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## We're moving into UNLV's new Science and Engineering Building

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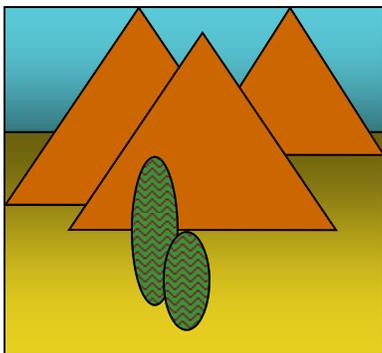
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Mojave Applied Ecology Notes is a newsletter published quarterly by the UNLV Desert and Dryland Forest Research Group. We specialize in working with resource managers to address key information needs for management through applied research. Submissions to the editor are welcome. We reserve the right to edit all article submissions.

## We're Moving into UNLV's New Science and Engineering Building

Scott Abella, PI

Our research group is one of the few select groups that is moving into the new, \$113-million UNLV Science and Engineering Building. The building is exclusively dedicated to research, and its four stories contain 200,000 square feet of research laboratories, faculty of-

fices, and auditorium space for research symposia. Located on North Campus just northeast of the Biology Building, the building is anticipated to obtain LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.

Designed to promote interdisciplinary research on the UNLV campus, the facility will house an exciting breadth of research clusters including materials science, entertainment engineering, nanotechnology, alternate energy, chemical sciences, physiology, genetics, soil and water science, and ecology. More than a dozen core labs will be housed in the facility, such as the Nanotechnology Center, Imaging and Electron Microscopy Center, National Supercomputing Center for Energy and the Environment, and the Geographic Information Systems Laboratory. Occupation is expected this summer, and the move-in process has already started.

What does this mean for us? We will be joining Dale Devitt (Professor of Life Sciences, Director of the Center for Urban Horticulture and Water Conservation), Jeff Shen (Associate Professor of Life Sciences, plant genetics), Lloyd Stark (Associate Professor of Life Sciences, bryophyte and stress biology), and David Costa (Professor of Mathematics, differential equations) in a 2,500-square foot lab to form a water-plant sciences-ecology research group. We will be located on the fourth floor, which also houses soil and geological analytical laboratories and a four-bay research greenhouse.

We are grateful for the opportunity to conduct research in this state-of-the-art facility and commend UNLV administrations and building planners for their vision in navigating through the difficult processes of securing funding and making a facility of this magnitude a reality. We also thank our group's current funding partners – the National Park Service (Lake Mead National Recreation Area) through the Clark County Multiple Spe-



View of the first floor.



View looking southeast of UNLV's new research facility.

cies Habitat Conservation Plan, the Joint Fire Science Program, and the Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office – for supporting our work. This support allowed applied ecology to be recognized as an asset to UNLV's research mission and a productive component of the research consortium allocated space in the new building.