

3-2005

## Inside UNLV

Erin O'Donnell  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Carol C. Harter  
*Black Mountain Institute*

Cate Weeks  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Nancy Syzdek  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside\\_unlv](https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv)



Part of the [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), [Curriculum and Instruction Commons](#), [Curriculum and Social Inquiry Commons](#), [Immune System Diseases Commons](#), [Other Education Commons](#), [Service Learning Commons](#), and the [Virus Diseases Commons](#)

---

### Repository Citation

O'Donnell, E., Harter, C. C., Weeks, C., Syzdek, N. (2005). Inside UNLV. *Inside UNLV*  
Available at: [https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside\\_unlv/7](https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv/7)

This Newsletter is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Scholarship@UNLV with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this Newsletter in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/or on the work itself.

This Newsletter has been accepted for inclusion in Inside UNLV by an authorized administrator of Digital Scholarship@UNLV. For more information, please contact [digitalscholarship@unlv.edu](mailto:digitalscholarship@unlv.edu).

## TSUNAMI RELIEF

Staff and students pool resources to help victims of South Asian disaster.

Page 2



## REACHING 'LOST SHEEP'

Athletic academic adviser Janice Henry plays role in Cunningham graduation.

Page 7



## GET IN THE GAME

Let your inner athlete out to play. Corporate Challenge teams are forming now.

Page 8



# Inside UNLV

News & Information for UNLV Insiders

March 2005

## INSIDE

From The President	2
'Big V' Mural	4
Spotlight	6
Speakers Bureau	7
E-Newsletter	8

## Sports & Studies: Advisers Help Students Succeed

BY ERIN O'DONNELL

The life of a student-athlete is full of demands — somewhere among the classes, games, meets, and practices, they try to squeeze in friends, family, and fun.

It's a lot of balls for a young adult to keep in the air. That's why the athletic academic advising team is there to help them sort through eligibility regulations, get access to university services, and stay on track for the biggest score of all: graduation.

Athletic advisers don't replace the traditional academic advisers who are based in the athlete's major department, said Rob Philippi, director of student-athlete academic services. They serve as the central point of contact for all academic concerns and work to ensure the student-athlete's transition to UNLV is as smooth as possible.

**Related Story:**  
Adviser Herds 'Lost Sheep'  
Page 7

### Transitioning to College

"No matter what type of academic success a student has experienced in high school or junior college, the demands of moving to a new city, or tackling the academic rigors of a



Athletic academic adviser David Jackson meets with UNLV track team member Miesha McClendon, a senior in sociology. Six advisers work with the university's 425 student-athletes to help them balance academics and athletics.

major research institution, and of participating on an athletic team at the highest level of competition can be overwhelming," Philippi said.

One of the main challenges to advisers is helping students build a schedule that will fulfill the commitments of both their sport and their studies.

"I think what is different and

unique about advising a student-athlete is trying to balance the requirements of the academic department and the eligibility requirements of the NCAA and Mountain West Conference around demands on time, which include travel for competition, practice, workouts, conditioning, community service activities, and more," Philippi said.

### Critical Role

Student-athlete academic services is a small, busy team of six individuals devoted to advising the 425 student-athletes who play on 17 athletic teams. Advisers are assigned to one or more teams and may work with anywhere from 75 to 110 students a year.

"Our athletic academic advisers are critical to the success of our student-athletes academically and also have a significant impact on the overall success of our coaches and the entire athletic department," said athletic director Mike Hamrick.

In general, the advisers are responsible for helping students maintain progress toward graduation; keeping students aware of institutional, NCAA, and Mountain West Conference eligibility rules; coordinating academic support services; and coordinating the certification of student-athletes' eligibility, which is verified each academic term. And like all students, athletes have access to tutoring and other support programs.

Unlike many universities that handle athletic advising within the athletic department, UNLV's advisers are housed in an academic unit.

Initially, academic support services for student-athletes was housed in

●SEE ADVISERS ON PAGE 7

Processing thousands of requests for assistance each year is no small task, as the person nominating facilities maintenance Help Desk supervisor Barbara Knowles pointed out in an *Inside UNLV* poll. Whether it's a lack of hot water or a burned-out fluorescent bulb that has you hummed, it's Knowles and her Help Desk crew who handle your concerns and dispatch tradespeople to set things right. She is said to maintain "a friendly attitude during trying times. We generally only hear from our customers when things go wrong, so positive reinforcement and job satisfaction must come from within."



## Singing The Praises of Colleagues

### Employees Shine Spotlight on Outstanding Co-Workers

BY DIANE RUSSELL

When asked to name a hard-working, unsung campus employee, readers had no trouble coming up with suggestions.

Among those whose hard work has not gone unnoticed by colleagues is Michelle Chino-Kelly, who directs three campus research centers in the School of Public Health.

"I'm embarrassed," Chino-Kelly said when told she was among those cited. In comments typical of those employees contacted by *Inside UNLV*, she said, "I don't think about it. I just

do what needs to be done."

One person contacted agreed to be mentioned — but only in this story along with many other people rather than being highlighted with a photo. Another demurred entirely, saying he likes to remain anonymous. (Considering the glowing comments he garnered from a high-ranking administrator outside his department, his much-cherished anonymity may be slipping away.)

Some hard-working colleagues who were submitted by job category rather than by individual name will be recognized in a future issue — in large part because many of these same

●SEE POLL ON PAGE 3



# 'Big V' Symbolizes Link Between Campus and Community

Have you seen the "Big V"? Trust me, those of you who haven't been by the Flora Dungan Humanities Building in the past few weeks have not yet been properly welcomed back to campus this spring. Through the ingenuity of a group of students focused on public art, a simple yet fascinating design has transformed one of UNLV's oldest and most recognized buildings into a beautiful and evocative gateway to campus. In the early morning in particular, you will be amazed at how the colors of this window-mounted transparency wash the building's lobby in the colors of a Las Vegas sunset.

### Many Interpretations

But why a "V"? At the dedication ceremony for this mural, crafted as part of the "City of 100 Murals" program of the Las Vegas centennial celebration — some in attendance speculated that the "V" could stand for "victory," "Las Vegas," or even "UNLV." It



BY CAROL C. HARTER

also evokes the Roman numeral "V" in concert with the centennial dates 1905-2005. Sean Russell, who designed the mural with a team of classmates, describes the stripes emanating from the "V" as representing the various continua of truth found in an academic environment, or as beams of "infinite potential" converging into a single, central point of activity — the university — and uniting the city's energy with the drive of academia.

### Transforming the Campus

It is fitting that this welcoming symbol of the university's central

role in the community be introduced now, as our campus environment transforms and opens further to community connections. Physically, the construction fences have come down to reveal an entirely re-imagined Wright Hall, complete with widened walkways and open spaces where forbidding corners used to limit the flow of students and visitors.

### New Projects Anticipated

I hope you will join us in celebrating the formal re-dedication of Wright Hall later this spring, and at another "transforming" event just weeks away — the groundbreaking of the long-anticipated new Student Recreation Center and Student Union addition. These projects will not only enrich the living-learning experience of our students, but will also be signature gathering places and hubs for campus and community activity — further transforming both our university environment and our relationship to the larger community.

Another initiative with the potential to deepen the ties between

university and community will come to a head in April, with the announcement of this year's Planning Initiative Awards. I am eagerly anticipating the PIA committee's recommendations for funded projects, including, for the first time, an additional \$100,000 in awards for projects focused on community engagement.

We are at our best when the university's work develops in synergy with our community — capitalizing on its attributes, working through its issues, and

helping to shape its future. With that in mind,

as you leave campus some dark evening this spring, pass by FDH and take a look at the "Big V" from outside the building. As our university closes up for the night and its representatives head out into the larger community, the "V"-shaped beacon shines its brightest.

**Related Photo:**  
'BIG V' UNVEILED  
Page 4

## Staff and Students Pull Together to Help Victims of South Asian Tsunami

BY ERIN O'DONNELL

The UNLV campus was all but deserted Dec. 26 when a 9.0 earthquake in the Indian Ocean launched a devastating tsunami. But the tragedy struck a chord with many faculty, staff, and students, who came together soon after the start of spring semester to aid victims of the disaster.

A dedicated core of students from CSUN student government moved quickly to raise money for immediate relief, while employees with ties to the stricken region helped define the scope of the need for those wanting to help.

Criminal justice professor Karu Hangawatte, a native of Sri Lanka, was one of the first to start mobilizing the Las Vegas community for tsunami relief along with his country-

man, the Rev. Bede Wevita of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in North Las Vegas. When

contacted by the local media for comment on the crisis, Hangawatte told them, "What is required is not a sound bite but to get some relief effort going."

### Community Drive

Together with the Nevada Buddhist Temple, they helped organize a donation drive that raised close to \$500,000 in cash and netted enough donated materials — from medical supplies and blankets to tents and bicycles — to fill five



A volunteer works at the donation table for tsunami relief on Pida Plaza.

40-foot shipping containers. Television station KLAS played a big role, carrying extensive coverage of their pleas for assistance, Hangawatte said.

Then, Hangawatte found he was the one being asked for help.

An eight-member medical team from Yale University was preparing to go on a relief mission to Sri Lanka when the government there started warning doctors not to come. The country needed their services, but couldn't provide them places to stay. The tsunami had washed out most of the hotels.

One of the doctors thought to call Hangawatte, whose daughter

graduated from Yale last year.

"As a Yale parent, I came into contact with these people," he said. "They are very experienced in working all over the world in times of crisis."

Hangawatte spent the next two days mining contacts made during his eight years working for the Sri Lankan government. He arranged both accommodations and transportation for the team.

### Long-term Assistance

Hangawatte now is looking to help tsunami victims over the long term.

He is helping lay the groundwork for a relationship between UNLV and a Catholic college in Sri Lanka to train counseling students to deal with post-traumatic stress in tsunami survivors years down the road. And he is exploring service-learning opportunities for students who want to help in the region over the summer.

"Everyone can contribute to relieve human suffering in their own way," he said. "One can donate to this effort with money, goods, labor, knowledge, expertise, or even simple caring."

### UNLV Efforts

Hangawatte also advised UNLV students and staff who met in January to brainstorm ways to help tsunami victims.

CSUN leaders joined forces with the student involvement and activities office to develop a campuswide fundraising drive. The group placed donation jars

at high-traffic areas such as the Moyer Student Union and peppered the campus with students soliciting donations Feb. 15 and 16. All proceeds are being forwarded to the American Red Cross.

CSUN Vice President Peter Goatz said he knows that many international students were personally affected by the disaster, and that the fund-raising has been a good learning experience for all involved.

"This makes students better people by teaching them something that can't readily be taught in the classroom," Goatz said. "Students are forced to look past their own problems and get a world perspective on what other people are going through elsewhere."

## Inside UNLV

**Editor:** Diane Russell  
russell@ccmail.nevada.edu  
**Assistant Editor:** Cate Weeks  
**Writers:** Erin O'Donnell  
Nancy C. Syzdek  
**Photographers:** Geri Koday  
Aaron Mayes

Inside UNLV welcomes comments and suggestions. Please e-mail inside.unlv@ccmail.nevada.edu or drop a note to Inside UNLV at mail code 1024.

Inside UNLV is a monthly publication by the office of Marketing & Public Relations.  
UNLV is an AA/EEO Institution.





Laurie Fruth, left, director of UNLV TV, was nominated for her wide range of responsibilities, including overseeing the programming for cable Channel 70, coordinating with the management at Channel 10, working with the staff at Cox Communications and with internal public relations staff, and helping design new studios for the planned Greenspun Hall. Here she assists student Joey Scillia as he edits a program.

# ●POLL: Employees Salute Co-Workers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1  
people also were nominated in the “hardest job on campus” category. The following list, according to *Inside UNLV* readers, contains the names of hard-working colleagues who often don’t get sufficient recognition for their work. The comments accompanying their names come from those who nominated them.

- **Todd Adams**, senior systems analyst and programmer, described as the lead designer of RebelAid financial aid software and RebelApps admissions software. “Admissions and financial aid could not keep up with the university’s growth without these products.”
- **Ray Alden**, executive vice president and provost, “because of his responsibilities in keeping the academic aspects of the university viable.”
- **Yvette AQUI**, WebCT administrator. “She keeps WebCT working for faculty and students, every day, all day, without fail ... Many faculty and students don’t realize that she’s making their online education experience so easy.”
- **Sylvia Blazo**, administrative assistant in the School of Architecture, “does the work of three people despite constantly being interrupted.”
- **Chrisy Grubb**, administrative assistant in Campus Housing. She’s described as helping out during a time of staff turnover and doing a job “that two to three people normally did.”
- **Krista Jorge**, program coordinator in student involvement and activities. “She’s the driving force behind campus traditions like Welcome Week, homecoming, and Premiere UNLV. She has dedicated her life to helping students enjoy their college experience and build their leadership and team-building skills.”



Michelle Chino-Kelly, left, the director of three research centers in the School of Public Health, was described not only as an extraordinarily hard worker, but also as brilliant, funny, and genuine. “She has never sought recognition for her hard work and, boy, does she deserve it.” She directs the Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy, the American Indian Research and Education Center, and the Center for Health Disparities Research. Chino-Kelly is seen talking with Dr. Mary Guinan, interim dean of the School of Public Health.

- Administrative assistants **Cara Loomis** of physics and **Bettie McRae** of mechanical engineering. “They have to wear many hats and be responsible for several faculty in their departments. They have demanding jobs and seem to be underappreciated most of the time.”
- **Diane Muntal**, senior analyst in institutional analysis and planning. “She is asked to analyze data every which way from Sunday, and most times at a moment’s notice. She works very long hours and still finds time to volunteer for committee work — right now bringing to light difficulties with our health plan benefits and management.”
- **Jimmy Perry**, maintenance repair worker. “He never says, ‘That’s not my job.’ Although everyone here at the



Others may take for granted that students will have the appropriate textbooks on the first day of class, but UNLV bookstore employee Mike Philp can’t afford to. As textbook manager, Philp ordered 104,226 textbooks for spring semester. “He is very pleasant to work with — even when we change orders on him at the last minute.” Let’s help Mike out. He’s been here 30 years, and his job would be so much easier if everyone met the March 11 deadline for ordering texts for summer and fall.

- law school knows that he’s great, the rest of the campus probably doesn’t have a clue.”
- **John Purvis**, assistant controller, “is always willing to help and take time to explain a situation and the options to fix it.” He could be likened “to a skilled surgeon — a specialist called in to ‘fix’ the problem but is humble in accepting thanks. ‘Call John in the controller’s office’ is a mantra oft repeated on this campus, and for very good reason.”
- **Kevin Raschko**, facilities manager, “is responsible for making sure that the work of facilities gets done in a timely manner.”
- **Deborah Salazar-Bieber**, admissions and records assistant, “because she is the backbone of student enrollment services and no one understands how hard she works.”
- **Diane Sessions**, program officer in the bursar’s office. “She can answer any question that is asked her.”
- **Stacy Shiroma**, law school registrar, “works so many hours to fill student requests and provide a high level of service, but you have to be ‘behind the scenes’ to know how tough the job is.”
- **Anita Stockbauer**, director of learning enhancement services. “She comes in early; stays late; makes appointments with students who require services; oversees her administrative staff, graduate assistants, and student (workers) ... and does not ask for much in return.”
- **Gina Strebel**, senior director of academic resources in the provost’s office. “She is always available. Not only is she good at her job, but she cares about people ... always has a smile, an encouraging word.”
- **Mehran Tamadonfar**, professor and chair of political science, “is the reason that the political science department is such an enjoyable place to work as a graduate assistant and to study as a student. He does a ton of behind-the-scenes stuff.”
- **Lori Temple**, associate provost for information technology. “She works numerous hours to make sure IT-related projects and needs are met throughout the campus community.”
- **Kristen Young**, director of the office of international students and scholars. She “has to explain U.S. immigration regulations to students and faculty who don’t want to hear it.”



## ACROSS CAMPUS

### BUSINESS

#### Zinkhan Discusses Publishing

The marketing department hosted a round-table discussion featuring George Zinkhan, the Coca-Cola Professor of Marketing at the University of Georgia. Zinkhan, editor of the *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science (JAMS)*, has a distinguished record of scholarship and a worldwide reputation in the discipline. The discussion focused on the publishing process in top-level journals and the history, stature, and future of *JAMS*.

#### Alumni Group Creates Plan

The College of Business Alumni Association Board recently created a three-year action plan to generate new members, to engage alumni in the college and in UNLV through events and programs, and to communicate more effectively with the alumni and the community.

#### MIS Hosts Conference

The MIS department sponsors the IsOneWorld conference in Las Vegas each year. The conference aspires to bring together academics and practitioners to address information technology opportunities and challenges. This year's event will take place March 30-April 1 at the Boardwalk Hotel and Casino.

### EDUCATION

#### CEPS Trains Administrators

UNLV's Center for Education Policy Studies (CEPS) is working on several initiatives. It is now developing a Nevada Superintendents' Academy to identify and serve the training and professional development needs of superintendents and cabinet-level officers in the state's school districts.

In January, CEPS sponsored a meeting of the academy featuring David Berliner, Regents' Professor at Arizona State University and past president of the American Education Research Association. He addressed the issue of misrepresentation of student achievement in the United States.

This spring CEPS will jointly publish with WestEd a policy brief on achievement and dropout challenges facing Nevada schools. In the fall, the center plans to co-sponsor the third annual Nevada School Law Conference. It is also collaborating with the UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research on the education components of the Nevada Kids Count Databook sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

CEPS already has distributed a CD to all districts titled *The Nevada Administrators' Legal Tool Kit*. The CD is a desktop reference of legal tools needed by principals. In February, Nevada superintendents received the newest CD, titled *The Cabinet-Level*

#### *Administrators' Toolkit.*

Robert McCord, James Hager, and Michael Robison of the department of educational leadership direct CEPS.

CEPS welcomes those who would like to collaborate with the center or contribute to research and training on policy issues affecting Nevada schools. Contact McCord at ext. 5-4167 or at [rmccord@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:rmccord@unlv.nevada.edu).

### ENGINEERING

#### Abella Enhances Recruiting

The college's high school recruiting efforts have been enhanced by visiting faculty member Robert Abella, who has reached out to every high school in Southern Nevada as well as many schools in California and Arizona.

Abella, who is serving as the college's associate dean for recruitment and retention during a one-year sabbatical from the University of Toledo in Ohio, has presented "Careers in Engineering" to more than 1,000 high school students. The presentation highlights principles and applications in engineering and their relevance to the "real world." It includes such visual aids as silicon chips, diamond dust, catalytic converters, floating concrete, and an artificial hip. His presentation also outlines differences among engineering schools and describes the offerings available at UNLV.

The primary goals of his efforts include attracting more women and minorities to engineering careers and convincing students to make UNLV their first college choice.

Abella also is encouraging custom-designed tours of the college for prospective students and has hosted a number of high school student groups. A virtual web tour and a new recruitment DVD also are planned.

### FINE ARTS

#### Variety of Events Set for March

The UNLV Performing Arts Center (PAC) welcomes the Vienna Choir Boys on March 5. For more than five centuries the choir has enchanted millions with its unique charm and beautiful singing. The choir's repertoire includes medieval, contemporary, and experimental music.

The Prague Symphony Orchestra will perform as part of the Charles Vanda Master Series on March 19. Called "winning and admirable," this full symphony orchestra comes to Las Vegas with a stunning performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 6.

Savion Glover will bring his critically acclaimed show to the PAC on March 26. The tap impresario will perform various improvised musical numbers with his six-piece band as well as selections from his hit show *Improvography*, which debuted in 2003 with an unprecedented sold-out three-week run at New York's Joyce Theater.



### 'BIG V' UNVEILED

Workers place the final panel in the "Big V" mural in the Dungan Humanities Building lobby. Created by students in professor Pasha Rafat's art in public places class, the mural is part of the 100 Murals public arts project sponsored by the city of Las Vegas in conjunction with its 2005 centennial celebration. Graduate student Sean Russell, lead designer of the UNLV mural, said the "V" represents the Roman numeral for five, a reference to the centennial dates of 1905 to 2005. Other students who worked on the mural were Katie Anania, Natalie Imbriani, Brandon Markel, and Melissa Bruechert.

Finally, offerings from the music department include a free concert by the new ensemble Nextet on March 10 in the Doc Rando Recital Hall and the opera *Don Giovanni* March 11-13 in the Judy Bayley Theatre.

For information, call ext. 5-2787.

### GRADUATE

#### Graduate Coordinator Hired

Sabrina Prud'homme recently joined the college as coordinator for graduate student recruitment and professional development. She develops and implements programs to enhance recruitment, advising, orientation, and enrollment of individuals interested in graduate study at UNLV.

Prud'homme supports other colleges and academic departments in their recruiting efforts and attends local, regional, and national recruiting events. She develops promotional

materials, advises prospective graduate students, and assists them with the application process.

She is also responsible for providing professional development and training opportunities for enrolled graduate students. Prud'homme will work with other campus units to enhance such services. She is involved with such programs as the Teaching and Learning Center's Graduate Student Intensive Introduction to Teaching workshop and Cite It Right: Avoiding Plagiarism in Graduate Research seminar.

### HEALTH SCIENCES

#### Orthodontics Program Planned

The School of Dental Medicine is moving forward with plans to establish a postdoctoral residency program in orthodontics and dento-facial orthopedics. The program is the result of a



public/private partnership established by UNLV and Orthodontics Education Ltd. A major component is a scholarship program that covers full tuition and living expenses, estimated to cost approximately \$65,000 per year. The partnership also will give UNLV the resources to build a 50,000-square-foot facility on the Shadow Lane campus that can be used for additional advanced dental education programs and other programs related to the health sciences.

An initial application for orthodontics accreditation was filed in November; the school has been notified that a site visit is scheduled for April. Pending approval by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, the inaugural class in orthodontics and dento-facial orthopedics will begin this fall.

Dr. Lynn Hurst has accepted a position as director of the program. He received his D.D.S. degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and his master of science in graduate orthodontics from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City. He joined the UNLV faculty in January and has begun work on program development and the accreditation process. Prior to accepting this appointment, he served as director of the postdoctoral program in orthodontics at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio Dental School.

**HONORS**

**Students Achieve Recognition**

Honors student Tondra De received the Regents' Undergraduate Scholar Award for excellence in academics, leadership, and potential for continued success. De majors in electrical engineering and math and minors in computer science. During 2002-03, she was an intern with the undergraduate program of the U.S. Department of Energy's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). She plans to pursue graduate studies in engineering.

Maria Parra-Sandoval was one of 50 students nationwide accepted to the fifth annual Public Policy and Leadership Conference at Harvard University. Sponsored by the John F. Kennedy School of Government, the conference focuses on students who have demonstrated excellent leadership skills and a commitment to public service. At the February conference, students participated in discussions with distinguished public officials and Harvard professors.

This summer Michael Krainok will travel to China as an international delegate on medicine. He was selected for this nationally competitive program by the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Once in China, he will be able to explore the relationship of

ancient Chinese medicine and current modern practices within the Chinese medical infrastructure. A biology major with a concentration in biotechnology, Krainok plans to attend medical school.

**HOTEL**

**College History Subject of Book**

*The Right Place*, a history of the Harrah Hotel College that traces the college from its founding in 1967 with 16 students, has been written by Jerome Vallen, founding dean.

Published this year by Stephens Press, the book describes how the college was created when only 10 major universities were offering similar bachelor's degrees. Vallen shares reflections and stories about how the community and university came together to support the education of students who would become leaders in the hospitality industry. In 1999, the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* named Vallen as one of the 100 people who shaped the city during its first century.

**Student Restaurant Dates Set**

Each semester, students in the Harrah Hotel College gain intensive experience in running a restaurant. Students in their senior year can enroll in a capstone food and beverage course to apply theory to practice as they manage their own restaurant on campus. The students plan the menus, execute marketing, and are responsible for all meal preparation, service, and restaurant management.

The university community is invited to a unique lunch experience from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Beam Hall dining room on the following dates:

- March 16: St. Patrick's Day lunch
- March 30: Great Steak and Potato Company lunch
- April 6: Red Lobster lunch
- April 13: Theme to be announced

Italian dinners will be available from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the Beam Hall dining room on March 10 and 17 and on April 7 and 14.

**LAW**

**Markell Returns to Faculty**

This semester the Boyd School of Law is celebrating the return of one of its finest faculty members, announced Dean Richard Morgan. Bruce A. Markell, a judge on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada, has accepted an appointment at the law school as senior fellow in bankruptcy and commercial law.

Prior to joining the bench last summer, he was the Doris. S. and Theodore B. Lee Professor of Law at Boyd, where he earned a reputation as one of the most successful teachers and scholars on the faculty, said Joan Howarth, the law school's associate dean for academic affairs.

Before coming to UNLV in 1999, Markell was a law professor at the Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington from 1990 to 1999. He also has been a visiting professor of law at Harvard University; the University of California at Davis, his alma mater; and Emory University. He is a prominent scholar and the author of numerous books, treatises, and articles.

Markell's outstanding national professional honors include election to the National Bankruptcy Conference and membership in the American Law Institute. He is a past recipient of Boyd students' annual teaching award.

With this new appointment, Boyd students will continue to benefit from his talents in the classroom and the faculty will continue to enjoy his participation in the scholarly life of the law school. This semester, he is teaching securitization.

**LIBERAL ARTS**

**English Implements Exit Exam**

In recent months, the English department implemented an important assessment initiative to fulfill the requirements of UNLV's new general education core curriculum.

This fall, the freshman composition program began administering a standardized exit exam for students

completing English 102, the second course in the composition sequence. Following last year's pilot program, this ACT exam will allow the department to assess the effectiveness of the composition courses and to gather data for further research, setting up a feedback loop to refine the curriculum and pedagogy.

**Writing Program Bolstered**

The English department is invigorating its certificate in writing program and plans to expand offerings of a coherent group of upper division writing courses such as professional writing, electronic document/web design, business writing, and technical writing. The department also plans to add sections of advanced composition for non-English majors.

Searches are under way for two new faculty specializing in writing to help develop the program. The department is working to establish an internship option for students, placing them with Southern Nevada businesses to gain professional writing experience.

Department members see this as a way to serve the needs of students and of businesses and government agencies, while continuing to offer more traditional areas of study in literature and creative writing.

**LIBRARIES**

**Curriculum Library Expands**

The Curriculum Materials Library (CML) recently expanded its collection and services.

The improvements were made possible when the CML, which has been located in the Carlson Education Building since 1972, acquired additional space following the move of the UNLV/CSUN Preschool into its new quarters.

The expanded space allowed the library to physically and intellectually "stretch out" and address the enormous amount of growth and change in both the College of Education and in the library field. The "new" CML

●SEE ACROSS CAMPUS ON PAGE 6

**STUDENT LIFE**

**Division Studies Impact of Poverty**

The impact of generational poverty on today's university students was the subject of a recent staff development session in the Division of Student Life.

Basing her presentation on the work of educator Ruby Payne, Rebecca Katz from the Clark County School District shared her perspective on how best to engender success for those students who come from impoverished backgrounds. "For our students to be successful, we must understand their hidden rules and teach them the rules that will help them be successful at school and at work," she said.

In America, 27 million children live in low-income families despite the fact that the vast majority have at least one parent working. In Nevada, 39 percent of children live in low-income families; 11 percent of those live

below the federal poverty level (under \$19,000 for a family of four).

Many UNLV students are impacted by poverty, and several Division of Student Life programs work to mitigate that impact as these students navigate through college. Among the offices involved in this outreach are the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach, the Jean Nidetch Women's Center, student financial services, and residential life.

The division will continue to share with the campus community what it learns about current and prospective students related to socioeconomic factors. In addition, the division will work to better understand how to appropriately and sensitively support students who are struggling to adapt and succeed in a world that may be unfamiliar to them.

For more information, visit Payne's website at [www.ahaprocess.com](http://www.ahaprocess.com).

## SPOTLIGHT ON PEOPLE

● **Nina Bandriwsky** (Facilities) was named Classified Staff Council Employee of the Month for January in the custodial category. An eight-year employee, she is a custodial worker assigned to the Central Desert Complex. She previously worked in catering at the Dining Commons.

● **Stephen Rosenbaum** (Honors) was elected to the executive committee of the National Collegiate Honors Council for 2005-07. The council is the governing body for honors colleges and programs across the country.

● **John Massengale** (Kinesiology) was appointed to the executive board of the National Association for Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education as director of publications. He will oversee the organization's textbook projects, journals, newsletters, and online publications.

● **Sue Fawn Chung** (History) received an Outstanding Educator Award from the Asian Chamber of Commerce in February. In March she will receive one from the Lions' Club.

● **Hector Ibarra** (Campus Computing Services) was named Classified Staff Council Employee of the Month for February in the technical category. A computer network technician, he fixes computers across the university and also is specifically assigned to service computers and answer technical questions for the public lands initiative office and



Ibarra

the Boyd School of Law. Also a full-time UNLV student, he is a junior majoring in information technology.

● **Elizabeth White Nelson** (History) wrote *Market Sentiments: Middle-Class Market Culture in 19th-Century America* (Smithsonian Books, 2004). The book challenges a central tenet of American history: that in the past men and women lived in separate spheres that segregated hearth and home from trade and commerce. The market and the parlor were closely intertwined in 19th century America. Sentimentalism fueled expansion of the marketplace. Not only were sentimental objects offered for sale, but also sentimental language was used to explain the momentous changes in American market culture.



White Nelson

● **Vaune Kadlubek** (Athletic Academic Advising) is a 2004 inductee to the USA Water Polo Hall of Fame. A member of the women's national team from 1986 to 1996, she also was a member of U.S. teams that played in the first World Championships and FINA Cups. She also served as assistant senior women's national team coach, was the first woman to referee an international match, and was an athlete representative to USA Water Polo.

● **Ken Hughes** (Facilities) was named Classified Staff Council Employee of the Month for February in the service category. An employee since 2003, he maintains roofs, writes specifications

for reroofing projects, and monitors outside roof contractors. He also investigates leaks, reviews plans and specifications for the planning and construction office, and monitors new construction for that office.

● **Jeff LaGesse** (Public Safety) was promoted to program officer I, supervising the enforcement officers for parking services on the main campus. He also is assisting the expansion of services to the Shadow Lane campus. A full-time employee since 1996, he earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from UNLV.

● **Andrew Nazarechuk** (Tourism & Convention Administration) represented the Harrah Hotel College as a panelist at the World Tourism Forum in Salvador, Brazil, in December. The conference focused on the development and sustainability of tourism. The panel discussion centered on the factors that help Las Vegas and other international destinations prosper in the tourism industry.

● **Hobreigh Fischer** (Public Safety) was promoted to publications writer. His new responsibilities will include managing the department's community relations and government affairs activities while continuing to direct administrative support services for the chief's office. A two-time UNLV graduate with a bachelor's and a master's degree in political science, he has worked for public safety since 1999.

● **Rachel Carpenter** (Public Safety) was named Classified Staff Council Employee of the Month for January in the administrative

category. An administrative assistant I, she documents and files evidence, does fingerprinting, submits cases to the district attorney's office, and handles records requests. An employee for nearly six years, she also has worked in the mail center, in the motor pool, on the HELP desk, and as a janitor. She is pursuing a bachelor of university studies degree in the areas of criminal justice and social work.

● **Mark Buttner, Patricia Cruz, Linda Stetzenbach, Amy Klima-Comba, and Vanessa L. Stevens** (Harry Reid Center) along with Peter Emanuel (Critical Reagents Program, Aberdeen Proving Ground in Massachusetts) co-authored an article, "Evaluation of the Biological Sampling Kit (BiSKit) for Large-Area Surface Sampling," in the December issue of *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*.

● **Richard "Jay" Hayes** (Facilities) was named Classified Staff Council Employee of the Month for January in the service category. A UNLV employee for the past 10 years, he is an electrician I. He currently oversees the power needs for the Moyer Student Union.



Hayes

● **James Morrow** (Public Safety) has been promoted to program officer I. He will manage the department's crime analysis operations and quartermaster program while continuing to supervise the police records and evidence tracking operations.

He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from UNLV.

● **Richard Clark** (Residential Life) received the Advocate of the Year Award from the Nevada Public Health Association (NPHA). The award was given for his work on making the UNLV residence halls smoke free beginning summer 2005 and securing grant funding to assist with the transition. He was presented the award at the NPHA and Nevada Society of Public Health Educators conference at Lake Las Vegas.



Clark

● **Karen Kreller** (Engineering) was named Classified Staff Council Employee of the Month for January in the technical category. She is the college's cost accounting standards (CAS) compliance officer. She searches for funding opportunities for faculty and assists with budget proposal preparation. She reviews expenditures to ensure grant funds are spent in accordance with regulations and provides grant training to faculty and staff. She co-authored the CAS handbook now posted on the web at [www.unlv.edu/depts/cas](http://www.unlv.edu/depts/cas).

### Submit Your Accomplishments

E-mail entries to:  
**inside.unlv@  
ccmail.nevada.edu**

*Items should be no more than 75 words.*

## ACROSS CAMPUS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

features enhanced technology and designated spaces for quiet and group study. One thing that hasn't changed is the CML's user-focused atmosphere that increasingly makes it a home away from home for many users.

The CML primarily serves students in the College of Education by providing materials that support and enhance their course work and prepare them for the challenges that they will face as classroom teachers. Its services and collections are also available to Clark County School District teachers, many of whom double as UNLV graduate students. As a branch of the University Libraries, the CML is open to all UNLV students, staff, and faculty, as well as to the public. Its collection, which was begun in 1967, includes more than 35,000 items of juvenile literature, curriculum guides, school district-adopted textbooks, and more.

For more information, visit [www.library.unlv.edu/cml](http://www.library.unlv.edu/cml).

### SCIENCES

#### Geoscience Researchers Busy

Geoscience impacts people in many ways: influence of natural disasters on society, petroleum reserves, safe waste disposal sites, soils that support plants, and natural beauty. The research of many geoscience faculty helps in understanding areas where geoscience and society intersect.

Catherine Snelson and Wanda Taylor (with Barbara Luke and Ron Sack) are using funds from the U.S. Department of Energy and national earthquake hazard reduction program to evaluate the earthquake hazard in the Las Vegas Valley. They will examine young faults, define areas susceptible to significant ground shaking during earthquakes, and provide outreach to the public about the potential hazard.

Jean Cline (with Klaus Stetzenbach, James Cizdziel, and Vernon Hodge, and with Fred Phillips of New Mexico Tech) is funded by DOE to work

on bomb-pulse chlorine-36 at Yucca Mountain. This study investigates previous conflicting results using new data.

Brenda Buck and Andrew Hanson study paleosols and sedimentation in Mexico's La Popa Basin. This work, funded by the petroleum research fund, examines rock development near a salt diapir and relates to petroleum exploration worldwide.

Patrick Drohan and Buck focus on studies of local soils. Buck is a co-investigator in flood hazard assessment in the Ivanpah Valley I-15 corridor, funded by U.S. Geological Survey and the Clark County Regional Flood Control District. Drohan is studying soil development on Mt. Charleston. This work is funded by a grant from UNLV.

Sloan Canyon is a newly designated recreation area south of Henderson. Gene Smith is using a BLM grant to document volcanic history in the area and to work with Sloan Canyon personnel on exhibits for visitors to the area.

### URBAN AFFAIRS

#### Work-Life Balance Addressed

"Finding the Work-Life Balance" was the theme of the college's annual faculty colloquium in the fall.

The seminar provided faculty with tips on successful ways to balance personal and family needs with the demands of their academic careers.

Helen Neill, chair of the environmental studies department, offered a variety of tips, including her strategies for prioritizing projects and enhancing faculty morale in her talk, "Having It All."

Joel Lieberman, chair of the criminal justice department, presented "Successful Strategies" in which he spoke of the balance between family, research, and service demands.

Pat Markos, graduate coordinator for the department of marriage, couple, and community counseling, presented "It's OK to Play," in which she offered hints on time management.



---

## ● ADVISERS: Communication is Key

---

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Student Development Center under the Division of Student Life. When University College was established last year, in part to improve student retention, the Student Development Center was identified as the advising arm for the college, and athletic advising was moved with it.

Athletic advisers attend regular advising council meetings, maintain relationships with colleagues from various academic departments, and keep a binder of current degree sheets for every major to develop a good sense of requirements, which is critical when each adviser is communicating with dozens of students from different majors.

"I think with the continually changing academic requirements, communication and collaboration between all of the advisers is key to ensuring a student's success," Philippi said.

Janice Henry, the athletic adviser assigned to football, said she also makes a point of reminding players about events happening within their colleges, such as career days. "It helps foster relationships outside of athletics," she said.

Students come to rely on their athletic advisers more than their other advisers because the relationship often begins when students are recruits and is strengthened through daily contact. Henry has been described as something of a surrogate mother to players — albeit one who practices tough love — but she also takes care not to create a dependency.

"My passion runs deeper than retaining a student in classes to meet eligibility requirements," she said. "It's not just about them being a number and giving them courses so they can stay eligible. We tailor their educational plans according to their interests."

### Combating Deficiencies

Advisers in all units must deal with students who come to campus with academic deficiencies, Henry said, and help them navigate the system to catch up. For the football team, she identifies at-risk students to participate in an enrichment program that teaches skills such as time management and note taking.

Henry said she has also worked with students who are scholastically sound but need help with emotional problems, such as those who have trouble making the transition from home. It's fairly common for injured athletes to feel distanced from their team and alone on campus as well, especially if they are not involved in student life activities.

"We have to nurture them to help them continue to be productive," Henry said.

"Most of the time people perceive athletes as being isolated in their own community. People tend to think this is such an extra perk for them, but it really isn't."

# Adviser Herds 'Lost Sheep' Toward Degree

By ERIN O'DONNELL

When Janice Henry went in search of Randall Cunningham, her goal was to bring back the UNLV football legend and successful NFL player so he could mentor current players.

As football's athletic academic adviser, Henry's job is to shepherd student-athletes through the complexities of playing a sport and going to school. But as she set out to find the Las Vegas resident, Henry discovered Cunningham was a "lost sheep" — a student who left college without his degree.

Through persistence and an appeal to the star athlete's competitive spirit, Henry persuaded Cunningham to return. In December, she got her wish to see him graduate, almost 20 years to the day after he played his last game as a Rebel.

### No 'Superfan'

"People tend to think I am the 'superfan.' I am a fan, but not as much as I am a passionate advocate of the students I work with," said Henry, who has been advising athletes for 17 years.

Henry followed former football coach John Robinson to UNLV in 1999 from the University of Southern California. These days she can turn on almost any professional game — including this year's Super Bowl — and see players she once advised.

Cunningham wasn't one of them, but she knew him by reputation. As quarterback for the Runnin' Rebels, he led UNLV to its first bowl game in 1984 and remains the team's career passing and punting leader. Over 11 seasons in the NFL, he became the league's all-time leading rushing quarterback.

He had just retired from football and immersed himself in studies to become a minister in early 2003 when Henry caught up with him.

Originally her goal was to ask him to serve as a mentor for student-athletes aspiring to follow in his footsteps. But Henry soon discovered

that Cunningham was less than 20 credits short of finishing a bachelor's degree in leisure studies.

### Persuasive Powers

Henry went to work trying to persuade Cunningham to go the distance for his degree. She urged him to see the example he could set for those who look up to him, from current UNLV players to his own children.

Cunningham was not convinced, she said, but he agreed to think it over and, in the meantime, invited her to come to his ordination. She accepted and brought along a small group of students. "He was so excited to see some of the players," Henry said, adding that some of the players were stunned that he knew their names.

By the time Henry turned up at one of Cunningham's Bible studies, he was ready to consider her proposal.

"I said, 'I've listened to you preach and teach. Now I'd like you to give me some of your time,'" Henry said. She also told him she knew "that competitive edge is still inside you, and I know you would want to complete your degree."

### Re-Enrolling Randall

He realized she was right. Henry then helped him through the process of picking up where he left off and re-acclimating to the classroom. He enrolled in spring 2004 and took both traditional and online courses over the next calendar year.

In December he participated in commencement, saying, "I never thought I would be on the 20-year plan when I left for the NFL. But I am proud of finally getting this done and



Athletic academic adviser Janice Henry was instrumental in persuading retired football great Randall Cunningham to come back to UNLV and finish his degree. Cunningham graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in leisure studies.

being able to say I am a graduate of my university."

Henry is proud, too — not just of Cunningham's personal accomplishment, but also of the example he set for current student-athletes.

Her small office is covered in mementos and photos of former students who have gone on to greatness in professional sports. But the picture she carries in her wallet doesn't show them suited up for gridiron glory. The portrait, taken at an annual reception she gives to recognize graduating African-American students, shows her with four of them in their caps and gowns.

She pulls this picture out when she talks to current student-athletes. "I tell them this is the uniform I want one day to see them in."

---

## Speakers Bureau Looking for Campus Presenters

If you have something to say, here's your chance.

UNLV's speakers bureau has been revitalized, and its new webpage has been updated and is now part of the community relations website.

The speakers bureau lists faculty and staff members willing to speak to community and civic groups, schools, and organizations holding meetings or conventions in Las Vegas. It provides a brief description of each member's topics. Contact information is provided so groups can contact speakers directly.

The speakers bureau once also served as an experts directory for those who were willing to serve as sources for the news media, but who were not interested in speaking engagements. That is no longer the case — the revamped speakers bureau will list only potential speakers.

"If you have been part of the speakers bureau in the

### What To Do

**To join the speakers bureau:** Visit the website to familiarize yourself with the format and then send brief entries to Tom Flagg at [tomflagg@ccmail.nevada.edu](mailto:tomflagg@ccmail.nevada.edu).

**To revise your entry:** Send the new information to Flagg at the e-mail address above.

past and wish to appear in the new listing, please take a moment to check your current listing," requested Tom Flagg, director of community relations.

The site may be accessed at [communityrelations.unlv.edu](http://communityrelations.unlv.edu) or through the A-Z index on the UNLV home page.

"Once you access the speakers bureau page, use the search function and type your name in the 'keywords' box. Your entries will appear," he advised.



# Find Your Inner Athlete

## Building Community is All Fun and Games with Corporate Challenge

By CATE WEEKS

For people like Kathy Lauckner and Michael Means, Corporate Challenge is a great way to meet campus colleagues who normally wouldn't wander into their Harry Reid Center or Campus Services Building offices. They are just two of the more than 200 employees expected to participate in the local Olympic-style games this year.

Lauckner, a program director, has made friends across campus and in the community through the challenge's swimming and race-walking competitions. "As the campus has grown so much, you sometimes hear people talk about the days when you knew everyone else in the campus directory," she said. "It's through things like Corporate Challenge that we gain that sense of community both as a campus and as Las Vegas."

Teams from companies and government agencies across the valley compete against each other during two months of competitions sponsored by the city of Las Vegas. Participants can find their inner athletes through

about participating. All that's really required, he said, is a fun attitude. "While bringing home the gold can be a thrill, it's not the reason people do this — you don't even need to be athletic to join the teams."

The events create an opportunity to set personal wellness goals, said Lauckner. "When I entered the swimming competitions my goal was just to finish without drowning. But, really, a lot of people just use this as motivation to exercise. Knowing that they signed up for the walk race, they're more motivated to exercise a couple times a week."

Still, Means admits, he loves the thrill of friendly competition. "I participated in track and field through high school and college and I miss that spirit of competition. Corporate Challenge is the way I get my annual 'fix.' It drives me to better my times year after year."

### Olympic-Style Team Competition

The events run from March 31 through closing ceremonies June 11. UNLV competes in Division A, which is for the city's largest employers. It includes hotel companies and the always-tough-to-beat Nellis Air Force Base. In the track and field, swimming, and race events, individuals compete within their age bracket.

New to the competition this year is Skyball, which is played on a trampoline field. The capstone event is the Tug-O-War at closing ceremonies.

Just as in the Olympics, awards are given to winners in the individual events. Points are also awarded to the overall team in most events for the first- through sixth-place finishers. The overall winner in a division is the team with the most points. Last year, UNLV placed ninth overall out of 18 teams. Individuals won many medals in several sports, including the team silver in swimming, basketball, and



Matt Garland

In the lead canoe, Seann Berrocales (left), an administrative assistant in the psychology department, and Marty Erwin, a graduate assistant in the biology department, round the corner during last year's Corporate Challenge race at Lorenzi Park.

table tennis.

"My goal is to beat out all the other local government groups participating," Means said. "And doing that is all about getting the bodies out to the events."

### Campus Spirit Growing

This is the 20th anniversary year for Corporate Challenge. The city launched it originally to promote its leisure programs and it's since grown to be one of the largest amateur athletic events in Southern Nevada.

UNLV's Corporate Challenge, Lauckner points out, has recently gone through a transition. She oversaw UNLV's participation from 1986 to 2001, but in 2002 and 2003 there was no funding to support the team. Last year, human resources picked up that torch.

"I think participants will find that Corporate Challenge has a fresh sense about it," she said. "Overall it has a much wider base of support on campus than in years past."

### Get In the Game

Corporate Challenge is open to all regular employees, graduate assistants, and retired faculty and staff. Student workers who work at least 20 hours a week also can participate.

In addition, volunteers are needed to run the events.

Teams are now forming for:	
Archery	Kickball
Basketball	Racquetball
Bicycle Race	Range Shooting
Bocce	Shuffleboard
Bowling	Skyball
Canoe Race	Soccer
Chess	Softball
Darts	Swimming
8-Ball	Table Tennis
Executive Relay	Tennis
5K Run	Track & Field
Golf	Tug-O-War
Sand Volleyball	Volleyball
Horseshoes	Walk Race

27 events. There are traditional athletic events, such as basketball and track and field sports, as well as leisure activities like bocce ball, horseshoes, and chess. There also was a campus blood drive last month.

### Athletic Abilities Optional

Means, the worker's compensation coordinator in human resources, points out that the events are not so much about winning as they are

# Getting the Message Across: E-Newsletter to Keep Students in the Loop

By NANCY C. SYZDEK

Starting this spring, communicating with students will be easier thanks to a campuswide effort led by the office of information technology (OIT). Faculty and staff soon will be able to send pertinent and timely announcements, event notices, and deadline reminders via a weekly e-newsletter.

"This is the first phase in a three-phase solution using current technology to communicate more comprehensively to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students," said Lori Temple, associate provost for information technology.

In the first phase, faculty and staff can place announcements relevant to all students in the weekly e-newsletter. It will be sent to every student who has activated the university-affiliated account that each student receives upon admission. The accounts are known as Pine or Pioneer — or as a unlv.nevada.edu address.

### Encouraging Students

"This semester, we're looking to faculty and staff to encourage students to set up and use their accounts,"

said Mamie Peers, OIT's communications officer. "We'd like to get as many students as possible using the system voluntarily, while we're working to institute a new policy requiring them to activate their accounts. If that policy is implemented, students will be held responsible for knowing the information contained in the messages."

Students who also have outside e-mail accounts can eliminate the need to check multiple accounts by setting up their campus e-mail accounts to automatically forward the e-newsletter to their non-UNLV e-mail address.

Temple explained that while at this point the e-newsletter will be sent to all students, OIT is working on a system for e-mails to be sent to smaller groups of students. For instance, eventually it should be possible to send messages to niche groups of students using data fields within the Student Information System (SIS), including class standing and grade point average, she said. Until then, the e-newsletter will complement existing tools, including WebCT and SIS Focus reports, to communicate with specific groups of students.

### How It Works

To submit messages to the weekly newsletter, faculty and staff should contact their vice president's office for a list of designated message submitters. Messages are collected and evaluated weekly by moderators to ensure that the information is appropriate and timely for the weekly electronic publication.

The university-affiliated e-mail accounts provided to students remain active for two years after a student's last course.

"This allows students who are taking a break from classes to stay connected to campus," Peers said. "We want to make it easy for them to come back, finish their degrees, and stay involved after graduation. In addition, many alumni find that the university-affiliated account is more professional than their fun and cute personal e-mail addresses."

**More Info:** Contact Mamie Peers at ext. 5-5306 or mamie.peers@cmail.nevada.edu.