained in the special collections section of the Lied Library was accomplished through the use of cutting-edge digital technology.

“Early Las Vegas” gallery follows the boom-town growth that hit Las Vegas in the early 1900s. “The Depot” details the importance of the railroad in the early development of the town. “The Cottages” showcases the housing that the railroad companies built for the workers. The final gallery, “Now and Then,” presents an artist’s interpretation of Las Vegas – past and present.

The Web site was conceived by Eden and Michel who received a $15,000 UNLV Planning Initiative Award in 2000 to pursue their idea. “We wanted to explore the possibilities of digital technology,” Michel said. “UNLV special collections is the most important repository of historical materials about Las Vegas – much of it little known and not easily accessible. But rather than simply digitizing collections as collections, which have a limited use and interest to the general public, we wanted to show how collections relate to each other and can be used to create an interpretation.”

To provide the interpretation, Michel brought in the expertise of Joe Thompson, a graduate student from the history department’s new public history program, to help design the galleries. Thompson combined an interest in and knowledge of Las Vegas and the library’s historical collection with a background in art and museum studies.

“The project truly demonstrates how a historian draws on a variety of sources to present a historical interpretation,” Michel explained. “Joe digitized different types of historical materials – photographs, maps, manuscripts, and architectural drawings – from the collection and wove these together with the interpretation and contextual bibliographic information to create a dynamic exhibit for the public to use and enjoy.”

In addition to making historical photographs more readily accessible to the general public, Eden said that the digitizing process helps to protect the often rare and delicate original negatives and prints from potentially being destroyed by too much handling.

“It is a very meticulous process to create a digital image,” Eden said. “The first generation of each photograph, often a negative or a print, is chosen for scanning. Each photograph is inspected and dust removed using an electrostatic film cleaner. The photograph is then placed on a special scanner, which is carefully calibrated. An archival image is produced and stored and no digital retouching or changes to the digital image files are permitted. Then a thumbnail image and an enlarged image are created for presentation on the Web. Flaws such as cracks and stains are retained in the archival image.”

Each image in the digital gallery has been cataloged in the machine-readable cataloging format.

“We are not only scanning images, we are creating information about those images, called metadata, which allows them to be identified in the digital environment,” Eden explained. “This enables a person who is viewing an image and wants more detailed information to click on a button and connect to the full cataloging record, which contains information about the image such as its original size, its condition, its call number within the special collections, and the name of the photographer.”

“IT is a convergence of library, archives, and history presented in a very creative way,” Michel added.

To access the “Early Las Vegas Digital Project” on the Internet, go to http://library.nevada.edu/digproj. The project draws on a variety of sources to present a historical interpretation of Las Vegas. The project truly demonstrates how a historian draws on a variety of sources to present a historical interpretation.

Inside UNLV Page 3
It is my pleasure to have the opportunity to communicate with UNLV faculty and staff about the College of Health Sciences. While I spend a great deal of time talking about the college with our community constituency, I have fewer occasions to present information about the college to colleagues.

The College of Health Sciences is a very practice-oriented college with a majority of the departments and programs requiring students to take courses with a clinical component. As an overview, the departments of health physics, nuclear medicine, and comprehensive medical imaging programs, kinesiology (kinesiology sciences, sports injury management, fitness management, exercise physiology, and biomechanics programs), nursing (nursing and clinical laboratory sciences programs), nutrition sciences, and physical therapy provide instruction to both undergraduate and graduate students. Approximately 50 full-time faculty, 28 part-time instructors, and 20 graduate students participate in student instruction and research. It is important to note that all programs in the college for which national accreditation is available have received full accreditation from their professional organizations. Again, this is a complement to the faculty for their curriculum design, implementation, and recruitment of the best students to represent the various disciplines upon graduation.

As health sciences and health care demands in the region expand, significant pressure is placed on the college to produce more professionals in the areas of nursing, physical therapy, medical imaging, and fitness, among others. Of particular emphasis has been the department of nuclear medicine to address the critical nursing shortage affecting all of us locally and throughout the state. The college has responded positively, within the limits imposed by the numbers of qualified faculty, qualified students, and appropriate clinical practice sites available. We will continue to expand our programs to meet regional needs. College faculty and administrators continue to serve on regional, national, and international boards addressing the health care and health services needs of the region and the nation.

I am particularly proud of the faculty and students and their respective contributions to meeting the needs of our community. As I have had the opportunity to meet with leaders of health care institutions throughout the valley, I hear many anecdotes about the quality of our graduates and our students. Our graduates are able to move up quickly through the ranks of increasing responsibility within their disciplines, ultimately reaching leadership roles. It is only through the expertise of faculty, collaborative learning partnerships with community constituents, and the hard work of the students that we are able to boast about this accomplishment.

A number of new interdisciplinary initiatives have begun in the college. Faculty in the department of nutrition sciences are collaborating on grants with faculty from UNLV’s College of Hotel Administration and faculty in the University of Nevada School of Medicine. Faculty from all five departments in the college are collaborating on research activities involving bone density evaluation equipment that was purchased, in part, with funds from a Planning Initiative Award. Faculty in the department of kinesiology are collaborating with faculty from the College of Engineering and sciences on a distinguished lecturer series, again with start-up funding from a Planning Initiative Award. Faculty in the department of health physics continue research through the Lake Mead/Lake Mohave Research Institute with investigators from the U.S. Geological Survey, Nevada Water Authority, and the Coastal and Marine Geological Team of Woods Hole, Mass. In addition, faculty in the departments of nursing and physical therapy continue collaborative scholarly activities with faculty from many universities across the nation.

Business College

The College of Business Dean’s Executive Advisory Board has provided excellent dialogue and interaction with community business leaders. Dean Rich Flaherty spends a significant amount of time building relationships with these professionals to benefit the college’s programs, faculty, and students. Board members played an integral part in the creation of the Nevada Business Hall of Fame.

Each department in the college is working to establish similar relationships specific to its discipline. The department of marketing has been very active with its Executive Advisory Board. The board is composed of well-placed marketing professionals, some of whom are alumni, who are committed to improving the overall educational experiences of our students. The board members were instrumental in helping to make the Fall Forum Lecture a success. More than 350 students attended a presentation by the director of marketing for Coca-Cola.

The Marketing Executive Advisory Board will also help coordinate and host the Spring Marketing Forum to be held 2 p.m. March 13 in the Moyer Student Union. The campus community is invited to attend the forum, which will include a panel of marketing professionals who are also alumni of the department.

Additionally, the Marketing Internship Program has been significantly improved thanks to the increased networking effort of faculty and the advisory board. More internship opportunities have been established and a number of these opportunities have resulted in full-time job offers. Finally, the board will also host a department of marketing graduation dinner at the end of the spring semester.

Dental School

The school continues to progress toward opening its doors to students for the first time in August. So far, the school has received acceptances from 11 Nevadans. Applications will be accepted until March 1, and student acceptances are expected to continue until just before the start of orientation for the fall semester. Interested students can contact the school for information on how to apply by calling ext. 2453.

This month we are starting to interview students from out of state. Qualified applicants are visiting the school at its new location in the building that had just been named for the College of Education.

The school has received acceptances from 11 Nevadans. Applications will be accepted until March 1, and student acceptances are expected to continue until just before the start of orientation for the fall semester. Interested students can contact the school for information on how to apply by calling ext. 2453.

Engineering College

A collaborative project headed by Robert Schill in the department of electrical engineering promises to bring exciting state-of-the-art technology to the college. Through a three-year EPSCoR grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, a team of electrical engineering (Schill, Rama Venkat, and Sarvesh Chauhan) and mechanical engineering (William Culbreth, Durrell Pepper, and Yiting Chen) faculty/staff are working onways to enhance radiographic devices used to create bursts of X-rays for imaging high-speed events.

Radiography devices are used in many applications, including medical imaging, airport security, and in studies of explosive events. Both undergraduate and graduate engineering students are working as team members on the research. The project includes studies of the electrical properties of plastic insulators at high voltages with the goal of providing better insulating qualities. A numerical study on the flow of current near but outside the surface of high-voltage electrodes is also under way to better understand the behavior of megasvot pulses with duration on the order of nanoseconds (0.00000001 seconds). The team recently acquired a 500,000 volt, 60,000-ampere, 50-nanosecond (0.00000005 seconds) pulsed power source for use in the insulator studies. Originally constructed by the Naval Research Laboratory, this device has been reborn at the Nevada Shocker and is located in the Thomas Bean Engineering Complex. Initial tests with the Nevada Shocker are scheduled for early this year. It is anticipated that the Nevada Shocker will find application in the fields of pulsed power fusion energy and space propulsion.

College of Extended Studies

Spring 2002 marks the sixth semester the college has offered classes at UNLV’s Downtown Center in the old Fifth Street School at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Clark Street. The Downtown Center is one result of UNLV’s ongoing strategic planning efforts and the city of Las Vegas’s downtown redevelopment.
College of Fine Arts

The music department is proud to present Sining Brew by composer Doron Hagen, a opera based on the life of Frank Lloyd Wright, Feb. 20 at Ham Concert Hall. The production is a collaboration between the UNLV Opera Theatre, Southern Nevada Opera Association, UNLV Symphony Orchestra, and the UNLV Chamber Chorale. Sining Brew premièred at the Madison Opera Company in 1993 and was remounted in Chicago in 1996. The UNLV project is the third performance of the piece and will be a concert version for the purpose of making a CD recording. Faculty, students, and alumni are performing along with several guest artists from previous productions who will reprise their roles.

The contemporary music group Nextet will perform in the Doc Rando Recital Hall inside the Beam Music Center on Feb. 18, and the UNLV Wind Orchestra will perform at Ham Concert Hall on Feb. 28.

Virtuosic Korean percussionists SamulNori will perform at Ham Concert Hall on Feb. 15 as part of the Performing Arts Center World Stage series. Highly praised by musicians since its 1983 debut, SamulNori is a complete theatrical experience as well. The New York Times said that the four dancing percussionists “modulated into sounds of any nuance... that could lead to total astonishment.” The group has been the subject of several books and has made 15 recordings.

Celebrating Sarah Vaughan Featuring Diane Reeves will be performed at Ham Concert Hall on Feb. 17 as part of the Best of the New York Stage series. As a multiple Grammy-nominated songstress, Reeves has shared the stage with Harry Belafonte, Wynton Marsalis, and John Williams, garnering accolades as one of jazz’s pre-eminent female vocalists. Her performance will include songs from her latest Blue Note recording Celebrating Sarah Vaughan as well as other pieces.

Honors College

The Honors College is pleased to recognize its Outstanding Alumni of the Year. This award has been given to Dr. Ashish Sharma, an internist who is a 1991 graduate of UNLV and the Honors College.

The college is excited about the course offerings this semester. Because of an increased enrollment in department honors courses, we have put together 14 Hon 400 seminars. The majority of the seminars being offered this spring include: seven great novels (Mark Weinstein), the American experience in Vietnam (Andy Fry), politics of food and nutrition (Lesley Johnson), and the evolution of aggression: biological influences on delinquency and crime (Bo Cleveland).

The 29th Annual Western Regional Honors Conference (WRHC) will be held in Tempe, Ariz., April 19-21. The college will be sending two students to present papers from Carol Jensen’s Hon 400 fall 2001 seminar class, world religions in contemporary form. Jensen received a $1,000 UNLV Alumni Student-Centered Project Grant Award for 2001-02, which will be used to help fund these student presentations at the WRHC conference.

College of Hotel Administration

In the fall of 2000, Lauren Moody, a Harrah Hotel College student, applied for an undergraduate research grant to start an organization called Rebels Against Hunger (RAH) that would serve the community by picking up leftover food and other items from Las Vegas hotels, casinos, and restaurants. These items would then be transported to local homeless shelters and food banks. With $500 support from UNLV, Moody, with the help of 12 fellow students, met with local community groups who serve the homeless, local business development groups, and UNLV administration. By the end of the semester the students had created a 38-page business plan for RAH that included budgets, databases of potential donors and recipients, and operating procedures. In addition, they conducted several tests of operating procedures by picking up nonperishable food items from local businesses and dropping them off at local homeless shelters. They created a logo for RAH, had T-shirts printed, and purchased equipment for safely transporting perishable food.

This past semester, two students took RAH to the next step as part of an independent study project. They reviewed the business plan and contacted local food and beverage directors for suggestions on implementing the plan. They continued to conduct test runs with a variety of hospitality organizations in order to gather additional information about the problems and impediments with implementation. This project is a continuing effort of the Harrah Hotel College to provide learning education. The faculty member in charge is Cheri Young, who can be reached at cyoung@ccmail.nevada.edu for more information.

Law School

In recent years, many law schools have recognized the importance of exposing students to non-litigious methods of dispute avoidance and resolution. Boyd has begun to incorporate these techniques into several areas of the curriculum. The lawyering process program, for example, includes a segment on negotiation, and the civil procedure course incorporates material on alternative dispute resolution (ADR). The school also offers an ADR practicum as an upper-level elective. In the future, Boyd hopes to expand the offerings to include courses that emphasize drafting and negotiation skills, and introduce students to the relative merits of mediation and arbitration as dispute resolution methods.

This increased interest in dispute avoidance and resolution has also generated a substantial body of thoughtful scholarship, exploring the comparative strengths and weaknesses of various dispute resolution methods, and evaluating potential reforms. In January, the school hosted a gathering of eminent scholars in the dispute resolution field. This conference, titled “Perspectives on Dispute Resolution in the 21st Century,” featured presentations by Boyd professors Jeff Stempel and Carl Tobias, as well as distinguished faculty from the law schools at Stanford, Duke, Texas, California-Davis, Missouri-Columbia, Northeastern, Indiana, Lewis & Clark, and McGeorge. Topics included “Mediation: A Traditionalist’s Initial Inquiry Into the Intriguing Relationship of Mediation and the Formal System of Dispute Resolution,” “Sentimental Judges, Judicial Mediation,” and the New ADR, “Fair Bargains and Due Process,” “A Fresh Look at the Federal Rules in State Courts,” and “The Practice of Collegiality in the Federal Courts of Appeals.” Papers from this conference will be published in a future symposium issue of the school’s student-edited law review, the Nevada Law Journal, which also co-sponsored the conference.

College of Liberal Arts

Several projects under the direction of college faculty have direct and important implications for the community and region. First, professor Fred Preston, with student colleagues Bo Bernhard and Bob Schmidt, coordinated research on the homeless population. The use of innovative counting techniques plus observation and field interviews resulted in a study that is regarded as the baseline assessment of not only the numbers of homeless in Clark County, but also of their background characteristics, including addictive behavior.

Second, Andy Kirk, Sue Fawn Chung, Joanne Goodwin, and others in the department of history have made major contributions to the preservation of local and state landmarks and have gathered oral histories from persons who have lived in the community and state for many years. Third, Vicki Casman of the department of anthropology and her students have been organizing and managing the various Native American artifact collections on campus that must meet the standards for archival maintenance set by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Casman is also on the research team that is time-dating and analyzing the remains of the Kennewick Man, a skeleton estimated to be 8500-9500 years old.
University Libraries

The University Libraries' reserve services function is going digital. Over the next several semesters, the libraries will be phasing in the use of a product called “eRes.” This Web-based software helps manage and present scanned reserve readings and allows library staff to make reserve items available to students anytime, anywhere.

Students will use the software to look up reserve items by course name, department, or instructor. They will log in to the system using their barcode, after which they can view reserves online and print them out. The reserve readings themselves will be in PDF format; all scanning will be done using a high-speed scanner. The quality of documents will not be much better than the original photocopy—they will be black and white, and will be scanned at the lowest resolution possible for smaller files. What people can expect is an electronic copy of a photocopy.

The reserve process for instructors will be the same as it is now. Library staff will scan and present any photocopies submitted for reserve. Paper reserves cannot entirely be eliminated as there are some things that cannot be scanned because they are too long, too large, or don't translate well into PDF. The move to eRes will be accomplished slowly to ensure a smooth transition, but library staff members hope to have at least half of the documents on electronic reserve by fall.

News from the Colleges

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Fourth, the Cannon Center for Survey Research recently completed a statewide survey of caregivers of the elderly, assessing the needs, frustrations, and concerns derived from being responsible for a senior not able to live alone. The state department of aging will use this information in the formation of future policies and programs. There are many additional projects directed by College of Liberal Arts faculty that have practical consequences for the community and state. Many students receive valuable experience by participating in the research and service delivery associated with these projects.

College of Sciences

The department of geoscience has seen significant growth in its graduate program and in its research capabilities. A new Ph.D. program now complements the department's highly successful M.S. program. Eight Ph.D. students are currently enrolled and the program continues to grow.

Two new geoscience laboratories have been opened recently. The Nevada Isotope Geochronology Laboratory (NIGL) was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation to professor Terry Spell. NIGL houses a state-of-the-art argon radiometric dating instrument with applications to a broad range of geologic problems such as volcanic hazards assessment, ore genesis, and ages of hominin fossils. The laboratory has been involved with the research of 32 scientists from 19 universities, including some in Europe, South America, and Australia, and has produced radiometric dates utilized in theses and dissertations of 27 M.S. and Ph.D. students.

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The UNLV Electron Microanalysis and Imaging Laboratory (EMIL) was funded by a U.S. Department of Energy grant to professor Jean Zapeda. EMIL houses two instruments, a JEOl 8900 Electron Probe Microanalyzer (EPMA) and a JEOl 5600 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). The EPMA is optimized for quantitative chemical analysis of solid materials on a micron scale. The SEM is optimized for imaging micron to millimeter scale topography. These instruments have a broad range of applications in geoscience, biological and medical sciences, soil science, chemistry, archeology, materials science, metallurgy, and civil engineering. Operation of the laboratory is partially supported by the AAA program administered through the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies.

College of Urban Affairs

Students enrolled in professor Julian Kilker's interactive media design course during fall 2001 worked with various campus agencies to redesign their Web sites. Kilker's course combines the theoretical aspects of Web site design with practical application. Students met with their campus clients from the School of Architecture, the bursar's office, department of chemistry, department of mathematics, and student psychological services to determine how best to serve their online needs during the course of the fall semester. Students worked on creating and redesigning their clients' Web sites, and made formal presentations at the end of the semester to unveil their work. To find out more about courses in Web design offered through the Greenspan School of Communication, contact Kilker at kilker@unlv.edu.

Greenspan School of Communication graduate students Bill Belk, Rebecca Melderhauer, Karen Roybal, Maggie Zapeda, and Christine Jansen have written research papers that have been accepted for presentation at the Western Speech Communication Association convention in March. The convention paper competition is refereed.
University Personnel Move Into Campus Services Building

by Cate Weeks

The Campus Services Building, the two-story, modular structure just west of the Thomas & Mack Center, now houses more than 250 full-time staff members in 18 departments.

While some on campus initially were skeptical about the building, CSB’s new occupants are settling in. “From all accounts, most people are pleased with the final product,” said Tim Lockett, assistant director of construction in the office of planning and construction. “Overall, I think everyone is finding the building very functional and nice.”

If you’re heading over to CSB by car from the north side of campus, take Swenson Street south to Harmon Avenue, go east on Harmon and then south on Tarkanian Way. If you’re coming from the south end of campus, get on Tropicana Avenue and turn into the Thomas & Mack parking for heading north. The CSB is located on the west side of the Thomas & Mack Center between Tarkanian and Swenson.

Fortunately, there is plenty of parking on the south side of the building. Carts for visitors can be parked just to the south of the building. A fenced area on the north side is for permanent cart parking as only building occupants with controlled access cards can enter the north doors.

All visitors should enter the CSB through the central entrance on the south side of the building. Once inside, signs will direct you to the department you need. The first floor houses:

- planning and construction services
- the office of the associate vice president for facilities management and planning
- environmental health and safety
- building services
- administrative services
- landscape and grounds
- diversity initiatives
- communication services

The second floor houses:

- human resources
- purchasing
- controller, disbursements, and payroll services
- CLASS! publications
- Cannon Center for Survey Research
- Nevada Institute for Children
- Center for Health Information Analysis
- MAP industrial outreach
- Women’s Research Institute of Nevada

Xeriscape Garden

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open-air rotunda between the two new buildings, and the reconfiguring of the Xeriscape Garden. The expected completion date for the entire Wright Hall project is fall 2003.

“It is impossible to renovate and expand Wright Hall without impacting the Xeriscape Garden,” said Susan Hobbes, UNLV’s director of planning and construction. “During the planning process much thought was given to minimizing the impact to the garden. We will retain as much of the existing garden as we can — and eventually will add other new areas, but some of the existing garden will be lost during the project. There simply was no way to meet the need for more — and more modern — space in Wright Hall without taking out some of the existing garden.

“The short-term impact to the garden will be greater than the long-term,” Hobbes said, noting that when all the work is complete the Xeriscape Garden actually will be somewhat bigger than it is now.

“We will lose some of the existing garden almost as soon as the project begins, but eventually will be adding on new garden areas,” she said.

Dennis Swartzell, director of landscape, grounds, and arboretum, said that while he’s sorry to be losing part of the garden, he also is looking forward to the opportunities that will come with the new configuration.

Particularly interesting to him, he said, are the two garden “canyons” that will be formed. Those canyons will be located between the Wright Hall buildings and will run east from the existing garden.

The southernmost canyon will be 30 feet wide and will be covered with a metal canopy. This covering will be quite high, extending above the rooflines of the existing Wright office wing and the new office wing.

“It’s that canyon and its cover that provide interesting possibilities for the garden,” Swartzell said. “For the first time here on campus, we’ll be trying to grow shade-loving plants or those that prefer higher elevations. We would like to try growing manzanita, redbud, and some maple species.

“Having these plants should be interesting both for our students who are interested in botany and for casual visitors to the garden who will be able to see something new,” Swartzell said.
2001-02 Planning Initiative Awards Described

by Richard Jensen

The last two issues of Inside UNLV have provided summaries of some of the Planning Initiative Awards that were received last year. These summaries have provided a brief overview of the richness of research and teaching at UNLV. They also illustrate the opportunities for interdisciplinary work on campus.

This issue completes the description of the awards by focusing on several of the large awards (awards between $10,000 and $30,000). These awards focus on the improvement of education on campus through the creation of videotapes on dance and on the establishment of a creative program where students can interact with nationally recognized scholars. Another grant funded a study on retention of minority students, while two more are funding the purchase of equipment that will improve teaching in biology and physics.

Charlotte Farr of distance education, Joanne Goodwin of the history department, Lomny Gordon of the dance department, Laurel Fruth of the Hank Greenspun School of Communication, and Aniko Hegedus of distance education received $19,480 to create approximately 60 hours of videotape on dance to be used by distance education, the history department, the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, and UNLV-TV.

Ann Casados-Mueller of diversity initiatives, Laura Latimer of academic enrichment and outreach, and Alan Schlottman of the economics department received $27,360 to explore issues pertaining to student retention in hopes of identifying factors that positively and negatively impact the retention of minority students.

Mark Guadagno and John Mercer of the kinesiology department, Charles Rasmussen of the department of psychology, and Carl Reiber of the department of biological sciences received $29,970 to bring nationally recognized scholars to UNLV to interact with students and faculty. Students then will receive funding for research developed through their interaction with the visiting scholars.

John Farley of the department of physics received $14,770 to add three-dimensional display capacity to a lecture hall in the Bigelow Physics Building.

Stephen Roberts and Carl Reiber of the department of biological sciences received $30,000 to purchase new light microscopes to improve instruction in principles of modern biology and in human anatomy I and II.

Mark Farley received one of the 2001-02 UNLV Planning Initiative Awards. He was given $14,770 to add three-dimensional display capacity to a lecture hall in the Bigelow Physics Building.

John Farley of the department of physics received $14,770 to add three-dimensional display capacity to a lecture hall in the Bigelow Physics Building. The equipment will allow the lecturer to show three-dimensional stereoscopic images on a pull-down screen at the front of the classroom.

### Points of Policy

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**5.** Unless otherwise exempted, commercial activity (sales, marketing, advertising) by non-university entities is forbidden on the UNLV campus.

### President’s Column

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With it, we expand both literally and figuratively, exploring new avenues for growth and success and developing new ways of viewing our role within the community and the state. As the plans for the new campus continue to unfold, we will keep you apprised of new developments. We look forward to the opportunities this new campus will offer.