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Inside UNLV

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Kicking Off Our 50th Year in Style

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

At long last UNLV’s much-anticipated 50th anniversary is here. From classes at Las Vegas High School to today’s sprawling 350-acre campus with its 28,000 students, UNLV has come a long way. Now it’s time to celebrate its half-century milestone in style. The anniversary events will kick off Sept. 12-15 with a revival of University Days, which brought together faculty, staff, and students in the 1960s. To keep on top of the activities throughout the year, go to celebrating50.unlv.edu.

To get you started, here are some of the don’t-miss anniversary and general campus events coming up in the next few weeks:

- Aug. 30. Premier UNLV. This annual event celebrates the start of a new academic year with food, live performances, and the traditional creation of the student section in UNLV by strategically placing participants holding flashlights. (You have to see it.) And this year faculty, staff, and alumni will be asked to form the number 50 in a similar fashion. This event begins at 7 p.m. on North Field and is free to faculty, staff, and students. UNLV ID must be shown for admittance.
- Sept. 5. University Forum Lecture. History professor Eugene Moehring, author of UNLV: A History, will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the Barrick Museum auditorium. His topic will be “Rebels in the Desert: Creating UNLV, 1957-1969.” Moehring will be available to sign copies of his book beginning at 6:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

New Additions

Construction Continues on Both Main, Shadow Lane Campuses

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

Now with the union complete, the Student Recreation and Wellness Center near completion, and major projects such as Greenspun Hall and the Science and Engineering Building scheduled for completion in 2008, Susan Hobbes, director of planning and construction, expects the campus to see less visible construction activity than in recent years. “Construction has peaks and valleys, and although the pace of construction has slowed, we are busy planning for future projects,” Hobbes said.

As you read this, some fellow employee is slurping a Jamba Juice inside the recently completed second phase of the Student Union. Inside UNLV last gave you a construction update at the start of 2007 when there were six new buildings in some phase of construction.

Darfur Discussion

A panel of African writers will discuss “Apartheid to Darfur: Africa’s Struggle Against Disdain” at UNLV on Sept. 11. Hosted by UNLV’s Black Mountain Institute, the panel will include Nigerian writers Chris Abani and Chimamanda Adichie as well as Zimbabwean writers Alexandra Fuller and Chenjerai Hove. Nigerian writer and Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka will serve as moderator.

The event, which will take place at 7 p.m. in Doc Rando Hall, is free and open to the public.

iCelebrate!

UNLV will kick off Hispanic Heritage Month at 2 p.m. Sept. 20 at the alumni amphitheater with an event emceed by KVBC news anchor Maria Silva and Telemundo news anchor Brenda Macias.

Other campus events for the month include family night at a UNLV soccer game, a film festival, and a mariachi showcase. UNLV soccer game, a film festival, and a mariachi showcase.

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Planning for the Next 50 Years

At the convocation ceremony on Sept. 12, President David Ashley plans a state-of-the-university address to set priorities for the new academic year and to kick off UNLV’s 50th anniversary celebrations. At the top of the to-do list, he said, will be reviving the universitywide planning process.

This fall UNLV will begin its first planning initiative under your leadership. What can employees expect?

UNLV’s culture for planning was one aspect that drew me to this university. The past work was impressive and clearly established a planning vocabulary for the campus. Now it is time to tie our planning goals more closely to our resources. This is especially true as we experience flattening enrolments, which affect the funding we receive from the state. We will have to make some deliberate and difficult budget decisions this year. This focus will allow us to still progress toward our ambitions, while being even better stewards of our resources.

How will changes in enrollment affect planning?

The real issue is not recruitment — it is retention. I am not brushing aside the recruitment end of the equation — increasing selectivity, application deadlines and processes, and changes to the millennium scholarship program are just some of the factors having an immediate impact on enrollment. UNLV’s ambitions are about excellence, not volume. As we look at enrollment and its effect on the budget, it is vital that we take a holistic approach. We must focus on making sure our students are successful in reaching graduation. How can we do that better will certainly be a critical part of our strategic planning process.

How will the planning process work?

Neal Smatresk (executive vice president and provost) is taking the lead in the process. He will begin engaging the campus with a frank discussion of the budget realities. Some people have even more exciting place to be.

How do you expect employees to be involved in the planning process?

All of us have an obligation to bring a diversity of viewpoints to the table. I do not worry too much about making sure that the plan is real, it is action-able, and we will follow through.

How will the planning process affect employee expectations?

I cannot say that everyone is going to be thrilled that they want for their program or initiative, but I do believe they will come out knowing that the decisions we make together will move UNLV forward toward excellence and make it an even more exciting place to be.

How do you expect employees to be involved in the planning process?

UNLV faculty, staff, and graduate students are invited to a state-wide women’s conference to be held on campus Sept. 21. This year’s theme is “Effective Leadership Communication for Women.”

This second annual conference, the Nevada State Network Conference sponsored by the American Council on Education’s office of women in higher education, will give participants the chance to choose from several concurrent sessions focusing on interactive practice of negotiation and communication skills for women. Rose Tseng, chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, will present the keynote address.

Women’s Conference Set for Sept. 21

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Co-sponsored by the eight Nevada System of Higher Education institutions and the chancellor’s office, the event is expected to draw participants from system campuses across the state. A $25 registration fee for the day-long event covers continental breakfast, lunch, and a closing reception.

More Info: Visit www.unr.edu/womenhighered. For questions, contact Joanne Goodwin at ext. 5-1199 or Liz Baldizan at ext. 5-2620.
Planning, Budget Top Priorities for Provost

Smatresk Ready To Run With New Role
By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

With a little more than a month under his belt at UNLV — not to mention the many visits to campus and numerous phone calls that took place between his selection as executive vice president and provost in February and his official start date of June 1 — Neal Smatresk laughingly says he is “drinking from the fire hose” as he acquaints himself with UNLV and its people.

“And I’m running to catch up with trains that have left the station.”

Despite his busy schedule, he took time to talk with Inside UNLV about what he has learned.

You’ve been busy hiring some top administrators in recent months. What are you working on now?

We’re continuing our search for vice presidents for research. It’s a key position and we need to make sure we get the right person. So we continue to search until we’ve found someone who really brings a lot of ability and expertise to our campus.

Meanwhile, Ron Smith will continue in an interim position. I think Ron’s doing a great job.

How will the planning process that we’re starting to hear about be conducted?

Because President Ashley will be addressing the planning process in his Inside UNLV column (see page 2), I’m not going to go into detail about it.

That said, in the face of our very rapid growth and declining budgets, it makes a lot of sense to have a firm set of priorities and to know who we are and who we serve as we move forward.

The planning process will be a hard-nosed, practical exercise that will help us set our goals.

What do you see as your role in Ashley’s administration?

My job is to run the campus in a way that supports the strategic vision and the overarching plan that David develops and, of course, to bring him the best advice I can.

We’ve established a level of trust and cooperation that is certainly going to make my job much easier and much more enjoyable. He’s empowered me to do the things I need to do.

You mentioned declining revenues.

The budget situation is very challenging. After 15 years of growing revenue streams, I’ll get to be the first provost in a while who is considering making wholesale cuts (he said wryly). That’s not my first choice in issues I want to deal with. But, we’re all in it together, so we’re going to work together to find a way to achieve our budget objectives without hurting our educational mission and to continue moving forward with our research focus.

I’m looking at it this way: it’s pruning the tree so that it can grow stronger.

What does that “pruning” mean for existing programs?

It doesn’t mean you’re going to throw out programs. It doesn’t work that way. You don’t ever come in as a new person and make wholesale cuts.

But that doesn’t mean you don’t ask people to be accountable for how they manage their resources. I have been impressed with the quality of the deans. I believe for the most part that they are capable of being very good resource managers.

This year and next year will put them to the test. And those who show they can use their resources to best effect will be the ones who fare the best in subsequent budgets.

Are you worried about funding?

What really worries me is not this biennium, but the next. It is up to us to make the best in subsequent budgets.

What else will you be working on to improve retention?

I’ve heard repeatedly that many students as they move into the core of their majors are having trouble getting the courses they need. This is an area I’m very concerned about.

That’s meat and potatoes. We need to make sure that is a high priority in terms of resource allocation.

It’s one of those places where I really need the support of deans and department chairs.

You’re the parent of a college student. How does that influence your views on student issues?

I have a simple set of values. I want the parents of any kid who comes here to know that I want their kid treated the same way I want my kid treated. For example, I expect that the people who are helping connect my daughter (Kristen, an international business major at the University of Hawaii at Manoa) to her career goals will support her educational progression and take a personal interest.

If that’s an expectation I have as a parent, it must be the expectation I have as a university administrator.

Outside UNLV | Page 3

Provet Neal Smatresk, seen talking to participants in the summer under-graduate research program, describes the budget situation as “challenging”

Everyone’s Favorite Subject: Parking

Parking Services Launches New Software, Permit Procedure
By Shane Bevel | Marketing & PR

The thought of parking may not bring a smile to your face, but there is reason to be optimistic — a user-friendly software system that will mean fewer trips to the Claude Howard Public Safety Building.

Parking services’ new software system, called T2, unifies all of their operations — enforcement, permits, and events management.

Lock Yourself Out?

Parking services does more than just write tickets. They also provide jump-starts, lockout services, and tire inflation — services that could otherwise be costly.

Tip: Program 885-1300 into your cell phone in case you need assistance during normal enforcement hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.—7 p.m. and Friday, 7 a.m.—5 p.m.

Parking Garage Proposal

Another parking option is on the horizon for those who work on the south end of campus. The university is in the preliminary planning stages for a new parking garage to be built west of the new Student Recreation and Wellness Center, said Mike Sauer, associate vice president for administration.

This particular location is under consideration because of the need to have a major road that provides both a way in and a way out of the garage, and Tropicana Avenue fits the bill.

Sauer said that after the initial planning the proposal for the project must be presented to the Board of Regents. After its approval, a construction timeline can be set.

Because the parking garage is still in the early planning stages and Board of Regents approval has not been given, final details are not available, he said.

“While we have enough of a cumulative increase to build the next parking structure, we then begin the planning for that structure,” Sauer said. “That is where we currently are.”

McDowell said that permit fees also help parking services provide, maintain, and protect parking since they get little funding from outside sources.

Parking Availability

When there are no large events on campus, there are approximately 2,000 spaces open every day.

About 40 percent of those are on the north side of campus in the Cottage Grove parking garage, said Tad McDowell, director of parking services.

Most parking is located on the periphery of campus to help keep traffic down in the core, thereby making it safer for pedestrians, he said.

Permit Fees

Mike Sauer, associate vice president for administration, noted that permit fees increase each year because it allows for gradual increases over time instead of a dramatic increase at the time a new parking structure or other significant capital expenditure is put into place.
More Info: Call ext. 5-0777 or e-mail IThelp@unlv.edu.

Classroom Support
If you’re having problems with technology in a classroom, and need help right away, assistance is available. You can request:
• Immediate assistance with operating technology
• Access to technology Enhanced classroom (TEC) equipment
• Training for TEC equipment
• Maintenance for TEC facility equipment
• Computer lab assistance

Hours: 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Weekdays
Location: Harter Classroom Building Complex, Room B-132

More Info: Call ext. 5-0701

Technology Enhanced Classroom Access
You will need a Marlok card to access rooms with technology. If you are locked out of a room during regular business hours, contact your department or call the Technology Department at ext. 5-4357. After business hours, call public safety at ext. 5-3668, then press “2” at the menu prompt. Be sure to have proof that you are teaching and need access to the room.

Student Help Desk
The student help desk assists students with several things, including:
• Password resets
• Formatting Microsoft Word documents
• Using WebCampus
• Access to RebelMail

Hours: 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday
Location: Student Union, Room 231

More Info: Call ext. 5-0761 or e-mail studenthelp@unlv.edu

Strong College Communication Programs a Priority for New VP
By Cate Weeks | Marketing & PR
Bill Boldt did not plan on a career in advancement. Then fate jumped in and advancement found him. On his first day on the job at the Oregon State University Extension Service in 1982 he was told that his program’s funding was suddenly in jeopardy. “I saw my whole career flash before my eyes,” he said. “I think in times of crisis your discoveries and results you never knew you had.”

With just a month’s time to prepare, he successfully lobbyied to keep the funding while learning the role advancement activities play in a university’s success. He also tapped into his natural talent for cultivating relationships and his enjoyment for working with people.

Boldt arrives on campus Sept. 10 as its first vice president for advancement. Here he will integrate all the internal and external relations activities — including employee, donor, alumni, community and government relations — into one unit. Previously, these activities reported to two vice presidents as well as directly to the president.

While the advancement model is new for UNLV, it’s not new for Boldt. With more than 35 years of experience in higher education as a professor, department chair, assistant dean, vice president, and vice chancellor, Boldt has developed comprehensive and successful advancement programs and campaigns at Cornell University, California Polytechnic University, and at San Luis Obispo, and most recently at the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

How would you describe your personality?
I am naturally positive and enthusiastic. I think my success comes from my persistence and focus on goals. When something is getting in the way of achieving a goal, I tackle it head-on.

Why UNLV?
I was very impressed with the commitment to UNLV I saw both on campus and in the community. When I interviewed, a local developer took a day of his time to meet with me. He could have been elsewhere making thousands of dollars, but he chose to commit his time to UNLV. That says a lot about the community’s belief in the institution and the direction it’s going.

What do you plan to do first?
I have to fully understand the academic, athletic, and cultural programs at UNLV so I can be the best possible spokesperson for the university. I hate the thought of missing an opportunity to strengthen state funding, to get a donation, or to capture a reporter’s interest simply because I didn’t know about an amazing program we have. For UNLV to reach its full potential in advancement, we have to have strong college/unit-based programs that include at least one development staff member and one communications staff member. My job is to create a model so the college-based staff members are supported through an integrated approach to development and communications.

What have been your greatest professional accomplishments?
At Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo I developed and completed the first comprehensive campaign in the California State University system (23 campuses) and the largest campaign in the nation for a public master’s comprehensive university. The advancement team at UCR helped get initial approval for a new medical school last year. I have launched comprehensive integrated marketing programs at three major universities. My teams have won five CASE national fundraising awards. I have been very fortunate to work with a strong group of individuals who are involved and invested in making things happen, and I look forward to working with the UNLV team toward the same goal.

How can faculty and staff help with advancement?
A passionate faculty member or dean is often the most important factor in a donor’s decision to make a gift. All faculty and all staff can and should be involved in advancement — not necessarily as fundraisers, but as storytellers. They can tell the story of the campus in meaningful and important ways and serve as our strongest advocates.

Where does governmental relations fit in?
The next legislative session may be one of the most important for UNLV. In the next 18 months, we will have to work hard to show legislators the value of investing state dollars in our programs. I think this is where UNLV’s volunteers leaders and donors can have a significant impact. Volunteers have no vested interest in the institution, so their beliefs resonate more with legislators.

How about those rubber-chicken dinners?
Generally speaking, I avoid desserts and carbohydrates, and hope for good company.
Senior Advisor Provides Faculty Perspective

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

UNLV alum, faculty member, and food and beverage expert Andy Feinstein is taking his knowledge out of the kitchen and into the boardroom. Inside UNLV sat down with Feinstein to discuss what ingredients (sorry, we couldn’t resist) he hopes to infuse into his new role as senior advisor to President David Ashley.

What was your reaction to being named senior advisor?

It was an unbelievable opportunity to be asked by the president to take on this job. I am truly a UNLV believer. I love UNLV and am honored to be able to give back and contribute to its development.

Why do you think President Ashley chose you?

I can provide the president’s office with not only a faculty perspective, but also a student and administrator perspective. I am also a food and beverage person, whereas Dr. Ashley is an engineer. So it doesn’t hurt to throw a different perspective in the mix.

What are your responsibilities as the senior advisor to the president?

Every day when I walk into my office I remember that although I work for the president, I am still a faculty member at this university. My number one responsibility is to help the president understand the fabric of this university from the perspective of a faculty member. What I mean by “faculty perspective” is my own personal insight and how I would perceive the decisions made by the cabinet and the president if I were still a full-time faculty member. I don’t represent the faculty the way the chair of the Faculty Senate does. However, I do listen to faculty members. They are free to voice their concerns to me. If they need help, I can steer them in the right direction.

Additional responsibilities include serving on committees and helping the president communicate with the public.

What are your priorities?

My number one responsibility is to help the president understand the community can envision more interaction with the president and the cabinet.

What is it like working with Ashley?

When I first met him, I was intimidated. He has attended and been an administrator at some of the finest institutions. My field is so different from his. I am an emotional “seat-of-your-pants” person. Dr. Ashley is the complete opposite. He is very thoughtful and analytical in his decisions. I am trying to adopt his approach. In a way, he is mentoring me and I am learning how to be a more effective decision-maker.

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UNLV Organization

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Contact: Dianne Fouret 5-1875
New Faces

Stories by Erin O'Donnell

Editor's Note:
Here, in place of the usual “Across Campus” section, we’re presenting “New Faces,” profiles of a random sampling of some of UNLV’s newest employees. As the new academic year begins, take a minute to learn about some of your new coworkers. “Across Campus” will return next month.

ADVANCEMENT
Tiffany Cabral
Controller
Tiffany Cabral graduated from UNLV nearly eight years ago, but she never drifted far from campus. After earning her accounting degree, Cabral joined one of the biggest public accounting firms in the country, Deloitte and Touche. She sometimes headed back to UNLV on recruiting missions, and presented an occasional lecture to classes.

With a son heading into middle school, Cabral was seeking a better work-life balance when she heard from a former classmate about an opening at the UNLV Foundation. She became its new controller in July.

“Hearing that network here at UNLV is what drew me back,” Cabral said.

She learned quickly on the job at Deloitte and soon achieved her goal of earning her CPA. “One of my professors used to say that going into a public accounting firm is like a master’s program, but you’re getting paid to do it. Learning is quick and accelerated.”

Cabral and her staff are responsible for tracking money into and out of the UNLV Foundation, and they’re accountable for ensuring monies are being used according to donors’ wishes. “It’s essential to keep that trust with them,” she said.

With a little extra time in her life, Cabral now hopes to stay active with her son in sports — softball for her and baseball for him — and hopes to visit her home state of Hawaii a little more frequently.

BUSINESS
Anjala Krishen
Marketing Professor
It seems fitting that Anjala Krishen studies the way shoppers respond to having too many choices. When Krishen is faced with a choice, she tends to go for “all of the above.” She has degrees in engineering and business. She worked in information technology; she learned to weld. Even in recreation, she multitasks between marathons and martial arts.

Krishen is a born interdisciplinarian. “Going into my Ph.D, I took a psych class and just loved it,” she said. “Consumer behavior is psychology applied to the consumer. When I look at marketing transactions, I look at why people buy things and why they behave the way they do.”

UNLV’s growth was a big factor in Krishen’s decision to come here. “The university has a research focus now, and the right amount of resources.”

She’s accompanied by her husband, Pushkin Kachhoo, a visiting professor of electrical and computer engineering, and their two school-age daughters. They’re an active family: All four are blackbelts in tae kwon do, and Krishen and Kachhoo will run this year’s Las Vegas marathon — her 12th.

This is Krishen’s first post since earning her doctorate from Virginia Tech in May, just weeks after the campus shooting there. “They gave out a lot of posthumous degrees at my commencement, and I had to try to recover from that because I didn’t want to graduate sad.” Her husband eulogized a colleague who was also a close family friend. “Krishen said if any good has come out of the tragedy, it’s that people became closer to each other, and she, like many others, slowed down to appreciate the good in her life.

EDUCATION
Kristin Sayeski
Special Education Professor
One of the big draws about UNLV for Kristin Sayeski was the chance to work with teachers in the middle of the nation’s fifth-largest school district. As a teacher educator, Sayeski helps newcomers brave the chalkboard jungle, and offers new techniques to classroom veterans.

“I love to look at it from the eyes of the student teachers who have this life-changing experience. They’re really pulling it all together for the first time, and it’s surprising and exciting,” Sayeski said. “I also love working with experienced, high-quality mentoring teachers who have to figure out how to talk to a novice.”

Sayeski comes from the University of Virginia, where she was a liaison between the College of Education and the region’s schools. She earned her doctorate there in 2000, after teaching special education in middle schools.

She continues to teach about special education methods and strategies while researching the quality of teaching. “With No Child Left Behind, we have talked a lot about ‘What is a high-quality teacher?’ Defining that is very exciting to me,” Sayeski said. “I use a variety of observation systems to unlock this black box of teaching and determine the outcomes of effective practices.”

Family is the big extracurricular activity in Sayeski’s life. She and her husband, an educational consultant, expect to spend weekends exploring the parks of their new city with their two preschoolers.

GRADUATE COLLEGE
Rob Sheinkopf
Admissions Director
Rob Sheinkopf knows he’s done his job when students hardly notice him.

“I never ever want anyone here to think of my office the way they think of the DMV,” Sheinkopf said of Graduate College admissions. “Our job is to help students cut through the bureaucracy and to make it as seamless as possible for them.”

Good customer service is Sheinkopf’s mantra. As new graduate students deal with their paperwork, he said, he hopes to connect them with faculty as fast as he can and get out of their way.

HEALTH SCIENCES
Josh Hamilton
Nursing Professor
When is a nurse also a doctor? It’s not a riddle — it’s how you describe Josh Hamilton.

“I’m a minority walking in the door as a young male nurse,” said Hamilton, who earned his doctorate of nursing practice last December. “And I’ll shake it up a bit because I’m not a traditional researcher. I’m a clinician.”

Hamilton has specialized in child and adolescent psychiatric nursing for the past nine years. In 2003, he went into private practice part time as a family nurse prac- titioner. He was able to teach all that time, too, serving in full-time academic and administrative roles at Casper College in Wyoming.

“I am passionate about teaching and the quality of education,” Hamilton said. “This summer, I focused on clinical education, out in the trenches with bachelor’s students teaching mental health nursing. In the fall I’ll have the pleasure of introducing master’s students to the role of family nurse practitioners.”

One of his goals is for the School of Nursing to offer the same doctoral degree he earned at Rush University School of Nursing, Chicago. Hamilton also hopes to attract more students who are the right fit. “The nursing shortage is more complex than not having enough nurses,” Hamilton said. “A lot of it lies in the type of applicant we’re getting.”

Away from students and patients, Hamilton enjoys playing piano, which he almost pursued professionally. “I seemed like I could be of more use in human services. It was a hard choice.”
It’s easy to see how Sheinkopf made a 34-year career in admissions and recruitment. His enthu-
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more efficient, so that we can meet the needs of our students for years to come.”

For starters, he can draw on experience from multiple campus settings. Sheinkopf comes most recently from the Illinois high school system, where he recruited top high school students for a math and science academy, and for the University of Illinois-Chicago. He also held posi-
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Successful as he’s been in selling a school to outsiders, Sheinkopf now is focused internally.
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FINE ARTS
Rayme Cornell
Artist in Residence

For the past four years, Rayme Cornell hasn’t had a “day job.” The UNLV alumna (“93 BA Theatre Arts) has been support-
ing herself entirely as an actor in New York, largely doing voiceover work and theater.
Off Broadway, she portrayed Olivia in Twelfth Night, and in Tartuffe, and she played opposite Mario Van Peebles in a produc-
tion of Oak and Ivy on Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts. “In New York, when things are going well, they’re going very well. When
they’re not going well, you pick up more shifts at the restaurant,” Cornell said.
But life in a big city is growing too. “I feel a sense of urgency to help students and
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and help build robots capable of all-terrain locomotion.

As a postdoctoral researcher at Harvard University’s Concord Field Station, Lee compared the biomechanics of four-legged animals running on different kinds of terrain. “What really drives me is an interest in evolution and animal diversity,” he said.

In his new lab here, Lee will transition to comparing closely related smaller animals, such as rabbits and pikas. The rabbit knee joint is a common model for understanding human osteoarthritis. He also studies muscle function in the context of joint and leg biomechanics by measuring the metabolites produced by individual muscles during running.

A lifelong horseman and avid pole player, Lee’s interest in animals stems from spending his adolescence on his family’s Illinois farm. He planned to be an equine veterinarian until he participated in a project on canine hip dysplasia as an undergraduate at Cornell University.

In his Harvard research, Lee’s findings went futuristic as he applied his knowledge of animal biomechanics to designing a robotic dog. The size of a Great Dane. “Robotics is great fun. You apply what you learn in animals to see if you really understand how they work.”

Jim Revis of his Navy days.

“I have always enjoyed seeing the efforts of many produce great results,” he said. Part of his job is setting the strategic direction for the new student union and rec center. “It’s comparable to driving an aircraft carrier — you plan, give some course change direction, and you see the gigantic ship begin to move. It’s an incredible thing.”

Revis retired as lieutenant commander after 20 years in the military, spending nearly four and a half years on active duty in the submarine service. After transitioning to the reserves, he began his civilian career in facilities and engineering for the paper and health care industries.

In 1991, he joined Grady Health System in Atlanta as chief engineer and later became vice president of facilities. In 1996, he implemented his own disaster plan during the Olympics, when a bomber struck Centennial Olympic Park.

Revis — who also holds an MBA and law degree — comes to UNLV from Dallas Regional Medical Center. “I had been harboring a strong desire to work in a university setting for a few years,” Revis said, since he had worked briefly at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. “While on vacation, my wife and I went down to UNLV. I said, this is where I want to work. I thought it was a beautiful campus and an exciting city.”

Revis and his wife bring their daughter to Las Vegas. “She’s 14 and extremely excited.” He pledges that soon she’ll be a Rebel, taking advantage of the new student union and rec center herself.

Fred Albrecht at the Tam Alumni Center. Its construction is one of his proudest accomplishments.

What are the biggest changes at UNLV since you came in 1970?

When I came there were 3,200 students. Now there are 29,000. There were probably eight buildings. Now there are a hundred. When you walked around campus, you knew everybody by your first name. Now sometimes you don’t recognize people because of the sheer numbers.

I worked here through eight presidents, starting with Roman Zorn. I’m very fortunate to have had such a long career. People ask me, "Would you change anything?" And I say, "No." If I had a chance to do it over again, I would do it the same way.

What makes our alumni unique?

They were able to walk back and say, “I went to UNLV and I’m proud.” I’ve talked to many alumni who worried about whether they would be able to compete in professional schools with students who had earned their undergraduate degrees from schools such as Stanford and then found that they were as — or better — prepared than students from such highly competitive universities. I haven’t met any alumni who said, “I was shortchanged.”

So many of our students worked their way through college — they didn’t get the total college experience of what they move on and their families start to grow, as they start to interact with each other in business, nostalgia sets in and they want to go back get involved again. There’s a strong loyalty to UNLV. And that loyalty is ingrained even in the people who didn’t graduate — they are still proud to say they went here.
Three Tips from Human Resources

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

1. **Update Your Contact and Benefits Information**
   - Recently married? New baby? Just bought a new home?
   - If you had a life-changing event during the summer, be sure to update your contact and benefits information. Keeping your personal records current will ensure that you receive important university mail and that your contact information is correct in the campus directory.
   - To update such information as your name, address, or emergency contact phone number, use the employee self-service system (EQUIUS) found on the human resources website. Log in using your employee ID number and password. Your ID number can be found on your paycheck stub or your deposit advice receipt. If you cannot remember your password, you will be prompted to answer your hint question. Once successfully answered, your password will be sent to you via e-mail. Contact human resources at ext. 5-3504 if you need assistance.
   - After a life-changing event, you should also review your benefits package and insurance beneficiaries.

2. **More info: Stop by the benefits office in the Classroom Services Building, Room 257 or call ext 5-0924.**

3. **Continue to Learn**
   - Take advantage of free training workshops that can enhance your job skills and familiarize you with campus procedures.
   - Topics range from conversational Spanish and conflict management to creating web contracts and completing I-9 forms.
   - Personal development opportunities include a social etiquette class and a customer service enhancement workshop.

New deans, directors, and department chairs can better understand the ins and outs of the university through a business operations series.

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Employee Benefits

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Science and Engineering Building

- **Size:** 205,779 gross square feet
- **Location:** Main campus, west of the Cottage Grove parking garage
- **Funding:** $133 million, including more than $32.1 million funded by UNLV

**Completion date:** mid-2008

**Status:** Recent work includes exterior stucco, stonework, metal panels, and glazing. Interior work includes partitions, painting, tile work, ceilings, lighting, and environmental systems. Contractors have also been working on the exterior sunshades.

**Features:** The building will include offices, classrooms, and laboratories that will be used by research scientists and students. Examples of how the building plans to achieve a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver rating include:

- using stone tile and stone veneer from a local quarry
- capturing and routing the laboratory reverse osmosis rejection water for use in the toilets and urinals in restrooms
- designing the building to reduce the amount of indoor air contaminates that are odorous, irritating, or otherwise harmful.

- $37 million donated by the Greenspun family and $3.4 million contributed by a gift from Cottage Grove.

- Designed to meet LEED silver standards.

- **Status:** Framing and construction of the walls on the first level were completed in July. In addition, foundations for the satellite utility yard, which includes a Nevada Power transformer, the generator, and antennas for the broadcast areas, were poured and support posts were mounted. Framing of the plaza and third floor was completed in August. Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work, as well as fire sprinkler sleeping began on the third through fifth floors. Exterior framing of levels one through three is also under way.

- **Features:** The Greenspun building will bring almost all the College of Urban Affairs units into one building. The building will have one tower of five stories and a second of three stories. It is designed with sustainability features and includes a distinctive courtyard shaded by a solar power array, which will provide more than 15 percent of the total annual energy for the building.

- **Student Services Complex Addition**
  - **Size:** 15,960 gross square feet
  - **Funding:** $6.5 million

- **Completion date:** May 2008

- **Status:** The contractor is installing all underground utilities and conditioning power, storm drains, sanitary sewer, and domestic water. Excavation for the building pad is also underway.

- **Features:** The public counter will be moving into the new addition, as will the tours and the office of registrar and admissions. Part of the existing building will be remodeled to accommodate other units, including the bursar.

- **Advanced Dental Education Building**
  - **Size:** 44,000 gross square feet
  - **Location:** Summerlin, one campus
  - **Funding:** $16.4 million

- **Completion date:** Fall 2007

- **Current status:** Work was completed on the exterior concrete panels, roof, interior walls, and exterior glass and glazing. Interior work includes partitions, painting, plumbing, and electrical and environmental systems.

- **Contractor continues with doors, paint, casework, ceilings, tile, bath, rooms, mechanical systems, ductwork, electrical, data, lights, and exterior metal screens.**

- **Features:** It is anticipated that a mix of the practices of orthodontics, endodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, oral surgery, and general dentistry will occupy the building.

- **Turf Reduction Project**
  - **UNLV facility management personnel are replacing approximately 48,000 square feet of turf at the corner of Cottage Grove Avenue and Maryland Parkway.**

- **The project, which began in May, reduces the turf on campus that routinely does not get used. Karl Reynolds, director of facilities management, said that UNLV is sensitive to the water conservation needs of the community and felt this area was a prime target for a reduction project.**

- **Along Maryland Parkway there will be a concrete walkway and a number of southern live oaks. As part of the Midtown UNLV project, similar frontage will be used on the Greenspun Hall project.**

- **There will also be a variety of landscape accents, including large rocks and low-water-use plant material, between the walkway and the UNLV Foundations Building. The project is scheduled to be completed no later than October.**

- **Student Union, Phase II**
  - **Size:** 37,000 gross square feet
  - **Location:** South of the alumni amphitheater
  - **Funding:** $50.5 million for phases I and II combined; paid for by student fees

- **Completion date:** Phase II completed in July

- **Features:** The second phase of the union includes a 10,000-square-foot bookstore, a convenience store, Jamba Juice, and outdoor patio seating.

- **Student Recreation and Wellness Center**
  - **Size:** 187,617 gross square feet
  - **Location:** South of the Student Services Complex
  - **Funding:** $55.1 million; paid for by student fees

- **Opening date:** Early September.

- **The opening has been delayed because of problems with the smoke evacuation system that pulls smoke from the building in case of a fire.**

- “Once the difficulty with the smoke evacuation system is overcome, it should be possible for UNLV to get the approval needed to open the building,” said Mac Hayes, executive director for student life facilities.

- **Features:** The building will include high-tech weight and fitness rooms, swimming pools, and basketball, volleyball, and racquetball courts.

- **The building will be home to the Student Health Center, student counseling and psychological services, and Student Recreation and Wellness Center administration.**

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Greenspun Hall

- **Size:** 121,000 gross square feet
- **Location:** Main campus, southeast of the Student Union
- **Funding:** $93.7 million, including $37 million donated by the Greenspun family and $3.4 million contributed by a gift from Cottage Grove.

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As the campus kicks off its 50th anniversary celebration, Inside UNLV takes a look back at some of the people, places, and events that have made their way into UNLV history.

(Left) Singer Frank Sinatra, at podium, accepts an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from President Donald Baepler in 1976. 
(Below) A marquee invites the Southern Nevada community to the students’ “Education City” protest. Students built a shantytown made from oil drums and scrap board to protest inadequate funding. Some professors temporarily taught classes there in a show of solidarity. The protest site was where Frank and Estella Beam Hall stands today.

They Were Very Good Years

(Top) Take a look at campus circa 1960. At front left is Frazier Hall, with Grant Hall to its right. At the back is the Barrick Museum, which at the time was the gym. And that dusty road out front is what today is Maryland Parkway. 
(Above) 
UNLV President Robert Maxson, left, chats with former President Jimmy Carter, right, while UNLV Vice President Lyle Rivera looks on during Carter’s 1988 visit to campus. 
(Right) Nevada Southern’s 1958 bowling team takes a break from the action.