

9-23-2016

## Making Cooperative Extension Work for Southern Nevada: Fulfilling UNLV's Urban Land Grant Mission

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### Repository Citation

Lang, R., Monnat, S. M., Nasoz, F., Damore, D. F. (2016). Making Cooperative Extension Work for Southern Nevada: Fulfilling UNLV's Urban Land Grant Mission.

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# The University of Nevada, Las Vegas: A Land Grant University

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Presented at The Lincy Institute & Brookings Mountain West Research Colloquium Series:

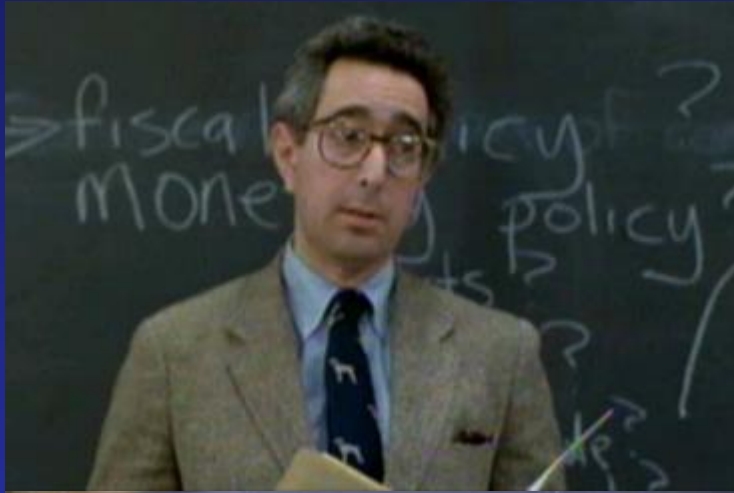
[Making Cooperative Extension Work for Southern Nevada:](#)

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Friday, September 23, 2016

# First: A Disclaimer

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**The Views Expressed in  
This Talk are Mine: Please  
Do Not Yell at UNLV!**



**College Faculty are Here  
to Stir the Pot and Cover  
Tough Issues**

**If NV Can't Handle Open  
Discourse on its Higher  
Ed—It is in Real Trouble**

# Who Am I?—A College Professor

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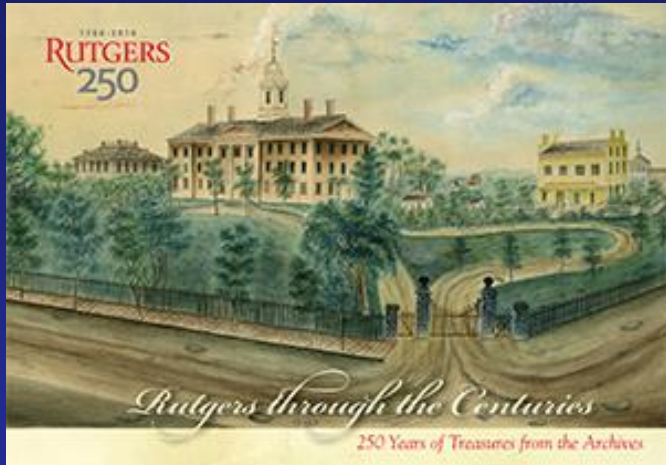
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Brookings Mountain  
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**Urban/Public Affairs  
Professor at UNLV's  
Greenspun College**

# My Background: Land Grant Universities

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**All Credentials (B.A., Ph.D.) From Rutgers University—A Land Grant Institution and the State University of New Jersey**



**Tenured to Full Professor Level at Virginia Tech—A Land Grant Institution and the State University of Virginia**

# What is a Land Grant University?

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**From: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Glossary by National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) - U.S. Department of Education:**

**“A land-grant college or university is an institution that has been designated by its state legislature or Congress to receive the benefits of the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890. The original mission of these institutions, as set forth in the first Morrill Act, was to teach agriculture, military tactics, and the mechanic arts as well as classical studies so that members of the working classes could obtain a liberal, practical education.”**

# UNLV: A Land Grant University

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**Harvey Dickerson, Nevada Attorney General  
– Opinion No. 69-556. January 23, 1969**

**“The University of Nevada System, consisting of the University of Nevada, Reno, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Desert Research Institute, is the only land grant institution within the State of Nevada. The components of the system may not hold individual land grant status separate and apart from the system.”**

# What Does the System Office Say?

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**Kwasi Nyamekye, Assistant General  
Council, University and Community College  
System of Nevada (Now NSHE) May 25, 2004**

**“Based on the foregoing constitutional and  
statutory provisions, it is the opinion of the  
Office of General Counsel that the land-  
grant status of the ‘University of Nevada’  
applies to all the units within the System.”**



# Contrast Arizona and Nevada

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- ❑ **University of Arizona is the State-Designated Land Grant Institution Founded in 1885**
- ❑ **Arizona State University Designated as the Territorial Normal School Founded in 1885**
- ❑ **The Two Schools Grew Up on Parallel Paths:  
UA as a Land Grant; ASU as a Teachers College**
- ❑ **Both Schools are Now Carnegie R1 Universities,  
But ASU is not a Land Grant University**

# Contrast Arizona and Nevada

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- ❑ University of Nevada, Reno Founded in 1874 as the State-Designated Land Grant**
- ❑ University of Nevada, Las Vegas Founded in 1957 as a Southern Branch of the University**
- ❑ In 1969, the Board of Regents of the U of NV Declared UNR and UNLV as Coequal Branches**
- ❑ Both Schools are Now Carnegie R2 Universities; The U of NV is the Sole Land Grant Institution**

# The U of Nevada is a “Single Entity”

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- ❑ Do Not Take My Word For it, Consider the View of Board of Regents Chair Rick Trachok
- ❑ In the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* on November 8, 2015, Trachok States That:
  - ❑ “In the past, we’ve treated each of our eight institutions as separate legal entities... (but) we're a single legal entity...”
- ❑ That “Entity” is Nevada’s Land Grant Institution

# Regents Belong to the State University

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**REGENT, STATE UNIVERSITY  
DISTRICT 12  
6 YEAR TERM  
VOTE FOR ONE**

**Anderson,  
Andrea**

**NP**



**Hammargren,  
Lonnie "Doc"**

**NP**



**Sample Ballot for Clark County, NV in 2012**

# Coop Extension & Land Grant Schools

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- A University can be a Land Grant Institution and Not Run a Coop Extension
- However, You Cannot Run a Coop Extension Without Being a Land Grant Institution
- At the Moment, Coop Extension is Run Exclusively by UNR
- Yet, Both UNLV and DRI are Eligible to be Equal Partners in Running Coop Extension

# The Good News

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- ❑ Coop Extension is Not a Zero Sum Game and There are Opportunities for More Partnerships**
- ❑ UNR is Not Fully Expending the Revenue that Clark County Taxpayers Provide for Coop**
- ❑ UNLV and DRI Can Bring New Energy, Skills, and Resources to Coop Extension**
- ❑ UNLV is Already a Land Grant Institution and Has Extensive Existing Community Engagement**

# In Conclusion

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**I Can Speak for My Two Centers When I say We Want to Partner with Coop**

**The First Two Talks That Follow Look at Nevada's Coop in its Current Form**

**The Third Talk Explores Other State Coop Models That We Should Consider**

**Thank  
You**