Designing Our Future: Master Planning Begins

by Cate Weeks

Keeping up with rapid growth is a challenge—one that can be best met with a detailed but flexible plan for future campus building, according to university administrators. To meet that challenge, UNLV has embarked on a 20-month process for developing a facilities master plan.

"Our need for this master plan is not much different from that of the communities around us," said Tom Hagge, associate vice president for facilities management and planning. "Infrastructure, roads, parks, and zoning are all part of the planning-for-growth process. Those communities that do it the best become the most desirable places to live and work. Haphazard, unplanned growth frequently results in congestion, confusion, and missed opportunities.

"Our goal is to develop a plan for rational growth with thought for what makes sense for the university as a whole and an appreciation for what will happen in the future."

Developing such a plan takes some time and considerable expertise. In March, UNLV began working with SmithGroup JJR, a national consulting firm specializing in campus planning. SmithGroup’s approach is to work closely with the campus and surrounding community to develop a comprehensive plan for future building.

"A university campus is a special place," President Carol C. Harter said. "As we develop a new facilities master plan for UNLV, we will strive to maintain the unique character of the campus and to assure that it is a well-designed home for learning and research."

In the process, UNLV will learn about the campus’s full capacity for development and what kinds of infrastructure investments will be necessary to accommodate its future population.

Sabedra Honored as President’s Classified Employee of the Year

by Diane Russell

Recognized for their outstanding contributions to the campus community, (from left) Robert Lynn, Beverly Sabedra, and Tony Calleja received awards at the annual President’s Classified Staff Luncheon. Sabedra was named President’s Classified Employee of the Year, while Calleja and Lynn were the runners-up.

UNLV is embarking on a 20-month process to develop its facilities master plan. Leading the process are, from left, Tom Hagge, associate vice president for facilities management; Susan Hobbes, director of planning and construction; and Bill Wood, assistant director of planning and construction for real estate and business.

"This master plan will also take a fresh look at the maximum number of students this 337-acre campus can support," Hagge said. "Whether we’re looking at (full-time equivalents) or headcount, there will be a maximum density for this campus; knowing that number will have a major influence in planning the university’s future."

Boehm Receives Research Award

Strategic Planning at UNLV
Abounding Honors

by Carol C. Harter
UNLV President

It seems that this column is often devoted, of late, to commending the efforts of various individuals or groups on campus for their outstanding work. I consider it one of the most pleasant duties of my office to bestow such compliments, and I feel we are fortunate to have so many people on campus worthy of receiving them.

So, I will continue to indulge in this practice in this month’s column, as it seems especially appropriate to do so at this time of year, when so many people have been honored recently for their contributions to the university community. At this year’s very successful Honors Convocation, we as a campus community paid tribute to many individuals for their teaching, service, and/or scholarly activities. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a few of the top honors awarded and talk briefly about the deserving faculty and staff members who received them.

First, two longtime UNLV professors have been awarded perhaps the most prestigious of honors bestowed by UNLV: the Distinguished Professor Award. The award, which carries with it a $5,000 salary increase, was established in 1986 to recognize and reward exceptional contributions of international or national dimensions by a faculty member. To be given serious consideration for the Distinguished Professor Award, a nominee must have demonstrated extraordinary qualities as a teacher and a scholar, must have achieved recognition in his or her field of study in international and national arenas, and must have a record of significant service both to his or her discipline and to the university community.

This award is not presented every year; it is given only when the selection committee deems a nominee sufficiently meritorious. To see two individuals receive the award in one year is quite unusual and speaks to the exceptional quality of their achievements.

 Anthropology professor Martha Knack and English professor Mark Weit are the recipients of this prestigious award this year. Knack, a member of the UNLV faculty since 1977, is an expert on Southern Nevada’s Paiute Indians. The author of Boundaries Between: The Southern Paiutes, 1775-1996, she is at the forefront of applied anthropology and is a pioneer in recognizing the importance of both men and women in Native American studies. Weinstein, a specialist in 19th century British literature, has been at UNLV since 1970. He is the author of an important study of romantic poetry and editor of the 30-volume Edinburgh Edition of the Waverley Novels by Sir Walter Scott. He is internationally recognized as one of the foremost scholars and editors of Scott’s works. Both of these individuals are prominent and gifted scholars who have long records of dedicated service to the university, and it is my pleasure to congratulate them on receiving this award.

Another individual I would like to acknowledge was among the UCCSN Board of Regents Awards recipients this year: Music professor Stefan Karlsson was selected from nominees from

Grateful Family Thanks UNLV

by Betty Blodgett

It is said there is nothing more beautiful than the sound of a new baby’s cry. Indeed, this sentiment holds special meaning for two UNLV students from Brazil, Mauricio Zacarias Farhat and Daniela Vezozzo Farhat, who are the proud new parents of a baby son, Daniel.

The mother, Daniela Vezozzo, who is studying hotel management, had a brain tumor removed last year and was told by her doctor that the chemotherapy treatments that she had received made it impossible for her to become pregnant.

"But then it happened," she said.

During her pregnancy, Vezozzo learned that a new tumor was growing at a very rapid pace in her brain; however, an operation to remove it was impossible during the pregnancy. On Feb. 6, doctors determined the baby was healthy enough to be born. Twenty minutes after giving birth to her son, Vezozzo underwent surgery that successfully removed the grapefruit-sized tumor.

"It was a miracle and a special blessing," said the baby’s father. "It’s been several months now, and we’re happy to report that both the mother and baby are continuing to do well and grow stronger every day."

Farhat, who is finishing a graduate degree in construction management, said that the family wants to express heartfelt thanks to the UNLV faculty and staff members who provided the family with assistance during the difficult pregnancy.

“My wife and I will always remember the abundance of kindness and consideration that was shown to us by the members of the UNLV campus community,” Farhat said. "This is a UNLV baby!"

Faculty and staff provided referrals to doctors at UCLA; gave extensions on homework assignments and tests; brought gifts to the house, including a homemade baby blanket; and offered to help take care of the baby.

Farhat said he and his family want to extend special thanks to the following people: Vicki Holmes and Margaret Hopes from the English Language Center; former registrar Jeff Halverson; Janet Cadrin, Allan...
Boehm Receives Research Award

Mechanical engineering professor Robert Boehm has been named the inaugural recipient of the Harry Reid Silver State Research Award.

"I am delighted to announce the selection of professor Robert Boehm as our first recipient of this prestigious award," said UNLV President Carol C. Harter.

"He is an internationally recognized engineer who is dedicated to researching renewable energy - work that can have a tremendous impact on our community and state. He possesses superb credentials and has exhibited an impressive commitment to his work. The award is well deserved."

Boehm, who joined the UNLV faculty in 1990, said of his selection, "I am honored to receive this award. I would like to thank the administration and the selection committee for recognizing my work. I believe in the importance of developing renewable energy and that it can have a valuable impact on society."

The award, named in honor of U.S. Sen. Harry Reid for his support of research activities on campus, was created to recognize faculty engaging in research that is both highly regarded and responsive to the needs of the community and state. Each year, it will be presented to a faculty member who conducts research that meets at least one of the following criteria: research that 1) directly and positively affects the economic growth and development of Nevada; 2) addresses a pressing social need; or 3) demonstrably advances significant scholarly understanding in an academic field of knowledge.

Harter said she is pleased to be able to acknowledge faculty achievement with the award and to honor Reid simultaneously.

"Senator Reid has been wonderfully supportive of the university's research activities, which are, of course, integral to our efforts to continue building our academic reputation. We are grateful to the senator for his support and feel he should be recognized for it."

Sen. Reid said, "I would like to congratulate professor Boehm on receiving this award. I am deeply honored to be associated with the award and the outstanding scholars who receive it. UNLV is becoming the home of world-class research programs. I am proud of the university's accomplishments in general and, in particular, of the achievements of professor Boehm."

This year, 11 faculty members were nominated by their peers for the award, which carries with it a $10,000 cash stipend provided by the UNLV Foundation. Boehm, who is the director of UNLV's Center for Energy Research, has authored nearly 400 technical publications and has served as editor, co-editor, or author of 10 books. He is considered one of the world's experts in the fields of design of thermal systems and direct contact heat transfer, and he has served as the principal investigator on 40 funded research projects, many of which are designed to produce cleaner and more cost-effective energy. He has also been instrumental in establishing numerous university, government, and private industry partnerships dedicated to advancing research on and applications for renewable energy, including solar, hydrogen, and geothermal power.

An example of one such partnership is the Dish Sterling Project, the solar power generation system located on the north side of the campus that serves as the focal point of a two-year, federally funded project through which engineering faculty and students are demonstrating and refining the functioning of the solar power system. Boehm has served as the principal investigator on the project.

In the next step of the planning process – idea generation – the consultants will refine campuswide recommendations and explore possibilities for satellite campuses.

They will return to the campus with a new scheme that reflects the community's opinions of the preliminary plans. Another open house is scheduled for June 12 at the Moyer Student Union.

The blended scheme will be further developed during the third phase, called refinement. The final phase, called realization, will document the planning process and deliver the master plan recommendations to the university.

"When the comprehensive plan is complete," Harter said, "we will be prepared to meet the needs of a rapidly growing university while assuring that the campus is a place that is at once attractive, inviting, and highly functional."

Master Plan

The master plan will also keep the university from making potentially costly mistakes. "You need an overall understanding of the campus's future needs to make building decisions," Hagge said. "We want to make sure that when we put in new 'pipes and wires' we size them to accommodate future loads, not just the instant needs."

The plan will build on the infrastructure and facilities already in existence, said Susan Hobbes, director of planning and construction. "This is not an entire revamping of the campus into some sort of ideal," she said. "This won't be a drastic departure from what we're already doing, but a skillful building upon our strengths and a plan for efficiently overcoming our weaknesses in terms of facilities and infrastructure."

In the discovery phase of the planning process, the consultants gathered institutional data and personal insights from faculty, staff, students, representatives of surrounding government entities, and community members.

"This master plan will affect the whole community," said Bill Wood, assistant director of planning and construction for real estate and business. "From the beginning, the Board of Regents and President Harter have emphasized the need for our master plan to be very inclusive of people both on and off campus."

Hagge added, "We hope that everyone involved will become ambassadors of the master plan. Everyone on campus and the surrounding community has a role in UNLV's development and should contribute to the future direction we take."

In April, UNLV hosted two open houses - one for the entire Southern Nevada community and one for the campus. Attendees had an opportunity to express their ideas about UNLV's image and physical layout. Wood said that the top concerns of the more than 300 attendees included parking, traffic flow, and the need for prominent entries into campus.

The schemes will address the shift of the center of campus, which is now approximately the Lied Library, and will include new design guidelines to help ensure that the physical appearance of the campus reflects UNLV's unique character. In essence, Hagge said, this means developing "curb appeal."

Bringing harmony to the campus' appearance, Hobbes added, will pay dividends by attracting high-caliber students and faculty. It will also build upon the university's standing in the community and among its peer institutions.
It is with pleasure that I have this opportunity to acquaint you with some of the recent activities within the College of Engineering, and to discuss some of our future plans. The faculty has been very industrious this past year, and their successes are evident in the attitudes, enthusiasm, and achievements of the students.

New programs are under way, and we are striving to create a first-class freshman engineering experience that will rival similar programs in the top universities. Two of our faculty members are teaching introductory engineering courses for junior and senior high school students, and this is the third summer that we will be conducting a five-week summer experience for potential engineering students. We have added a new Advising Center to the college that is staffed by full-time professionals, along with a Writing Center to help students improve their writing skills.

For those of you unfamiliar with the college, let me begin by first describing who we are and what we do. The Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering consists of approximately 60 faculty, with more than 1,200 undergraduate students and 200 graduate students. There are four departments: mechanical engineering, civil and environmental engineering, computer science, and electrical and computer engineering. Many of the faculty come from top-tier engineering schools and expose our students to the latest techniques and state-of-the-art methods used in engineering education and technology. The faculty is developing innovations that are creating a very imaginative and student-centered educational environment.

Students are involved in much of the new and ongoing research being conducted by the faculty. Some of our research areas include transmutation of radioactive waste, air and water quality, data mining, materials research for the DOE stockpile stewardship program, vehicle and mass transit transportation, renewable energy (wind and solar), threat and terrorist defense, and parallel processing and computer code development, to name only a few. We now have a team of five robots that play soccer and communicate with one another—next year the international soccer robot competition will be held at UNLV with more than 120 countries participating in the annual event.

Programs for a master of science degree in aerospace engineering and a master of science in bioengineering were recently submitted to the administration. Future plans include a master of science degree in materials engineering, and enhancing a program currently under way with the College of Fine Arts in entertainment engineering and technology. Research expenditures this past year totaled more than $6.5 million, and we are looking at possibly $10 million next year. Our goal is to achieve an equivalent of $250,000 per faculty member in the college, which is comparable to figures at the very best engineering colleges.

Acquiring knowledge involves learning not only from the past but also learning by doing.

Business

The college is pleased to announce the winners of several awards.

Management professor David Hames received both the University Distinguished Teaching Award and the college’s Teacher of the Year Award. Keith-Choon Tan of the department of management received the college’s Researcher of the Year Award.

Two of the college’s professors, Takashi Yamashita and Meiwa Kuo, received New Investigator Awards from the university’s research office. The awards are given for initiatives in research and creative activity. The intent is to provide modest start-up funding to enable new investigators to establish meaningful research and scholarly programs. Projects demonstrating potential for the investigator’s future growth with increasing impact in future years are especially sought.

Yamashita, an assistant professor of economics, received $7,300 to explore various surveys to answer questions concerning savings and consumption. He will look at whether immigrant households differ from the households of native-born Americans in their patterns of work, retirement, and wealth holding.

Kuo, an assistant professor of accounting, received $9,100 to examine how the recently developed cross-platform and portable information technology (mobile agent) improves the audit efficiency of electronic data processing systems.

Mel Jameson, coordinator of international business programs, has been selected to teach in the Sixth Annual International Summer School Schalkaldken (Germany) this month. The summer school brings together students from all parts of the world to discuss topics of interest in international business and economics.

Dental School

A five-member faculty start-up team successfully hosted accredited site visitors from the Commission on Dental Accreditation in April. The preparation for this visit was very hectic. The visitors reviewed the school development over the last 18 months and noted only two recommendations for improvement. The last dental school to start up had more than 20 recommendations. The faculty is continuing to work on the development of the school and on the suggestions made by the site visitors. The Commission on Dental Accreditation will meet Aug. 1 to vote on the accreditation-eligible status of the dental school. Orientation for the inaugural class starts Aug. 19, and classes will begin the last week in August.

New faculty will soon be recruited for the inaugural year of the school. In addition to the faculty start-up team, there are seven position announcements for faculty for the first-year curriculum. Seventy-five students have accepted admission to the school, and there is an extensive waiting list for the inaugural year. The majority of the students who have indicated their acceptance are from Nevada, but many other states are represented as well. Classrooms have been scheduled on campus for the inaugural year, although by next year, the renovations of the Shadow Lane campus will be completed and students will attend classes and clinics there.

Education

Doctoral students in the new executive leadership Ed.D. program in the department of educational leadership completed a required week-long educational policy seminar in Washington, D.C., in April under the guidance of faculty members Teresa Jordan and Robert McCord. The seminar provided students with a first-hand look at how federal educational policy is developed and implemented.

The week was especially timely because of the enactment of the "No Child Left Behind Legislation." This major federal program is for disadvantaged children in elementary and secondary schools. Congress also will be considering reauthorization of programs for the education of students with disabilities and funding for education research. Explanations of the new legislation and President Bush's priorities for the reauthorization were provided by the counselor to the U.S. Secretary of Education and by senior career staff in the office for educational research and information.

Policy briefings were provided by senior staff from the American Association of School Administrators, American Federation of Teachers, Council of the Great City Schools, National Education Association, and National School Boards Association. Sessions were held with education policy analysts from the Congressional Research Service and executives from the Center on Education Policy, Council for Education Leaders, Institute for Educational Leadership, and Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation.

At a breakfast session with Sens. Harry Reid and John Ensign, students had an opportunity to discuss education issues.

Cultural experiences included touring the Library of Congress, seeing a musical at the National Theater, visiting the Smithsonian Institute and Holocaust Museum, and seeing the Japanese cherry blossom trees in full bloom.

Fine Arts

The college is pleased to announce its faculty award winners for 2002. Stefan Karlsson, director of jazz studies, won the highly prized Board of Regents Creative Activity Award, a systemwide recognition of achievement. Rick Souls was honored by the university with the 2002 UNLV Distinguished Teaching Award. In addition, Marc Hoversen, landscape architecture, received the Charles Vanda Creative Award, and music professor Dean Griesmer won the College of Fine Arts Outstanding Teacher Award.

Students and faculty from the film and dance departments are preparing for the prestigious Edinburgh Arts Festival this August in Scotland. This is the fourth annual trip for the college. Last year's performances received rave reviews. Transportation is made possible by National Airlines.

The Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery will present "Amy Adler, Centerfold," an exhibition of works by internationally acclaimed, Los Angeles-based artist Amy Adler, June 1 through July 14. The exhibition will mark the debut of a new series of works based on Adler's provocative centerfold in the January 2002 issue of Artforum magazine. The series has been developed to honor the 25th Anniversary National Women's Studies Organization Annual Conference, which will be held in Las Vegas June 13-16.

Graduate

The third annual Graduate Student Research Forum was held in April in the Moyer Student Union. This event, jointly sponsored by the Graduate Student Association (GSA) and the Graduate College, is intended to provide an opportunity for graduate students, faculty, and staff from all of the 88 graduate degree programs to share their research and scholarly activity.
Graduate students can discuss their work either by platform or poster presentation. Fourteen faculty judges—Ric Omdorf, Bryan Spangelo, David Hasenfeld, Brad Donohue, Harriet Barlow, Jeff Hartnett, John Mercer, Kathy Robbins, Tom Pechota, Robert Putrell, David Wrobel, Dan Bemishek, Tom Bean, and Tony Lucas—reviewed and critically assessed the quality of the work. This year approximately 100 individuals attended the sessions as well as the awards luncheon.

At the luncheon hosted by Paul Ferguson, senior vice provost and dean of the Graduate College, and John Van Hoesen, vice president of the GSA, a number of graduate students received special recognition. Listed in the order of first place, then second place in each category, those receiving recognition were: poster presentation in social sciences: Lisa Linnung, psychology; and Lindsey Bocchi, physiology; poster presentation in science and engineering: Wendy Barrow, geoscience, and Jose Christiano Machado, civil and environmental engineering; poster presentation in humanities and business: Miriam Dunbar, educational psychology, and Jose Pizarro-Castro, architecture; platform presentation in social science: M. Diane Nell, anthropology, and Jane Karwoski, psychology; platform presentations in science and engineering: Huy Truong, biology, and Tina Gingras, civil and environmental engineering; platform presentation in humanities and business: Amanda Farrar, art, and Matt McCracken, educational psychology.

**Health Sciences**

The college faculty continues to excel. Susan Michael, professor and director of nursing, received the University Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Part-time Faculty Member. William Johnson received the college’s award for Outstanding Researcher. Recipients for other college awards are still being determined.

The nursing department continues working to expand enrollment in the baccalaureate program and is doing its part to address the nursing shortage in Nevada. Students are working under the guidance of faculty in clinical settings throughout the valley and demonstrating the skills they’ve learned and practiced in laboratories on campus. The graduate program continues to enroll students in the family and pediatric nurse practitioners programs. Faculty advisors are available to discuss these options with interested students.

In the kinesiology department, interest is soaring in the sports injury management (athletic training) program under the leadership of Bill Holcomb. The biomechanics laboratory is a research center for faculty and students under the direction of John Mercer.

The nutrition sciences program, though still young, is growing rapidly with more than 70 majors and students and three faculty. Research collaborations are ongoing with nutrition researchers from UNR and the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

Phillip Patton of the health physics faculty was called to active duty following the events of Sept. 11. Faculty members wish him a speedy return. In a demonstration of collegiality, Steen Madsen, Bill Johnson, and Mark Rudin have assumed his academic duties.

**Honors**

The Honors College congratulates Ber Sabedra, who was named President’s Classified Employee of the Year this spring (see “Sabedra Honored,” Page 1). The college still is accepting applications for the 2002-03 academic year. Applications are available online at www.unlv.edu/Colleges/honors or can be picked up in the college’s office, Lied Library, Room 3270. The college is busy planning its annual Honors College Gala, which is part of the new student fall orientation. The gala is scheduled from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 23. Incoming students and the rest of the campus community are invited to attend.

**Hotel**

The college’s Diverse Student Recruitment Committee hosted the first “Be A Rebel Day” for students from four area high schools. The event reached out to local students of color and encourages them to consider attending UNLV and to think about majoring in hotel administration. Thirty students from Valley, Clark, Cheyenne, and Mojave high schools participated.

During breakfast at the Stan Fulton Building, students heard from Dean Stuart Mann; Station Casinos executive Millic Dillworth, ’85 BS Business Administration; college faculty member Wanda Costen; office of admissions representative Kristi Rodriguez; student financial services representative Christopher Stevens; assistant vice president for retention and outreach William Sullivan; and Sherri Theriault, director of the college’s Student Advising Center.

To help students experience what it might feel like to “be a Rebel,” they were given tours by current hotel administration students and participated in a classroom lecture led by Costen. Ten of the high school students submitted applications during the event; four had met all admission criteria and were given letters of admission. Another 10 applied prior to the event and their status is under review.

The college and the committee strive to increase recruitment and retention of a diverse student population. Development of a comprehensive recruitment and retention plan is now under way, with anticipated outreach to selected Clark County schools, CSN and other community colleges, historically black colleges, and other community partners.

To date, $175,000 has been pledged through gifts to the UNLV Foundation to support scholarships for minority students.

**Law School**

The school has been fortunate in recent weeks to host or co-host a large number of interesting events relating to civil rights.

In March, professor John Orth of the School of Law at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, drew a large audience for his talk on same-sex marriage. A nationally known legal scholar, Orth questioned the rationality of state and federal laws that provide special legal and financial benefits to married couples while denying those benefits to other committed couples.

The civil rights series continued into April with two panel discussions on the death penalty, both featuring representatives from the district attorney’s and the public defender’s offices. Moderators included law professor Joan Howarth and District Judge Valerie Vega.

Later in April, professor Ken Numm of the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida presented his paper, “The Racial Political History of Drug Laws.” He is a highly regarded scholar, known for his work in civil rights, criminal law, and critical race theory.

In a well-attended program combining the themes of campus control and civil rights, the law school hosted a film screening and panel discussion involving Korematsu v. United States, the Supreme Court’s 1944 decision upholding the forced internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. A highlight of this event was the presence of Fred Korematsu, the courageous petitioner in that historic case.

**Liberal Arts**

The foreign languages department has experienced phenomenal growth, especially in the field of Spanish, in recent years. This is largely attributable to the leadership of chair Dick Gerdes and the efforts of faculty members who make sure that the curriculum keeps pace with contemporary needs, according to Dean Jim Frey. Additionally, an increasing demand exists for people in all professions to know a second language.

Through Spanish for the professions, a new track within the Spanish program, the department has conducted language classes for law enforcement enitites. Classes for medical, hospitality, and business students are also available in Spanish, Chinese, French, and German. Professor Daniel Villeneuve has facilitated the designation of UNLV as one of the few test centers for professional certification in German business language. A minor in Italian has been developed by professor Giuseppe Natale. Professor Margaret Hargraves University is offering the first-ever French for business course at UNLV, and professors Jorge Galindo, Deborah Areceza, Natalie, and Gerdes will be offering courses that lead to the newly approved graduate certificate in Spanish translation. The revised Spanish graduate degree, now titled master of arts in Spanish language, culture, and technology, reflects the modern emphasis on applied language skills.

The department still maintains a strong traditional program in language skills, literature, and culture. While Spanish, Italian, French, and German continue to draw students, there is growing interest in Hebrew, Arabic, Japanese, Japanese, and other minority students.

In addition to responding to the demand for applying language to everyday life, the department provides students with the language skills and cultural knowledge they need.

**Libraries**

The University Libraries are proud to recognize Wendy Starkweather, director of public services and the recipient of the 2002 McPhie Librarian of the Year Award, and Jennifer Church, information commons librarian, and the first to receive the Libraries’ new Innovative Solutions Award.

The McPhie Award is given annually to a tenured member of the library faculty who has made a major contribution to the library, the university, the community, or the profession. In a letter nominating Starkweather, a colleague praised her as an involved supervisor of six large departments, outlined her work with the state library organization, and said, “Wendy Starkweather is a person who does a ‘big job’ very well. In her 17 years here, she has made a substantial contribution to the UNLV Libraries. However, her contribution is in more than years. She constantly strives for improvement for the Libraries, is a cheerleader for her state, and provides support for her colleagues.”

The Innovative Solutions Award recognizes a library faculty member for demonstrated innovation and creative thinking to solve a problem, overcome a challenge, or improve upon an existing practice in the provision of library services and resources. Church helped the Libraries’ administration office find a technical solution to manage large numbers of employment documents. Her solution made it possible for staff to reduce turnaround time for hiring student workers from two working days to five minutes and caught the attention of the university human resources staff.

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Inside UNLV Page 5
Lisa Rapp-Paglicci (Social Work) had her edited book, *Handbook of Violence*, published in March. The book includes chapters on school, workplace, community, and family violence. She also presented a paper about juvenile probation officer victimization at the recent Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference.

Jean Melby-Mauer (English Language Center) gave a presentation titled “Using the Internet in the ESL Classroom” at the CATESOL Conference 2002 in San Francisco in March.

Russell A. Kost III (Foundation) was appointed to a three-year term (2002-05) on the International Philanthropy Commission of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). He will serve as liaison to the CASE District VII Board. CASE is an international association of advancement officers, comprised of alumni administrators, fund-raisers, public relations managers, publication editors, and government relations officers. District VII includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah.

Carl Tobias (Law) spoke at conferences on federal judicial selection at the Hastings College of Law at the University of California in March and at the School of Law at the University of California, Davis in April.

Don Drake (Public Safety) has been promoted to the rank of police lieutenant. In his new position, he will oversee the detective, parking services, and computer services units. He also will be instrumental in assisting with the design of new public safety preparedness and response strategies. With 22 years of service at UNLV, Drake is the senior member of the campus police force.

Tasha Boychuk-Spears (Nursing) had her book, *Children Who Witness Homicide and Other Violent Crimes*, published in March by Specialized Training Publishers. The book is a practical guide for law enforcement, child services, and mental health professionals conducting investigative interviews of child witnesses. She also had a paper on eyewitness recall of children accepted for presentation at the 87th International Educational Conference of the Forensic Association for Identification.

Tom Sharp (Educational Leadership) published an article titled, “Faculty Governance and Academic Freedom Versus the Corporate Model” in vol. 13(1) of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Sue Fawn Chung (History) co-hosted the National Trust for Historic Preservation Western Advisors Conference in Northern Nevada in April. Her paper, co-written with professor emeritus Elmer Rusco (UNR), on Chinese-Americans and African-Americans in Nevada was presented at Black and Asian Encounters through Time and Space, an international conference held at Boston University in April. She also presented her paper on Chinese miners and merchants of Gold Creek, Nev., at the National Association for Asian American Studies Conference in Salt Lake City that month. This study is being made into an educational film by KLXV’s Jemyng Wu.

Alan Zundel (Political Science) wrote an article, “The Futility of Empirical Policy Analysis without Normative Policy Analysis,” which has been published in the journal *Public Integrity*.

Pete Glass (Greek Life) was named Advisor of the Year at the Western Regional Greek Conference. The award honors an advisor who exemplifies Greek ideals, acts as a positive change agent on campus, and fosters high ideals in the Greek collegians. In nominating Glass, UNLV student Samra Dayani wrote, “We rarely meet an individual who directly affects the course that your life will take. Pete’s guidance, direction, and inspiration has affected my college career profoundly.”

Susan Thompson (International Programs) was recently appointed to a 16-member task force for international education policy development headed by former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley. She is also a member of the executive and the finance committees for the University Studies Abroad Consortium, a member of the executive board of the Nevada Committee on Foreign Relations, and was recently named chair of the publication and communication committee for NAESA: Association of International Educators.

Jeffrey Green (Public Safety) has been promoted to the rank of police lieutenant—the first African-American in the department’s history to rise to that rank. He will be in charge of all patrol units, special events squads, and crime prevention programs. He joined the force in 1997 after serving 18 years with the U.S. Air Force, and was promoted to sergeant in 2000.

Jerry Landwer (Educational Leadership) was named chair of the Strategic Planning Committee of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance at its national conference in San Diego in April. Committee members are appointed by the alliance president based on recommendations from presidents of the national and district associations. Landwer also serves on the alliance’s Recognition and Awards Committee.

Philip Rusche (English) gave an invited paper, “Order and Design in Anglo-Saxon Glossaries,” at the conference, Shaping Understanding: Form and Order in the Anglo-Saxon World 400-1100, which was held in March at the British Museum in London.

Barbara Knowles (College of Sciences) was selected UNLV Classified Employee of the Month for March. An administrative assistant III in the College of Sciences Advising Center, she has worked at UNLV for 11 years. Before moving to her current job last year, she worked in the purchasing department. She assists students with procedural questions about the college, degree programs, and academic paperwork; supports the center’s staff; and maintains its Web page. She also assists in planning and operating several science outreach programs, including the Science Bowl.

Bobbie Jo Childers (Reprographics) is being inducted into the Nevada Trap Shooters Hall of Fame. She has been active as a member, president, and director of the Pacific International Trap Association (PITA). She has also been president and a director of the Spanish Springs Gun Club and is a member of the Amateur Trap Shooting Association. She has won several titles, including Nevada state champion and PITA state champion. All UNLV faculty, classified staff, and professional staff members are encouraged to submit entries to the "Spotlight on Accomplishments" section of Inside UNLV. Entries should be no more than 75 words in length. Submissions via e-mail are preferred. The e-mail address is inside.unlv@ccmail.nv.edu. Submissions to mail code 0102 also will be accepted.
President’s Column

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throughout the entire UCCSN system to receive the Board of Regents’ Creative Activity Award. This award—established by the board in 1993 with the goal of recognizing significant accomplishments that bring national and international stature to the system—carries with it a $5,000 stipend. Karlsson, who is the coordinator of the jazz studies program on campus, is an internationally renowned composer and performer, and we are pleased his work has been acknowledged at the system level.

I would also like to note this year’s recipients of the universitywide Distinguished Teaching Awards. The award, which carries with it a $5,000 stipend for recipients, was established to highlight the importance of teaching in the development of a premier urban institution. The 2002 awards were presented to four recipients: Robert Boehm, professor of mechanical engineering, director of the UNLV Energy Research Center, and the inaugural recipient of the Harry Reed Silver State Research Award (see “Boehm Receives,” Page 3); David Hames, associate professor of management; Patricia Markos, associate professor of counseling; and Richard Soule, professor of music. We congratulate these award winners for their commitment to teaching, which, of course, remains critical to our mission and student-centered orientation here at UNLV.

From the Dean’s Desk

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This principle has resulted in a very active internship program on campus, enabling engineering and computer science students to secure part-time jobs while studying for their degrees. This opportunity allows students to implement ideas and concepts just learned in the classroom along with providing employers exposure to potential candidates for employment.

Calculus, chemistry, and physics serve as the backbone for those entering the world of engineering and computer science. Science and math serve as the fundamental building blocks for students interested in understanding and building models used in dynamics, circuits, computer chip design, materials, machine design, water resources and the environment, structures and buildings, biomedical studies, and algorithms. This is why we have such a close relationship with the College of Science. However, engineers must also be able to write lucidly, communicate and make presentations, develop and balance budgets, and supervise projects and people. Hence, engineers must learn from many of the courses taught in our sister colleges. Engineers must not only be trained in their specialty areas, but also well educated overall.

Design and development are essentially what distinguishes engineers from scientists (which principally deals with understanding and discovering the laws of nature). Early Egyptian, Greek, and Roman “engineers” were frequently called upon to erect great monuments, build defenses against enemies, and design roads and vehicles to transport both people and their possessions over great distances. By the time of the Renaissance, engineers were creating a multitude of new inventions and ideas, in conjunction with scientists and mathematicians who developed many of the foundations of analytical tools engineering students learn in school today. Today, a project such as the new Science and Engineering Building planned for 2006 at UNLV involves not only civil engineering but also architecture, environmental, and mechanical engineering, as well as economics and artistic appeal. These types of interactions that cross (and overlap) traditional engineering boundaries are increasing and will become mandatory for engineers in the 21st century.

Technology is not a complete fix to the problems we face in society today. Engineering is the application of science to solve real-world problems. While we can design and create all sorts of devices and structures, it is another matter to be able to afford them. Advances in technology today are reshaping our lives through such means as information technology, nanotechnology, and biotechnology. There is now research under way in various laboratories on the feasibility of quantum-level computers—overcome the existing physical limits of current computer technology. While such ideas and concepts can be conceived in the laboratory, it is a different matter when one must bring the idea to fruition and acceptance in the real world.

Every engineering discipline plays a part in searching for solutions. For example, civil and mechanical engineers have examined the collapse of the World Trade Center in an effort to determine why the towers collapsed—their goals now include designing new ways to safeguard such buildings and to minimize such catastrophes in the future.

Environmental engineers are striving to design new ways to detect and protect water supplies from hazardous contaminants. Electrical engineers are looking at new methods of communication and techniques to transmit data (phone lines were unreliable during the Sept. 11 attack and people communicated by handheld wireless e-mail). Computer scientists are examining novel ways to ensure that information networks are reliable and secure.

As you can see, the field of engineering is complex and evolving. We look forward to continuing to meet the challenges our discipline presents and preparing our students to do so as well.

The awards for Classified and Professional Staff Members of the Year were also recently presented. Each of these awards carries with it a $1,000 stipend. This year’s classified staff award recipient is Bev Sabede, the administrative assistant in the Honors College, and the 2002 Professional Staff Member of the Year is bursar Sharon Coomes. Both of these longtime staff members have worked tirelessly to make their areas more efficient, to support students, and to put innovative ideas to work. We appreciate their steadfast, committed service to the campus community.

I am also pleased to announce that we have established an award for part-time instructors this year. The inaugural recipients of this award are John Carlton, history, Chad Cross, environmental studies; Joe Lano, music; Nancy Matheny, tourism and convention administration; and Susan Rush-Michael, nursing. My congratulations to these individuals; I am extremely pleased that we have been able to expand our rewards system to offer recognition to this group.

Many other important honors are presented each year, and I encourage you to read a greater detail here. I am sorry I do not have the space to mention them all, but please know that I am proud of the work of our award recipients. Their accomplishments clearly indicate they are dedicated, creative, and willing to go far beyond the call of duty. They represent the very best that UNLV has to offer, and we are fortunate to have them on campus.

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President’s Column

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The University Planning Council Council had many spirited discussions on the proposed changes, the ways the university had changed since 1996, and the future of the institution. It was exciting to hear members argue that the university needed to recognize its accomplishments; that UNLV should brag about its successes. The original planning document has been described as one that presented the aspirations of the university. The new document celebrates the progress of those aspirations during the past six years and sets new goals for the future. It proclaims that UNLV is a national university, not a local or regional institution; that UNLV is a research institution that aspires to maintain excellence in graduate and undergraduate teaching; and that UNLV plays a major role in diversifying the economy in Southern Nevada and a significant role in identifying and then providing solutions to problems in the Las Vegas metropolitan area.

In 1995, when Dr. Harter was named president of UNLV, she announced that a systematic planning process would be a major goal of her administration. In August of that year, the university held a two-day retreat of students, faculty, staff, and alumni to discuss the challenges the institution would face in the next decade. Over the next few months a series of discussions was held that led to the creation of a planning document that included the university’s mission statement and goals. The phrase, “premier urban university” emerged as the cornerstone of that document. In order to emphasize the importance of and the need for continuous planning, the campus created the University Planning Council to coordinate the university’s strategic planning effort. Since their creation in 1996, the goals and the language of the planning document have become an accepted part of the university’s culture.

During the past year and a half, the University Planning Council has been working on a major revision of the planning document. That revision grew out of a realization that many of the original action items in the document had been achieved and that the university had evolved to the point that it was necessary to update the goals to reflect the evolution.

The University Planning Council is composed of individuals who represent a cross section of the university: one faculty member from each of the colleges and the library, an undergraduate student, a graduate student, two members of the classified staff, five members of the professional staff, two deans, and the members of the President’s Cabinet.

Members of the council were assigned committees to discuss each of the seven goals in the document and to suggest needed additions and revisions. The committees met over a period of several months and reported on their progress at each monthly meeting of the council. During the discussions, it became clear that technology had become such an integral part of the university that it was necessary to create a goal that focused solely on technology, so an eighth goal was added to the document.

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After the University Planning Council approved the document, it was sent to the President’s Cabinet for discussion and revision. The president and members of the cabinet suggested alterations and additions and asked the council to approve those changes. In March, the document was presented to other campus groups, including the Faculty Senate and the Academic Council, for their approval. On March 15, a public forum was held during the Planning Council meeting. There was a lively and productive discussion at that forum. After the forum, a message was sent to the campus inviting individual units to participate in the discussion. Several units accepted.

This summer, the planning document will be presented to the Board of Regents for approval. After the board has approved the document, it will be published in a booklet and will be distributed to the campus at the beginning of fall semester. During the semester, all units on campus will be asked to revise their existing documents or create new ones that incorporate the language and goals of the revised planning document. The 2002-03 academic year will be an exciting one for strategic planning at UNLV. The members of the University Planning Council look forward to meeting and working with members of all units on campus during this very important process.

News from the Colleges continued from page 5

Sciences

The college is pleased to announce the recipients of the collegewide annual awards.

The Distinguished Research Award recipient is Donna Weistroph in physics. Weistroph, who joined the department in 1990, has published more than 60 articles in refereed journals and has presented more than 50 papers at conferences during her career. Additionally, she has been an investigator or co-investigator on externally funded grants totaling $1.5 million. The selection committee found that external recommendations in support of Weistroph demonstrate excellence in research and an international scientific reputation. Her research efforts and production are exemplary and a credit to UNLV.

Receiving the Distinguished Service Award is Roberta Williams of biological sciences. She joined the department in 1984. The selection committee recognized her exceptional service to the university and community through her directorship of the master of arts in science degree program and her efforts in K-12 outreach.

Graduate student Melissa Hicks of the department of geosciences is the recipient of the college’s Outstanding Thesis Award. Professor Stephen Rowland was her graduate advisor. The selection committee indicated that the competition for the award this year was extremely close. As a result, the committee recommended honorable mention awards to Melissa Pompilius of chemistry and Joe Gilbert of geosciences. The Outstanding Dissertation Award is being presented to Cheryl Varner of the department of biological sciences. The selection committee determined that her dissertation was a superior effort, and a significant contribution to biological literature. Professor Daniel Thompson served as her advisor.

Urban Affairs

The application of theory to practice through community outreach serves as one of the major goals of the college, and a recent estimate shows that its social work students enrolled in practicum courses have given a minimum of 62,280 hours to human services organizations in Las Vegas, Clark County, and southwestern Utah. Students work pro bono, but if they were paid for their work, they would have contributed $708,000 in services. The estimated time and monetary equivalents that the students contribute to human services agencies are based on the minimum requirements for the completion of their courses.

Students often surpass their required hours, further strengthening UNLV’s partnerships with the community. For more information about the practicum program, contact Stacey Hardy-Desmond at ext. 1313.

In the college’s department of counseling, master’s students who recently took the nationwide Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Exam successfully completed the exam with a 100 percent pass rate. The exam is required in order to become a licensed counselor. Nine students took the exam, administered by the Association of Marital and Family Regulatory Boards, in January. The national pass rate for the licensure exam is approximately 67 percent. The UNLV master’s students who took the exam scored an average of 84 percent on the exam, compared to the national average of 74.5 percent, and the lowest score among this group was 80 percent — nearly 6 points higher than the national average. The national information about the marriage and family therapy program, contact professor Mark Odell at ext. 3210.